

### TRESTLEBOARD

## DECEMBER 2021

December 7, 6:30 p.m. Lodge Ritual School–Opening and Closing a Master Mason's Lodge Alexandria Scottish Rite

> December 11, 9:00 a.m. Lodge Breakfast at Royal Restaurant 703 North Asaph Street, Alexandria

December 14, 6:30p.m. **Stated Communication:** Lodge Elections & Master's Farewell

6:30 Dinner, 7:30 Meeting Alexandria Scottish Rite

December 18, 10:00a.m. Installation of 2022 Officers

10:00 Installation, 11:30 Luncheon



Alexandria Scottish Rite

#### Public Health Warning:

While many COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted, public gatherings are not without some risk. The safety of our membership is our number one concern. If, for any reason, you have not been vaccinated, you are required to wear a mask. Please comply.



## A MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

December is here. I still cannot believe how fast this year has flown by. I always look forward to the holidays as we close out the year. I hope everyone had a safe and happy Thanksgiving as well as got to visit/see some family or possible friends that they might not have been able to see last year. Things are not back to normal; however, I feel we are in a much better and safer position to see the ones we love and engage in fellowship.

We had a slow start to the year with attendance limited to 10 or less people, but as restrictions were lifted, we increased our numbers. We, as a lodge, never stopped working - regardless of what the restrictions were. We kept moving forward with our Stated Communications, our weekly Lodge Ritual Schools, degree work and raising three Master Masons! We also got involved in our community to help and recognize the ones who played key roles during the last two years during the deep covid shutdowns because *Out of Darkness Comes Light*.

As this is my official last trestleboard communication I wanted to let everyone know that it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve this lodge as Worshipful Master for not one, but two years. Together we achieved a lot more than I thought was ever possible. Our stated communications were consistently educational and enlightening. We were seen and felt within our local community. We had a record setting Table lodge in June. AND we achieved The Hillman Award and so much more because or everyone's involvement!

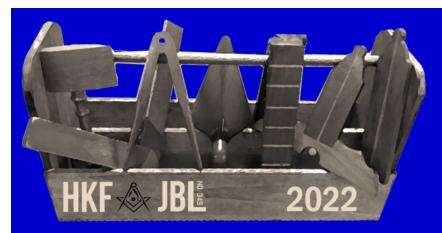
I am extremely proud of everyone's work over the last two years and can't begin to thank everyone enough. While we all have many goals as Worshipful Master for our year(s) the most basic goal for all of us is to leave the lodge a little better and stronger than when we took over. Our lodge as an ashlar is a little less rough and a little more polished in my opinion. I look forward with great excitement and dedication for the year ahead of us and with our soon-to-be, new Worshipful Master-elect Clayton Mitchell.

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Sincerely & Fraternally,

Timothy J. Fisher Worshipful Master tfisher2000@gmail.com 410-610-8981

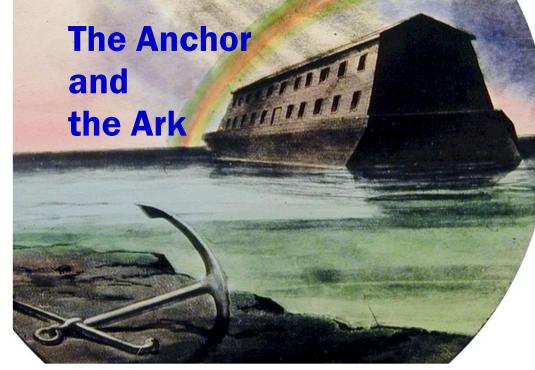






RSVP by December 13 to fieldblairlodge349@gmail.com

Business Attire



The Masonic Anchor and Ark are symbols of a life well spent and a deeply rooted hope.

The Masonic anchor is a Masonic symbol of hope. It was first found on tombs among the catacombs located in Rome. It's possible that the idea of using the anchor as a symbol of hope was from Apostle Paul who spoke about it in the Biblical book of Hebrews.

Hebrews 6:19: "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil."

