



# The Olive Brancher

89 Years of Brotherhood

October 2015



## From the East

By David Thomas  
Worshipful Master

### Greetings from the East!

My time serving in the East is rapidly coming to its end. It was my hope to meet members of our lodge that I have not had the opportunity thus far, to meet. Please come out to Lodge and renew your Masonic Friendships, and afford me the opportunity to meet you before my time has come to the end.

### No Cost Parking Near Lodge

The City of Dearborn removed the pay for parking meters across the street from the Lodge. There is "FREE" parking near our Lodge, another reason to put attending Lodge back on your Friday night schedule. The weather is still decent; parking is free, so

PLEASE attend your Lodge as soon as possible.

### Move-Up Months Observations

Continuing the tradition of having the Officers move up a chair in Lodge to demonstrate their Ritual skills in the seats they may hold pending a favorable November election, the Month of September has proven our Senior Warden to be ready for his role in the East. Senior Warden Brother Marvin Anderson opened Lodge in the Master Mason Degree for our regular business meeting on September 4th, then on September 11th to confer the Master Mason Degree on a Brother of this Lodge. Everyone was impressed with Brother Marv's work this evening.

Brother Wade Tabor demonstrated great skill as the acting Senior Warden for the month of September, and Brother Tyrone impressed everyone with his skill as acting Junior Warden.

Brother Geary Mayer made the transition to Senior Deacon with great ease impressing everyone in attendance with his skill. We are lucky to have Brother Geary and look forward to his continued progress through the Officer Line at Olive Branch.

Brother John Paepke was acting Junior Deacon and impressed everyone with the ease in which he transitioned into this role. Brother John Paepke is another Brother that everyone is greatly

## Trestle Board

### October 2015

Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> @ 7:00pm  
Temple Board Meeting

Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 7:30pm  
Regular Communication

Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm  
Entered Apprentice Degree

Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm  
Master Mason Degree

Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00am to 2:00pm  
Statewide Open House  
RSVP by Sep. 30

Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 6:00pm  
Oktoberfest Banquet & Raffle  
TICKET REQUIRED

Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm  
Fellowcraft Degree

### November 2015

Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm  
Temple Board Meeting

Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30pm  
Regular Communication

Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm  
Master Mason Degree

Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm  
Social Event - TBD

Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> - DARK

### December 2015

Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00pm  
Annual Installation of Officers  
TICKET REQUIRED FOR  
DINNER PORTION

Retirees Luncheon  
Second and Fourth Monday  
11:00am

## A Reminder about Life Membership Requests

On behalf of the Membership Committee, I would like to remind each Brother that you must submit a request in writing to request a Life Membership.

Please remember, as of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2015, you must have **FIFTY (50) years** of service and be in good standing with the Lodge to be eligible for consideration of this request. You may contact the Lodge Secretary to ascertain your years of service. This submitted request is then to be forwarded to and reviewed by the Membership Committee who will present their findings to the Lodge at a Regular Communication.

impressed with and it is our hope he continues through the Officer Line at Olive Branch Lodge too.

### **Throw Open the Doors!**

The Grand Lodge of Michigan has issued a decree to all Michigan Lodges to conduct a Public Open House of all Masonic Temples. This invitation will allow the public the opportunity to visit with their local Masonic Temple and learn about Freemasonry.

Olive Branch Lodge will open the doors to the public from 10:00 A.M. through 2:00P.M on Saturday **October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015**. Come out to be a part of this historic event and show the Dearborn community that Freemasonry is relevant and thriving in the community.

Officers of Olive Branch Lodge #542 share a continuing excitement because of our renewed Masonic friendship with the Brothers of Dearborn Lodge #172. We are looking forward to many more combined events including the Statewide Open House. Our Lodge has also extended an invitation to the Mayor of Dearborn, Mr. John B. O'Reilly Jr. to attend this open house event.

### **Food, Fellowship, Fun & More!**

Please let this article serve as a request by the Worshipful Master to all members of Olive Branch Lodge to arrange for the purchase of a Raffle Ticket for the sum of \$50.00 for the October 23rd, 2015 Raffle benefitting the Olive Branch Lodge Operating Fund. Contact the Lodge Office or Worshipful Brother Paul Johnson to purchase your ticket. Two hundred tickets need to be sold for this fundraiser

**THERE IS A 1 IN 200  
CHANCE OF WINNING  
(NOT BAD ODDS).**

**BROTHERS, PLEASE SUPPORT  
YOUR LODGE BY MAKING A  
TICKET PURCHASE.**

to be considered a success and while there have been a steady uptick in ticket sales there are a number still remaining. This is a chance for you to win a **1st prize of \$2,500.00** or a **2nd prize of \$500.00**. Your Ticket purchase entitles you to attend a catered dinner the night of October 23rd, 2015. I also ask that you please indicate if you will attend this dinner so a headcount can be

established. Ticket owners need not be present to win.

