

*Grand Master's
From
Widow's Sons'
No. 60*

**THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF WIDOW'S SONS' LODGE NO. 60
A. F. & A. M., CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA, U.S.A.
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HIRAM'S JOURNAL

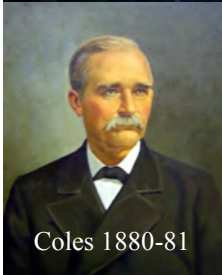
Stated Communication, Monday May 19, 2014

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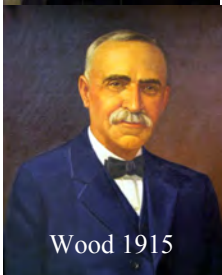
Leitch 1855-56



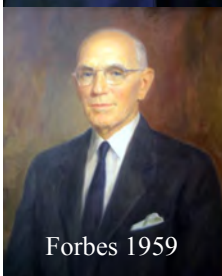
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009



Brethren, as I write this it has been but a few hours since the 18th Masonic District received M.W. Wayne Sawyer Flora the 169th Grand Master of Masons in Virginia. It was an event that was enjoyed by all in attendance. I would like to commend our District Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Philip Harding Nelson, Jr. and his wife Joie for the fine job they did in planning and putting together this event, including information from a representative of MAHOVA to the ladies. I also would like to thank all of those who assisted me in receiving the Grand Master. For those who assisted with the protocol at the practice, officers who sat in the chairs and for those who were on committees to introduce our distinguished guests, you have my heartfelt thanks. I couldn't have done it without you.

In the Grand Master's remarks, he urged the brethren to develop a vision for their lodges, to be committed to the vision and to implement steps to achieve the vision. He also urged the brethren to be committed to doing quality ritual work, stating that the candidates deserve our very best efforts. He cautioned the brethren on investigating candidates. The investigation of candidates need to much more than a social visits and that we need to be more pro-active in the investigations of candidates. We, in Widow's Sons' Lodge need to take seriously our Grand Master's remarks and make them a part of our Lodge's traditions.

Brethren, please mark your calendars for several upcoming events. We have a Master Mason's Degree scheduled for May 15th at 6:30 PM. Please if at all within the length of your cable tow plan to be at lodge for this important occasion. Let us show our new Master Mason how important he and Masonry is to each of us by being there when he receives "More Light in Masonry."

Secondly, please plan to arrive at lodge by 6:30 PM at our next stated on May 19th. We will be honoring this year's Eagle Scouts in our area. Becoming an Eagle is a very big accomplishment for a young man. Let's all show these young men that we as Mason's support our youth. We just may in the near future get a good Brother because of it.

At our Stated Communication on May 19th we will have as our speaker R.W. Gregory Hosaflook, who will present the third part in his series on American Military Firearms, "From Flintlock to Percussion,". If you like Civil War history you won't want to miss Brother Hosaflook's presentation.

Thirdly, plans for our Table Lodge to celebrate the Feast of Saint John the Baptist are under way to be held at the Masonic Temple in Charlottesville on the second floor of our temple. This event will take place Tuesday, June 24th with dinner starting at 6:15 PM and the Table Lodge beginning at 7:00 PM. Our main objective is to have a great time, great meal, and good fellowship and together enjoy in the ritual of the table lodge. You won't want to miss the powerful and spectacular program for all brethren to enjoy. We hope you will share in the fellowship and brotherly love as we remember and celebrate our patron saint, Saint John the Baptist with our annual Table Lodge.

There is a minimal charge of \$5.00 for St. John's evening payable at the door. For reservations please contact Brother Tim O'Brien at, tpobrien@tycoonack.com or me at wbond0051@gmail.com on or before June 10th, 2014.

I would like to thank our speaker for April, R.W. Stuart Cook, Grand Junior Warden of The Grand Lodge of Virginia presented an excellent program on preserving our ritual.

May the God of peace and love delight to dwell with and bless you.

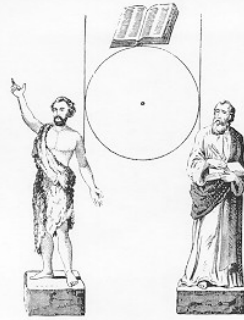
Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Bill

William R. Bond, III
Worshipful Master, Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 A.F. & A.M.

**May Masonic Birthdays!
Call a Brother and wish him a
Happy Masonic Birthday.**

James K. Anas, May 4, 1970
 Thomas M. Burruss, May 31, 1960
 A. Clayton Coleman, Jr., May 2, 1977
 George W. Estes, May 29, 1967
 John D. Fisher, May 4, 1987
 J. Leonard Hartman, May 5, 1959
 Carl E. Hollar, Jr., May 17, 1974
 Andrew D. Keller, May 28, 1997
 Gordon M. Kingman, May 24, 1951
 Yale S. Landsberg, May 25, 1977
 Joseph L. Lane, May 4, 1981
 John R. Leavell, May 30, 2001
 Robert J. Mariano, May 10, 2004
 Ahmed Nafei, May 24, 2010
 William N. Park, May 16, 1995
 James E. Shifflett, May 5, 1986
 Ray W. Sites, May 23, 1966
 Campbell Snowberger, May 6, 1968
 Carl W. Stankwitz, May 5, 2011
 Paul H. Wood, May 1, 1961



**John the Baptist, the last of the
great prophets!**

Every regular and well governed Masonic Lodge is dedicated to the Holy Saints John—St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist. These have become the Patron Saints of Freemasonry. Throughout history, it has been customary for Masons of every walk of life to find their ways into their Masonic Lodge, and there they have commemorated the Feast Days of these two men.

