

IN WAITING

(Mentor Noted)

PETITIONING CANDIDATES

Anthony John Ferro, III – Point Pleasant Beach
Dan Miller – Freehold
Mehul Sompura – Freehold

ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE

FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE

Bro. EA Jonathan Abadir
Bro. EA Noel Delgado
Bro. EA James Long
Bro. EA Jose Ruiz
Bro. EA Juan Vasquez, Jr. – Semper Fidelis #680, NC

MASTER MASON DEGREE

MASTER MASON EXAM

Bro. MM Noah Canderazzi
Bro. MM Gregory Daviccin
Bro. MM William Frueh

N.J. GRAND LODGE

www.NewJerseyGrandLodge.org

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER

Most Worshipful Leonard Vander Horn
973-886-9486; lvanderhorn@gmail.com

*(Communications to the MWGM should go thru the DDGM)
(17th District Representatives)*

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND TREASURER

Most Worshipful Douglas R. PolICASTRO, PGM
908-910-1833; policastro21@aol.com

17TH DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Right Worshipful Robert E. DePetro, Jr.
732-245-7921; bobdepetro@gmail.com

17TH DISTRICT RITUAL INSTRUCTOR

Right Worshipful Christopher J. Harris
732-670-5992; navlodgewm2020@gmail.com

17TH DISTRICT BLOOD DRIVE CHAIRMAN

Right Worshipful Nicolas A. Compitello, PGC
609-464-4192; nacl42@hotmail.com

17TH DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICER

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

SENIOR GRAND DEACON

Right Worshipful Roger R. Busico
732-770-9771; roger.busico@gmail.com

AIDE TO THE GRAND MASTER

Right Worshipful Robert Patrick Kennedy
732-462-7313; rpkenedy22@aol.com

GRAND CHAPLAIN

Right Worshipful Martin L. Spacht
609-619-1071; meparlit@comcast.net

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, SGW	2023
WB Herbert Hall	2024

AFFILIATED PAST MASTERS

Franklin K. Bahrs (P#118)	1971
Thomas E. Larson (M#194)	1976, 1985
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
John R. Moss	2011
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	2019
Peter De Lucia, PA2GM	2020
Andrew Rizzitello	2021
Lee Friedland	2022
Christopher Curcia	2023

2024 COMMITTEES

Committee Chair in **Bold**

CHARITY

WB Lee Friedland, WB John Perri, B. Rich Gross

EDUCATION

RW Peter De Lucia, RW Nic Compitello, WB Ken Long

FINANCE

B. Christian Barbu, WB Andrew Rizzitello SOKS, B. Joe Nuzzo

FUNDRAISING

B. Matt Kuziemski, B. Ben Doda, B. Matt Knice,
B. Bob Merritt, B. Al Yodakis SOKS,

HOUSE

WB Ken Long, B. Ben Doda, B. Mike Thompson SOKS,

B. Joe Fellion, B. Eric Schilling, B. Kevin Vogel SOKS

MENTORING

B. Mike Thompson SOKS, B. Matt Kuziemski, B. Lee Samaha

RELIEF

WB Ralph De Palma, WB Chris Curcia, B. Dave Dziedzick

RITUAL

RW G. Roger Woodman, RW Al Baldwin, RW Peter De Lucia,

WB Andrew Rizzitello SOKS

175TH ANNIVERSARY

RW Dan Xavier, WB Fred Berenbroick, WB Ken Long,

B. Matt Knice, Br. Mike Thompson SOKS

TRUSTEES

WB Paul C. Hankins (Exp. 2024)

WB Robert T. Sullivan (Exp. 2025)

WB Chris Curcia (Exp. 2026)

2024 LODGE OFFICERS

WORSHIPFUL MASTER:

Maliek S. Olden (Vanessa)

732-809-1234, oldenfamily1987@gmail.com

SENIOR WARDEN:

William D. Bilbow, III (Danielle)

732-740-8181, wdbmason@gmail.com

JUNIOR WARDEN:

