

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

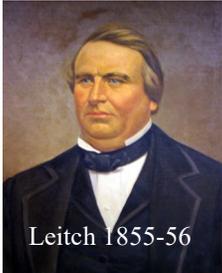
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF WIDOW'S SONS' LODGE NO. 60
A. F. & A. M., CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA, U.S.A.
CHARTERED DECEMBER 10TH, AD 1799, AL 5799

HIRAM'S JOURNAL

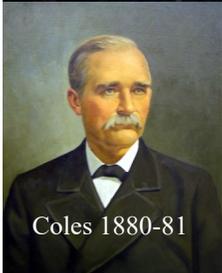
Stated Communications May 18th, 2020 (CANCELLED)

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

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



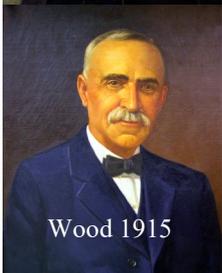
Leitch 1855-56



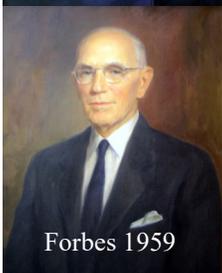
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009

MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

As the terrible virus still dictates what we are able to do, I want to thank once again the members of WSL 60 for continuing to follow the guidelines and helping to ensure that we all stay safe. Scholarship presentations, Eagle Scout recognition, District Deputy Grand Master official visit, Table Lodge, Lodge Picnic and several other things planned will still happen when the coast is clear. Our May Stated is cancelled along with every other Lodge activity in May. We hope to be able to get back to some semblance of normalcy after June 10. Really hope so!



As you know, May is the third month that activities in our Lodge have been cancelled or postponed. Degree work and Ritual practice can't take place. We have some catching up to do when we're able. Our Lodge Officer's meeting in April was done utilizing Skype, and it worked extremely well. Our Officer's meeting in May will of course be done the same way. Thanks to our Secretary, Worshipful Mark Chapman, for getting this set up and our excellent officer participation.

As stated above, June 10th is the earliest we can start to resume Lodge activities. If this does happen, our Table Lodge will be merged with our Stated on the third Monday (June 15th). The visit to our District by the Grand Master of Masons in Virginia is scheduled for June 19th in Louisa. DDGM official visit, as well as the other programs we need to do, will be scheduled as soon as possible. I'm sure we will know more when the time comes. It will be busy for sure.

Finally brethren, continue to stay safe. Continue to check on each other. Continue to check on our widows. If there is anything we can do to help you cope with this pandemic let me know and we will try to assist. Call me at 434-960-6776 or email me hlw@comcast.net.

Fraternally yours,

Harry Walker
2020 Worshipful Master



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

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Master Mason Degree:</u>
James K. Anas	05/40/1970 (50 Yrs)
Adam L. Buffington	05/06/2013
A. Clayton Coleman, Jr.	05/02/1977
Eddie O. Creasy	05/24/1982
George William Estes	05/29/1967 (53 Yrs)
John D. Fisher	05/04/1987
J. Leonard Hartman	05/05/1959 (61 Yrs)
Carl E. Hollar, Jr.	05/17/1974
Andrew D. Keller	05/28/1997
Yale S. Landsberg	05/25/1977
Robert J. Mariano	05/10/2004
Ahmed Nafei	05/24/2010
William N. Park	05/16/1995
Ray W. Sites	05/23/1966 (54 Yrs)
Geoff Springer	05/25/1996
James W. Stafford	05/15/2014
Carl W. Stankwitz	05/05/2011
Paul H. Wood	05/01/1961 (59 Yrs)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Events:

WSL60 Officer Meeting: May 4th, 6:00 PM

Officers, this will be a virtual meeting through Skype. Contact our Secretary for details.

DDGM Official Visit— Official Visit of the District Deputy Grand Master RW Jason Pattison to WSL60 will be rescheduled for a future Stated Communication.

Louisa ALZ Virtual WALK:

All are invited to participate. May 9th at 10:00 am
See link for more information:

www.louisaALZwalk.com

DDGM 2022 VOTE

Brothers, at our next Stated Communication on June 15th, we will be voting on who will be District Deputy Grand Master for the 10th Masonic District in 2022.

Please try to attend and to help cast your vote.

