

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

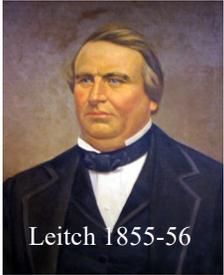
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF WIDOW'S SONS' LODGE NO. 60
A. F. & A. M., CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA, U.S.A.
CHARTERED DECEMBER 10TH, AD 1799, AL 5799

HIRAM'S JOURNAL

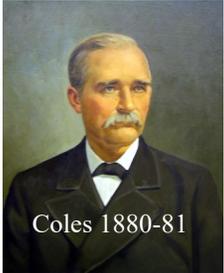
Stated Communications July 15th, 2024

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

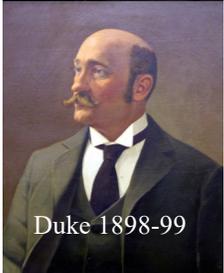
[Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Facebook Page](#)



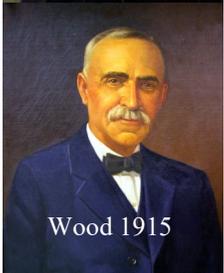
Leitch 1855-56



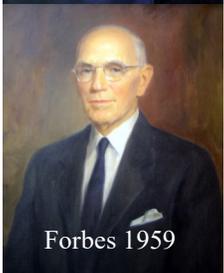
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009

MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

Greetings Brothers,

It's finally summer and it sure did get hot quick this year. Don't forget that in July and August we will be in summer attire. Polo shirts and pants. We had another busy month in lodge and have lots more to come in July. We had a great turn out for our Hawaiian shirt themed Table Lodge this year. I appreciate all the Brothers that helped out putting this on and all that attended. Hopefully we will have twice as many Brothers in the dining hall for our Joint Table Lodge with Day Lodge #58 in October.

We will be doing a Fellowcraft degree for two Entered Apprentices this month and possibly an Entered Apprentice degree. We have had a lot of interest in Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 this year. Hopefully by the end of the year we can say we have more members in 2024 than we did in 2023. This of course means we need some catechism coaches and help with degree work. If you would like to help out and learn a part or teach the catechism let any of the officers know.

Stay cool and we will see you at 6pm on July 15th for dinner and 7pm for our meeting.



Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Jason A. Pattison
2024 Worshipful Master



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

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Master Mason Degree:</u>
L. Mark Ascoli	07/27/1988
Mark A. Chandeysson	07/17/2008
Larry W. Claytor	07/15/1986
Robert A. Clore	07/24/1971 (53 Yrs)
Andrew F. Conely	07/29/2006
Vestal Greer	07/29/2006
Jeffrey A. Kennedy	07/01/2009
David C. Merchant	07/28/2004
William C. Olewnik, Jr.	07/26/2018
Richard K. Powley	07/24/1967 (57 Yrs)
James L. Reinhold	07/28/1999
R. Lee Richards	07/19/1991
David F. Riddick	07/27/2023
Michael R. Skeens	07/17/2008
Barty L. Sorrells	07/22/2006
Peter R. Thorsen	07/21/1978
Paul Vereshchetin	07/29/2013

UPCOMING EVENTS



Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Events:

- July 2nd, 5:30 PM—WSL60 Officers Meeting at WSL60**
- July 15th, 7:00 PM—WSL60 Stated Meeting, Dinner at 6:00 PM in Dining Hall (Summer Attire)**
- July 17th, 6:00 PM—EA Degree, Lodge Room**
- July 19th, 10 AM—District 10 Blood Drive (see Page 3)**
- July 23rd, 6:00 PM—Charlottesville Commandery No. 3 Meeting in Red Room**
- July 23rd, 7:00 PM—Keystone Chapter No. 59 Meeting in Red Room**
- July 25th, 7:00PM—District 10 Ritual Class**
- July 27th, 4:30 PM—Social Event (See Page 10)**
- July 30th, 6:00 PM—Joint FC Degree, Lodge Room**
- August 9-10—Reid James Simmons Academy of Masonic Ritual, Roanoke Scottish Rite Temple (see below for more information)**

REID JAMES SIMMONS ACADEMY FOR MASONIC RITUAL

Brothers, the 2024 Reid James Simmons Academy for Masonic Ritual will be hosted by the Roanoke Scottish Rite Temple this year. The Reid James Simmons Academy of Masonic Ritual is organized by the Grand Lodge Committee on Work, and is conducted by the Grand Lecturer, Assistant Grand Lecturer, and the Reid James Simmons Academy officers.

