



Trestle Board
Olive Branch Lodge 114
Leesburg, Virginia



January 2026

From The East



Brethren,

I'm now starting to realize how short my Cable-Tow is! The month is now gone, and I haven't provided a Trestle Board sooner. On the UBA Circuit (Underground Bowling Association), my nickname is literally, "Wait a Minute!" I'm truly hoping the rest of my year isn't like this Month. That being said, I'm John Rutan and honored to be the Worshipful Master this year. For those who didn't make it to our Open Installation last month, I told the story about how my Dad, who is also a brother, from the Great State of Ohio, just couldn't wait to see me sitting in the East. It took 13 years, but he got his wish - to see me get installed.



I've been a Master Mason for 13 years; raised in Ashburn-Sterling #288 in 2012 and subsequently joining Olive-Branch #114 in 2019.

My goals this year are to a) have Fun within our lodge, b) to leave our lodge in a better position, c) to visit as many lodges as possible, and d) to transition everything to our Senior Warden - Bro. Vince Williams.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Worshipful Master John Rutan



RECENT EVENTS

- - DDGM Official Visit - on 1/5/2025, we welcomed our new DDGM, RW Mark Canter, to our lodge. We also entertained Ashburn-Sterling #288 (Wor. Scott Lambert) and Freedom Lodge #118 (Wor. Bill Holl) for their Fraternal Visits.
- - Fraternal Visits: 1/6/2025 Ashburn-Sterling #288. Attended by Wor. John Rutan, RW Chris Thompson, RW Greg Schwartz, Wor. Greg Marks, Bro. Vince Williams, Bro. Al Monica and Bro. Joe Schwarz. As a bonus, we brought along the Travelling Gavel and presented it to Wor. Scott Lambert of A&S #288, who was happy to receive it, indicated its stay at A&S #288 would be very short!
- - MLK Parade in Leesburg: 1/19/2025. We first enjoyed breakfast with our Virginia Prince Hall brothers at the King's Tavern; then afterwards, we assembled and partook in the Parade. It was attended by Wor. John Rutan, RW Reuben Martinez, Bro. Vince Williams and Bro. Joe Schwarz. The weather was Sunny, but definitely on the cold side - I'll be more prepared for next year.
- - Degrees: On 1/24/2025, we welcomed two new EAs: Bro. Alexander Zenor and Bro. Tymothy Kaywork.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday and Sunday mornings: study and practice; 8:30 A.M. fellowship; 9:00 A.M. practice.
- 2/2/2026 Olive Branch Stated Meeting; Dinner at 6:30 P.M., Presentation at 7:30 P.M., Meeting at 8:00 P.M.
- 2/19/2026 Fraternal Visit: Hamilton Thompson #37.
- 2/25/2026 Masters and Wardens Meeting, Pot-Luck at 6:30 P.M., District School, afterwards, OB 114.
- DELC (Winchester, 6:30 P.M., 2/6/26, Robert E. Aylor Middle School, 471 White Oak Rd., White Post, VA 22663, RW Jonathan Giles, 434-841-2789; Alexandria, 9 A.M., 2/7/26, GWMNM, 101 Callahan Dr., Alexandria, VA 22301, RW Jonathan Giles, 434-841-2689; Attire: Uniforme/Suit
- 3/10/2026 Fraternal Visit: Metropolitan Lodge #161
- 3/18/2026 Fraternal Visit: Freedom Lodge #118

Masonic Birthdays

Fred Thomas Bishopp - 26 Years

Todd Lee Johnston - 31 Years

Gregory H. Schwartz - 41 Years

James McHenry Stevenson - 27 Years

Practice and Fellowship

We continue to meet on Saturday and Sunday mornings for study, practice, and fellowship. We gather at the lodge at 8:30 a.m. for fellowship and begin work around 9:00 a.m.

A few potential petitioners have attended our Saturday and Sunday morning get-togethers. These events have been great ways to get to know potential candidates and introduce them to our fraternity. If you know someone interested in becoming a Mason, invite them to visit on Saturday or Sunday mornings.

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. We also use the Signal app to send time-sensitive messages, such as reminders and information about our weekend meetups. If you would like to be invited to our Signal group, contact our secretary at the address above.



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
master@olivebranch114.org

Sec Wor. Jon Stecker
secretary@olivebranch114.org

Location:

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108 Cornwall Street NE
Leesburg, VA 20176

Mailing Address:

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Leesburg, Virginia 20176

Website: <https://www.olivebranch114.org/>

