Masonic Temple Wednesday Evening 8 October 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. James A. Wiley	as S.W.
Bro W. Terry Tripp	J.W.
Bro Thomas L. Williams, PM	I Treas.
Bro. William C. Zerby, PM	Sec'y.
Bro Robert W. Webster	Chaplain



S.D.
J.D.
Steward
Steward
as Tyler
_as Marshall

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

bouge opened on the unit degree of Masoni y in bue Form at 7.50 p.in.

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 him in your thoughts and prayers.

Keep WB Fred Whitty in our thoughts and prayers

WB Riley Hughes in recovery

Bro Earl Temple is suffering from cancer

Candi Williams, wife of WB Tom Williams, is home with hospice

WB Joe Fuller is recovering from skin cancer removal

WB Bob Marlelet is out sick

Those in the western part of the state in our thoughts and prayers

Unspoken needs of our Brothers and Widows

Good News:

- I would like to report that on 26 Sept 25, we hosted the Society of the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence for tours of the lodge and we hosted one of their three annual meetings and also that they donated \$500.00 to the lodge. Thanks went out to Bro. Bob Mull for providing the Toast to the Flag.
- Thanks to all the brethren who attended the Fellow Craft degree at Doric Lodge on the 27th..
- WM announced recognition on Grand Lodge Social Media (Bradham Bear Dedication)
- Bro Joe Kawalski sent thanks to those that attended nation-night-out at River Bend.
- WB James Wiley spoke with Pepsi regarding the Bradham Bear.

The minutes of the Stated Communication of 24 Sept was read for information

Treasurers Report: WB Tom Williams gave the treasurers report: Gen Acct: \$66,716.20

\$4,510.10

Bills Allowed: \$14.06 to Scottish Rite for birthday letters postage

\$39.07 to bro Chris White for part of tonight's meal \$63.58 to bro Terry Tripp for part of tonight's meal

Motion by bro Joseph Kawalski 2nd by bro Nicholas Coyle to pay the bills, motion carried.

Old Business:

- Reminder to Brethren, please pay your dues for 2025, we currently have 18 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 onetime payment or can be broken up into 5 annual payments of 477.75
- Reminder of St. John's Lodge No. 3 Homecoming Banquet, scheduled for Nov 15, 2025 @ 530 pm, honoring our Past Masters, Ladies and Awardees
- 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.

New Business:

- Next GL Annual Communication scheduled for 25-26 Sept 2026
- Discussion was held regarding the Adopt-a-Highway renewal.
- WM read letter from the Office of the Judge Advocate regard the expulsion of a Timothy Harris of St. John's lodge #3.
- WM announced a 1st degree at Grantham Lodge. Meal @ 630, Degree @ 730pm
- WM reviewed the motion for the moving of monies to a Truist acct. Discussion was had. A motion was made by bro Mark Bledsoe, 2nd by bro Joseph Kawalski, to move \$50,000.00 to a Masonic Foundation account for investment. Motion carried.

Coaching Report:

William Hall – working on 3rd deg catechism,

Aaron Weems awaiting 3rd deg w/ WB Larry Mares. Roger Baysden – coaching on 2nd degree catechism.

Building Report:

WM reported on the rear elevator repairs progress.

Membership Outreach: Bro Mark Bledsoe gave an update on the coffee & donuts event. Next event scheduled for Nov 1 @ 9am..

The New Bern Masonic Theater, Historic Preservation Foundation: WM reported their next meeting is scheduled for Oct 30 @ 530 in the banquet hall.

Masonic Education:

Bro Mark Bledsoe gave a lesson on "The Savannah Story" and the raising of a mason in the Union Army by a Confederate Lodge in Savannah during the Civil War.

Important Dates:

- 9 Oct 1st degree, Grantham Lodge. Meal @ 630, Degree @ 730
- 10-11 Oct Oxford Homecoming
- 17-18 Oct Scottish Rite Fall Reunion
- 22 Oct Special education on the Masonic Foundation prior to meeting.

Also, Step-up night

- 26 Oct Book Club Meeting 2pm
- 29 Oct Officer practice (3rd degree)
- 1 Nov Installation of Grand Lodge in Wilmington
- 15 Nov Homecoming, St. John's Lodge
- 16 Nov SAR Commemorating Statia Day 2-3 pm
- 15 Dec SAR Commemorating U.S. Bill of Rights Day 2-3 pm

Good of Masonry:

Bro Zack Carpenter, od Doric Lodge, presented St. John's Lodge a watercolor painting of St. John's building.

WM thanked bro Terry Tripp & Stewards 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		