Each budget year there is a monetary shortcoming of incoming dues compared to the outlay of money necessary to operate Olive Branch Lodge, and as a result of this disparity, money must be taken from the bank accounts. Fundraising by raffle is a means to meet a portion of this monetary shortcoming. Raising dues is the other way to eliminate monetary shortcomings.

### **The Duties YOU Owe to your Lodge...**

As a reminder, we will be holding our annual elections for the Officer Line, as well as some of the open seats for our Masonic Temple Association.

The Officer Line allows Brothers a unique opportunity to develop and cultivate leadership and communication skills. It also helps to develop your ritual proficiency.

The Masonic Temple Association or MTA is the group that oversees the operations pertaining to the building, including Hall Rentals and building maintenance projects. The Association meets once per month on the 1st

Thursday of the month preceding the Regular Communication. The MTA typically meets year-round including the summer months when the Lodge is dark in their continuing efforts to maintain our building.

### Save the Date – Annual Installation of Officers

Please mark your calendars as Saturday December 5th, 2015 is selected as the date for the Annual Installation of Officers. This is a public installation ceremony. Each brother is highly encouraged to invite their friends and family to celebrate this occasion. There is no cost to attend the ceremony. It is suggested that the public should arrive by 3:30 PM. The newly elected Officers should arrive on-site at 1:45 PM for photographs (scheduled for 2:00 PM sharp).

Following the ceremony, join the newly installed officers for a nice

dinner. There is a cost of \$20.00 per person for the dinner portion of the evening.

### Evolving Our Calendar

During the summer months, meetings with the Senior Officers took place to discuss calendar planning. Some of the changes that have been implemented in 2014 were continued over for the year 2015. While not perfect, we believe that these changes are necessary to adapt Masonry in the 21st century.

During the upcoming Sept – Oct – Nov timeframe, we will schedule a special communication when we have a candidate. We have (1) candidate lined up for the Month of September was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on September 11th. This calendar adjustment is needed to better align degree work with the six-steps-to-initiation and with our incoming candidates. Regular

Communications are governed by our bylaws and will be held on the 1st Friday of each Month unless in conflict with a Holiday. Social Events will continue, check the Junior Warden’s article for the type of event and scheduling information.

### Olive Branch Lodge Donor Club

This program is aimed at generating revenue from our membership, and reciprocally rewarding you for your contribution. The tiered structure encourages each Brother to consider making a small donation to help Olive Branch offset costs associated with Lodge operations (including our scholarship program and building). Over time, these donations will hopefully increase and allow the Lodge more freedom to pursue enhancements to membership programming, Masonic education, and renovations to building facilities.

Donor Club Donor Levels		
Donation Amount	Donor Level	Acknowledgement
\$50 - \$99	WB Jack Elliot Level	Letter of gratitude from the Worshipful Master
\$100 - \$249	Bronze Plumb Donor	Same as <b>WB Jack Elliot Level</b> -Plus- Acknowledgement on the website and social media (Facebook, Twitter)
\$250 - \$499	Silver Level Donor	Same as <b>Bronze Plumb Donor</b> -Plus- Acknowledgement in an addition of The Olive Brancher
\$500 - \$999	Gold Square Donor	Same as <b>Silver Level Donor</b> -Plus- Acknowledgement in the Annual Installation Program AND an Installation Program signed by all of the officers
\$1,000 +	Platinum Trowel Donor	Same as <b>Gold Square Donor</b> -Plus- Plaque on the Donor Wall

All donations are **NOT ELIGIBLE** for a tax deduction.

Donations are tallied on a cumulative basis. This means that each year you donate earns you credit towards a higher sponsor tier level!

Recognitions will only be given once per sponsor level.

In addition to your dues, it is my sincere hope that you consider donating to such a program if you are able and willing to do so.

### **Reminder – 2016 Dues Notices**

Just a friendly reminder to be on the look-out that your 2016 dues notices will be sent out this fall. Now is a perfect time to review your address on file. Please contact the Secretary and let him know if you have moved in the last year to ensure you receive your notice.

