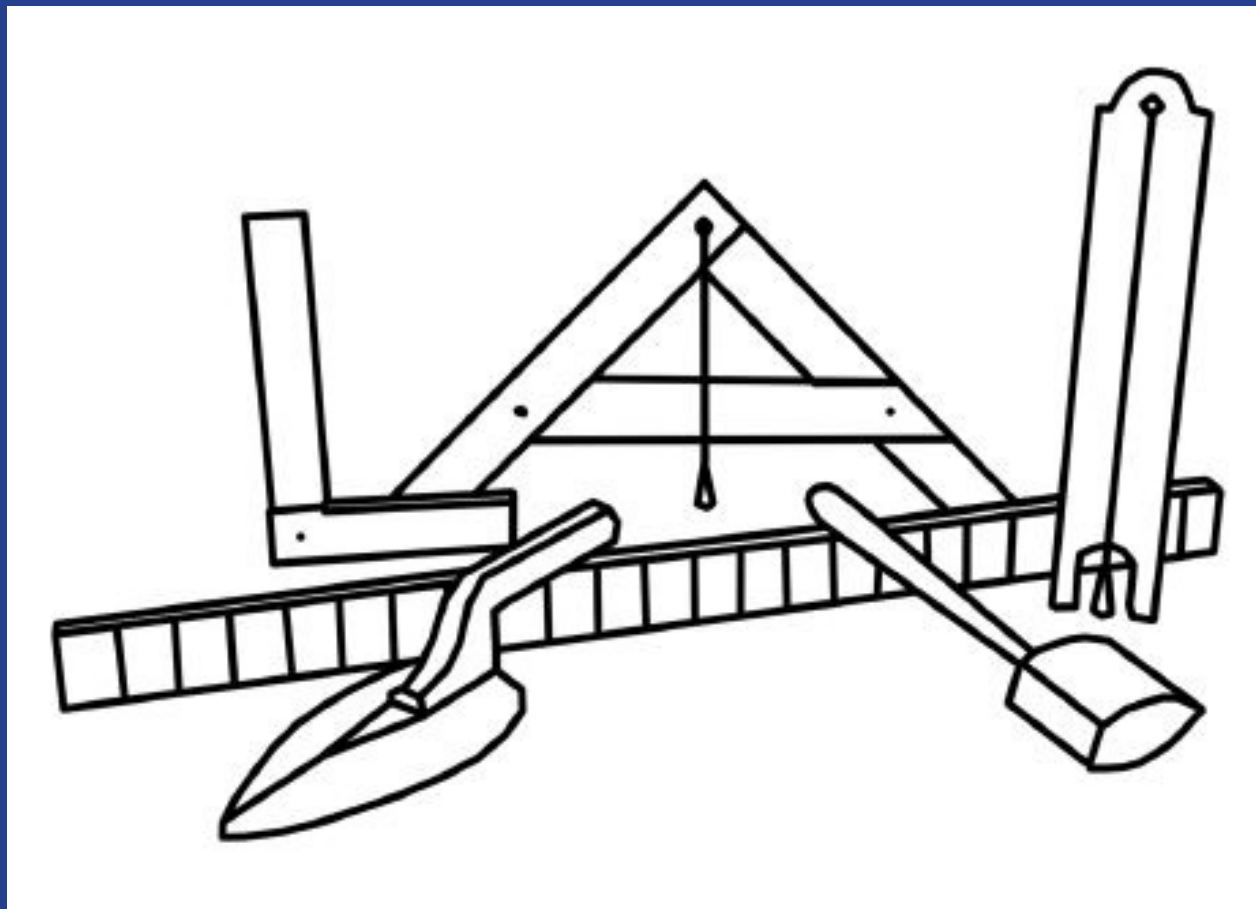


# John A. Lejeune Lodge

No. 350 A.F. & A.M



Master's Theme: "Earn the title... Every Day!"

