



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

May 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)

MAY CALENDAR

- 03 8th Masonic District School of Instruction – W.K. Bray Lodge No. 410, 1 S. Penn Street, Hatboro, PA**
- 12 Hermann-Humboldt Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: COVID and the Mason
- 12 Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Betsy Ross
- 14 Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Cerneau Rite of Masonry
- 15 Southampton-Radiant Star Lodge Stated Meeting*
Program: Grand Lodge-Meeting at Masonic Temple
*Not Regular Meeting Date/Time
- 19 W.K. Bray Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Freemasonry in England
- 22 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: National Sojourners-Building the Flag

GRAND LODGE OF FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE:

The June Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, F&AM will be conducted at 10:00 o'clock, a.m. on Saturday, June 5, 2021. 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.

THIRD DEGREE BY THE OKLAHOMA MASONIC INDIAN DEGREE TEAM

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Delaware will be hosting the Oklahoma Masonic Indian Degree Team on Saturday, August 21, 2021 @ 4:00 pm in Magnolia, DE. Detail and ticket information can be found at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/third-degree-by-the-oklahoma-masonic-indian-degree-team-tickets-78247565575>

THE SILENT SUMMONS

A member of a certain Lodge, who previously attended meetings regularly, had stopped going. After a few months, the Worshipful Master decided to visit him. It was a chilly evening, and the Worshipful Master found his brother at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire.

Guessing the reason for the Worshipful Master's visit, the brother welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited. The Worshipful Master made himself comfortable, but said nothing.

In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After several minutes, the Worshipful Master took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth, all alone. Then he sat back in his chair, still silent.

His host watched all of this in quiet contemplation. As the one, lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow, and its fire was no more. Soon, it was cold and dead.

Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The Worshipful Master glanced at his watch and chose this time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember, and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately, it began to glow once more, with all the light and warmth of the burning coals around it.

As the Worshipful Master reached the door to leave, his host said, with a tear running down his cheek, "Thank you so much for your fiery summons, my brother. I'll be back in our Lodge next meeting."

Posted by Joseph Anthony Fletcher Jr. on
Masonic District "C" Facebook Page

A FAMOUS CHEROKEE FREEMASON

Members might be surprised to learn that Will Rogers, American stage and motion picture actor, vaudeville performer, cowboy and comedian was a Cherokee citizen born in the Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory.

Initiated: February 18, 1905, Passed: March 10, 1906, Raised: March 13, 1906 all in Clairmont Lodge No. 53, Oklahoma. In 1908 he received the Scottish Rite degrees in McAlister, Oklahoma, and in 1914 he joined the Shriners.

Masonic Philatelic Club Magazine, April 2020

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

May 9, 1800

In Torrington, CT, abolitionist leader to be, Bro. John Brown, was born. He was the leader of an attack on Harper's Ferry, October 16, 1859, intended to give impetus to the movement for the escape and freedom for slaves. His aim was frustrated and he was hanged December 2, 1859, at Charles Town WV. Bro. Brown was raised in Hudson Lodge No. 68, Hudson, OH, on May 11, 1859, serving as Junior Deacon, 1825-26. Shortly after 1826, he moved to Pennsylvania and with the Anti-Masonic movement, renounced Freemasonry, though his son, Bro. John Brown, Jr. became a Freemason and at his death, was buried with Masonic honors.

DID YOU KNOW? THE LODGE

Dudley in his Naology says that the idea that the earth was a level surface and of a square form may be justly supposed to have prevailed generally in the early ages of the world. The biblical idea was that the earth was square. Isaiah (11: 13) speaks of gathering "the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth," and in the Apocalypse Revelation (7:1) in the vision of "four angels standing on the four corners of the earth." So thoroughly grounded were these beliefs that in ancient times the "square," now the recognized symbol of the lodge, was the recognized symbol of the earth, as the circle was of the sun. In this antiquated expression "Oblong square," we therefore have not only an apt description of the ancient world and evidence that the lodge is symbolic thereof, but also a remarkable evidence of the great age of Freemasonry.

