



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 2021

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

R.W. Grand Master Thomas Gamon IV has decided to permit the resumption of all Masonic activities effective February 1, 2021. All governmental guidelines and protocols must be followed including the PA Dept. of Health mitigation requirements for indoor gatherings which stands at 10% of maximum occupancy of the lodge room.

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| 01 | Virtual 8th Masonic District School of Instruction |
| 10 | Hermann-Humboldt Lodge
<i>Program: Election/Installation of Officers</i> |
| 10 | Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting
<i>Program: Election/Installation of Officers</i> |
| 12 | Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting
<i>Program: Election/Installation of Officers</i> |
| 16 | Southampton Radiant Star Stated Meeting
<i>Program: Election/Installation of Officers</i> |
| 17 | W.K. Bray Lodge Stated Meeting
<i>Program: Election/Installation of Officers</i> |
| 27 | Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting
<i>Program: Election/Installation of Officers</i> |

Check the District webpage and/or Facebook page for updated information during the pandemic.

Congratulations to the Incoming Lodge Officers for 2021

SUGGESTIONS FOR LEARNING RITUAL ONLINE

Brother Kirk W. Borowski, P.M., Principal of the School of Instruction, presented a program on "Suggestions for Learning Ritual" at our January virtual School of Instruction. The response from the attendees was such that it has been posted on the 8th Masonic District webpage for brethren to reference. Please visit the site (address is found above) and take advantage of this valuable information.

THE WHITNEY VALENTINE COMPANY



This valentine (at the left) is shown in the display "Victorian Valentines: From England to America" has been on view at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library in Lexington, Massachusetts. It was created by the Whitney Valentine Company and is dated 1860-1875.

George Clarkson Whitney (1842-1915) began his career as an employee of Esther Allen Howland (1828-1904) making valentines. In 1862, he signed up with the 51st Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers, to fight in the Civil War. By 1864, Whitney had been discharged from military service and joined his brother Edward and wife Lura Clark in the production of valentines. At this point they were advertising themselves as The Whitney Valentine Company.

By 1869, Edward left the company and George was in charge. He and his brothers ran the family business for many years. George was aggressive and kept buying out his competitors. For example, during the latter part of the 19th century he purchased the A. J. Fisher Company of New York and Esther Howland's New England Valentine Company of Worcester, Massachusetts. By 1886, Whitney was producing his own paper, had machine dies, printing presses, and was mass producing valentines and other holiday cards. He expanded his company and had branch offices in New York, Boston, and Chicago.

In the first decade of the 20th century, the Whitney Valentine Company grew to a large and prosperous concern, now called the George C. Whitney Company. The style and sentiment of his cards changed dramatically. One example was a card which used no paper lace and was made of paper stock or heavy cardboard. It had an illustrated girl with a bobbed

hairstyle that reflected the new century, much like the card itself. It had a snappy greeting, "with oceans of love", rather than the sentimental poetry of the 19th century. Each year on Valentine's Day, we display a few examples from our collection of several hundred cards.

Scottish Rite Masonic Library & Museum Blog



THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

February 28, 1933

Bro. and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt appointed Frances Perkins to the position of Secretary of Labor, making her the first female ever appointed to a cabinet position. Republicans strongly opposed her nomination, both because of her sex and her pro-labor opinions. Completing her master's degree in social work she surveyed conditions in slum neighborhoods of New York City. She worked in settlement homes. She took part in the commission that investigated the exploitative labor practices and unsafe working conditions that caused the Triangle Shirt Company Fire, one of the era's worst industrial tragedies. She was appointed to New York State's Industrial Commission, and served as its head when Franklin Delano Roosevelt was governor of New York. Perkins was an effective Secretary of Labor, and served for 12 years, the longest term of any Secretary. She was a remarkably effective and influential member of the cabinet, and played a major role in drafting many of the key New Deal reform acts, notably the Social Security Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act. She resigned her cabinet post in 1945 after the death of Bro. Franklin Roosevelt and served in the Civil Service Commission under President and Bro. Harry Truman. In honor of Frances Perkins's contributions to the welfare of working Americans, the Department of Labor Headquarters was named after her in 1980.

