

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 26th of June 2025 A.L. 6025

Officers Present

WB Matthew C Kaufman	X	Worshipful Master
Bro Joshua Williams-Como	Absent	Senior Warden
WB Edward Lubas	X	Junior Warden
WB Michael D Park	Absent	Treasurer
Bro Barry W George	X	Secretary
WB Daniel J Gialanella	X	Senior Deacon
Bro Tyrone Coronato	Absent	Junior Deacon
Bro Thomas J Bulger	Absent	Senior Master of Ceremonies
WB Daniel C Kaufman	Absent	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, PGC	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>	
			Bro John Caruso
			Bro FC Steve Kazmierkiewicz
			Bro Daniel Yang (Nutley #25)

WB Rob Moorhead sat in for the Sr Warden, Bro John Caruso for the Jr Deacon, WB Walter Orcutt for the Chaplain, Bro AJ Sharma for the Sr Master of Ceremonies.

There were 9 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.

The Worshipful Master closed labor on the Master Mason Degree and opened labor on the Fellow Craft Degree. The Worshipful Master then admitted Bro FC Steve Kazmierkiewicz into the lodge.

Minutes:

The minutes of the Regular Communication of June 12th, 2025, that were distributed via email, were discussed. These minutes were approved as distributed.

Sickness and Distress:

None reported

Joys and Celebrations:

WB DJ Gialanella reported that he was finally able to close on both properties this week, completing his transactions and he can wrap up his move to New Hampshire. *(Secretary's note- this will be WB DJ's final meeting, so not really a joy for us).*

Presentation of Bills:

None to present

Communications:

The Secretary reported that we had received a copy of the town's annual water quality report. It indicates that it is in fact water and that WB Mayor has given it his thumbs up.

Petitions:

The Secretary read two petitions in lodge, that of-

1. Mr. Timothy Stuart Berkheiser, 1 East Side Dr, Newton, NJ
2. Mr. George Eric Lohman, 181 Cedar Lake Rd, Blirstown, NJ

Both petitions were found to be complete, and the necessary monies were received. The Worshipful Master advised that due to the small turnout this evening, he will appoint the investigation committees outside of the meeting and will provide an update at the next communication.

Ballots:

N/A

REPORTS**Treasurer's Report:**

None provided

Buildings & Grounds:

WB Orcutt advised that the grounds are in good condition.

RW Neuffer reported that the foyer project is still waiting to be scheduled due to rental conflicts.

Charity:

None provided

Rental Report:

WB Moorhead advised that he had booked an additional rental in October. That he is in discussion with other prospects.

Unfinished Business:

None reported

New Business:

None reported

Program:

The Worshipful Master put the lodge on refreshment to facilitate a discussion on old things that we possess and provide details on their history and/or meaning to us.

- WB Moorhead reported on an artifact discovered by his great grandfather (an ancient axe head predating native Americans in NJ) and passed down thru his family.
- WB Orcutt described a piece of petrified wood he bought at an auction during his travels around the country.
- RW Neuffer displayed a geode he had obtained at an auction that is likely millions of years old.
- Bro Sharma shared a tale of how he was given a military knife from a Vietnam Veteran when he was a teenager and how he has used the blade throughout his life and travels to this day (*It should be noted that no one was injured while the blade was passed about the lodge room*).
- WB Gialanella presented something that was converted into an ash tray and donated it to the Tyler's Lounge as a parting gift (*no one present can confirm nor deny what it is, or where it came from*).
- The Worshipful Master described an old White brand sewing machine (circa 1965) that he salvaged from an abandoned house. He cleaned it up and got it working again.

Announcements:

8/25 MW & PM- DLI rehearsal @ Harmony #8

9/11 Regular Communication @ #165

9/29 GLI @ Harmony #8

**Secretary's note: This evening is our last regular communication before going dark for July & August. The next Trestleboard (Sept/Oct) will be published in August. NPD notification letters will be sent out by August 1st.*

Closing:

As there was no further business, the Lodge was closed in harmony and good order at 8:50 pm by WM Matthew C Kaufman.

Fraternally,

Bro Barry W George

Secretary 2025

Blairstown Lodge No.165 F&AM