**GRAND LODGE UPDATED RESPONSE TO
CORONAVIRUS**

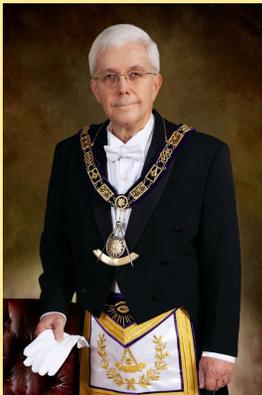
MW Douglas Vernon Jones—APRIL 10th, 2020

The following will serve as an update to previous messages from me, particularly the one dated March 16, 2020. Unless otherwise stated here, previous directions and instructions remain in effect.

*The suspension of all stated and called communications will now extend to **JUNE 10, 2020**, in order to comply with Executive Order No. 55 issued by Virginia Governor, Ralph Northam.*

Brethren, this response was sent from our Grand Master, Most Worshipful Douglas Vernon Jones, to all the Lodges within Virginia to help keep our brothers safe and healthy and to do what is needed to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus, or COVID-19, from spreading within our Brotherhood.

This means that there will be no Stated Communications or Masonic Activities for Widow's Sons' Lodge #60, nor for any of the appendant bodies that meet within the building until June 10th.



Freemasonry in Today's World

Stewart W. Miner, PGM

Stewart Miner is a past grand master of Virginia and served the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia as Grand Secretary. This STB was MW Bro. Miner's "Grand Secretary Message" in the Winter 2004 *Voice of Freemasonry*, a publication of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia.

My Brethren, as we close one Masonic year and open another, I want to share some thoughts that I have long harbored about our Fraternity and its fixations, past and present. It seems to me that Freemasons have long been entirely too preoccupied with the past, an extensive period when, according to many in our number, almost every good and perfect act, at least since the beginning of the Grand Lodge Era, has been impacted by the thoughts and deeds of Freemasons of great renown. Thus we in this country take pride in the certain knowledge that many of our past national leaders, in government, the military, the arts, and the sciences, sought out the mysteries and the benefits of Freemasonry.

We are especially proud, when reviewing the past, to count among our predecessors a number of outstanding men, starting with those who sought and won our national freedom, those who established our government, and with those who have labored, over the course of more than two centuries, to protect and preserve the American way of life. We are grateful for the many contributions of our national leaders who were Masons, and we find satisfaction in knowing that they, not unlike us, knelt at the altar and took upon themselves obligations to which we have all assented.

It is a pity, however, that our knowledge of how Masonry actually influenced the lives of these leaders is so limited. Even more pitiful is the fact that we cannot augment our restricted knowledge of our leaders and their commitment to the Craft because of limitations imposed by the inadequacy of source documents that are available to us. Hence, in most instances, we are not able to state with certainty how Masonry may have influenced the thoughts and deeds of those we revere.

Did these men, our Masonic heroes of yesterday, choose Freemasonry because of their appreciation of its teachings or, conversely, did they, after forming their personal moral and spiritual beliefs elsewhere, seek out like-minded men in the temples of Freemasonry? Unfortunately, because of a dearth of verifiable information, we will never know. But we can be grateful for their valuable consideration of the Fraternity.

In the assessment of the past we need to be especially careful that we not trespass from fact to fantasy, and the fact is that with few exceptions, little is really known about our Masonic forefathers other than where and when they took their degrees. Up to the dawn of the twentieth century, minutes in American lodges tend to be brief to the extreme and, unfortunately in far too many instances, even those records, scanty as they might be, have not been adequately preserved in many instances for posterity. Proper attribution of Craft accomplishments, therefore, is usually very difficult, and sometimes it is entirely impossible.

Nevertheless we must acknowledge that in the past, much was accomplished. Beautiful temples were erected, tremendous financial resources were accumulated and world class charities established by a Craft that was numerically small but philanthropically sensitive to need and opportunity. Our predecessors were truly builders for the future, intent on serving both the today and the tomorrow of their allocated periods of life. That they did so is a matter of record, and by their works, if not their words, they have spoken of their devotion to duty and dedication to principle.

So much of our thumbnail account of what was, a long period about which our store of information must be considered imperfect. While we cannot, in post-fact-to fashion, fill in the informational voids of our past, we can, if we are diligent, insure that the record that we compile for our posterity will be more complete.

In consequence of this very short review of the past, as I see it, a few observations about the present—the "what is" period of Masonry—may be useful. Let us begin by recognizing that, for the better part of the four decades leading to the present, we have busied ourselves, almost exclusively, with the examination and identification of fraternal ailments. Almost everyone who is reasonably active in the Craft can, without prompting, recite an almost endless litany of Craft afflictions, capped, of course, with hand-wringing accounts of attendance and declining membership. Address these symptoms, so it is said, and the Craft will thereby be returned to good health and prosperity.

