

HIRAM'S JOURNAL

Stated Communications December 21st, 2020 (OPEN)

[Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Website](#)

[Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Facebook Page](#)

MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

December marks the end of my year as Worshipful Master of Widow's Sons' #60. What a year! I hope this virus is defeated soon so our Lodge and our lives can get back to normal. It has been my privilege to have served as Worshipful Master and I want to thank all my brothers for their help and support this year.

Our November Stated was "step up night". This year's officers moved up to their chairs they will be in next year. Senior Warden Ed Creasy stepped up to Worshipful Master and did a great job conducting our Stated. Brother Ed will be an excellent Worshipful Master for 2021.

The November program about Job's Daughters was presented by RW Bob Clore. Brother Clore did a fine job as usual and we appreciate his dedication to this outstanding group of young ladies.

The One Day Conferral scheduled for three of our brothers was postponed because of COVID-19 and will hopefully be rescheduled soon so these brothers can join us as Master Masons. They are looking forward to becoming Master Masons and our Lodge needs them. I believe these three men will be great additions to WSL #60.

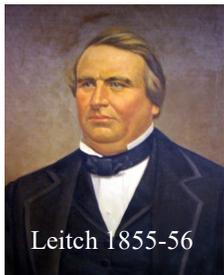
Our December Stated will have the election of officers for next year. It will be different than normal because of social distancing and the COVID protocols. As we have done the last two months we will follow guidelines. We will check temperatures at the door. Hand sanitizer, masks, social distance seating are all part of the protocol.

I hope to see you at our Stated on December 21. Again we will not have a meal. Lodge starts at 7pm. Call or text me at 434-960-6776 or email me hlw@comcast.net if you need a ride to Lodge or help in any way and we will do our best to assist. Merry Christmas my Brothers and a Happy New Year to All. Take care.

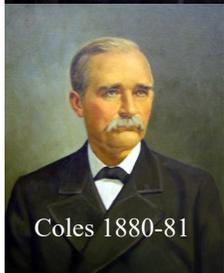
Fraternally Yours,

Harry Walker

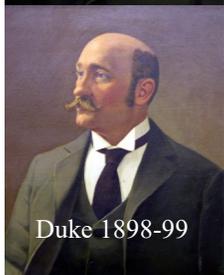
2020 Worshipful Master



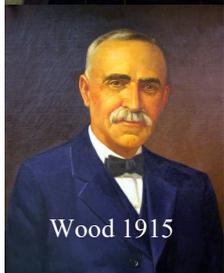
Leitch 1855-56



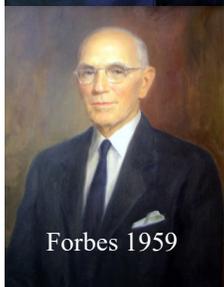
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009



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



<u>Name:</u>	<u>Master Mason Degree:</u>
Stephen R. Baird	12/06/1993
William L. Bickley	12/06/1955 (65 Yrs)
Stephen R. Christianson	12/08/2010
T.C. Dickerson, III	12/06/1966 (54 Yrs)
Michael A. Hayden	12/05/1972
Jason P. Lynch	12/07/2006
Robert A. Murray	12/10/1999
William R. Nay	12/17/1992
James W. North, Sr.	12/05/1963 (57 Yrs)
Jason M. Parham	12/11/2014
Daniel P. Price	12/12/2012
Steven E. Price	12/07/2006
Jonathan M. Shelton	12/07/2006
Charles A. Via	12/06/1966 (54 Yrs)
Brian S. Weidman	12/04/2007



How-to-draw-funny-cartoons.com

UPCOMING EVENTS



Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Events:

**Dec 21st, 7:00 PM—WSL60 Stated Communication
 ELECTION AND INSTALLATION NIGHT**

No meal at stated.

Temperatures will be taken at door

Masks are required for entry into building.

6 feet minimum distance between everyone, no exceptions.

Dec 28th, 6:00 pm—WSL60 Officer's Meeting

Officers meeting will be through Skype. Contact the Secretary if you need to get Skype set up.

GRAND LODGE ACTIVITIES:

One-Day Conferrals—Postponed/TBD

2020 and 2021 DUES:

Brethren, the Secretary would like to remind all the members that we still need to pay 2020 and 2021 dues. During these hard times we still support charities and need to pay expenses for the continuing operations of Lodge and Grand Lodge.

Secretary Email: WidowsSons60@gmail.com

UPDATED COVID-19 GUIDANCE

Brothers, on November 16th, the Governor of Virginia issued new restrictions in response to the surge of COVID-19 illnesses. In accordance with the new restriction, the Grand Master sent out a message stating that:

The new limit of members present at a Lodge meeting will be 25 or less.

