



HENRY KNOX FIELD JOHN BLAIR LODGE

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

TRESTLEBOARD

MAY 2021

May 4, 6:30 p.m.

Lodge Ritual School: Fellowcraft Degree

Alexandria Scottish Rite

masks required, social distancing required

May 11, 2021, 6:30 p.m. dinner, 7:30 p.m. meeting

In-Person Stated Communication

Alexandria Scottish Rite

masks required, social distancing required

May 18, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

Called Communication: Fellowcraft Degree

Alexandria Scottish Rite

masks required, social distancing required

May 20, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

Fraternal Visit to Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 120

George Washington Masonic National Memorial

masks required, social distancing required

May 25, 6:30 p.m.

Lodge Ritual School: Entered Apprentice Degree

Alexandria Scottish Rite

masks required, social distancing required

Public Health Warning:

No one with a fever or symptoms of COVID-19, or known exposure to COVID-19 case(s) in the prior 14 days, is permitted to enter the Lodge building. Public gatherings are not without some risk. The safety of our membership is our number one concern. If, for any reason, you feel you are unable to follow the requirement to wear a face covering, **DO NOT ATTEND LODGE.**



A MESSAGED FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

I can hardly believe we are in May already; almost half of the year is gone and I just realized it. Now that the restrictions are being lifted, we can finally get back to holding normal lodge meetings and we are able to start again with Balloting and Degree work with proper safety protocols. That is a huge step.

May is shaping up to be a busy month comparatively. This is something that I have not said in a long time! There will be fraternal visit to Andrew Jackson Lodge #120 on the 20th. We will be passing Bro. Bradley Watts to the degree of Fellowcraft on the 18th of May, balloting on a petition, and, hopefully, conducting an Entered Apprentice degree as well for Mr. Kholer. There is much to be done within our lodge and outside of it to get ready for the degrees. It takes consistent practice and regular attendance to our Lodge Ritual Schools. We need to dust off and polish our skills that have been laying around dormant for the past year. Every Brother deserves the best degree we can possibly put on. However, it requires practice. I am guilty as well of falling victim to mundane down time of covid. While we are not completely past it, we have a lot more opportunity than we did last year and are better prepared to operate. Let's take advantage of this opportunity, shake the dust off, and get back into the quarries!

I wanted to thank everyone that came out to the wreath laying ceremony at HKF gravesite on the 16th of April in celebration of his birthday. The fellowship afterwards was much needed, and a great time was had by all! We will have more fellowship opportunities in the near future.

I'm excited to see the lodge grow as this year progresses! If you have not made it to lodge in a while and you feel comfortable doing so, then come join us. There is always plenty of delicious food as well as great conversations both before during and after lodge. I hope to see everyone there!

Be Safe, Stay Healthy

Timothy J. Fisher
Worshipful Master





Wreath Laying for Most Worshipful Henry Knox Field's 161st Birthday on April 16, Pictured, left to right, Wor. Daniel E. Froggett, PM, Bro. Bradley J. Watts, Wor. T. J. Fisher, Brother Clayton J. Mitchell, Wor. Danny Convery, PM, and Brother C. Steven Aguilar. In addition, the group laid flowers at the grave of the female stranger. A socially distanced fellowship dinner followed the ceremony at Augies in Old Town.



The Winding Staircase



The allusion of the Winding Stairs leading to the middle chamber of the Temple is apparently a veil to divert the mind from many interesting symbols along the way that are overlooked unless the Mason carefully considers the journey into the middle chamber. In the Biblical account, nothing is said about the two columns at the foot of the stairs; no reference to the globes upon the columns; nothing to show the number of steps contained in the stairway; or that the steps were divided into three series of three, five, and seven steps. There is nothing to suggest the three degrees of initiation, nor imply the five steps represented the five Orders of Archi-

tecture or the five human senses, nor indicate that the seven steps led through the liberal arts and sciences.

In fact, one should consider the Winding Stairs as a compound symbol that is constructed to bring together several separate symbols found in the three degrees. Each of these symbols has their own separate significance when used alone. Yet when brought together in a single symbol, it represents a most interesting lesson within the allegory.

The two columns and the globes thereon are symbols belonging to the Entered Apprentice Degree, the three steps are symbols belonging to the Masters Degree, while the five and seven steps are essential elements of the Fellowcraft Degree. The symbol can be thought of as depicting the new initiate emerging from the profane world about to begin his journey from darkness in search of moral, mental and spiritual light. If he succeeds in completing his journey, and in acquiring the lessons along the way, he has the hope of attaining a special understanding of his relationship to God that he could not obtain without careful introspection.

