



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

May 2016

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 **8th Masonic District School of Instruction**
- 11 Hermann-Humboldt Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: First Responders Night, Bros. Janoski, Troxel
- 11 Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Appendant Bodies Night
- 13 **Official Visitation – Doylestown Lodge**
Program: Bees, Vincent Aloyo, Master Beekeeper - Del Val University
- 16 Southampton Radiant Star Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Family Night/First Responders Night, What all family members should know, Bro. J.R.Dotsey, PM
- 17 **Official Visitation – Fairless Hills Lodge**
- 18 W.K. Bray Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Past Masters' Night – PMs will perform Fellowcraft Degree
- 20 **8th Masonic District School of Instruction**
- 21 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: First Responder Night

AUDIE LEON MURPHY

Audie L. Murphy, son of poor Texas sharecroppers, rose to national fame as the most decorated U.S. combat soldier of World War II. Among his 33 awards and decorations was the Medal of Honor, the highest military award for bravery that can be given to any individual in the U.S.A., for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty". He also received every decoration for valor that his country had to offer as well as 5 decorations from France and Belgium.

Born June 20, 1924 near Kingston, TX, he was the 7th of 12 children of poor sharecroppers. Growing up he picked cotton and became very skilled with a rifle to hunt small game to

help feed the family. His father left the family in 1940 and his mother died in 1941 so at the age of 17 he was left to care for his younger siblings. When the US declared War in 1941, Audie rushed to enlist. He first attempted to join the Marines but was turned away for being too small – he was 5'5" tall and weighed only 110 pounds. He attempted to join the Army paratroopers and was again turned away.

Finally he enlisted in the Regular Army as an infantryman. Following basic recruit training at Camp Wolters, TX he went through Advanced Infantry Training at Fort Meade, MD and was shipped overseas to a unit operating in North Africa. He saw little action there but in July, 1943 he landed in Sicily and received his baptism of fire. His captain tried to shield him from the fighting but Audie slipped off to join any patrol he could and soon distinguished himself under fire as a resourceful and effective soldier. He excelled in the invasion of Salerno but then caught malaria, twice; he kept returning for more action. He refused a battlefield commission to stay with his unit. The details of his wartime battle exploits are legendary and documented in his autobiography *To Hell and Back* which was developed into a movie in which he starred as himself.

Following the war he was released from the Army and reassigned to inactive status; he eventually did become a 2nd Lieutenant. Actor James Cagney invited Murphy to Hollywood in Sept. 1945 and after two lean years, he started receiving acting parts. He made a total of 44 feature films in the 25 years he was in Hollywood. He suffered from what is now known as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), became addicted to a prescription drug and locked himself in a motel room to overcome the addiction. He became a strong advocate to help combat and control this disorder in returning veterans. While on a business trip on May 28, 1971, he was killed at the age of 46 when a private plane he was traveling in crashed into the side of a mountain near Roanoke, VA.

Audie Murphy became interested in Freemasonry in 1955 and received his First Degree on February 14, 1955 in North Hollywood (CA) Lodge No. 542. He was passed on April 4, 1955 and raised on June 27, 1955. Later he became a dual member with Heritage Lodge No. 764, also in North Hollywood. He received his Scottish Rite Degrees on Nov. 11-14, 1957 and became a Shriner on Nov. 15, 1957.

(Source: The Philatelic Freemason – July-August 2007-Emmesay Notes Aug. 2007)

8TH MASONIC DISTRICT-WIDE FAMILY AND FRIENDS EVENT SCHEDULED SATURDAY, JULY 30TH

Come and enjoy an evening of baseball, food and fellowship with your brethren of the 8th Masonic District!

We have scheduled a night at the ballpark as **Altoona Curve v. Trenton Thunder on Saturday, July 30, 2016 @ 7:00pm**. The picnic area along the third baseline has been reserved to allow for a great view, food and fellowship while enjoying the game. We will also have a special visit from Boomer, the Thunder mascot, for photos with the kids.

