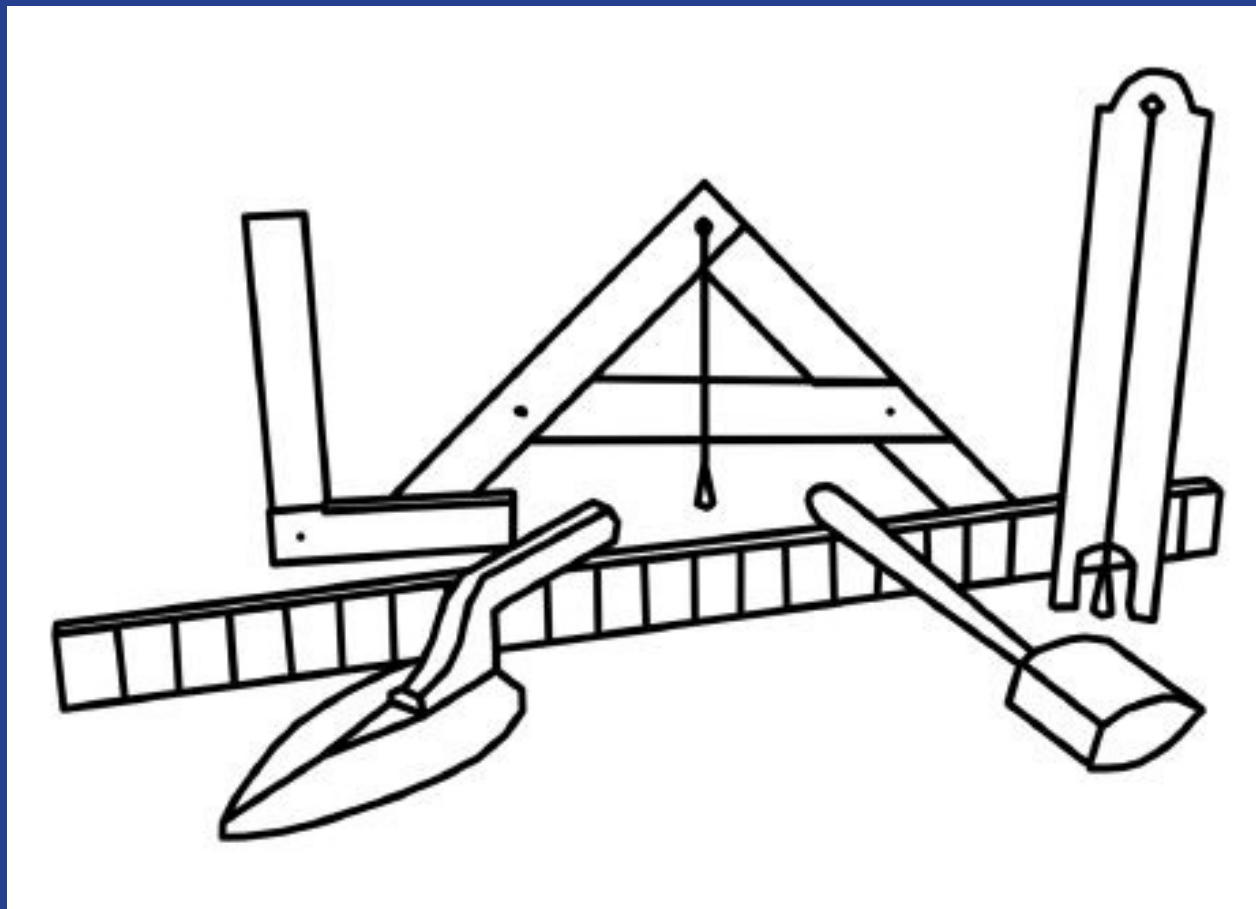


John A. Lejeune Lodge

No. 350 A.F. & A.M



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

MASTER'S TRESTLEBOARD

August 2023

Chartered February 11, 1925

FROM THE EAST: WB BRANDON BATEMAN

Brethren all,

I wanted to send a brief greeting in our continued efforts to *'Earn the Title, Every Day'*.

Be of good cheer. That is all.

If within the length, please join the brethren at Stated Communication.