On Tuesday, June 24th, Widow's Sons' Lodge will hold its annual Table Lodge to commemorate the Feast of St. John the Baptist. Dinner will be held in the dining room of the Charlottesville Masonic Temple at 6:00 p.m. The Table Lodge of Instruction will open at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$TBD. Please expect a surprise guest. Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts are invited to attend.

John the Baptist has a word to say to all of us as men and as Masons. This thundering message and the ideals for which he stood are not outdated, nor are they outmoded. We hope that you will join other Masons as we celebrate this feast.

Reservations are a must. Please contact the Junior Warden, Tim O'Brien at E-mail tpobrien@tycoontackle.com or telephone 434-823-2343 and make your reservation no later than June 18th.

IN MEMORIAM

The lodge was saddened by the death of WORSHIPFUL EDWARD EUGENE LEWIS who died April 8, 2014. Brother Lewis was made a Master Mason in Charlottesville Lodge No. 55 and served that lodge as Worshipful Master in 1988-1989. He became a member of Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 in 1990 and served the lodge as a trustee until he demitted on November 15, 2010.



The Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, Rt. Wor. V. Stuart Cook was the speaker for the evening. The importance of the ritual was his message to the brethren, and what a privilege it is to be a Freemason.

**Keystone Chapter No. 58
Royal Arch Mason and WSL60 Fundraising
for Alzheimer's Association**





Bro. Bill Reinhold was the winner of the Masonic Hat Drawing. On May 3rd, Brother Reinhold is expected to become the Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Virginia. Congratulations Brother Reinhold.



The Worshipful Master recognized those with Masonic birthdays in April. Pictured L-R: Bill Bond; Bill Fischer, 50 years; Bobby Cameron, 39 years; and Harlan Phelps, 37 years.

John the Baptist

Our ritual speaks of a Lodge of the Holy Saints John at Jerusalem. Many Brethren take this to refer to a Lodge at Jerusalem when it actually only refers to the Holy Saints John as being at Jerusalem. Hundreds of years ago, Scottish Lodges were referred to as Saint Johns' Lodges. Therefore, when a Brother referred to himself as coming from a Lodge of the Holy Saints John at Jerusalem, he meant only that he came from a Scottish Lodge.

When were the Holy Saints John selected as patrons of our Order? We do not have exact dates, but our ancient manuscripts indicate that St. John the Baptist was selected by Scottish, and later British, Lodges long before the Evangelist who appears for the first time in any Masonic documents in the 17th century.

We may never know the truth about John's historical relationship with Freemasonry. We may never find out if he was a member of our Fraternity, although it is highly unlikely that he was. The truth is that it really does not matter if he was a member of our Ancient Craft. Freemasonry honors the humble man who came to be known as St. John the Baptist because his entire life exemplified duty to God through his faith, his religious practices, and through the very living of his life.

It is regrettable that we note an apparent increasing disinterest on the part of Lodges and our Brethren to honor the two Patron Saints of our Order. It is not that these two Saints need to be honored based on any ancient rituals and tradition. Rather, by holding an annual celebration in their honor, we recall to ourselves the great moral lessons each taught, and the example of piety and devotion to Deity they exhibited throughout their lives.

John the Baptist was simply a man who lived in one particular historical moment. Yet, his message of repentance, humility, devotion and love of God transcends time and culture. It is a message that is just as urgent and just as true today as it was 2,000 years ago. It is a message that was illustrated by John's daily life. Moreover, it is a message that underscores so many of the values that Freemasons today exalt as ideals for the living of a moral life.

The imminent Masonic scholar, Joseph Fort Newton, wrote, "Righteousness and Love -- those two words do not fall short of telling the whole duty of a man and a Freemason." And Freemasons around the world could do no better in their choice of a Patron Saint and a model for living than they have in John the Baptist - a man whose life continues to shine as an example to us all - Mason and non-Mason alike!

Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
A.F.&A.M.
P. O. Box 6262
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"Freemasonry, a way of life"

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**DATED MATERIAL
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Hiram's Journal



Brother William Bennett Fischer receives his 50 year pin and certificate. Brother Fischer traveled from Florida for the presentation. He stated that he learned the catechisms from Wor. William Henry Stoneburner. Many of us did also.

Pictured L-R: Harlan Phelps, Bill Bond, Brother Fischer, Jeff Hodges who made the presentation, and Donald Stoneburner.

Brother Fischer received the degrees in Charlottesville Lodge No. 55 and became a member of Widow's Sons' Lodge in January of 1990.

District Bring-A-Friend-Night... Brethren, mark you calendar for June 22nd. The district membership coordinator, Wor. Tom Hill, is planning a district wide Bring-A-Friend-Night to be held at the Charlottesville Masonic Temple from 2 pm to 5 pm. Bring a relative or friend and expose him to the greatest Fraternity in the world.