



Mandarin Masonic Lodge No. 343 F.&A.M.

August 2025

From the East...

Brethren,

I hope this message finds each of you well and enjoying the blessings of the summer season. August marks the final stretch of summer before we transition into the busier fall months, and it's an excellent time for reflection, rest, and re-commitment.

As Masons, we understand that our labor does not end when the working tools are laid down—it only changes form. Whether we're attending Lodge, volunteering in the community, mentoring a Brother, or simply striving to live by our Masonic values in everyday life, the work continues.

This month, I challenge each of you to reflect on your personal Masonic journey. Are you growing in light? Are you reaching out to a Brother you haven't seen in a while? Are you ready to recommit to your obligations not just in word, but in action?

Mandarin Lodge is preparing for an exciting fall season, with degrees, fellowship events, and renewed efforts to reach out to our Brothers and the surrounding community. Now is the perfect time to get engaged, to show up, and to strengthen the bonds that unite us.

I'd also like to take a moment to thank all those who continue to support the Lodge behind the scenes. Your quiet labors do not go unnoticed, and your commitment keeps our Lodge vibrant and strong.

Let us continue to labor in unity, act with integrity, and walk uprightly before God and man.

Fraternally,

W.: Omar Rivera

Worshipful Master

Mandarin Lodge No. 343, F. & A.M.



From the South...

Greetings Brothers,

Greetings Brothers, It's been a busy month. The electrical work in the Fellowship Hall is done, and we now have two working stoves. It made cooking for the NEFMA meeting a lot easier. We had a great turn-out for that too.

Third Thursday was a hit. If you missed it, you definitely missed a good time and great food. We had thirteen for dinner this time. It's nice to see that 3TF is growing and is back to the size I remember when I first started going. I'm also happy to see our new Brothers coming out and being active with us.

Beefeaters this month will be at Larry Mason's house, which is down the street from Todd's. Contact him for RSVP-ing

This month's 3TF, I have not had time to look into. I've been working in NC the last ten days and basically work from 8 to 8 and haven't had much free-time. On the plus side, the heatwave here was 77 at the worst and is in the mid 50s right now. I will figure out where 3TF will be and let everyone know on Thursday.

Fraternally,

Daniel Breslin

Junior Warden

Awaiting FC Degree
Bro. Jorge Garcia Butten

Petition for the Degrees
Arjan Bishka

Calendar

*Subject to minor changes.

August 2025

6– DDGM Audit
7– Stated Communication
(DDGM Official Visit)
16– First Coast DeMolay In-
stallation @ Mandarin
16– Bingo @ The Muse
20– SOI @ Barnett Lodge
21– 3TF @ (TBD)
23– MLT 6-10 @ Hide Park
27– NEFMA @ Amelia
Lodge
28– FL Grand Commandery
Bible Project (RSVP with
Todd Connor)
29– Beefeaters!!! @ Bro.
Larry Mason's (RSVP)

Note!!!

Called Communications for
EA and FC possible.

September 2025

3– Open Books @ OP Lodge
4– Stated Communication
10– JSO @ Hyde Park
11-13 Scottish Rite Reunion
18– 3TF @ (TBD)
25- FL Grand Commandery
Bible Project (RSVP with
Todd Connor)

