



HENRY KNOX FIELD JOHN BLAIR LODGE

NO. 349 - A.F. & A.M. - VIRGINIA

DECEMBER 2018

TRESTLEBOARD

Required Rehearsal for Public Installation of Officers

December 4, 6:30 p.m.

ASR—Small Lodge Room

All Officers are Required to Attend.

Lodge Breakfast

December 8, 9:00 a.m.

La Casa Restaurant

4551 Duke Street, Alexandria

STATED COMMUNICATION

December 11

6:30 dinner, 7:30 meeting

Master's Final Address

Election of Officers

Fraternal Visit from Centennial

Public Installation of Officers

December 15, 10:00 a.m.

Lodge Room, followed by lunch

RSVP fieldblairlodge349@gmail.com



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A MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

Brethren—

We raised our seventh Mason and sent a delegation of six members to the Grand Annual Communication in November. As the year comes to a close, the lodge is in good hands, with a dedicated line of officers excited to keep the momentum going. I cannot thank you each enough for your support and participation this year.

We will have an Open Officer Installation beginning at 10:00 a.m. on December 15 and everyone (and their families) should be there. Lunch to follow in the dining room. RSVP to fieldblairlodge349@gmail.com to ensure that we have enough food for everyone!

I will save most of my recap of the year for my final remarks at the Stated, but I do want to impress upon each of you that nothing happens in the lodge without someone being behind it. I am not the best delegator, so a lot of what happened this year, good and bad, was done at my hand. I tried very hard to honor the traditions of both lodges with dignified events, meaningful programs, and focused community involvement. However, one person should never be solely responsible for activities in the lodge. The Master will always be there to hold brothers accountable and maintain quality control, but each of us should commit to taking some role in the lodge. Volunteer to organize the annual wreath laying, serve as a catechism coach, or just come help set up the lodge. The second we start to take something for granted, it will disappear, killing morale and momentum.

As of the fall of the last gavel at the Grand Annual Communication, District 54 and Elmer Timberman Lodge (formerly District 1B) became members of District 1A. Virginia's Masonic District 1A has the potential to be a true powerhouse for the Craft, driving membership, ritual proficiency, and general lodge performance. I encourage you to visit the 8 other lodges in our newly consolidated district and get to know these brethren. I anticipate serving as secretary for the District's Masters and Wardens Association and I seek your counsel and support for our new District.

Having served two years in the East, I assure you I am glad to be passing the gavel. This experience has been truly enriching and I look forward to continue to serve the lodge as a catechism coach and as your Tiler (I told Erik he would never get me to shut up if I were inside the lodge full time). I wish you all the best for a happy and healthy Holiday Season. May the blessings of heaven rest upon us all.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Daniel E. Froggett
Worshipful Master

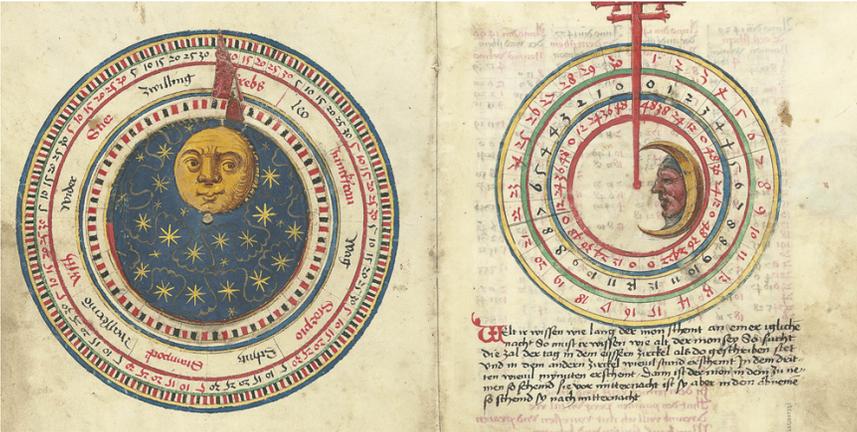


DECEMBER DISCUSSION

Anno Lucis? Have you noticed how most Blue Lodge dates are given in the vernacular AD (anno domini/after death) or CE (common era) and also in AL (anno lucis)? As we look to begin a new Masonic year, I found this article interesting.

