



HIRAM'S JOURNAL

BY the WIDOW'S SONS' LODGE NO. 60, Charlottesville, VA

MAY 2013

Next Stated Communication: May 20, 7 PM

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Greetings Brethren!

April has been a busy month for our Lodge. We held an EA degree examination, and examined a candidate by the alternative method. We also conferred two Fellow-Craft degrees. Many of the officers

attended the Kennedy School; Right Worshipful Robert E. Simpson ran a great series of sessions on degree ritual work. We had a very good Stated Meeting, followed by delicious Lasagna and desserts. We were entertained by the excellent guitar playing of Brother Graham Bond. He was amazing! May is shaping up to be a busy month as well. We have our Stated on the 20th of the month. We also will confer the Entered Apprentice degree on a candidate on the 9th of May. This will be held at the lodge at 6:30pm. I expect more degree work during the month, as we have a number of candidates and brothers in the pipeline. We will keep you informed via email. By the way, if you have a new email address or address, please let Brother Secretary Mark Chapman know. Some officers and I will also visit Alberene on the 13th of the month and attend their Stated.

I want you all to mark your calendars now for the upcoming Table Lodge. It will be held on June 24th, 2013. Dinner will be served at 6:00pm, the Stated will begin promptly at 7:00pm. All Entered Apprentices and Fellow-Crafts are invited and encouraged to attend. Cost for the meal is only \$5.00. Our speaker will be the Most Worshipful Jeffrey Eugene Hodges. Please RSVP our Junior Warden, Jason

Pattison with your intention to attend. We need your RSVP in order to make sure we have enough food and drink for this event.

Finally brethren, please come to the Stated. We look forward to seeing you. I especially encourage those who have not attended lately, to come and renew the Mystic ties. As always, if any brother has need of assistance to attend Lodge or the upcoming Table Lodge, please let me know. We will make arrangements to assist you.

Fraternally,

L. Thomas Hill, Jr., Worshipful Master

Prior to Lodge Opening we witnessed the Community Builders Award Presentation:

In 2004, Mr. Jerry Denney, a non-Mason, started the "Loaves and Fishes" Charlottesville Food Pantry for those struggling financially. Working with the local Blue Ridge Area Food Bank and with the US Department of Agriculture, his Charlottesville Food Pantry now puts food on the table for over 12,000 families.



Wor. L.T. Hill, Jr., Jerry and Juli Denney, Jr.

Brother, if you need assistance, please contact the Worshipful M. at tomhill302@comcast.net, telephone: 434-465-9388 or our Lodge Secretary, Mark Chapman at agw123@earthlink.net, telephone: 434-971-1332

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: George H. Steinmetz in

“Freemasonry: It’s hidden meaning” quotes C.G. Jung:

“The archetypal image of the wise man, the savior or redeemer, lies buried and dormant in man’s unconscious since the dawn of culture: It is awakened whenever the times are out of joint and a human society is committed to a serious error”

(There is a wise man in each and every one of us!!!)

It is our sad duty to inform you of the passing of Lodge member, Brother Harry Douglas Cooke, Jr. He was worshipful master in 1969, and DDGM in 1990. He also served the lodge as treasurer several times. Please keep his wife Lillie Mae in your prayers.



***His Spirit to God
His memory to our hearts
His body to the Earth***

**A moment for
quiet reflection**

*"But I am given strength and skill
To do the work assigned to me:
Whate'er my task, it is God's will
That I perform it worthily,
A living stone make fit to grace
The Temple's walls, and help them rise -
Although it fill but humble place -
A little nearer to the skies. " - George H. Free*

Contributed by Brother Mark Chapman

May Masonic Birthdays:

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| James K. Anas | 05/04/1970 |
| Thomas M. Burruss | 05/31/1960 |
| A. Clayton Coleman, Jr. | 05/02/1977 |
| George William Estes | 05/29/1967 |
| John D. Fisher | 05/04/1987 |
| J. Leonard Hartman | 05/05/1959 |
| Carl E. Hollar, Jr. | 05/17/1974 |
| Charles M. Johnson, III | 05/02/1995 |
| Andrew D. Keller | 05/28/1997 |
| Gordon M. Kingman | 05/24/1951 |
| Yale S. Landsberg | 05/25/1977 |
| Joseph L. Lane | 05/04/1981 |
| John R. Leavell | 05/30/2001 |
| Robert J. Mariano | 05/10/2004 |
| Ahmed Nafei | 05/24/2010 |
| William N. Park | 05/16/1995 |
| James E. Shifflett | 05/05/1986 |
| Ray W. Sites | 05/23/1966 |
| Campbell Snowberger | 05/06/1968 |
| Carl W. Stankwitz | 05/05/2011 |
| Paul H. Wood | 05/01/1961 |

Prior to Lodge opening, Most Worshipful J. E. Hodges, surrounded by a committee consisting of Rt. Wor. A. D. Keller, Wor. L. T. Hill, Jr. and Rt. Wor. R. E. Simpson, presented Bro. William Clark Gentry with a 50 Year Masonic Veteran Lifetime Membership Card, lapel pin and a certificate from our Grand Master.

