



# 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District

## The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania



Bristol Lodge No. 25, Hermann-Humboldt Lodge No. 125,  
Doylestown Lodge No. 245, W.K. Bray Lodge No. 410,  
Newtown Lodge No. 427, Fairless Hills Lodge No. 776, Southampton Radiant Star Lodge No. 806

*Richard H. Bradbury, Sr., P.M.*

January 2015

As many of you may be aware, the R.W. Grand Master Robert J. Bateman has appointed me to the position of District Deputy Grand Master for the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District effective on December 27, 2014, St. John's Day. I would like to thank the R.W. Grand Master for the honor to represent this District and serve the Grand Lodge. I would also like to thank Brother Carl L. Swope, our DDGM at the time of this writing, for nominating me to fill the position he held with distinction for the past seven years. I will do my best to maintain the high level of service to the Grand Lodge and District that he and those who preceded me demonstrated. I am well aware of the large shoes I have to fill.

For those who may not know me, I have been a member of the Fraternity since being entered in Quakertown Lodge, No. 512, in 1988. In 2007, I was accepted for dual membership into Doylestown Lodge No. 245 where I served as Worshipful Master in 2013. I am a member of the Doylestown Royal Arch Chapter, No. 270; Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite – Valley of Allentown; Pennsylvania Masonic Shield and Square Club and the Aircraft Square Club No. 963. I am the Deputy Chief of Police for Warrington Township where I have been employed for the past 38 years. My wife, Patty, and I have been married for 32 years and reside in Plumstead Township. We have an adult son and two adult daughters.

The Bradbury family has had a connection with lodges in the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District for a century. My grandfather, Howard W. Bradbury was Worshipful Master of Newtown Lodge, No. 427, in 1921, having been entered in 1915. Howard W. Bradbury, Jr., my father, was a member of W.K. Bray Lodge, No. 410, having been entered in 1947 and my son, Richard H. Bradbury, Jr. was entered in Doylestown Lodge, No. 245, in 2012. The women of the family also had a connection with the Order of the Eastern Star. My grandmother, Mary E. Bradbury, was a charter member of Neshaminy Chapter, No. 374, Newtown, PA; and my mother, Marian W. Bradbury, was a member of Morning Light Chapter, No. 312, Hatboro, PA.

I believe that communication is an important component of any organization. Therefore, I am pleased to announce that the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District will be launching a website in the very near future. This site will have a District calendar for all the Lodges to post their meetings and events as well as some useful Masonic information for the members of the District and a link to all our Lodges. A Facebook page is also planned for the future to augment the website, for those who are active users of social media. Likewise, a monthly newsletter, similar to this one, will be produced in order to keep our Brethren connected and informed.

As we move forward, I plan to have organized activities for the members of the District along with other events to bring our members together. This provides us the opportunity to meet and get to know your Brothers and their families from around the District. Since the R.W. Grand Master has instituted proficiency requirements for those who are planning on traveling to the East, the officers of the District School of Instruction will be assessing how best to provide the needed instruction to aid our Lodge officers in meeting those goals and further address the needs of our Brethren whereby strengthening the Lodges. Details of those initiatives will be reported in upcoming newsletters.

This is an exciting time for me and hopefully for the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District as we continue to be one of the most active and growing districts in Pennsylvania. I look forward to visiting and working with your Lodge.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

*Richard H. Bradbury, Sr., P.M.*

## 8th Masonic District School of Instruction

Frey Masonic Center  
850 Norristown Rd., Warminster, PA

**Meets Monthly at 7:30 pm**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Monday and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday**  
**(Except July and August)**

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### NEW DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER PRESENTATION INVITATION

You are invited to the Open Presentation of Brother Richard H. Bradbury, Sr., P.M. as the new District Deputy Grand Master for the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District at Doylestown Lodge, No. 245, F. & A.M., 55 East State Street, Doylestown, PA on Friday, January 23, 2015 at 7:30 pm.

As this is a Grand Lodge event, The Right Worshipful Grand Master, Robert J. Bateman and the Grand Lodge officers will be in attendance and participate; as will The Worshipful Masters, Senior Wardens and Junior Wardens from the Lodges in our District.

This invitation is extended to Brethren in the District as well all Freemasons, non-Masons, their spouses, family and friends to join us to share in this exciting time for the new District Deputy Grand Master and for our District.

There will be a reception in the Fellowship Hall following the presentation.

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### THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

January 30, 1833

President and Bro. Andrew Jackson became the first U.S. president to become the target of an assassination attempt. The would-be assassin, Richard Lawrence, pulled a gun, which misfired, after which Bro. Jackson struck him with his cane. Lawrence then pulled a second gun, which also misfired.

January 10, 1984

Bro. Dave Thomas, founder of Wendy's Food Chain, made Clara Peller an instant cult figure in the first of the "Where's The Beef?" TV advertisements promoting Wendy's Hamburgers. The ornery old lady appeared in a total of four commercials, which created record levels of consumer awareness and won a Clio award.

## The Chisel as a Working Tool?

Recently, a newly raised Brother read about a chisel being a symbol in Freemasonry but did not recall it being mentioned as a working tool in the degrees. He questioned if there is a Masonic significance. Here is the answer:

**Chisel.** In the American Rite the chisel is one of the working tools of a Marked Master and symbolizes the effects of education on the human mind. For as the artist, by the aid of this instrument, gives form and regularity to the shapeless mass of stone, so education, by cultivating the ideas and by polishing the rude thoughts, transforms the ignorant savage into the civilized being.

In the English ritual, the chisel is one of the working tools of the Entered Apprentice. With the same reference to the advantages of education. Preston (B.II., Sect. vi) thus elaborates its symbolism as one of the implements of Masonry: "The chisel demonstrates the advantages of discipline and education. The mind, like the diamond in its original state, is unpolished; but as the effects of the chisel on the external coat soon present to view the latent beauties of the diamond, so education discovers the latent virtues of the mind and draws them forth to range the large field of matter and space, in order to display the summit of human knowledge, our duty to God and to man." (*Illustrations*, ed. 1812, p. 86, footnote.) But the idea is not original with Preston. It is found in Hutchinson, who, however, does not claim it as his own. It formed, most probably, a portion of the lectures of the period. In the French system, the chisel is placed on the tracing board of the Fellow-Craft as an implement with which to work upon and polish the Rough Ashlar. It has, therefore, there the same symbolic signification.

*An Encyclopedia of Freemasonry and Its Kindred  
Sciences by Albert G. Mackey*

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### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"It has not been my fortune to know very much of Freemasonry, but I have had the great fortune to know many Freemasons and have been able in that way to judge the tree by its fruit. I know of your high ideals. I have seen that you hold your meetings in the presence of the open Bible, and I know that men who observe that formality have high sentiments of citizenship, of worth, and character. That is the strength of our Commonwealth and nation."

Calvin Coolidge