



# HENRY KNOX FIELD JOHN BLAIR LODGE

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

## TRESTLEBOARD

## JANUARY 2022

January 4, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

Lodge Ritual School: MM Opening & Closing, Receiving the DDGM  
Alexandria Scottish Rite, Small Lodge Room  
*masks required, social distancing required*

January 8, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

Lodge Breakfast: Royal Restaurant  
Family and Friends, prospects, people off the street, all invited.  
*COVID restrictions dependent...check email before attending.*

January 11, 2022, 6:30 p.m. dinner, 7:30 p.m. meeting

### **Stated Communication**

From the Toolbox: The Compasses  
Alexandria Scottish Rite

January 18, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

Lodge Ritual School: Receiving the DDGM  
Alexandria Scottish Rite  
*masks required, social distancing required*

January 25, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

Masters and Wardens Association Meeting  
Alexandria—Scottish Rite, hosted by HKFJB  
*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 10 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 MESSAGE FROM THE EAST**

Happy New Year!

Brethren all, I want to first wish you a happy new year and hope the holidays were good to you and your families. We have made another trip around the sun and as we begin our new year, it is full of excitement. I wanted to say that I am truly honored to be sitting in the East and I look forward to continuing the momentum we have with our lodge and the work we have done. The weather is cold outside but inside is nice and warm and we would love to see everyone at the various events going on, inside and outside the lodge and the district.

Our ritual school is picking back up on the 4th of January and will be held every Tuesday unless there is something else that takes precedence. This month we will be polishing up on opening and closing and receiving the DDGM. Our stated this month will have a presentation on the compasses which I hope all will find enlightening. There is a Masters and Wardens meeting on the 25th which is a Tuesday and we will not be having ritual school that night. I hope to see more and more brethren come out and support the officers and the lodge with attendance. And as in the past if anyone needs anything please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any other officers at the lodge.

Lastly I want to say a big thank you to the installation team we had at our installation and all the brothers who attended. On behalf of myself and the officers and my family who were there, everyone had a great time and was made to very welcome. To the ladies of the orient who prepared our meal I want to say wow! It was truly amazing and hope that we do more together in support of our masonic family. I hope everyone is ready to get out their Masonic toolboxes.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Clayton J. Mitchell  
Worshipful Master  
Clayton.Mitchell78@yahoo.com  
703-577-1495



## Square & Compasses: Freemasonry's Universal Logo

The Masonic Lodge of Education



The Square and Compasses (or, more definitively, a Square and a set of Compasses which are joined together...each leg of the compass pointing in opposite directions) is the single most universally identifiable symbol of Freemasonry. Due to slight Masonic jurisdictional differences around the world, this symbol does not always look exactly the same to all Freemasons. Some jurisdictions call this symbol the Square and Compass, (non-plural) and a few jurisdictions omit the "G" at its center. But no matter its slightly different look, all Freemasons are in unison as to what this symbol means to them within the fraternity.

### Speculative Masonic Symbolism of the Square and Compasses

In speculative Freemasonry, this emblematic symbol is used in Masonic ritual. The Square is an emblem of virtue in which we must "square our actions by the square of virtue with all mankind." The Compasses exemplify our wisdom of conduct: the strength to "circumscribe our desires and keep our passions within due bounds." When these 2 Masonic tools are placed together with God (the Creator) as our central focal point... (just as King Solomon built God's Temple, first... and then built his house around it), peace and harmony is the result.

From Mackey's *Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, Volume 2, Page 963, 1929: *A Short History About the Square and Compasses*

**THE SQUARE...Morality**

**THE COMPASS...Boundaries**

**Trying Square:** In the operative stone mason era, the 90-degree angle of the square was a necessary tool used to test the accuracy of the sides of a stone to ascertain that the stone's angles matched the square's "true" right angle.

**Morality:** In speculative Freemasonry, the square is a symbol of morality.

**Official Masonic Usage:** It is one of the three Great Lights (the Square, the Compass, and the Holy Book) In each of its above roles, it inculcates (teaches) the repeated lesson of morality, truthfulness, and honesty.

**Common Usage:** The square is so universally accepted that it has found its way into colloquial language with which we communicate daily. We have all heard the sayings: "Getting a square deal," "Are you on the square?" and "Squaring off." While the specific date with which the Masonic square became an official Masonic symbol is not known, it was one of the primary tools which an operative mason used in his craft. In France, one leg is longer than the other due to the nature of its original construction. The American Freemason square has equal length "legs," however it has been unnecessarily marked off in increments of inches, as if to measure length and breadth, which is not its true purpose.

**An Antique Square:** In 1830, an architect who was rebuilding an ancient bridge called Baal Bridge near Limerick, Ireland removed the foundation stone of the bridge and found a much eaten away old brass square. On the surfaces of its two legs, was the following inscription: "I will strive to live - with love and care - upon the level - by the square." It was dated 1517.