As our next meeting will be Election and Installation Night, please understand that we will be limited on the amount of brothers able to come into Lodge for the event.

TOLERANCE DURING THE HOLIDAYS

George O. Braatz, PGM

As we move into the annual holiday season, we must once again acknowledge that differing faiths and practices are at work in our nation during this time of the year. Too often we concentrate on what divides us, rather than what unites us.

This reminds me of a sign I saw on a church bulletin board in St. Louis years ago, which said: “Merry Christmas to our Christian friends. Happy Hanukkah to our Jewish friends. And to our atheist friends, good luck.” Believing that we are all children of God is a common bond we have as Masons.



There is a story about a small boy and small girl. They were about five years old and were next-door neighbors. One summer day, they wanted to turn the hose on each other to cool themselves, but were afraid they would get into trouble with their parents for getting their clothes wet, so they took off their clothes. That evening, the little boy was relating this experience to his parents, and commented about his first thoughts when he saw his neighborhood friend of the opposite sex with clothes, “Gee, I didn’t know there was that much difference between Protestants and Catholics!”

Sometimes people have to look a long way to find differences in human beings. But in this great country, perhaps like nowhere else in the world, different people can work together. A number of years ago, I clipped the following story out of *Reader’s Digest*, which makes the point:

After years of planning and saving, the Orthodox synagogue in our town was ready to move to its new temple a mile away. In keeping with tradition, the moving of the Torahs and other holy scriptures was to be accomplished by a parade through the streets of the town. The parade got underway, led by three Rabbis and the Cantor, with music supplied by the local drum and bugle corps. After a brisk walk, the procession approached the final leg of its journey—up a long hill. The young bandleader called out, “Let’s give them some music to help them up the hill,” and the drums and bugles struck up the rousing notes of *Onward Christian Soldiers*. Looking quickly at the Rabbis, you saw smiles appear on their faces as they hoisted the heavy Torahs higher, straightened their shoulders and marched proudly up the hill. Where else but in America!

The brotherhood we share may be typified by three large fraternal organizations in America. The B’nai B’rith organization has its belief engraved in stone on the front of its national headquarters in Washington. The etched words are, “The world stands on three foundations, on study, service, and on benevolence.” Our Masonic Fraternity proclaims its tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. And the motto of the Knights of Columbus is: “Charity, Unity, Fraternity, Patriotism.” All are different, but a common theme emerges—the stated beliefs in brotherly love, charity, relief, and benevolence.



TOLERANCE DURING THE HOLIDAYS

~Continued

Regardless of our backgrounds or traditions, we can join in acknowledging our responsibilities to help and serve others. And particularly, at this time of year, such duties should be continually on our minds.

An article a few years ago in the October 2006 *Guideposts Magazine* described a man's excitement at the start of a musical concert:

I wouldn't want to miss the pre-concert cacophony, when all musicians come casually to the platform, seat themselves and begin to sound their instruments, each one independently of all the others; strings, winds, brass, percussion—a beautiful bedlam of sound. Then, suddenly, silence, followed by a clean, thin, authentic tone, soft and unassertive—the sovereign pitch. Its authority is recognized as every instrument bows low in quiet assent, then rises in a crescendo of assertion. All are now in tune.

Just see how this unity was achieved. All those instruments were not brought into tune by a unilateral agreement; the violins did not tune to the woodwinds, or the brass negotiate with the percussion . . . Harmony among people and nations will derive not so much from negotiation as from commitment—mutual commitment to something high and holy, something beyond man and above society, commitment to the will of God.

And it is part of God's will that all of us on this earth should live together, as brothers, in peace and harmony. There is a well-known quotation: "I sought my soul, but my soul I could not see. I sought my God, but my God eluded me. I sought my brother and I found all three." (Attributed to William Blake)

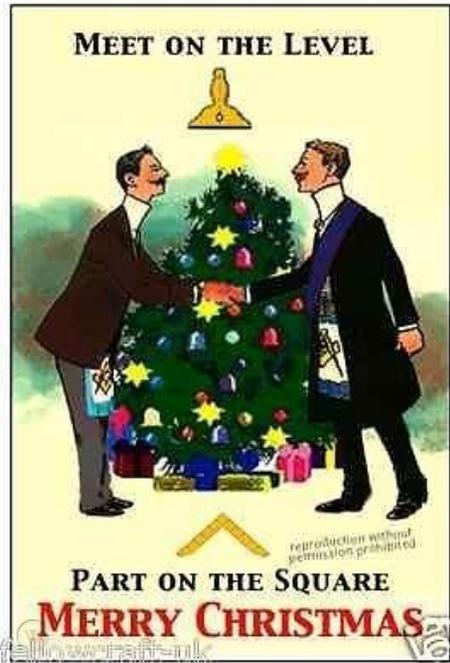
Each of us may differ on theology, we may differ on how to worship God, we may differ on the road to salvation. But we all believe in the Fatherhood of God, and, therefore, the Brotherhood of Man.