The Entered Apprentice begins his symbolic journey in search of Masonic light and knowledge at a point between replicas of the two columns, which undoubtedly represent the columns of Jachin and Boaz of King Solomons Temple. The First Degree in Masonry is designed to be only a preparation and purification for a nobler and

higher purpose. The lessons are primarily intended to prepare the recipient for the mental, moral, and spiritual light that is to be achieved in the succeeding degrees.

It is therefore in the Second Degree that the real intellectual work begins. The candidate finds stretching out before him the winding stairs, a symbol of discipline and instruction, inviting him to ascend, and teaching him that he must commence his real Masonic labor. Here he enters upon those glorious yet difficult research in the laborious task of self-improvement now placed before him as a duty. He cannot stand still if he is a true Mason. His Masonic destiny requires him to ascend the winding stairs, step by step, until he has reached the summit, where the treasures of knowledge await him. For the faithful performance of this task a reward is promised. The reward is improvement of his intellectual facilities; the moral and spiritual elevation of his character; and the acquisition of knowledge and wisdom.

Here he proceeds onward and upward through the liberal arts and sciences where he will find divine laws by which the Great Architect creates, preserves, and rules the wonderful universe in which we are fortunate enough to live. Thus it appears that the Winding Stairs represents the progress of an inquiring mind and a sincere heart, through toils and labor of the intellect, in acquiring an understanding of the sciences displayed upon the steps. This is a preliminary step toward the attainment of divine truths, which every Mason should pursue in his quest for self-improvement, on a journey that never ends.

If the Winding Stairs did nothing more than point out the pathway for the attainment of true Masonic light and knowledge, it should be one of the more treasured Masonic symbols. However, it contains much more than a simple inspection uncovers. The seeker of true Masonic light will miss much if he remains satisfied with the Monitorial explanations of the Winding Stairs. He must zealously study this important symbol and the ascending journey it represents to discover true Masonic knowledge that is finally reflected at the very top of the stairs, which none but true craftsmen can ever see and fully comprehend.



Happy Birthday

Brother George Michael Kavros - May 31, 1960 - 61 years
 Brother Gene Arden Noll - May 30, 1967 - 54 years
 Right Worshipful Douglas Monroe Woodley - May 4, 1971 - 50 years
 Brother Clarence Eugene Williams - May 29, 1973 - 48 years
 Brother Stanley William Pittelkow, Jr. - May 16, 1974 - 47 years
 Worshipful Alton Levern Miller, Jr. - May 14, 1975 - 46 years
 Brother Richard Loy Jennings - May 30, 1978 - 43 years
 Brother Larry Laroche Labossiere - May 19, 1981 - 40 years
 Brother Carl Clifford Hatton - May 19, 1987 - 34 years
 Worshipful Arturo de Hoyos - May 16, 1988 - 33 years
 Brother Gary Alan Dodd, Jr. - May 16, 1989 - 32 years
 Worshipful Donald Lee Kirby, Jr. - May 14, 1991 - 30 years
 Brother Leonard Figueroa - May 20, 2017 - 4 years



In Memoriam

Brother Jack Byrne Via
 March 10, 1922, to March 11, 2021
 EA: 1/30/1953
 FC: 3/27/1953
 MM: 5/5/1953

Brother Max Berger, Jr.
 February 18, 1922, to September 27, 2014
 EA: 3/20/1953
 FC: 4/24/1953
 MM: 5/9/1953

henry knox field

HKF

A.F. & A.M.



JBL
NO. 349

john blair lodge

2021 OFFICERS

Timothy J. Fisher, Worshipful Master
 Clayton J. Mitchell, Senior Warden
 Mark A. Boughner, Junior Warden
 Wor. Kenneth R. Reynolds, Treasurer
 Wor. Daniel E. Froggett, Secretary
 Jonathan Summers, Senior Deacon
 Steven Aguilar, Junior Deacon
 Ronald E. Markiewicz, Chaplain
 Xavier Mariscal, Senior Steward
 Joseph Dergham, Junior Steward
 Nelson Sanchez, Jr., Marshal
 Arnold McNeal, Musician
 Wor. Jaime H. Flores, Tiler
 Wor. Erik N. Schultz, 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.