



# 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, 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*

February 2020

### 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)

### FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- 03 **8th Masonic District School of Instruction**
- 08 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Masonic Journey of Geo. Washington*
- 12 **DDGM Visitation - Hermann-Humboldt Lodge**  
*Program: Entered Apprentice Degree in  
German/24" Gauge*
- 12 Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Question & Answer Presentation on  
Scottish Rite Masonry*
- 14 Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: The Academy of Masonic Knowledge*
- 15 **Treasurer/Secretary Seminar, Tacony Masonic**  
Temple, Philadelphia
- 17 Southampton Radiant Star Stated Meeting  
*Program: Pillars of Freemasonry*
- 19 **DDGM Visitation - W.K. Bray Lodge**  
*Program: Temples and Taverns*
- 21 **8th Masonic District-Extra Mtg. (if needed)**

### PA MASONIC YOUTH FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIPS

The 2020 scholarship information available on the PA Masonic Youth Foundation (PMYF) website at [www.pmyf.org/scholarships](http://www.pmyf.org/scholarships). There you will find the information necessary to apply for a scholarship including the Masonic Scholarship Resource Guide, scholarship application and instructions. The PA Masonic Youth Foundation application should be typed directly in the file provided on the website and mailed to the PMYF along with all other information requested.

If you wish a hard copy of the booklet, contact Amy Nace at 717-367-1536, ext. 2 or at [alnace@pademolay.net](mailto:alnace@pademolay.net)

All PMYF applications MUST be postmarked by March 15, 2020.

### THE TASSELS

*The Blue Lodge Elected and Appointed Officers have symbolic tassels on them. Here is information on those tassels:*

In the eighteenth century aprons did not have the symbolic tassels we have today; they were fastened around the body by strings in the same way as the aprons of the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Crafts are now. It is also of interest to note that the actual aprons worn by the Officers of Grand Lodge for the year, in contradiction to the aprons of Past Grand Officers, have no tassels at all.

In the course of years, no doubt, the ends of the strings were ornamented by tassels, as is still the case with the aprons of the Royal Order of Scotland. In this "higher Degree" the aprons are bound round the body by an ornamental cord which has tassels, and these are tied in front in such a way that the two tassels stick out from under the flap.

The tassels, when the present form of our aprons was fixed, appear to have become separated from the bands which now fasten the apron itself. Instead they were attached to the front of the apron, and became simply strips of ribbon on which were fastened seven chains. When this change occurred, those who made the alteration deliberately chose the number 7 and intended thereby to convey a symbolic meaning. This number consists of 4, representing matter, and 3 representing spirit, and therefore God and man, and likewise all creation, which is compounded of spirit and matter.

Naturally there had to be two tassels, and it would be unwise to overstress the fact that the total number of chains is 14, but it is interesting to note that the body of Osiris is stated to have been divided by Set into 14 pieces.

But the ribbons which back the chains have also, probably, a history of their own. IN many eighteenth century aprons the two pillars were depicted, and even had the initial letters of their names painted on them, and therefore it is probable that the two ribbons are the last trace of this old decoration. I have seen on some Continental aprons the full names of these pillars graven on the metal bar from which the chains hang, and this fact tends to confirm me in the opinion that these ribbons do represent the twin pillars.

*An Interpretation of our Masonic Symbols, J. S. M. Ward*

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2020 DUES? IF NOT, PLEASE  
DO IT NOW!**

## WHEN THE TIME COMES...DO YOU WANT A MASONIC FUNERAL?

*Recently there have been long-time Brothers who have passed and no Masonic Funeral Service was requested. This form is a way to ensure that your desire to have a Masonic Funeral is known. Once completed, it should be placed with your will and/or important papers. If you have a pre-arranged funeral, a copy should be given to the Funeral Director. If you would like a copy of the funeral service, it can be obtained from your lodge secretary.*

**To: My family, friends, attorney, executor and/or funeral director:**

Let there be no doubt in anyone's mind: **I want a Masonic Funeral Service.**

In order to allow the largest number of my Brother Masons to attend, I ask that you consider scheduling the Masonic Funeral Service to occur at, or after 7:30pm, if during the week. The Masonic Funeral Service may take place at the same time as my family service, but it is not required. It can occur the evening or morning before the final service, at a viewing or graveside. If I am in possession of a Past Master's Jewel and/or Apron, please contact the lodge to discuss the disposition of them.

For arrangements, please contact the Worshipful Master or Secretary of \_\_\_\_\_  
[Lodge Name, No.]

\_\_\_\_\_ who are listed on the attached Lodge Meeting Notice.  
[City, State]

Please call until you reach someone who will immediately begin planning my final Masonic request.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member's Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*(Your current lodge notice, at the time of signing, should be attached to this form to provide contact information)*

## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

**February 21, 1885**

The National Monument Society completed the 585-foot-tall Washington Monument to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Bro. George Washington's birth. The cornerstone was laid on July 4, 1848 in Masonic ceremony with the same trowel Bro. Washington used to lay the cornerstone of the Capitol Building. The monument weighs 81,120 tons and cost \$1.3-million. It is thought to be the world's tallest monument.

## DID YOU KNOW? Shortest Lived Mason

General Thomas A. Smyth of the Civil War was raised in Washington Lodge No. 1 of Delaware on March 6, 1864.

He was killed by a sniper's bullet on April 9 and was buried by his lodge on April 17, 1864.

## QUOTES OF THE MONTH

"Life is a series of experiences, each one of which makes us bigger, even though sometimes it is hard to realize this. For the world was built to develop character, and we must learn that the setbacks and grieves which we endure helps us in our marching onward."

Brother Henry Ford

"Good Humor is the health of the soul, sadness is its poison."  
Stanislaus

## WELL SAID

One of the greatest inspirations of Masonry is to sit in the lodge room and look around at the older men present; men with the snow of many winters in their hair and the weight of a long and useful life bearing down upon the once stalwart shoulders.

In their faces, as they attentively watch the work or listen to the lectures or discussions, you always see genuine interest, close attention, calmness, confidence in the principles exemplified. Month after month for many years – 30, 40, a hoary half century – they have come through fair weather and foul. They have come sometimes many miles to listen to these truths and to present them to younger Brethren. You see them today. Could you have been there, you would have seen others several hundred years ago.

This enduring appeal of Masonry; this wisdom in its lessons that fit the needs of all ages and generations; this lifelong loyalty seen in the lives of so many patriarchs in every community, is one of the best proofs that through a human organization, Masonry is a purposeful instrument of Divine Hands.

*(Masonry at Work – June 1969)  
Tied to Masonic Apron Strings, Stewart M. L. Pollard*

## HEREAFTER

"You can often tell where one is going hereafter by what he goes after here."

*(From Square and Compass), Tied to Masonic Apron Strings*