



# 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*

September 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)

### SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

- 1 Lodge 9 Stated Meeting  
*Program: Family Day/Scholarships*
- 7 Pilgrim Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial*
- 8 Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Goethe*
- 9 **Lodge Officer/Mentor Makeup Training, Norristown**
- 10 **Kenneth J. Ritter Memorial Sporting Clay Shoot, Lehigh Valley Clays, Coplay**
- 10 **Cigar-B-Que, Lower Bucks Masonic Hall (Newtown Lodge), Woodside**
- 13 Hermann-Humboldt Stated Meeting  
*TBD*
- 13 **Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting-District Visitation**  
*Program: Boaz & Jachin, Freemasonry is Spiritual Alchemy*
- 14 Houseman Lodge Stated Meeting  
*TBD*
- 18 **8th Masonic District School of Instruction, Lower Bucks Masonic Hall (Newtown Lodge)**
- 20 W.K. Bray-Southampton Lodge Stated Mtg.  
*Program: Past Masters Night*
- 23 **Secretary/Treasurer Workshop, Lower Bucks Masonic Hall (Newtown Lodge)**
- 23 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Can the Hiram Legend Be Found in the Bible/*

### YOU CAN STILL COMPLETE YOUR PASSPORT!

If you have started, or want to start the program, there are still enough lodge meetings and Schools of Instructions to complete the District Passport and receive a traveling pin. Check the above schedule for Stated Meeting dates. Lodge Extra Meetings are posted on the District Calendar found on the website: [www.pa8thmasonic.com](http://www.pa8thmasonic.com)

### DEPENDING WHEN YOU GET YOUR LODGE NOTICE...

If you get your lodge notice early in the month, here are upcoming events for which you may have time to register:

**September 10<sup>th</sup> – Annual District Cigar-B-Que**, 4pm-8pm  
Tickets are \$75.00/pp for four cigars from our friends at Hiram & Solomon Cigars, barbecue supplied by Billy-D's Bar-B-Que, tastings, beer and soda. Deadline for tickets is September 3, 2023. For tickets or information, contact DDGM Bro. Rich Bradbury at DDGM08@pagrandlodge.org or phone/text 215-852-3532.

**September 10<sup>th</sup> – Kenneth J. Ritter Memorial Sporting Clay Shoot**. Deadline for registration is September 3, 2023. All of the necessary information can be found here on page 7: [https://issuu.com/pr263/docs/fm\\_may\\_2023web](https://issuu.com/pr263/docs/fm_may_2023web)

### LOWER BUCKS MASONIC HALL TO BE HOME OF 8<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION

The first six School of Instruction meetings this year were held at the Lower Bucks Masonic Hall as a trial period to determine if moving the School was the best for the membership of the District. At a Board of Governors Meeting held on July 11, 1012, the Worshipful Masters of the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District reviewed and discussed the factors involved in the decision to move the District School of Instruction from the Masonic Village at Warminster to the Lower Bucks Masonic Hall (Newtown Lodge). By a majority vote the decision was made to make the change of venue permanent.

The change of venue to the Lower Bucks Masonic Hall will require a change in the School of Instruction's By-Laws and approval by the Grand Lodge. Therefore, the proposed amendment to the By-Laws will be read at the September School and held over for action in October. You are welcome to attend and voice any opinions you may have on September 18<sup>th</sup>.

### NEWTOWN LODGE GOLF CLASSIC

On September 19, 2023, Newtown Lodge is holding their Golf Classic at Five Ponds Golf Club, Warminster, with a 9:00 am shotgun start. Cost is \$115.00 per golfer. For information and details, contact Brother George Lange, 215-355-2158 or [georgianne21@gmail.com](mailto:georgianne21@gmail.com)

## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

### September 9, 1890

Bro. Harlan Davis Sanders, founder of Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurants was born near Henryville, IN. Bro. Sanders died December 16, 1980.

### September 13, 1814

General (Bro.) John J. (Black Jack) Pershing was born at Laclede, MO. Bro. Pershing as General commanded the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) during World War., the AEF, as part of the inter-Allied offensive, successfully assaulted the St. Mihiel salient in September, 1918, and later that month quickly regrouped for the Meuse-Argonne operation that led to the Armistice of November 11, 1918. Bro. Pershing died July 15, 1948 at Washington, DC.

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## WHEN IS A MAN A MASON?

