

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

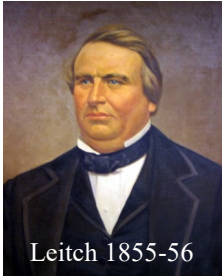
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF WIDOW'S SONS' LODGE NO. 60  
A. F. & A. M., CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA, U.S.A.  
CHARTERED DECEMBER 10TH, AD 1799, AL 5799

# HIRAM'S JOURNAL

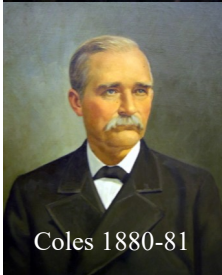
Stated Communication December 18, 2017

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

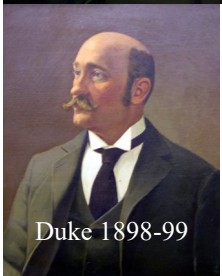
[Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Facebook Page](#)



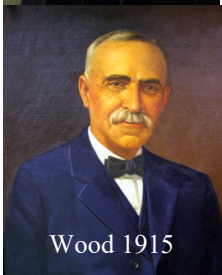
Leitch 1855-56



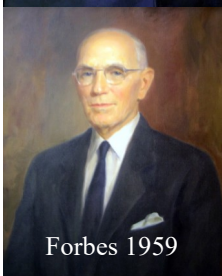
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009



Greetings Brethren,

As Masons, life's journey is both personal and spiritual. We enter the outer door of lodge in anticipation of receiving light. Freemasonry doesn't tell you what light means; however Masonry gives you the tools to assist you in searching for inner peace and harmony during the days God gives you to live. Brother Allen E. Roberts said: "Man, in order to build and improve his Spiritual Temple, must do so in the presence of God....In his retreat (i.e., Sanctum Sanctorum) man can let God help him (like Hiram Abiff) draw the designs that will improve his life. There he can ponder the lessons and "secrets" he has learned from the ritual of the Craft." I hope that we all have obtained a little more light this past year.

My journey "through the Chairs" at Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 is coming to an end this month. Hopefully, the Lodge members that have journeyed with me have revived the Masonic ties of our great brotherhood. The journey could not have taken place without the council, support and encouragement of Lodge Officers and brothers for whom I am truly grateful. Most of my Lodge goals for 2017 were achieved and I leave it to my successor to obtain for Widow's Sons' Lodge the illusive Grand Lodge of Virginia Hillman Award.

An important part of our fraternal bonds of friendship is to have fun and enjoy each day that we share on life's journey. This past year we had every opportunity to do that... whether in practicing and demonstrating our Masonic degree ritual, taking trips to visit other lodges or the House of the Temple, commemorating the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Freemasonry at our Table Lodge, celebrating UVA bicentennial cornerstone laying tribute, social activities, or working on community projects (Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, charity fundraisers, Child ID events, etc.). In 2017, our journey reminds me of the words associated with the special working tool of a Master Mason, the trowel: "which unites us into one sacred band or society of friends and Brothers - a Temple of living stones, among whom no contention should ever exist, save that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree."

The trowel exemplifies the Masonic Light that we work to obtain for it promotes seeking forgiveness, understanding and tolerance for each other and the Supreme Architect of the Universe. Each Mason, as individuals, needs to look into his own heart and then begin to listen - truly listen to each other. I thank you for listening to me.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,  
Mark S. Chapman, WM WSL60 2017



**December Masonic Birthdays!**  
**Wish a Brother Happy Masonic Birthday.**

<b>Stephen R. Baird</b>	<b>12/06/1993</b>
<b>William L. Bickley</b>	<b>12/06/1955</b>
<b>Stephen R. Christianson</b>	<b>12/08/2010</b>
<b>W. Kirk Crady</b>	<b>12/14/1994</b>
<b>T. C. Dickerson, III</b>	<b>12/06/1966</b>
<b>Charles B. Goddin</b>	<b>12/06/1960</b>
<b>Sharif L. Gray</b>	<b>12/06/2012</b>
<b>Michael A. Hayden</b>	<b>12/05/1972</b>
<b>David M. Kashmer</b>	<b>12/12/2005</b>
<b>Jason P. Lynch</b>	<b>12/07/2006</b>
<b>Russell L. Maugans</b>	<b>12/28/1971</b>
<b>Robert A. Murray</b>	<b>12/10/1999</b>
<b>William R. Nay *</b>	<b>12/17/1992</b>
<b>James W. North, Sr.</b>	<b>12/05/1963</b>
<b>Jason M. Parham</b>	<b>12/11/2014</b>
<b>James E. Patterson, III</b>	<b>12/04/2007</b>
<b>Daniel P. Price</b>	<b>12/12/2012</b>
<b>Steven E. Price</b>	<b>12/07/2006</b>
<b>Jonathan M. Shelton</b>	<b>12/07/2006</b>
<b>Charles A. Via</b>	<b>12/06/1966</b>
<b>Brian S. Weidman</b>	<b>12/04/2007</b>

