



# 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*

December 2017

### 8th Masonic District School of Instruction

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

Meets Monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday at 7:30 pm  
Extra Meeting on the 3rd Friday – If Needed/Called with due  
and timely notice.  
(No Meetings in July and August)

### DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 02 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Election and Installation*
- 04 **8th Masonic District School of Instruction**
- 06 **Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication**  
Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, PA  
*Election of Grand Lodge Officers*
- 08 Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Elections and Installation*
- 13 Hermann-Humboldt Lodge Stated Meeting
- 13 Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Election and Installation*
- 18 Southampton Radiant Star Lodge Stated Mtg.  
*Program: Elections and Installation*
- 19 Fairless Hills Lodge Stated Meeting
- 20 W.K. Bray Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Elections and Installation*
- 27 **Annual Communication – Grand Lodge**  
**Installation** The Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA  
**Banquet Dinner** with Entertainment, The  
Hershey Lodge
- 30 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting

*May you and yours have a Safe and Happy Holiday  
Season and a Healthy New Year!*

### THE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION LIVE STREAMED

The Annual Communication being held on December 27<sup>th</sup>  
will be Live Streamed. If you cannot attend the Annual  
Communication in person, it will be live streamed. A link for  
the live stream will be available at [www.PaMasons.org](http://www.PaMasons.org)

### GRAND LODGE COMMUNICATIONS

“COMMUNICATION, QUARTERLY, Anciently Grand  
Lodges, which were then called *General Assemblies of the  
Craft*, were held annually. But it is said that the Grand  
Master Inigo Jones instituted *quarterly communications* at  
the beginning of the seventeenth century, which were  
continued by his successors, the Earl of Pembroke and Sir  
Christopher Wren, until the infirmities of the latter  
compelled him to neglect them. On the revival in 1717,  
provision was made for the resumption; and in the twelfth  
of the thirty-nine Regulations of 1721 it was declared that  
the Grand Lodge must have a *quarterly communication*  
about Michaelmas, Christmas and Lady-Day. These  
quarterly communications are still retained by the Grand  
Lodge of Massachusetts, but all other American Grand  
Lodges have adopted the old system of annual  
communications.”

*Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, Albert G. Mackey*

*The Ahiman Rezon*, “Article 8 – Communications of the  
Grand Lodge, Section 8.01 – The Grand Lodge shall hold  
Communications on the first Wednesday of June and  
December and may hold Communications on the first  
Wednesday of March and September by order of the Grand  
Master. Communications may be changed to another day  
of the month at the direction of the Grand Master.

An Annual Communication shall be held on St. John the  
Evangelist's Day in those years when Grand Lodge  
Officers are advanced in rank and a new Grand Master  
takes office.”

Therefore...

**December 6, 2017 @ 10:00 a.m. – Quarterly  
Communication** (Election of Grand Lodge Officers),  
Grand Lodge of PA Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, PA

**December 27, 2017 @ 10:00 a.m. – Annual  
Communication** (Open Installation of Grand Lodge  
Officers) @ The Hershey Lodge. This event is open to all  
– Masons, non-Masons and ladies. Lunch is free but you  
must have a ticket. Reservations may be made through  
your Worshipful Master or District Deputy Grand Master  
Richard Bradbury.

**6:30 p.m. – Banquet Dinner with Entertainment.**  
Tickets are \$90.00/pp. Advanced tickets required. **The  
deadline to make reservations is December 20<sup>th</sup>.**

## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

**December 24, 1814**

The United States and Great Britain signed the Treaty of Ghent, ending the 2 1/2 year War Of 1812. Unfortunately, communications in those days were not as good as they are today. News of the treaty did not reach the US in time to prevent the Battle of New Orleans, which took place the following month. Located just 100 miles upstream from the mouth of the Mississippi River, the Crescent City offered a tempting prize to a British military still buoyant over the burning of Washington, D.C. To capture the city, Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane fitted out a naval flotilla of more than 50 ships to transport 10,000 veteran troops from Jamaica. They were led by Sir Edward Pakenham, the 37-year-old brother-in-law of the Duke of Wellington and a much-decorated general officer. For protection, the citizens of southern Louisiana looked to Major General and Bro. Andrew Jackson, known to his men as "Old Hickory." Bro Jackson's victory saved New Orleans, but it came after the war was over. The Treaty of Ghent, which ended the War of 1812 but resolved none of the issues that started it, had been signed in Europe weeks before the New Orleans action.

