

IN WAITING

PETITIONING CANDIDATES

Tyler DeRosa - Freehold
 Joshua Klapcik - Colts Neck
 Anthony Malet - Old Bridge
 Edward Mullins - Marlboro
 Michael Pamplona - Aberdeen

ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE

Eric Vitale

FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE

Bro. EA Nicholas Brando
 Bro. EA Anthony John Ferro, III
 Bro. EA Jio Francois
 Bro. EA Mehul Sompura
 Bro. EA Jason Treat

MASTER MASON DEGREE

MASTER MASON EXAM

NJ GRAND LODGE

www.NewJerseyGrandLodge.org

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER

Most Worshipful Omar S. Morris
 718-809-7294; omarmorris@gmail.com

(Communications to the MWGM should go through the DDGM)

(17th District Representatives)

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND TREASURER

Most Worshipful Douglas R. Pollicastro, PGM
 908-910-1833; pollicastro21@aol.com

17TH DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Right Worshipful Christopher J. Harris
 732-670-5992; naylodewm2020@gmail.com

17TH DISTRICT RITUAL INSTRUCTOR

Right Worshipful Glenn A. Cantor
 908-596-0805; glenncantor@gmail.com

17TH DISTRICT BLOOD DRIVE CHAIRMAN

Brother Pete Gianguzzi
 908-770-9028 - pgianguzzi@yahoo.com

17TH DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICER

Brother Kevin P. Cotter, Society of King Solomon
 732-556-7740; cotteruph@me.com

GRAND TYLER

Right Worshipful Adam M. Reich
 732-995-1683; amreich@gmail.com

AIDE TO THE GRAND MASTER

Right Worshipful Ciro de los Reyes
 908.902.9872; cdelosr@aol.com

GRAND CHAPLAINS

Right Worshipful Joseph C. De Pasquale
 908-770-7190; firemanjd@gmail.com
 Right Worshipful Martin J. Anton
 732-691-1171; mjajap@gmail.com

HONORARY MEMBERS

RW Michael J. Carducci, PAGM	2008
MW Glenn R. Trautman, PGM	2012
MW Richard W. Holst, PDDGM	2013
RW Gary J. Olsen, PSGW	2018
RW G. Roger Woodman, PIGS	2021
RW Harry Young, PD of the South	2022
MW Omar S. Morris, MWGM	2023
WB Herbert Hall	2024

AFFILIATED PAST MASTERS

Franklin K. Bahrs (P#118)	1971
Fred W. Berenbrock (W#184)	2001
Adam M. Reich (A#142)	2010, 2012
William M. Margold (O#89)	2011
Michael D. DePietro (H#404)	2013
Michael J. Emanuel (G#88)	2014, 2022
Robert T. Sullivan (H#441)	2014
Glenn A. Cantor (G#89)	2017
Robert E. DePietro (O#489)	2019
Chris J. Harris (N#9)	2020
Steven J. Hertel (N#9)	2023
Fouad E. Kashouty (M#150)	2025
Steven B. Vitale (H#199, GLNY)	2025

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
Edgar A. Schmidt, PGC	2002
Albert F. Baldwin III, PGC	2003, 2007
Robert W. Oliver	2005
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, PGC	2019
Peter De Lucia, PA2GM	2020
Andrew M. Rizzitello	2021
Lee J. Friedland	2022
Christopher M. Curcia	2023
Maliek S. Olden	2024
William D. Bilbow, III	2025

2026 COMMITTEES

Committee Chair in **Bold**

CHARITY

B. Juan Vasquez, Jr., WB Lee Friedland, WB John Perri, B. Greg Davicsin

FINANCE

WB Fred Berenbroick, B. Jose Ruiz, B. William Frueh

FUNDRAISING

B. Matt Kuziemski, B. Al Yodakis, B. Kevin Vogel, B. Al Yodakis, B. Nicholas Brando

HOUSE

RW Ken Long, WB Steve Vitale, B. James Long, B. William Frueh

MENTORING

B. Mike Thompson, B. Lee Samaha, B. Noel Delgado

RELIEF

WB Ralph De Palma, B. Jonny Abadir, B. James Long

RITUAL

WB William Bilbow, WB Maliek Olden, RW Albert Baldwin, RW Robert DePietro

FINAL HONORS

For Masonic Funeral Services, please contact Brother Kevin Vogel
 631-965-9168, kevin.w.vogel@gmail.com

TRUSTEES

RW Peter De Lucia (Exp. 2026)
 WB Maliek S. Olden (Exp. 2027)
 WB Robert T. Sullivan (Exp. 2028)

2026 LODGE OFFICERS

WORSHIPFUL MASTER:

WB Christopher M. Curcia (Rosa)
 732-673-0117, chris.curcia@yahoo.com

SENIOR WARDEN:

Matthew J. Kuziemski (Angela)
 908-692-3121, matthewkuziemski@gmail.com

JUNIOR WARDEN:

Albert D. Yodakis, SOKS (Janeen)
 732-996-7076, ayodakis@gmail.com

TREASURER:

WB Ralph G. DePalma III (Gina)
 732-682-3665, treasurer@olivebranchlodge.org

SECRETARY:

RW Adam M. Reich, Grand Tyler, SOKS (Tara)
 732-305-0380, secretary@olivebranchlodge.org

SENIOR DEACON:

Kevin W. Vogel, SOKS (Emily)
 631-965-9168, kevin.w.vogel@gmail.com

Proxy to Grand Lodge

JUNIOR DEACON:
 Joseph E. Fellion (Debra-Ann)
 732-207-8339, joefellion@gmail.com

CHAPLAIN:

James A. Long (Kelly)
 732-861-8057, jamesalong65@gmail.com

MARSHAL:

William Frueh (Kristen)
 609-495-5302, bfrueh@gmail.com

SENIOR MASTER OF CEREMONIES:

David A. Dziedziak
 732-672-7203, DavidAdamDziedziak@gmail.com

JUNIOR MASTER OF CEREMONIES:

Lee R. Samaha
 732-685-7724, leesamaha@gmail.com

SENIOR STEWARD:

Ronald J. Gianettino (Dianne)
 732-616-4755; gron5611@gmail.com

JUNIOR STEWARD:

Noel Delgado (Ann)
 732-895-5553, noeldelgado1@mac.com

HISTORIAN:

Michael M. Thompson, SOKS (Rachel)
 856-816-1217, mmthomp1@gmail.com

TYLER:

William D. Bilbow, III (Danielle)
 732-740-8181, wdbmason@gmail.com



OLIVE BRANCH LODGE

NO. 16

FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS

Established 1849

2 Dutch Lane Road
 Freehold, New Jersey 07728

Regular Communications
 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:30PM

FEBRUARY 2026

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!

FEBRUARY

Dinner is at 6:30PM every Tuesday evening.
(Please consider donating to our Steward's Box!)

February 3

Rehearsal

- Trustees Meeting @ 6PM
- 1st Section EA° Rehearsal
- Fellowship

February 10

Regular Communication

- *Presentation by B. Michael Thompson, Historian*
 - “OB16 History and Legacy”
 - Open to All Masons
- Balloting on Petitions
- Business of the Lodge
- Fellowship

February 15 (Sunday) George Washington Birthday Breakfast

- See “Lodge Announcements”

February 17

Rehearsal

- Full EA° Rehearsal
- Fellowship

February 19 (Thursday) at 7:00PM:

District Lodge of Instruction – Navesink #9

- 152 Maple Avenue – Red Bank
- Open to all Master Masons / Suite and Tie Attire
- Officers’ Attendance Strongly Encouraged
- *Come support your Lodge and your District!*

February 24

Regular Communication

- *Entered Apprentice Degree*
- Business of the Lodge
- Fellowship

17TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.facebook.com/NJ17th

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



1st & 3rd Wednesdays
1st & 3rd Mondays
2nd & 4th Thursdays
2nd & 4th Mondays
1st & 3rd Tuesdays

MASTER'S MESSAGE

February is the month of St. Valentine's. This makes me think of the Marvel Comic Story of Thor, the God of Thunder. As you may already know, Thor uses his hammer to wield lightning and thunder as his superpower. During a battle with his sister Hela, Thor's hammer is destroyed, leaving Thor seemingly powerless. In a second battle with his sister to protect his world of Asgard, she all but defeats him. But before she strikes the fatal blow, Thor has a vision of his father Odin. Thor tells his father he has lost the battle because he does not have his hammer. To which Odin replies “You are the God of thunder, not the God of hammers”, basically reminding Thor that his power resides in himself, the hammer is more of a guide.

This is a great story to think about, especially during the month of St. Valentine's. While this Saint is associated with Romance, he was first widely known for the love and charity he displayed towards his fellow human beings. He is the patron saint of beekeepers and gave his life, literally, to defend his faith. To tie these two together, the world needs Freemasons more than ever. Brotherly love and moral virtue. Your kind offices are open to every human being. We must always remember what we are. Modern day “hammers” such as Thor’s, can be politics, religion, money, culture, nations, etc. They all guide us to who and what we strive to be. But make no mistake how you act and what your views are, are yours and yours to own. Once you remove your hammer or guide, you must stand by your beliefs and acts by yourself, not because someone or something says so as part of XYZ organization or belief, but because you are a man looking to do good in the world, even to those who we would call our literal or figurative enemies. It takes a strong man to have understanding and compassion.

In the end, Thor outfights his sister, but he does not defeat her. He saves all Asgardians and evacuates the destruction of his world. His sister, in her greed and effort to enslave the people of Asgard, gets consumed by the fire she started on Asgard. Thrown into this fire by the beast, Surtur, she inadvertently releases. Thor, who initially turns down the crown, becomes King, because he earns it. While his sister Hela, who forces herself into power, is Queen over ashes. Brethren, be kind to all human beings, and expect nothing in return. Always do and say what is right; especially when no one is watching. You live forever with what you say and do. Enjoy St Valentines day, and may Brotherly love prevail!