The academy is designed to provide group and individual instruction in Masonic Ritual. There are multiple concurrent ritual workshops during the morning and afternoon session to teach catechisms, lecturers, and various parts within each degree.

Individual Registration is \$50 (**WSL60 has paid for members to attend for free**).

See link for registration and hotel information: <https://www.rjsacademy.org/>



LOCATION:

Roanoke Scottish Rite Temple
622 Campbell Avenue SW
Roanoke, VA 24016



Blood Drive
Masonic Lodges of District 10

Louisa United Methodist Church - Social Hall
100 E Main St
Louisa, VA 23093

Friday, July 19, 2024
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: mason10 to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.
If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation.
Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.



Scan to be directed to
RapidPass®

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



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THE FREEMASONRY'S INFLUENCE ON THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

BY: GILA VALLEY 9 MASONIC LODGE

Public fascination about the Society of Freemasons has increased since the organization became the subject of several recently published novels. A sense of the mysterious surrounds the fraternity. However, many myths about Masonic activities and rituals are founded on rumor and suspicion alone. Influential Freemasons helped to further the 18th century intellectual movement known as The Enlightenment that promoted ideas such as equality, freedom and tolerance.



The month of July is especially significant to all Americans because we celebrate the birth of our nation on the fourth of July. On that date in the year 1776, representatives of the thirteen American colonies, assembled at what is now known as Independence Hall in Philadelphia, adopted a manifesto asserting their political independence from the British crown. We know that document as the American Declaration of Independence.

Over the last two centuries various Masonic writers have often attempted to inflate the involvement of members of the Masonic fraternity in the events leading up to and resulting from this important historic event. It has often been claimed that all or most of the signers of the Declaration ; or that all or most of the general officers serving under Washington were Freemasons. These claims have been made to bolster the theory that the events of the American Revolution and the formation of the American colonies into an independent republic were carried out according to some Masonic plan, and in accordance with universal Masonic principles.

THE FREEMASONRY'S INFLUENCE ~ CONTINUED

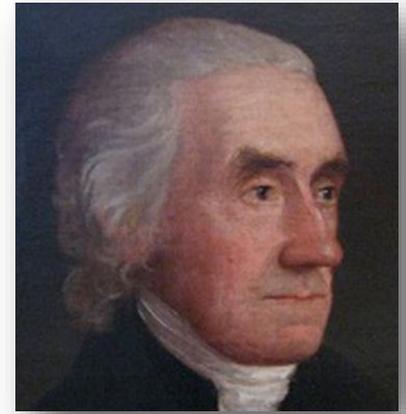
It is always best that such claims be tempered by the light of responsible and accurate historic research, not for the purpose of discounting the patriotic nature of our early American Masonic for-bearers, but rather to understand the role that Freemasons did play in the formation of this great nation. Probably the best accounting of Masonic membership among the signers of the Declaration of Independence is provided in the book *Masonic Membership of the Founding Fathers*, by Ronald E. Heaton, published by the Masonic Service Association at Silver Spring, Maryland. According to this well researched and documented work, proof of Masonic membership can be found for only eight of the fifty-six signers of the Declaration of Independence. They are:



