

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 8th of January 2026 A.L. 6026

Officers Present

WB William Chadwick	X	Worshipful Master
Bro Joshua Williams-Como	Absent	Senior Warden
Bro Tom Bulger	X	Junior Warden
WB Michael D Park	X	Treasurer
Bro Barry W George	X	Secretary
Bro Steve Kazmierciewicz	X	Senior Deacon
Bro John Caruso	X	Junior Deacon
RW Brian Sneed, PGSB	X	Senior Master of Ceremonies
Bro Tyrone Coronato	X	Junior Master of Ceremonies
WB Robert S Moorhead, Jr	X	Senior Steward
RW Eric P Neuffer, PGC	X	Junior Steward
Bro Robert Agolio	X	Chaplain
Bro Arjune Sharma	X	Tyler
WB Walter S Orcutt, Jr	X	Marshal
Bro Jesse Woll	X	Historian

Brothers Present

<u>Current Grand Officers</u>	<u>Past Grand Officers</u>	<u>Brothers Present</u>	
RW Nick Kaufman, DRI		WB Ed Lubas	WB Steve Dugan
		WB Matt Kaufman	
		WB Dan Kaufman	
		WB Steve Gnall	

There were 20 Master Masons present. WB Ed Lubas sat in for the Senior Warden.

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 Annual Communication on December 11th, 2025, that were distributed via email, did generate comments and were thus amended. These minutes were approved as Amended.

Sickness and Distress:

None offered.

Joys and Celebrations:

WB Orcutt advised that he recently won a raffle for a motorcycle in Colorado.

Presentation of Bills:

None to present.

Communications:

The Secretary reminded the brethren of the College Scholarships offered by the Grand Lodge Masonic Charity Foundation for graduating HS seniors. The flyer is available for view at the Secretary's desk after the meeting.

Petitions:

None currently.

Ballots:

N/A

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report:

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

Charity account:	\$4,648.00
Operating account:	\$11,061.00
Savings account:	\$61,393.00

The Treasurer summarized some results from 2025-

*Rentals generated nearly \$10,000.00 in revenue.

*The net income for 2025 was an approximate \$6,000.00 loss, due to the cost of the new roof installed last year.

Buildings & Grounds:

WB Moorhead provided details on the recently completed lodge room ceiling tile job. All the tiles were taken down and painted, and the lodge room thoroughly cleaned. Thanks were given to all that participated.

Charity:

WB Park advised that for the recent Masonic Santa program, all expenses were covered by donations. Thanks to all that came out to support. The program continues to be a big success.

WB Moorhead suggested that we might try a "Christmas in July" road drive to generate even more charity funds.

*There was discussion that also suggested this could be done during the annual fireworks event (more discussion to follow).

Bro Bulger suggested that there was a lot of interest in someone selling drinks during the fireworks event. That we may be able to set up a refreshment stand for the event as another fund raiser.

Rental Report:

WB Moorhead advised that there is a lot of activity in rentals. There are (2) this weekend and a total of (4) in January.

Unfinished Business:

N/A

New Business:

WB Moorhead advised that there have already been (6) entries for the upcoming chili cookoff in February, off to a great start. He advised that there will be tickets for sale to vote for the "people's choice" award.

*There has been a lot of initial social media traffic about this and we are looking forward to a lot of new competitors. All brethren are asked to share the flyer posted on the lodge's Facebook page to increase visibility.

The Worshipful Master took some time to share his thoughts on the following:

*He offered his appreciation for a most excellent dinner provided by the Stewards this evening.

*He expressed great satisfaction with the recent lodge room refresh and that it was a job well done.

*He offered thanks to WB Nelson Drobness and RW Eric Neuffer for their ongoing efforts to assist our EA Brothers with their studies to advance.

*He also spent time reflecting on his return to the East, the mosaic of brethren we have at #165 and the many varied experiences and knowledge we all bring the lodge. He expressed his hopes for how he would like the lodge to move forward during his year.

>>Secretary's note:

We are anticipating a Fellow Craft Degree to be scheduled sometime in February. Degree rehearsals will be scheduled, and we hope to see as many officers and brethren as possible come out to support the work. Keep an eye out for the emails advising dates & times.

Announcements:

- 1/12 Baldwin Chapter RAM @ Harmony #8
- 1/15 Fellow Craft Degree @ Mansfield #36
- 1/22 Blairstown #165 Regular Communication
- 1/27 MWPM/DLI @ Kittatinny #164 (dinner @ 6:30 pm)- **all officers are required to attend.**
- 1/28 Entered Apprentice Degree @ Musconetcong #42
- 1/29 Entered Apprentice Degree @ Harmony #8

Closing:

As there was no further business, the Lodge was closed in harmony and good order at 8:30 pm by WM Bill Chadwick.

Fraternally,

Bro Barry W George

Secretary

Blairstown Lodge No. 165 F&AM