2025 OFFICERS

Worshipful Master

Omar Rivera
(904) 864-9440

Senior Warden

Bob Davidson

Junior Warden

Daniel Breslin

Treasurer

Don Carter, PM

Secretary

Lou Govreau, PM

Marshall

Jan Lindahl, PM

Chaplain

Jack Krumbein

Senior Deacon

Carl Mankinen

Junior Deacon

Mitchel "Shane" Weaver

Senior Steward

Travis Reynolds

Junior Steward

Larry Mason

Tyler

Bobby Bethel

2025 COMMITTEES

Finance

Bob Davidson, SW
Larry Rogers, PM
Travis Reynolds, SS

Vigilance

Daniel Breslin, JW
Jack Krumbein, Chaplain
Travis Reynolds, SS

Petitions

Lou Govreau, PM, Sec
Shane Weaver, JD
Bobby Bethel, Tyler

Masonic Education

Todd Connor, PM
Lou Govreau, PM, Sec
Chairman- Ed Mann, PM

Board of Relief

Omar Rivera, WM
Bob Davidson, SW
Daniel Breslin, JW

Charity

Todd Connor, PM
Don Carter, PM, Treas
Larry Mason, JS

Lodge Property

Bob Davidson, SW
Daniel Breslin, JW
Carl M, SD

Community Relations

Jeff Starke, PM
John Young, PM
Larry Mason, JS

PAST MASTERS

1962 <i>C. P. Munger</i>	1983 <i>J. R. Knight Jr.</i>	2004 Charles Higgins
1963 <i>C. E. Futch</i>	1984 John Porter Hufman	2005 James C. Ruoff
1964 <i>W. H. Ange</i>	1985 Richard Gale Hornbrook	2006 David M. L. Randall
1965 <i>Walter Wilson Powell</i>	1986 <i>Richard Faye Mauro</i>	2007 William E. Avera III
1966 <i>M. D. Bish</i>	1987 Donald Wyman Carter	2008 George S. Blum
1967 <i>Billy Collier</i>	1988 <i>Joseph J. Frederickson</i>	2009 <i>Eddie E. Bides</i>
1968 <i>T. "Ira" Higginbotham</i>	1989 Christopher C. Ramsayer	2010 Nate Vargo
1969 <i>C. J. Bowden</i>	1990 Anthony "George" Colson	2011 Larry M. Rogers
1970 <i>R. L. Flynn</i>	1991 Henry B. Tucker	2012 Mike Minter
1971 C. R. Bell (PDDGM)	1992 <i>Elva Ray "Pete" Copeland</i>	2013 Larry M. Rogers
1972 John Ammond Peoples Jr.	1993 Walter Manfred Pace	2014 George Sarkees III
1973 <i>Earl Davis Waldrep Sr.</i>	1994 <i>Lenwood Earl Bucks</i>	2015 Angelo Echevarria
1974 <i>Donald E. Bush</i>	1995 <i>Gerald Dean Pugh</i>	2016 Jeff Starke (PDDGM)
1975 <i>Earl Herndon (PDDGM)</i>	1996 Earnest Jackson Strange	2017 David J. Gilpin
1976 <i>M. C. Cassidy</i>	1997 Jimmy J. Pace	2018/2019 Todd Connor
1977 <i>Nicholas Manos</i>	1998 <i>Siegfried Rohrbacher</i>	2020 Lou Govreau
1978 <i>Cecil Lenard Platt</i>	1999 Randy Carter	2021 John Young
1979 <i>Cedric Frank Thompson</i>	2000 <i>Paul Johnston</i>	2022 Jeff Starke (PDDGM)
1980 <i>G. Grayson</i>	2001 John Downes	2023 Edward Mann
1981 <i>T. Thompson</i>	2002 Charles Benham	2024 Jan Lindahl
1982 <i>Jerry Johnson</i>	2003 Larry M. Rogers	





BROTHERS of the ELITE 11TH

ARE CONFERRING THE FLORIDA MASONIC



RUSTY NAIL DEGREE

LOCATION

PINELAND LODGE NO. 86

190 E Peniel Rd, Palatka, FL 32177

DATE & TIME

Saturday, October 11, 2025

Breakfast @ 8:00 AM, Degree to Follow

RSVP



ATTIRE

Coat & Tie Preferred

Polo & Slacks Acceptable

Approved for distribution by M.-W.: Taleb Atala,
Grand Master, on July 15, 2025.

