

*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

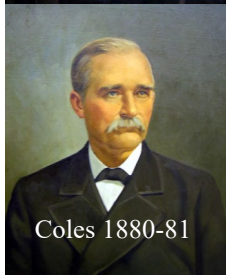
Stated Communications August 16th, 2021

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

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



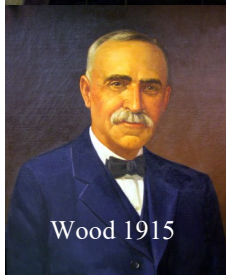
Leitch 1855-56



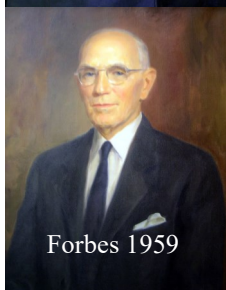
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009

## MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

Following are some important dates coming up for WSL60:

(1) Saturday August 14th is our Lodge picnic. Hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, and condiments will be furnished by the Lodge. I'm bringing baked beans. Other Lodge officers are bringing potato salad, mac and cheese, salads, etc. If you would like to bring chips, desserts it would be excellent. Bring your family!! We need a count by August 10th. The location is Ole Creasy Farm which is at the intersection of Buck Island Road and Martin Kings Road off Route 53. Time is 4:30 to 7 pm. Bring a lawn chair. Additional information is included in this Hiram's Journal. Contact me with your reservation. Phone/text (434) 960-6776 or email: [hlw@comcast.net](mailto:hlw@comcast.net)

(2) Ladies Night is scheduled for Wednesday September 29th at Michie Tavern at 6 pm. We are having Colonial Fried Chicken and Southern Style Hand-pulled Pork Barbeque. Cost is \$40 per person. Dress code is business casual. Our Lodge widows are invited paid for by the Lodge. Cash bar available before dinner. Contact me by September 20th to make your reservation.

(3) Also at Ladies Night we will present our Community Builders Award to this year's recipient.

Our July Stated program was presented by brother Jim Carpenter about the Dogwood Viet Nam Memorial. It was an excellent presentation and the brethren really appreciated it.

On July 26th Brother Don Cochrane was passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft. I want to thank the Degree team for an excellent job!!

We had a special visitor at July Stated: Wor. Harish K. Vats, Grand Tiler of the Grand Lodge of India. Brother Vats made some brief remarks and he also brought a pan of delicious Indian food to add to our meal.

Our program for August will be presented by Jackson Butler of the Roanoke Valley DeMolay. It's entitled "Ceremony of Light". It is worth attending Lodge to see this.

Brethren, as always keep in touch with our brothers and widows with health challenges. Let's keep them in our prayers. If I can help or assist you in any way 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



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

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Master Mason Degree:</u>
Michael L. Arnold	08/30/2004
Alexander Banks, V	08/26/1968 (53 Years)
Robert L. Bishop, Jr.	08/29/2015
Stephen J. Blair	08/29/2015
Dale R. Blosser	08/29/1988
Joseph F. Brown, III	08/12/1992
Brian E. Campbell	08/28/1990
Robert M. Carlisle	08/18/1956 (65 Years)
William W. Clark, Jr.	08/27/1951 (70 Years)
David S. Davidson	08/07/1967 (54 Years)
Steve E. Fetcho	08/27/2005
George P.A. Forschler	08/03/1967 (54 Years)
Charles M. Hale, Jr.	08/09/1977
Robert A. Harrison, III	08/27/2005
Robert A. Harrison, Jr.	08/19/1953 (68 Years)
Jeffery E. Hodges	08/26/1985
Jason E. Hodges	08/27/2005
James E. Holler	08/27/1984
Gregory D. Hosaflook	08/22/1998
Ian C. Kelly	08/27/2005
Patrick M. Kelly	08/27/2005
Boyd L. Knott	08/24/1970 (51 Years)
Daniel T. LaPlume	08/27/2005
John Coulter Maddox	08/02/1971 (50 Years)
Brady L. McLane	08/04/2018
James T. O'Kelley, Jr.	08/04/2018
Timothy B. Parent	08/27/2005
Stewart A. Plemons	08/29/2015
William F. Reinhold, III	08/26/1996
William E. Rose	08/26/1972
Larry B. Saunders	08/27/2005
Anthony C. Schienschang	08/31/2010
Kent Schlusel	08/07/1990
Steven R. Thomas	08/28/2008
Willian D. Vincent	08/27/2005

