



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE



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Called Home

JUNE 24, 2017



CLAIRE M. RENSHAW

PAST PRESIDENT/ PAST TREASURER REBEKAH ASSEMBLY &
PAST PRESIDENT LADIES AUXILIARY PATRIARCHS MILITANT

Sister Claire M. (Dreibelbis), 79, formerly of Hamburg, PA, passed away in the Middletown Home, where she was a residing approximately 10 years. She was initiated a Rebekah into Clementine Rebekah Lodge #571, Hamburg, on the fourteenth day of April, 1962. She became a PNG and received her Rebekah Assembly Degree on April 13, 1972. She held many positions over the years in the Rebekah Assembly, serving as Rebekah Flag Bearer from 1972-73, District Deputy President from 1977 – 79, Treasurer from 1982 – 1986 and then excelled through the Assembly Chairs to serve as our President from 1988 – 1989. She then served as Representative to the IARA from 1989 – 90. She then became a Member of Lady Colfax Rebekah Lodge #182, Leesport, through consolidation on October 7, 1996. She was

also an associate member of Susannah Rebekah Lodge #247, Harrisburg, joining October 5, 1968 and retaining membership until they went defunct May 28, 2011. She served many years as Representative to Unified Session and served in the past as Parliamentarian. She was a Lady of the former Reading Auxiliary #2, later known as Leesport Auxiliary #2, serving in many capacities there, Banner Guard from 1970 – 71, Guard from 1972 – 73, Officer of the Day from 1973 – 74, L Aide to Chaplain 1974 – 75 and Aide to PP from 1997 – 98. She served as President of the Ladies Auxiliary Patriarchs Militant from 1992 – 93. She later was transferred into Jurisdictional LAPM, when Leesport Auxiliary #2 went defunct. She was a recipient of the Decoration of Chivalry on June 23, 1981 and the Meritorious Service Jewel in 1993.

She was also very active in the Rebekah Home of Harrisburg, serving several years on the Board of Directors, two years from the Rebekah Assembly. During the 1972 flood, she volunteered herself to help with the safe evacuation of the Guests. At the time of consolidation with the Odd Fellows Home of Middletown, she was serving as Vice President of the Board. In 1978, she served as Rebekah Assembly Representative to the Odd Fellows Home of Middletown. She was also instrumental in organizing the Home Auxiliary and served as its President from 1979 – 1984, and served many years after .

Coming from a large Odd Fellow family, she was preceded in death by her parents, Howard and Eleanor Dreibelbis, sister Ruth Latkis and Brother Alan Dreibelbis. Surviving is her husband, Harold, of Triune Lodge #307, one son and two grandchildren.

Rebekah services were conducted by the Past Presidents and Members of Lady Colfax Rebekah Lodge #182 and the Rebekah Assembly, with a PM and LAPM Honor Guard and burial was in the Middletown Home Cemetery.

A nurse by trade, she did much to establish hospital corps within the various branches and did much fundraising to provide medical equipment at Unified Sessions and at the IOOF Headquarters in Pennsylvania. Her project as President of the Rebekah Assembly was to provide a wheelchair to be used at Unified Session, which has been very beneficial. Claire was very active in our Order and stressed Unity within our Branches and involvement in the Community.

Places to Go... People to See

2017

SEPTEMBER

23 / PPRA Mansberry Testimonial, Uniontown, PA *+
30 / IOOF Rally, Nucleus #377 *+

* denotes furnished by Planning Board
+ denotes details to follow

OCTOBER

14 / GE Board Meeting & Rally, Philadelphia, 9:00AM*+
21 / PGM Young Testimonial, Somerset, PA*+

NOVEMBER

4 / PM/LAPM Rally, York*+

** On the second Sunday of each month, at 1:00PM, year round, Centre Lodge #153 of Bellefonte is still conducting their Music Jams!

All Lodges are reminded when planning an activity, if you would like your state officer's support please contact the Planning Board Secy, Mary Giebel, PO Box 49, Cassville, PA 16623 or 814-305-2011. mcgiebel@msn.com.

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in next month's issue.

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In an effort to save money for the magazine, if you would like to receive this magazine
via email instead of hard copy, please email the Grand Lodge at iopfaglsecty@verizon.net
with your name and Lodge and this will be done accordingly.

