



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 2022

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

- 07 **8th Masonic District School of Instruction**
Program: Bringing in DDGM/Committee of Inquiry
- 9 Hermann-Humboldt Lodge
Program: TBA
- 09 Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: COVID & Variants in 2022
- 11 **Doylestown Lodge DDGM Official Visitation**
Program: History of Sports Cards/ Value Today
- 12 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Point Within a Circle
- 16 **W.K. Bray Lodge DDGM Official Visitation**
Program: The Pillars of the Second Degree
- 21 Southampton Radiant Star Stated Meeting
Program: Travis Manion Foundation

PA MASONIC YOUTH FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Scholarships and grant opportunities are now available for Pennsylvania Masons, their siblings, children, grandchildren and members of the Masonic-related youth groups in PA.

Get all the details at www.pmyf.org (click “Scholarships” tab) or contact Dave Berry, Assistant Executive Director, at dwberry@pmyf.org or 800-266-8424, ext. 4. Applications must be postmarked March 15, 2022.

SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION BY-LAWS APPROVED

The 8th Masonic District School of Instruction submitted a full code of By-Laws to the Grand Lodge By-Law Committee for approval. At the Quarterly Communication on December 27, 2021 those By-Laws were approved by the Grand Lodge.

If any brother would like a copy of the By-Laws, contact your Lodge Secretary or DDGM Bradbury at DDGM08@pagrandlodge.org

SAVE THE DATE OPEN HOUSES/TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Right Worshipful Grand Master Jeffrey M. Wonderling is holding town hall meetings across the state for members of the Fraternity to share/provide Grand Lodge transparency and discuss blue lodge expectations. Come share your thoughts about issues affecting the Fraternity and get your questions answered!

Also, you are encouraged to invite quality men to one of the open houses happening at Masonic lodges across the state. These are for any and all men who are interested in the Fraternity. The Right Worshipful Grand Master will present the program, including a question-and-answer period.

The closest town hall meetings and open houses to our district will be held in Region 7 and Region 1 (our region):
Town Hall: Friday, February 11-Allentown, 7-9 PM
Open House: Saturday, February 12-Allentown, 9-11 AM
Open House: Saturday, March 12-Philadelphia, 9-11 AM
Town Hall: Saturday, March 12-Philadelphia, 2-4 PM

Please mark your calendar to attend these important events.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO VALIDATE THE GRAND LODGE DATABASE

The Grand Lodge of PA changed to a new membership database. Though the information was migrated from the old system, glitches still occur. Therefore, members of your lodge may be calling to confirm your status and check on you. Should you receive one of these calls or have a message left for you, please answer/respond.

If this newsletter and meeting notice was sent to a family member, it means he is still “active” on the rolls of his lodge. If he is having health issues or he has experienced some other change in his status, the lodge would like to know. Please take a moment to pass that information onto the lodge. The lodge secretary can be reached at:

Bristol Lodge - SECY0025@pagrandlodge.org

Hermann-Humboldt Lodge -

SECY0125@pagrandlodge.org

Doylestown Lodge – SECY0245@pagrandlodge.org

W.K. Bray Lodge - SECY0410@pagrandlodge.org

Newtown Lodge - SECY0427@pagrandlodge.org

Southampton Radiant Lodge -

SECY0806@pagrandlodge.org

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

February 10, 1846

Bro. Brigham Young began leading members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (the Mormons) on an exodus to Salt Lake, Utah from Nauvoo, Illinois. The American Mormon leader had succeeded Bro. Joseph Smith as head of the Mormon Church in 1844 after Bro. Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum were killed by an angry mob at a Carthage, Ill. jail on June 27, 1844.

February 22, 1918

Bro. Robert Pershing Wadlow, the Mason who was to become the tallest man in recorded history was born at Alton, IL. Though only nine pounds at birth, by age 10, Bro. Wadlow already stood over 6 feet tall and weighed 210 pounds. When he died at age 22, he stood a remarkable 8 feet, 11 inches tall, and weighed 490 pounds. His gentle, friendly manner in the face of constant public attention earned him the name of "Gentle Giant." Bro. Wadlow died July 15, 1940 at Manistee, MI, of complications resulting from a foot infection. Bro. Wadlow was made a Mason in Franklin Lodge 25 at Alton, IL in 1939.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"I would say there are three steps in Masonry. The first step is the ritual; the second step would be the fellowship to be taken and enjoyed; and the third step would be Masonic information for enlightenment or education."

