

Blairstown Lodge No. 165 Free & Accepted Masons

Met in a Regular Communication in their hall at the Masonic Temple,
11 Stillwater Rd, Blairstown, NJ
On the 10th of April 2025 A.L. 6025

Officers Present

WB Matthew C Kaufman	X	Worshipful Master
Bro Joshua Williams-Como	Absent	Senior Warden
WB Edward Lubas	Absent	Junior Warden
WB Michael D Park	X	Treasurer
Bro Barry W George	X	Secretary
WB Daniel J Gialanella	X	Senior Deacon
Bro Tyrone Coronato	Absent	Junior Deacon
Bro Thomas J Bulger	X	Senior Master of Ceremonies
WB Daniel C Kaufman	X	Junior Master of Ceremonies
Bro Robert W Agolio	Absent	Senior Steward
WB William R Chadwick	Absent	Junior Steward
WB Stephen Z Gnall	Absent	Chaplain
RW Eric P Neuffer	X	Tyler
WB Walter S Orcutt, Jr	X	Marshal
WB Robert S Moorhead, Jr	X	Historian

Brothers Present

<u>Current Grand Officers</u>	<u>Past Grand Officers</u>	<u>Brothers Present</u>	
RW Nicholas J Kaufman DRI	RW Eric P Neuffer, PGC		Bro John Caruso

RW Nick Kaufman sat in for the Senior Warden, WB Walter Orcutt for the Junior Deacon and WB Dan Kaufman for the Junior Deacon.

There were 10 Master Masons present.

Opening:

The Lodge was opened in due and ancient form at 7:30 PM at labor on the Master Mason Degree, with a salute to the Flag of the United States of America.

It was at this point that, with the Worshipful Master adorned in his striking tricorne chapeau, the meeting took on a decidedly more swashbuckling tenor. Many of the responses to courtesies from the East were made with references to famous privateers, or from those less creative a simple “arr”. This concluded with calls to hoist the colors and a spontaneous “Captain Morgan” pose by many of the brethren.

Minutes:

The minutes of the Regular Communication of March 27th, 2025 that were distributed via email, were discussed. These minutes were approved as distributed.

Sickness and Distress:

Many of the brethren present, after a collective sigh of “arrrr”, agreed that this evening’s grub made us sick.

Joys and Celebrations:

WB Gialanella expressed his admiration (*code for jealousy*) of the Worshipful Master’s choice in headwear this evening. *Secretary’s observation here: we are perplexed as to why the WB would even want such a headpiece to bring to a place not known for pirates (New Hampshire).*

Presentation of Bills:

None to present.

Communications:

The Secretary advised of a solicitation for donations from the Blairstown Ambulance Corp. Guidance on where to direct the inquiry was provided.

Petitions:

N/A

Ballots:

N/A

REPORTS

Treasurer’s Report:

The Treasurer advised that all bills that are normally paid, have been paid and that our accounts are solvent.

Buildings & Grounds:

The planned vestibule beautification project has been on hold until there is a break in the rental calendar long enough to execute the project. Notification will be provided once a date is set.

Charity:

Nothing reported.

Rental Report:

WB Moorhead advised that a rental was lost last week due to the unexpected passing of someone involved in the event. See the WB with any questions on this.

Unfinished Business:

WB Park, normally not a scallywag, reminded the Worshipful Master of a previously tabled motion regarding the departure from these waters of one WB Gialanella. RW Nick Kaufman made a motion to throw him in the brig, which was quickly seconded by WB Moorhead. (*The Secretary was thinking that seeing him walk the plank would be more fun but just went with it*). WB Moorhead then went on an impassioned journey detailing for the crew how New Hampshire has no pirates and there would be no reason for any of us to go there. The Worshipful Master decided it was time to weigh anchor on the matter and tabled it for future reference.

New Business:

RW Neuffer reported that RW Chris Stebbins is fishing for an invitation to return and make a presentation to the lodge.

RW Neuffer is also investigating the idea of custom made #165 rings. Anyone interested in such booty should see him on the matter.

WB Rob Moorhead noted that our current grub supplier is underperforming and should definitely walk the plank after that meal. That we need to seek a new one post haste. The Worshipful Master appointed WB Moorhead to lead the effort to find a new one in time for the next meeting.

WB Park advised that he had received an estimate on the replacement of the lodge roof. After much discussion and scuttlebutt, other contractors were suggested for comparison.

The cost of the District Reception last evening was brought up for discussion by WB Moorhead. But the Worshipful Master was particularly evasive and mumbled something about needing one more thing (*the Secretary was thinking that one thing was likely grog*).

Program:

The Worshipful Master provided a reading of a short talk bulleting on the Three Lesser Lights. This provided further explanation as to their meaning, followed by more discussion.

Announcements:

4/14 Baldwin Chapter RAM @ Harmony #8
4/17 Blood Drive @ Kitattinny #164
4/24 Regular Communication
4/28 MWPM/DLI @ Blairstown

Closing:

As there was no further business, the Lodge was closed in short form and good order at 8:35 pm by RW Nick Kaufman, assisted by WM Matthew C Kaufman.

Fraternally,

Bro Barry W George

Secretary 2025

Blairstown Lodge No. 165 F&AM