MASTER'S TRESTLEBOARD

May 2023

Chartered February 11, 1925

## FROM THE EAST: WB BRANDON BATEMAN

Brethren all,

May we offer our hearty congratulations! They are in order as we welcome our newest Master Masons to the craft. JAL had 5 candidates attend the one-day conferral at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, and it was a day for the books. Our own WB Barry Mensh conferred the MM degree, and I was honored to confer the EA degree. JAL was well represented, as we extended the courtesy in the East.

That morning, as I was sitting in the East for the EA degree, I was incredibly proud to serve in that capacity. Surveying the room, I saw 70+ good men, about to be initiated into our beloved craft – and my heart swelled with joy and gladness. It was a sight to behold. No doubt, WB Barry felt the same. Our districts, and the craft at large did a good thing!

This month, in our continued efforts to ‘*Earn the Title, Every Day*’, as we work with these new Brethren and welcome them at their first Stated Communication, let us be ever-ready to extend our courtesies toward their necessary masonic returns.

May Stated Communication (15th) is fast approaching. Fellowship and dinner will commence at 1800hrs with our meeting to follow, commencing at 1900hrs. Please join us, if within the length.

Sincerely and Fraternaly Yours,  
Brother Brandon C. Bateman  
WM - 2023

## FROM THE WEST: BRO. MORGAN TOLLIVER

Being courteous is easy when everything is going your way. But, what if everything went south (loved ones, life, the world, money) how courteous could or would you be then? We all live in a world where emotions run high and passions go deep which is why we steer clear of any possible mine fields (religion and/or politics). Being courteous is an active pursuit. It isn't a one and done. It is a lifestyle choice. A journey with no definable end until the day we lay our working tools down. Being courteous often means to delay (waiting to hold a door) or deny (giving up your seat or place in line) yourself something. You slow down and begin to think of others needs in the immediate moment. These random acts can and will be the difference in the lives of

them and others. From a small child, we come to understand how interchangeable [courteous and kind] are. Without even thinking, many grab the door for someone. Maybe they were taught that or maybe through reciprocity he/she does the same for another, or maybe a person buys a cup of coffee for someone. We have chances every day to be courteous. Don't simply be a person who suffers from the by stander syndrome. Jump in the fray, who knows, the person right next to you could be the person who could benefit from your courteous gesture. Ben Franklin said, “Be civil to all; sociable to many; familiar with few; friend to one; enemy to none.” Courteousness in never out of fashion—it is timeless.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## MAY

4th at 1830hrs: Calvin A. Lloyd #81, O.E.S.,  
Dinner & Stated Meeting  
235 Potomac Avenue, Quantico VA

10th at 1800hrs: Quantico Chapter #44, National  
Sojourners Meeting  
17934 Liming Ln, Triangle, VA 22172

12th at 1930hrs: “Garodge” Work & Instruction at  
one of the WB’s residence.  
FXBG Location TBA (Monitor GroupMe app)

12th at 1930: Alexandria Scottish Rite Stated  
Communication  
1430 W Braddock Rd, Alexandria, VA 22302

15th at 1800hrs: John A. Lejeune Lodge 350  
Dinner & Stated Communication  
235 Potomac Avenue, Quantico VA

21st at 1600hrs: Rainbow Quantico-Freedom  
Assembly, Meeting  
235 Potomac Avenue, Quantico VA

25th at 1800hrs: Samuel Nicholas Camp, Heroes  
of 76 (National Sojourners)  
17934 Liming Ln, Triangle, VA 22172



# TEAMS

## **“Ye Aforementioned Team Names...Hear Ye, Hear Ye”**

As we are still in the process of forming and filling our Teams this Masonic Year, PLEASE read this Trestleboard, volunteer to join ANY Team, *and* let me know which one you want to be a part of, send me an e-mail message indicating such, and help JAL 350 to *Be the Difference!!!* I'll publicize the Team Members in the February Trestleboard as an ongoing TEAM(We're hoping for **at least 3** team-members per team, some will have more, out of necessity, such as JAL's FINANCE TEAM, e.g.

