



Trestle Board

Olive Branch Lodge 114

Leesburg, Virginia



May 2026

From The East

Greetings from the East! April showers showed up in May this year. Unfortunately, due to family issues, I haven't been as involved as I would like to be as your Worshipful Master; our Senior Warden, Vince Williams, will be sitting in the East for our next stated meeting. Nothing is wrong with me; rather, I'm taking care of my wife, Lady Liia.

In our May stated meeting, I read from Section III: CONCERNING THE BEHAVIOR OF MASONS AS MEMBERS OF A LODGE; Chapter 4. Of Behavior after the Lodge is closed and before the Brethren depart home:



While the Lodge is closed, and the labors of the day, finished, the Brethren, before they depart home to their rest, may enjoy themselves with innocent mirth, enlivened and exalted with their own peculiar songs; and sublime pieces of music, treating one another according to ability, but avoiding all excess and compulsion, both in eating and drinking; considering each other in the hours both of labor and festivity as always free. And therefore, no Brother is to be hindered from going home when he pleases; for although after Lodge hours, Masons are as other men, yet if they should fall into excess, the blame, though unjustly, may be cast upon the Fraternity by the ignorant or envious world.

Lodge Business:

Thanks to everyone who has submitted their annual dues for 2026. I've attempted to contact every brother who was delinquent; those who won't respond, I'll write to and let them know that their membership has been reported to the Grand Lodge for Suspension.

Wor. John Leonard Rutan

Fraternal Visits

It's my goal this year to visit as many lodges as possible and to possibly complete a Masonic Passport or two! It's also my goal to ensure that the Traveling Gavel isn't sitting in the East, come December!

Fraternal Visits:

On 14 May 2026, Olive Branch did a Fraternal Visit to Sharon Lodge #327, in McLean, VA – and the dinner was probably the best yet – Pot Roast with a bit of heat on the Green Beans! We were welcomed with open arms, and they are looking forward to our stated meeting, come September. Thank you to all the brothers that took the time to enjoy this.

As this was my first time visiting Sharon Lodge, I could help but notice the significance of the location. Bro. Vince and I do a lot of fishing on the Potomac, and if we take a left turn off of 495 to Balls Hill Road, we enjoy a hike to our fishing spots; take a right, and there is the lodge.

Potential Fraternal Visits:

June – no Fraternal visits this month.

July - Hay Market Lodge #133, 2nd Monday (tentative)

August - TBD



Upcoming Events

31 May 2026, District-wide bowling tournament – postponed to, hopefully, August!
1 June 2026, Olive Branch Lodge Stated Meeting at 8:00 P.M.
2 June 2026, Ashburn/Sterling #288 Fellow Craft degree.
12 June 2026, Purcellville Canons baseball game, hosted by Freedom Lodge #118.
13 June 2026, DeMolay Breakfast/District School at A/S Lodge #288.
15 June 2026, Herndon Lodge #264, GM official Visit to award 50-year pin.
July 2026 (day TBD), Ashburn/Sterling #288 Master Mason degree.

Practice and Fellowship

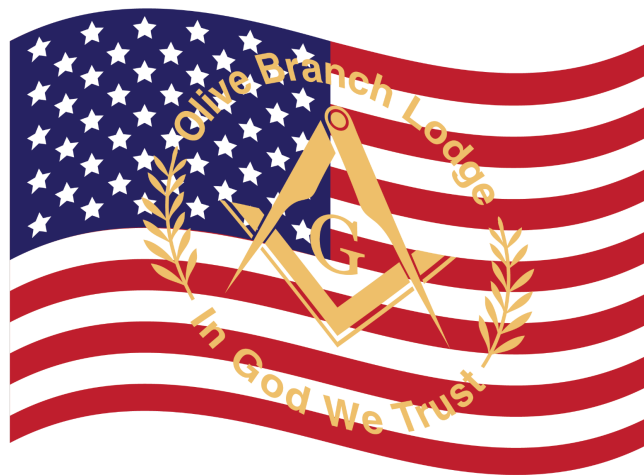
We will continue to meet on Saturday & Sunday mornings for study, practice, and fellowship. We will gather at the lodge at 8:30 am for fellowship and start working around 9:00 am. Special recognition to our Lodge Brothers working diligently to learn their Catechism. Thanks to all the brothers who spend time meeting with these brothers and teaching catechism or just talking to them and answering questions they may have.

EA Tom Dayle – will be going down the alternate route.

EA Alex Zenor – with a new baby, he started his Catechism Learning.

EA Tym Kaywork – is doing great with his Catechism Learning, picking up quickly with very good retention; starting the obligation.

JW Al Monica – working on his Warden's Certificate and preparing to sit in the East for the next FC Degree.



Masonic Birthdays

Householder, Harry	50 years
Trumbo, Marion	44 years
Boyd, Richard	29 years
Fleagle, Richard	29 years
Walker, Donald (JR)	24 years
Dunlap, Thomas	21 years
Skinner, Douglas	17 years
Williams, Vince	14 years
Caston, Kenneth	13 years
Stecker, Jonathan	8 years
Riordan, Christopher	8 years

Staying in Touch with the Lodge

Our primary method of reaching out to members is email. Please contact our secretary at secretary@olivebranch114.org if you are not receiving our emails.

2026 Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master - John Rutan
Senior Warden - Vince Williams
Junior Warden - Al Monica
Treasurer - Fred Bishopp, PM
Secretary - Jon Stecker, PM
Senior Deacon - Matt Lankenau
Junior Deacon - Joe Schwarz
Chaplain - Chris Riorden, PM
Senior Steward - Stephen Sixbey
Junior Steward - Mahmood Sory
Marshall - Joe Garrone
Tiler - Don Walker

Lodge Information

Contacts:

Wor. John Leonard Rutan
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Sec Wor. Jon Stecker
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Location:

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