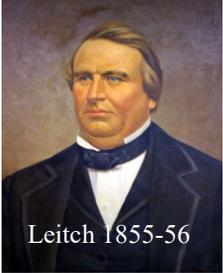


HIRAM'S JOURNAL

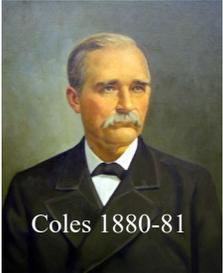
Stated Communications December 15th, 2025

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

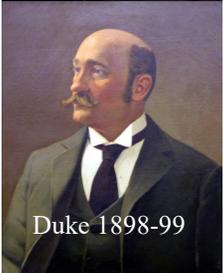
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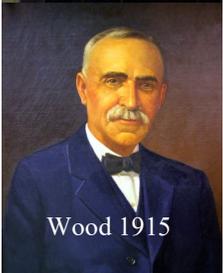
Leitch 1855-56



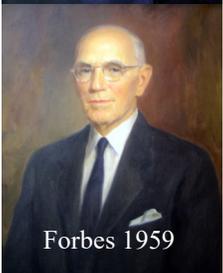
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009

MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

My Brethren,

As my year in the East draws to a close, I would like to thank the officers and members of Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 for their tremendous support throughout the year. Together we have traveled to other Lodges, conferred Degrees, prepared delicious meals, and enjoyed a diversity of evening programs including the addition of the Masonic Minute, and have found a true brotherhood both inside and outside of the Lodge. As I was departing the Masonic Temple after the November Stated, I heard an older Brother from another Lodge explain to a younger Mason "Now that is what a Masonic Lodge should be." I think that everyone who attended the November meeting had a wonderful time and felt the camaraderie we share.

The next Stated Communication of Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 is on Monday, December 15 at 7:00 pm with a special holiday meal prepared by Chef Brothers Butcher and Hollar to be served at 6:00 pm.

Officer elections and installation are the highlight for the December Stated. It is always a joy for officers to advance in the "chairs" and new Brothers to fill officer positions. Worshipful Nick Bragg is slated to be installed Worshipful Master and will lead us in our Masonic pursuits in 2026.

It has been my honor to serve as Worshipful Master in 2025 and join the ranks of so many distinguished Masters since 1799. Thanks to all and God bless.

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>
Stephen R. Baird	12/06/1993
William L. Bickley	12/06/1955 (70 Yrs)
Stephen R. Christianson	12/08/2010
T.C. Dickerson, III	12/06/1966 (59 Yrs)
Michael A. Hayden	12/05/1972 (53 Yrs)
Charles C. Lim, Jr.	12/29/2001
Jason P. Lynch	12/07/2006
Robert A. Murray	12/10/1999
William R. Nay	12/17/1992
James W. North, Sr.	12/05/1963 (62 Yrs)
Jason M. Parham	12/11/2014
Daniel P. Price	12/12/2012
Jonathan M. Shelton	12/07/2006
Charles A. Via	12/06/1966 (59 Yrs)
Brian S. Weidman	12/04/2007

UPCOMING EVENTS



Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Events:

Dec. 2nd, 5:30 PM—WSL60 Officers Meeting at WSL60

Dec. 12th, 12:00 PM – Monthly Men's Lunch at Arepas Steakhouse

Dec. 15th, 7:00 PM— WSL60 Stated Meeting, Meal at 6:00 PM (ELECTION NIGHT)

Dec 17th, 6:00 PM—MM Degree (Coat and Tie)

Dec. 23rd, 6:00 PM—Charlottesville Commandery No. 3 Meeting in Red Room, Meal between meetings.

Dec. 23rd, 7:00 PM—Keystone Chapter No. 59 Meeting in Red Room

Jan 19th, 7:00 PM—Robert Burns Dinner at 6:00 PM and Stated Communication (Dinner Reservations Required)



180TH GRAND MASTER OF MASONRY IN VIRGINIA

MOST WORSHIPFUL MATTHEW TODD SZRAMOSKI

MOTTO: LIVING OUR OBLIGATIONS

A MASONIC CHRISTMAS POEM



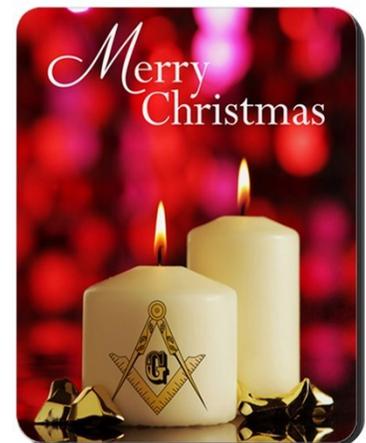
'Twas the night before Christmas at Freemason's Hall
Where the Lodge was busy and the orders were tall;
Reams from Grand Lodge, a notice of motion,
A ballot or two and a pause for devotion
To brethren departed of the months gone before,
Plus a candidate who would soon walk the floor.