### **LODGE EDUCATIONAL OFFICER**

WB Barry Mensh LEO, WB Brandon Bateman,  
Bro. Bill Smith

### **LODGE INSTRUCTOR OF WORK**

WB Jim Solomon LIW, WB Barry Mensh,  
Bro. Morgan Tolliver

### **MASONIC WELLNESS/PEACE & HARMONY**

WB Leo Powell, Bro. Terry Jones, Bro. Bill Stevenson,

### **MEMBERSHIP & MEDIA, A.K.A., MASONIC VISIBILITY!**

Bro. Brian Potvin, Bro. Stefan Walter,  
WB Jim Solomon, Bro. Brandon Bateman,  
Bro. Morgan Tolliver, Bro. Kalil DeBerry,

### **FROM THE WEST GATE**

*No one left at the brow of the hill*

Bro. Brian Potvin, is the team leader, Bro. Stefan  
Walter, Junior Deacon, Bro. Morgan Tolliver

### **FINANCE**

WB Randall Arnold, WB Jim Solomon\*,  
Bro. Bill Smith\*, RW Rex Rockhill\*(Emeritus)

### **EXPLORATION & ORIENTATION**

*“Guarding the West Gate”*

We'll have “3-brother teams” Chaired by our Wardens,  
Bro. Brandon Bateman\*, and Bro. Morgan Tolliver\*,  
with other members added as needed, including WB  
Jim Solomon, Bro. Terry Jones, WB Barry Mensh, and  
others welcome!

### **APPENDANT BODIES & FRATERNAL RELATIONS**

Bro. Bill Stevenson, WB Leo Powell,  
Bro. Ian McIntyre,

### **JAL LODGE MASONIC HOME AMBASSADOR**

WB Barry Mensh

### **JAL LODGE BLOOD COORDINATOR**

WB Barry Mensh

*\*Drives involve the entire JAL Brethren!*



# OFFICERS 2022



**Worshipful Master**

Bro. Brandon Cashon Bateman

**Secretary**

WB Randall Arnold, PM

**Senior Steward**

To be appointed

**Senior Warden**

Bro. Morgan Adam Tolliver

**Senior Deacon**

Bro. Terrell Lee Jones

**Junior Steward**

Bro. William Mathew Stevenson

**Junior Warden**

Bro. Brian Thomas Potvin

**Junior Deacon**

Bro. Willie David Woodson

**Marshal**

Bro. Ian Hall McIntyre

**Treasurer**

Bro. William Lee Smith

**Chaplain**

WB Barry Alan Mensh, PM

**Tiler**

WB James Anthony Solomon, PM

## APPENDANT BODIES

**Order of the Eastern Star**

**Calvin A. Lloyd Chapter 81**

Worthy Matron Laurianne Murphy

**International Order of the Rainbow For Girls**

**Quantico-Freedom Assembly No. 6**

Mother Advisor Ange Malmquist

**Order of the Amaranth**

RW Rex Rockhill

**Scottish Rite**

WB Brandon Bateman

**Shriners**

To be assigned

**Sojourners Chapter 44**

Randall Arnold

**York Rite**

Leo Powell



## Living Past Masters

1976 Donald Ritenour	1999 Jack Williams
1980 Eddie Sykes	2000 Emory Kelley
1982/2010 Rex Rockhill	2002/2018 Jim Solomon
1983 Richard Fravel*	2003/04 Kenneth Wrisley
1985 Frank Harris III	2009 Donald Radeke
86/07/16/17 Harold Leo Powell, Jr.	2012 Jason Newcomer
1987 James Day*	2013/2015 Robert Lane
1990 James Van Fleet	2014 Carl DeSantis
1992 Thomas Blizzard*	2019/20/21 Randall Arnold
1994 David Ekren	2022 Barry Mensh
1996 Ronald Bigger	* = Demitted



## 50+ Year Members

### 80-Year Member

Donald E. Martin

### 70-Year Member

Richard T. Spooner

### 60-Year Members

Frank W. Harris III

Donald R. Briner

Victor D. Freudenberger

Donald L. Meek

Donald F. Ritenhour

### 50-Year Members

Joseph Brooks

John R Covington Jr.