**\* 25 Year Masonic Veteran**



The WM receives the new DDGM, for the 18th Masonic District, RW Mike Skeens, a past master of Piedmont Stella Lodge No. 50

**UPCOMING EVENTS! MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

2 December : At the Charlottesville Masonic Temple, Right Eminent Roy B. Henderson, Jr., Grand Commander of Knights Templar in Virginia, will make his official visit to Chivalric District No. 9. The luncheon and tiled meeting is hosted by Past Grand Commander and current District Deputy Grand Commander, Sir Knight Jay L. Cotner

4 December: WSL60 Officers Meeting 6 pm meal served before meeting

5 December: Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry Masons participation night at 6-8:30 pm; Brothers who are interested in participating and have never registered before, please contact Bro. Stewart Plemons via email (stewpindous@gmail.com ) or cell phone (434) 989-7903

9 December: Toys for Tots donations deadline. Contact RW Goldie Tomlin for information at 434-361-0386

13 December: Keystone Royal Arch Chapter No. 58 celebrates 150th Anniversary see details below.

18 December: Widow's Sons' Lodge No.60 Stated Communication; Meal @ 6 pm; Stated @ 7pm. the meal will feature a fantastic "Beef Stew" prepared by the WM and his Lady. Donations collected for the meal will be given to the Alzheimer's Association.

27 December: King Solomon's Lodge No. 194, Table Lodge at 6:00 pm. Contact RW Tomlin at 434-361-0386.

15 January 2018: Robert Burns Supper 6PM; WSL60 Stated Communication after Burns Supper

**150th Anniversary of  
 Keystone Royal Arch Chapter No. 58**

The High Priest, King and Scribe of Keystone RAC No. 58 would like to extend an invitation to the Members of Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 to attend the 150th anniversary celebration of Keystone RAC No. 58. It will be held at the Charlottesville Masonic Temple on Wednesday, December 13th, 2017, beginning at 6:30 p.m.. The main focus of the evening will be celebrate the 150th anniversary with a "Table Chapter". Come and enjoy an evening of Masonic fellowship.

There will be a \$5.00 donation for all those attending. To assist us in our preparation, reservations are a must. Please make your reservation by notifying Bob Simpson at r.e.simpson1080@gmail.com or 540-457-8893.that you will be attending. by December 4th..

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Andy Keller. Don't wait, make your reservations now.



You are invited to join the Officers and Members of Widows' Sons' Lodge No. 60 in celebrating the life of Brother Robert Burns with fine food, and good company.

January 15, 2018,  
stated to follow dinner  
Dinner—6:00 p.m.

Cost—\$15.00

Reservations contact Brother Nick Bragg at 434-978-2919 or [nick22882@gmail.com](mailto:nick22882@gmail.com)

Speaker—Wor. Ross C. Morland, PM of Lee Lodge No. 209 and DEO of the 19th Masonic District

### Welcome Brethren

The right hand of friendship is extended to the newest Master Mason, Richard Hull. Make sure you extend him a welcome. Also to RW Gregory D. Hosaflook who was elected to Honorary Membership.



Good Fellowship, but who won? Pictured L-R: Jason Pattison, Jason Parham, and Nick Bragg.



Before our November Stated Communication, we gathered for a meal and fellowship to enjoy a special meal prepared by the brethren. Lodge brothers prepared the main dish entries and competed for a coveted BEST COOK award. The wild game entries included venison chili, bison chili, bear with potatoes and carrots, wild turkey with potatoes, carrots and apples, wild beef stew, and venison stew. The winner of the award determined by those in attendance to be RW Mike Griffin's for his bear recipe. The brethren also brought in a variety of desserts that were welcomed by all the taste testers present. Congratulations Brother Mike ... I now have a feeling of closure for the bear that took my food on one of my backpacking trips... and thanks to everyone contributing to the meal.



The speaker for the evening, RW Bill Reinhold, receives some Masonic Art from the Worshipful Master. His outstanding message was titled the Blazing Star.



The Lodge Tiler, Bobby Cameron wins the Master's Hat Drawing, Cuff links.

