

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

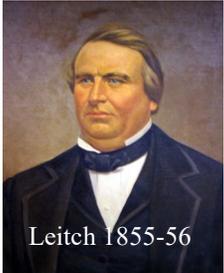
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF WIDOW'S SONS' LODGE NO. 60
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HIRAM'S JOURNAL

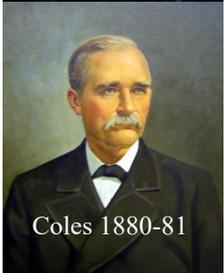
Stated Communications November 17th, 2025

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

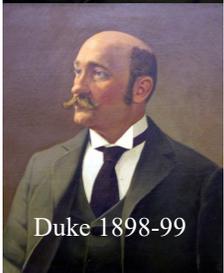
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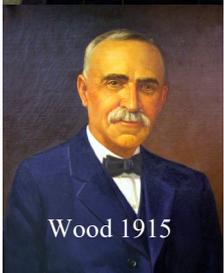
Leitch 1855-56



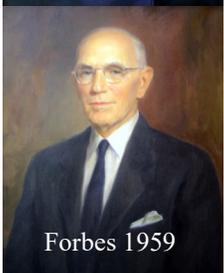
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009

MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

My Brethren,

As I sit down to draft this November message I cannot help but take pride in the numerous activities in which our lodge has participated during the month of October. Prior to the last Stated Communication Most Worshipful Hodges presented RW Robert E. Simpson with his 60-year Masonic Veterans' Emblem. It was a very special occasion with Bob's family and many Brethren in attendance. This was immediately followed by a fine dinner, business meeting and table lodge. It was truly a grand time! The toast responses were heartfelt and RW Mike McKenney delivered a most enthusiastic program.

Also in October, our Lodge Brothers attended a Men's Luncheon, participated in the local Walk for an Alzheimer's Cure, a blood drive, and attended the O. B. Omohundro Area Ritual School. Many of our members belong to Masonic appendant bodies and three Companions of Keystone Royal Arch Chapter No. 58 were presented with their 50-year Veterans' Emblem by Grand High Priest James Paul Nunn. An Entered Apprentice Degree for two new candidates closed out the month.

The next Stated Communication of Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 is on Monday, November 17, 2025, at 7:00 PM. Dinner is served at 6:00 PM. RW Jim Dickerson is providing his traditional oyster stew. We will also be conducting a meat loaf cook-off competition. Chef Butcher will declare the winner for the best meatloaf and the Brethren will vote for their "people's choice" favorite. Several of our District Ten officers will provide the evening program. There will also be a bible presentation by Brother Randy Arnold and a presentation of historical significance.

Let us remember to support the Toys for Tots program with a child's gift or a monetary donation. May Thanksgiving blessings enfold you and your family.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Greg D. Hosaflook
2025 Worshipful Master





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

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Master Mason Degree:</u>
Thomas V. Anderson	11/04/1974 (51 Yrs)
C. Victor Armstrong	11/10/1971 (54 Yrs)
Henry Booth	11/23/1959 (66 Yrs)
Mark A. Chamberlain	11/21/1995
Wayne W. Ferguson	11/17/1978
George D. Hale, Jr.	11/28/1966 (59 Yrs)
Devan E. McPherson	11/30/2015
M. Shane Parsons	11/21/1994
William T. Randolph	11/28/2001
Brian Q. Truong	11/01/2018

UPCOMING EVENTS



Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Events:

Nov 7th, 8:30 AM— Grand Annual Communication

Nov 8th, 8:30 AM—Grand Annual Communication
Public Session

Nov 17th, 7:00 PM— WSL60 Stated Meeting, Meal at
6:00 PM (Coat and Tie)

Nov 25th, 6:00 PM—Charlottesville Commandery No.
3 Meeting in Red Room, Meal between meetings.

Nov 25th, 7:00 PM—Keystone Chapter No. 59 Meeting
in Red Room

The Masons Who Marked Thanksgiving Day

Taking time to recognize one's blessings – an autumn day is as American as ... pumpkin pie! In New England, the tradition of a day of Thanksgiving dates back to 1621 when the Pilgrims celebrated their first harvest. The members of the Continental Congress declared in 1777 after the victory of the Continental Army at Saratoga, that all peoples of the colonies give thanks for this new nation. Among the many accomplishments, renowned Mason and Founding Father, George Washington, is noted for issuing a proclamation, following a recommendation by the Federal Congress in 1789, that all Americans should celebrate Thursday, November 26th as a "Day of Public Thanksgiving".