Shedding Light on Anno Lucis

Bro. Joshua D. Parmer, PM, Lodge No. 43, Lancaster, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania



Have you ever wondered about our Blue Lodge dating system of “AL” or those of other appendant Masonic bodies? Most of you probably know or have heard of the abbreviation of AL after the dates listed your blue lodge monthly notice. What you may not know is that it stands for Anno Lucis, a Latin phrase meaning “In the Year of Light.” This date is calculated by adding 4000 years to the present Anno Domini Year or as Mackey’s calls the “Vulgar Era.”

For those that may not understand Anno Domini, that means “In the Year of Our Lord.” Research shows that people like Dr. Anderson, who wrote Anderson’s Constitution, first used this dating system to explain the history of Freemasonry. You see in the 1720s AD most people believed the Bible to be accurate to the letter, that the world was made in 6 days of 24 hour increments, that the world was simply 4,000 years old before Jesus Christ hit the scene. (That was when the first verses of the bible took place and God said “Let there be light, and there was light.”) Thus we are in the 6,016th year Anno Lucis.

Virtually all Masonic bodies have their own dating method indicative of some important point of their own histories. For instance, two of the Rites (Scottish and York) use the dating systems of Anno Mundi and Anno Ordinis – abbreviated AM and AO respectively. Anno Mundi means “In the Year of the World,” it is the dating system used by The Ancient and Accepted Rite Scottish Rite. It is calculated by adding 3760 to the Present Anno Domini year, until September when you should add one more year as this is when this calendar year starts. Presently we are in the year 5,776 Anno Mundi. Anno Mundi is based on the Hebrew calendar and closely associated with

Anno Lucis. However the 240 year difference is based on differences with the Gregorian Calendar presently in use that calculates Anno Domini. This system of Anno Mundi is also synonymous with Anno Hebraico, or AH.

Another Masonic calendar is that of the Masonic Knights Templar of the York Rite. It is called Anno Ordinis, abbreviated A.O. and means “In the Year of the Order.” This system of dating is calculated by subtracting 1118 years from the Anno Domini system, thus we are in the year 898 Anno Ordinis. The Templars were a monastic group of knights who protected the Holy Lands and their Christian pilgrims. Their historic connection to our present order is tenuous at best by most orthodox Masonic historians, nonetheless the principles and practices they lived by greatly match our moral designs, and theories about our connection continue to abound.

There are dating systems for each York Rite body’s use as well. The Chapter of the York Rite works in Anno Inventionis (meaning “in the year of discovery”), the Council of the York Rite work in Anno Depositionis (meaning “in the year of deposit”). Other dating systems found were Anno Egyptiaca (a reference to the consolidation of the Egyptian monarchy under Menes) and Anno Bonafacio (a reference to Melchizedek blessing Abraham).

It can be confusing to say the least, but now you know a little more about just what all those extra letters are referring to in your Lodge Notices.



**ORDER
LODGE
ITEMS
TODAY**

\$30 Polo Shirts

\$25 Ball Caps

\$15 Badges

**See Wor.
Froggett for
more infor-
mation!**

DECEMBER ENLIGHTENMENT

This monthly section will explore aspects of the Craft for further thought and consideration. If there is a topic that you would like to share with the brethren in this section, please email it in a Word document to Wor. Schultz.



The Composite Column *by Jackie Craven*

In Classical Orders of Architecture, a Composite column is a Roman-designed column style that combines the Greek-designed Ionic and the Corinthian orders of architecture. The triumphal Arch of Titus may be the first instance of this Roman Order of Architecture in the first century AD (pictured below).

Composite columns have highly decorated capitals (tops). The leaf decoration elements of the Corinthian style combine with the scroll designs (volute) that characterize the Ionic style. Because the combination (or composite) of the two Greek designs makes the Composite Column more ornate than other columns, Composite columns are sometimes found in lavish 17th-century Baroque architecture.

Typical of the Corinthian capital, the floral ornamentation of the Composite capital is styled after the Acanthus Leaf.

