



# 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 8th Masonic District

*John P. Sellani Sr. — District Deputy Grand Master*

April 2026

### 8th Masonic District School of Instruction Lower Bucks Masonic Hall (Newtown Lodge)

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)

#### April Calendar

- 2 Pilgrim Lodge No. 712 Stated Meeting:  
*Program: Table Lodge*
- 3 **Lodge No. 9 Stated Meeting:** *Program: Welcome Bro. Robert D. Brink RWGM and Bro. Eric T. Downs, RWJGW (District Officer Visitation All WM, SW, JW to attend)*
- 8 Newtown Lodge No. 427 Stated Meeting: *Program: Freemasonry After the War*
- 8 Hermann-Humboldt No. 125 Stated Meeting: *Program: TBD*
- 9 Houseman Lodge No. 211 Stated Meeting:  
*Program: Christopher Rowen: Anniversary History Celebration (District Visitation)*
- 10 Doylestown Lodge No. 245 Stated Meeting:  
*Program: Theodore H. Wallace; Life of Teddy Roosevelt*
- 11 **Regional School of Instruction-Temple, Phila.**
- 15 W.K. Bray Southampton Lodge No. 410 Stated Meeting: *Program: Masons and Hatboro-Bro. Tim Shultz PM*
- 20 **8th Masonic District School of Instruction**
- 24 **Walnut Street Theater-1776 The Musical**
- 25 **Academy of Masonic Knowledge Symposium-Phila. -Liberty Tree Dedication & GL Celebration Gala**
- 25 Bristol Lodge No. 25 Stated Meeting: *Program: Dyslexia : What you need to know.*

### LIKE THE BEATLES SAID...GET BACK...GET BACK, GET BACK TO WHERE YOU ONCE BELONGED. 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?*

### The 8th Masonic District Past Masters Breakfast

The 8th Masonic District Past Masters Breakfast was a tremendous success, bringing together fellowship, great conversation, and an outstanding variety of food. Brothers from every lodge in the district gathered to reconnect, share stories, and celebrate the strong bonds that unite us in Masonry.

A special shout out to Brother Joseph Tolen, WM who received such positive feedback that the rumor is he may schedule another one later this year.  
Stay tuned !

## SPRING HAS SPRUNG !

### LODGE SPRING CLEANING CHECKLIST

The days are steadily growing longer, much of the ground has thawed and the familiar sounds of spring have begun to fill the air. Looking ahead towards the warm embrace of the summer, spring is the perfect time to pause and consider how we can all freshen up our Lodges in the spirit of spring cleaning season.

Below is a quick spring cleaning checklist to help guide you and your Brothers as you begin sprucing up your Lodge.

- ◇ Clean up the entrance to your Lodge, including front hall or front windows.
- ◇ Remove unused items that are cluttering up the foyer and common area to make it more inviting
- ◇ Consider adding some new plants, flowers, or Masonic decor to the front of the Lodge to make it more inviting
- ◇ Inventory, clean and/or replace candidate outfits
- ◇ Make sure preparation rooms will inspire new candidates and get them ready for their upcoming degree
- ◇ Take inventory on any printed materials or resources you may have at the Lodge and ensure they are up to date Spruce up the bathrooms by ensuring floors, stalls and sinks are cleaned and restocked with fresh rolls of toilet paper, paper towels and hand soap
- ◇ Clean up the Lodge room by vacuuming any carpeting, wipe down and dust chairs, tables, pictures, plaques, lamps and any other furniture in the space
- ◇ Lastly, bring your lady to Lodge — she'll discover and point out issues you never knew existed

*Portions were taken from The Grand Lodge of Ohio, F. & A.M.*

### GLOSSARY – SETTING MAUL

A wooden hammer used by Operative Masons to “set” the stones in their proper positions. It is in Speculative Masonry a symbol, in the third degree, reminding us of the death of the builder of the Temple, which is said to have been effected by this instrument.

In some Lodges it is very improperly used by the Master as his gavel from which it totally differs in form and in symbolic signification.

The gavel is a symbol of order and decorum, the setting-maul of death by violence.

*Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, Volume 2, Albert G. Mackey*

## 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

### KIRKS KORNER

Before there were aprons, gavels, or printed rituals, there were tools.  
Simple instruments. Practical. Precise.  
Designed to shape rough material into something worthy of structure.  
Then Freemasonry did something radical with them.  
It took the tools of builders and turned them inward.  
The *square* stopped being about stone and became about conduct.

The *level* stopped measuring ground and began measuring equality.  
The *plumb* stopped correcting walls and started correcting men.  
The lesson was never about the object...  
It was about how wisely it was used.  
And here is something we often forget:  
Those tools were once the best technology available.  
They were not sentimental.  
They were effective.  
Every generation of Masons has faced the same quiet question:

What will you do with the tools of your time?  
The printing press changed how knowledge spread.  
The typewriter changed how ideas were prepared.  
The internet has changed how people access information.  
Each innovation could be misused.  
Each could also elevate the work.

Now we stand in another such moment.  
Artificial intelligence is not a replacement for ritual.  
It is not a substitute for memory.  
It cannot assume obligations or improve a man's character.  
It is a *tool*. And like any tool, it can either cheapen effort or refine it. Used lazily, it produces shallow words.  
Used thoughtfully, it can help organize research, clarify symbolism, structure ideas, and reduce the burdens that consume time better spent on fellowship and growth.  
The question is not whether AI exists...  
The question is whether we will learn to handle it with discipline.

How can an AI tool assist Lodge administration without taking over responsibility?  
How can it strengthen education rather than dilute it?  
How can it help a Brother communicate more clearly while still thinking for himself?  
I'll leave you to it.

*Masonic Find*