Many Presidents in the coming years would continue the tradition of asking our citizens to set aside a day to be thankful for God's blessing on America. However, the dates and even the month of "Thanksgiving Day" varied from one presidential administration to another in the decades to come. It was not until 1939 when another Freemason, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, issued a proclamation calling for the "second to last Thursday in November" to be recognized as an official national holiday. This produced a lot of "gobbling" from politicians and created considerable partisan discourse.

Many historians believe that Roosevelt was trying to gain political capital by choosing a date for the Thanksgiving holiday. It was felt by many at the time that FDR was trying to ensure that the date of "Turkey Day" not be pushed to the very end of the month in order to provide consumers with an extra week to shop for Christmas presents – thus giving a boost to President Roosevelt's economic recovery plan in the midst of the Depression.

Roosevelt's decision was not without controversy in Washington and around the USA. Only 23 out of the then 48 states adhered to FDR's presidential proclamation and celebrated Thanksgiving on the third week of November. The remaining legislatures and governors balked at Roosevelt's order and maintained that their residents would celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday a week later on the last Thursday of the month as it had traditionally been done since the era of Abraham Lincoln.

Two years later, with Roosevelt still in the White House, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution naming the last Thursday in each November to be officially recognized as Thanksgiving. The Senators, however, amended the resolution to read that the fourth Thursday of November should be recognized as America's official Thanksgiving Day. The House of Representatives finally agreed and FDR signed the resolution into law on the day after Christmas, December 26, 1941.

JAMES POINT, GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN VIRGINIA

1848–1850

BY: ROBERT E. SIMPSON, PDDGM

The Honorable Brother Edward Overton McCue, Jr. was a member of Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60, a lawyer and served in the House of Delegates. He died in 1993. When I was secretary, his son contacted me, after Brother McCue's death, about donating several Masonic items to the Lodge. One was an old grandfather clock, and the other item was a portrait of the owner of the clock. We were told that the owner was a prominent Mason from Staunton. This prominent Mason from Staunton is the subject of my remarks to you this evening.



James (Poyntz) Points emigrated from Normandy, France to England, and finally to America settling in Philadelphia. As a young man, he joined the Continental Army and fought in the American Revolution against General Howe. His father had fought under General Montgomery at Quebec and was killed on the Plains of Abraham during the French and Indian War. James Points married Sarah Greiner on May 3, 1798. Sarah's mother's name was Siler, and her father was David Greiner. The Siler's came from Strasburg, Germany to Maryland, but soon settled in the Valley of Virginia. The Greiner's came from Frankford-on-the-Main to Staunton, and there became a prosperous merchant. I offer this as background information for my remarks this evening.



The subject of my remark's tonight was born at Staunton, Virginia, June 19, 1799. He married Eliza Stevenson, whose brother was Levi Lamb Stevenson, a Mason of note who served as Grand Master 1836 – 1839. Brother Stevenson also served as Grand Lecturer. He was postmaster at Staunton before and during the Civil War. Brother Points was a tailor by profession.

James Points also served as a United States Marshal for the Western District of Virginia, when the distinguished William J. Brockenbrough was a Federal Judge. Brother Points was a leading Democrat in the Valley, as had been his father, and as were his brothers. His brother, John David Points, a fine scholar in English, the Classics and Hebrew, was a regular contributor to the Richmond Enquirer in the brilliant days of Tom Richie. His son, Dr. William J. Points, of Harrisonburg, Pa., was also a devoted Mason.

JAMES POINTS ~ CONTINUED

In their day, the members of the family of Points were noted as the friends of the poor and oppressed and were beloved and honored accordingly. Sounds like a Mason who lived by the words of our obligations.

Brother Points petitioned Staunton Lodge No. 13 on October 27, 1820, and his petition was endorsed by Levi L. Stevenson (Grand Master 1836-1839), J. Worthington Smith (Grand Master 1842-1844), and Nicholas Kinney, Secretary of Staunton Lodge No. 13.

As I mentioned earlier, his wife was the sister of Levi L. Stevenson, and this fact doubtlessly accounts for the great intimacy which sprang up between Points and his brother-in-law.

James Points received the degrees of the Lodge and Chapter in Staunton and became Master of Staunton Lodge in 1831-1832. He served as High Priest of Union Royal Arch Chapter in 1844-1848.

He served as Grand Master in 1848-1850; Grand High Priest in 1847-1849. He held these high offices simultaneously during the Masonic year 1847-1848.