Other Meanings of Composite

In contemporary architecture, the term composite column can be used to describe any style column molded from a man-made composite material such as fiberglass or a polymer resin, sometimes reinforced with metal.

Pronunciation: In American English, the accent is on the second syllable—kum-POS-it. In British English, the first syllable is more often accented.



Speculum Romanae Magnificentiae: Composite of Corinthian and Ionic 1537

*Master G.A.
(Italian, active ca. 1535)
engraving
The Metropolitan Museum of Art,
New York City*

Why is the Composite Order important?

It's not the first type of column in Greek and Roman architecture, so what is the significance of the Composite Order? The earlier Ionic Order has an inherent design problem—how do you round the design of the rectangular volute capitals to elegantly fit on the top of a round shaft? The

flowery asymmetrical Corinthian Order does the job. By combining both orders, the Composite column is visually more appealing while keeping the strength found in the Ionic Order. The significance of the Composite Order is that in its creation ancient architect-designers were modernizing architecture. Even today, architecture is an iterative process, that good ideas are brought together to form better ideas—or at least something new and different. Design is not pure in architecture. Design builds on itself by combination and elimination. It could be said that architecture itself is a composite.



1 out of 5 Alexandrians struggle to put food on their tables. Alexandria Masonic Lodges unite to end hunger in our community. Donate every time you come to lodge (barrel in anteroom).

Most Needed Foods:

Fruit (canned), Meat and Fish (canned chicken, tuna, stew, hash, ravioli, etc.), Oatmeal (boxes with singer serve packets), Hearty Soups (canned), Pasta/Spaghetti, Macaroni & Cheese, Rice (boxed or bagged)



2018 OFFICERS

- Daniel E. Froggett, Worshipful Master
- Erik N. Schultz, Senior Warden
- Timothy J. Fisher, Junior Warden
- Rt. Wor. Michael R. Aulicino, PDDGM
- Wor. Patrick A. Wood, Secretary
- Wor. Kenneth R. Reynolds, Asst. Treas.
- Clayton J. Mitchell, Senior Deacon
- Mark A. Boughner, Junior Deacon
- Ronald E. Markiewicz, Chaplain
- James F. Cordes, Senior Steward
- Eric F. Kephart, Junior Steward
- Edward R. Wilcox, Marshal
- F. Paul Norris, Musician
- Wor. Brian M. King, Tiler
Lodge Instructor of Work
- Wor. Jaime H. Flores
Education Officer



LODGE HISTORY

Henry Knox Field Lodge, No. 349, A.F. & A. M., was chartered in the Town of Potomac, Virginia, on February 12, 1925. It was named in honor of Henry Knox Field, a local businessman and community leader from Alexandria, Virginia, who served as Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, in 1917. Most Worshipful Field was raised to the degree of Master Mason on February 20, 1890, at Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 120, A.F. & A.M. On June 24, 1893, he was installed Worshipful Master of that Lodge. Most Worshipful Field was born on April 20, 1860 and passed away on August 1, 1917, while serving as Grand Master.

John Blair Lodge No. 187, A.F. & A.M., was instituted on July 31, 1970, and chartered at Henry Knox Field Lodge No. 349 on February 10, 1971. The lodge was named in honor of Virginia's first Grand Master and inaugural United States Supreme Court Justice John Blair, Jr. Jewels, aprons, the bible, and tiler's sword were given by Worshipful Raymond L. Colins. The speakers podium for the Lodge was constructed and donated by Right Worshipful Clarence A. Dains. The brazen pillars were constructed and donated by the Charter Treasurer, John Newton Crawford, and the altar cover was later donated by Most Worshipful Werner Herman Morlock, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia in 1993, who died in office on Saturday, March 5, 1994.

The lodges initiated the consolidation process in February 2017, with the Resolution on Consolidation being adopted in June of the same year. Henry Knox Field—John Blair Lodge, No. 349, A.F. & A.M., officially began work January 1, 2018.

HENRY KNOX FIELD—JOHN BLAIR LODGE, No. 349, AF&AM
1430 WEST BRADDOCK ROAD
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22302
WWW.FIELDBLAIRLODGE349.ORG
Stated Communication:
Second Tuesday 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Dinner 6:30 p.m.