

**IN WAITING**  
**PETITIONING CANDIDATES**  
Mr. Nicholas Brando - Freehold  
Mr. Jason Treat – Jackson  
**ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE**  
-  
**FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE**  
Bro. EA Anthony John Ferro, III  
Bro. EA Jio Francois  
Bro. EA Mehul Sompura  
**MASTER MASON DEGREE**  
-  
**MASTER MASON EXAM**  
Bro. FC Jonathan Abadir  
Bro. FC Noel Delgado  
Bro. FC James Long  
Bro. FC Jose Ruiz  
Bro. FC Juan Vasquez, Jr. – Semper Fidelis #680, NC  
**NJ GRAND LODGE**  
[www.NewJerseyGrandLodge.org](http://www.NewJerseyGrandLodge.org)  
**MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER**  
Most Worshipful J. Eugene Margroff  
201-362-3982; [njgm2024@gmail.com](mailto:njgm2024@gmail.com)  
*(Communications to the MWGM should go through the DDGM)*  
*(17<sup>th</sup> District Representatives)*  
**RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND TREASURER**  
Most Worshipful Douglas R. Policastro, PGM  
**17<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER**  
Right Worshipful Robert E. DePetro, Jr.  
732-245-7921, [bobdepetro@gmail.com](mailto:bobdepetro@gmail.com)  
**17<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT RITUAL INSTRUCTOR**  
Right Worshipful Christopher J. Harris  
732-670-5992; [navlodgewm2020@gmail.com](mailto:navlodgewm2020@gmail.com)  
**17<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT BLOOD DRIVE CHAIRMAN**  
Right Worshipful Nicolas A. Compitello, PGC  
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**17<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICER**  
Brother Kevin P. Cotter, Society of King Solomon  
732-556-7740; [cottereuph@me.com](mailto:cottereuph@me.com)  
**JUNIOR GRAND DEACON**  
Right Worshipful John D. Schiess, Sr.  
**AIDE TO THE GRAND MASTER**  
Right Worshipful Arthur J. Campbell, PGC  
**GRAND CHAPLAINS**  
Right Worshipful Ciro de los Reyes  
908.902.9872; [cdelosr@aol.com](mailto:cdelosr@aol.com)  
Right Worshipful Kenneth A. Long  
732.608.4583; [klong1548@gmail.com](mailto:klong1548@gmail.com)  
**HONORARY MEMBERS**  
RW Michael J. Carducci, PDDGM, PA2GM 2008  
MW Glenn R Trautman, PGM 2012  
RW Richard W Holst, PDDGM 2013  
RW G. Roger Woodman, PJGS, PDRI 2021  
RW Harry Young, PD of the South 2022  
RW Omar S. Morris, DGM 2023  
WB Herbert Hall 2024  
**AFFILIATED PAST MASTERS**  
Franklin K. Bahrs (P#118) 1971  
Barry Magid (B#1165) 1979  
Fred Berenbroick (W#184) 2001  
Adam M. Reich (AJ#142) 2010, 2012  
William M. Manigold (O#89) 2011  
Denis De Leon (HA#41) 2013  
Michael Emerson (G#88) 2014, 2022  
Robert T. Sullivan (HA#41) 2014  
Glenn A. Cantor (O#89) 2017  
Robert E. DePetro (O#89) 2019  
Chris J. Harris (N#9) 2020  
Steven J. Hertel (N#9) 2023

**LIVING PAST MASTERS**  
Paul C. Hankins 1983  
Mark I. Krogh 1989  
Derek G. Smith 1991  
William R. Bailey 1992, 1998  
Gordon R. Prochnow, Jr. 1995, 2000  
Andrew J. Weinstein 1996  
Martin L. Perfit, PGC 1997  
Mendel White 1999  
Edgar A. Schmidt, PGC 2002  
Albert F. Baldwin III, PGC 2003, 2007  
Robert W. Oliver 2005  
Carl S. Andreoni 2008  
Michael L. Caprio Jr. 2009  
Richard E. Cavanaugh 2010  
Albert M. Barbato 2012  
Edward S. Keller 2013  
Frank A. Girello 2014  
Daniel F. Xavier, PGC 2015  
Ralph G. DePalma, III 2016  
Nicolas A. Compitello, PGC 2017  
John Perri, Jr. 2018  
Kenneth A. Long, GC 2019  
Peter De Lucia, PA2GM 2020  
Andrew M. Rizzitello 2021  
Lee J. Friedland 2022  
Christopher M. Curcia 2023  
Maliek S. Olden 2024