WB Christopher Curcia

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

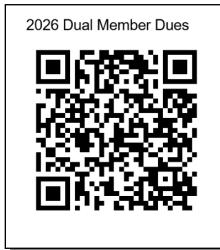
Brothers, 2026 Dues Notices have been sent out via regular mail and/or email. 2026 Dues are as follows:

2026 Total (Regular Members):	\$210.00
2026 Total (Dual Members):	\$134.00
2026 Total (GL Assessed Members):	\$ 76.00

Online Payment of Dues

Aside from remitting dues via cash or check, they can also be paid online via **PayPal, Apple Pay, Venmo, or Credit/Debit Card**. If you choose to use this eCommerce option, there is a non-negotiable processing fee assessed to us from PayPal. The fee is added as “tax” to the amount owed. Scan the appropriate QRCode below to open the payment portal.

Advance payment is greatly appreciated!



Please note: Payments through Grandview or Amity have not been setup. Please do not use these options.

Make sure to include your full name as part of the payment note. Please contact the Secretary if you have any questions.

Have you moved recently or changed your contact information? Please either update your profile in Grandview or contact the Secretary so that he can do so. We can't stay in touch with you if we don't know how to reach you!

If you haven't signed up with Grandview, please do so as soon as possible as all membership coordination and communications are through that system.

GRAND LODGE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Contact the Secretary for more information on any event.

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

- Blood Drives throughout the Jurisdiction
- RW Glenn Visscher JGW’s Reception (2/21)
- Grand Master’s Gala (3/15)
- Roast of RW Bud Madgey, SGW (3/26)
- RW Bruce Golway, DGM’s “A Night in Nashville” (3/28)
- RW Bruce Golway, DGM’s Masonic Clay Shoot (5/3)
- Grand Master’s Golf Outing (6/1)
- Grand Master’s Cruise (7/30-8/8)
- Other Upcoming Events in our Grand Jurisdiction
- The “Voyager Passport” Experience for Traveling Masons

LODGE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Contact the Secretary for more information on any event.

Builder's Club Reservations

Our Builder's Club annual reservation fee is due. \$50 for an open spot, a bottle donation for renewals. Any renewals not received by March 1st, 2026, will forfeit the spot. See RW Ken Long to settle your tab.

Artificer's Reservations

Our Builder's Club annual reservation fee is due. \$50 for renewals or an open spot. Any renewals not received by March 1st, 2026, will forfeit the spot. See B. Mike Tompson to settle your tab.

George Washington Birthday Breakfast

Sunday, February 15, 2026 @ 8:30AM
Open to Masons, Friends, and Family
Adults \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door.
Children: requested donation of \$5
Presentation on Bro. Theodore Roosevelt
By the Brothers of Olive Branch Lodge #16

Freehold Borough's St. Patrick's Day Parade

Sunday, March 15, 2026, at 11:00AM
West Main and McLean Streets to Elks Point

17th & 20th Districts Reception

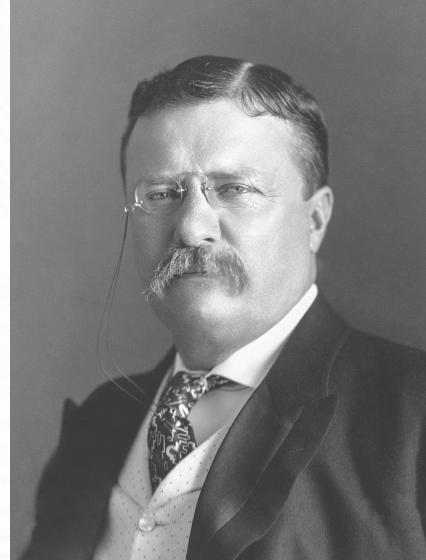
And Official Visit of MW Morris, Grand Master
Wednesday, March 25th, 2026
Jumping Brook Country Club, Neptune City
5PM Social, 6PM Dinner, 7PM Reception
Ticket Information Coming Soon

17th District Grand Lodge of Instruction

Thursday, June 18th, 2026, at Olive Branch #16



Free & Accepted Masons

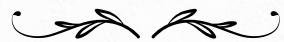
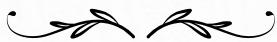


George Washington's Birthday Breakfast

Sunday, February 15, 2026

2 Dutch Lane Road · Freehold, NJ 07728

Doors open at 8:30am, Breakfast at 9am



BREAKFAST MENU

Scrambled Eggs · Bacon · Sausage ·

Hash Browns · Pancakes ·

Fresh Fruit · Crepes

ENTERTAINMENT

Special Presentations by the Brothers of
Olive Branch, Celebrating the Life of
Bro. Theodore Roosevelt · Raffles/50-50

Open to family and friends

Adults: \$10 per person pre-sale, \$15 at the door

Children: Requested donation of \$5

See Bro. Matt Kuziemski for tickets or scan to purchase online.



Questions? Email secretary@olivebranchlodge.org
www.olivebranchlodge.org