

# 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 13<sup>th</sup> of November 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	X	Treasurer
Bro Barry W George	X	Secretary
WB Daniel J Gialanella	Absent	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	X	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 Jesse Woll

Bro Tom Bulger sat in for the Junior Warden, WB Dan Kaufman for the Senior Deacon and Bro John Caruso for the Junior Deacon.

There were 12 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.

### Minutes:

The minutes of the Regular Communication of October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 and of the Emergent Communication on November 11, 2025 (Amended) that were distributed via email, were discussed. These minutes were approved as Amended and distributed.

### Sickness and Distress:

WB Orcutt advised the Bro Arthur Huff passed away on 11/1. No services were requested.

**Joys and Celebrations:**

Non offered

**Presentation of Bills:**

None to report

**Communications:**

The Secretary advised-

1. Having received a Notice of upcoming Fire Safety Inspection.
2. Notice of election results from GL that were emailed to all the brethren.
3. Notice of 2026 GL Assessments was received and there were no changes from last year. Will remain at \$76.00 per member.
4. Received the letter from Grand Master to all brethren and was read in lodge. Letter will be included with these minutes.

**Petitions:**

N/A

**Ballots:**

RW Eric Nueffer discussed the status of several brothers that were on the potential NPD list, those greater than 80 yrs of age and members longer than 40yrs and what the lodge can do to help them.

\*A motion was made to change the dues status of the following brethren to “exempt” and forgive any dues owed (Bro David Deyong Jr, Bro Richard Howell, Bro John MacVicar, Bro Karl Snyder). The motion was seconded and carried.

The Secretary advised of five brothers that remain on the list of proposed suspensions for Non-Payment of Dues. Attempts to communicate having been made via mail, email and phone calls. It has been conveyed that any brethren having been voted to be suspended NPD will have until 12/31/2025 to remit payment before the order goes into effect and will be fully restored having done so.

Those brethren are:

Bro Phillip Caltagirone, Bro James Clifford, WB Mike Diccio, Bro Abe Jardines, Bro Joseph Marino DB.

\*A motion was made, seconded and carried to ballot on the suspension of those brothers collectively.

\*The Worshipful Master spread the ballot for suspension for Non-payment of Dues for those brothers listed. All Master Masons present voted. The ballot being clear in the South, West and East, the Worshipful Master declared the suspension has been so ordered, effective at midnight on 12/31/2025.

**REPORTS**

**Treasurer’s Report:**

The Treasurer advised that the lodge’s accounts are solvent. Balances as follows-

Charity account: \$4,587.00  
Operating account: \$6,131.00  
Savings account: \$51,140.00

### **Buildings & Grounds:**

WB Moorhead advised-

1. Regarding the upcoming fire safety inspection, the lodge is in generally good condition, but will need to remove any extension cords prior to inspection.
2. He intends to replace the stained ceiling tiles in the lodge room now that the roof has been replaced.
3. In the near future it is intended to address any remaining finish issues in the banquet room.
4. The outdoors is ready for winter.

### **Charity:**

WB Park advised that:

-Preparations for the upcoming Masonic Santa project have begun and he is soliciting lists of needy families (currently up to 30 families).

-The Masonic Road Drive is scheduled for Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow.

### **Rental Report:**

(3) upcoming rentals in November and (2) in December, bookings ranging into March 2026.

### **Unfinished Business:**

The Worshipful Master offered his thanks to all those that participated with the EA degree that occurred on 11/11. That two of the initiated brothers are meeting with WB Nelson Drobness this evening to begin their training.

### **New Business:**

The Worshipful Master opened, then closed Nominations for officers for 2026 Masonic year. The following brethren were nominated and gave notice that they will serve if elected:

Worshipful Master:	WB William Chadwick
Senior Warden:	Bro Josh Williams-Como
Junior Warden:	Bro Tom Bulger, WB Ed Lubas
Secretary:	Bro Barry George
Treasurer:	WB Mike Park
Trustee:	WB Matt Kaufman
Proxy to GL:	RW Brian Snead, Bro Jess Woll

The election is to be held at the Annual Communication on December 11, 2025, followed by installation of officers during the same communication.

The Worshipful Master ordered a moment of silence in memory of late Bro Arthur Huff, after the reading of his initiation, passing and raising by the Secretary and that the Altar is to be draped in black for (30) days.

### **Announcements:**

**11/24 MWPM/DLI @ Blairstown #165 (dinner @ 6:30 pm)- all officers are required to attend.**

12/1 Kittatinny #164 Open Installation

**12/6 Masonic Santa Road Drive**

12/10 Musconetcong #42 Closed Installation

**12/11 Blairstown #165 Annual Meeting/Installation (dinner @6:30pm)**

12/13 Harmony #8 Open Installation

12/18 Mansfield #36 Open Installation

**12/20 Masonic Santa Gift Give Away**

**Closing:**

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

Fraternally,

*Bro Barry W George*

Secretary 2025

Blirstown Lodge No. 165 F&AM

