



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

December 2020

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)

DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 02 Virtual Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication
- 07 8th Masonic District School of Instruction, W.K.
Bray Lodge, Hatboro
- 09 Hermann-Humboldt Lodge Stated Meeting
- 09 Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting
- 11 Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting
- 16 W.K. Bray Lodge Stated Meeting
- 21 Southampton Radiant Star Lodge Stated Mtg.
- 26 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting

Due to the COVID-19 impact on attendance and program speakers,
the programs for the stated meetings are not being listed since they
may no longer be accurate.

DECEMBER QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION OF GRAND LODGE GOES VIRTUAL

GRAND LODGE OF FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS OF
PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia, PA, September 22, A.D. 2020, A.L. 6020

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE:

The December Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge
of Pennsylvania, F&AM will be conducted at 7:00 o'clock,
p.m. on Wednesday, December 2, 2020. Due to the current
situation and restrictions the Communication will be
conducted virtually for which you are encouraged to view the
streamed event from your location.

By Order of the R.W. Grand Master

You can view the Grand Lodge Communication on YouTube
Live Stream from your home on any device that has the
capability to access YouTube videos. Go to
<https://youtu.be/ucPjozbzi5Q>.

*Wishing you and yours a Safe and Happy Holiday
Season!*

A SPECIAL HOLIDAY GREETING

"I wish for you our brothers of all faiths, that just a little
light will drive away much darkness and all of us together
can make a difference. We are Masons. We are the
children of the Great Creator. We have a definite pattern
to follow and that is the life and love of Freemasonry. At
this time of the year, some of us observe Chanukah,
others observe Christmas, and still others Kwanza.
Whatever your faith, whatever your tradition, we wish
you a happy holiday as brothers and as children of one
Creator."

By: Melville H. Nahin, PGM (CA)
Emessay Notes, December 2008

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

When General Burgoyne surrendered to General Gates at
Saratoga in 1777, a regiment of Brunswickers, under the
command of Major General Frederick von Riedesel, also
were made prisoners of war. At the end of the war and
after their release, General von Riedesel and his wife,
called affectionately "Lady Fritz," spent some time in
Canada before returning to Europe. It was in Canada
where the following story took place:

*On his release, von Riedesel, prior to returning to his
homeland, took up residence in Sorel (Canada) and it was
there on Christmas Eve 1779 that Lady Fritz, seeing a
pine tree in her garden outlined against the velvet blue of
a starry night, conceived the idea of putting small lighted
candles on her Christmas tree and thereby wrote a
charming page of Canadian History by giving Canada its
very first illuminated Christmas tree, a sight so familiar
to us all at the Festive Season.*

John Patience, PGM (GRQ), STB 12/91
Grand Lodge Bulletin, The Grand Lodge of Alberta, Dec. 1998

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"I violate no secret when I say that one of the greatest
values in Masonry is that it affords an opportunity for
men of all walks of life to meet on common ground where
all men are equal and have one common interest."

Brother Theodore Roosevelt

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

December 4, 1783

Bro. and General George Washington bid farewell at a private gathering of his officers at Fraunces Tavern in downtown New York City. At that gathering, Bro. Washington, with tears in his eyes, embraced each man, then silently strode out of the room; He was to appear before the Confederation Congress on December 23rd to officially resign as Commanding General of the Continental Armies.

December 3, 1586

According to some historical accounts, Sir Thomas Herriot and Bro. Sir Francis Drake introduced the potato to England via the northern region of South America (today Colombia). It is known that widespread planting of the potato started as early as the 11th century by the Tiahuanaco civilization (Peruvian Andes). Bro. Drake, according to Arthur Waite's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, was "chosen Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of all England, when the ancient Lodge at York assumed that title in 1725. The Grand Lodge became dormant but was revived in 1761, and after more than 40 years, Bro. Drake was elected Grand Master. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society."

QUICK CHANGES OF MIND

Alexander I, Czar of Russia from 1801 to 1825, banned the Craft in Russia in 1801.

He rescinded the order in 1803 and became a Freemason, probably for political reasons; but in 1822 he again banned Freemasonry in Russia.