**2025 COMMITTEES**  
Committee Chair in **Bold**  
**CHARITY**  
**WB Lee Friedland**, WB John Perri, B. Rich Gross  
**EDUCATION**  
**RW Peter De Lucia**, RW Nic Compitello, B. Kevin Cotter  
**FINANCE**  
**WB Fred Berenbroick**, B. Christian Barbu, B. Joe Nuzzo  
**FUNDRAISING**  
**B. Matt Kuziemski**, B. Al Yodakis, B. Kevin Vogel  
**HOUSE**  
**RW Ken Long**, B. Joe Fellion, B. Eric Schilling, B. Greg Davicsin  
**MENTORING**  
**B. Mike Thompson**, B. Lee Samaha, B. Bill Frueh  
**RELIEF**  
**WB Ralph De Palma**, WB Chris Curcia, B. Dave Dziedziak  
**RITUAL**  
**RW G. Roger Woodman**, RW Al Baldwin, RW Peter De Lucia,  
WB Andrew Rizzitello

**TRUSTEES**  
WB Robert T. Sullivan (Exp. 2025)  
RW Peter De Lucia (Exp. 2026)  
WB Maliek S. Olden (Exp. 2027)

**2025 LODGE OFFICERS**  
**WORSHIPFUL MASTER:**  
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*Proxy to Grand Lodge*  
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**JUNIOR STEWARD:**  
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732-616-4755; [gron5611@gmail.com](mailto:gron5611@gmail.com)  
**HISTORIAN:**  
Michael M. Thompson, SOKS (Rachel)  
856-816-1217, [mmthomp1@gmail.com](mailto:mmthomp1@gmail.com)  
**TYLER:**  
WB Maliek S. Olden (Vanessa)  
732-809-1234, [oldenfamily1987@gmail.com](mailto:oldenfamily1987@gmail.com)



**OLIVE BRANCH LODGE**  
**NO. 16**  
**FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS**  
Established 1849

2 Dutch Lane Road  
Freehold, New Jersey 07728

Regular Communications  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 7:30PM

**SEPTEMBER 2025**

[www.OliveBranchLodge.org](http://www.OliveBranchLodge.org)  
Find us on [Facebook](#) (OBL16)  
Follow us on [Instagram](#) (olivebranch16)

**Our Mission Statement**

***FREEMASONRY promotes a way of life that binds like-minded men with the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Trust in order to serve God, Family, Country, Neighbor and Self!***

## SEPTEMBER

Dinner is at 6:30PM every Tuesday evening.

### September 2: Rehearsal

- Trustees Meeting @ 6PM
- Advanced Stations EA° Rehearsal
- Fellowship

### September 9th: Regular Communication

- Presentation by RW William Krzwieck
  - *Tunnel to Towers Foundation*
  - Open to All Masons
- Summer Recap
- Balloting on Petitions
- Business of the Lodge
- Fellowship

### September 16: Rehearsal

- Advanced Stations EA° Rehearsal
- Fellowship

- September 18 (Thursday) at 7:00PM:**  
**District Lodge of Instruction – Caesarea #64**
- 60 Osborn Street, Keyport
  - Open to all Master Masons / Business Casual Attire
  - Officers’ Attendance Strongly Encouraged
  - *Come support your Lodge and your District!*

### September 23: Regular Communication

- Presentation by Molly Pitcher Chapter #198, OES
  - *The History of the Order of the Eastern Star*
  - Open to the Public
- Business of the Lodge
- Fellowship

### September 30: Rehearsal

- Advanced Stations EA° Rehearsal
- Fellowship

## 17<sup>TH</sup> MASONIC DISTRICT

[www.facebook.com/NJ17th](https://www.facebook.com/NJ17th)

Navesink No. 9  
Caesarea No. 64  
Ocean No. 89  
Durand No. 179  
Matawan No. 192



1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays

## MASTER’S MESSAGE

### Obligation

**“You cheat yourself when you don’t do what it is you’re supposed to. You have an obligation to learn everything that you can.”**

### - Marla Gibbs - American, Actress

With a resounding clack of the gavel in the East, our yearly Masonic refreshment has drawn to a close. It was an eventful and inspiring first half of the summer, but during the second half, time was found to reflect on our Masonic works. The Master Mason Degree, specifically, being the culmination of the candidates’ entrance into our Fraternity and the obligation that binds the three degrees. It details what it is we have promised to do for ourselves, our Brothers, and the world.

First and most importantly, our obligation to ourselves. If we are not true to ourselves and use the tools that we came to this Fraternity to find, we cannot begin to work towards our better future. I have mentioned it many times and will continue to bring it up: perspective. Masonry is full of and constructed within many angles, it is also a beautiful system of allegory veiled in symbolism. Using what we know as Masons and what we have learned from being a Brother, we can use new angles to get a different perspective on anything. Be diligent in your practice of our craft, its rewards are as fruitful as our labors.