Ben Franklin



John Hancock



Robert Paine

Benjamin Franklin, of the Tun Tavern Lodge at Philadelphia; John Hancock, of St. Andrew's Lodge in Boston; Joseph Hewes, who was recorded as a Masonic visitor to Unanimity Lodge No. 7, Edenton, North Carolina, in December 1776; William Hooper, of Hanover Lodge, Masonborough, North Carolina; Robert Treat Paine, present at Grand Lodge at Roxbury, Massachusetts, in June 1759; Richard Stockton, charter Master of St. John's Lodge, Princeton, Massachusetts in 1765; George Walton, of Solomon's Lodge No. 1, Savannah, Georgia; and William Whipple, of St. John's Lodge, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Additionally, another five or six signers have from time to time been identified as members of the fraternity based on inconclusive or unsubstantiated evidence. When examining the participation of Freemasons in the War of the American Revolution we should first remember the Ancient Charges of a Freemason, and especially that charge concerning "the Civil Magistrates, Supreme and Subordinate," which enjoins the Mason to be "a peaceable subject to the Civil Powers" and "never to be concern'd in plots and conspiracies against the peace and welfare of the nation." This charge was listed as the second of those contained in the Constitutions adopted by the Premier Grand Lodge at London in 1723, long before the American Revolution. How then does this fit into what has been considered over time as the single greatest act of Treason?

This conclusion can be reached simply by reviewing the actions of our forefathers, and their desire for the implementation of the basic tenets which have given the basis for the founding of our nation. We must necessarily review that document which began it all, The Declaration of Independence. While this document, written by Thomas Jefferson who was himself not a Freemason, it is undeniable that within this document lies some inalienable similarities which unites Freemasons and that which unites our nations under one flag. While the principles indoctrinated in the core or mission statement of our early nation are not unique to the Freemasons, in fact they have been the basis of many books and philosophies throughout the ages, of which it is well know Thomas Jefferson to be an apt student it is undeniably true that Freemasons among all others hold these ideals to be essentially necessary to have been brought from the darkness of ignorance and self absorbent thinking into the light of truth and brotherly affection. Among these principles which have given the Declaration of Independence shape are Honor & Truth, Humanitarianism, Brotherly Love and Equality, and Duty to Men and God.

THE FREEMASONRY'S INFLUENCE ~ CONTINUED

Honor and Truth

The public is sometimes mystified by the ambiguous symbolism used by the Freemasons including nine-point stars, the Egyptian all-seeing eye and two-headed eagles, but Masons are generally open about the principles that guide their organization. These values include honor and truth which are referenced in the Declaration of Independence through the condemnation of certain acts committed by the British including “mock trials,” the creation of false legislation, and injustice. Authors of the Declaration found fault with the practice of tenure and salary increase for judges with the king’s permission alone.

After Congress debated and revised the Declaration of Independence, the final document contained a list of grievances for acts contrary to the principles held sacred by Masons as well as all other men who signed the document. These grievances included the suffering of American citizens at the hands of British soldiers who “harassed the people and ate out their substance.” The authors of the Declaration also protested against the British choice of gathering places for legislative meetings which were difficult for colonial representatives to attend, denying their involvement and forcing them into compliance.



Brotherhood is a primary value held by the Freemasons. Although African-American men developed a separate Lodge in the 18th century, petition for membership is not based on wealth or ethnicity. Masons hold that each man should be judged on personal character. The authors of the Declaration pledged their lives and their fortunes to each other to accomplish their goal. Representatives who signed the Declaration claimed the crown denied the brotherhood of American citizens with the capture of American seamen who were captured and forced to serve as British soldiers.

The members of the Freemasons must conduct themselves with duty and honor. The Declaration described the English king as a tyrant because he persecuted the States who petitioned for redress. As representatives of the States of America, they claimed it was their duty to separate from a tyrannical government that persecuted its subjects and denied them their freedom. Freemasons must follow their own faith and place duty to God before all other responsibilities. The Declaration of Independence closes with the statement that the authors relied on divine protection.

Humanitarianism, Brotherly Love and Equality, Duty to Men and to God

This gives way to a new question; How then can we justify the participation of American Freemasons in their rebellion against the King?

