



8th 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. – District Deputy Grand Master

March 2015

8th Masonic District School of Instruction

Frey Masonic Center
850 Norristown Road, Warminster, PA

Meets Monthly at 7:30 pm
1st Monday and 3rd Friday (Except July and August)

CALLING ALL INSTRUCTORS

The Annual Regional School of Instruction will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2014 at the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia.

Many changes have taken place in the ritual these past few years and it is important that the Lodge ritual instructors are up to date on them to insure we are teaching our Brothers the proper way.

I am expecting the ritual instructors from each lodge in District 8 to be in attendance. This is an important event for the future of the ritual and your Lodge! If you have any questions, please contact our principal or me.

MARCH CALENDAR

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| 02 | 8th Masonic District School of Instruction |
| 11 | Official Visitation - Newtown Lodge |
| | <i>Program: Dyslexia Center in Reading</i> |
| 11 | Hermann-Humboldt Lodge Stated Mtg. |
| 13 | Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting |
| | <i>Program: Desperate Measures/
Circumstances in Civil War – Herb Kaufman</i> |
| 16 | Southampton Radiant Star Stated Meeting |
| | <i>Program: NJ Freemasonry: A Comparison to PA
– Tom Labagh</i> |
| 17 | Official Visitation - Fairless Hills Lodge |
| 18 | W.K. Bray Lodge Stated Meeting |
| | <i>Program: Pizza Night at W.K. Bray Lodge</i> |
| 20 | 8th Masonic District School of Instruction |
| 28 | Leadership Seminar-Region 1- Newtown Square, PA |

Please look at the offerings and come out and join your Brethren in the District.

TIPS FOR MEMORIZING THE RITUALS

BEFORE MEMORIZING ANY PART OF THE RITUAL OR A LECTURE

1. If using the *Ritual Manual*, learn to read the ritual or lecture fluently without hesitating.
2. Check with one who knows the lecture or ritual to be sure you are not mistaken in your choice of words. If a wrong word is learned, habit makes it difficult to correct the situation, even though the mistake is eventually recognized.
3. Check the dictionary to learn meanings and pronunciations of unfamiliar words.
4. Learn the full meaning of any strange sentences. Check with one who knows the ritual or lecture for explanations of the meaning and symbolism of unfamiliar phrases and sentences. It is difficult to memorize words and sentences that have no meaning to you.
5. Decide how each sentence should sound when read or recited aloud. Decide where voice inflection should occur and where emphasis should be placed. Always read the sentence in the same way, never deviating from what you have once established to be the proper way to do it.
6. If you are using the *Ritual Manual*, read and re-read the ritual or lecture many times until you are thoroughly familiar with it.
7. Use every opportunity to hear others deliver the lecture or ritual. Make a mental note of what you do and do not like about the way they have given it.
8. Understand that these steps are to be taken before memorizing anything and are as important as the actual job of memorizing, and will require as much of your time as the job of memorizing the lines.

These first hints are very important because the more familiar you are with the lecture, the easier will be the job of memorizing it. Do not be impatient to start memorizing.

MASONIC HUMOR

In days of old a Brother Knight was having his squire polish up his best armour and his groom curry his best charger. His fair lady, seeing the activity says "If you're going to that Lodge again, you'd better be back before 10:30 else I'm bringing up the drawbridge and you're out for the night." "Yes, dear" he says, packs his apron into his saddlebags and heads off to the meeting.

10:23 and there's been a bit of Harmony at the close of the meeting. Sir Knight looks at his sundial and sees the time. He downs the last of his mead, grabs his apron, leaps to his charger and sets off at full gallop towards the castle. 10:28 and he's on the home stretch, the castle is up ahead but the horse is tiring. He spurs it into one last gasp effort. 10:29, only yards to go but the drawbridge is starting to rise. With a feat of horsemanship still unsurpassed, he gets to his feet in the saddle and leaps for the rising edge of the drawbridge. His fingertips just curl over the top but the beer and the weight of the armour are just too much. As his fingers slowly release their grip on the wood, he looks down and says "Oh well. So moat it be!"

SOLOMON'S WORD BUILDER

At some point in your Masonic journey, you may have heard these words spoken. Test your word-power knowledge. This puzzle was created by Br. Robert A. Poland, II and found in the *Indiana Freemason* magazine.

1. Palliate: A. The roof of the mouth; B. To cover up; hide; C. A painter's work board; D. To breathe heavily.
2. Profane (Masonically): A. Uninitiated; not a Mason; B. The act of cursing; C. Famous in sports; D. Atheist
3. Beneficent: A. Proper dieting; B. Granting a wish; C. Dog Food; D. Brining about or doing good.
4. Appellation: A. Having to do with a court appeal; B. A name or title; C. A mountain range in the Eastern U.S.
5. Monotheism: A. The practice of remaining celibate; B. Monogamy; having one wife; C. The belief that there is only one God.

WHY DO MASONS WEAR APRONS?

The use of the apron is extremely old, not, as with the operative Masons, as a protector of clothing and body against tools and stone, but as a badge of honor. It was so used by the priests of Israel, by candidates for the mysteries of Mithras in Persia, by the ancient Japanese in religious worship. Ethiopia knew aprons as did Egypt. In all times and climes, it has been a badge of distinction. It is as such that a Mason wears it.

The material of the Masonic apron – lambskin – is a symbol of innocence, as the lamb has always been.

Color and material are important in its symbolism but Masonry admits the "symbol of the symbol" – as, for instance, an electric light in place of a candle. Hence a Mason has more than once been "properly clothed" when the lambskin aprons of the lodge were all in use and he came through the tiled door clad in a white handkerchief!"

One Hundred One Questions About Freemasonry,
The Masonic Service Association

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Freemasonry has promoted fellowship, it has nurtured brotherhood, it has practiced charity. It has education, it has been founded on truth and the cardinal virtues. But what is Masonry's greatest mission in life today? What should be the thrust of modern Masonry? Those are the answers we are presently seeking, and on our success in finding the answer depends the future of our Fraternity."

L. L. Williams

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

March 26, 1794

President Bro. George Washington and Congress authorized the creation of the U.S. Navy.

March 11, 1942

Bro. and Gen. Douglas MacArthur was ordered by President Bro. Franklin Delano Roosevelt to leave the Philippines as Japanese forces continued to advance during World War II. Bro. MacArthur headed for Australia vowing "I shall return." He kept that promise nearly three years later.

ENJOY AN EVENING WITH Bro. GEORGE WASHINGTON IN HATBORO

Saturday, March 21st, at 5:00 pm, come have dinner with famed re-enactor, Bro. Dean Malissa, Concordia Lodge No. 67, as Bro. George Washington, at W.K. Bray Lodge, No. 410, 1 S. Penn St. Dinner: \$10.00/pp. (Masonic dress).

At 7:00 pm, he will speak at Lehman Methodist Church, York & Lehman Rds. followed by the movie, "The Battle of Crooked Billet" at 8:30 pm. Admission: \$5.00/pp; kids 10 and under are free.