GLOSSARY – CORN, WINE AND OIL

Three elements of consecration. In ancient times these were regarded as the basic commodities for the support of life and constituted the wealth of the people. Today in the U.S. we think of corn as maize, but the original meaning is an edible grain or cereal. The Hebrew word for corn means "to be increased or to multiply."

The corn, wine and oil in Operative Masonry were the wages a FellowCraft was paid for the performance of his duties. In Masonic rites they are elements of consecration of the Lodge, and in other forms of consecration rites. Corn, the emblem of food, reminds the Mason that he is to be nourished by the hidden Manna of Righteousness; wine, the emblem of refreshment, reminds him that he is to be refreshed with the word of the Lord; oil, the emblem of Divine anointing, reminds him that he is to rejoice with joy unspeakable in the riches of Divine grace. The carrying of Corn, Wine and Oil in a procession reminds a Mason that in the pilgrimage of life he is to give bread to the hungry, cheer to the sorrowful, and consolation to the sick and afflicted. In Speculative Freemasonry, the ritual explains Corn, Wine and Oil to wit: "It is emblematical of nourishment, refreshment, and joy and teaches Masons this important lesson... That we should be ever-ready to nourish the needy, refresh the destitute, and pour the oil of joy in the hearts of the afflicted."

<https://www.washingtonlodge20.org/>

NEED SOMETHING TO FILL YOUR MASONIC WISHLIST FOR THE HOLIDAYS?

If you have family members who are looking for that special holiday gift for you, these websites offer a variety of traditional and unique Masonic items. Check them out:

Masonicmuseumgifts.com (PA Grand Lodge Gift Shop)

Masonicscarves.com (Rugby-style scarves, pins)

Ascendedmastersclothing.com (shirts and pins with creative graphics)

Twopillarsapparel.ecwid.com (Masonic sport jersey-style shirts)

THE INDIAN MOTOR CYCLE

George Hendee (1866-1943)

Bicycle racer and co-founder of the Indian Motorcycle Manufacturing Co. Hendee first became involved with the bicycle industry after his bicycle-racing career. Not only did Hendee build bicycles, but he also sponsored numerous bicycle events and racers. He took up bicycle racing at age 16. He won the United States National Amateur High Wheel Championship in 1886, setting a new world record over a dirt half-mile track of 2 minutes 27.4 seconds, which he held until 1892. He was America's first national cycling champion, winning 302 of the 309 races he entered and dedicating himself to racing and traveling to bicycling events.

In 1892, Hendee retired from bicycle racing and began making Silver King bicycles in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1895. In 1896, the Hendee & Nelson Mfg. Co. in Springfield, was building safety bicycles under the names *Silver King* for men and *Silver Queen* for women. The company went bankrupt; and Hendee purchased the entire inventory at auction and set up his own workshop in 1898, incorporating the Hendee Mfg. Co. (which later became Indian) with a capital stock of \$5,000. The company's new line of bicycles was called *Indian*. In 1915, he resigned as General Manager but remained as President. In 1916, at the age of 49, Hendee retired from Hendee Mfg. after a disagreement with the Board of Directors over the direction of the organization. In his retirement, he bred Guernsey cattle and White leghorn chickens on his 500-acre, Hilltop Farm in Suffield, Connecticut. He sold his estate in 1940 and moved to a smaller home in Suffield where he died in 1943 at the age of 76.

He was raised in Hampden Lodge, Springfield in March 1897 and served as W.M. in 1903. He was a Charter member of Samuel Osgood Lodge, Springfield. In 1939 he was awarded the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts Distinguished Service Award. He was also a Shriner.

MPC Magazine, The Official Magazine of the Masonic Philatelic Club, October 2020

THANK YOU

Thank you to the officers of the lodges in the 8th Masonic District for your support this past year. COVID-19 has presented numerous challenges for our fraternity and our lodge officers stepped up to address them. The logistical work done in the lodges so our brethren could meet in a safer environment was exceptional and very much appreciated. A special thank you also goes out to W.K. Bray Lodge No. 410 for taking in the displaced lodges from the Masonic Villages.