The answer can be given in two parts. First, the Masonic fraternity in the American colonies took no part in the Revolution, following Masonic tradition by taking no official stance. However, the fraternity’s official neutrality may have owed as much to the divided loyalties of its leadership as it did to Masonic tradition. Many Masons were Loyalists. And second, rebellion against the state, whether justified or unjustified, is not a Masonic offense. The Old Charges state clearly “if a Brother should be a Rebel against the State, ... if convicted of no other Crime, ... they cannot expel him from the Lodge, and his Relation to it remains indefeasible.” This simply means that, in the case of the American Revolution, many brethren, feeling that the actions of the crown warranted revolution and independence, were justified in following their consciences without fear of violating their Masonic obligations or any Masonic law.

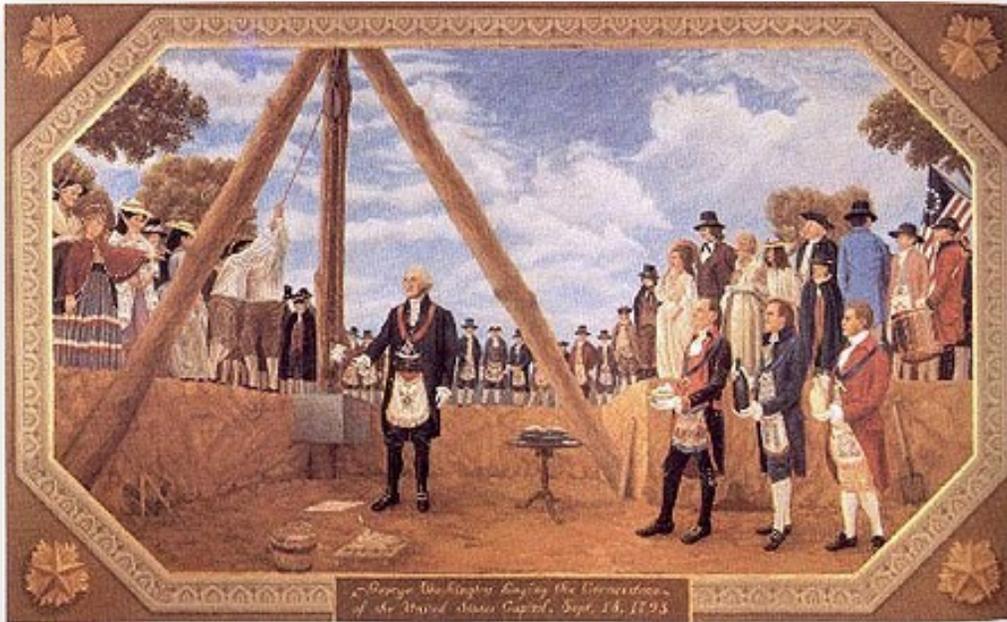
THE FREEMASONRY'S INFLUENCE ~ CONTINUED

As the charge concerning the Civil Magistrates reminds us, “Masonry hath been always injured by War, Bloodshed, and Confusion,” the fraternity was indeed injured by the war. General Joseph Warren, Grand Master of the Ancient’s Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, lost his life at the Battle of Bunker Hill in June 1775 and his body was thrown into an unmarked grave. While he had led the American troops during that battle, his lodge brother, Dr. John Jeffries assisted the British troops. Nearly a year later, his body was exhumed and identified by another Lodge brother, Paul Revere.

Even before the Declaration of Independence, colonial Masonry suffered from the disruptions of the war, and the division of loyalties among its members. Many lodges found it difficult to meet regularly, and others ceased to meet at all. Many lodges were disbanded as occupying British forces prohibited private assemblies, and loyalist Masons fled the country or joined the British forces.

Although the Masonic fraternity played no part in the Revolutionary War, it can easily be shown that in many ways the revolutionary ideals of equality, freedom, and democracy were espoused by the Masonic fraternity long before the American colonies began to complain about the injustices of British taxation. The revolutionary ideals expressed in the Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, and the writings of Thomas Paine, were ideals that had come to fruition over a century before in the early speculative lodges of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, where men sat as equals, governed themselves by a Constitution, and elected their own leaders from their midst. In many ways, the self-governing Masonic lodges of the previous centuries had been learning laboratories for the concept of self-government.

