



# 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*

January 2024

### 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)

### JANUARY CALENDAR

- 5 Lodge 9 Stated Meeting  
*Program: Introduction of New Officers*
- 4 Pilgrim Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Introduction of Pilgrim web page*
- 12 Doylestown Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program:*
- 10 Hermann-Humboldt Stated Meeting  
*Program: TBD*
- 10 Newtown Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: New Mason Night/Intro, for the Year*
- 11 Houseman Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Appointment of Officers/Expectations*
- 15 **Board of Governors Meeting/School of Instruction**  
**Lower Bucks Masonic Hall (Newtown Lodge)**
- 17 W.K. Bray-Southampton Lodge Stated Mtg.  
*Program: Lodge Upgrades/RWGM Initiatives*
- 20 Bristol Lodge Stated Meeting  
*Program: Examination of Visitor*
- 20 **Open Presentation – DDGM District D**  
Masonic Temple, Philadelphia

### **OPEN PRESENTATION OF BROTHER JAMES T. CLANCY, P.M.**

There will be an open installation of Brother James T. Clancy, P.M., incoming District Deputy Grand Master-District D, on Saturday, January 20, 2024 at 4:00 pm. The Presentation will take place at the Masonic Temple, 1 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA.

This event is an “Open Presentation” so you, your spouse and/or family members are welcome to attend. If you have not had the opportunity to witness this Masonic ceremony, this is a great opportunity.

*Wishing You a Safe and Happy New Year!*

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW LODGE OFFICERS

Congratulation to the incoming Masters and Officers of the Lodges in the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District. Please note the Board of Governors Meeting will be held on Monday, January 15, 2024 at the Lower Bucks Masonic Hall, Edgewood and Heacock Roads, Woodside, PA.

Please attend your Lodge’s January meeting and congratulate them in person!

### 2024 SEMINARS, SCHOOLS AND OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Mark your calendars for next year’s important dates:

Region 1 Officer and Mentor Training Seminar:

March 2, 2024–Masonic Village-Lafayette Hill

March 23, 2024–Masonic Village-Lafayette Hill

Region 1 Sectional School of Instruction:

April 13, 2024-Philadelphia

January 27<sup>th</sup> – Unity Day, New York

March 15<sup>th</sup> – Academy of Masonic Knowledge

June 1<sup>st</sup> – Quarterly Communication, Erie, PA

June 15<sup>th</sup> – Lodge of Research

July 27<sup>th</sup> – RWGM Golf Tournament, Dallas, PA

September 7<sup>th</sup> – Sporting Clays Shoot (East), Coplay, PA

October 26<sup>th</sup> – Academy of Masonic Knowledge

December 4<sup>th</sup> – Quarterly Communication, Philadelphia

December 14<sup>th</sup> – Lodge of Research

Details for these events will be provided closer to the date of the event.

### UNITY DAY 2024 SCHEDULED

The Grand Lodge of PA along with the Grand Lodges of New York, New Jersey and Delaware are hosting a Unity Day on Saturday, January 27, 2024, 8:00 am-3:00 pm. The event will take place at the Grand Lodge of New York, 71 West 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, New York, NY.

Each Grand Lodge will exemplify a degree. Pennsylvania will exemplify the Fellowcraft Degree. The cost is \$50.00 (includes buffet breakfast and lunch).

See the Grand Lodge website for details and link to purchase tickets: <https://pagrandlodge.org/event/unity-day/>

## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

**January 31, 1940**

Among the most important pieces of New Deal social legislation was the Social Security Act, signed into law by President and Bro. F.;D. Roosevelt on August 14, 1935. It included a number of provisions for general welfare, and created a social insurance system to provide a continuing income to retired workers aged 65 or older. Following the enormous task of registering employers and employees, on January 1, 1937, workers began acquiring credits towards their retirement benefits. Payment of monthly Social Security benefits began in 1940, when check number 00-000-001, in the amount of \$22.54 was issued on January 31 to 65-year-old Ida May Fuller, of Ludlow, Vermont. She had worked for three years under the Social Security program before retiring in 1939 from her job as legal secretary. She lived to be 100 years old, collecting a total of \$22,888.92 in Social Security benefits. Now a firmly established institution, the Social Security system pays benefits not only to aged retired workers, but also to their aged spouses or widows, children under age 18, and surviving aged parents. This was one of the major promises offered by Bro. Roosevelt in his run for the US Presidency while America was in the depths of the Great Depression. It was but one of Bro. Roosevelt's many demonstrations of the Masonic Way in action.

