

Masonic Temple, Wednesday Evening, 22 April 2026

At a Stated Communication of St. John's Lodge No. 3, A.F. & A.M. New Bern, North Carolina

HELD ON THE ABOVE DATE PRESENT:

W. Bro. Dominick P. Giorgianni
Bro W. Terry Tripp
Bro. Francis L. Anson
Bro. Kito B. Romans
W. Bro. Arthur B. Romans, PM
Bro. Aquiles P. Faustino

Master
S.W.
J.W.
Treas.
Sec'y.
Chaplain



Bro. Joseph S. Kawalski
Bro. Nicholas C. Coyle
Bro. Robert W. Webster
Bro. C. Brian Fuller
Bro. Mark E. Bledsoe

S.D.
J.D.
Steward
Steward
Tyler

St. John's Lodge No. 3 was opened on the Third Degree of Masonry in Due Form at 7:30 p.m.

After the Flag Ceremony,

The Master recognized all Veterans, Past/Present First Responders, Past Masters, Certified Lectures, Coaches, Past/Present Grand Lodge and District Officers.

The Master thanked our Stewards, Brothers Brian Fuller and Robert Webster for the delightful meal (BBQ Sandwiches and Fries).

5 Guests were in attendance:

Bro. Tommy Potter - Lillran Lodge #925 Alabama
WB. Mark Bevil - Griffin #413 GA & Ringold Lodge #90
Bro. Cameron Bradford - Griffin #413 GA & Ringold Lodge #90
WB. Sherrill Watkins - Royal White Hart #2
Bro. Ed Watkins - Denver Lodge #757

Sick and Distressed Report:

WB. Tom Williams' wife Candy, please keep in thoughts and prayers.

Bro. Amos Mantlya diagnosed with ALS.

WB. Wayne Lynton's wife passed away on 16 April 2026, Services will be Friday April 24th at Highland Park Christian Church. Visitation begins at 2PM, Service starts at 3PM.

Prayer was given by Chaplain

Glad Tidings Report:

WB Bob Martelet is celebrating his birthday on the 26th of this month.

Thanks to the 8 Brothers who helped support the Veterans Luncheon at Doric Lodge on 15 April 2026. It was a great success with 52 Veterans and First Responders being served. The New Bern Police Department, New Bern Fire Department, River Bend Police Department, Craven County Sheriff's Office and several veterans were in attendance.

Thanks to the 8 Brothers who attended the Grand Master's District Meeting at Pleasant Hill Lodge. The meeting was very informative and several excellent points were made.

WBro. Doug Soltow reported on the Brothers from Scheneveus Valley Lodge trying to coordinate a visit if scheduling allows.

Masonic Minute Given by Master: "Masonry and Morale: Community Support During the Revolution."

The Secretary read the minutes of the Stated Communication of April 8th 2026.

The Treasurer made his report:

- Lodge Checking: \$ 36,256.94
- Lodge Management: \$ 510.10
- NC Masonic Foundation Investment: \$53,519.12

The Secretary Cleared His Desk –

Balloted on Petition for Degrees for

Mr. Nathan Rhea Davis - Elected to Receive the Degrees of Masonry
Mr. Brian Dean Sprecher - Elected to Receive the Degrees of Masonry

Collected: \$210.00 from Meal Basket

The following bill was presented

Atlantic Engraving (Stairwell Plaques) - \$82.39
C. Brian Fuller (Meal 4/22) - \$15.16
R. Webster (Meal/ Drinks 4/22) - \$129.71
The Old Pinnx (Cornerstone Dedication Food) - \$121.29

Dominick G. - \$47.71 (Cornerstone Dedication Materials / Float Samples)

A motion was made by Bro Nick Coyle., Seconded by Bro Mark Bledsoe to pay the bills.
Motion Carried.

Old Business:

-Dues Update 14 Brother Owe Dues for 2026 / Delinquency notices have been mailed out.

-4th of July Float Update: We now have a truck/trailer and garage. We are needing brethren to assist with building walls and print banners. Move trailer in June over to Billy Zerby's garage.

-Cornerstone Rededication on 225th Anniversary (Actual Date was 15 April) Celebration will be on 25 April 2026 beginning at 1PM the Grand Master and a delegation of Grand Lodge Officers will be in attendance and conducting Masonic Ceremonies. The Grand Lodge will open/close prior to ceremonies. Officers will be in Black Suit and Tie will fill remaining officer chairs as needed.

Scholarship Fund - Status update given by Bro. Kito Romans

New Business:

- Currently have 2 Brothers wanting Petition for Reinstatement
 - Roy Nobles - less than 2 years since NPD per The Code 78-1 brother has sent payment and shall be restored.
 - Jim Thames - NPD'd in 1999 sending payment will require background check and vote due to being over 2 years.
- ½ Payment to Honest Renovations to begin work on Lowthorp Hall
- Yarn Bomb Bro. Bradham Bear for America 250. Motion by WB Joe Fuller and 2nded Bro Nick Coyle Motion Passed.
- Patriot Square Brick Purchase (Thanks to the Brothers who donated the brick
- Abner Nash Patriot Grave Marking on 17 May 2026 with SAR / DAR.