Thus far, however, most of our attempts to treat perceived issues have been for naught. Not only have our endeavors fallen short of our aspirations, but in the process, the issues appear to have become ever more pervasive. If this be so, and I believe it is, perhaps we need to look not to ministering to the treatment of the symptoms of fraternal ailments by the application and re-application of expensive and untested remedial programs, but to the identification and subsequent treatment and containment of what may be a fundamental but unappreciated disease: *the obvious lack of demonstrated interest in Masonry by Masons*.

Freemasonry in Today's World ~*continued*

In my mind, my brethren, the return to health of the Craft will depend in the long run not on quick fixes or gimmicks, but rather upon the fullest appreciation of the depth or lack of depth of the average member's concern for Masonry and its works; upon the understanding of the reasons underlying the Mason's lack of appetite for fraternal involvement; and on the apparent preference of almost all Masons to remain outside, rather than within, the circle of active brethren. The future will depend, in the long run, on the reversal of ingrained and unhealthy attitudinal patterns. Thus our major interest should not rest on the number of members that are on our rolls or the length of the list of names recorded on the attendance roster. Rather our efforts should focus on finding a solution to the most fundamental, indeed, the root issue for our order—the *Freemason's undeveloped interest in Freemasonry*. Unfortunately, this is an untreated and contagious malady about which we seem to know very little.

The reality of the present suggests that the future of the Craft will be determined, in large part, by what we do now and in the immediate future. A few years ago, in 1992, Bishop Carl J. Sanders, in an address given at the time of the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the White House, stated that we were now drinking from wells that we didn't dig and eating the fruit of trees that we didn't plant. With these words he caused us all to appreciate that Masonry is surviving now not on the strength of its own efforts, but in no significant way, on the work and on the achievements of our predecessors in the Craft. Put another way, Freemasons have entered the realm of the kept to an amazing degree, and in many instances, lodges today exist largely and perhaps only because they are able to tap resources that were earned and accumulated in generations long gone.

This fact leads us to ask a few questions. Where are those lodges that are building to meet both our present and future needs? Where are those grand lodges that are laying the groundwork for advancement into the current millennium? Where are those Masonic bodies that have competent visionaries capable of achieving their visions? Who is placing imaginative and feasible plans on the trestleboard, and who is evaluating and marshaling the means by which those plans are to be worked?

In thinking about our answers to these questions we perhaps ought to ask ourselves if Masonry is properly organized for progress in the rapidly changing social environment in which it finds itself

Indeed, if we successfully identify motivated and capable men to address our most pressing issues, will they be able to implement their plans within the institution as it now stands? Frankly, I don't know. But I do know that the future can be as strong, viable, and influential as we and our leaders will it to be. Let us therefore take heed of the observation of a wise man who once said that the only constant in this world is change; let us accept that change is a part of life. Let us accept it, prepare for it, and cope with it. It is the only way!

Reprinted from "The Short Talk Bulletin", Volume 82, Number 3, March 2004, presented in "The Short Talk Bulletins Volume Bound Set VI", Volumes 81-95, 2003-2017, pages 50-52.



Most Worshipful Steward Wilson Miner, Past Grand Master of Masons in Virginia in 1974.

MW Miner's was born on October 7th in 1921 in Syracuse, New York. He worked as a Senior Editor for the United States Government. His Mother Lodge was Cherrydale Lodge No. 42 in Arlington, VA.

MW Miner also served as Grand High Priest for the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons in Virginia from 1985 to 1986.

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial—presented by RW Robert Simpson



The two Lodges most closely associated with George Washington are Fredericksburg Lodge at Fredericksburg, Virginia (his Mother Lodge) and Alexandria-Washington Lodge at Alexandria, Virginia, where he was elected Charter Master under the Grand Lodge of Virginia. No precise date can be found when the Lodge at Fredericksburg began. The date of its first meeting is usually found as September 1, 1752, under a dispensation from the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Colony of Massachusetts. The Lodge was granted a charter on July 21, 1758, by the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Brother Washington received his Masonic degrees over a nine-month period. He was initiated an Entered Apprentice on November 4, 1752, passed to Fellow Craft on March 3, 1753, and raised to Master Mason on August 4, 1753.