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### THE WARDENS

The name, "Warden," is derived from the Saxon word, "weard", meaning warder or guard. The "gu," instead of "w," comes from the Norman French, where the "gu" sound usually replaces the English "w".

In the lodge at York Minster in the 1300s, there were two principal officers, principal and secondary masons, who were responsible for notifying the building owner of any defects in the work and of any absences, which needed deductions from wages.

The agreement between the lodge and the Dean and Chapter refers to them as Masters of the masons. In 1370, the Chapter records show a mason had to be approved by the common assent of the Master and Wardens of the work and by the Master Masons before he could be employed. During the 1400s, there are regular references to a Warden or Wardens of the lodge.

It was not uncommon for the Warden to be promoted to Master to fill a vacancy.

In English practice, the Master appoints Wardens. In Scotland, New Zealand and most American jurisdictions, the Wardens are elected.

*Emessay Notes, The Masonic Service Assoc., January 2015*

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### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

#### **Building Stone**

A Boy is the only thing that God can use to make a Man and a Man is the only thing we can use to make a Mason.

Grand Lodge of Missouri  
*Tied to Masonic Apron Strings, Stewart M.K. Pollard*

## LET'S USE THE FREEDOM WE HAVE

We have just passed through that period of the year when each of us probably pauses and considers the significance of the blessings and privileges we have been granted in life. It does not matter what our religious persuasion may be. It is a time when the existence of a Supreme Being probably carries a greater impact upon our hearts because it is a time in which our minds are stimulated more frequently to appreciate His importance in our lives.

We, as both Americans and Freemasons, have a greater reason to be thankful than perhaps those anyone else in the world. We live in a country where freedom is an accepted aspect of life. We live in a country where we can choose openly to worship God as we please, without concern. We live in a country where we can be member of the Masonic fraternity without fear of any type of retribution.

And, yet we all too often take these freedoms for granted. There are many places in the world today when these freedoms simply do not exist. How often we tend to forget that our freedom to worship God, and our freedom to be a Freemason are freedoms earned by the sacrifices made by others. Prosperity has a way of dulling appreciation for those whose sacrifices and commitments gave us that prosperity. It is easy to become complacent when we have not had to struggle, and we have become complacent.

I have had the privilege in recent years to be in conversations with Freemasons from many parts of the world. As a result, I have developed an even greater appreciation for being able to walk into a lodge room and sit with my brothers, and of being able to walk into a church of my choice and worship God as I choose.

I have talked with brothers who had to leave their native countries because Freemasons were being persecuted and killed. I have talked to those who today live with a continuing concern for their lives or their freedom because they were Freemasons. I have written to my brothers in countries where I had to use envelopes with no Masonic reference because it would place them in jeopardy.

And we, with no reason to fear, do not even put forth the effort to attend our meetings. We have so much for which we should give thanks to the Grand Architect of the Universe and to those who made the supreme sacrifice for our freedoms. We cannot do that by not using these freedoms.

My brothers, let us individually commit ourselves to make use of that which we have, the least of which is not the freedom of sitting in a lodge room with our brethren.

*Masonic Perspectives: The Thoughts of a Grand Secretary,*  
Thomas W. Jackson, RWPGS, 2015

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### GLOSSARY: DUES

In Latin *debere* meant to owe something; it is preserved in our familiar, too familiar, "debt." The same idea appears in "duty," which means that which is due, or that which is owed, in the moral sense. Dues represent one's fixed and regular indebtedness to his Lodge which he placed himself under obligation to pay when he took his Oath & Obligation.

Are your dues paid? Have you upheld your Oath & Obligation? If not, please pay them now! Thank you.