It might have pleased the Great Creator of heaven and earth to have made man independent of all other beings, but as dependence is one of the strongest bonds of society, mankind were made dependent on each other for their mutual protection and security, as they thereby could enjoy better opportunities for fulfilling the duties of reciprocal love and friendship. Thus was Man formed for social and active life—the noblest part of the work of God. (C.L. Williams, *The Blacksmith Journal*)

It is our duty, as brothers and sisters on this planet, to help one another and to work to assist mankind. The late Albert Schweitzer, the Nobel Prize winner and renowned humanitarian, once said, "There is no higher religion than human service. To work for the common good is the greatest creed." So this holiday season, celebrate your traditions and faith with enthusiasm. Be proud of the heritage you possess. But also recognize the good that others perform, and even though the practices of others may differ, afford them the respect and tolerance we would want for ourselves.

Reprinted from "The Short Talk Bulletin", Volume 91, Number 12, December 2013, presented in "The Short Talk Bulletins Volume Bound Set VI", Volumes 81-95, 2003-2017, pages 407-408.

A MASONIC CHRISTMAS POEM



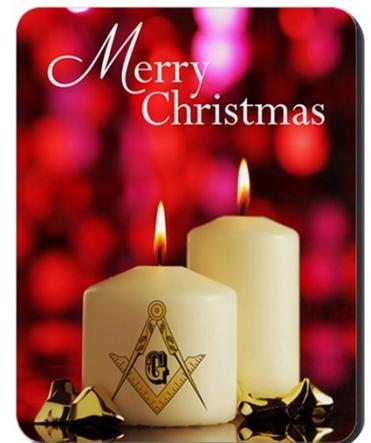
'Twas the night before Christmas at Freemason's Hall
Where the Lodge was busy and the orders were tall;
Reams from Grand Lodge, a notice of motion,
A ballot or two and a pause for devotion
To brethren departed of the months gone before,
Plus a candidate who would soon walk the floor.

Our own Junior Warden, when facing the crunch
Said "Let's call off and all go for lunch".
The Master replied, as Masters all do,
Intoned in a voice reserved for the few
"Before we partake of fellowship there,
Is a summons to read and a ballot to clear -
Not to mention the candidate quaking with dread
At the stories of whether the goat has been fed".

The Master, exhorting the brethren to work,
With a firm grip on the gavel, turned with a jerk
To the Secretary, putting shine to each lens,
Polishing both to a lustre, and reached for his pens.

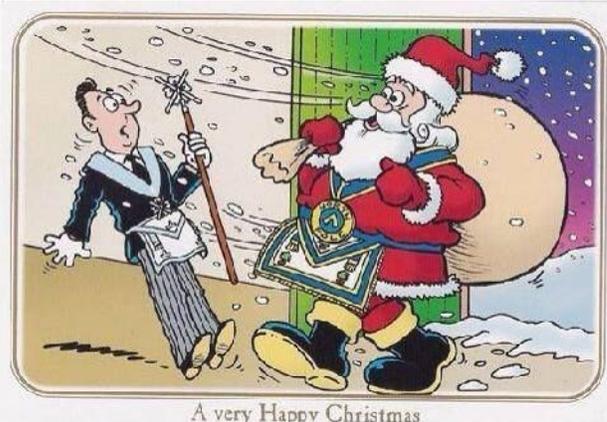
"It's half past the hour", the Master then winced
At the stuff left to do, and remained unconvinced
That the evening would go as smoothly as hoped
Since he'd gone to the trouble of "feeding the goat" "
Though the ballot's behind us and notice is gone,
Grand Lodge is finished, but the work still goes on."

The Inner guard knew, as the Tyler did too,
That knock, knock, knock was the right thing to do.
Sidebenchers slept soundly and were only stirred
When a crack of the candidate's knuckles were heard.
The slight groan that penetrated lips pursed
Appeared to the Deacon as just a light curse.



