



# 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

[www.pa8thmasonic.com](http://www.pa8thmasonic.com)

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

January 2016

### 8th Masonic District School of Instruction

Frey Masonic Center  
850 Norristown Road, Warminster, PA

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

### JANUARY CALENDAR

- 04 8th Masonic District School of Instruction**  
*Board of Governors' Meeting-WM's*  
*Mandatory Attendance*
- 08 Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting**  
*Program: Whiskey, Matt Caffrey*
- 13 Hermann-Humboldt Lodge Stated Mtg.**
- 13 Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting**  
*Program: Rededication to Freemasonry,*  
*Edward O. Weisser, RWPGM*
- 15 8th Masonic District School of Instruction**
- 18 Southampton Radiant Star Lodge Stated Mtg.**  
*Program: Overview of the Year: Back to Basics*
- 19 Fairless Hills Lodge Stated Meeting**
- 20 W.K. Bray Lodge Stated Meeting**  
*Program: Introduction of Appointed Officers;*  
*Use of Defibrillator in case of emergency*
- 23 Bristol Lodge October Stated Meeting**  
*Program: Installation of Appointed Officers and*  
*discuss the agenda and programs for the year.*
- 30 Annual RWGM Masonic Breakfast, LuLu Shrine**

### THANK YOU FOR A GREAT FIRST YEAR

At my presentation last January, the Grand Lodge officers explained that the jewel shown above is that of the District Deputy Grand Master. It represents the blazing sun in the center of a wreath composed of two branches of laurel, tied by a ribbon. The jewel is worn suspended from a collar of purple ribbon.

The two branches of laurel suggests the Right Worshipful Grand Master on the one hand and the Brethren of the district on the other. The District Deputy Grand Master should unite them into one common wreath of friendship and Brotherly Love.

The rays that radiate from the blazing sun should remind you of the warm rays of Strength – Wisdom - and the Fraternity which emanate from the great light of Freemasonry and aids the DDGM in his service and to have pleasure; the Brethren receives light and knowledge and the Grand Lodge profits thereby.

As I look back on the year I think we, as a district, have personified those ideals and met a few goals of our own. I am aware that change can be difficult, especially when it involves a change in leadership. I would like to thank the officers and members of the district for their openness and understanding as we transitioned. It has been a great experience for me and I hope the lodges have profited thereby.

I have made efforts to keep communication a priority as we moved forward. Aside from instituting this newsletter, the district website and Facebook page to provide updated information, fifty-three sympathy cards were sent to the families of deceased Brethren on behalf of the Grand Lodge and the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District. I have also attended seventeen viewings/funerals and a wide assortment of Grand Lodge, Blue Lodge and assorted appendant body events.

Thanks to the commitment of the lodges, suspensions in the district were decreased significantly from prior years and I expect this to continue in the coming year. At the Quarterly Communication in December three brothers from this district were recognized with the Grand Master's Master Builder Award (two from Newtown Lodge and one from Doylestown) and a brother from Newtown Lodge received the Master Masonic Scholar award from the Academy of Masonic Knowledge. These programs take commitment on the part of the brother and all are to be congratulated. Thanks to the generous contributions made by the lodges, I presented checks totaling \$1,000 to the Right Worshipful Grand Master toward the Masonic Charities-Library/Museum at the Quarterly Communication along with a \$500 check from Newtown Lodge for the Masonic Home-Elizabethtown.

I would like to congratulate the newly installed officers and thank them for their willingness to serve both their lodge and Freemasonry in general. I look forward to working with them as the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District continues to be successful and one of the strongest districts in the jurisdiction.

## WHY IS A LODGE MEETING CALLED A “COMMUNICATION”?

In Old English “communication” was “to common” – to share with others. In the church “communion” is the common partaking of a sacrament. In a Masonic lodge “communication” “to common” is to gather in a “communication,” signifying not just a meeting of men to legislate, but a gathering of men with a common purpose, governed by a common idea, believing in a common ideal. It is one of the precious and delightful ways in which Masonry keeps alive an old, old idea in the words of long ago.

*One Hundred One Questions About Freemasonry*  
The Masonic Service Association-April 2013

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### THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

January 6, 1759

Bro. George Washington married the widow Martha Custis. She had first married Daniel Parke Custis in 1749 and bore him four children, two of which died in childhood. Custis died in July, 1757, leaving Martha one of the wealthiest women in Virginia. Bro. Washington first met her in March, 1758 and lost no time in proposing marriage, and was just as quickly accepted. Bro. Washington took his new wife and her family to his Mount Vernon estate. They had no children of their own. Martha died in 1802.

January 6, 1912

In 1912., Bro. Danny Thomas, was born Muzyad Yakhoob, later Amos Jacobs, at Deerfield, MI. Bro.; Thomas began his acting career as a radio actor and nightclub comedian, then went on to the movies in the 1940s and 1950s. His greatest fame came from his television show, "Make Room for Daddy" (1953-64), and later as a television producer. He was also a tireless philanthropist. Founder of St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital at Memphis, TN., Bro. Thomas often told the story of how physicians at his hospital explained to him the need for a very unique therapy for a patient at St. Jude's which was only available at a Shrine Masons' Hospital. Bro. Thomas told the doctors to proceed with the treatment, regardless of the cost. When he was advised by the Shriners that there would be no cost, Bro. Thomas was shocked and vowed to find out more about this organization. Shortly thereafter, he petitioned for and became a Mason. Prior to his death, he was featured in videos and wrote articles praising the good works of Freemasonry. Bro. Thomas died February 6, 1991, at Los Angeles, CA.

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### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Man's action are the picture book of his creeds.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

## A LITTLE MASONIC HUMOR

### THE GAVEL

You might wish to give your newly installed Master, at the time the gavel is turned over to him, a little card to let him know what the gavel is for.

A Gavel is a Mallet for Making Members More Mannerly when they are Muttering, Mumbling, Murmuring and Munching while the Master is Mentioning Memorable Matters to the Membership."

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### DID YOU KNOW?

#### THE ADVENTURES OF CAGLIOSTRO

One believed to have been given the name of Joseph Balsamo but who later adopted the name "Count Cagliostro", has the dubious distinction of being the world's outstanding Masonic charlatan.

He became a Mason in London in 1776, and later conceived the idea of his "Egyptian Rite", which he formulated and promoted with his wife.

The project was a money making scheme; they founded lodges throughout Europe.

His colorful career came to an end when he established one of his lodges in Rome.

He was arrested on December 27, 1789, and charged with the "crime" of being a Freemason.

He was imprisoned by the papal police, was questioned, tortured, tried and found guilty.

He died some years later while still in prison.

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### GLOSSARY: APRON

A garment worn over part of the front of the body for protection.

In Freemasonry, the lambskin or white leathern apron is an emblem of innocence; the badge of a Freemason. Every Mason must wear an apron on entering a lodge. See Article 15.01 to .04, the *Ahiman Rezon*.

Originally, the apron was worn as a full skin with the legs of the lamb secured by a tape around the Mason's neck. It protected the upper part of his clothing when he clasped a heavy stone. Later as he became more proficient in his trade he had no further use of the upper portion or bib, so he let it hang down over the lower part. The Masonic apron of today is constructed with a triangular piece overlapping the lower portion. The significance of the apron is work. It is the initial gift of the Lodge to a candidate, and it is the final tribute to a Brother.

*The Exemplar, 1985*  
William A. Carpenter, RWPGM