



8th 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; Facebook: PA 8th Masonic District

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

November 2023

8th Masonic District School of Instruction

Lower Bucks Masonic Hall

Edgewood & Heacock Roads, Woodside, PA 19067

Stated Monthly Meeting - 3rd Monday at 7:30 pm

Extra Meeting – If Needed, called with due and timely notice.
(No Stated Meetings in July and August)

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- 2 Pilgrim Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Military Recognition/Help for Our Heroes
- 3 **DDGM Visitation-Lodge 9 Stated Meeting**
Program: Veteran Program
- 8 Hermann-Humboldt Stated Meeting
Program: TBD
- 8 Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Building the Flag Program with a "Toast to the Flag"
- 9 Houseman Lodge Stated Meeting
Program: Veteran's Night/Travis Manion Foundation
- 10 **DDGM Visitation-Doylestown Lodge Stated Mtg.**
Program: Appendant Body Month
- 15 W.K. Bray-Southampton Lodge Stated Mtg.
Program: Veterans Night
- 20 **8th Masonic District School of Instruction**
Lower Bucks Masonic Hall (Newtown Lodge)
- 25 **DDGM Visitation-Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting**
Program: Modern Lessons

YOU CAN STILL COMPLETE YOUR PASSPORT!

Many of the Brothers picked up a Passport to Fellowship in the 8th Masonic District earlier in the year. Now that Lodged have returned to labor, don't forget to pick up where you left off! There is still time to complete the requirements in order to get the District Traveling Pin. Check the above schedule and District website for Stated and Extra Meeting dates of the Lodges you still need to visit.

CORRECTION TO OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

After further accounting, the 2023 Cigar-B-Que donation to Masonic Charities will be \$2,680.00, not \$2,656.50, bringing the 8 year total donations from this event to \$11,645.24, not \$11,621.74.

A HISTORIC CALL 'TO ARMS' AS WE CELEBRATE VETERANS DAY THIS MONTH

This was the found in the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of PA Proceedings of 1941:

"The fifty-five reviews [membership/lodge statistics, etc.] contained in the following pages were all written prior to December 7, 1941.

The attack that day by Japan on the United States has changed the entire outlook. Instead of being a sympathetic spectator of the world war, the United States became an active participant. We now find ourselves summoning every resource against a common enemy of freedom.

No question of jurisdictional control or ritualistic differences now matter. The real question is, Shall Freemasonry be destroyed? The Axis powers have abolished Freemasonry in all countries controlled by them, and should they be successful would undoubtedly abolish Freemasonry and Religion in Great Britain and the United States. Be not deceived by smooth promises; that is the goal of the Totalitarian Powers.

Every Freemason should support to the full limit of his ability the Government under which he lives and which protects him.

Whether the different bodies show a loss or gain of membership this year over last is unimportant. Until such time as the common enemy is crushed and freedom maintained we should concentrate on the one great issue of winning a real victory for our people.

Not only every Mason, but every Lodge, Grand and subordinate, as well as affiliated activities must co-operate to win this war. There should be no hair splitting as to whether this or that course is Masonic; the only one is, will such action help to win this war. This war is the war of every Freemason. When we win it, and win it we must, Freemasonry will have a new and possibly a broader meaning than it has ever had before.

Many of our Brethren are already on the firing line, and many more are training. We must support them to the limit, with supplies, munitions, and all necessary equipment to win the war in the shortest possible time.

The call to every Freemason is "to arms."