GLOSSARY-MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, ANCIENT

As in the Fellow-Craft's Degree, music is dilated upon as one of the liberal arts, the sweet and harmonious sounds being the representative of that harmony which should ever exist among the brethren we are apt to inquire what were the instruments used by the ancients in their mystical service. The oldest ever discovered, we believe, is a small clay pipe not over three inches in length, found by Captain Willock among the presumed ruins of Babylon; if so, it must be 2,600 years old. By the use of the two finger holes, the intervals of the common chord, C, E, and G, are produced, or the harmonic triad. From the ruins of Nineveh we have countless representations of the harp, with strings varying from ten to twenty-six; the lyre, identical in structure with that of the Greeks; a harp-shaped instrument held horizontally and the six to ten strings struck with a plectrum, which has been termed the Asor, from its resemblance to the Hebrew instrument of that name. There is also the guitar-shaped instrument, and a double pipe with a single mouthpiece and finger-holes on each pipe. The Assyrians used musical bells, trumpets, flutes, drums, cymbals, and tambourines. The Abyssinians call their lyre the Kissar (Greek, kithara). There is also the flute, called Monaulos, which is of great antiquity, and named by the Egyptians Photins, or curved flute. The crooked horn or trumpet, called Buccina, and the Cithara, held sacred in consequence of its shape being that of the Greek delta.

An Encyclopedia of Freemasonry and Its Kindred Sciences,
Volume 2, Albert G. Mackey, M.D., 33°

SHORT CUT?

Mispronounced words have plagued ritualists for years, but consider the dismay of a Senior Deacon who instead of "circumscribe desires" managed to have them "circumsized".

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

A MASON'S WIFE

Many years have hurried past since he first joined the Craft
I used to help him with stiff front shirts and know that I was daft

To crawl about on hands and knees to find the stud he'd lost
He could have bought some extra ones for very little cost.

I liked to lay out all his clothes and little black bow ties
The dinner suit was hand me down and not quite right for size

We realized that frequently he had just one black sock
This, of all my shortcomings, would make him do his block

The time involved in putting on the full Masonic dress
Was fraught with great frustration and with constant mounting stress

For also with the dressing was a frantic final look
At certain of the pages in the secret ritual book

Then came the day when tails were bought to mark
promotion's climb

I warmed with pride as off he went-that special man of mine
Next came a spate of going out to one Lodge or another
He hardly spent a night at home, my worshipful, the brother.

I watched a special talent grow, a new commanding air
Of dignity and confidence, as master in the chair
My memory of that time is tingled with one distinctive sight
The rear end view of flapping tails-my penguin in full flight

I am proud to be a Mason's wife, I'm proud to be a mother
And later, once our son has joined, he'll be my husband's brother

And then I hope they'll both go off in fellowship fraternal
To moralize and square their lives on God's own word eternal.

Author Unknown

TIME IMMEMORIAL LODGE

A time immemorial lodge is a local lodge that meets without a grand lodge charter. Before grand lodges established procedures, several Masons could come together and decide to create a lodge. There were very few such lodges, but two examples are Mother Kilwinning Lodge No. 0 of Scotland and Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 of Virginia, George Washington's mother lodge. Fredericksburg has accepted a charter from the Grand Lodge of VA; Mother Kilwinning still operates without a charter.

The Complete Idiots Guide to Freemasonry, S. Brent Morris, PhD, 33°

WHO AM I?

Five Hundred begins it, five hundred ends it,
Five in the middle is seen;

First of all letters, first of all figures,
Take up their stations between.

Join all together, and then you will bring
Before you the name of an eminent king.

Who am I?

(Clue: Roman numerals)

A. DAVID

PLEASE STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY!