



HENRY KNOX FIELD JOHN BLAIR LODGE

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

TRESTLEBOARD

MARCH 2022

March 1, 2022, 6:30 p.m.
Lodge Ritual School: MM Degree,
Receiving the DDGM
Alexandria Scottish Rite, Small
Lodge Room

March 8, 2022, 6:30 p.m.
dinner, 7:30 p.m. meeting

Stated Communication

Official Visit of Right
Worshipful Daniel Martin Clark
District Deputy Grand Master
for Masonic District 1A
Alexandria Scottish Rite

March 12, 2022, 9:00 a.m.
Lodge Breakfast:
Royal Restaurant
All invited.

March 15, 2022, 6:30 p.m.
Lodge Ritual School: MM Degree
ASR, Lodge Room

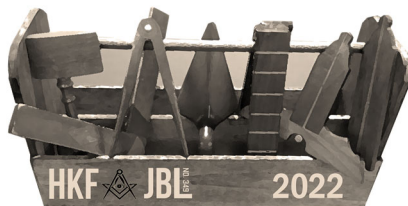
March 17, 2022, 6:30 p.m.
Fraternal Visit to
Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 120
George Washington Masonic
National Memorial

March 22, 2022, 6:30 p.m.
Lodge Ritual School: MM Degree
ASR, Lodge Room

March 29, 2022, 6:30 p.m.
Friends and Family Night
Special presentation by
Jobs Daughters
ASR Dining Room

*Save the date—
Past Masters Night 4/12
Henry Knox Field Wreath Laying
and Community Builders Award
presentation dinner, TBA*

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

Brethren,

March is upon us and soon will be Spring. The smell of fresh air and blooming flowers followed, of course, by runny noses and itchy eyes. February was a short but busy month and I'd like to say thank you to all who were able to attend the events of this past month. We were able to pass Brother Kohler to the degree of Fellowcraft, marched in the parade for George Washington, attended the wreath laying at Mount Vernon, and last but not least a fraternal visit to Alexandria—Washington No. 22 to celebrate George Washington's Birthday.

March gives us some more excitement with our first Friends and Family event of the year which we will have open to all of the lodges in District 1A. We will have the ladies from Bethel 22 come and do a presentation, pizza dinner, and just a good time with family and friends. Any donations that evening will go directly to the ladies of Bethel 22. March also will bring us to receiving the District Deputy Grandmaster, RW Dan Clark. We will be visiting the brothers at Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 120, for our fraternal visit and will have the pleasure of attending their table lodge. All who can attend please let me know before our stated so I can let Worshipful Sid know.

This year is trucking right along and I am looking forward to the rest of the year and more activities coming up. As always if anyone needs anything or has a something or someone to add to our sick and distressed, please let myself or one of the brethren know.

We have lots of events and things happening the rest of this year so please write down the dates and if available attend. It sure is nice when we can attend another lodge or an event from within and have good attendance.

Sincerely & Fraternally,



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

WHAT IT MEANS TO JOIN A LODGE OF MASONS

<https://www.lakeharrietlodge.org/>



Every man comes to Masonry, of his own free will and accord, with his own individual needs and interests. One man may join so that he can associate with other men who believe that only by improving themselves can they hope to improve their world. Another man may join because he is looking for a focus for his charitable inclinations. Yet another man may be attracted by a strong desire for non-sectarian rituals and rites of passage. Many join simply because they know a friend or relative who is a Freemason and they admire that man's way of living his life. All who join and become active discover a bond of brotherly affection and a community of mutual support; a practical extension of their own religious and philosophical beliefs.

The Masonic Lodge is a place where one can feel completely welcome and free from the competitiveness of the outside world. Oh, masons can get a little competitive at times, of course, but it is a competition to do good and to improve oneself, not to "get ahead" of others, or accumulate honors and power. Masonic offices and degrees are indeed honors, but they are symbolic ones, not ones that bestow social status or power. Masons of all social and economic classes and all ages can meet "on the level" and act "on the plumb" in the lodge. Inside a Masonic lodge there should be no discussion of politics, religious differences, or class. The free exchange of ideas is encouraged so long as it does not inspire division among brothers.

Most North American Masonic lodges are composed of fewer than two hundred members of which perhaps thirty are active and will come out regularly to the one or two meetings a month. One meeting is a business meeting to keep the membership apprised of the workings of the lodge: paying of accounts, charitable works in progress, assistance to sick or distressed brethren, the reading of petitions for membership, and voting on

those petitions. The second monthly meeting is used for the conferring of the three degrees - Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason. Before an initiate receives a degree, and takes an obligation of secrecy, he is assured that the mysteries are founded on the purest principles of piety and virtue and that any vows are not inconsistent with his civil, moral, or religious duties.

Some lodges meet monthly, others only four times a year. Many lodges also organize socials, dances, outings, dinners and sporting events for their members and families. Some hold "table lodges" which are like formal banquets of Masons where sometime speeches are given and always a hearty round of seven traditional toasts are made in the unique style of Freemasonry called "firing the cannons." These table lodges are enormous fun but the fun is not an end in itself. It supports the good cheer that allows each Mason to reach out to others and offer help in time of trouble.

This kind of help or "relief" as we call it, does not take the form of behind the scenes influence to get a brother a plum job or to engage in political maneuvering. It takes the form of attending the funeral of a worthy brother who has passed on. It takes the form of helping that brother's widow and family if they need assistance from financial help to simply helping out with shoveling a sidewalk or painting a house. Masonic relief can take the form of stopping to help a brother whose car has a flat tire, or helping in the community to raise money for a food shelf or for scholarships. Masons are volunteers and they know the personal rewards of volunteering their time and talents to help others in need.

Each lodge is chartered by a regional Grand Lodge. In the United States there is one grand lodge for each of the fifty states. There are some 200 recognized Masonic jurisdictions around the world and no central worldwide authority, although all lodges can trace their history from either the United Grand Lodge of England (or its precursor grand lodges, the Grand Lodge of Scotland or the Grand Lodge of Ireland.) Grand Lodges are simply lodges that can grant charters to regular lodges, and they operate under a system of mutual recognition, working within a set of Landmarks, or the customs of the fraternity. All of the lodges in a given jurisdiction send their chief officers to vote in an election each year for a new grand master. He and the other grand officers work on the big picture of Masonry in their jurisdiction, helping the constituent lodges to grow and continue their good work.

That worldwide presence means that one of the most compelling aspects of being a lodge member is the chance to associate regularly with men of all walks of life, many entrepreneurs and statesmen, but also working men, artists, writers, and professional men. It also means that the warm handshake of the lodge brother extends from you to your brothers and through them to all the great men of history who were Masons and other Masons all over the world. That "mystic tie" that binds brother to brother extends around the world and you have the comfort of knowing that no matter how far you travel in life, there will always be brothers who will welcome you with love and offer you a helping hand.

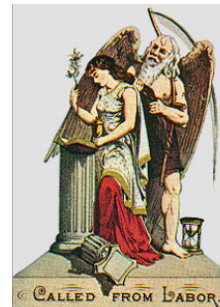
But what it means to be a Mason is far more than simply paying dues to a lodge or even attending regular meetings and doing volunteer work. Other social clubs offer those things too. Masonry's meaning lies in the initiation rituals we all share and the other rituals of the lodge that teach us symbolic lessons about our spiritual lives and the potential each of us has for being good men and true. A fellowship dedicated to the idea of being good may seem quaint in today's world where television and movies seem to emphasize action and adventure, and give crime and piracy a gloss of romance. But that is what makes Masonry more relevant today than ever before. When men like George Washington, the Marquis de Lafayette, Ben Franklin, Sir Isaac Newton, Sir Winston Churchill, and so many others, joined the fraternity of Freemasons it was because they recognized in it an organized force for good. It is not a church, synagogue, temple, or mosque, all of which teach moral lessons and good conduct in their particular way. The Masonic lodge focuses on the virtues of good men and offers men a private sacred space in which they can learn to subdue anger, lust, envy, sloth, gluttony, and all the other vices to which we humans are prey. Masons subdue their passions by directing those energies towards the vision of becoming perfectly cut stones in an infinite spiritual temple planned by the Great Architect of the Universe to improve humankind.