On September 18, 1793, President George Washington, dressed in his Masonic apron, leveled the cornerstone of the United States Capitol with the traditional Masonic ceremony. Historian Stephen Bullock in his book *Revolutionary Brotherhood* carefully notes the historic and symbolic significance of that ceremony. The Masonic brethren, dressed in their fraternal regalia, had assembled in grand procession, and were formed for that occasion as representative of Freemasonry’s new found place of honor in an independent American society. At that moment, the occasion of the laying of the new Republic’s foundations, Freemasons assumed the mantles “high priests” of that “first temple dedicated to the sovereignty of the people,” and they “helped form the symbolic foundations of what the Great Seal called ‘the new order for the ages’.”



Reprinted from the Gila Valley 9 Masonic Lodge website:

<https://www.gilavalleylodge9.com/post/the-freemasonry-s-influence-on-the-declaration-of-independence-and-the-american-revolution>

JUNE PRESENTATIONS



WM Jason Pattison recognized the following Brethren with June Birthdays:

L-R: RW Bud Hogan, Bro. Daivd Goodwin, Bro. John Williamson, WM Jason Pattison



Brothers from Mentow Lodge No. 180 (Huddleston, VA) visiting WSL60.



LEFT: RW Greg Hosaflook gave a presentation on Royal Arch Masonry to the Brothers.

RIGHT: WM Jason Pattison recognized our newest Master Mason, Bro. Corin Trenton Fox
L-R: WM Jason Pattison, Bro. Corin Fox, MW Jeff Hodges



Elected Officers for 2024

Worshipful Master: R.W. Jason Andrew Pattison
Senior Warden: R.W. Gregory Dean Hosaflook
Junior Warden: Wor. Christopher Nicholas Bragg
Treasurer: R.W. James Friend Dickerson
Secretary: R.W. Mike Daniel Griffin
Chaplain: R.W. Philip Harding Nelson, Jr.

Senior Deacon: Bro. Thomas Matthew Castellanos
Junior Deacon: Bro. Randall Lee Arnold
Senior Steward: Bro. David Francis Riddick
Junior Steward: Vacant
Marshall: Bro. Jacobi Keith Leathers
Tyler: Bro. William Chester Olewnik, Jr.

TABLE LODGE CELEBRATION HAWAIIAN STYLE



*I do not attend the meetings
for I've not the time to spare.
But every time they have a feast
you will surely find me there.*

*I cannot help with the degrees
for I do not know the work.
But I can applaud the speakers,
and handle a knife and fork.*

*I'm so rusty in the ritual,
it seems like Greek to me.
But practice has made me perfect
in the Knife and Fork Degree*

Brother Richard L. Kurtz

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

1799—2024
The 225th Year of Service to the
Charlottesville Community and beyond.
“Freemasonry, a way of life”

Return Service Requested



DATED MATERIAL PLEASE PROCESS

Hiram's Journal

PRACTICAL TIPS TO IMPROVE OUR LIVES AS MEN AND MASONS

Character is Fate: 10 Habits That Will Help You to Live and Be Better

<https://ryanholiday.net/character-is-fate-10-habits-that-will-help-you-to-live-and-be-better/?ref=refind>

33 Powerful Books that Might Change Your Life

<https://markmanson.net/33-life-changing-books?ref=refind>



LODGE SOCIAL EVENT: VIRGINIA DISTILLERY

Join with your Brothers on Saturday, July 27th from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm for a social at the Virginia Foothills Distillery and Exchange Café, located in Barboursville, VA. The Café offers an excellent menu. The Distillery features unique bourbon tastings. Bring your bride and or a good man who would make a good Freemason. You can bring food from the Café into the Distillery, but you can't take alcoholic beverages back and forth. Brother Chuck Reinhold and his bride are the driving force behind the Distillery. Dress is casual, cost is very reasonable. Please contact RW Jim Dickerson (jachininc@gmail.com) for details.