Fellowship and dinner will commence at 1800hrs with our meeting to follow, commencing at 1900hrs.

Sincerely and Fraternaly Yours,

Brother Brandon C. Bateman

WM – 2023

FROM THE WEST: BRO. MORGAN TOLLIVER

It is easy to stay negative when things are negatively happening all around us. Maybe you didn't get the raise. Maybe the dinner was cold. Maybe one day things will turn out right. What takes all this negativity and turns it around? It boils down to cheerfulness. The state of being noticeably happy and optimistic. I am not saying people need to have a Pollyanna type of personality but being optimistic is an active not passive event. I remember when I was a kid my mom would always ask, "Morgan is the glass half full today?"

It set me up for the expectation it was to be a good day. Were there days where the glass was half empty? Sure, if I allowed myself to choose to be, then just like that—miserable day. We have many opportunities in the day to be optimistic if we decide to be. When we decide to be cheerful, we cut off the other options to become negative

or bitter. It is difficult to be cheerful and negative at the same time.

As Bro. Winston Churchill said so succinctly, "A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity and optimist see the opportunity in every difficulty." It is easy to see the glass half empty or it easy become negative but it takes moral courage to see the opportunity to remain cheerful even when things seem like they are falling a part. This month as with the rest of the year, endeavor to remain cheerful and spread your light among those who need it the most.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Bro. Morgan Tolliver

FROM THE SOUTH: BRO. BRIAN POTVIN

My Brothers, You Fan My Flames

Brothers, I recently found this short YouTube video by Will Smith located here:

[Link Here](#) This video slapped me in the face harder than Will slapped Chris Rock! But seriously, the point of Will's video was to call everyone to surround themselves with people who "fan their flames".

In my former life in the Air Force, I wrote about the impact we have upon others. Let there be NO doubt; you WILL have an impact upon every person with whom you come in contact. That impact will either be positive or negative. As Freemasons, we should be having a positive impact on EVERYONE with whom we interact. I am proud to be a part of this Beloved Fraternity, and of this Lodge in particular, because I know the men I am lucky enough to call my Brothers all have a positive impact upon me, and bring more light to the world every day.

Let's continue to elevate each other every day, and do the same with the outside world. So, I ask you, who surrounds you? Are the people who you

count on people who lift you up? Or do you seem to constantly hear negative attitudes around you? If so, ask them to cut it out! Attitudes, both positive and negative, are contagious. Get those negative folks away from you, POST HASTE!

When we are out in public and people see out baseball hats, rings, lapel pins, bumper stickers, etc. with our cherished square and compasses, trust me; they ARE watching us. They're looking to see if we cuss someone out, if we cut someone off in traffic, if we yell at our children, or do anything else negative. What they see us do becomes their perception of our Beloved Fraternity. I charge you all with fanning the flames of everyone around you. I know you're all up to the challenge.

Thank you all for fanning my flames these last 3 years. I love you all for it.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Bro. Brian Potvin



“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

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, Bro. Ian McIntyre,

JAL LODGE MASONIC HOME AMBASSADOR

WB Barry Mensh

JAL LODGE BLOOD COORDINATOR

WB Barry Mensh

**Drives involve the entire JAL Brethren!*



Worshipful Master

Bro. Brandon Bateman

Secretary

WB Randall Arnold, PM

Senior Steward

To be appointed

Senior Warden

Bro. Morgan Tolliver

Senior Deacon

Bro. Terrell Jones

Junior Steward

Bro. William Stevenson

Junior Warden

Bro. Brian Potvin

Junior Deacon

Bro. Willie Woodson

Marshal

Bro. Ian McIntyre

Treasurer

Bro. Harvey Miller

Chaplain

WB Barry Mensh, PM

Tiler

WB James Solomon, PM

APPENDANT BODIES

Order of the Eastern Star

Calvin A. Lloyd Chapter 81

Worthy Matron Frances Childers

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

To be assigned



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
1987 James Day*	2012 Jason Newcomer
1990 James Van Fleet	2013/2015 Robert Lane
1992 Thomas Blizzard*	2014 Carl DeSantis
1994 David Ekren	2019/20/21 Randall Arnold
1996 Ronald Bigger	2022 Barry Mensh

* = 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

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.