That may sound like a weighty and serious mission. It is. It may sound even a little 'religion-ish', but it isn't. And the reason is this: Freemasonry lets every man decide what he wants to believe and leaves matters of faith outside the lodge. As a group of Masons, our joint (as opposed to individual) pursuit of the Divine Plan does not mean promoting a particular religion or converting others to one's own belief system. Freemasonry works through Reason as well as Faith and considers that the Divine Plan is to make human beings more loving, more caring, and more inclined to live in harmony with each other as good brothers. Focusing on those goals and virtues does not incorporate most of the higher theology and religious laws of the world religions - at least within the bounds of Masonry. It does not require priests or prophets - within Masonry. Just like a business doesn't teach theology or utilize priests within its day to day operations. We leave these higher things and spiritual decisions to the Sovereign Man - YOU! A core Masonic principle, a respect we have for each other, is that the individual determines what he or she believes, and how. Within Masonry, we only require a rational understanding of the spiritual realities of the human condition, the demands that nature, chance or God's Plan places upon us, and our power of free-will to do what is good instead of what is harmful. It isn't easy; having a lodge full of brothers who are trying to pursue the same work of self-transformation and virtue helps a lot.



Happy Birthday

- Brother John Roy Groundwater - March 29, 1949 - 73 years
- Brother Oliver Bell Crockett, Jr. - March 27, 1962 - 60 years
- Worshipful Clifford Church - March 19, 1963 - 59 years
- Brother Carlton Duane Davis - March 16, 1965 - 57 years
- Brother Joseph Thompson Moton - March 19, 1968 - 54 years
- Brother Marion Witt Pitts - March 3, 1970 - 52 years
- Brother James Pate Garrett - March 2, 1971 - 51 years
- Brother Craig Carter Malloy - March 7, 1972 - 50 years
- Worshipful Virgil Kermit Street - March 29, 1972 - 50 years
- Brother Charles Edgar Hicks - March 20, 1973 - 49 years
- Brother Paul Birdon Jones - March 7, 1978 - 44 years
- Brother Alfred Wesley Laser - March 7, 1979 - 43 years
- Brother William Frederick Perry - March 26, 1986 - 36 years
- Brother James Timothy Love - March 3, 1992 - 30 years
- Brother Edward Matthew Groner - March 6, 2002 - 20 years
- Worshipful Patrick Alan Wood - March 20, 2007 - 15 years
- Worshipful Erik Nicholas Schultz - March 15, 2014 - 8 years



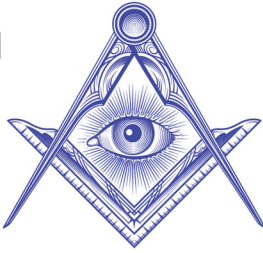
In Memoriam

We mourn the passing of
 Worshipful James Arville Loudermilk, II
 Master of Kemper Macon Ware Lodge, No. 64
 Friend & Brother Jim laid down his working
 tools February 26.

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

Wor. Kenneth R. Reynolds
Treasurer

Bradley J. Watts
Marshal

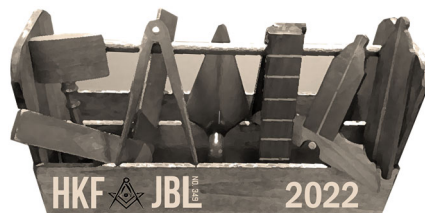
Wor. Daniel E. Froggett
Secretary

Wor. Jaime H. Flores
Tiler & Webmaster

Steven Aguilar
Senior Deacon

Wor. Erik N. Schultz
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
WWW.FIELDBLAIRLODGE349.ORG

Stated Communication:

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