**THE GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA
WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS:**

Port Matilda Lodge No. 733
Joe M. Pressler – reinstated March 5th
Jennifer A. Pressler

COME VISIT THE GRAND MASTER

Grand Master Wooden has scheduled the following visits for August. I am sure he would appreciate seeing you there.

- 1 – Tunkhannock #699 OV – 7:30PM
- 7 – Thistle #512 OV – 7:30PM
- 8 – Leesport #141 OV – 7:30PM
- 12 – GL Board Meeting, Middletown – 10:00AM
- 14 – Smethport #389 OV – 8:00PM
- 15 – Falls Creek #957 OV – 7:30PM
- 16 – Clover #348 OV – 6:30PM
- 17 – Charleroi #1030 OV – 7:00PM
- 18 – Alma #523 OV – 7:30PM
- 21 – Lewistown #97 OV – 7:30PM
- 24 – Lewisburg #96 OV – 7:30PM

COME VISIT THE ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT

Rebekah Assembly President Trulick has scheduled the following visits for August. I am sure she would appreciate seeing you there.

- 7 – Wysox #443 OV – 7:00PM
- 9 – Idella #58, R230 & R15 @ R58 OV – 7:30PM (6:00PM meal)
- 11 – Lady Evelyn #22 OV – 6:00PM (tentative)
- 14 – Ellen #233 & R103 @ 233 – 7:00PM
- 16 – Lady Harmony #86 – 7:00PM

COME VISIT THE GRAND PATRIARCH

Grand Patriarch Oertel has scheduled the following visits for August. I am sure she would appreciate seeing you there.

- 3 – Scott #132 & E32 @ 132 OV – 7:00PM
- 10 – Earl R. Leiby #106 OV – 6:00PM
- 28 – Mount Vernon #14 & E217 @ 14 – 6:00PM dinner

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

The Board of Grand Lodge Officers congratulates the following on achieving milestone years in Odd Fellowship this month.

20 YEARS

Fred R. Korman Lodge No. 55

30 YEARS

Nelson M. Martin, #1030
James E. Shriver, #1030

FROM THE DESK OF ELLIE TRULICK, PRESIDENT

Installation is over. Everyone did a terrific job and I am now officially President of the Rebekah Assembly of Pennsylvania.

I want to THANK everyone who took part in this installation. A special Thank You to Past President A. Elaine Weekley and Past Grand Master Bob Gumbert for being my Installing Officer and Installing Marshall. You did a tremendous job. Two of my outstanding friends.

A Thank You to Past Grand Master Dale Binkley for putting up with my various change request. You certainly did a terrific job also.

To all members of the Rebekah Assembly who afforded me this honor. Thank You.

August Official Visits are located in this magazine. I hope that many of the members will attend each/all Official Visits. I am going to do something different this year. You have to come to find out what.

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND PATRIARCH

I am Dorothea Oertel, Grand Patriarch of the Great State Of Pennsylvania! Sherman and I both have the American Cancer Society as our charity; Just the word Cancer makes people shutter. It is also known as “The Big C”. There are so many types of cancer. Everyone of us can tell our own stories of someone: (1) who has passed away (2) now fighting it (3) the best of all has survived. We have all known some smoker who has said despite our words or the doctors words, “Well, I gotta die of something.” We cannot give up hope. We need to find a cure. Trust in God.

Shawn and Diane Miller gave me these Bible verses in an email which I think it fits. I will end with thought Proverbs 3: 5-6. “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths.”

ON THE ROAD WITH GRAND MASTER YOUNG



On June 7th, Grand Master Young and staff visited his home Rebekah lodge, Mon Valley #82. Joining the Grand Master was Grand Marshal Dzyak, and Grand Conductor Whitlinger, First Lady Debra Young, and Past Grand Chaplain Shirley Whitlinger, not pictured; because somebody had to take the photo. The Grand Master is seated between (2) Past Presidents, Izetta McGill and Carolyn Barger; both members's of Mon Valley #82.

On Monday, June 12th, the Grand Master accompanied by Grand Marshal Dyzak, journeyed north to visit the members of Smethport #389. This was the last official visit for Grand Master Young's term. We had a nice evening of Odd Fellowship that started with a great meal and ended with a great meeting. Thanks to all in attendance, especially PPRA Debbie Tufts and Grand Warden George Tufts for their hospitality.



