



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

Website: www.pa8thmasonic.com; Facebook: PA 8th Masonic District

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

January 2017

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)

JANUARY CALENDAR

- 02 No School of Instruction**
- 07 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting**
Program: Examination of Visitor, Ken Roton, PM
- 09 8th Masonic District Board of Governors' Mtg.**
- 11 Hermann-Humboldt Lodge Stated Meeting**
- 11 Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting**
Program: Introduction to the New Year, New Officers/Committee Introductions
- 13 Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting**
Program: Opiate Epidemic in Bucks Co. & How to Help, Scott Weisenberger, CEO Malvern Institute
- 16 Southampton Radiant Star Lodge Stated Mtg.**
Program: Introduction of Officers & Appointments/Announce Theme for the Year
- 17 Fairless Hills Lodge Stated Meeting**
- 18 Official Visitation - W.K. Bray Lodge**
Program: Presentation of Master Builder Awards/Examination of a Visitor
- 20 8th Masonic District School of Instruction**
- 28 Masonic Breakfast Honoring RWGM Dietz**
LuLu Shrine Auditorium, Ft. Washington

CENTURY CLUB PIN AWARDED

Richard H. Bradbury, Sr., District Deputy Grand Master conferred his 100th Degree in Doylestown Lodge No. 245. It was a Master Mason Degree conferred on Brother Thomas Rawa, Jr. on November 17, 2016.

At the Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication, RW Grand Master Raymond T. Dietz presented Bro. Bradbury with the Century Club pin and certificate. Congratulations!

MASTER BUILDER AWARDS EARNED

Congratulations to Brothers Frank R. Strassacker and Eric A. Carlson, members of W.K. Bray Lodge No. 410 for having earned the Grand Lodge Master Builder Award. Due to being unable to attend the recent Quarterly Communication, the District Deputy Grand Master will present the awards at the January stated meeting.

The Master Builders Award was developed by the Grand Lodge to recognize newly made Masons who have worked diligently to engage in the activities of their Lodge, their District, and the Fraternity as a whole.

Each participant is required to complete several courses via the Grand Lodge's online education system, as well as complete a personal Masonic journey through other avenues of the Fraternity.

Information on this, the Master Craftsman and the Master Pillar Awards can be found on the Grand Lodge website. While the Master Builder Award is for newly made Masons, The Master Craftsman and Master Pillar Awards are for all brothers who have been members of the Fraternity.

KEEP UP TO DATE ELECTRONICALLY

The electronic social media sites for the 8th Masonic District found on the above banner are great ways to keep abreast of events in our Lodges, enjoy photos and other items of interest. You are encouraged to visit them often for new information or to check the calendar. Also, if notified in time, the cancellation of a meeting due to inclement weather, will be posted there.

The Grand Lodge and RW Grand Master also have Facebook Pages. Information and photographs from events in our District have been recently posted on them. They are "The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, F & AM" and "Grand Master of Masons of Pennsylvania" respectively.

Some of our Lodges also have up to date websites and Facebook pages to advertise their upcoming events and meetings. When you have a few minutes, search around...you will be glad you did.

DID YOU KNOW?

Masons in the Air

On his famous solo flight over the Atlantic in 1927 Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh wore the square and compasses on his jacket as a good luck emblem. He was a Mason at the time.

When Bernt Balchen, explorer and air pioneer, flew over the North Pole and the South Pole with Brother Richard E. Byrd, they dropped Masonic flags on both Poles. In the 1933-35 expedition over the South Pole, Brother Balchen also tossed his Shrine fez on the Pole.

Leroy Gordon Cooper, Jr., famous astronaut, on his 22 orbit flight carried a Masonic coin in his pocket as well as a blue Masonic flag which he later presented to his mother lodge, Carbondale No. 82, Carbondale, Colorado.

On August 23, 1879, Lodge No. 239 of France held a meeting in a balloon flying over Paris, at which time a Brother was initiated.

The inventors of the first balloon were Joseph Montgolfier, Michel Montgolfier, and Jacques Etienne; all were members of the Nine Sisters Lodge in France.

Brother Eddie Rickenbacker, World War I air ace, was a devoted Mason for many years.

MORE FREEMASONRY IN MOVIES

The appearances of Freemasonry in movies range from the unremarked and irrelevant use of symbols such as the square and compasses on scenery and properties, to the actual enactment of masonic ritual by principal characters. The following Masonic references are some examples.

American Gangster (2007)

Ted Levine, as Det. Lou Tobaek, wears a masonic lapel pin [0:13:18].

Help! (1965)

Ringo Starr asks an Indian restaurant doorman, "You know what this ring means?" He replies, "Freemason?"

In Cold Blood (1967)

During a police interrogation, accused murderer Dick Hickock says: "Everybody's got a tattoo. Only you people call them clubs. Elks, Masons, Boy Scouts. Salute. High sign. Low sign. Secret this and secret that." [01:29:00]

Miami Vice (2006)

Colin Farrell and Jamie Foxx are parked in front of a Scottish Rite hall. [01:53:00]

Overboard (1987)

In the beginning of the movie, as Dean (Kurt) is driving into town, the camera pans past the "Welcome to 'Elk Cove' sign. Attached is a very obvious large blue masonic emblem.

True Grit (1969)

Kim Darby's character, Matty, on viewing her recently deceased father in a coffin in a funeral parlor, tells the farm hand, "When you get home, you put him in a better coffin and you bury him in a mason's apron." [00:13:12]

Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon website

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

January 9, 1908

US President and Bro; Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed Muir Woods a National Monument. Most of the majestic redwood trees that once covered many of northern California's coastal valleys were cut down during the extensive logging of the 19th century. Only the least accessible trees were spared. Fortunately, a stand of old-growth redwood survived in Marin County, a short distance from San Francisco. Congressman William Kent purchased the land in 1905 and donated it to the Federal Government. Although Roosevelt had suggested naming it after Kent, the congressman requested that it honor the name of John Muir, the naturalist, writer, and crusader for national parks who founded the Sierra Club conservationist organization.

January 17, 1876

The saxophone made what many consider to be its first public appearance in the US when it was played by Etta Morgan at New York City's Olympic Theatre. The instrument had been invented in the first half of the 19th century by Belgian musician Adolphe Sax.. Early on the saxophone became an integral part of the wind band, and later on of jazz music. Bro. Sax also invented the Saxhorn in 1845 which helped usher in a new range of musical expression. Bro. Sax was initiated in Belgium's Lodge Les Vrais Amis de l'Union in 1842.

THE INDISPENSABLE MAN

A Past Master's apron, presented with the usual eulogy, caused one recipient to quote this humbling bit of verse.

Sometime when you're feeling important,
Sometime when your ego's in bloom,
Sometime when you take it for granted,
You're the best qualified in the room;
Sometime when you feel that your going
Would leave an unfillable hole
Just follow these simple instructions
And see how they humble your soul.
Take a bucket and fill it with water
Put your hand in it up to your wrist,
Pull it out, and the hole that's remaining
Is a measure of how you'll be missed.
You can splash all you want when you enter,
You may stir up the water galore;
But stop, and you find that in no time
It looks quite the same as before.
The moral in this quaint example
Is to do just the best that you can;
Be proud of yourself, but remember
There's no indispensable man.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Show me a thoroughly satisfied man, and I will show you a failure."

Thomas A. Edison