



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

October 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)

OCTOBER CALENDAR

- 03 8th Masonic District School of Instruction**
- 08 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting**
Program: History-Hermann-Humboldt Lodge No.125
- 12 Hermann-Humboldt Lodge Stated Meeting**
Program: TBD
- 12 Newtown Lodge DDGM District Visitation**
Program: Past Masters' Night
- 14 Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting**
Program: King Solomon's Seals
- 15 Grand Lodge Leadership Seminar, Allentown**
- 17 Southampton Radiant Star Lodge Stated Meeting**
Program: TBD
- 19 W.K. Bray Lodge DDGM District Visitation**
Program: Life & Times of Bro. Benjamin. Franklin
- 22 Academy of Masonic Knowledge**
Masonic Village, Elizabethtown

SAVE THE DATE – ONE DAY CLASS IN 2023

Right Worshipful Grand Master Jeffrey M. Wonderling is authorizing and encouraging a one-time Regional/District One Day Class on Saturday, March 25, 2023.

Only the three Symbolic Degrees will be conferred during the One Day Class. The location of the class for candidates from the 8th Masonic District is yet to be determined. Details on the class will follow as the date gets closer.

Though many may not believe it, analysis indicates there is no significant difference regarding involvement of a newly made Mason raised the traditional way versus a one-day class. The level of future involvement is more determined by how the new Mason was mentored and instructed as they progressed.

I hope the Brethren of the 8th Masonic District will support the candidates and be involved in helping these new Masons in their journey.

DISTRICT OPEN HOUSE – NOVEMBER 12th

The R.W. Grand Master has directed that all lodges host an Open House in the fall for prospective petitioners and their families. These Open Houses can be hosted by an individual lodge or lodges can combine for a district event. In speaking with the Worshipful Masters recently, it was determined that the district option was their preference.

The Open House will be held on Saturday, November 12th, 9:00am-12:00pm at Lower Bucks Masonic Hall (Home of Newtown Lodge). This event will follow the same format as the Grand Master's Open Houses followed with some additional information for family members. This will be an excellent opportunity to introduce Freemasonry to men who you believe may have an interest in becoming a Mason and/or would make a good Mason, please invite them to join us.

UPCOMING MASONIC EVENTS

This month there are two educational opportunities for our Brothers to take advantage of:

On Saturday, October 12, 2022 from 8:30am-3:30pm the Grand Lodge will host a Leadership Seminar at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, Allentown. This is an excellent course to learn basic leadership training which will include leadership styles, conflict resolution and generational communication differences. The course costs \$25.00 to cover the cost of materials and lunch.

If you have never had any 'formal' leadership training and/or you have not held leadership positions in your personal life, this is a great course for you. The lessons learned are not geared to Masonic Lodges; rather, they can be used in any organization in which you may be involved. Registration is online at <https://pagrandlodge.org/masonic-education>.

On Saturday, October 22, 2022, 9:30am-3:00pm will be the Academy of Masonic Knowledge Symposium at MV-Elizabethtown. If you attend, there is a \$10.00 donation requested for lunch. The symposium will also be livestreamed for personal/lodge viewing. Registration form and livestream information is available on their website. Topics include: "An Early Unknown Esoteric Order of American Freemasonry" and "Building Servant Leaders".

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

October 17, 1777

British Gen. Burgoyne surrendered his Army to Gen. Gates at Saratoga. And thus triggered a conspiracy to oust Bro. and General George Washington as head of the American armies. Burgoyne's surrender to Gates held many embarrassments for Bro. Washington. Gates refused Burgoyne's sword and allowed all the surrendered British soldiers to march out of the camp (without arms) and be given free passage home to England. When Burgoyne presented himself to Gates to surrender he said: "The fortunes of war, General Gates, has made me your prisoner.." To which Gates replied: I shall always be ready to bear testimony that it has not been through any fault of Your Excellency. Commander in Chief Bro. Washington, who had recently suffered a series of defeats, said the victory "surpassed our most sanguine expectations." And fellow officers began to speculate that Gates might replace Bro. Washington as Commander in Chief. It was General Thomas Conway who suggested Washington seemed an incompetent who should be replaced by General Gates. Several high-ranking congressional officials and military officers were among supporters of the Conway plan. The plot was abandoned after Bro. Washington boldly confronted the conspirators and one of the general's aides wounded Conway gravely in a duel.

