



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

January 2019

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)

JANUARY CALENDAR

- 07 **8th Masonic District School of Instruction/Board of Governors Meeting**
- 09 Hermann-Humboldt Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: The Wages of Freemasonry
- 09 Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Intro.of Officers/Programs
- 11 Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: How Masons Turn Lead into Gold,.
- 16 W.K. Bray Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Funeral Services/Symbolism and Ritual
- 19 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Examination of Visitor/CPR Training
- 21 Southampton Radiant Star Lodge Stated Mtg.
Program: Introduction of Officers/Programs
- 26 RW Grand Master Breakfast-LuLu Shrine

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I would like to wish all the brothers and their families in the 8th Masonic District a Happy New Year! Not only is it a new calendar year, it is also a new Masonic Year.

Congratulations to all the recently installed Worshipful Masters and officers of the lodges in the 8th Masonic District. The Worshipful Masters for the ensuing Masonic year are: Bristol Lodge – Bro. Joseph P. Tolen, P.M.; Hermann-Humboldt Lodge – Bro. Michael F. Janoski; Doylestown Lodge – Bro. David A. Goldberg; W.K. Bray Lodge – Bro. Frank R. Strassacker; Newtown Lodge – Bro. Thomas C. Gehring, P.M.; Southampton Radiant Star Lodge – Bro. Peter C. Carter, P.M..

The officers have been charged to have a Masonic themed program for their meetings. The topic titles will be noted in the monthly newsletter. I would encourage all brothers to visit some of the other lodges in the district and take advantage of these unique opportunities for Masonic education.

GRAND LODGE BUILDER AWARDS

At the Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication held in Lancaster on December 8th, the Right Worshipful Grand Master presented the Master Builder Award to approximately fifty brothers from around the jurisdiction, including our own Brother David Sherman of Doylestown Lodge. It was very impressive to see that many recognized.

The Master Builder Award is presented to brothers who have completed a number of requirements within one year of being raised. This program has an online education portion and required activities, both of which provide an excellent overview of the Fraternity and a good basic knowledge of Freemasonry. The majority of the brothers in the District who have attained this achievement have gone on to hold an appointed position; some with the goal of going to the East.

This program has been so successful to the lodges and the Craft since its inception that starting this year, the lodges in the 8th Masonic District will include the Master Builder Award requirement form in the candidate packet given to all new Master Masons with the hope that they will continue their Masonic journey by participating in the program.

For those newly raised Master Masons who have not received the form, it can be obtained by going to the Grand Lodge webpage, www.pagrandle.org, under the “Members”-“Programs” link. If you have been a Master Mason for more than one year, you are encouraged to pursue the Master Craftsman Award and/or the Master Pillar Award. They too have an online and activities requirements which also provide great insights to help you be more informed about Freemasonry. The requirement forms for those awards can be found on the Grand Lodge website under the “Members”-“Leadership-Honors” tabs.

If you have any questions regarding these programs, please contact your Worshipful Master or District Deputy Grand Master.

SHRINERS' BREAKFAST HONORING RWGM

The LuLu Shriners are hosting the 28th Annual Masonic Breakfast honoring RW Grand Master, S. Eugene Herriott on Saturday, January 26, 2019 at 10:00 am. The 8th Masonic District will have a 10 person table. If you are interested in reserving a seat, please contact me ASAP. The other nine seats are on a first come...first served basis.

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

January 25, 1759

Born at Ayshire Scotland was the beloved Scottish poet Bro. Robert Burns ("Oh wad some power the giftie gie us, To see oursels as others see us."). Bro. Burns died at the early age of 37. Through his poetry Bro. Burns lives on as the national poet of Scotland and as one of the foremost poets of the world Bro. Burns was an enthusiastic Mason from the day of his initiation into St. David's Lodge No. 174 at Tarbolton, on July 4, 1781. He subsequently joined a number of other Lodges including Canongate-Killwinning No. 2 at Edinburgh where he was made poet laureate of the Lodge in 1787. His poems include some which are specifically Masonic, while the words of Auld Lang Syne have become an essential part of New Year celebrations across the world. Bro. Burns died at the early age of 37 at Dumfries, Scotland, July 21, 1796.