WATERFALL LODGE #773 HONORS LONGTIME MEMBER

Shown is Clair Hawkins being honored for 50 years of dedicated service. Brother Hawkins joined Harrisonville Lodge #710 and recently became a member of Waterfall Lodge #773 through consolidation. He's held many positions in the Lodge over the years and has been active.

~ Submitted by Neil Rotz, Sec



Presenting his pin is Roy Spidle, NG



Presenting his cake are Roy Spidle, NG and Otis Ware VG

HONESDALE PRIDE AND PATRIOTISM DAY PARADE



Freedom Lodge 88 constructed this float for the parade. We were pleasantly surprised to receive the award for most original! The brothers had a great time together on the "build nights" for this project. Join the brotherhood!

MIDDLETOWN HOME

Every Father's Day Weekend, the residents at Middletown Home rev up their engines for the Annual Father's Day Car Show! This year we had our parking lot full of classic antique cars for the residents to enjoy. Residents spent the afternoon picking out their favorite cars, jamming out to their favorite tunes, and snacking on popcorn and snowcones. It was a beautiful day for the residents to get outside and enjoy the weather as they went around to each car and sat out on the porch! "Get your motorrunning, head out on the highway, looking for adventure, and whatever comes our way!"



Butch is ready to take her for a spin!

Gone Fishing! For our residents who like the outdoors, Fishing Trips are some of their favorites! We take our buses, tents, residents, staff, and fishing gear down to Limestone Springs. The pond they have there is stocked with all kinds of fish like trout and carp. By the end of our last fishing trip we ended up with over 26 pounds of fish! All of our fish we take home and clean and cook up for meals later. We have some great fish stories, and I can tell you that most of them are true!

FUN FACT:

We have two Civil War Medal of Honor Recipients buried in Odd Fellows Cemeteries in Pennsylvania:

John William Mostoller: Private in Company B 54th PA Infantry
– Buried in the Odd Fellows Cemetery, Stoystown.

Robert Alexander Reid: Private in Company G 48th PA Infantry
– Buried in Odd Fellows Cemetery, Pottsville.

~ Submitted by Roger A. Calhoon, PGP



Addie and Lee reeled in some whoppers!

FREEDOM LODGE 88 AWARDS ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Freedom Lodge awarded their 2017 scholarships in Central Park Honesdale recently. Receipt of the Freedom Lodge 88 Scholarship was Lauren Odell. Lauren plans to attend Misericordia University studying in the nursing program. Tom Jackson was awarded the Honesdale Odd Fellows Scholarship. Tom plans to study in the field of Carpentry and Cabinetmaking Technology at Johnson College. Konner Burke was awarded the Howard L. Goodenough Jr. Scholarship. Millersville University is where Konner plan to pursue a career in Occupational Safety and Environmental Health. We wish all the best of luck!



left to right: Konner Burke, Lauren Odell, and Tom Jackson



Members of Freedom Lodge and Award winners

KINGWOOD LODGE NO. 1010 GOES OUT OF THEIR WAY TO HELP A FAMILY IN



On June 23rd, the Members of Kingwood Lodge #1010 came together to hold a chicken bbq for a local wedding and donated the money to a family who lost their 22 year old daughter in a car accident.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT RALLY IN JOHNSTOWN A SUCCESS



Shown in the front is a delegation of new Patriarchs into William F. Packer Encampment #127, Johnstown. There were six candidates all going into this Encampment. A majority of them hailed from Kingwood Lodge #1010. It was a great day of Patriarchal Odd Fellowship.

CLEARFIELD COUNTY INTERESTING FACTS:

How many Odd Fellow Lodges were in YOUR County?? Did you ever wonder if your town had an Odd Fellow Lodge? Do you know where it was or do you even remember some of these Lodges? If you can take a picture of the Lodge Hall that was once in your town and mail it in, we'd be glad to have it for our archives and it could perhaps end up in the magazine!