Bro. William K. Bailey

PENNSYLVANIA WORK

The method of Entering, Passing and Raising candidates in the lodges of Pennsylvania differs so materially from that practiced in the other States of the Union, that it cannot be considered as a part that it cannot be considered as a part of the American Rite as first taught by Webb, but rather as an independent, Pennsylvania modification of the York Rite of England. Indeed the Pennsylvania system of work much more resembles the English than the American. Its ritual is simple and didactic, like the former, and is almost entirely without the impressive dramatization of the latter. Bro. Vaux, a Past Grand Master of Pennsylvania, thus speaks of the Masonic work of his State with pardonable, although not with impartial, commendation: "The Pennsylvania work is sublime from its simplicity. That it is the ancient work is best shown conclusively, however, from this single fact, it is so simple so free from those displays of modern inventions to attract the attention, without enlightening, improving, or cultivating the mind. In this work every word has its significance. Its types and symbols are but the language in which truth is conveyed. These are to be studied to be understood. In the spoken language no synonyms are permitted. In the ceremonial innovations are tolerated. In the ritual no modern verbiage is allowed."

Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, Vol. 2, Albert G. Mackey

Please remember to say "Thank You" to the lady in your life for her love, patience and understanding that allows you to be a part of this great Fraternity!

ARCHIVE AMASSED BY NAZIS SHEDS LIGHT ON MASONIC HISTORY

Poznan (Poland) (AFP) – Curators combing through a vast historic archive of Freemasonry in Europe amassed by the Nazis in their wartime anti-Masonic purge say they believe there are still secrets to be unearthed.

From insight into women's Masonic lodges to the musical scores used in closed ceremonies, the trove -- housed in an old university library in western Poland -- has already shed light on a little known history. But more work remains to be done to fully examine all the 80,000 items that date from the 17th century to the pre-World War II period.

"It is one of the biggest Masonic archives in Europe," said curator Iuliana Grazynska, who has just started working on dozens of boxes of papers within it that have not yet been properly categorised. "It still holds mysteries," she told AFP, of the collection which curators began going through decades ago and is held at the UAM library in the city of Poznan.

Initially tolerated by the Nazis, Freemasons became the subject of regime conspiracy theories in the 1930s, seen as liberal intellectuals whose secretive circles could become centres of opposition. Lodges were broken up and their members imprisoned and killed both in Germany and elsewhere as Nazi troops advanced during WWII. The collection was put together under the orders of top Nazi henchman and SS chief Heinrich Himmler and is composed of many smaller archives from European Masonic lodges that were seized by the Nazis. It is seen by researchers as a precious repository of the history of the day-to-day activities of lodges across Europe, ranging from the menus for celebrations to educational texts. Fine prints, copies of speeches and membership lists of Masonic lodges in Germany and beyond feature in the archive. Some documents still bear Nazi stamps.

"The Nazis hated the Freemasons," Andrzej Karpowicz, who managed the collection for three decades, told AFP. Nazi ideology, he said, was inherently "anti-Masonic" because of its anti-intellectual, anti-elite tendencies.

The library puts some select items on show, including the first edition of the earliest Masonic constitution written in 1723, six years after the first lodge was created in England. "It's one of our proudest possessions," Grazynska said. The oldest documents in the collection are prints from the 17th century relating to the Rosicrucians -- an esoteric spiritual movement seen as a precursor to the Freemasons whose symbol was a crucifix with a rose at its centre. During the war as Allied bombing intensified, the collection was moved from Germany for safekeeping and broken up into three parts -- two were taken to what is now Poland and one to the Czech Republic. The section left in the town of Slawa Slaska in Poland was seized by Polish authorities in 1945, while the others were taken by the Red Army.

In 1959, the Polish Masonic collection was formally established as an archive and curators began studying it -- at that time, Freemasonry was banned in the country under Communism. It is "a mine of information in which you can dig at will," said Karpowicz.

Agence France-Presse (AFP), January 9, 2022