The Lodge at Alexandria, Virginia, was first warranted by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on February 3, 1783, as Lodge № 39. George Washington attended a St. John the Baptist Celebration of the Lodge in June 24, 1784, where he was later made an honorary member of the Lodge. On April 28, 1788, the Lodge received a Charter from the Grand Lodge of Virginia as Alexandria Lodge № 22. The Lodge asked Washington to be its Charter Master under the Virginia Charter and he agreed. Washington was inaugurated as the First President of the United States on April 30, 1789, while holding the office of Master of Alexandria Lodge. In 1804, the Lodge petitioned the Grand Lodge of Virginia to change its name to Alexandria-Washington Lodge № 22, in memory of

Washington. That petition was granted in 1805.

Through the generosity of Washington's family and friends, Alexandria-Washington Lodge became the repository of many artifacts pertaining to George Washington and the Washington family. The Lodge operated a museum where the public could see much of this collection and learn about George Washington. But, over time, the lodge rooms were deemed inadequate for the display and storage of the memorabilia. A fire in the lodge in 1871 destroyed many of the invaluable and significant Washington artifacts.

In 1909, Brother Charles H. Callahan, while Senior Warden of Alexandria-Washington Lodge № 22, purchased several lots on Shutters Hill. He donated this land to the lodge for the site of a new—and fireproof—Lodge Hall.

At the urging of the lodge, Joseph W. Eggleston, the Grand Master of Virginia, invited every Grand Master in the United States to assemble in Alexandria-Washington Lodge on February 22, 1910, for the purpose of forming an Association to plan and build "a suitable Memorial Temple to George Washington, the Mason." Representatives from twenty-six Grand Lodges gathered on that day to endorse the erection of the Memorial, and The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association was formed. Thomas Shryock, Grand Master of Maryland, was elected the first President of the Memorial Association.

Ten years after the first official meeting of the Association, the concept of a colossal building as a Memorial "lighthouse" to Washington was approved by the Grand Lodges of the United States. The site was selected because it followed the ancient tradition for the location of temples on hilltops or mountains. It was also located on land with which General Washington was familiar, as he spent a great deal of time in Alexandria and its environs.

The groundbreaking ceremony took place on June 5, 1922. Louis A. Watres, President of the Memorial Association and Past Grand Master of Pennsylvania, and Charles H. Callahan, Past Master of Alexandria-Washington Lodge № 22, and a future Grand Master of Virginia participated in the ceremony. Despite the great expense, the Memorial Association was determined not to borrow money. Construction only proceeded as money was collected for each stage of the project.

On November 1, 1923, the Memorial's cornerstone was dedicated in a Masonic ceremony. President Calvin Coolidge, former President and Chief Justice William H. Taft and numerous other dignitaries performed the ceremony before a crowd of thousands of Freemasons from around the nation. The onset of the Great Depression did not stop work on the Memorial. For over 10 years, Freemasons steadily and faithfully contributed to the construction of the Memorial. On May 12, 1932, the bicentennial year of George Washington's birth, the dedication of the Memorial took place with President Herbert Hoover participating.

After World War II, work on the Memorial's interior began in earnest. By 1970, the George Washington Masonic National Memorial was completed. In 1999, the large Square and Compasses emblem was added to the front lawn, a visible sign to the Masonic nature of the Memorial.

A repository of many artifacts and the history of American Freemasons, the Memorial remains a lasting monument to George Washington, the Man, the Mason, and Father of our Country.

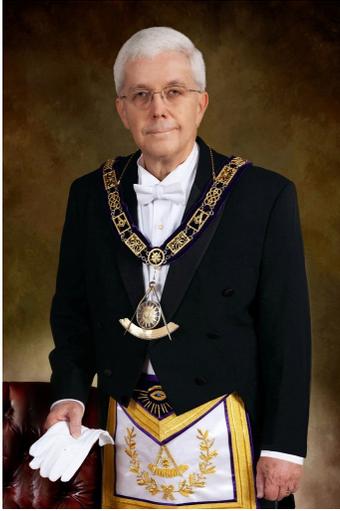


George Washington Memorial Contribution

Brothers, a request has been made to Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 to contribute \$2,500 to the Memorial. The Lodge Officers have agreed to appeal to the members of Widow's Sons' Lodge to contribute through Lodge campaign to raise the \$2,500. The officers are planning on selling \$10 raffle tickets for a prize of the Lodge Degree Paintings.

