



# Trestle Board

## Olive Branch Lodge 114

### Leesburg, Virginia



*January 2024*

## From The East

Welcome! I am Wor. Gregory Alan Marks the new Worshipful Master at Olive Branch Lodge 114 in Leesburg, Virginia. This is our new Trestle Board and is a work in progress. As the year continues we will be adding more information in an effort to keep everyone informed about what we are doing in Olive Branch. First and foremost I want to Congratulate all the officers of Olive Branch on being installed to their current Chairs in the Lodge. I also would like to Congratulate all the New Worshipful Masters of District 2. I look forward to working with each of you this year.

Back in December Olive Branch Lodge held our Officers installation. It was an open installation and very well attended. I want to thank the officers along with other lodge members who all did a great job in preparing the lodge, arranging for food and practicing to make it a memorable event. A big thanks to the Installing team. RW Chris Thompson, RW Reuben Martinez, Wor. Jon Stecker, Wor. Mark Cummings & Wor. Kevin Homan were all complimented by so many guests for doing a fantastic job...Thank You Worshipful Sirs.

My Theme for this year is "BE BETTER" What does Be Better mean?

Be Better in life, Be Better in your family, Be a better father son, Be Better In your relationships. Be a better husband, Be a better employer, employee, coworker, Be Better In your community Be Better In your neighborhood. Be Better with small random acts of kindness (hold a door open, say good morning to a stranger, let someone with only 1 or 2 items cut in front of you at the supermarket.

Striving for perfection is very hard...Looking to Be Better is easy!

Freemasonry has a saying:

We take good men and make them better

Well Brethren, "Be Better!"

I look forward to serving Olive Branch Lodge 114, as Worshipful Master, this year. With the help of our officers I feel we can do great things.

Wor. Gregory Alan Marks  
Olive Branch Lodge 114

# Fraternel Visits

---

Olive Branch Lodge 114 made a several Fraternel Visits this month. Each visit was well attended by Brothers from Olive Branch Lodge 114.

## **1/5/2024 Freedom Lodge 118.**

Attended by: Wor. Gregory Marks, RW Reuben Martinez, RW Chris Thompson, Wor. Mark Cummings, Bro. John Rutan and Bro. Vince Williams. DDGM Official Visit.

## **1/9/2024 Ashburn/Sterling Lodge 288.**

Attended by: Wor. Gregory Marks, RW Chris Thompson, RW Reuben Martinez, Bro. John Rutan, Bro. Vince William. DDGM Official Visit.

## **1/18/2024 Hamilton/Thompson Lodge 37.**

Attended by: Wor. Gregory Marks, RW Reuben Martinez, RW Chris Thompson, Wor. Mark Cummings, Wor. Chris Riordan, Wor. Fred Bishop, Bro. Vince Williams, Bro. Matt Sargent. DDGM Official Visit.



# MLK Day Parade

---

Several Olive Branch brothers Marched in the MLK Day Parade on Monday, January 15.



The Parade was well attended by Virginia Prince Hall: Universal No. 1; Lincoln No. 11; Acacia No. 32; Prince Hall No. 61; Piedmont No. 75; Metropolitan No. 161; King Tyre No. 292; Triangle No. 293; and Pride of Fairfax No. 298 Virginia AF&AM: Hamilton-Thompson No. 37; Olive Branch No. 114; Herndon No. 264; Ashburn-Sterling No. 288; and Patriot No. 1957.

We were Honored to have with us Grand Senior Deacon, RW Roy Michael McKenney of the Grand Lodge of Virginia & Most Worshipful Grand Master, Beverly W. (Butch) Morgan, of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia. It was a cold snowy day but the fellowship and brotherly love was endless throughout the day. We started the day with a 2-hour breakfast where there was much more talking than eating. We all continued to the parade where we all walked together behind a single banner. After the parade, we all met for lunch to continue the day.

# Practice and Fellowship

---

We continue to meet Saturday & Sunday morning and study, practice, and fellowship. We gather at the lodge at 8:30 am for fellowship and start working around 9:00 am.

## Upcoming Events

---

- 1/31/2024 EA Degree. Wednesday, start at 7:00pm. Come out and support as we initiate a new member into our fraternity.
- 2/3/2024 Rainbow Girls Installation. Starting at 10:00 am at Ashburn/Sterling Lodge.
- 2/5/2024 Olive Branch Stated Meeting. DDGM Official Visit. Dinner at 6:30 pm, meeting at 8:00 pm.
- 2/9/2024 DLC (District Leadership Conference) Starting at 6:30 pm at the Kena Shriners Temple in Manassas, VA. All Lodge Officers are highly encouraged to attend one of the conferences. All Master Masons are more than welcome to join.
- 2/10/2024 DLC (District Leadership Conference) Starting at 8:30 am at the Scottish Rite Temple in Alexandria, VA. All Lodge Officers are highly encouraged to attend one of the conferences. All Master Masons are more than welcome to join.
- 2/13/2024 Fraternal Visit to Metropolitan lodge 161 in Leesburg. Dinner at 6:30 pm. Meeting at 7:30 pm.
- 2/17/2024 DeMolay installation. Starting at 1:00 pm at Ashburn/Sterling Lodge.
- 2/24/2024 Family Dinner. Brothers, please bring your spouses for an outing at Loudoun Kitchen on Saturday night February 24, at 5:30 pm. We will be hosting widows and orphans for a casual evening with fellowship and dinner. Please reach out to anyone you would like to attend.