John M. Core, Membership Chairman

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

November 4, 1879

Born to part Cherokee Clement Vann Rogers and his Cherokee wife, Mary, in Claremore, OK, the last of the couple's eight children - Will Rogers, named after a prominent Cherokee chief. He was seven years old when he became No. 11384 on the authenticated rolls of the Cherokee Nation. Will grew up learning to ride a horse as he was learning to walk. He learned rope tricks from a ranch hand. He did well in everything he touched except school, rarely lasting more than three months in any but the last - a girl's seminary in Muskogee where he spent most of his time lassoing girls. He drifted for several years and returned home in 1904 to perform at the World's Fair in St. Louis. He petitioned Claremont Lodge 53 and received the degrees on February 18, 1905, March 10 and 13, 1906. On April 16, 1908 he received the Scottish Rite Degrees in the Valley of McAlester. By 1908 he had become a highly paid vaudeville performer with successful tours throughout the United States and Europe;. Bro. Will joined Akdar Shrine temple in November 20, 1914, and by 1915 he was a regular in the Ziegfeld follies. He next went into the movies, became a writer and philanthropist, giving freely to the Red Cross, the Shrine Children's Hospitals and to orphan homes. He arranged and performed at numerous benefits for victims of natural disasters, made large contributions to the blind and donated his entire salary for his 1933 radio broadcasts to The Salvation Army and The Red Cross. Bro. Will loved to fly. He first flew in 1915. He flew with Bro. Charles Lindbergh and Bro. Eddie Rickenbacker. So when fellow Oklahoman Wiley Post invited Bro. Rogers to accompany the record-setting pilot on a trip to Russia via Alaska, Bro. Will accepted. On August 15, the little plane took off from the river 15 miles north of Point Barrow and almost immediately crashed into the river bank. An Eskimo family saw the crash and reported the death of the two flyers. Bro. Will had written earlier: "When I die the writing on my gravestone is going to say, 'Never met a man I didn't like.' I'm so proud of that I can hardly wait to die so it can be carved." He did and it was.

DID YOU KNOW?

What is 'Untempered Mortar'?

It is a symbol of faulty preparation. Untempered mortar is mixed without sufficient amounts of any ingredients—sand, lime and water. The Jews, during the captivity, who had to make bricks without straw, were working with untampered clay. The cowan, who builds walls with sand or stones alone between the greater boulders of the wall, works with untampered mortar. Its use insures failure. Proper preparation does not assure success but makes success possible.

The Pocket Encyclopedia of Masonic Symbols, The Masonic Service of North America

A MASONIC CONNECTION TO THANKSGIVING

As we celebrate Thanksgiving it's important to reflect on the history of this holiday. Two Freemasons heavily shaped the celebration that we know today. Bro. Elias Boudinot and

former President and Freemason George Washington rallied together to create this holiday as a way to give thanks and prayer to our communities, families, and friends.

In 1621, the settlers from the Mayflower created a tradition that would last for centuries to come. This celebration was to thank God for the harvest and his many blessings. Members of the Wampanoag tribe in Plymouth, Massachusetts were also invited to the feast. This feast is what we now call Thanksgiving where we are pushed to reflect on all that we have to be grateful for.

On September 25th, 1789 Congressman and Brother Elias Boudinot of Burlington, New Jersey appeared in front of the House of Representatives with a proposition. Brother Boudinot asked that the government create a committee to persuade the President and Freemason, George Washington, to declare a national day of thanks and prayer. Without his Masonic values, Brother Boudinot may have never been inclined to rally for this national day of thanks.

In 1789, President George Washington delivered the Proclamation of 1789 that assigned November 26th as the National Holiday of Thanksgiving. This proclamation was also a symbol to our former monarchy that the colonies were a self-governing and legitimate state. Washington remarked, "both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness." It goes without doubt that our national holiday would not have been established without the help of two Freemasons.

The Grand Lodge of Ohio

DON'T BE BASHFUL, BROTHER

You're visiting in some strange town
And go to Lodge that night.
Well, they don't greet you with a frown,
They try to treat you right;
And yet that brother over there –
He hasn't said a word.
He views you with an owlish stare
That makes you feel absurd.

Again, you're in your Lodge at home.
A visitor comes in.
You wonder why he'd ever roam,
With that self-conscious grin.
He is the stuck-up city kind,
You think. But if the truth were known,
In his aloofness, you will find
The fault is part your own.

For lots of men of solemn face
Are anxious to be friends.
For each one longs to show with grace
The good will he intends.
You think he's too proud and grand,
He thinks the same of you.
Give him your name, your smile, your hand,
He may be timid, too!

Walter K. Belt

Masonic Message of the Month – October 1978