James D. Delp

John A. Jones

Harold R. Knowles

John C. Kriska

Lloyd L. Loy

Thomas A. McNight

Harold L. Powell Jr.

Donald E. Schneider

Jack Williams

## Teams

Brethren, we value your opinions, so please let the Worshipful Master know if you would like to head up a team or start a new one. Do you see something missing in what we as a lodge are accomplishing? Do you want to see us more visible in the community and know of a great way to accomplish this? We are open for suggestions. Several of our teams are transient and change from year to year. Many of these would benefit from a stable person heading up the team year-after-year. If you have some time and would like to make a difference, let us know.

## Do you have e-mail?

If so please let the secretary know. You can add your email on the Lodge contact page, that way it goes to both Randall and Jim for receiving the Trestleboard. Also, If you have noticed that you do not receive the Trestleboard any more, please check the email you sent us. If we get an address kicked back to us more than three times, we will delete it.

E-mail will give us the ability to send to you short notices, effective and timely communications, including reminders of meetings and activities. Please remember that failure to let the secretary know of address changes costs the lodge money and it delays any correspondence we would like to send out.

## Volunteers needed

**Lawn:** If you have the time and don't mind sweating a little bit, there are times that the lawn needs to be mowed. We do not pay anyone to mow it. The mower, rake and gas are at the lodge, we just need the manpower to get it done as needed.

**Mentors:** Many of you remember spending lots of quality time working on the catechism with a coach or mentor whether at the lodge or in a more personal setting. Well it's time to pay it forward. We are always in need of some dedicated Brothers to teach our up-and-coming Brothers the finer arts of the catechism. No matter where you live or work, there is always a possibility that a new Mason may be in your area and open to meet with you more frequently than once a week.



## Staying Connected

In the past, you wanted to become a Mason. You asked a Mason to join their lodge as a Mason. They accepted you with open arms as a brother. Brethren, do you remember that point in your life when three distinguished men came to visit your home or place of work and discussed with you your interest in Freemasonry? Many of you were excited to become Masons and informed the investigation committee just how much you wanted to be involved in the lodge as well as in Freemasonry. I have sat on many committees and have heard those words spoken by many of our members.

Well, that time has come. You took the time to learn the catechism or book method with your coaches and mentors, but it shouldn't stop there. There is so much more you can do to make YOUR Lodge successful. Being a Mason is not about having a card with your name on it. It's about attending your lodge before you no longer have a lodge to attend. It's about socializing with your brethren inside as well as outside the lodge. It's about taking a role in your lodge. I am not talking about feeling forced to take an officers position. I am talking about showing your Worshipful Master support by attending lodge, volunteering to help with Lodge events, or being on a committee (or forming a committee) to further the communities we live in. We should be pillars of our communities as many Masons in the past.

Becoming a Master Mason is a great milestone in all of our lives. And now it's time to live that enlightened life. The Worshipful Master this year has taken several initiatives to try and keep the members active. There are numerous community activities that we could participate in, even at our very own home, no matter where we live. We just need more good men to head up the groups. One small group of men can't do it all.

<http://www.jal350afam.org/calendar/>

<https://www.facebook.com/JohnALejeune350/>

GroupMe App: John A Lejeune 350 AF.AM.  
Ask an officer and we'll add you.

## Stated Communications

We meet on the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m., except December, when we meet on the second Monday. We start with Fellowship and food at 6:30 p.m. for those coming there without stopping at home first. We welcome all visiting recognized Masons.

### Physical Address:

235 Potomac Avenue  
Quantico, Virginia

### Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 214 Quantico, Virginia 22134  
703-640-7350 (call or text)

### Call us by extension:

703-718-5204  
Secretary Ext. 201  
Treasurer Ext. 206  
Webmaster Ext. 203

## District Schools 2022

Fellowship will go at 6:00 p.m. with the District Education Officer giving a short presentation at 7:00 pm and the school beginning at 7:30 sharp. Keep an eye out for this year's schools.