**UPCOMING EVENTS**



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

**August 16th, 7:00 PM— WSL60 Stated Meeting MEAL at 6:00 PM, Cost is \$10**  
**Please contact WM to RSVP for head count.**

**August 14th, 6:00 PM—MM Degree at Day Lodge #58, Louisa, VA.**

**August 26th, 6:00 PM—Officers Meeting via Zoom**

**Aug 14th—WSL#60 Picnic at Ole Creasy Farm**  
**(See Details on Page 6)**

**Sept 10th, 2:00 PM—Masonic Rites for Bro. Hollis Proffett at Monticello Memorial Gardens**

**Sept 17th—Official Visit of the Grand Master of Virginia to District 10 at Louisa Methodist Church, 100 E. Main Street, Louisa, VA. Tickets = \$25**  
**(See Details on Page 5)**

**Sept 29th—WSL60 Ladies Night at Michie Tavern, 6 PM.**  
**Cost is \$40 per person. Dress Code is business casual. RSVP by Sept 20th.**

**October 9th, 2021—Masonic Family Day at Masonic Home of Virginia, Richmond, VA**



**13th Annual James Stanley Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament**



Benefitting the  
Masonic Home of Virginia

**Location: Lexington Golf and Country Club**  
**141 Country Club Road**  
**Lexington, VA 24450**  
**Date: August 27th, 2021**  
**Registration at 9:00 AM**  
**Shotgun Start at 10:00 AM**

**Entry Fee: \$90 per person or \$360 per team**  
**Proceeds support the Masonic Home of Virginia**

**BALL DROP in honor of RW Bruce Lupton. Tickets are \$10 or Golfers can round up to \$100 to include Ball Drop. Join for the Widow's Sons' Lodge #60 Team to represent the Widow's Sons' Lodge at the Tournament.**

**Contact the Lodge Secretary for more details: [WidowsSons60@gmail.com](mailto:WidowsSons60@gmail.com)**

# THE LADDER: AN ESOTERIC PERSPECTIVE

BY: WALTER LESLIE WILMSHURST



A most important part of the curriculum of the ancient mysteries was instruction in cosmology, the science of the universe. The intention of that instruction was to disclose to candidates the physical and metaphysical constitution of the world and the place and destiny of man in it. They were shown how the complex human organism reproduces the great world and summarizes it in small, so that man may see himself to be a microcosm or miniature copy of it.

Skepticism, freedom and independence of thought about matters of a more or less occult nature have their undoubted place and value in the outer ways of the world. But they are foreign to and inconsistent with the mental attitude appropriate to those who, on entering a hall of initiation, are supposed to tyle the door to the outside world and its conceptions, and, divesting themselves of all ideas there pre-acquired, to offer themselves as humble teachable pupils of a new and authoritative order of knowledge. Where everyone claims to be already possessed of a sufficiently satisfactory explanation of the universe and his place in it, or is content to get along without one, and in either case prefers his private judgment to any other that may be offered him, the soil for making initiates in any real sense is distinctly unfavorable. For such, however, these pages are not written. They are offered only to the minority of brethren eager to learn what Masonry has to teach them upon matters in which they earnestly seek knowledge and guidance.

Masonry, then, in exhibiting to them a simple ladder offers them a symbol the significance of which is calculated to open widely the eyes of their imagination. It is true that in the Instruction lecture the ladder is expressly referred to that of Jacob in the familiar biblical episode, and that that ladder is then given a moral significance and made to suggest the way by which man may ascend from earth to heaven by climbing its symbolic rungs, and especially by utilizing its three chief ones representing the virtues Faith, Hope and Charity. This moral interpretation is warranted and salutary. But it is far from exhaustive, and conceals rather than reveals what “Jacob’s ladder” was really intended to convey to the perspicuous when the compilers of our system gave it the prominence they did. We may be assured they had a much deeper purpose than merely reminding us of the Pauline triad of theological virtues.