Committee Reports:

- Coaching- James Laurine Coaching / Ed Brinson Coaching
- Building/ NBMTHPF Report given by WB. Arthur Romans
- Fundraising- Soliciting Ideas for Fundraisers (Grill / Pellet Smoker / Blackstone)
- Membership Outreach - Coffee and Donuts on 2 May 2026
- America 250 -
- Lion and Pillar-

Education: The Master covered the order of Ceremonies for the upcoming Cornerstone Rededication.

Important Dates and Announcements:

- April 25th 2026 - Cornerstone Rededication @ 1PM
- May 1st Sudan Shriners Fish Fry.
- May 2nd Coffee and Donuts
- May 13th Stated Communication
- May 15th Scottish Rite (BBQ Chicken Fundraiser) Tickets \$12 Per Plate
- May 17th Abner Nash Grave Marking with SAR/DAR
- May 27th Stated Communication
- 8 Aug 2026- Lecture / Instructor Examinations (Greenville/ Wilmington)

Good of Masonry:

WBro Bob Martelet made comments/jokes about the Price is Right.

There being no further business to come before this lodge, the minutes were read and approved, and this Lodge was closed in due form at 9:05PM by the Master.

At the conclusion of the meeting the brethren departed and were invited to The Old Pinnix for Fellowship.



Arthur B. Romans, PM
Secretary

Masonry and Morale: Community Support During the Revolution

7. Community support was also essential to the revolutionary effort. While men were being sent off to battle, their wives and families were left to support themselves. The role of Masonic lodges in providing community support during the American Revolution was crucial to reinforcing loyalty and solidarity within the communities.

Aid to families came in the form of financial assistance. Many lodges organized funds to support families of soldiers serving the war effort. This included providing food, clothing and financial assistance to help families cope with the absence of their loved ones. Lodges often established emergency funds to assist families affected by the war, especially in areas where battles occurred and where resources were scarce.

St. John's Lodge No. 1 in New York actively engaged in fundraising efforts to support the families of soldiers. They organized events where proceeds went directly to assist those in need, demonstrating their commitment to the community.

Masonic lodges in Boston were instrumental in setting up relief efforts for families impacted by the Siege of Boston. They organized food distribution and other forms of aid to ensure that families did not suffer unduly during this tumultuous period.

Social Gatherings and community events were often organized by lodges to provide emotional support to families, thus creating a sense of community and connection among those affected by war. These gatherings served to uplift morale and encouraged families to support the cause, reinforcing the idea that their sacrifices were contributing to the greater good.

The community support initiatives of Masonic lodges during the Revolution helped build stronger ties among citizens. This sense of unity and mutual aid contributed to a broader commitment to the revolutionary cause and laid the groundwork for future civic organizations. The emphasis on supporting one another fostered a culture of civic responsibility, which continued long after the Revolution. Masonic lodges became models for community organization and philanthropy in the years that followed.

Masonic lodges played a vital role in supporting families affected by the American Revolution through financial aid, food provisions, social events, and care for the wounded. Their efforts not only reinforced community ties but also bolstered loyalty to the revolutionary cause, demonstrating the power of collective action in times of need. This legacy of community support continues to be a hallmark of Masonic traditions today.



St. John's Lodge #3

Date 22 April
2026

	Name	Lodge	No.	City/State
1	Doug Soltow, PM	St. John's	3	New Bern, N.C. 28560
2	Bob Martelet	St John's	3	New Bern NC
3	James Wiley	" "	3	New Bern
4	Kenn Hall	St Johns	3	New Bern, NC
5	Tim Pugh	St. John's	3	New Bern NC
6	John Pugh Jr PM	St John's	3	New Bern NC
7	Tomm & POTTER	LILLIAN LODGE 425	425	LILLIAN, AL
8	Trevor Tompkins	St. John's	3	New Bern, NC
9	Robert Parks	St John's	3	New Bern, NC
10	Mark Berij	Griffin / Ringgold	413 / 90	Griffin, Ga.
11	Bob Bishop	St Johns / Ringgold	3 / 90	New Bern / Griffin GA
12	Cameron Bradford	Ringgold 90	90	Griffin, GA
13	Joe Fuller PM CC	St. John's	3	New BERN NC
14	ED WATKINS	DENVER LODGE 757		DENVER, NC
15	S Roy Farrow PM	ST. John's	3	New Bern NC
16	Steven Langescheidt	ST John's	3	
17	Sherrill E. WATKINS	NC 2, 51 HON-347, 148, 707 VA 211		NC VA
18	Craig Zimmerman	St-Johns	3	New Bern, NC
19				
20				
21				