



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

www.pa8thmasonic.com

Richard H. Bradbury, Sr. – District Deputy Grand Master

November 2015

8th Masonic District School of Instruction

Frey Masonic Center
Norristown Road, Warminster, PA

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

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- 02 8th Masonic District School of Instruction**
- 06 Hermann-Humboldt Lodge Annual Gruenkohl**
Essen (Kahl Dinner), VE Club, Warminster
- 07 Valley of Allentown Scottish Rite Fall Reunion-**
Day 2
- 11 Hermann-Humboldt Lodge Stated Mtg.**
- 11 Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting**
Program: Veteran's Night/Gen. Douglas
McArthur – Bro./Rev. William Hartman
- 13 Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting**
Program: Veteran Appreciation Night/Help for
Heroes – Jeffrey Pullman
- 14 District 8th One-Day Journey-Newtown**
Lodge
- 15 Friendship-Bray DeMolay Installation, W.K.**
Bray Lodge
- 16 Southampton Radiant Star Lodge Stated**
Program: Help for the Heroes-Veteran
Recognition
- 17 Fairless Hills Lodge Stated Meeting**
- 18 W.K. Bray Lodge Stated Meeting**
Program: New Members Night
- 20 8th Masonic District School of Instruction**
- 21 Bristol Lodge November Stated Meeting**
Program: Past Masters' Night
- 28 Bristol Holiday Parade**

Visit our District Website for details

www.pa8thmasonic.com

OLD LODGE RECORDS UNCOVERED IN MAINE

Eric Cavers recently purchased a home near Thompson Lake in Otisfield, Maine. A neighbor asked whether he had seen the old bus in the woods on his property. His answer: "What bus?"

The former owner had a bus that he used as an office, as a workplace for his duties as secretary of Presumpscot Lodge, No. 70, in Windham. Brother Ephraim S. Jillson, "mayor of Otisfield," and a dedicated Mason for nearly 65 years, kept the Lodge records in the old bus. No one in the Lodge knew it, and, when he passed away years ago, no one even knew of the bus.

Over the years, the records were subjected to the ravages of weather and critters. Most of the records in the old bus were destroyed, but others were in pristine condition, including the lodge records from its inception in 1864 through 1884. They included documents about the dispensation and charter to form the Lodge from the Grand Lodge of Maine, and the records of many local men becoming Masons.

When the treasure was found, Rt. Wor. Brother Walter Vickers, on behalf of the property owner, called Rt. Wor. Brother Thomas E. Pulkkinen, former editor of *The Trowel*, official magazine of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, now living in East Boothbay, Maine and active with the Grand Lodge of Maine, to evaluate the "find." Brother Vickers is a Native American chief of the Nipmuc Nation and member of United Brethren Lodge in Marlborough, Massachusetts. His son-in-law is Rick Cavers, a member of Oxford Lodge in Norway, Maine. Rick's son is Eric Cavers, the new owner of the bus.

This provides a lesson that records of any Lodge should be kept securely in the Lodge building, and that members should always know the whereabouts of these valuable historic items. For Presumpscot Lodge, it was discovery of a lost treasure.

Source: The Trowel, Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, Summer, 2013
(Emessay Notes, August 2013)

FAMILIAR RING

I met a man the other day,
A fellow-traveler on life's way;
Our paths had never crossed before,
And maybe we shall meet no more.
At least not this side of heaven's gates
Where the great Architect awaits –
He bore no mark of wealth or fame,
Perhaps he'd won no great acclaim,
Upon his hand he wore a ring –
'Twas not a costly jeweled thing –
But there an emblem plainly shown
Told me that I was not alone,
For as we stood together there
I knew that he was on the square.

Bro. Brigadier George Crewe

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

November 1, 1922

The cornerstone of the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia was laid using Bro. George Washington's trowel.

November 5, 1912

Roy "King of the Cowboys" Rogers was born Leonard Slye at Cincinnati, OH. His many songs included "Don't Fence Me In," and "Happy Trails To You." He made his acting debuting "Under Western Stars": in 1935 and later hosted his own show, "The Roy Rogers Show," from 1951-57. Bro. Rogers died at Apple Valley, CA, July 6, 1998. Bro. Rogers was a member of Hollywood Lodge 355, Hollywood, CA.

ARE THE TRACING BOARD AND THE TRESTLE BOARD MASONICALLY THE SAME?

No. The tracing-board bears upon it representations of the several symbols of one or all the degrees; the trestle board is that drawing board, supported upon a trestle, on which, anciently, the Master Builder drew his designs. In early lodges Masonic symbols were drawn upon the earth or floor with charcoal or chalk; these were erased when the meeting was over. Later, such symbols were presented upon a permanent surface and became the "Master's Carpet," and today in many lodges are to be seen upon oil cloth or canvas, pointed out by a Deacon during the delivery of the lecture. Trestle board appears at least two hundred years ago, mentioned in Prichard's "Masonry Dissected," early expose of Masonic ritual.

One Hundred One Questions About Freemasonry, MSANA

DID YOU KNOW?

ONLY 1 PERSON SIGNED 4 MAJOR U.S. DOCUMENTS

The history of the United States tells us that only one person signed our nation's four major early documents: the Articles of Association in 1774; the Declaration of Independence in 1776; the Articles of Confederation in 1777, and the U.S. Constitution in 1787.

That person was Roger Sherman, of Connecticut.

Was he a Mason? His Masonic apron is on display in the Museum at Yale University, a gift from his descendants, and his two sons were Masons. However, there is no other historic record of his membership in a Lodge. All records seem to have been lost.

Brother Sherman was born in 1721 in Newton, Massachusetts, admitted to the bar in 1754, served in the Connecticut assembly in 1755-1766 and in the state senate in 1766-1785, elected as Congressman from Connecticut in the 1st Congress in 1789 and was a U.S. Senator from 1791 until his death in 1793.

He was chosen as a delegate to the Continental Congress, was on the committee to draft the Declaration of Independence with Brothers Benjamin Franklin and Robert R. Livingston, and Thomas Jefferson and John Adams. (He is pictured with the others in the famous painting that hangs in the Capitol Rotunda.) Brother Sherman helped draft the Articles of Confederation, made 138 speeches during the Constitutional Convention, helped draft the New Jersey Plan and the Connecticut Compromise, and authored a major section of the Constitution.

Patrick Henry described him as one of the three greatest men at the Constitutional Convention.

*(Source: W. Martin Myers, District Education Officer, Grand Lodge of Virginia, and member of the Virginia Lodge of Research.)
Emessay Notes*

Quote of the Month

"Some students of Masonry drink at the fountain of knowledge – others just gargle!"

Anonymous

NOTABLE FREEMASONS

John Elway, Hall of Fame Quarterback for Denver Broncos (1983–1998), South Denver - Lodge No. 93, Denver, Colorado

Shaquille O'Neal, NBA basketball player. Made a "Mason at sight" by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts F&AM

Brad Paisley, American country music artist, Southern Jurisdiction, Scottish Rite