Chartered by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, the John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350 of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons was established in Quantico, Virginia in February 1925. The lodge is named in honor of Lieutenant General John Archer Lejeune, U.S. Marine Corps. General Lejeune was an exemplary Marine having led combat forces in WWI, guided the establishment of schools at Quantico, and later served as the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps. After the war while still deployed, General Lejeune was made a Master Mason in a lodge in Coblenz, Germany and became a devoted member of our Masonic fraternity.

On July 2, 1924, twenty-four Masons signed a petition to the Grand Lodge of Virginia to grant a charter to establish Quantico Lodge No. 350. On March 6, 1925, a Provisional Lodge was opened for the installation of the first officers. Major General Lejeune, an attendee, was introduced

by Most Worshipful (MW) Callahan, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia. General Lejeune spoke about the characteristics of Freemasonry – tolerance, brotherly love, obedience to both human and Divine laws, and democracy. The Bible used to open the Provisional Lodge was provided by Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, the same Bible used by George Washington. The first stated communication with the newly installed officers was held on March 11, 1925, during which both MW Callahan and General Lejeune were elected to honorary membership in the Lodge.

At the stated communication of July 20, 1927, the Lodge not having a permanent meeting place, Brother Zalanka recommended that the Marine Memorial Church in Quantico would be fitting and a building fund was established with members initially assessed \$1.00 per month, and later raised to \$10.00 per month for a period of five years. Brother F.P. Moncure was authorized to consummate the purchase of the Marine Memorial M.E. Church as the permanent home for \$5,000.00 and purchase the adjoining lots for \$500 each.

The cornerstone of our Lodge was laid on June 4, 1934 in a ceremony led by the grand Master of Virginia, W.M. Brown. The cornerstone contains many items to include the traditional vials of corn, wine, and oil, a Lodge roster, an 1816 copper penny; an Indian arrowhead; a civil war bullet, and a picture of the officers of this Lodge for 1934. On May 24, 1940, the Lodge held a mortgage burning ceremony and a changed our By-Laws to re-set dues at 75 cents per month.

From the first petitioners on July 16, 1925, Earl J. Zalanka, James H. Spalding, Ernest W. Beck (the first raised to Master Mason in our Lodge), Thomas D. Collins, and Cyrus A. Gould, and the first Masons to affiliate with the Lodge, many Masons have called John A. Lejeune Lodge



No. 350 as their Lodge. Because of our unique location within Marine Corps Base Quantico, many notable Marines have also called John A. Lodge No. 350 their Lodge, these include:

- LtGen John A. Lejeune
- MajGen Randolph C. Berkley
- BGen Merritt A. Edson
- MajGen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr.
- LtGen Merwin W. Silverthorn
- Maj Calvin A. Lloyd

But the affiliation of Marines with the Masonic fraternity is not without precedence. Tun Tavern in Philadelphia, the birthplace of the Corps on 10 November 1775, was at the time an active Masonic Lodge with membership that included not only Benjamin Franklin but Samuel Nicholas, the first commissioned Marine Officer and the first Commandant of the Marines.

As the Masons of John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350 reach our 100th anniversary as part of the Quantico community and as members of one of the world's oldest Fraternities, we remain dedicated to the legacy of our namesake and the Masonic concepts of faith, hope, and charity.