**December 3, 1828**

Backed by the fledgling Democratic Party, Bro. Andrew Jackson was elected seventh president of the US. He defeated sitting president John Quincy Adams. Bro. Jackson, a hero of the Battle of New Orleans, polled 187 electoral votes to 89 for Adams, the son of a former President. While neither man campaigned formally, their backers turned the campaign into a vicious one. To win, Bro. Jackson had to overcome the forces of the anti-Masonic party which had succeeded in darkening two thirds of the Masonic Lodges in America. His election triggered a national comeback for Masonry. Bro. Jackson received the three Craft degrees from St. Tammany Lodge 23 which became Harmony lodge No. 1 at Nashville, TN, October 1822 to October 1824. He was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. From 1822 to 1823. Bro. Jackson was an honorary member of Federal Lodge No. 1 at Washington, D.C. and was also a Royal Arch Mason.

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### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Every crime against our laws, every sin against decency and morality, every sharp practice against square dealing in business, is a serious reflection on the Masonic Lodge, in the neighborhood in which it is committed.

Masonry should not take the pure principles of morality and preserve them in the walled up seclusion of lodge halls, like as we preserve fruit and vegetables and keep them in dark cellars for our own use; but our lodges and our lives should be as lighthouses, blazing out the truths of right living, to bless the community, state and nation, in which we have our being."

Milton Winham, P.G.M., Arkansas.

## THE MASTER'S LAST PRAYER

The day's labours done

My journey's end has come.

A new guide, now leads us on.

The path may be the same,

But the style, is his own:

A new post, will soon pass,

Another mark, will be reached.

Let us all pray, he will lead us,

To an even brighter day.

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### DID YOU KNOW

#### Freemasons Build Forts

"Fort Masonic" was built on what was known as the Heights of Brooklyn, which later became Bond and Nevins Streets, Brooklyn, New York. On August 22, 1814, the Grand Lodge of New York adopted a resolution by which, on September 1, the officers of the Grand Lodge accompanied by a group of Masons from fourteen lodges, went to the place and performed one day's work. On September 17, another day's work was done to complete the work.

"Fort Hiram" was built on October 3, 1814, at Fort Point, Rhode Island, but the Grand Lodge which supervised 230 Masons at work.

Thomas Smith Webb was Grand Master at the time. The purpose of the fortification was to protect the harbor of Providence, Rhode Island.

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### IT'S LATER THAN YOU THINK

Everything is farther than it used to be. It's twice as far to the lodge, for instance, and they've added a hill, I've noticed. I've given up running for my bus, it leaves faster than it used to. Seems to me they are making staircases steeper than they used to make them in the old days. And have you noticed the small print they are using? Newspapers are getting farther away when I hold them and I have to squint to make out the news. No sense in asking to have them read aloud, everyone speaks in such a low voice that I can hardly hear them. The barber doesn't hold a mirror behind me any more so that I can see the back of my head. The strings on the aprons at lodge are shorter than they used to be. The material in my suit is always too skimpy around the waist and the seat. Even my shoe laces are so short they are all but impossible to reach. Even people are changing, they are so much younger than they used to be when I was their age. On the other hand, people my own age are so much older than I am. I ran into an old classmate the other night and he had aged so he didn't recognize me. I got to thinking about the poor old fellow while I was shaving this morning, and while doing so I glanced at my own reflection in the mirror. Confound it, they don't even use the same kind of glass in the mirrors anymore!

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