The ladder, then, covertly emphasizes the old cosmological teaching before referred to. It is a symbol of the universe and of its succession of step-like planes reaching from the heights to the depths. It is written elsewhere that the Father’s house has many mansions; many levels and resting places for His creatures in their different conditions and degrees of progress. It is these levels, these planes and sub-planes, that are denoted by the rungs and staves of the ladder. And of these there are, for us in our present state of evolutionary un-foldment, three principal ones; the physical plane, the plane of desire and emotion, and the mental plane or that of the abstract intelligence which links up to the still higher plane of the spirit. These three levels of the world are reproduced in man. The first corresponds with his material physique, his sense-body; the second with his desire and emotional nature, which is a mixed element resulting from the interaction of his physical senses and his ultra-physical mind; the third with his mentality, which is still farther removed from his physical nature and forms the link between the latter and his spiritual being.

The ladder, and its three principal staves, may be seen everywhere in nature. It appears in the septenary scale of musical sound with its three dominants; in the prismatic scale of light with its three primary colors; in our seven day scale of weekly time, in the septenary physiological changes of our bodily organism, and the similar periodicities known to physics and indeed to every branch of science. The perfect lodge has seven members, including three principal officers. The advancement of the third degree candidate to the East is by seven steps, the first three of which, it will be remembered, are given special significance.

## THE LADDER: AS ESOTERIC PERSPECTIVE ~ CONTINUED

Thus the universe and man himself are constructed ladder-wise, in an orderly, organized sequence of steps. The one universal substance composing the differentiated parts of the universe “descends” from a state of the utmost ethereality by successive steps of increasing densification until gross materialization is reached; and thence “ascends” through a similarly ordered gradation of planes to its original place, but enriched by the experience gained by its activities during the process.

It was this cosmic process which was the subject of the dream or vision of Jacob and which accounts for “Jacob’s ladder” being given prominence in our symbolism. What was “dreamed” or beheld by him with super-sensory vision, is equally perceptible today by any one whose inner eyes have been opened. Every real initiate is one who has attained an expansion of consciousness and faculty enabling him to behold the ethereal worlds revealed to the Hebrew patriarch, as easily as the uninitiated man beholds the phenomenal world with his outer eyes.

The initiate is able to “see the angels of God ascending and descending” – that is, he can directly behold the great stairway of the universe and watch the intricate but orderly mechanism of involution, differentiation, evolution, and re-synthesis, constituting the life-process. He can witness the descent of human essences or souls through planes of increasing density and decreasing vibratory rate, gathering around them as they come veils of matter from each, until finally this lowest level of complete materialization is between the real self and the unreal selves and veils built round it, has to be fought out on the checker-work floor of our present existence, among the black and white opposites of good and evil, light and darkness, prosperity and adversity.

And he can watch the upward return of those who conquer in the strife and, attaining their regeneration and casting off or transmuting the “worldly possessions” acquired during their descent, ascend to their Source, pure and unpolluted from the stains of this imperfect world. But to no man comes such vision as this unless he too be a Jacob who flees from the clash and hurly of secular activities into the solitude of his own soul, and in that barren wilderness interrogates himself and struggles agonizingly to penetrate the mystery of his existence, to read its purpose, and tear out the last secret of his own being. So, perchance, he may fall asleep, his head at last quietly pillowed upon that hard stone, against which hitherto he has been blindly dashing it. And then by the surrender of his own will and mental activities, and in the silence and quietude of the senses, his own inmost great Light may break, and from that newfound center he will see and know and find the answer to all his needs. For, in the words of an ancient record of initiation:



The sleep of the body becomes the awaking of the soul, and the closing of the eyes true vision, and silence becomes impregnated with God. This happened to me when I received the supreme authentic Word. I became God-inspired. I arrived at Truth. Wherefore I give from my soul and whole strength, blessing to the Father. (Hermes, Poemandres, 1.30.)

Jacob’s vision and ladder, therefore, exemplify the attainment of initiation, the expansion of consciousness that comes when the Light of the center is found, and the cosmic vision that then becomes possible.

Reprinted from the Los Angeles Masonic Harbor Lodge Education website:  
[www.sanpedromasons.org](http://www.sanpedromasons.org)

# JULY STATED PRESENTATIONS



Bro. James Carpenter presented a program on the Charlottesville Dogwood Vietnam Memorial. He spoke about the individual lives of some of the veterans memorialized there and about the struggles in making the memorial a reality. WSL60 donates to this worthy memorial.