Prompt attention to your dues is always appreciated and have a direct impact on Lodge operations. At the May Regular Communication it was necessary to make a motion to remove a substantial amount of money from the bank account to pay the bills for the month of May, which would not have had to occur if the total membership had submitted their dues payments.

### **PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES.**

I would also like to mention how unenviable it is to the officers of the delinquent dues committee to be thrust into the role of bill collector and just how much of their uncompensated time they have to expend attempting to contact by letter, telephone, or by  
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driving their personal vehicles to each delinquent Brothers home in an attempt to collect lodge dues payments.

If you are having difficulty paying dues because of a legitimate hardship, communicate this to the Junior Warden or the Senior Deacon by the telephone numbers listed in this publication. Remember it is **your obligation** to remit your dues payment; you should contact them or the Lodge, not the other way around.

## **From Labor to Refreshment**

**By Wade Tabor**

### **Junior Warden**

Greetings Brethren from the South and happy Fall! As you know we're back to work we had our Regular Communication (business focus) meeting Friday September 4<sup>th</sup>. Everything went quite well and as you know this was the start of the "Switch 'em Up Months". These months allow the Officers to get a chance to demonstrate our readiness for the ensuing year. I personally have had a great time and a lot of fun during this transition period.

On Friday September 11th we had a Master Mason degree where we raised a Brother to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. It was a great evening and a fun night.

We've made great accomplishments on our "To Do" list. Most visibly I direct your attention the outside rear wall which was painted a special color. I invite all of you to come and take a look at

it. There still some work we need to do to the Temple including regular maintenance. Please contact us or join us at one of our Temple Association meetings. The Masonic Temple Association (MTA) meetings are typically held the first Thursday of every month. Thank you to all the Officers and Brothers who have helped in preparing our Lodge for the upcoming Statewide Open House.

Unfortunately we had to cancel the Euchre Tournament originally scheduled for September due to low participation. We will try and reschedule for another day so be sure to keep your eyes on the Olive Brancher for the next Euchre event. If you're interested in coming out for a Euchre Tournament or any other event please don't forget to contact myself or one of the other officers, or the Worshipful Master. Reservations are **strongly** encouraged so as to get a proper head count for event planning.

I'm looking forward to the presiding over the Lodge in October, and hope to see you all at Lodge!

## **Upcoming Events**

**Thursday, Oct 1 @ 7:00pm**  
**Temple Board**

Discussion focused on Temple maintenance and upkeep.

- ♦ -

**Friday, Oct 2 @ 7:30pm**  
**Regular Communication**

Join us for a bowl of soup before the start of the meeting at 7:30pm. Afterwards there will be coffee and donuts for all Brothers.

- ♦ -

**Friday, Oct 9 @ 6:30pm  
Entered Apprentice Degree**

Pending the outcome of the September & October Regular Communications, there may be a candidate for initiating to the degree of Entered Apprentice.

If you're interested in joining the Entered Apprentice Degree team, please contact the Lodge and leave a message for Worshipful Brother Chris Morgan indicating your desire to join.

- ♦ -

**Friday, Oct 16 @ 6:30pm  
Master Mason Degree**

Join the Officers and Brothers as they assist in exemplifying the Master Mason Degree. Lodge opens at 6:30pm. Food and refreshments are planned following the degree work.

- ♦ -

**Saturday, Oct 17 @ 10:00am  
Statewide Open House**

Event runs from 10:00am to 2:00pm as we open our doors to the public for tours and information about Freemasonry. Please see the Worshipful Masters article for additional details, and contact him if you are interested in volunteering!

- ♦ -

**Friday, Oct 23 @ 6:00pm  
Oktoberfest Raffle & Banquet**

See the Worshipful Masters article and flyer insert for details!

- ♦ -

**Friday, Oct 30 @ 6:30pm  
Fellowcraft Degree**

Brother Wade Tabor again takes to the hot seat to confer the Fellowcraft Degree this evening. Food and refreshments to wind down the evening.

If you're interested in joining the Fellowcraft Degree team, please contact the Lodge and leave a message for Worshipful Brother Paul Johnson indicating your

desire to join.

- ♦ -

**Thursday, Nov 5 @ 7:00pm  
Temple Board**

Discussion focused on Temple maintenance and upkeep.

- ♦ -

**Friday, Nov 6 @ 7:30pm  
Regular Communication**

Join us for a bowl of soup before the start of the meeting at 7:30pm. Afterwards there will be coffee and donuts for all Brothers.