CLEARFIELD COUNTY:

- Allemandsville – Allemands Lodge #900 – consolidated 1997
- Allport – Allport Lodge #933 – consolidated 1952
- Ansonville – Ansonville Lodge #781 – defunct 1882
- Ansonville – Ansonville Lodge #1005 – consolidated 1969
- Brisbin – Goss Run Lodge #919 – consolidated 1968
- Burnside – Burnside Lodge #679 – defunct 1970
- Clearfield – Clearfield Lodge #198 – consolidated 1997
- Coalport – Coalport Lodge #781 – consolidated 1986
- Curwensville – Bethesda Lodge #821 – consolidated 1971
- DuBois – Dubois City Lodge #951 – consolidated 1957
- Glen Hope – Glen Hope Lodge #669 – defunct 1900s
- Grass Flat – McIntyre Lodge #798 – consolidated 1983
- Hawk Run – Ashcroft Lodge #1029 – consolidated 1929
- Houtzdale – Houtzdale Lodge #990 – consolidated 1965
- Karthus – Karthus Lodge #925 – defunct 1935
- Kylertown – Forest City Lodge #176 – consolidated 1922
- Lecontes Mills – Bald Hill Lodge #1027 – defunct 1941
- Lumber City – Lumber City Lodge #877 – defunct 1937
- Mahaffey – Mahaffey Lodge #1023 – defunct 1964
- New Washington – New Washington Lodge #567 – defunct 1883
- Osceola Mills – Osceola Lodge #747 – defunct 1945
- Penfield – Penfield Lodge #567 – defunct 1960
- Troutville – Mingle Lodge #753 – consolidated 1931
- Winburne – Winburne Lodge #61 – consolidated 1953

24 Lodges with 0 active. ** You'll see Allemands #900 and Clearfield #198 both consolidated in 1997. They have consolidated to form Fred R. Korman #55, which is turning 20 years old! From what I can find online, however, the Lodge is located in Cambria County. That is why it isn't on here. 1st Lodge Clearfield in 1846

Next month – Mifflin and Montour Counties – Get your pictures and articles in now!

THE 4TH ANNUAL IOOF GOLF OPEN TO BENEFIT CAMP JRA



Saturday, June 24, 2016 Coopersburg, PA

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) lodges Vienna #847, Allentown; Victory #658, Sellersville; Bushkill Encampment #55; and, Canton #39, Allentown, held their golf tournament to benefit Camp JRA, to sponsor up to thirty (30) kids afflicted with juvenile arthritis to attend the camp for one week during the summer.

This year's goal was short of the \$10,000.00 we had hoped to raise to send more kids to Camp JRA; however, we are still very grateful and appreciative of our golfers and sponsors that still allowed us to raise \$6,017.00 for Camp JRA and the kids. Thank you.

About 70 golfers came out at the end of Tropical Storm Cindy passing through South Mountain at 6:30 a.m. to get their generously stuffed 'welcome bag' and a continental breakfast – inside the garage for the golf carts. The golfers did not hesitate to increase their donations on the 50/50, raffle, and the Mulligans while passing the time for the rain to pass us.

At about 7:15 a.m., Cindy was quickly passing us to the east to give the public golf course pro and Rory King, our host, the instructions for the day about playing on the two (2) open courses. By 7:45 a.m., later than scheduled, the golfers began their day.

A local foursome was in an auto accident; but, still managed to attend to play the tournament.

And, we, the 15 organizers and volunteers, continued to break-down the tables to set-up down the street at the pavilion reserved for us, fortunately with the rain clouds dispersing to let the warm and humid sun shine on us for the rest of the day.

While the golfers were out on the courses, we organizers and volunteers worked on the pavilion to prepare for the golfers' return, which included trophies, donated swag and a big hot lunch prepared by a local caterer.

During that time, we learn that Lauren, from the Eastern PA Arthritis Foundation, was stuck in traffic on the PA turnpike due an accident, and would not make the golf open in time to accept the ceremonial check.

By 12:45 p.m. most of the golfers were at the pavilion, relaxing before their well-deserved hot lunch at about 1 p.m.

The golfers began receiving their trophies about 1:30, being very appreciative for receiving them and more so for their part of the tournament.

Charlie Danihel, Chairman, PA IOOF Jurisdictional Arthritis Committee, accepted the ceremonial check in the amount of \$6,017.00 on behalf of Lauren, and the IOOF Eastern PA Arthritis Foundation, located in Philadelphia.

Charlie could not thank the lodge members, organizers and sponsors of the golf tournament enough for the donation and work that everyone did to make the day an enormous success, even though it rained for most of the event.

The real winners of the day are the kids that will attend Camp JRA this year.

A very special 'Thank you' to: The lodges, regional and state offices that donated to this year's tournament. Wedgewood Golf Course for allowing us to hold the event a second year at their golf club; Thank you for the extra helpers we had that made the day a success: Linda Torrence, (Bruce's' wife) and daughter for getting up very, very early to sell the auction tickets, and assist with other tasks; and, Bruce and Trudy, the caterers, that prepared another excellent lunch for everyone; and, Rory King, the man that made it all happen.