A MASONIC CHRISTMAS POEM

Continued



Onward they travel, the guide and the man,
Seeking truth and enlightenment wherever they can.
The secrets were given, the grip and the token
Obligations were offered, the words then were spoken.
Though never, not once, was one heard to gloat
As the Entered Apprentice never did meet the goat.

The evening now ended, the candidate clear,
Junior Warden entreats from the south us to hear.
The oath we looked forward to right from the start
"Happy to meet, and sorry to part".

Christmas had come to the members that night
As men came together under the light
Giving freely of time as a labour of love
As they bent to the task of the Most High above.

To Stewards, to Deacons, the Tyler and Guard,
The Wardens, the Master, who all work so hard,
To Past Masters steady, sidebenchers too
To Treasurer, Chaplain, the Director of Ceremonies who
Help carry the Lodge, year in and year out
To your family extended, a warm Christmas time
Thank the G.A.O.T.U, we've run out of rhyme!



Fellow Craft

T T R N L D G M T U A C W Z T C E F W W S G Q F Y
 S F A O H N O R P K N O L V S Q V Z I Y R R P M I
 N E G S I R I R D E R E V O C S I D N U A A C R E
 L I S R T V H N I K C M P Z I D T G D S L M K I B
 C E A E I I A E I C Y W D N E D A E I O L M V D V
 A E R U E C N N T M P E T G A S L O N M I A E Z Q
 H R M U S I G G O O L E R T S S U M G A P R N O C
 E N I U T T N N L B R E T E E A C E S E N S E S H
 I R T T O C O G A N E I V E B R E T T B M U L P A
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 N Y L T T M N L Z G T A I I L X S Y I S A K Y D G
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 C F A I M E Z T O P A G E F A E S G S P F H L E C
 Z N V M E T T I I P V H P L L R S M E L L I N G Z
 K Q O L V D P I R C C A I T P Q E G A S S A P B I
 A C B J F N L I H U L K Z P P U H P U H R B V I J
 P I P O N H N P U C G G M E K A G Q O Q H B F F E
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 C E H C I W Z G R Z Y A K F R R E Y D I B X O N I
 L L F P U N I T Y S I Q C V V I E R A U Q S A W S
 G E L E N I L B M U L P U Q O V F E E L I N G R O
 X E V F J X U J T J Q A G P A I D J D V P Q M N P
 S O B E S R S S O W E S W L H U G B Y X B X S V M
 A W J N L C O R I N T H I A N M D D C B N I V H O
 X I R I F J V G N I L B E I B X C M X L N F W Q C

Fellow Craft Words

AMOS
 ASTRONOMY
 COMMENDABLE
 DEGREE
 FEELING
 GRAMMAR
 IONIC
 LOGIC
 PASSAGE
 PLENTY
 PRINCIPLES
 SEEING
 SPECULATIVE
 TRIVIUM
 UNITY

ARCHITECTURE
 BRASS
 COMPOSITE
 DEITY
 GEOMETRY
 HEARING
 LECTURE
 MUSIC
 PEACE
 PLUMB
 QUADRIVIUM
 SENSES
 SQUARE
 TUSCAN
 WINDING STAIRS

ARITHMETIC
 CHARGE
 CORINTHIAN
 DORIC
 GLOBES
 INTERNAL
 LEVEL
 OPERATIVE
 PILLARS
 PLUMB LINE
 RHETORIC
 SMELLING
 TASTING
 UNDISCOVERED
 WORKING TOOLS

Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
A.F.&A.M.
P. O. Box 6262
Charlottesville, VA 22906

1799—2020
The 221st Year of Service to the
Charlottesville Community and beyond.
"Freemasonry, a way of life"

Return Service Requested



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Hiram's Journal

MASONIC BOOK REVIEW

BORN IN BLOOD:

The Lost Secrets of Freemasonry

By: John J. Robinson

While John Robinson was studying a curious event known as the English Peasants' Revolt of 1381, he came across intriguing clues that seemed to link this event to the society of Knights Templar which had been disbanded 69 years earlier. Participants in the revolt revealed that a secretive Great Society was behind the uprising, and aspects of that clandestine group resembled the society of Freemasons which would emerge from secrecy many years later. This connection was not one he had expected to find, for Robinson was not a Mason at that time, and had no reason to seek or create Masonic history. He simply reported what he found.

There would be no point in trying to repeat here all the many clues he discovered. It took 376 pages to do it in the book, and could not be done justice in so short a space. But to give one clear example, he traced many Masonic words, symbols and customs to the practices and language of the Templars. They spoke Medieval French at that time, as did the upper class in England--a lingering reminder of the Norman Conquest and its accompanying French nobility.