RW Robert A. Clore celebrated his 50 yr Masonic veteran status at his mother lodge in Barboursville Lodge No.112. He is a member at WSL60. Pictured from Left to Right: MW J.E. Hodges, MW J. R. Quinley, RW Bob Clore, RW Donald Ellis Strehle, Grand SW GL of VA



WSL60 was able to host Wor. Harish Vats, Grand Tiler, GL of India at the last stated meeting. Above is WM Walker presenting Wor. Vats with a WSL60 tumbler.

## **Grand Master Official Visit— District 7 and 10**

Brothers, the Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, Most Worshipful Douglas Vernon Jones, will be making his Official Visit to Districts 7 and 10 on Friday, September 17th.

A BBQ dinner will be served with a choice of sides and desserts. Tickets will be \$25.  
Social Hour: 5:30—6:30

Dinner: 6:30

7:00—National Sojourners present Flag and programs to follow.  
Location

Louisa Methodist Church, 100 E. Main Street, Louisa, VA 23093

Please RSVP to RW Jason Pattison by September 1st.  
[jaspatt82@yahoo.com](mailto:jaspatt82@yahoo.com) or (434) 989-4109

### **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.  
Marshall: Bro. James Thomas O'Kelley, Jr.  
Tyler: Bro. John Coulter Maddox

## Request from a Masonic Widow

Brothers, a Masonic Widow lost her father and is in possession of two Masonic rings that she would like to sell to Masons.

If anyone is interested in any of the rings, please contact the secretary for more information.

[WidowsSons60@gmail.com](mailto:WidowsSons60@gmail.com)



## LODGE FAMILY PICNIC AT THE OLE CREASY FARM

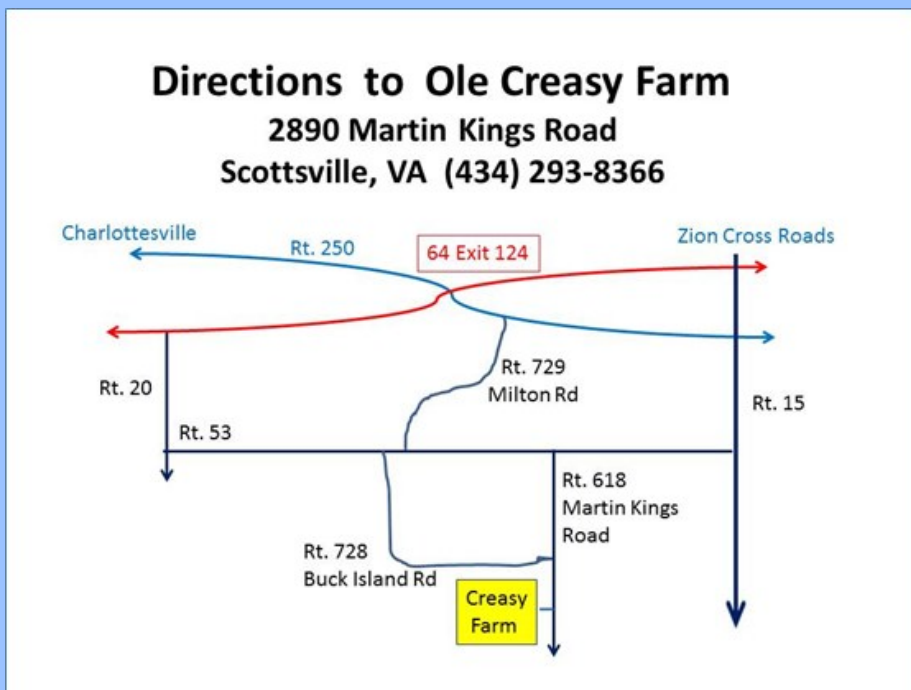
Brothers, the annual Lodge Family Picnic this year will be held at the Old Creasy Farm.

Date: August 14th Time: 4:30—7 PM

It will be a great time for brotherhood and fellowship with some games and entertainment for all. Invite friends, family and neighbors.

Please contact WM Harry Walker (see 1st page for contact info) so we can get a head count.

Below is a map to get to the Creasy Farm Estate.