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

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.

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.





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.

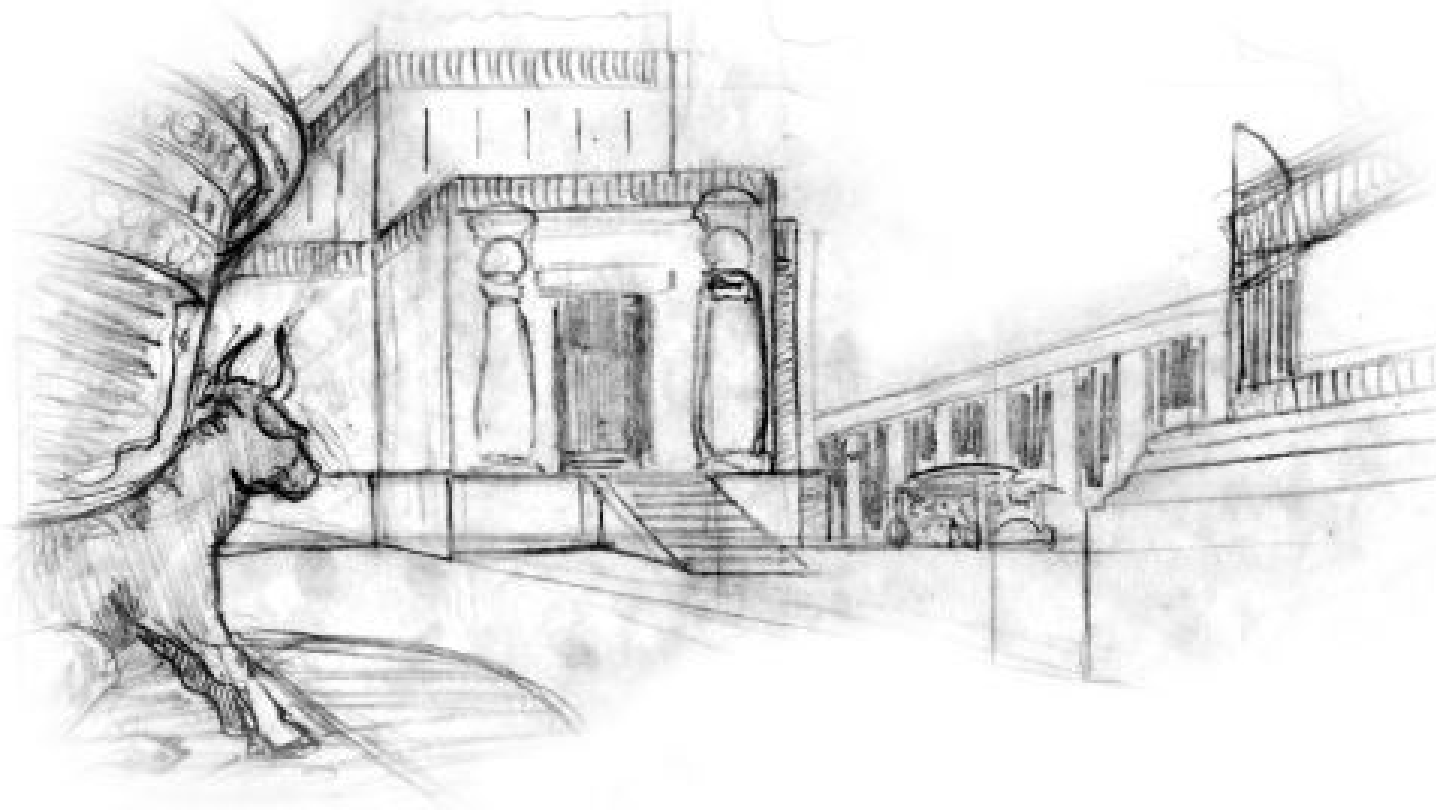
We have arrived at the dawning of a new year, decade, and century. The advancing ages of our older members will not permit the Lodge to grow as deaths, demits, and suspensions will take their respective tolls on our membership. We MUST continue concerted efforts to locate, inform, and provide petitions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