We will see everyone next year!

Thank you.

Steve Nathan, PCP, Bushkill #55 and PG, Victory #658,
Writer and Photographer

Thank you from the Odd Fellows Open

From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank all who participated in the 4th Annual Odd Fellows open. Through your efforts, we were able to surpass \$20,000.00 over four years of hard work. Thank you to all who came to golf; thank you to the Lodges who sponsored holes, or even bought the raffle tickets. Thank you to the individuals who gave their time and money into making this the wonderful event it is today. You are a hero to these children.

Fraternally,

Rory J. King, Vienna Lodge #847, CP Bushkill Encampment #55, Esn Canton Allentown #39

CLOVER LODGE'S GOLF TOURNAMENT HELPS TO EDUCATE YOUTH

Shown is Clover Lodge 348's Noble Grand Dave Carlson and Vice Grand Tim Kovach with four of the 2017 winners of the \$1,000 Odd Fellows Scholarships recently awarded following the Lodge's 12th Annual Golf outing on June 4th at Black Hawk Golf Course.

Pictured left to right are Carlson, Quaker Valley High student Walter Hubsch, Ambridge High students Madisyn Kovach, Harley Stueben, Paige Mauldin and Vice Grand Tim Kovach.

A good time was had by all for a great cause.

Also golfing and lending his support was Grand Master David Young with a foursome from Connellsville.

Dave Carlson

Noble Grand, Clover Lodge 348



ROBERT E. RAFFENSBERGER HONORED FOR HIS DEDICATION TO YOUTH

This was a session to remember, as Grand Master Young called upon Grand Patriarch Charles Danihel, who is also the chairman of the Arthritis Committee of Pennsylvania, to award Robert E. Raffensberger with a plaque for his dedication to Camp JRA and the PA Arthritis Committee. For years, Bob has done the Arthritis Raffle - the last several years, the funds raised have gone towards the Odd Fellows Golf Open towards sponsoring students to Camp JRA.



Shown are committee members with GM Young: (l to r) Nevin Adams, David Young, Robert Raffensberger, Bruce Torrence and Charles Danihel.

2017 GOLF TOURNAMENT RAFFLE WINNERS

- 1 Askem Lodge #899 \$100.00
- 2 Wanda Cummings \$100.00
- 3 Edward Cummings \$50.00
- 4 Schrock-Hogan \$50.00
- 5 Kenneth Knapp \$50.00 Sheetz Gift Card
- 6 Ted Rothrock \$50.00 Wawa Gift Card
- 7 James Hiles \$50.00 Applebee's Gift Card
- 8 Ceag Reinhart \$50.00 Texas Road House Gift Card
- 9 Robert C. Hinderliter \$50.00 Red Lobster Gift Card
- 10 Mary Ann Marks \$50.00 Giant Food Stores Gift Card
- 11 Latiesha Carter \$50.00 Home Depot Gift Card
- 12 Harold Arment \$50.00 Dick's Sporting Goods Gift Card
- 13 Lady Colfax \$50.00 Carabba's Gift Card
- 14 Joseph Strausser \$25.00 Boston Market Gift Card
- 15 Carter Boyle \$25.00 Cracker Barrel Gift Card
- 16 Steve Dreisbach \$25.00 Kohl's Gift Card
- 17 Cody Schaffer \$25.00 Starbucks Coffee Gift Card
- 18 Sandy Huchel \$25.00 CVS Gift Card
- 19 Jim Bennett \$25.00 Dairy Queen Gift Card
- 20 Pat Newman \$25.00 Dunkin Donuts Gift Card

If you were not a winner of the prizes above, you will be a winner in the hearts of these children.

OBITUARIES

Due to publication time, we regret we cannot accept
Obituaries older than three months.

THOMAS I. MAUST

Past District Deputy Grand Master
Somerset Lodge No. 438
May 4, 2017



Thomas I Maust died on May 4, 2017 at Somerset In Touch Hospice House. He was born in Brothersvalley Twp on March 14, 1927 and was the son of Charles and Rose Ella Maust. Tom had 5 sisters and 4 brothers, and only Emily Fritz and Charlie Maust are living. Tom was a member of the IOOF Lodge for over 70 years. His children remember playing the piano and/or singing when they were young for many programs at the Lodge on Main Street in Berlin. Tom graduated from Berlin High School in 1945, was a retired Dairy Farmer and retired from Highland Mutual Insurance Company as a claims adjuster. He is survived by his wife, Sara, a son Thomas II of Norway, and daughters, Jackie Daniel of Exton, PA, Helen Thompson, Charlene Murray, and Darlene Beachley, all of Berlin, PA, 19 grandchildren and 25 great grandchildren.

