



# 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

Website: [www.pa8thmasonic.com](http://www.pa8thmasonic.com); Facebook: PA 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District

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

April 2017

### 8th Masonic District School of Instruction

Frey Masonic Center at Masonic Village-Warminster  
850 Norristown Road, Warminster, PA

Meets Monthly at 7:30 pm

Stated Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday

Extra Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday – If Needed/Called with due and  
timely notice.

(No Meetings in July and August)

### APRIL CALENDAR

- 03 8th Masonic District School of Instruction**  
Instructional Exemplification of Entered Apprentice  
Degree – Bro. Curtis Barrett, Regional Ritualistic  
Instructor
- 07 Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting**  
*Program: Triathlon Training, Bro. Skip  
Schanbacher, P.M.*
- 08 Sectional School of Instruction**  
Grand Lodge Masonic Temple, Philadelphia
- 08 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting**  
*Program: Family Night*
- 12 Official Visitation - Hermann-Humboldt Lodge**
- 12 Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting**  
*Program: The Role & Procedures for the  
Committee of Inquiry*
- 17 Official Visitation – Southampton Radiant Star**  
*Program: DeMolay, History and Present Day, Bro.  
Rick Friedman*
- 18 Fairless Hills Lodge Stated Meeting**
- 19 W.K. Bray Lodge Stated Meeting**  
*Program: Table Lodge*
- 26 W.K. Bray Lodge Banquet**  
*Program: Major Harris Brooks, Ret.*

### ONE DAY MASONIC JOURNEY ANNOUNCED

The Right Worshipful Grand Master has authorized another statewide One Day Event on Saturday, September 23, 2017. Only the three Symbolic Degrees will be conferred that day. The appendant bodies may have a table of information present. The closest locations to our district are the Allentown Masonic Center and the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. Details will follow.

### NEWTOWN LODGE HOSTS FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT – STAR WARS

May 13, 2017 at 7:30 PM, Newtown Lodge will present the original *Star Wars* movie at the Lower Bucks Masonic Hall, Edgewood and Heacock Rds, Woodside, PA.

Doors open at 6:00 PM when there will be Trivia, Popcorn and a Meet and Greet with Storm Trooper TD-124 for a photo opportunity.

Donations will go toward offsetting the cost of the annual Movies Under the Stars program.

1st RSVP: April 23rd; Final RSVP: May 7th. For additional information please contact Bro. Thomas Gehring, P.M. @ [tgflyers2002@yahoo.com](mailto:tgflyers2002@yahoo.com) or 215-504-0350.

### FINAL OPPORTUNITY TO AVOID SUSPENSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

Your lodge extended the period for payment of 2017 dues until their April stated meeting. If you have not yet paid your 2017 dues, please do so immediately or contact your Worshipful Master of Secretary if there is a financial concern with which you are dealing.

### THANK YOU TO THE BRETHREN WHO ATTENDED THE MASONIC YOUTH MEETINGS

Thank you to those officers and members of the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District who took time from their first weekend in March to attend the Morrisville Assembly #107 Installation and/or the Friendship-Bray Chapter of DeMolay stated meeting. Photos from those events are posted on the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District Facebook page and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania F & AM Facebook page.

The young men and ladies had excellent presentations and they appreciated the support of the Masons attending. If you have never witnessed the work those organizations do, I would strongly encourage you to attend the next event with me.

## THE CHARGE IS DELIVERED

The Charge given in the First Degree cannot be said to be laden with symbolism because it is not intended to be. It is an explanation of the principles by which a Mason should live and an exhortation to the candidate to do so. If properly done, this address will remain with a brother for the rest of his life. I often think that there is more emphasis on the brother delivering the Charge than on the candidate, because it is seen as 'if you can do this, you can do anything' ritual test-piece. We do really need to appreciate that it is not the fact that Fred Bloggs got to the end of the Charge with only one or two prompts that counts! It is the fact that Fred understood it, the way in which he delivered it, and the impression it made on the candidate.