January 6, 1880

Born in Driftwood, PA, Bro. Thomas Edwin Mix, American motion picture actor, best known for his 400 western cowboy films. He was a real life US Marshal before becoming a film actor. Bro. Mix was initiated in Utopia Lodge 537, Los Angeles, CA, in 1925. He died near Florence, AZ, October 10, 1940.

BROTHERLY LOVE

Let brotherly love and its blessings abound
For our fellowship's more than a name;
If the bond that unites us is more than a myth
Then our unity let us maintain.

We move in a circle as wide as the world
Our regards no exclusiveness know;
Our dealings are ever within compass kept,
And the spirit of brotherhood show.

If any in pathways of vice may be found,
They are false to the pledges they gave;
They dishonour themselves, vice and virtue confound
While disclaiming, we still would them save.

If all were but true to the truths they profess,
Neither sham'd nor reproach'd would we be;
The Craft would be honoured, the World would us bless,
Being won by the virtues they'd see.

Then let us work on, each one as he can,
Though some May unfaithful be found;
Our duty remains, though a few may prove false,
Let our labours of love then abound!

Unknown

DID YOU KNOW?

These famous military leaders have been Masons: Omar Bradley, General Cornwallis, Henry Dearborn, George Rogers Clark, the Duke of Wellington, David C. Farragut, John Paul Jones, Garibaldi, Douglas McArthur, Audie Murphy, John Pershing, Jonathan Wainwright and George Washington.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"The Fellowcraft Degree is a call to learning, an urge to study, a glorification of education."
Carl H. Claudy

CAPSULES OF MASONIC HISTORY

While the Mason Word, which later became the Grand Masonic Word, was originated purely for the purpose of enabling the operative mason to prove himself and be admitted among strangers, there did arise a ceremony during which it might be revealed. An examination, or catechism, preceded the actual communication, so that each mason might know the other had been duly invested with these secrets. One of the first questions required this answer, -- "by signs, tokens and other points of my entrie." A later question of the old catechisms, coming from the Edinburgh Register Hou Ms., brought the answer "The first (point) is to heill and conceal; second, under no less pain, which is the cutting of your throat. For you must make that sign when you say that." The catechism then proceeded through the five points of fellowship, ending with a primitive version of the penalty of our present day first degree obligation, and the giving of the word.

(Louis L. Williams) *Trestleboard Tidbits*, MSA

THE GAVELS OF FREEMASONRY

Freemasons have two Gavels. One is the Master's Gavel, Symbol of authority that must be wisely used to preserve harmony within the Lodge. The other is the Working Tool of the Entered Apprentice. In either sense the Gavel is of ancient origin and honorable history.

As a symbol of authority, the gavel always has ruled deliberative assemblies. From the gathering of a neighborhood sewing club to legislatures, congresses, supreme courts, presidents and monarchs, the gavel brings order and obedience. Handing the gavel to another transfers for the time the authority of the one who originally wielded it. A Master of a Lodge is an autocrat while in possession of his Gavel. The Grand Master does not actually take over a Lodge until the Master yields his Gavel.

Our other Gavel, that of the Entered Apprentice, is for the workmen to employ in their labors. It approaches in importance the Gavel of authority. In one sense, it is as important as the other Gavel, for no Master may open a Lodge unless the workmen are present. He cannot preside and supervise the work unless the workmen are at their labors. He cannot be successful in his conduct of the Lodge and his supervision of the work unless the workmen are willing ones. He can not drive them to their labors, autocratic as his powers may be, even when they are there at his bidding or summons.

The Master's term in office, his supervision of the work, must all fail unless workmen are interested in their labors, unless they have pride in the kind of work they present for inspection, unless each proudly presents a Master's Piece to be set into the Temple, unless each workman is able to vision the completed work and voluntarily uses his Gavel to produce a finished Ashlar of service, that Ashlar to either support or surmount the Perfect Ashlars of other Brethren.

3-5-7 Minute Talks on Freemasonry, Elbert Bede

CARPET SAVER

A sign in the anteroom of a lodge in a Maine logging town reads: HOBNAIL BOOTS NOT ALLOWED IN LODGEROOM.

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