Brother Thomas I. Maust, 90, of Berlin, PA, was initiated into Berlin Lodge #461 on January 11, 1947, where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree on June 12, 1950. He then became a member of Somerset Lodge #438 through consolidation on April 8, 2002. He served several years as a District Deputy Grand Master and at the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest tenured member.

He was a member of the Somerset Church of Christ.
Burial was held in Berlin IOOF Cemetery.

GEORGE BOONE III

Henry Disston Lodge No. 8
May 20, 2017



Brother Rev. George Boone, III, 77, of Trevoise, PA, was initiated into Henry Disston Lodge #8, Tacony, PA, on August 24, 1998, where he became a Past Grand.

He was the former Pastor of Trevoise United Methodist Church.
He was preceded in death by his wife, Joanne. Surviving are two children and five grandchildren.

TERRY L. SWARNER

Sandy Lake Lodge No. 573
June 5, 2017



Brother Rev. Dr. Terry L. Swarner, 65, of Stoneboro, PA, was initiated into Sandy Lake Lodge #573 on June 6, 2016.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran of the Vietnam and Persian Gulf Wars and a member of the Sandy Lake Presbyterian Church.
Surviving is his mother.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge and burial was held in National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Bridgeville, PA.

EVERETT H. WILSON

Paoli Lodge No. 290
June 8, 2017



Brother Everett H. Wilson, 93, of Honey Brook, PA, was initiated into Pilgrims Lodge #455, Lionville, PA, on April 9, 1943, where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree on November 21, 1945. He attended Grand Lodge Session as a Representative from this Lodge. He later became a member of Brandywine Lodge #388, Downingtown, through consolidation on November 9, 1974, then Star of Hope Lodge #199, Coatesville through consolidation on February 19, 2001,

where he was currently serving as Secretary, and finally Paoli Lodge #290, Downingtown, through consolidation on November 17, 2005. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest tenured member. He loved this organization so much, his wedding band was imprinted with the three links.

He was a member of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Lionville.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Mary Jane Lachman. Surviving are five children, 14 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Burial was held private at the convenience of the family.

STANLEY M. WIEAND

Past District Deputy Grand Master
Jordan Lodge No. 192
Lady Lillie Best Rebekah Lodge No. 222
June 18, 2017



Brother Stanley M. "Sno Shoes" Wieand, 85, of Allentown, PA, was initiated into Jordan Lodge #192, Schnecksville, PA, on January 19, 1960, where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree on September 28, 1963. He served many years as District Deputy Grand Master, from 1982 - 87 and from 1999 - 2012. He also held the position of recording secretary for many decades and was a regular attendee to the Unified Session. He was a Rebekah of Lady Lillie Best Rebekah Lodge #222, Schnecksville, having been initiated November 20, 1993 and regularly attending. He was also a Patriarch of the former Pleasant Corners Encampment #54, Schnecksville, having joined May 13, 1987 and holding the position of Scribe for many years.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran of the Korean War era and a member of Union United Church of Christ, Neffs.

Surviving is his wife, the former Jean Stump, also of Lady Lillie Best, four children, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge and burial was held in Union Church Cemetery, Neffs, PA.

RUTH M. BAHUR

Unified Lodge No. 2
June 24, 2017

Sister Ruth M. (Zabawsky) Bahur, 83, of Pittsburgh, PA, was initiated into Unified Lodge #2, Pittsburgh, on November 10, 2011.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Alexander. Surviving are three children, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Bridgeville, PA.

WILMER W. GILPIN

Wysox Lodge No. 1152
June 26, 2017

Brother Wilmer W. Gilpin, 84, of Towanda, PA, was initiated into Wysox Lodge #1152 on July 6, 1993, where he became a Past Grand on October 1, 1996.

He was a member of Wysox Presbyterian Church.

Surviving is his wife, the former Phyllis M. Sutton, of Wysox Rebekah Lodge #443, five children, seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge and burial was held in Wysox Cemetery.