CONGRATULATIONS BRO. GENTRY !!



**Queen Esther Chapter
#14, OES,**

will meet on May 11th. We have cancelled our June meeting due to our Official Visit being that afternoon in Waynesboro.

We extend an invitation for all Master Masons and their female relatives to consider joining our Order. You can obtain an application by calling our secretary, Pam Simpson, at 973-6494.

Karen Dorsey, Past Matron

From the Editors' desk:

Seeking the Light – 05

Entered Apprentice: Brother Anderson, I confess feeling a bit disappointed since our last meeting. I'd thought Freemasonry was something special, unique even, but now it sounds to me like any other organization of well-meaning "do-gooders"!

James Anderson: It is true that there is only one way of being good. And all religions and many other humanist organizations are teaching people how to become better human beings. Yet we are indeed unique. Ours is the only brotherhood that doesn't demand blind acceptance of a value system prescribed by an authority, by a religion for instance. To Christians for instance a "good" person is one who obeys the Ten Commandments, just as a "good" Muslim must be obeying the Koran.

E.A.: But isn't your role like that of a priestly authority, Brother Anderson, when you ask me to be critical of how I think and act, rather than those around me?

JA: I don't think so. Rather my suggestions imply the following promise that distinguishes us from other humanist organizations: As you discover your own short-comings, "rough spots on your Ashlar", and as you work on smoothing them out, you automatically begin to understand and accept short-comings in those around you, whom you presently scorn and are disappointed or angry towards.

E.A.: You mean that even the aggravating quirks of my family won't bother me as much some day?

J.A.: Exactly. This is the promised path of your spiritual growth as a Mason. As you begin to realize that every single one of us, each human being has many short-comings which limit our own happiness, your eyes will open to the beauty of the wondrous diversity among humans. Thus your preju-

dice against those who think, look or believe differently from "us", those we consider "the others" will fade and you will become more tolerant.

EA: This is indeed a totally new idea to me. After all, I too am used to seeing **my** country as the greatest, **my** religion as the true one, and **my** opinion as correct. And, in truth, most conversations with family and friends usually revolve around "those others" who somehow displease us, basically because they are different.

JA: So you probably thought that an Entered Apprentice's "work of chipping on the rough Ashlar", working on yourself to become a better person was intended to make you look better in the eyes of others! No, nothing is farther from the truth!

EA: What then is the true purpose behind Freemasonry? Why better myself at all as a human being?

JA: Speculative Masonry does initially ask for the blind belief in a Divine Creator and respect for certain rules of behavior. These are all borrowed from the fifteen Articles set down in the "Regius Manuscript" of 1390 AD and the "Cooke Manuscript" before 1450 AD, which governed operative Masons. But the accomplished speculative Master Mason who has "climbed the steps" will forget such rules of conduct, as he **discovers** and learns to **obey** the demands of his own **personal moral convictions**, which offer him all the hoped-for rewards in life: Peace, Love and Joy, to be shared with all his brothers and sisters. In seeking the Light, he has recognized the divine moral laws which are hidden in all religions, and which govern all Wisdom, all Harmony and all Beauty of Creation. He has found God.

HUST

It is easier to disintegrate an atom than a prejudice— A. Einstein

Light Fare from our Steward, Brother Peter-John Leone : Congratulations to Steward Brother Simon Alexander on the birth of his daughter. As he was off, we owe thanks to Brother Jim Dickerson for filling in as steward. The menu this month will be beef and chicken fajitas to celebrate Cinco de Mayo. Hope to see you there!

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Hiram's Journal

Winding Staircase: Widow's Sons' Study Group.

The next meeting will take place on May 18th. We'll again be the guests of Maury and May Kingman, 374 Shepherds Ridge Circle. Brother William F. "Bill" Reinhold, KCT, Grand Generalissimo Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Virginia will introduce us to the Masonic Knights Templar and lead the discussion. He will include the topic of Skull and Crossed bones. - ANYONE is WELCOME to JOIN US!



Let us listen to Albert Einstein!

"The idea that the precision encountered in all aspects of the Universe could possibly be the result of pure chance is as unbelievable as the idea that, after the explosion of a printing press, all its individual letters would fall from the sky in the order of a dictionary..." freely translated from a French text by HUST

(an excellent reason for believing in the Great Architect of the Universe.—
and to understand why Compass and Square are among our most important symbols)



Send us your thoughts to be included here!