One interesting aspect of the Charge is that it exhorts us to adhere to '*the ancient landmarks of the Order*'. It is difficult to adhere to anything, when you're not sure what it is. The landmarks are basically those tenets of Masonry without which whatever was going on would not be Masonry. Examples are the need for a belief in a Supreme Being, and having the Volume of the Sacred Law open at meetings. I am not going to attempt a list because Grand Lodge never has and any foreign Grand Lodge that has done so has met with criticism from all quarters for including things which have not been applied since Time Immemorial, which, of course, in Masonic terms is the year of the establishment of the Premier Grand Lodge of England in 1717.

*A Guide to Masonic Symbolism, Duncan Moore*

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## TEMPLE OF LIVING STONES

What honored names on history's page,  
O'er whose brave deed we pore,  
Have knelt before our Sacred Shrine  
And trod our "checkered floor."

Kings, princes, statesmen, heroes,  
Bards who square their actions true,  
Between the pillars of the porch,  
Now pass in long review:

O Brothers, what a glorious thought  
For us to dwell upon,--  
The Mystic Tie that binds our hearts  
Bound that of Washington!

Although our past achievements we  
With honest pride review,  
As long as there's rough ashlar,  
There is work for us to do:

We must shape the living stones with  
Instruments of love  
For that eternal mansion in the  
Paradise above:

Toil as we've toiled in ages past  
To carry out the plan,--  
'Tis this: -- the Fatherhood of God,  
The Brotherhood of man.

Lawrence N. Greenleaf

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

An interesting question arose at a Charity Festival meeting of Mark Grand Lodge in August, 1869, the 6<sup>th</sup> Duke of Newcastle, the Provincial Grand Master of the Nottinghamshire Freemasons, (1865-1877) asked:

"How is it, Bro. Binckes, that these large amounts of subscription cannot be obtained unless a certain number of brethren, with a certain number of ladies, are brought together to consume a large amount of bad wine and eat a very bad dinner?"

*The Freemason's Bedside Book, John Mandleberg*

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## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

### April 1, 1889

Bro. Wallace Beery was born in Kansas City, MO. He was voted "The world's Best Actor" in 1934 by the International Motion Picture Exposition at Venice, Italy. Bro. Beery ran away from home as a child to become an elephant trainer in a circus. His first job in films was as a female impersonator. He became noted for his character roles. Bro. Beery belonged to Blaney Lodge 271 of Chicago, IL, held a 32 deg. AASR, and belonged to the Shrine. He died April 25, 1949.

### April 14, 1902

Bro. James C. Penney opened his first store, in Kemmerer, Wyo. The store was to be the first of what was to become at the time the world's largest department store chain with more than 1700 stores. Bro. Penney was born on September 16, 1875 in Hamilton, MO. After the 1929 stock market crash Bro. Penney lost his fortune and wound up beaten and despondent at age 56 and living in a sanitarium. But he proved his method was sound by borrowing money and staging a comeback, which saw him recouping his fortune. He received his degrees at Wasatch Lodge No. 1, Salt Lake City, UT, April 28, May 19, and June 2, 1911. In 1955 he became a dual member of United Services Lodge No. 1118, New York City.

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## WHAT IS AN OBLONG SQUARE?

A rectangle with its length greater than its breadth, or, as applied to the shape of a Lodge Room, the east-west dimension being greater. In ancient times, the world was supposed to be shaped like an oblong square, surrounding the Mediterranean Sea. Symbolically, this is the form of the Lodge Room.

*Masonic Questions and Answers, www.pamasons.org*

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## REGIONAL SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION – APRIL 8, 2017

The 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District will be exemplifying the first degree at the Regional School of Instruction on April 8<sup>th</sup> at the Grand Lodge Temple, Philadelphia. Registration is 7:00-7:15 am with the school starting at 8:00 am. Continental breakfast will be provided. Please come out and support our District.