Benjamin J. Doda

732-580-7276, benjamindoda@protonmail.com

TREASURER:

WB Ralph G. DePalma III (Gina)

732-682-3665, treasurer@olivebranchlodge.org

SECRETARY:

WB Adam M. Reich, SOKS (Tara)

732-305-0380, secretary@olivebranchlodge.org

SENIOR DEACON:

Matthew J. Kuziemski

908-692-3121, matthewkuziemski@gmail.com

Proxy to Grand Lodge

JUNIOR DEACON:

Albert D. Yodakis, SOKS (Janeen)

732-966-7076, ayodakis@gmail.com

CHAPLAIN:

Lee R. Samaha

732-685-7724, leesamaha@gmail.com

MARSHAL:

Michael M. Thompson, SOKS (Rachel)

856-816-1217, mmthomp1@gmail.com

SENIOR MASTER OF CEREMONIES:

Kevin W. Vogel, SOKS (Emily)

631-965-9168, kevin.w.vogel@gmail.com

JUNIOR MASTER OF CEREMONIES:

Joseph E. Fellion (Debra-Ann)

732-207-8339, joefellion@gmail.com

SENIOR STEWARD:

David A. Dziedzick

732-672-7203, davidadziedzi@gmail.com

JUNIOR STEWARD:

Joseph A. Nuzzo (Mary)

732-236-1146, nuzzoj@verizon.net

HISTORIAN:

Matthew J. Knice (Yeralis)

732-312-7886, mknice@kobrand.com

TYLER:

WB Christopher M. Curcia (Rosa)

732-673-0117, chris.curcia@yahoo.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

NOVEMBER 2024

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!

NOVEMBER

Dinner is at 6:30PM every Tuesday evening.

November 5: Fellowship Night

- Trustees Meeting @ 6PM
- Fellowship

November 12: Regular Communication – NPD Ballot

- Presentation by RW Glenn Visscher, DDGM 11th
 - “Masonic Protocol”
 - *Open to Master Masons Only*
- 2024 Non-Payment of Dues Ballot
- Business of the Lodge

November 19: Rehearsal

- 2025 Officers Opening/Closing Rehearsal
- PM Qualifications Rehearsal (Library)
- Fellowship

November 21 (Thursday) @ 7:00PM:

District Lodge of Instruction – Olive Branch #16

- Open to all Master Masons / Suit & Tie Attire
- Officers’ Attendance Strongly Encouraged
- Come support your Lodge and your District!

November 26: Regular Communication

- 2025 Elected Line Nominations
- Committee Reports
 - All Committee Chairs are to attend and present in person or submit their reports in PDF format via email to the WM and Secretary by Sunday, November 24th.
- Business of the Lodge

17TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.facebook.com/NJ17th

Navesink No. 9	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays
Caesarea No. 64	1 st & 3 rd Mondays
Ocean No. 89	2 nd & 4 th Thursdays
Durand No. 179	2 nd & 4 th Mondays
Matawan No. 192	1 st & 3 rd Tuesdays

2024 “BIG WINNER RAFFLE”

Purchase tickets from any Lodge Officer! Win Big!
Drawing 12/21/24 at our 2025 Installation of Officers!



MASTER’S MESSAGE

Freemasonry’s ties to the White House and the American presidency are woven through history. Several U.S. presidents have been Freemasons, a fraternity based on principles of personal morality, mutual support, and commitment to society. These include George Washington, James Monroe, Andrew Jackson, James Polk, James Buchanan, Andrew Johnson, James Garfield, William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Harry S. Truman. Freemasonry’s core values—brotherhood, charity, and truth—resonated with the principles upon which the United States was founded. As Masons, these leaders adhered to traditions of morality and civic responsibility that influenced their public lives.

One of the earliest and most prominent examples of Freemasonry in American government was when George Washington, a devoted Freemason, laid the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol in 1793. This event symbolized the fraternity’s deep connection to the new nation’s democratic ideals. Washington’s involvement in Freemasonry is often highlighted as a symbol of the values of unity, service, and integrity in public office.