M.W. Brother General Charles Fergusson, in an areas many years ago before the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, answered the question, "When is a Man a Mason?" in this way:

"When he can look out over the rivers and hills and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things and yet have faith, hope, and courage, which is the root of every virtue.

"When he knows that down in his heart every man is a noble, as vile, as divine, and diabolic, and as lonely as himself, and seeks to know, to forgive, and to love his fellowman. When he knows how to sympathize with men in their sorrows, yea, even in their sins, knowing that each man fights a hard fight against many odds. When he has learned to make friends and help them.

"When he can be happy and high-minded amid the meaner drudgeries of life. When no voice of distress reaches his ears in vain, and no hand seeks his aid without response. When he can look into a wayside puddle and see something beyond mud, and into the face of the most forlorn fellow mortal and see something beyond sin.

"When he knows how to pray, how to love, how to hope. When he has kept faith with himself, with his fellowman, with his God; in his hand s sword for evil, in his heart a bit of a song- glad to live and not afraid to die?

"Such a man has found the only real secret of Masonry, and the one which is trying to give to all the world."

*Emessay Notes, September 2021, MSANA*

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## BROTHER

B e ready with a friendly greeting,  
R eserve night when we hold meetings,  
O bey the Master's pleas and wishes,  
T ake time to help out with the dishes  
H elp widows, orphans, with quickness,  
E ase, too, the lot of those with sickness  
R emember to love one another –  
---and you'll deserve the name of BROTHER.

Walter K. Belt, P.M.

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

## NOW YOU SEE THEM...NOW YOU DON'T!

It isn't just the secret to the rabbit in the hat that ties so many of world's top magicians together. Most of them know the secret Masonic grip, too. In fact, all but one of the magicians to have worn the "Mantle of Magic," or the special cape worn by the recognized top magician in the field, have been Masons. Here, a few of the most notable master Mason-magicians and experts of the two crafts.

**Harry Kellar (1849 – 1922)** - Known as the Dean of American Magicians, Harry Keller was one of the most popular and successful performers in the world in the early 1900s. His famous "Levitation of Princess Karnac" trick involved having a woman miraculously rise off a couch and vanish into thin air. In addition to serving as a mentor for Harry Houdini. Kellar was made a Mason in 1875 at Lodge Fraternidad y Home in Pelotas, Brazil. He also received the Scottish Rite degrees at Triple Esperance Lodge in Port Luis, Mauritius.

**Lee Grabel (1919 – 2015)** - Recognized as one of the last greats in the tradition of Hermann, Keller, and Thurston, Lee Grabel was known for his signature illusion, a variation of Keller's famous levitating-piano trick. After touring the country in the postwar years, Grabel settled in the East Bay town of Alamo, where he joined Alamo № 122 (now Orinda № 122) and later the Society of American Magicians' Diablo Assembly № 112, as well as the Invisible Lodge International.

**Harry Houdini (1874 – 1926)** - Much can be said about Harry Houdini, born Erich Weisz, from his humble Hungarian roots to his notorious escape artistry and stunt performances. He was initiated in St. Cecile Lodge № 568 in New York on July 17, 1923 and raised August 21. Houdini also gave back to the Masonic fraternity, including hosting a benefit performance for the Valley of New York that filled the 4,000-seat Scottish Rite Cathedral.

**Howard Thurston (1869 – 1936)** - Thurston was one of the last great Vaudeville performers, producing lavish shows that blended humor and color whereas Kellar had hosted more formal presentations. During shows, Thurston was known to use "Hiram Abiff" as his magic word, a subtle wink to his fellow Masons in the crowd. Thurston belonged to Manitou Lodge № 106 in New York City.

**Maurice Raymond (1877 – 1948)** - A skilled showman and famed escape artist known as the "handcuff king," Maurice Raymond (the Great Raymond), began his career performing on the Vaudeville circuit, but found greater success overseas, playing venues from South America to England to Japan, the Philip- pines, and China. He would go on to perform his show in as many as seven languages. One of his famous tricks was the "Mytempicosis," the fastest trunk escape in the world, which he performed with his wife. Like his career, his Masonic membership had an international flavor, as he was a member of Perseverance Lodge № 338 in Bombay, India; a Royal Arch chapter in Calcutta; the Royal and Select Council and Commandery, K.T. in Balboa, of the Canal Zone

By Justin Japitana  
*California Freemason, Summer 2023*  
Grand Lodge of California