## **A Student's Faith**

**Professor:** You are a Christian, aren't you, son? **Student:** Yes, sir. **Professor:** So, you believe in GOD? **Student:** Absolutely, sir. **Professor:** Is GOD good? **Student:** Sure. **Professor:** Is GOD all powerful? **Student:** Yes. **Professor:** My brother died of cancer even though he prayed to GOD to heal him. Most of us would attempt to help others who are ill. But GOD didn't. How is this GOD good then? Hmm? (Student was silent.) **Professor:** You can't answer, can you? Let's start again, young fella. Is GOD good? **Student:** Yes. **Professor:** Is Satan good? **Student:** No. **Professor:** Where does Satan come from? **Student:** From . . . GOD . . . **Professor:** That's right. Tell me son, is there evil in this world? **Student:** Yes Professor: So who created evil? (Student did not answer.) **Professor:** Is there sickness? Immorality? Hatred? Ugliness? All these terrible things exist in the world, don't they? **Student:** Yes, sir. **Professor:** So who created them? (Student had no answer.) **Professor:** Science says you have 5 senses you use to identify and observe the world around you. Tell me, son, have you ever seen GOD? **Student:** No, sir. **Professor:** Tell us if you have ever heard your GOD? **Student:** No, sir. **Professor:** Have you ever felt your GOD, tasted your GOD, smelt your GOD? Have you ever had any sensory perception of GOD for that matter? **Student:** No, sir. I'm afraid I haven't. **Professor:** Yet you still believe in Him? **Student:** Yes. **Professor:** According to Empirical, Testable, Demonstrable Protocol, Science says your GOD doesn't exist. What do you say to that, son? **Student:** Nothing, I only have my faith. **Professor:** Yes, faith. And that is the problem Science has.

**Student:** Professor, is there such a thing as heat? **Professor:** Yes. **Student:** And is there such a thing as cold? **Professor:** Yes. **Student:** No sir. There isn't. (The lecture theater became very quiet with this turn of events.) **Student:** Sir, you can have lots of heat, even more heat, superheat, mega heat, white heat, a little heat or no heat. But we don't have anything called cold. We can hit 458 degrees below zero which is no heat, but we can't go any further than that. There is no such thing as cold. Cold is only a word we use to describe the absence of heat. We cannot measure cold. Heat is energy. Cold is not the opposite of heat, sir, just the absence of it.

(There was pin-drop silence in the lecture theater.) **Student:** What about darkness, Professor? Is there such a thing as darkness? **Professor:** Yes. What is night if there isn't darkness? **Student:** You're wrong again, sir. Darkness is the absence of something. You can have low light, normal light, bright light, flashing light. But if you have no light constantly, you have nothing and its called darkness, isn't it? In reality, darkness isn't. If it is, well you would be able to make darkness darker, wouldn't you? **Professor:** So what is the point you are making, young man? **Student:** Sir, my point is that your philosophical premise is flawed. **Professor:** Flawed? Can you explain how? **Student:** Sir, you are working on the premise of duality. You argue there is life and then there is death, a good GOD and a bad GOD. You are viewing the concept of GOD as something finite, something we can measure. Sir, Science can't even explain a thought. It uses electricity and magnetism, but has never seen, much less fully understand either one. To view death as the opposite of life is to be ignorant of the fact that death cannot exist as a substantive thing. Death is not the opposite of life: just the absence of it. Now tell me, Professor, do you teach your students that they evolved from a monkey?

**Professor:** If you are referring to the natural evolutionary process, yes, of course I do. **Student:** Have you ever observed evolution with your own eyes, sir? (The Professor shook his head with a smile, beginning to realize where the argument was going.) **Student:** Since no one has ever observed the process of evolution at work and cannot even prove that this process is an on-going endeavor. Are you not teaching your opinion, sir? Are you not a scientist, but a preacher? (The class was in uproar.) **Student:** Is there anyone in the class who has ever seen the Professor's brain? (The class broke out into laughter.) **Student:** Is there anyone here who has ever heard the Professor's brain, felt it, touched or smelt it? No one appears to have done so. So, according to the established Rules of Empirical, Stable, Demonstrable Protocol, Science says that you have no brain, sir. With all due respect, sir, how do we then trust your lectures, sir? (The room was silent. (The Professor stared at the student, his face unfathomable.) **Professor:** I guess you'll have to take them on faith, son. **Student:** That is it sir . . . Exactly! The link between man and GOD is FAITH. That is all that keeps things alive and moving.

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**

Hiram's Journal

## **CASUAL WEAR and MEALS!!!!**



**Brothers, the Worshipful Master has ordered that the stated meetings for the months of AUGUST and SEPTEMBER will be casual wear. Bring out your Polos!!! See RW Andy Keller to purchase a WSL60 polo shirt.**