Harry S. Truman, another Freemason, served as the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri before becoming president. Known for his strong leadership and straightforward demeanor, Truman credited many of his values and character to his Masonic principles. In the White House, these Masonic values have provided a moral framework for presidents seeking to uphold ethical standards while serving the public.

While Freemasonry’s impact is still reflected in the architecture, symbols, and ceremonial traditions within Washington, D.C. The history of Freemasonry in the White House is a testament to the enduring values of self-improvement, civic duty, and unity that Freemasonry promotes and that have shaped American leadership for centuries.

Brethren, I leave you with this—

“What greater task is there than the joyous labor of service? And what nobler man can there be than that Mason who serves his Lights, and is himself a light unto his fellow men?”

- Brother Manly P. Hall

Fraternally,

WM Maliek Olden

FROM THE SECRETARY’S DESK

Brothers, **2024 Final Dues Notices** have been sent out via regular mail. 2024’s dues breakdown are as follows:

- Grand Lodge Operating - \$38.50
- 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 - \$1.00
- DeMolay - \$1.00
- Masonic Renewal Committee - \$0.50
- Trenton Historic Masonic Temple - \$3.00
- Grandview Fee - \$1.25
- Lodge Assessment - \$116.50
(\$1 of Lodge Assessment earmarked for 17th District)

2024 Total (Regular Members): \$ 190.00

2024 Total (Dual Members): \$ 116.50

NPD Grace Period is from 11/12/24 to 12/31/24

Online Payment of Dues

Dues can be paid online at paypal.me/OBL16.

If you choose to use this eCommerce option, please include a processing fee of \$6.00 for Regular Members (total of \$196.00) or \$4.00 for Dual Members (total of \$120.50). Unfortunately, this fee is non-negotiable and is assessed to us by PayPal.

We do not accept Venmo, Zelle, or CashApp. Sorry for the inconvenience.

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 will be through that system.

GRAND LODGE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Contact the Secretary for more information on any event.

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

- GL Annual Communication @ Tropicana Hotel (11/5-11/7)
- 2025 MWGM’s Reception (11/16)
- 2024 Festival of Trees (11/22-24, 11/29-30, 12/1)
- 2025 Unity Day at GLPA (1/25)
- 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.

Upcoming Lodge Events

Tuesday, December 10th

Annual Communication

Balloting, Elections and Qualifications

If you are a Past Master and will be attending, please let WM Olden and/or WB Reich know.

Wreath Laying Ceremony

Wreaths Across America Worldwide Event

Saturday, December 14th, 2024

Meet at Lodge at 11AM

Wreath Laying at Elks Point at 12PM

Wreath Laying at Squirreltown Cemetery to Follow

Come join us as we lay wreaths on the memorial markers honoring the sons and daughters of Freehold Borough who served the armed forces of our great nation.

(Business attire and aprons; 2024 Officers to wear their jewels)

Open Installation of Olive Branch Lodge #16’s 2025 Officers

Saturday, December 21st, 2024

Social @ 5:00PM

Dinner @ 6:00PM

Open Installation @ 7:30PM

Family and Friends of Freemasons are invited to attend.
Requested business attire for guests.

Other 17th District Installations

Navesink #9: 12/11 @ 7:30 PM; Closed/Collation Before

Ocean #89: 12/12 @ 7:30 PM; Closed/Collation Before

RW J. Eugene Margroff, DGM as Installing Master

Caesarea #64: 12/14 @ 2:00 PM; Open/Collation Before

Durand #179: 12/15 @ 1:00 PM; Open/Collation After

RW Omar S. Morris, SGM as Installing Master

Matawan #192: 12/17 @ 7:30 PM; Closed/Collation Before

Toys for Tots Drive

Join our Lodge’s efforts to support the Toys for Tots Program through the year, we’ll be collecting (gently) used or new children’s (PK-Grade School) books, new, unwrapped toys, batteries, & contractor-grade black trash bags.

Please contact RW Peter De Lucia for more information.

732-221-6178