Our own Junior Warden, when facing the crunch
Said" Let's call off and all go for lunch".
The Master replied, as Masters all do,
Intoned in a voice reserved for the few
"Before we partake of fellowship there,
Is a summons to read and a ballot to clear -
Not to mention the candidate quaking with dread
At the stories of whether the goat has been fed".

The Master, exhorting the brethren to work,
With a firm grip on the gavel, turned with a jerk
To the Secretary, putting shine to each lens,
Polishing both to a lustre, and reached for his pens.

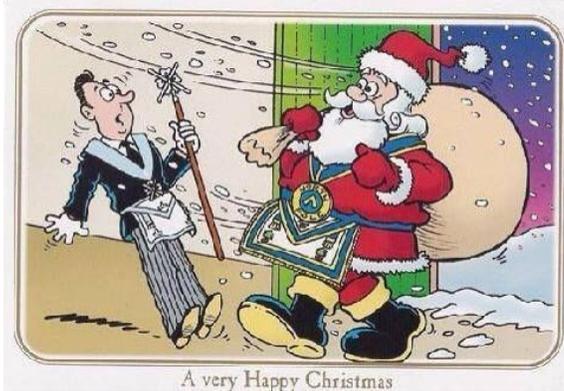
"It's half past the hour", the Master then winced
At the stuff left to do, and remained unconvinced
That the evening would go as smoothly as hoped
Since he'd gone to the trouble of "feeding the goat" "
Though the ballot's behind us and notice is gone,
Grand Lodge is finished, but the work still goes on."

The Inner guard knew, as the Tyler did too,
That knock, knock, knock was the right thing to do.
Sidebenchers slept soundly and were only stirred
When a crack of the candidate's knuckles were heard.
The slight groan that penetrated lips pursed
Appeared to the Deacon as just a light curse.



A MASONIC CHRISTMAS POEM

Continued



Onward they travel, the guide and the man,
Seeking truth and enlightenment wherever they
can.

The secrets were given, the grip and the token
Obligations were offered, the words then were
spoken.

Though never, not once, was one heard to gloat
As the Entered Apprentice never did meet the goat.

The evening now ended, the candidate clear,
Junior Warden entreats from the south us to hear.
The oath we looked forward to right from the start
"Happy to meet, and sorry to part".

Christmas had come to the members that night
As men came together under the light
Giving freely of time as a labour of love
As they bent to the task of the Most High above.

To Stewards, to Deacons, the Tyler and Guard,
The Wardens, the Master, who all work so hard,
To Past Masters steady, sidebenchers too
To Treasurer, Chaplain, the Director of Ceremonies who
Help carry the Lodge, year in and year out
To your family extended, a warm Christmas time
Thank the G.A.O.T.U, we've run out of rhyme!



NOVEMBER PRESENTATIONS



Seymour Jonas Levy
Blood Award
Presentation to the
Lodge for 2025.



Warden Certificate Pre-
sented to Bro. R.
Arnold.



Historic Washington
Associated Gavel
Presentation by Bro.
Brian Weidman.



James Noah Hillman
Award Presentation
to the Lodge for
2025 .



The "Mike Griffin
Good Idea" Award
Presentation to Bro.
D. Riddick.



The "Peyton S. Coles
Ritual" Award
Presentation to Bro. C
Fox.



Certificate of
Appreciation
Presentation to Bro.
A Keller, Bldg Mgr.



Certificate of
Appreciation
Presentation to Bro. J.
Dickerson, GM's AA.

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.

NOVEMBER PRESENTATIONS



Left: Meatloaf Contestants

Right: Dinner and Fellowship before Lodge



Left: Winner of the Meatloaf Contest

Right: MM Bible Presentation to Bro. J. Butcher



Left: Our newest member, Bro. George Shadman

Right: A new visitor to the Lodge, Bro. Ben Dalton



Left:
Our District Officers

Right: New DDGM for our Masonic District, RW Todd Polanowski





MASONIC MINUTE

“Mentoring—The Lifeblood of Our Fraternity”

Brethren,

As we welcome new Brothers into Widow’s Sons’ Lodge No. 60, we are reminded of the sacred charge that accompanies every raising—to befriend, to guide, and to mentor those who now join our ranks.