Oliver Day Street, *Symbolism of the Three Degrees*

GLOSSARY – GATES OF THE TEMPLE

The Temple of Solomon had only one entrance or portal, but the walls of the enclosure had a gate at each point of the compass. Freemasonry makes special symbolic use of three of these gates, the one on the east, the one on the west, and the one on the south. These gates are symbols of the progress of the sun, rising in the east, reaching its zenith in the south, and setting in the west. They also symbolize birth, life, and death as well as youth, manhood and old age.

Washington Lodge No. 20, CA, *Masonic Dictionary*

THE PLUMB

Build up your life like the temple of old
With stones that are polished and true
Cement it with love, and adorn it with gold
As all Master builders should do:
Upon a foundation, well chosen and strong,
Build now for the ages to come:
Make use of the good, while rejecting the wrong-
And test all your work with the plumb.

Neal A. McCauley

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Give the brethren a chance to do something, anything, no matter how small or unimportant. A brother convinced that he is helpful is enthusiastic. – Bro. Theodore Roosevelt

FINAL VOYAGE: THE FREEMASONS ABOARD THE TITANIC

After setting sail from Southampton for New York City on 10 April 1912 with 2,223 people on board, the ship hit an iceberg four days into the crossing, at 11.40pm on 14 April 1912, and sank at 2.20am the following morning. More than 1,500 people died – the high casualty rate due in part to the fact that, although complying with regulations of the era, the ship carried lifeboats for only 1,178 people.

Among the English Freemasons who died on the Titanic was Howard Brown Case, aged 49. Case was the managing director of the Vacuum Oil Company (part of the Standard Oil Company), based in Rochester, New York, and was establishing the company's operations in the UK. He lived at Ascot with his wife, two sons and two daughters and was described as 'an exceptionally hard worker' with a 'magnetic personality'. Case had been travelling in a first-class cabin and some survivors recalled that he helped women and children into the lifeboats and finally stepped back to meet his fate. He had been initiated in America Lodge, No. 3368, in June 1909.

Percy Cornelius Taylor, aged 32, was a Past Master of Musgrave Lodge, No. 1597, at Hampton Court, and a cellist in the ship's orchestra. The band famously kept playing as the Titanic went down, with all eight members sadly perishing.

Two Liverpool-based stewards, Robert Arthur Wareham, aged 36, from Toxteth Lodge, No. 1356, and Arthur Lawrence, aged 35, a member of Neptune Lodge, No. 1264, also died.

Henry Price Hodges was a 50-year-old salesman of musical instruments from Southampton who was travelling as a second-class passenger en route to Boston. He had been initiated in Causentum Lodge, No. 1461, Woolston (Southampton), before joining Royal Gloucester Lodge, No. 130. Pierre Giuseppe Bochet, meanwhile, had moved to London from Aosta in Italy where he worked in the catering trade. He joined the Titanic at Southampton as a waiter, aged 43. He was a member of Loggia Italia, No. 2687 and also Columbia Chapter, No. 2397.

One Freemason was known to be among the survivors. Herbert John Pitman, aged 34, was third officer on the Titanic. He helped to load and lower one of the lifeboats and row it towards the nearby ship Carpathia. Pitman went back to sea with other liners and served in the Merchant Navy in the Second World War. He had joined Abbey Lodge, No. 3341, in Hatfield in 1909 and remained a member until his death in 1961. A letter from the lodge congratulating him on his rescue was sold at auction in October 2011.

Three New York casualties were also recorded. Henry Harris was a New York theatre manager and a member of Munn Lodge, No. 100. Frank Millet was vice chairman of the Fine Arts Committee, based in Washington DC, and member of Kane Lodge, No. 454. Alexander Holverson was a member of Transportation Lodge, No. 842. Another Freemason casualty was Oscar Scott Woody, a clerk in the on-board post office. He was a member of Acacia Lodge, No. 16, in Virginia.

Freemasonry Today, March 15, 2021