

*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

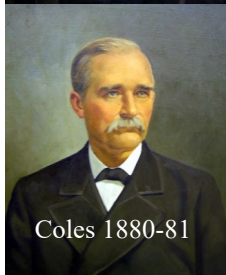
Stated Communications October 18th, 2021

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

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



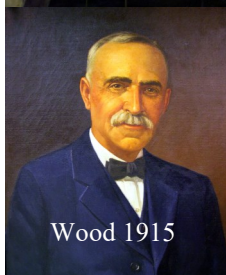
Leitch 1855-56



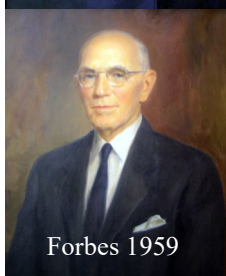
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009

## MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

WSL#60 had an excellent September !! At our Stated Communication on September 20th we honored Brother John Maddox with his 50 year membership pin. RW Bob Simpson made the presentation. Congratulations to Brother John!

RW Bill Hughes (Cabell Lodge #328) presented WSL#60 Stated program about our nation's Founding Fathers. Thanks Brother Bill for an interesting program.

On September 29<sup>th</sup> we had Ladies Night at Michie Tavern and we had a great time !! Food and service were excellent as usual. We invited our Lodge widows and they thanked us several times for asking them to join us. Also, at this occasion we recognized our Community Builder Award to Annie Dodds. Mrs. Dodds and her husband operate All Blessings Flow. Their business supplies and distributes home health equipment free of charge to worthy individuals in our area. Thanks to RW Jason Pattison for recommending Mrs. Dodds. An excellent choice !!

In our October 18th Stated Communication the program will be presented by RW Jim Dickerson in recognition of Founders Day. (Coat and tie is recommended.) Also in October we will raise a brother to the sublime degree of Master Mason. (see announcements section for details). Come out & support our newest Master Mason.

Let's continue to stay in touch with our brothers and widows with health challenges and let's keep them in our prayers. If I can help you in any way, then call or text me 434-960-6776 or email me at [hlw@comcast.net](mailto:hlw@comcast.net). Fraternally yours,

Harry Walker  
2021 Worshipful Master





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

Name: Master Mason Deg: Date

Simon C. Alexander	10/10/2012
Christopher N. Bragg	10/24/2013
Mark S. Chapman	10/01/2007
Jay L. Cotner	10/04/1989
Mike D. Griffin	10/30/1996
D. Mitchell Hofecker	10/16/1993
Richard L. Hull	10/23/2017
Earl V. Jorgensen	10/02/2013
Charles M. Long	10/25/1976
Charles E. Reinhold	10/28/1998
Steven Patrick Rowe	10/26/2016
Christopher A. Ruffin	10/18/2012
George P. Scouras	10/09/1953
Robert E. Simpson	10/15/1965
Clyde D. Snoddy, Jr.	10/19/1996
Russel G. Snodgrass	10/25/1976
Timothy Lea Soyars	10/19/2011
Joseph Seth Spivey, III	10/28/1985
Zia Tompkins	10/29/2013
Harry L. Walker, Jr.	10/03/2002
James C. Wood	10/15/1996
John D. Zero	10/28/1991



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Events:**

- Oct. 4th, 6:00PM — Master Mason Degree Practice**
- Oct 9th, 8:00 AM—Masonic Family Day at Masonic Home of Virginia, Richmond, VA (Details below)**
- Oct 18th, 7:00 PM— WSL60 Stated Meeting (Coat & Tie)  
MEAL at 6:00 PM, Cost is \$10  
Please contact WM to RSVP for head count.**
- Oct. 19th, 6:00 PM — Master Mason Degree (Coat & Tie)**
- Oct. 26th, 6 & 7 PM, Commandery #3 Knights Templar ,  
followed by a meal, and Keystone Royal Arch  
Chapter #58 meeting**
- Oct. 28th, 6:00 PM—Officers Meeting via Zoom**
- Nov. 5th - 6th — Grand Lodge of Virginia's  
Grand Annual Communication**
- Nov. 6th , 9 AM—CVILLE WALK to END ALZHEIMER'S  
CFA Parking lot on High Street  
(Old Martha Jefferson Hospital)**

**Masonic Home Family Day**

**INVITATION**

**The Annual Masonic Family Day to be held at the Masonic Home of Virginia on Saturday morning,  
October 9th 2021 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**A BBQ lunch prepared by Amelia Lodge No. 101 will be served at noon.**

**You and your guests will be able to experience your Masonic Home, and enjoy our residents, as well  
as visit the Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge Library and Museum.**

**There will be plenty of music, parade, food, and fellowship.**

**A Request from a WSL60 Widow**

**Mrs. Margaret Snoddy requested that we notify our members about her fundraising efforts for  
the needy. She is selling an assortment of Nuts – Pecans, Cashews, Walnuts, Mixed at a cost  
of \$13.00 per lb. for the**

**CHARLOTTESVILLE LIONESS LIONS CLUB**

**Contact Info: 434.293.9966/987.3011 Email: MargaretSnoddy39@gmail.com**

## The Masonic Home of Virginia: Founders Day Origins



**October is Founders Month in Virginia Masonry, and on October 9<sup>th</sup> the Grand Lodge of Virginia will celebrate Founders Day.**

**In 1871, Masons in the Richmond area of Virginia began discussing the need for a Masonic Orphanage. Several different committees were appointed by the Grand Lodge between the years 1871 and 1888. These committees were instructed to survey the need for a Masonic Orphan Asylum in Virginia. When the committees reported back to the Grand Lodge, they consistently stated the establishment of such an institution was not feasible. As far as can be found, no reasons were given for the negative reports; however, it was clear that such a daunting task needed a spark to light the fire.**

**Dr. George Potts, born in Canterbury, England and a member of Astrea Lodge No. 85, made several eloquent appeals to the committees and to Grand Lodge, encouraging the establishment of a home for orphans, but without success. In December 1889, Dr. Potts made a particularly eloquent plea to Masons assembled in Grand Lodge. Moved by the reasoning and passion of Dr. Potts' speech, Captain A. G. Babcock offered a gift of \$5,000 in cash and a conditional pledge of further assistance if the home were established. This pledge motivated the Grand Lodge Committee to amend its previous action and favorably report on the need and feasibility of a home for orphans.**

**In response to the Committee report and the pending gift, a groundswell of support emerged among the delegates to Grand Lodge and a resolution was adopted, authorizing the establishment of a Home for orphans of Virginia Master Masons. The committee assigned to the task petitioned a charter from the General Assembly, which was adopted on January 7, 1890 (The actual date of the founding of the Masonic Home of Virginia).**

**Subsequent to the chartering, on February 18th, 1890, Captain Babcock donated real estate consisting of "44 ½ acres of excellent farming land on Nine Mile Road, with a dwelling of ten rooms in good order, a large barn and stable recent built, and all of the other necessary outhouses." This property made up the bulk of what is today the grounds of the Masonic Home. Additional parcels from Captain Babcock and others were added over the years to achieve the total of today's ninety acres.**



## FOUNDER'S DAY— CONTINUED

From this humble beginning, our Masonic Home raised 839 children of Virginia Master Masons from 1890 to 1975. (Some of which are members of WSL60) However, as time moved forward, the need for a Home for children decreased. This drop in demand was likely spurred on by a number of factors like safer workplaces, better work opportunities to Masonic Widows, and an increased role of the state in caring for orphans and the destitute. With fewer children coming through its gates, the Masonic Home decided to pivot. In the 1950s it decided to open to retirees creating a Home for the Aged.

In 1953 the Grand Lodge of Virginia, by order of [Most Worshipful Charles M. Lanford, Jr.](#), (See portrait below) transferred \$125,000 (more than \$1.1 million today) to the Masonic Home of Virginia to build its Home for the Aged. Construction began in the middle of 1953, but was halted in early 1954 as it became too costly to complete. This could have put an end to the hopes of a retirement community for the Freemasons of Virginia, but thanks to the leadership of [Most Worshipful Hugh M. Reid](#), (See portrait below) who suggested it begin long-range planning, it continued. The Grand Lodge transferred another \$100,000 to the Home, and in 1955, the Masonic Home as it currently operates began.



Most Worshipful Charles M. Lanford



Most Worshipful Hugh M. Reid

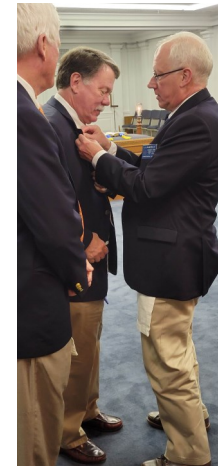
Much has changed since the beginning of the Adult Home. Our leadership has added separate cottages, expansive apartments, state of the art nursing care, secure memory support areas, and a huge dining room. There is a library, beauty shop, and fitness center. The Masonic Home has cared for over 1200 adults since it's began. And it owes its existence to the perseverance and generosity of masons with the foresight and courage that began the journey leading to today's Masonic Home of Virginia.

### Grand Master's Official Visit to District 7 and 10 on Sept 17, 2021



MW Douglas V. Jones, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia deliver his address to District 7 & 10 audience; RW Jason Pattison, DDGM10 presents gifts from WSL60 to the Grand Master.

## September Stated Images



Brother John Maddox receives his 50 yr Masonic Veterans award and lapel pin Committee Members: Bros Jim Carpenter and Lewis Martin; presentation by RW Bob Simpson



September Masonic Birthdays (L-R): WM Harry Walker, Bro. John Maddox (50 yr), RW Philip Nelson Jr (22 yr); RW Jason Pattison (11 yr); RW Jim Dickerson (26 yr); Bro. Carlos McReddie (37 yr); Bro. William Reichert (4yr);

### **Enjoying a meal and presentation of Community Builders award at Michie Tavern for WSL60 Ladies Night Event on Sept 29th**



### Elected Officers for 2021

Worshipful Master: Wor. Harry Lee Walker, Jr.  
 Senior Warden: R.W. Jason Andrew Pattison  
 Junior Warden: Wor. Christopher Nicholas Bragg  
 Treasurer: RW Mike Daniel Griffin  
 Secretary: Wor. Mark Stephen Chapman

Senior Deacon: Bro. William Heron Reichert  
 Junior Deacon: RW Andrew Donald Keller  
 Chaplain: RW Philip Harding Nelson, Jr. 5  
 Marshall: Bro. James Thomas O'Kelley, Jr.  
 Tyler: Bro. John Coulter Maddox

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

1799—2021  
The 222nd Year of Service to the  
Charlottesville Community and beyond.  
"Freemasonry, a way of life"

Return Service Requested



## **DATED MATERIAL PLEASE PROCESS**



Brothers,  
I am participating in the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® and fundraising for Alzheimer's care, support, and research. I'm committed to making a difference in the fight to end Alzheimer's. Will you support me in the fight to #ENDALZ by making a donation on my fundraising page?

Every dollar you donate will help the Alzheimer's Association® provide care and support to all those facing Alzheimer's and all other dementia. Together, we can end Alzheimer's. If you wish to join the Freemasons Team in the upcoming local Charlottesville WALK, then go to the following webpage:

<http://act.alz.org/goto/MarkChapman>

THANK YOU