Each of us was once a candidate—perhaps a little unsure of what we were stepping into, but hopeful that we had found a place where friendship, integrity, and purpose truly meant something.

That, my Brothers, is what mentoring is about—keeping that promise.

When we speak of mentoring a new Brother, we mean far more than teaching catechisms or explaining rituals. A true mentor is a trusted guide, a counselor, and above all, a friend. He helps a new Mason not only understand Freemasonry, but live it—day by day, quietly and sincerely.

Many men who knock upon the West Gate come seeking something: fellowship, service, perhaps a deeper meaning in their lives. Whether they find it depends largely—on us.

A Brother who feels welcome, needed, and known by name will return again and again. But one who feels forgotten or out of place may drift away before he ever truly belongs.

So mentoring means taking that new Brother by the hand and walking beside him. Sit with him in the Lodge. Call him during the week just to check in. Invite him to lunch or dinner. Meet for a cup of coffee or a drink. Play a round of golf or attend a ball game together.

MASONIC MINUTE

~ CONTINUED

It's in those ordinary, friendly moments that extraordinary bonds are formed. That's how a new Brother stops being a visitor—and starts being family.

A good mentor also opens doors. Take him to visit another Lodge. Bring him to a District School of Instruction, a community service project, or to meet a shut-in Brother or a Masonic widow. Through those experiences, the new Mason learns that our obligations extend far beyond the tiled door.

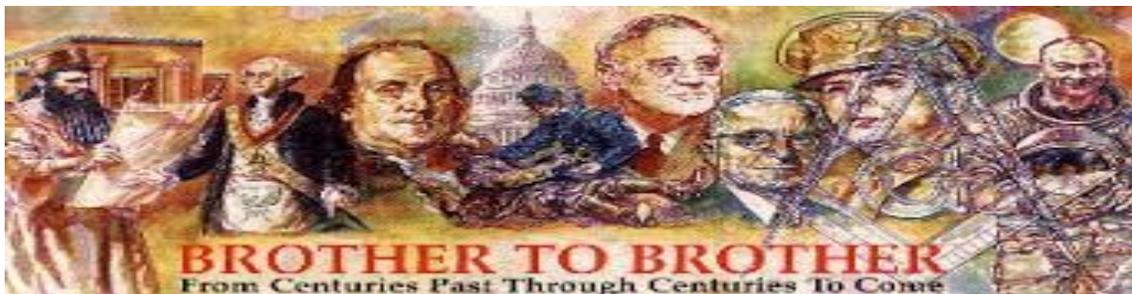
Here in Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60, our story stretches back to 1799. For more than two centuries, generations of men have passed through these doors and been shaped by the friendship, the guidance, and the example of those who came before them.

Each time we mentor a new Brother, we add another link to that unbroken chain of brotherhood.

Brethren, if we expect our new members to show a lifelong commitment to Masonry, then we must first show a lifelong commitment to them.

That is the true meaning of mentoring—and it is how we will keep the light of Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 shining brightly for generations yet to come.

Thank you.



MASON OF THE MONTH

CHRISTOPHER NICHOLAS BRAGG



Christopher Nicholas Bragg was born on February 28, 1982, in Charlottesville, Virginia, the son of Kenneth R. and Jennifer Jo Bragg. Nick and his wife of three years, Lindsey Clark Bragg currently live in Charlottesville. Nick has two children from a previous marriage, Kenneth Robert and Sydney Michelle.

Nick grew up in Charlottesville and graduated from Albemarle High School and attended Piedmont Virginia Community College. He was formerly employed as a manager of a Virginia ABC store and is currently employed as a banker for United Bank in Charlottesville.

His hobbies include golfing (especially when he beats RW Jason Patison), black smithing, video gaming, and target shooting modern and primitive

weapons.

Nick was made a Master Mason in Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 on October 34, 2013, and served as Worshipful Master in 2018.

Q: What was your greatest challenge when you served as Worshipful Master in 2018?

A: Each month I stressed over providing an article for Hiram's Journal more than anything else.

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
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Life Rewards Repetition

<https://fs.blog/brain-food/october-19-2025/>