



# 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District

## The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania



Lodge No. 9, Bristol Lodge No. 25, Hermann-Humboldt Lodge No. 125,  
Houseman Lodge No. 211, Doylestown Lodge No. 245,  
W.K. Bray-Southampton Lodge No. 410, Newtown Lodge No. 427, Pilgrim Lodge No. 712

Website: [www.pa8thmasonic.com](http://www.pa8thmasonic.com); Facebook: PA 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District

*Richard H. Bradbury, Sr. – District Deputy Grand Master*

April 2023

### 8th Masonic District School of Instruction

Lower Bucks Masonic Hall  
Edgewood & Heacock Roads, Woodside, PA 19067

Stated Monthly Meeting - 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 7:30 pm  
Extra Meeting – If Needed, called with due and timely notice.  
(No Stated Meetings in July and August)

#### APRIL CALENDAR

- 1 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Training and Doing it Right*
- 6 Pilgrim Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: History of the Phillies*
- 7 **Lodge 9-DDGM Visitation**  
*Program: DeMolay*
- 12 Hermann-Humboldt Stated Meeting  
*TBD*
- 12 Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Amazing Black Boxes*
- 13 **Houseman Lodge-DDGM/District Visitation**  
*Program: Freemasonry in Germany*
- 14 Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Travis Manion Foundation*
- 15 **Sectional School of Instruction**, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia
- 17 **8th Masonic District School of Instruction**  
Lower Bucks Masonic Hall (Newtown Lodge)
- 19 W.K. Bray-Southampton Lodge Stated Mtg.  
*Program: Community Night-History of W.K. Bray Lodge*
- 29 **Bristol Lodge-DDGM Visitation**  
*Program: King Solomon's Temple*

#### MARCH DISTRICT EVENTS

##### BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

**W.K. Bray-Southampton Lodge No. 410**, 1 South Penn Street, Hatboro – **Saturday, April 1, 2023**. Breakfast – 8:00 am-11 am, Pictures begin at 9:00 am. \$8.00 all you can eat; children under 8 eat free. Ages 3-10 – Bring your baskets.

##### BLOOD DRIVE

**Newtown Lodge No. 427**, Heacock & Edgewood Rds, Woodside – **Monday, April 10, 2023** from 2:00 pm-7:00 pm. Sign up: RedCrossBlood.org, Sponsor Code: masoniclodge427

### HAS IT BEEN AWHILE? COME BACK...YOUR LODGE NEEDS YOU!

The Brothers in Freemasonry love our Fraternity but sometimes life takes us away from the things we enjoy.

Don't let this happen to you. Brothers, your Lodges need you now as they always have. Don't assume that they will always be there waiting for your return. A Lodge is not our buildings but the assemblage of good and upright men who gather there. Never assume that you don't have anything to offer. Your presence and ideas could be the difference between a Lodge closing/merging and thriving in our community.

Every single Brother is an asset to their Lodge. We need experienced Masons and Past Masters to help teach the influx of new men coming into the Fraternity. We need your passion and desire to help to ensure our Lodges grow and continue to do what they've always done to support the communities in which we operate.

What do you say Brothers?

*Freemason Facebook Page reposted .from another brother's*



In recent years the Grand Lodge has approved new merged lodges created by two troubled lodges at every Quarterly Communication. This last communication there are now nine where there were once eighteen lodges. Many of these troubled lodges might have avoided that fate if only the "ghost" members came out to meetings and utilized their particular skill sets to benefit the lodge and its members. Remember what great experiences you once had...come find that feeling again. There is no need to be apprehensive coming back into *your* lodge. After all, we are all brothers.

## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

**April 16, 1789**

President-elect and Bro. George Washington left Mount Vernon, Va., for his inauguration in New York. He had just been unanimously selected by the members of the Electoral College to become the first President of the United States of America. Although the new President-Elect had huge landholdings in Virginia, he was reported to be "cash poor." Rumors had it he was forced to borrow money to pay his expenses for the trip to the inauguration in New York.