In the times of old, Christianity was seen as a stormy journey and those that arrived safely at the end of their journey were glad that the journey was over. So, the anchor was seen as a significant symbol of hope for them and it was carved over their tomb. The anchor signified that the person who slept in the tomb was in a place of eternal rest and peace.

The ark (ship) represents the voyage of life. But it is not confined to Christians alone. Non-Christians also used the ship to represent the passage of life. Freemasons substitute the ark for the ship. The ark of Noah floating freely amidst the storm is a symbol of benevolent deity. It shows that even when all is rough and stormy, God will guide humans to safety.

In the Masonic Third Degree, the ark and the anchor are symbols of a well-spent life and a well-grounded hope. They show that the Divine ark will carry us over the rough sea and the anchor shall bring us to a place of rest where there won't be wicked ones and we shall find our rest.

## The Ark as Conveyor of the Craft

From "Noachite Legend and the Craft" The Square Magazine

Anderson's *Constitutions* version of Masonic History offers an outline of the history of the Craft and how its mysteries were transferred from one generation to the next. This history begins with Adam:

> Adam, our first Parent, created after the Image of God, the great Architect of the Universe, must have had the Liberal Sciences, particularly Geometry, written on his Heart; for even since the Fall, we find the Principles of it in the Hearts of his Offspring, and which, in process of time, have been drawn forth into a convenient Method of Propositions, by observing the Laws of Proportion taken Year of the World 4003 before Christ from Mechanism: So that as the Mechanical Arts gave Occasion to the Learned to reduce the Elements of Geometry into Method, this noble Science thus reduc'd, is the Foundation of all those Arts, (particularly of Masonry and Architecture) and the Rule by which they are conducted and perform'd.

> No doubt Adam taught his Sons Geometry, and the use of it, in the several Arts and Crafts convenient, at least for those early Times; for Cain, we find, built a City, which he call'd CONSECR ATED, or DEDICATED, after the Name of his eldest Son Enoch; and becoming the Prince of the one Half of Mankind, his Posterity would imitate his royal Example in improving both the noble Science and the useful Art. (Anderson & Franklin, 1734, p. 7-8)

This information was then passed down through the generations to Noah:

But without regarding uncertain Accounts, we may safely conclude the old World, that lasted 1656 Years, could not be ignorant of Masonry; and that both the Families of Seth and Cain erected many curious Works, until at length Noah, the ninth from Seth, was commanded and directed of God to build the great Ark, which, tho' of Wood, was certainly fabricated by Geometry, and according to the Rules of Masonry.

Noah, and his three Sons, Japhet, Shem, and Ham, all Masons true, brought with them over the Flood the Traditions and Arts of the Antedeluvians, and amply communicated them to their growing Offspring. (Anderson & Franklin, 1734, p. 8-9)

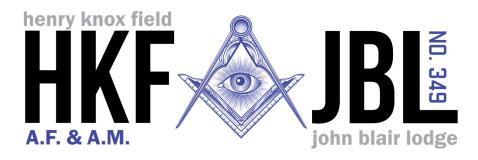
Anderson posits that it was through this transmission from Noah that the arts and sciences were preserved through the Deluge and continues through this day.





# **Happy Birthday**

Brother Robert Clyde Prichard - December 4, 1962 - 59 years Brother Joseph Homer Croyle - December 6, 1966 - 55 years Brother Kenneth Dale Bawden, Sr. - December 15, 1970 - 51 years Brother Clarence Thomas Johnson - December 19, 1972 - 49 years Brother Charles Harry Scott - December 5, 1978 - 43 years Brother James Dewey Buckles - December 6, 1978 - 43 years Brother Leonard Stanley Bodnar - December 4, 1979 - 42 years Worshipful William Hudson Pennell, Jr. - December 20, 1983 - 38 years Brother David Charles Shaw - December 16, 1986 - 35 years Brother Luis James Ferreira - December 8, 2001 - 20 years Brother Matthew Leonard Ferreira - December 3, 2002 - 19 years Worshipful John Chalmers Dickinson - December 6, 2004 - 17 years Brother Donald Gerald Eden - December 31, 2010 - 11 years



## **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.

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