GRAND MASTER'S APPEAL FOR MASONIC RELIEF

APRIL 3rd, 2020



MASONIC HOME OF VIRGINIA

My Brothers:

As we continue to navigate the uncharted waters of COVID-19, we have rightly focused as a Fraternity and as Virginians on taking any and all steps available to reduce the spread of the virus. As we hunker down, it's easy to feel like we're stuck at home but maybe the better perspective is we're safe at home.

This health crisis is impacting mind and body in a way we could never have imagined, and I fear that many of our Brothers and their families will also feel the impact in their personal finances. With all but essential services grinding to a halt, many businesses are struggling to survive and others have been forced to close and may never be able to reopen. This will, of course, trickle down to reduced pay checks or no pay at all, and many in our Masonic Family will feel the pain in a mighty way.

This is why I appeal to you today to consider a donation to the Grand Lodge of Virginia Masonic Relief Fund. Through this Fund, your Grand Lodge provides relief to Brethren experiencing tragedy or hardship in their life. Far from a steady flow of income or the ultimate answer to the need at hand, the Fund can provide a "bridge over troubled water" when a Brother and his family find themselves in a dire situation. So, if you have the means, I ask you to consider doing what you can, because as the next few weeks wear on, some of our Brethren and their families will most assuredly need a hand.

**Donations can be made to:
The Grand Lodge of Virginia Masonic Relief Fund
4115 Nine Mile Road
Richmond, VA 23223-4926**

(Your gift is tax deductible—100% of the dollars collected are for relief purposes, no administrative overhead)

See website <https://grandlodgeofvirginia.org/relief/> for more information and options on donating.

TABLE LODGE—June 15th



Brethren, our Table Lodge at Widow's Sons' will be held on June 15th and will be combined with our monthly Stated Communication.

Due to the current Corona virus situation, this time could change, but as of this moment, this is the date for the event.

Cost: \$10 per ticket.

Contact Junior Warden Adam Buffington for tickets and current details at adam_buffington@hotmail.com or (319) 461-6850

ONLINE MASONIC PODCASTS

Brothers, here is a list of online Masonic Podcasts that can keep you entertained and help you to increase in Masonic knowledge and philosophy and see how other Masons are doing within our Fraternity.

Whence Came You? - <https://www.youtube.com/user/Wcypodcast>

The Masonic Roundtable - <https://www.youtube.com/user/MasonicRoundtable>

The Winding Stairs - <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheWindingStairs>

At Refreshment - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCb8IaNvD2Xmc_XJq6OdGt9A

The Working Tools - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLOnWyjj1j62Pr1krm8bb5g>

The First Three Knocks - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI2126LIYlhCQU3xV8OWaWw>

LODGE FAMILY PICNIC AT THE CREASY FARM



Brethren, due to the current Corona virus situation, the Lodge Family Picnic at the Creasy farm will be put on hold until a new date can be determined and safety for our members and their families is good.



Brothers, the 2020 Lodge Officers of Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 are anxious and rearing to get back to Lodge and have some good fellowship. They want every Brother and their families to be safe during this time and to stay healthy and active in their homes.

Elected Officers for 2020

Worshipful Master: Wor. Harry Lee Walker, Jr.
Senior Warden: Bro. Eddie O'Hare Creasy
Junior Warden: Bro. Adam Lee Buffington
Treasurer: RW Mike Daniel Griffin
Secretary: Wor. Mark Stephen Chapman

Senior Deacon: RW Gerald William "Bud" Hogan
Junior Deacon: RW Jason Andrew Pattison
Chaplain: RW Philip Harding Nelson, Jr.
Marshall: Bro. Anthony Curtis Schienschang
Tyler: Bro. Bobby Cameron, Jr.

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



DATED MATERIAL PLEASE PROCESS

Hiram's Journal

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY—IMPORTANT

Our Lodge Secretary still has a number of members that haven't paid their Lodge dues; please contact him if you haven't paid your dues yet.

Email: WidowsSons60@gmail.com; Ph. (434) 227-6702.

LODGE OF SORROW

Passing of Wor. Hollis Thurston Proffitt on April 3rd, 2020

With deep sadness we announce the passing of Brother Proffitt, a 66 year member of WSL60. He was born on September 5, 1923, raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on February 23, 1954, and served as Worshipful Master in 1959. Brother Proffitt was an Honorary member of WSL60.

WSL#60 VIRTUAL OFFICER'S MEETING



Brothers, the Lodge Officers will have their Officer's Meeting on May 4th at 6:00 PM and the meeting will be conducted using Skype. Our Secretary is setting up the particulars for the meeting and asks that you reach out to him to help get set up for the meeting.