'DUE' DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO A MASON

The word, 'due', shows up in a number of Masonic expressions, such as "due form" and "due guard."

Both express responsibilities of the officers and members of a Lodge and are admonishments as to their conduct.

According to Mackey's *Encyclopedia*, "due form" comes from the French expression, "en du forme," with the "du" coming from "devoir" or "to owe." In subordinate Lodges, the officers and members "owe" it to their brothers to perform their actions properly and with attention to the established usages and customs.

The "due guard" is a mode of recognition referring to the act of duly guarding a member's obligations and in reminding him of a penalty should he violate such obligations. Mackey reports that this expression is not found in English or continental Masonry, and is fairly recent within the Americas.

In a similar manner, "due examination" is a test procedure to correct form, as prescribed by Masonic laws.

In addition, "due" is associated with direction and indicates what is "proper." When found on a map, "due east" is precisely east, with no variation north or south.

Thus, the expectation imparted with the word "due," is a strict adherence and effort toward Truth and Light.

(Taken from a biweekly Masonic newsletter, edited by W.B. Lance Rommerdahl). *Emessay Notes*, October 2014

BUFFALO SOLDIERS & PRINCE HALL FREEMASONS

With thanks to Joseph A. Walkes, Jr. of Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas

In the book, 'Black Square & Compass: 200 Years of Prince Hall Freemasonry under the title of "Those Magnificent Masonic Buffalo Soldiers."' (1979), by Joseph Walkes, the author of this article, he wrote, "After the Civil War, there would ride into the Indian Territory of the West, the greatest military cavalry unit America ever assembled. They were The Buffalo Soldiers, so named by the Indians they fought because the Troopers' hair reminded them of buffalo fur. Magnificent Black men, who would ride across the frontiers of the early west and into the pages of the history of an often ungrateful nation.

Today the nation would remember these forgotten brave Troopers by the issuance of the postage stamp in their honour, the winners of eighteen Congressional Medals of Honour. These men of the 9th and 10th Cavalry Regiment were sustained by the number of Prince Hall Masonic Lodges attached to them. The first was Baldwin Lodge No. 16 attached to the 10th Cavalry in 1883 and probably named for their Commanding Officer, Capt. T.S. Baldwin born in New Jersey, who became a Brigadier-General. It was under his command that the 10th Cavalry led by Black non-commissioned officers, saved Col. Teddy Roosevelt and his Rough Riders from being massacred at the famous charge up San Juan Hill."

Baldwin Lodge was chartered by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas. All of the other military lodges were chartered by the Prince Hall Grand Lode of Missouri. Eureka Military Lodge No. 135, established in 1888 and attached to the 10th Cavalry; Adventure Military Lodge No. 136 attached to the 9th Cavalry; Gillespie No.140; Military Lodge No. 152 thought to be attached to the 9th Cavalry; Military Lodge No. 153 also the 9th Cavalry; Joppa Military Lodge No.150, 9th Cavalry of which photographs have been found of the members in Masonic regalia and uniform.

The members of these units and lodges had to put up with unbelievable racism and yet they kept the faith to their country and to their Masonic obligations. When Joseph Walkes joined the Army in 1951, he was honoured to meet some of the old 10th Cavalry Troopers who were still on active duty and preparing to retire. When he retired from the Army in 1973, there were a number of the 10th Cavalry Troopers living in Leavenworth, Kansas,, most of them quire old. But today to witness their country saluting them and telling them that they served their country above and beyond the call of duty brings tears to us all.

MPC Magazine, Official Magazine of the Masonic Philatelic Club, July 2022

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"It behooves every man to remember that the work of the critic is of altogether secondary importance, and that, in the end, progress is accomplished by the man who does things."

President and Brother Theodore Roosevelt