In one of the very earliest catechisms (rituals) from 1725 we find these words:

*Q: How many make a lodge?*

*A: God and the Squares, with five or seven right or perfect Masons.*

Excerpt from an 1880 speech delivered by Brother Herbert A. Gelles, Worshipful Master of Ionic Lodge No. 1781, at Amoy, entitled "Freemasonry in China"

*"From time immemorial, we find the Square and Compasses used by Chinese writers to symbolize precisely the same phases of moral conduct as in our system of Freemasonry. The earliest passage known to me (Albert Mackey) which bears upon the subject is to be found in the Book of History, embracing the period reaching from the 24th to the 7th century before Christ. It is there, in an account of a military expedition, that we read, 'Ye officers of government, apply the Compasses!'"*

In another part of the same records, a Magistrate (judge) is spoken of as: "A man of the level, or the level man."

The public discourses of Confucius from 481 B.C. provide us with several Masonic allusions of a more or less definite charac-

ter. When recounting his own degrees of moral progress in life, the Master tells us that only at 75 years of age could he venture to follow the inclinations of his heart, without fear of transgressing the limits of the Square.

In the works of Mencius, a follower of Confucius, in 281 B.C. is a fuller and more impressive Masonic phraseology: "The Master mason in teaching his apprentices, makes use of the Square and the Compasses. Ye who are engaged in the pursuit of wisdom must also make use of the Square and the Compasses."

300-400 years before Christ, *In the Great Learning*, Chapter 10, we read that a man should abstain from doing unto others what he would not they should do unto him; "this," adds the writer, "is called the principle of acting on the Square." Of course, we are familiar with this statement today, as the Golden Rule, as also found in the Bible.

#### Tools of the Craft:

Historically, both the square and compasses are architect's tools to create true and perfect lines and angles. Operative stone masons used them as the tools of their trade. Like most tradesmen throughout history, operative stone masons began their career as an entered apprentice under the supervision of a Master mason.

#### From Entered Apprentice to Master Mason:

After several years, if their work was pleasing to the Master stone mason, the entered apprentice was elevated to the title of a Fellowcraft. More years passed and if the Fellowcraft's work was deemed acceptable to the Master, he was allowed to begin work upon his master's piece (the word "Masterpiece" is another colloquialism we now commonly use in our everyday speech). Upon the Fellowcraft's passing this final test, he was raised to the degree of Master mason of the craft.

**Wisdom:** Like men, buildings are not erected overnight, and the knowledge of any craft takes time to hone. Each building must have a sturdy foundation with which to build upon. Wisdom is the learned ability to utilize the accumulated knowledge of enlightenment, experience and intuitive understanding coupled with the capacity to apply them with good judgment toward achieving a prudent course of action.

**Strength and Beauty:** Operatively, the Square and Compasses were tools used to build strong foundations and to craft geometrically and precision cut stones, one atop another in symmetrical form to create a useful edifice (large and imposing building) which was both sturdy, durable and rock-solid against the elements (strength) as well as visually pleasing (beauty) to those who beheld it.



# Happy Birthday

- Brother George Amick White - January 30, 1960 - 62 years
- Brother Eli Leonard Adler - January 30, 1960 - 62 years
- Brother Charles Jerry Mouser - January 31, 1967 - 55 years
- Worshipful Samuel Moseley Jones - January 4, 1975 - 47 years
- Brother Gerald John Connelly, III - January 19, 1988 - 34 years
- Brother Ryan Bradley Huston - January 6, 1999 - 23 years
- Worshipful David Loren Brunelle - January 3, 2005 - 17 years
- Worshipful William Ryan Ware - January 18, 2005 - 17 years
- Brother John Joseph Murawski, II - January 29, 2011 - 11 years
- Brother William Raymond Dunlap, Jr. - January 16, 2014 - 7 years
- Brother Antoine Philippe Issa - January 17, 2015 - 7 years
- Brother Elhrick Joseph Cerdan - January 26, 2016 - 6 years



henry knox field

**HKF**

**A.F. & A.M.**



**JBL**  
NO. 349

**john blair lodge**

## 2022 OFFICERS

Clayton J. Mitchell  
**Worshipful Master**

Ronald E. Markiewicz  
**Chaplain**

Mark A. Boughner  
**Senior Warden**

Joseph Dergham  
**Senior Steward**

Jonathan Summers  
**Junior Warden**

Arnold McNeal  
**Junior Steward**

Kenneth R. Reynolds, PM  
**Treasurer**

Bradley J. Watts  
**Marshal**

Daniel E. Froggett, PM  
**Secretary**

Jaime H. Flores, PM  
**Tiler & Webmaster**

Steven Aguilar  
**Senior Deacon**

Erik N. Schultz, PM  
**Education Officer**

Xavier Mariscal  
**Junior Deacon**



### 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  
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*Stated Communication:*

*Second Tuesday 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Dinner 6:30 p.m.*