INFORMATION or QUESTIONS

11thdistrictfl@gmail.com



Visit us at www.11thdistrictfl.com



Interest in becoming a Mason
Visit www.beafreemason.org



FLORIDA FREEMASONS ANNUAL WASHINGTON D. C. TRIP VIII

Thursday December 4th -Sunday December 7, 2025



2025 Preliminary Itinerary

Please RSVP to FLDCTRIP@gmail.com Book your flights and hotel ASAP.

Thursday Dec 4th Arrive Washington D.C. at your leisure it's a free evening, however, we have introductions and will draw names for the wreath ceremony participants at 6:00 p.m. in the hotel lobby. Then we go eat somewhere in groups.

Friday Dec. 5th Morning: Friday Festivities are for the Brethren and include breakfast at hotel, Motorcoach transportation for the day to Arlington National Cemetery, Cost of Wreath (Florida Brothers Only), including Cemetery Trolley Tour, Tyled Meeting, and Dinner. Attire is SUIT AND TIE/BUSINESS ATTIRE. This is a day trip for the Brothers. **TOTAL COST FOR FRIDAY EVENTS is \$150.00 per Brother**

Breakfast 6:30—7:15 a.m. at hotel, Motorcoach leaves at 7:15 a.m. to Arlington National Cemetery to arrive at 8:00 a.m. w/ Trolley Tour to Tomb of the Unknowns. Public Wreath Laying Ceremony by our Grand Master and three Brothers chosen by Lottery, at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. After Ceremony the Trolley will take us on the balance of tour. Reboard Motorcoach. We will then transport to some historical sites. We are trying to put together a Tyled Meeting somewhere with lunch or banquet to follow with presentations or catered banquet for dinner of some sort. Following dinner we will reboard Motorcoach to visit the Lincoln, Viet Nam, Korean, and Iwo Jima Memorials. We have changed the late evening up in the past, therefore it is subject to change on the fly for weather and or additional monument visits.

Saturday Dec. 6 Morning Free Time: Breakfast at Hotel 7:30 a.m.

Several Excursions are being planned by different Brothers and all will be shared in the next flyer. In the past we have visited: Museum of the Bible, The George Washington National Masonic Memorial, Congressional Cemetery, Smithsonian, and National Archives and others, you do what you want, it's a free morning.

Saturday Afternoon Leave hotel by Uber around 2:15ish to Potomac Lodge No. 5 Reception at approx. 3:00 p.m. DDGM, PDDGM, GRAND LINE WEAR TUX. All others wear Business Attire Installation of Lodge Officers. Potomac Lodge No.5 Georgetown. 4:00 p.m. After the Installation a ticketed Holiday Party is available. A link to purchase tickets will be sent on an updated email when available.

Sunday or Monday: Return home at your will and pleasure.

2025 Committee R. W.: Brothers Steven Silvers, Alan Cox, Randy Bolen, Greg Wynn, Ernest Catsulis, R. W.: Jeremy Barnes (DC Liaison)



TO RSVP

Email: FLDCTRIP@gmail.com

or

RW Bill Catsulis 352-804-3981



Hotel:

Holiday Inn Arlington at Ballston
4610 N. Fairfax Dr. Arlington VA
703-243-9800 www.hiarlington.com
Group Name: Florida Freemasons

Double Rooms \$129.00 King \$129 + Tax per night which includes full breakfast for two in room. Room Block is from Wednesday Dec 3th-Monday Dec 8th for those that want to come in early and stay later.

Flight Info / Transportation to DC
Book Your Flights to arrive on Thursday Dec 4th as close to noon as possible returning Sunday Dec. 7th, some Brothers will come in a day early and leave a day later. Groups Leave from Tampa, Orlando, Jacksonville, West Palm, on nonstops to Washington Reagan (DCA)

Driving: If you have in interest in driving, there are some Brothers who would gladly help with expenses, rather than flying.

Approved for Distribution by MW Taleb T. Atala, Grand Master, July 30, 2025