

Masonic Temple Wednesday Evening 13 August, 2025

At a Stated Communication of St. John's Lodge #3, A.F. & A.M.

New Bern, North Carolina

HELD ON THE ABOVE DATE PRESENT:

Bro. Arthur B. Romans W.M.
Bro. Joseph E. Fuller, PM as S.W.
Bro. W. Terry Tripp J.W.
Bro. Thomas L. Williams, PM Treas.
Bro. William C. Zerby, PM Sec'y.
Bro. Robert W. Webster Chaplain



Bro. Joseph E. Fuller, PM as S.D.
Bro. Joseph S. Kawalski J.D.
Bro. Nicholas C. Coyle Steward
Bro. Christopher A. White Steward
Bro. Kito Romans as Tyler
Bro. _____ as Marshall

Lodge opened on the third degree of Masonry in Due Form at 7:30 p.m.

St. John's Lodge #3 was opened in due form by the WM. After the Flag Ceremony, WM recognized all Veterans, Certified Lecturers, Past Masters, Coaches, First Responders, and prior/current District Officers.

SD introduced our guests.

Sick and Shut-ins WB James Warren, keep in thoughts and prayers while undergoing treatment
Keep WB Fred Whitty in our thoughts and prayers while undergoing treatment
WB Riley Hughes is recovering back surgery
WB James Wiley is recovering eye surgery
WB David Daniels is having shoulder surgery
WM held a moment of silence for the passing of GM of SC MW Tommy Watson
Those in the western part of the state in our thoughts and prayers
Unspoken needs of our Brothers and Widows

WM dispensed with labor in this MM lodge and directed SD to conduct bro Aaron Weems into the lodge for examination of the FC Catechism. The examination was given by WB Larry Mares. The WM found bro Weems examination to be satisfactory and congratulated him. WM asked for all who are not MM to retire and labor was resumed in the MM lodge.

Good News: WM extended thanks to all the brethren who attended the School of Instruction.
WM thanked bro Mark Bledsoe for donating his time to help change a tire for widow Jackie Davis last week
MW Billy Dill presented WB Arthur Romans the Grand Masters 100 metal

The minutes of the last Stated Communication of July 28 was read for information.

Treasurers Report: WB Tom Williams gave the treasurers report: Gen Acct: \$73,702.19
Mngt Acct: \$4,510.10

Bills Allowed: \$20.02 to bro Chris White for drinks
\$402.00 to WB Arthur Romans for purchase of projector & screen
\$78.38 to bro Terry Tripp for tonight's meal

Motion by bro Joseph Kawalski 2nd by bro Robert Webster to pay the bills, motion carried.

- Old Business:
- Reminder to Brethren, please pay your dues for 2025, we currently have 26 brothers owing dues for 2025, As a reminder, later this year, anyone owing dues for 1 year or more will be excluded for Non Payment of Dues in accordance with the Code.
 - WM commented on the Endowed Membership, cost is currently only \$1911.00 for one-time payment or can be broken up into 5 annual payments of 477.75
 - Scholarship Program Update: Education from Masonic Foundation Date to be announced. This education will also cover potential for lodge moving money into investment accounts.
- New Business:
- WM thanked those who responded to my call to action in the “Stuff the Bus” effort. What a great way to show support to our local community.
 - Discussion was held on Past Masters and Ladies Night. Proposed date Nov 15 @ 530
 - Our 2nd Degree is tentative scheduled for 17 Sept 2025.
 - Regarding Whitestone Fraternal Friendship WB Joey Transou will be giving an educational program on 22 Oct 25. This will be given after the meal, but before the lodge is opened, this education will be open to all Masons, Spouses and Widows who would like more information on this program.
 - Recognize donation from Mrs. Jackie Davis of WB. Dale Davis Past Grand Commander Uniform. Also, a reminder of Masonic Rites form was given to the lodge
 - WM discussed the Scottish Rite Golf Tournament, lodge was asked if we would like to sponsor a team or just a hole. (cost \$500.00/team, \$100.00/hole. A motion was made by bro Dominick Giorgianni, 2nd by bro Robert Webster to sponsor a hole. Motion carried.
 - MW Bill Dill addressed some of the amendments to the code.
- Coaching Report: Aaron Weems was examined tonight
Roger Baysden 1st degree
- Building Report: - WM gave an update on exterior Work being completed. Also. The back evelator is being repaired
- Fundraiser Report: Bro. Mark Bledsoe gave an update on raffle.
- Membership Outreach: Bro Mark Bledsoe reported on the coffee & donuts event.
Next scheduled date is Sep 6 @ 9 am.
He also spoke on “fishing with a cop” event being held Sept 1
- The New Bern Masonic Theater, Historic Preservation Foundation Report: There will be a Broadway Presentation on Sept 13, 630-9pm, Catered by Baxter’s. Ticket Sales are live, \$100pp will post Eventbrite link on Facebook and via Grandview.
- Book Club: Bro Francis Anson announced the next meeting will be 31 Aug. Book reading will be The Craft & It’s Symbols
- Masonic Education: WB Bob Martelet gave a lesson on symbolism of the [Möbius](#) Strip
- Good of Masonry: WB Joseph Fuller presented WM Arthur Romans his Coaching Certificate

- Important Dates:
- 20 Aug 2nd degree practice 6pm
 - 23 Aug - 251st Anniversary Observance of New Bern Resolves (Parade Steps off 9:30am by History Center) 8am pictures behind History Center. If rain, there will be no parade and the event will be held at the Harrison Center on Middle St.
 - 1 Sep Fishing with Cops, River Bend. 8-1 pm
 - 13 Sep NBMTHPF Fundraiser Best of Broadway
 - Sept 17th 2nd Degree
 - 17-18 Oct Scottish Rite Fall Reunion
 - 10 Sept Raffle Drawing during Stated Communication
 - Sept 18-20 Grand Lodge Annual Communication
 - 4 Oct Scottish Rite Golf Tournament in New Bern
 - 10-11 Oct Oxford Homecoming
 - Feb 2026 Scottish Rite train ride to GM SGIG

WM thanked bro Terry Tripp for the meal

The meal was served in Lowthorp hall before the meeting.

There being no further business to come before this Lodge, the minutes were read and approved, and this Lodge was closed in due form.

William C. Zerby. PM
Secretary