**A Point Within A Circle**  
**By Rev. William Bart Daniel, Past Master of Berkley Lodge No. 167**

Brethren, you are now, technically speaking, a Mason, but whether or not you are going to be a Mason in reality rests entirely with you. The members of this Lodge deemed you honest in your desire to be a Mason, and I urge you show the Fraternity that they have not erred in admitting you into this ancient honorable order.

It would be well, my Brethren, to ask yourself the question, "What is it to be a Mason"? Do you think that membership in a Masonic Lodge makes you a Mason? If you have the proper conception of Masonry you will admit that it does not. Only in name, for membership in a Masonic Lodge can no more make you a Mason than membership in a musical club can make you a musician. However, if you are inclined and have natural talent, in the membership of the lodge you will find helpful stimulus and pleasant fellowship with congenial and kindred spirits.

It is the involuntary thoughts of your heart, and the voluntary acts of your life which determine your character as a Man and a Mason. There are four classes of men in the world: First, those who are Masons neither in name nor in nature: Second, those who are Masons in name only: Third, those who are Masons only by nature: Lastly, those who are Masons both in name and nature and in this class are Gods noblemen. But if I could not be numbered with them, I had rather be a Mason in heart.

In taking the degrees, the practice of many commendable virtues was enjoined upon you. Only a few of which you can recall at this moment, and there are too many for me to reiterate just now, but let me sum them all up by reminding you of one symbol. The symbol is in the first degree, that of a point within a circle. The Worshipful Master told you that the point represented an individual brother, you. The circle is the boundary line of your duty toward God and man. You should never suffer your passions, or let interests or prejudices betray you on any occasion. The circumference of this circle, the boundary line of your duty, is clearly Masonry. And while you keep yourself thus circumscribed my brethren, it is impossible that you should materially err.

Always remember what Masonry is, and what it stands for. Remember that it is not a religion. It has no designs to make men good, but tries to make good men better. It is a series of moral teachings which point the way to a better and cleaner life. It broadens a man's knowledge of his duty to his God and to his fellow man, Masonry cannot make a man live better, but it puts within his grasp those moral precepts which if he follows their literal meaning, will make him a better man, a better father, a better neighbor, and a Mason. There is no plausible reason for a Mason to go radically wrong. The greatest teachings ever written come from the Great Light of Masonry. A Mason has no excuse for not knowing what is right fair, and just in his actions toward his fellow man. Many of us consider ourselves Masons because we have taken its degrees and are permitted to wear its symbols on our coat lapels, but that conception of it is far from the truth. A true Mason is a good man, a man who is willing to go on foot and out of his way and make sacrifices of time, money, and opportunity in behalf of mankind.

It is my duty and your duty as Masons when we see a brother stepping from the path of honor and good citizenship, to meet him in a friendly spirit and ask him for his own sake, and for the sake of his family, lodge, and country, to about face and go the other way.

If each Mason would devote thirty minutes a day to rendering a service to a distressed brother, or to obtaining more light and knowledge in Masonry, the Masonic Fraternity would become a power, and the individual a giant of intellectual strength, which when united with his fellow members, would make this world better.

The question is, what are you going to do to improve your knowledge? Are you going to leave untouched the workshop of Masonry and remain content with your limited knowledge, or are you going to arouse yourself from the helpless Masonic state in which you find yourself?

Masonry is knocking at the door of every member, pleading with its votaries to help make men better. Masonry is beating a perpetual tattoo upon your door, and begs you enter the vineyard and take up the burden. The work is absolutely and entirely your duty as a Mason.

Were every member a Mason in all that the name signifies, were the education that Masonry gives thoroughly comprehended by men, and established as the universal system of ethical instruction for human guidance, and conduct, and its form of government adopted and put into effect by nations and states everywhere, there would be such a forward step in all the uplifting ennobling and altruistic things of life that the noise and thunder and savage cruelty of war, with the selfishness, and bitterness that have so long nourished them would disappear, never to return. The first gleaming rays of the millennium would before long be flashed to every part of the earth, and "Peace on earth", good will toward men would be made a reality.

When we choose our life's vocation, whether it be profession-able or skillful, we are concerned about one thing. The Chief question, "what is success"?

It's doing your job the best you can, and being just to our fellow man.  
It's making money, but holding friends, and staying true to your aims and ends.  
It's figuring how and learning why, and looking forward and thinking high.  
It's daring blithely the field of chance, while making labor a bravo romance.  
It's going onward despite defeat, and fighting staunchly but keeping sweet.  
It's being clean and playing fair, and laughing lightly at Dame despair.  
It's looking up at stars above, and drinking deeply of Life and Love.  
It's sharing sorrow and work and mirth, and making better the good of the earth.  
It's serving, striving, through strain and stress, it's doing your noblest—that's Success.