GEORGE W. FOLTZ

Past District Deputy Grand Patriarch
Clover Lodge No. 348
Ambridge Encampment No. 259
June 27, 2017



Brother George W. Foltz, 94, of Conway, PA, was initiated into Robertson Lodge #450, New Brighton, PA, on March 10, 1972, where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree on October 5, 1974. He became a member of Edith Lodge #812, Freedom, through consolidation on September 10, 1987 and finally Clover Lodge #348, Ambridge, through consolidation on October 1, 2008. At the time of the consolidation, he was Edith Lodge's Noble Grand. He was initiated a Patriarch into Harrison

Graham Encampment #116, Freedom, on March 25, 1974, where he became a Past Chief Patriarch and received his Grand Encampment Degree. He then served as District Deputy Grand Patriarch from 1997 - 1998. He became a member of Ambridge Encampment #259 through consolidation on June 7, 2003. At the time of the consolidation, he was Harrison Graham Encampment's current Chief Patriarch.

He was a U.S. Army WWII Veteran.

He was preceded in death by his wife and one son. Surviving are three children, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge.

JAMES R. LEWIS

Past District Deputy Grand Master
Unified Lodge No. 2
June 28, 2017



Brother James R. Lewis, 86, of Elizabeth, PA, was initiated into Old Monongahela Lodge #209, Elizabeth, PA, on March 11, 1959, where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree on September 8, 1962. He then became a member of Unified Lodge #2, Pittsburgh, through consolidation on June 30, 2011. He was very active, serving on the Pilgrimage for Youth for many years in Pennsylvania, Orchard Manor Executive Board for six years and former Degree Master of Monongahela Degree

Team #88. He then served as DDGM from 1996 – 1997. He was a Patriarch of the former Monongahela Encampment #109, Elizabeth, being a Past Chief Patriarch in 1961 and retaining membership until they went defunct in 2012.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran of the Korean War and a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Elizabeth.

He was preceded in death by a son and grandson. Surviving is his wife, the former Rita Bowers, two children, 10 grand and step-grandchildren, 23 great and step-great-grandchildren.

RALPH A. WESTERMAN

Freeport Lodge No. 379
June 30, 2017



Brother Ralph A. "Sonny" Westerman, 88, of Buffalo Township, PA, was initiated into Freeport Lodge #379 on January 6, 1971.

He was a U.S. Navy Veteran and a member of the United Presbyterian Church of Freeport.

He was preceded in death by two sons. Surviving is his wife, the former Marilyn Cunningham, one son, one daughter, 8 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Sarverville Cemetery, Sarver, PA.

ANNABELLE W. DIFFENBAUGH

Pennsylvania's Oldest Tenured Rebekah
Lady Colfax Rebekah Lodge No. 182
July 7, 2017



Sister Annabelle W. (Wise) Diffenbaugh, 97, of York, PA, was initiated into Clementine Rebekah Lodge #571, Hamburg, PA, on January 28, 1939, where she became a Past Noble Grand in 1942 and received her Rebekah Assembly Degree on March 22, 1944. She then became a member of Lady Colfax Rebekah Lodge #182, Leesport, through consolidation on October 7, 1996. She was the oldest living member of her Lodge and the oldest tenured Rebekah in Pennsylvania.

She was a member of St. John's United Church of Christ, Red Lion.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Murl.

Services were conducted by the Members of her Lodge and burial was held in Red Lion Cemetery.

TO ALL OF THE ODD FELLOWS AND FAMILY

I first would like to apologize for my untimely gratitude; it has been quite a busy few months. However, from the bottom of our hearts we would love to express how thankful we are for all of the outreach and generosity you all have shown the Shortens in such a trying time. We have had countless visitors when Pop was alive, we received such an outpour of love and support through letters with memories and cards full of love and prayers. It meant the world to him to have such a beautiful send off the day before his passing. The lodge kept him busy after his wife's passing and I feel that is what helped him hold on, well that and his grandchildren. It warms my heart to know how much he was appreciated in all that he did, and how much he made a difference in the life of the lodge. He truly loved every bit of it.

Thank you to everyone who paid their respects to him at the viewing. Thank you for the beautiful service provided by the Odd Fellows and the Militant in guarding his casket. It made us all so proud to see how many lives he had touched. We were so honored to read his article in the newsletter, so thank you for filling our hearts with such joy after such tragedy. We know we were blessed to have him, and he was blessed to have such amazing friends in all of you.