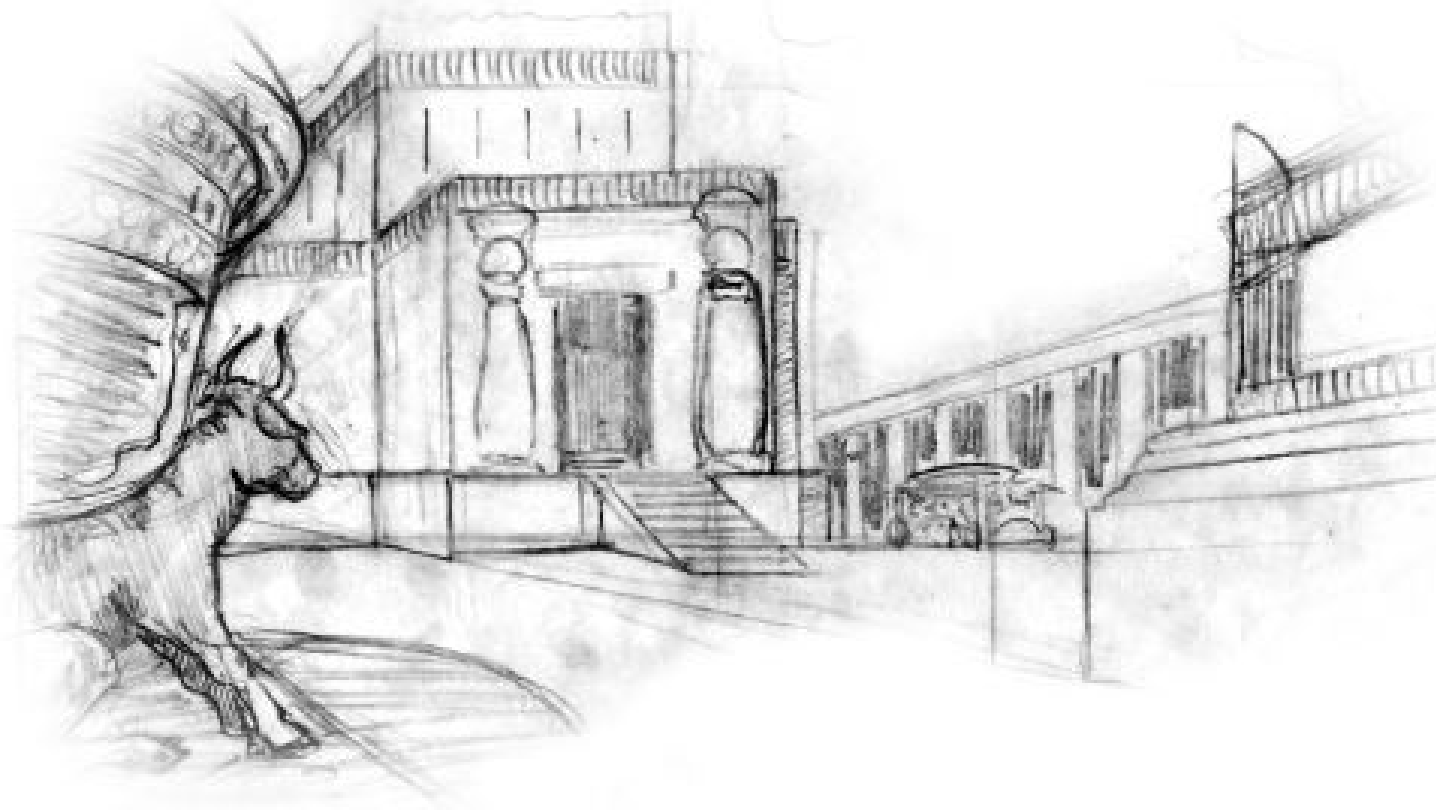
We have arrived at the dawning of a new year, decade, and century. The advancing ages of our older members will not permit the Lodge to grow as deaths, demits, and suspensions will take their respective tolls on our membership. We MUST continue concerted efforts to locate, inform, and provide petitions to prospective men of good report; the future is up to YOU..

### **Mission Statement of Freemasonry:**

To promote a way of life that binds like-minded men in a worldwide brotherhood that transcends all religious, ethnic, cultural, social and educational differences; by teaching the great principles of *Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth*; and, by the outward expression of these through its fellowship, to find ways in which to serve God, family, country, neighbors and self.

**In John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350**, our passion is to strive to inculcate and nurture in our members a sense of *empathy and belonging* by promoting Masonic teachings and practice through the Ritualistic, Educational, Esoteric, Charitable, and Fellowship-Oriented realms in an affable environment that focuses and regards the *INTERNAL*, and not the *EXTERNAL* qualifications of our Brethren.





*“... a temple of living stones, among whom no contention should ever exist, save that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree.”*