The price is \$26.00/person which includes reserved seats at comfortable picnic tables, a 90 minute all-you-can-eat picnic buffet, a firework show and special group rates on merchandise. This friends and family event is open to both Masons and non-Masons. The more people the merrier!

The menu for the all-you-can-eat picnic buffet is: All beef hot dogs with sauerkraut, Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers and Veggie Burgers, Lettuce/Tomato/Onion Tray, Baked BBQ Chicken, Home-Style Potato Salad, Garden Salad with dressings, BBQ Baked Beans, Watermelon Wedges, Ripple Chips, Thin Pretzels & Cookies. Water and fountain sodas are complimentary for 90 minutes, ending one hour into the game. Other beverages are available for purchase throughout the game.

For tickets to this fun family evening contact the Worshipful Master of your Lodge or the District Event Coordinator, Bro. Uriah Young at uymason@outlook.com. Since we need to get an idea of the number of tickets needed as soon as possible, we ask that you not wait and order your tickets now.

Since our group name will be shown on the video screen, we encourage you to wear your Masonic shirt/hat to show your pride of being members of this great Fraternity!!! See you at the game.

STEPHEN GIRARD'S FUNERAL CAUSES TROUBLE

Stephen Girard, a wealthy merchant of Philadelphia, died on February 26, 1831. His will left a fortune to many worthy causes. There was a report that when he was near death, he had requested his sister to secure a Roman Catholic priest. This was construed as a desire to become reconciled with the church; but when the priest arrived, Girard was dead.

On the strength of this report permission was given to admit the body into the German Roman Catholic Church building. 400 Masons assembled at the Masonic Hall, by invitation of the Grand Lodge, and marched to the church to attend the funeral. They did not wear their aprons in order to avoid criticism. The clergy, left in a body and refused to perform any service. The Masons took charge and buried the remains of Stephen Girard in the vault he had designated. When Girard College was built under the terms of his will, the body was re-interred in a marble tomb on the grounds of the school.

www.MasterMason.com

ORDER OF THE MUSTARD SEED

Q. Does anyone have any information regarding this Order and does it have any connection with Freemasonry?

There have been a very few references to an Order also known as the Order of the Grain of Mustard Seed. The latter is probably what is being referred to here.

So far as can be established this Order was modeled on Freemasonry by Count Nicolas Ludwig von Zinzendorf of Dresden, Germany (1700-1760) in his youth whilst at Halle Academy. In 1739 he revived the Order which apparently had an extensive ritual based on the Gospel of Mark. It was therefore a Christian Order and its main purpose was to spread knowledge of the Gospel across the world. Influential members of European society who became members included the King of Denmark, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Archbishop of Paris. The Order seems to have failed soon after the death of its founder.

(Source: *ARS Quatuor Cononatorum Transactions*- Vol. 122),
Emmesay Notes

EXCUSES! EXCUSES!

The High Priest of a Royal Arch Chapter who had been called for jury service asked to be excused.

"On what grounds?" asked the judge.

"My Royal Arch Chapter is host for a statewide York Rite Festival, and as High Priest I should be there."

"So, you are one of those men who think you are indispensable; you think your organization can't function without you. Is that it?"

"No sir; far from that. I know very well they can, but I don't want them to find out."

"Excused," said the judge.

Tied to Masonic Apron Strings, Stewart M.L. Pollard

GLOSSARY: SEVEN LIBERAL ARTS

Educators, as far back as the Middle Ages, divided their curriculum into seven branches of learning, divided into two groups. The first group, called the quadrivium, is composed of arithmetic, geometry, music and astronomy. The second group is comprised of grammar, rhetoric and logic, known as the trivium.

The Exemplar, 1985
William A. Carpenter, RWPGM

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"The secret of Masonry, like the secret of life, can be known only by those who seek it, serve it, live it. It cannot be uttered; it can only be felt and acted. It is, in fact, an open secret, and each man knows it according to his quest and capacity. Like all things worth knowing, no one can know it for another and no man can know it alone."

Dr. Joseph Fort Newton