**April 19, 1951**

Gen. and Bro. Douglas MacArthur, relieved of his Far East command by President and Bro. Harry S Truman, bid farewell to Congress, quoting a line from a ballad "popular" in the British trenches in the First World War. "Old soldiers never die; they just fade away." Bro. MacArthur was made a Mason "at sight" by Bro. Samuel Hawthorne, Grand Master of the Philippines, on January 17, 1936. He affiliated with Manila Lodge No. 1, Manila. He received the 32nd degree, Scottish Rite at Manila the same year. And he became a life member of the Nile Shrine Temple, Seattle, WA. He died in 1964.

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### DID YOU KNOW?

#### A MASONIC MOON LODGE?

On a recent trip to Washington D.C. a stop was made at the Scottish Rite SMJ House of the Temple, a 180 year old building designed to resemble the Tomb of Mausolus in Halicarnassus. The building was more recently popularized in Dan Brown's *The Lost Symbol*. In its museum and library there are areas devoted to Scottish poet Robert Burns, Confederate mysticist and Freemason Albert Pike and artifacts of Freemasonry and famous Freemasons from American history. One such artifact of note was a Scottish Rite flag that astronaut Buzz Aldrin took to the moon as one of his two carry-on items during the Apollo 11 flight in 1969. According to the tour guide, this constituted the formation of the Masonic Moon Lodge.

Research of the flag revealed that prior to the Apollo 11 Mission, Brother Aldrin had been given a "special dispensation" from the Texas Grand Master to claim Masonic Jurisdiction Territory over the Moon. When they landed in the Sea of Tranquility, Bro. Aldrin certified that he exercised that authority and upon his return to Earth, a charter was issued by the Grand Lodge of Texas for the formation of Tranquility Lodge No. 2000. According to the Grand Lodge of Texas website, "Tranquility Lodge 2000 is based in Texas under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of Texas until such time as the Lodge may hold its meeting on the Moon"

Thank you to Bro. Bernard Schaffer (No. 245) for contributing to this article

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### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"We can only know the fullest joys of Masonry when we truly walk the paths of service and of hard work in the quarries."

George E. Burow

## BIRTH OF THE ELVES

If you've ever enjoyed a package of Keebler cookies, you have a Pennsylvania Freemason to thank! Founder Godfrey Keebler was a member of Concordia Lodge #67 F&AM. The Masonic apron that he wore at the cornerstone laying ceremony for The Masonic Temple in Philadelphia is currently on display in their museum Exhibit Hall. Another fraternal connection in Brother Godfrey's life (albeit non-Masonic): he was buried in Mount Peace Cemetery, owned and established by the Odd Fellows Cemetery Company of Philadelphia.

Pennsylvania Academy of Masonic Knowledge, Facebook page

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### SEVERAL MASONS DID WELL IN 'LIFE AFTER THE WHITE HOUSE'

"The Week", a national news magazine, in its January 27, 2017 issue, published a story on some highlights of past U.S. Presidents – after they left the White House.

A few examples of former White House residents commented on by "The Week: were Masons.

- The article noted that Andrew Johnson (a Tennessee Mason), "who was impeached and acquitted, rebounded to become the only ex-president to serve in the U.S. Senate, representing Tennessee."
- Theodore Roosevelt mounted a third-party campaign against the re-election of his own former vice-president and chosen successor, William Howard Taft. Both were Masons. Both lost in the three-party campaign as Woodrow Wilson was elected.
- Taft was "humiliated" as he lost that election, the magazine said, but wound up with his dream job – an appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court as Chief Justice. The appointment came from President Warren G. Harding, also a Mason. According to the story, "Most historians agree that Taft belongs to a select group of post-presidencies out-shown their tenure in the White House."

*Emessay Notes*, April 2017, Masonic Service Association

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### I BELIEVE

Our gratitude for little things of today is felt by every Brother, and here is a list of the Best Words to live by: *Courteous* words instead of sharp remarks; *smiles* instead of blank looks; *enthusiasm* instead of closed mind; *attention* instead of neglect; *patience* instead of irritation; *sincerity* instead of shame; consideration instead of annoyance. *Remembering people* instead of forgetting; *facts* instead of arguments; *helpfulness* instead of hindrance; *action* instead of delay; *appreciation* instead of apathy.

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

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### PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE

Good ritual work is a beauty to behold. But it can only be good if it rehearsed many times. A play, a movie, or television, has been rehearsed many times. Hence, many of our brothers stay home to watch television.

*Trestleboard Tidbits*, Compiled by Alphonse Cerza, MSA