Using our first obligation, we can see what is needed to be a better Brother. To be a dependable person to our chosen family and be the support in good and difficult times. To help each other get better, to bring new perspectives and teach each other what we need to be good men, true and tried. We have chosen to walk a difficult path but never forget you will always have a friend and Brother to guide you.

Finally, but no less important than the previous two obligations, is our broader and most noble goal of bringing our light to the world and living in peace and harmony. We lay out the tools and strive to make ourselves and our Brothers better men, not for the goal of selfishly increasing personal worth or power but for the more noble purpose of understanding. We use our work and our obligations so that

we may become columns of peace and prosperity to the world.

By living our lessons and holding true to all our obligations, bringing our perspective into the world will always make a difference and positive change. The lessons we learn are not just for the Masonic community, but for the world as a whole. If we can reach one person in our lives and show them a different perspective of the world, not to change their mind, but to show them we truly are all so similar.

My Brothers, I cannot express my gratitude and awe of our Fraternity. May the Grand Architect’s light always shine on us and the world. May we all be true to ourselves, each other, and the world. And remember, always stay steadfast in the due performance of the same.

Faternally,

*WM William D. Bilbow, III*

## FROM THE SECRETARY’S DESK

Brothers, **2025 Dues Notices** have been sent out via regular mail and/or email. 2025’s dues breakdown are as follows:

- Grand Lodge Operating - \$40.00
- Grand Lodge Reserve Fund - \$12.00
- Grand Lodge Capital Fund - \$3.00
- Masonic Charity Foundation - \$6.00
- Insurance - \$6.25
- George Washington Masonic Memorial - \$1.00
- Rainbow for Girls - \$1.50
- DeMolay - \$1.50
- Masonic Renewal Committee - \$0.50
- Trenton Historic Masonic Temple - \$3.00
- Grandview Fee - \$1.25
- Lodge Assessment - \$124.00

**2025 Total (Regular Members): \$200.00**

**2025 Total (Dual Members): \$124.00**

### Online Payment of Dues

Dues can be paid online at [paypal.me/OBL16](https://paypal.me/OBL16).

If you choose to use this eCommerce option, please include a processing fee of \$6.25 for Regular Members (total of \$206.25) or \$4.00 for Dual Members (total of \$128.00). Unfortunately, this fee is non-negotiable and is assessed to us by PayPal.

## GRAND LODGE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Contact the Secretary for more information on any event.

### *See Grandview and “The Garden State Mason” Communications Regarding:*

- 2<sup>nd</sup> North vs. South Festive Board (9/27)
- Grand Marshal/Secretary to GM Reception (10/4)
- SGW’s Night at the Races (10/18)
- Masonic Leadership Conference (10/24-10/26)
- Grand Master’s Charity Ball (10/29)
- Grand Lodge Annual Comm. @ Tropicana (11/4-11/6)
- 2026 Grand Master’s Reception (11/15)
- Other Education Committee Events including Lodge Leadership Academy Zoom Presentations
- Other Upcoming Events in our Grand Jurisdiction

## LODGE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Contact the Secretary for more information on any event.

### *Iris Assembly #31 – Installation of Officers*

Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30PM – Collation After  
Olive Branch Lodge #16 - All are welcome to attend.  
Business attire is requested (no jeans).

### *Advanced Stations EA°*

Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>; Dinner at 6:30PM; Lodge at 7:00PM  
Bro. Kevin Vogel as Worshipful Master for both sections.  
Bro. Lee Samaha is giving the EA° Lecture.

### *10<sup>th</sup> Annual Scotchtobefest*

Scotch Tasting and Cigar Smoking Extravaganza  
Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00PM  
Join us for a strolling, table-side tasting presentation, with food pairings & informative discussions!  
50/50 and Basket Raffle Prizes, too!

\$50/person includes tastings, pairings, and cigars.  
Open to Brother Masons and their Family & Friends  
21 and older. Please drink and smoke responsibly.

To RSVP or for information, email [tasting@olivebranchlodge.org](mailto:tasting@olivebranchlodge.org).  
Tickets can be paid for at the door via cash, check or credit card or purchased online at [paypal.me/OBL16](https://paypal.me/OBL16).

### *Central Jersey Candidate’s Night*

Hosted by the Grand Lodge of New Jersey  
Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6PM  
Masonic Fellowship Center – 1114 Oxmead Road, Burlington  
6PM Social, 6:30PM Buffet, 7PM Candidate Presentations  
*Time confirmation and more information forthcoming*