Brethren, I congratulate, you, and may God guide, guard and protect you through life, and endow with such a competency of divine wisdom, that you may be an honor to the great and noble order of Freemasonry and an inspiration to your fellow men.

## Three Grand Columns—The Inner Man



It is easy, Masonically, to confuse wisdom with knowledge as it is to do so in profane life. Knowledge is the cognizance of facts. Wisdom is the strength of mind to apply its knowledge. A Mason may know every word of our ritual from the beginning of the entered Apprentice Degree to the final words of the sublime Degree of Master Mason and still have no wisdom, Masonic or otherwise.

Knowledge comes from study; Wisdom from experience. Surely the first of the three grand columns which support our Institution should be taken to heart by every Mason as a symbol of the real need of a brother to become wise with the goodness of Masonry, skilled in the arts of brotherhood, learned in the way to the hearts of his brethren.

Strength, the second of our grand columns, without which nothing endures not even when contrived by wisdom and adorned with beauty. Freemasons build no temporal building. True, we do lay the cornerstone of the public building in the northeast corner, but the building is symbolic, not practical. The operative Mason who sets the stone for the grand master would place it as strongly in the building without our ceremony as with it. Our building is with the strength which endures in hearts and minds rather than that which makes the sun - dry materials of which an edifice is composed to do man's will. The Freemason constructs only the spiritual building; his stone is his mind; mentally, not physically, chipped by the common gavel to a perfect ashlar.

Beauty is represented in a Masonic lodge by the Corinthian column, most beautiful of the ancient orders of architecture; by the junior warden, who observes the sun at meridian when the day is most beautiful. We are taught that it is as necessary that beauty adorn all great and important undertakings as that wisdom contrives and strength supports them. Obviously then, the beauty of which Masons are taught is that variety which, like the "natural religion" of the Old Charges, is one "in which all men agree."

As no two men are agreed as to what is beautiful in a material sense, the Masonic conception of beauty cannot be of a material beauty. Its symbol of beauty - the sun at Meridian - is actually blinding to see. If we think the sun is beautiful, it is, for what it does for us rather than for what it is.

The Masonic pillar of beauty then must be the symbol of an inward loveliness; a beauty of the mind, of the heart; a beauty of idea and ideal; a beauty of the spirit. Our Corinthian column is to us not merely the support of the building, but that which upholds a character. Our junior warden represents not only the beauty of the sun at meridian, but the illumination by which a life is made beautiful. Hiram Abif is to us not only an exemplary character but an ideal to follow, a tradition to be preserved, a glory for which we may strive. Masonic beauty was wholly an operative matter in the days when the Gothic cathedrals first lifted their arches and spires to heaven. Today, when Masonry is purely speculative, Masonic beauty must be considered only as a beauty of the spirit.

Beauty cannot be had by wishing. It is not painted by the brush of desire. No musician may compose it upon any material piano. The poet may write about it, but he cannot phrase it. For it is of the inward essence which marks the difference between the "real good man" and he who only outwardly conforms to the laws and customs of society.

A man may keep every law, go to church three times on Sunday, belong to our order and subscribe to every charity; and still be mean of spirit, unhappy to live with, selfish, inconsiderate, and disagreeable. Such a one has not learned the inward meaning of the pillar of beauty. He has never stood, symbolically, in the South. For him, the sun at meridian is but the orb of the day at high noon and nothing more.

But for the real Mason, the brother who takes the lessons of the three grand columns to heart, beauty is as much a lamp to live by as are wisdom and strength. He finds beauty in his fellow-man because his inner self is beautiful. His "house not made with hands" is glorious before heaven. For these things endure. Material things pass away. The Temple of Solomon is but a memory. Scattered are the stones, stolen is the gold and silver, vessels cast by Hiram Abif. But the memory, like the history of the beauty and the glory which was Solomon, abides unto this day. So shall it be with our "house not built with hands," so be it if we build with the Beauty which Masons teach.

[Excerpts from Carl H. Claudy, "Three Grand Columns," in S. Brent Morris, Ed., *The Short Talk Bulletins I—Vol. VIII, No. 6*, June, 1930. (Burtonsville, MD: Masonic Service Association of North America, 2013), 330-333.]

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

1799—2017  
The 218th Year of Service to the  
Charlottesville Community and beyond.  
"Freemasonry, a way of life"



**Return Service Requested**



**DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE PROCESS**

**Hiram's Journal**



Selling Widow's Sons' Masonic Art at the Grand Annual Communication. Sales exceeded \$300.00 that will benefit the Masonic Home of Virginia. Pictured L-R: Jason Pattison, Mark Chapman, Nick Bragg, and Stewart Plemons.