As Grand Master, James Points laid the cornerstone of the Washington Monument in Richmond. His son, the Rev. John Points, a devoted Mason, died as Rector of St. John's Church, Richmond, Virginia and lies in the St. John's Cemetery, where his grave is marked by a handsome monument, erected by the Masons of Richmond. While serving as United States Marshal for the Western District of Virginia, he ceased his earthly labors on October 13, 1852. He was buried with Masonic honors by Staunton Lodge No. 13 in Thornrose Cemetery.

Staunton Lodge No. 13 presented the portrait of Most Worshipful James Points to the Grand Lodge in February of 1972. The portrait was presented by Robert R. Kennedy, Jr. Seven Grand Masters of Virginia call Staunton Lodge No. 13, their Mother Lodge, and Most Worshipful James Points is one.

Left: James Point Portrait in Grand Lodge Library in Richmond, VA.

OCTOBER PRESENTATIONS



Left: RW Dickerson helping to Support the Grand Lodge during a Cornerstone Laying Ceremony.



Right: Brothers of WSL50 enjoying a meal for the Men's Lunch at The Boar's Head Tavern.



Left: Brothers from the 7th and 10th Masonic Districts attend the Ritual School

Right: Members of the Mason Team for the Walk for Alzheimer's in Charlottesville.



60-Year Presentation to Bro. Robert Simpson



Elected Officers for 2025

Worshipful Master: R.W. Gregory Dean Hosaflook
 Senior Warden: Wor. Christopher Nicholas Bragg
 Junior Warden: Bro. Randall Lee Arnold
 Treasurer: R.W. James Friend Dickerson
 Secretary: R.W. Mike Daniel Griffin
 Chaplain: R.W. R.W. Jason Andrew Pattison

Senior Deacon: Wor. Harry Lee Walker, Jr.
 Junior Deacon: Bro. Corin Trenton Fox
 Senior Steward: Bro. David Francis Riddick
 Junior Steward: Bro. Albert Agustin Pola
 Marshall: Bro. Jacobi Keith Leathers
 Tyler: Bro. William Chester Olewnik, Jr.

2025 WSL60 TABLE LODGE



MASON OF THE MONTH

JASON ROHAN BUTCHER



Jason Rohan Butcher was born on November 4, 1983, in Barbados. He represented Barbados in the annual Carifta Games and Central American Athletic Championships in the 400 meter Hurdles in Barbados. He also held the 100 meter Hurdles record for seven years at his high school.

Jason was married on July 24, 2010. He is the proud father of two sons, Aacharya and Thierry, ages 13 and 10, respectively. This marriage ended in 2021.

Brother Butcher has been in the culinary industry for the past 21 years, starting his career at the famous Sandy Lane Hotel in Barbados. He then began working as a Private Chef where he created many memorable experiences for families and high profile guests in Barbados. King Filipe and Queen Letizia of Spain being a part of his clientele.

Jason moved to the United States and attended the Florida Culinary Arts Institute, where he received his Culinary Degree in 2010 and started a new culinary journey at the Ritz Carlton in South Beach. He got his first Sous Chef position at the iconic Fontaine Bleu Hotel in Miami Beach. As his career advanced, he became the Executive Banquet Chef at the Diplomat Resort in Hollywood, Florida, and then on to the Roosevelt Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana. Jason next became an integral part of the Omni Hotel family serving as Executive Sous Chef at the La Costa Resort and Spa, Amelia Island, Viking Lakes, Mount Washington Ski Lodge and in Oklahoma City. He is currently the Executive Chef at the Boar's Head Resort in Charlottesville, Virginia.

When Jason is not in the kitchen, he enjoys playing a round of golf, watching Cricket, Chef's Table and Final Table on television.

On July 9, 2025, Brother Butcher was raised a Master Mason in Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60. He is now a 32 Degree Scottish Rite Mason, an ACCA Temple Shriner and is soon to be exalted a Royal Arch Mason in Keystone Royal Arch Chapter No. 58.

Q: How has your mentor aided you in your Masonic journey?

A: Having Brother David Riddick as a mentor has been truly transformative. His guidance not only deepened my understanding of my purpose within the Lodge, but also illuminated my path in work and home life. His wisdom and example inspire me every day to live with greater intention, humility, and service.

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

1799—2025
The 226th 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**

The Odds

<https://fs.blog/brain-food/october-26-2025/>

**The Antelope Principle: How to Chase the
Right Things**

<https://www.sahilbloom.com/newsletter/the-antelope-principle-how-to-chase-the-right-things>