



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, Southampton Radiant Star Lodge No. 806

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

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

February 2018

8th Masonic District School of Instruction

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

Meets Monthly on the 1st 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)

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

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| 05 | 8th Masonic District School of Instruction |
| 09 | Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting
<i>Program: Masonic References in Cinema-Bro. Bob Burns, PDDGM</i> |
| 10 | Secretary Workshop , Allentown |
| 14 | Hermann-Humboldt Lodge Stated Meeting
<i>Program: Masonic Sites in Philadelphia</i> |
| 14 | Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting
<i>Program: History and Mission of Eastern Star</i> |
| 16 | 8th Masonic District-Extra Mtg. (if needed) |
| 19 | Southampton Radiant Star Stated Meeting
<i>Program: The Opening Charge and Its Meaning</i> |
| 21 | W.K. Bray Lodge Stated Meeting
<i>Program: Masonry Around the World-Bro. Jerry Hamilton, PM</i> |
| 24 | Official Visitation Bristol Lodge Stated Mtg (EA)
<i>Program: The 24 Inch Gauge and Managing Our Time</i> |

LODGE MERGER UPDATE

As anticipated, it was announced at the Annual Communication on December 27, 2017 that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania approved the merger of Fairless Hills Lodge No. 776 with Newtown Lodge No. 427, effective December 27, 2017. The merged lodge will be named Newtown Lodge No. 427, F. & A.M. The first meeting was held on January 10, 2018.

Congratulations and thanks to the Merger Committee for working diligently on the merger. The committee will continue to finish some details of the integration.

JOIN THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER AT THE ACADEMY OF MASONIC KNOWLEDGE

Come out and join District Deputy Grand Master Bradbury at the Academy of Masonic Knowledge on Saturday, March 17, 2018 in Elizabethtown, PA. Registration opens at 8:30 am and the meeting begins at 9:30 am. The Academy is open to all Master Masons regardless of how many years you have in the Fraternity or your level of knowledge of the Craft. All you need is an interest in learning about Freemasonry.

Lunch will be provided (\$10.00 donation requested) and the meeting will end at 3:00 pm. Masonic dress is required. For information on the program, go to the Grand Lodge of PA website under the “Members” section and select Academy of Masonic Knowledge.

Pre-registration is required. To pre-register, please send your name, address, Lodge number and telephone by e-mail to: AMKSecretary@pagrandlodge.org. If you do not have access to e-mail, please make your reservation through your Lodge Secretary.

This is a great day of Masonic fellowship and education. If you would like to carpool, please contact DDGM Bradbury at 215-852-3532, space is limited.

CHECK THE NEWSLETTER CALENDAR FOR MASONIC PROGRAMS

While on the topic of Masonic Education, additional opportunities to gain Masonic Knowledge are available.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master, S. Eugene Herritt, had directed the lodges to have programs during their stated meetings with Masonic Themes. The Worshipful Masters of the 8th Masonic District have responded accordingly with a wide variety of offerings that may be of interest to you.

Be sure to check the monthly calendar in this newsletter to see what the lodges have scheduled and exercise your privilege to visit other lodges in the district. Be sure to have your current dues card with you.

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

February 15, 1933

At Bay Front Park, Miami, Florida, Bro. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, then President of the US, escaped an assassin's bullet meant for him but which, instead, hit and killed Anton J. Cermak, then Mayor of Chicago. Joseph Zangara, the 32-year-old assassin, was electrocuted on March 20, 1933 at the Raiford, Florida State Prison.

February 20, 1792

Bro. and President George Washington signed the Postal Service Act, establishing a permanent Postal Service with a detailed set of rules and procedures. A temporary Service had been in existence since 1775. Bro. Benjamin Franklin was named the first Postmaster. On July 26, 1775, members of the Second Continental Congress, meeting in Philadelphia, agreed ". . . that a Postmaster General be appointed for the United States, who shall hold his office at Philadelphia, and shall be allowed a salary of 1,000 dollars per annum . . ." That simple statement signaled the birth of the Post Office Department, the predecessor of the United States Postal Service and the second oldest department or agency of the present United States of America.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Freemasonry is an establishment founded on the benevolent intention of extending and conferring mutual happiness upon the best and truest principles of moral life and social virtue.

Brother William Calcott, P.M.

DID YOU KNOW?

'Scots Mason' or 'Scots Master' Lodges

The mysterious degree known as the 'Scots Master' is mentioned in the minutes of some lodges in the 1730's and thereabouts; for example, in the minutes of an old Bath lodge we learn that "the Lodge of Masters met Extraordinary & our following worthy Borth^s were made & admitted *Scots Mas^r Masons*". This minute is typical of a number. It is fairly well agreed that the word 'Scots' is no real indication that the degree was of Scottish origin, but there is a strong feeling that it might have been the creation of French masons, possibly influenced by Scots, large numbers of whom had fled from Scotland in the Jacobite troubles to take refuge in France. It is likely that the Scots Degree was a preliminary to either the Royal Arch or the Mark Degree-just possibly to both. The Scots Degree remains a mystery, and anything that can be said on the subject is nothing more than conjecture. Some students believe it to be connected with an alleged Jacobite movement.

Freemasons' Guide and Compendium, Bernard E. Jones (1994)

Editor's Note: The Jacobite movement in Great Britain and Ireland aimed to restore the Roman Catholic Stuart King James II of England and Ireland and his heirs to the thrones of England, Scotland, France and Ireland.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

It is not what we eat, but what we digest...
that makes us strong.

It is not what we earn, but what we save...
that makes us rich.

It is not what we read, but what we remember...
that makes us learned.

It is not what we profess, but what we practice...
that makes us Masons!

Brother Pete Rasmussen, PPGM

VALENTINE'S DAY AND GEORGE WASHINGTON

"I am delighted to have this opportunity to salute our ladies as we celebrate Valentine's Day. Of course we should honor and cherish our ladies every day, but Valentine's Day should be a little more ... a little something extra ... a special day I hope you will convey these thoughts to the women in your life because they are indeed so very special to Freemasonry. Their support is critical to our individual growth and the growth of our Lodges. So, don't forget to say "Thank You!" in a meaningful way to our wives, mothers, sisters and daughters and especially the surviving spouses of our Brother Masons.

Washington is probably the most revered and respected Mason for the ages. Sometimes we may forget just how important he was to the birth of our nation, as his birthday is now publicly observed as part of President's Day. But since Washington is so very special to us, I hope you will remember that February 22nd is the actual birth date of Washington, and you remember it as such. I suggest that at your Lodge meeting in February, when the Glad Tidings are called for, that the name of our Brother George Washington is recorded as having been born on this date in 1732. Happy [286th] Birthday Mr. President!

...We hope you will remember the very special significance and meaning of these holidays to us as Freemasons. God bless you and your loved ones. God Bless our men and women in the Armed Forces, First Responders and Veterans. And may God continue to Bless the United States of America and our great fraternity."

MW William J. Thomas, Grand Master of New York

WARRANTY

A monthly newsletter of Frankfurt-on-the-Main Lodge No 861 (Germany) carried an elaborate certificate:

WARRANTY

This certificate, together with your paid-up dues card...will entitle you to an evening of fellowship at the lodge temple, any Monday evening, at 1930 hrs.

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

This is a subtle way of reminding you that your 2018 dues were to be paid by December 31, 2017 in order to enjoy the fellowship of your lodge. Most lodges have extended the courtesy to permit members until the April Stated Meeting to pay them. Please don't abuse the privilege...if you haven't already, pay your dues now. Thank you.