- ♦ -

**Friday, Nov 13 @ 6:30pm  
Master Mason Degree**

Join the Officers and Brothers as they assist in exemplifying the Master Mason Degree. Lodge opens at 6:00pm. Food and refreshments are planned following the degree work.

- ♦ -

**Friday, Nov 20 @ 6:00pm  
Social Event - TBD**

The officers are planning a fun event for the evening. Come join in the fellowship. Details will be announced in the November Olive Brancher, as well as shared through our website. Looking forward to seeing you there!

- ♦ -

**Saturday, Dec 5 @ 4:00pm  
Annual Installation of Officers**

Save the date for our annual installation of officers. This event is open to the public. Following the installation ceremony, join us for a meal to celebrate the evening. Tickets are required for the dinner portion and will cost \$20.00 per person.

- ♦ -

**We Want to Hear From You!**

How can Olive Branch help you get the most out of being a Mason?

Do you have a question that you need answered?

Would you like to make a suggestion for an event, activity, or anything else to improve ourselves in Masonry?

Please send your questions, thoughts, and suggestions to:

Worshipful Master  
Olive Branch Lodge #542  
1170 Mason St.  
Dearborn, MI 48124

You can also email them to the Secretary for discussion at our next Officer Meeting:

[olivebranch542@sbcglobal.net](mailto:olivebranch542@sbcglobal.net)

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# Annual Installation of Officers

The Brothers and Officers of Olive Branch Lodge #542

Free and Accepted Masons invite you to the

## **Annual Installation of Officers**

held **Saturday December 5th, 2015**

at the **Olive Branch Masonic Temple**

located at **1170 Mason Street, Dearborn, MI**

Installation starts at 4 PM.

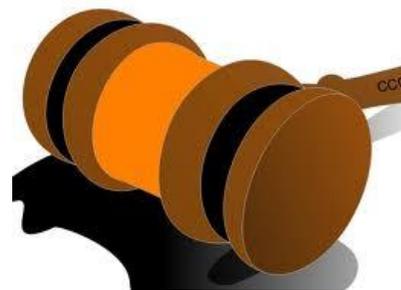
Appetizers at 5:30 PM.

Dinner at 6 PM.

The Installation Ceremony is **FREE** to attend.

Cost of dinner segment is \$20.00 per person.

**RSVP is due by Monday November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015**



# Don't delay – reserve your ticket today!

**Raffle & Oktoberfest Banquet**

**Olive Branch Lodge #542**  
1170 Mason Street  
Dearborn, MI 48124

**October 23<sup>rd</sup> 6 – 8 PM**

**Tickets: \$50 each**

**Grand Prize: \$2,500**  
**Second Prize: \$500**

**Your ticket serves as admission to the banquet.  
You do not need to be present to win.**

**To purchase tickets, contact Paul Johnson (313) 278-7761  
or the Olive Branch Lodge Office (313) 565-2538**

**200 Tickets Max**

**State of Michigan  
License # R30330**

**If 200 tickets are not sold, the raffle will revert to a 50/50 drawing, with a minimum \$250 grand prize.**

**Proceeds to benefit Olive Branch Lodge #542. Not deductible as a charitable donation.**

The Olive Brancher is a monthly news magazine for the members, families, and friends of Olive Branch Lodge #542 Free and Accepted Masons

## 2015 Olive Branch Officers

**Worshipful Master**  
David Thomas

**Senior Warden**  
Marvin Anderson

**Junior Warden**  
Wade Tabor

**Treasurer**  
Douglas Simpson

**Secretary**  
Gilbert Strachan, PM  
Office: (313) 565-2538

**Assistant Secretary**  
Paul Johnson, PM

**Olive Branch Lodge # 542**  
1170 Mason Street  
Dearborn, MI 48124-2801  
Phone: (313) 565-2538  
Email: olivebranch542@sbcglobal.net  
www.olivebranchlodge542.com

## OLIVE BRANCH TEMPLE ASSOCIATION

**President**  
Lance Eicher, PM

**Vice-President**  
Larry Kelsey

**Secretary**  
Douglas Simpson, PM

**Treasurer**  
Tyrone O'Neal

**Hall Manager**  
Larry Patch  
313-277-4186

**Editors and Publishers**  
Gilbert H. Strachan, PM  
Doug Simpson, PM  
Christopher S. Morgan, PM



# THE OLIVE BRANCHER

October  
2015

Olive Branch Lodge #542  
[www.olivebranchlodge542.com](http://www.olivebranchlodge542.com)

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