



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

May 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)

MAY CALENDAR

- 02 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Lodge History–Doug Craig, P.M.
- 04 8th Masonic District School of Instruction**
Frey Masonic Center-Warminster
- 08 Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Emergency Services Night
- 13 Hermann-Humboldt Lodge Stated Mtg.
Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: First Responders Presentation
- 14 Red Cross Blood Drive – Doylestown Lodge
- 15 8th Masonic District School of Instruction**
Frey Masonic Center-Warminster
- 16 Scottish Rite Installation – Valley of
Allentown
- 18 Official Visitation-Southampton Radiant
Star Lodge**
*Program: What the Ritual Really Means –
Jerry Hamilton, P.M.*
- 19 Fairless Hills Lodge Stated Meeting
- 20 W.K. Bray Lodge Stated Meeting
*Program: Past Masters' Night – PMs will
perform the Fellowcraft Degree*
- 25 Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast –
Doylestown Lodge
- 30 Bristol Lodge June Stated Meeting
Program: Summer Safety

Please look at the offerings and come out and join your Brethren in the District. See website calendar for details.

You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else." Brother Melvin Jones

TIPS FOR MEMORIZING THE RITUALS

WHEN GIVING THE LECTURE

1. Always remember that primarily you are talking to the candidates, and the brethren about the lodge are overhearing your remarks. Talk to them in normal voice volume and in a natural tone of voice. Look at the candidates while speaking.
2. Do not let your mind wander to the hard part that comes later on in the lecture. Think only of what you have to say at the moment.
3. Forget about your blushes and the sweat on your forehead. No one will see it.
4. Graciously accept the prompting, if needed, and go on without worrying or being embarrassed.
5. There should be a single prompter, perhaps the lodge Ritual Instructor. Have this person who knows the lecture sit near your lecture station and tell him not to prompt unless you signal for it.
6. Do not talk too slowly or too fast; your presentation should be clear and deliberate.
7. Get expression into the lecture as much as possible without assuming an unnatural tone of voice.
8. When you have given a good lecture, you will know the personal pride, satisfaction and enjoyment that goes with doing the job. That will be your wages for effort.

DISTRICT 8 WEBSITE HAS BEEN LAUNCHED

Visit our District Website at www.pa8thmasonic.com for information on upcoming events and information. Like us on Facebook at PA 8th Masonic District. If you have any suggestions for content, please contact DDGM Bradbury. Thank you to Brothers John Dominic, Tom Davidson and Lou Emanuele.

DID YOU KNOW?

According to Alphonse Cerza, in his article *"The Truth Is Stranger Than Fiction,"* published by the Masonic Service Association, September 1967, some places and streets bear names that have Masonic significance. Some may be merely a coincidence; others may have been named because of a Masonic connection. For example: Boaz, Alabama; Charity, Missouri; Cowan, Tennessee; Emblem, Wyoming; Fidelity, Illinois; Five Points, Alabama and Tennessee; Freeborn, Minnesota; Grotto, Washington; Hiram, Maine and Ohio; Jachin, Alabama; Lodge, South Carolina; Mason, Kentucky; Mason City, Iowa; Mount Moriah, Missouri; Square, Montana; Steward, Illinois; Symbol, Kentucky; Temperance, Michigan; Tyler, Texas; Wisdom, Montana.

There is an Acacia Road in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. There is a Mason Street in Boise, Idaho; Chicago, Illinois; Evanston, Illinois; Joliet, Illinois; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and Springfield, Illinois. Norfolk, Virginia, has a Freemasons Street. There is a Masonic Avenue in San Francisco, California.

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

May 14, 1897

Bro. John Philip Sousa's march, "The Stars and Stripes Forever" was performed for the first time at Philadelphia, PA.

The occasion was the unveiling of a statue of Bro. George Washington and US President and Bro. William McKinley was present. In 1997, the US Postal Service issued a stamp commemorating the 100th anniversary of the premiere of the stirring march. Bro. Sousa probably had a greater influence on martial music than any other composer or band leader. In 1985, a bill was introduced in Congress to make "The Stars and Stripes Forever" the official national march of the United States.

He was a member of Hiram Lodge No. 10, Washington, DC, a member of Eureka Chapter No. 4, (RAM), Columbia Commandery No. 2 (K/T), and a member of the Almas Shrine Temple, all of Washington, DC. At the time of his death he had been a Mason more than 50 years. Masonic services were conducted by his lodge at the Congressional Cemetery after he died March 6, 1932.

Quote of the Month

"So far as I am acquainted with the principles and doctrines of Freemasonry, I conceive it to be founded in benevolence and to be exercised only for the good of mankind."

George Washington

WHY IS AN APPRENTICE "ENTERED"

The word goes back to operative days. The Freemasons of the middle ages were a select group; they were the highest class artisans of their time. It required sound health, moral character, high intelligence, to be a good operative Freemason, permitted to work on the great House of God which were the Freemasons' work. They were proud of their abilities and of their reputation and strict in their rules.

To become a Freemason a young lad was required to serve a seven year apprenticeship before he might ask to be permitted to make and submit to his superiors his "Master's Piece" and be admitted as a "Fellow of the Craft." Before he could serve his time he had to prove himself; therefore he served a period of time as an Apprentice. If at the end of that period he had shown himself possessed of the necessary qualifications of industry, character, decency and probity, he was "entered" on the books of the Craft and became an Entered Apprentice."

Originally an Apprentice was not a member of the Masonic Craft, even after being entered on the books of the lodge; not until he had passed his apprenticeship and been accepted as a Fellow was he a Craftsman. This practice gradually gave way to the modern idea and after 1717, Apprentices initiated in lodge formed the build of the Craft. Ritual teaches that the Apprentice is a symbol of youth, the Fellowcraft of manhood, and the Master of old age; probably this conception is derived from the fact that learners, beginners, are young, experts are men, and the wise and learned the elder group.

*One Hundred One Questions About Freemasonry,
The Masonic Service Association*

MOON LODGES

A century ago there were more than 3,000 Masonic Lodges which can be described as "Moon Lodges"; in 1954, there were fewer than 500.

These Lodges meet on the day of the full moon for practical reasons; the brethren had light to travel by at night.

There may have been some symbolic meaning also. The advent of electricity, street lights and the automobile made the reason for meeting on such nights antiquated though unique. Many Grand Lodges now require Lodges to meet on fixed days of the week.

Bristol Lodge No. 25 is the only Lodge in the District that still meets as a "Moon Lodge"; with their Stated Meeting held on the Saturday of or before the full moon.