I hope his spirit is kept alive as you all go on with future activities.

*With Eternal Gratefulness & Love,
The Shortens*

TREASURER'S TALES - AUGUST 2017

August 1922 was a busy month for farming in New Jersey. Barney and Elizabeth were settling in the farm house with Barney's parents. Elizabeth had made great friends with Warden and Conductor and they looked forward to her evening trips to the barnyard with scraps.

Barney would not start school till after Labor Day and he didn't plan the subject matter till closer opening of school. He tried reviewing grammar first, with the introduction of a Shakespeare play. Since Elizabeth was a married woman, she did not need to look for a job. Married women did not teach school in 1922. Her emphasis was placed on farm living.

Alexander Graham Bell died in August 1922, leaving the world with a legacy of telecommunications. Sandy Kenyon was born, the future star of the short-run television series, Crunch and Des. You can watch an episode here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_21ttCIhZxY If you like salt water fishing, you may find the show amusing. The most amusing event of August 1922 came on the 25th when the Philadelphia Phillies and the Chicago Cubs had the highest scoring game in baseball history with 49 runs, the Cubs won 26-23. The worst event of August 1922 was when the Queensboro Corporation paid \$50 for 10 minutes of airtime on the New York radio station WEF and used it to advocate suburban living and promote apartments in Jackson Heights. In effect, it was the first infomercial. You probably thought infomercials were new.

The days of Barney and Elizabeth were filled with harvesting and canning corn, beans, squash, tomatoes, peppers, cabbage and a variety of other crops. There would be pork and beef to can as well, when butchering started in October. The chickens, ducks and geese were not butchered until close time for their consumption. In August, everything from the garden was fresh and had a better taste, compare to the restaurants and grocery stores you go to today.

Elizabeth was out picking tomatoes and she heard a cry. Venturing further out in the garden, she came across a kitten. It looked like its mother had abandoned it and it was hungry. She picked it up, put some fresh, warm milk in a bottle and started to feed it. As luck would have it, her father stopped by with papers he wanted Barney to circulate for the Odd Fellows Labor Day picnic. He took a long look at Elizabeth feeding that cat and said, "I think you will regret picking up that kitten."

Elizabeth replied, "He is so cute and we have a dozen or more cats in the barn, I am sure he will makes friends after I get him up to regular weight. He can stay in a basket on the closed-in porch till then."

Vic smiled, "Did you notice how short his tail is?"

Elizabeth responded, "His mother probably wasn't well fed during the pregnancy, and he was in poor health from birth."

Vic explained, "I know you haven't seen the likes of him before, but he is a bobcat. There used to be a lot of them in New Jersey, but the farmers and other residents put a bounty on them and nearly exterminated them. The scientific name for the animal is *Lynx rufus*, and the clearing of forests destroyed the habitat while trapping and hunting have contributed to their elimination. You do not want to keep that cat. Once we get him feed for a couple days, I have a friend who is the vet at the Bronx Zoo, we will take him there and he will have a better home."

Elizabeth was disappointed, "Couldn't I keep him here?"

Vic quickly replied, "I don't think Barney will want a cat that kills his turkeys, chickens and small pigs and may decide to eat Warden and Conductor as well."

Elizabeth shared the story with Barney and two weeks later on Friday, they went to the Bronx Zoo and delivered the cutest kitten they had seen. Vic accompanied them. As it turned out, the vet at the zoo was an Odd Fellow and he posted the picnic notices for Vic, even offering to sell tickets. The tickets to the picnic, covering a full dinner of baked ham and all the trimmings was a whopping \$0.40, but there were also fireworks and a talent show. The money went to a good cause, the Odd Fellows.

Comments and questions are always welcomed by the Grand Treasurer. You can contact him by email at jcupp275@gmail.com or conventional mail at P. O. Box 275, Hopwood, PA 15445-0275.

DECORATION OF CHIVALRY CONDUCTED ON DESERVING MEMBERS

For the second year in a row, and for the first time in many years, the Decoration of Chivalry ceremony played out a little differently. This year, not only was a Chevalier bestowed upon this honor, but also a Lady. BG George R. Tufts, Associate of Canton Allentown #39, and PP Lady Katie Walters of Allentown Auxiliary #39, Sellersville, had no clue they were to receive these coveted Decorations. It was a great evening, and had a wonderful turnout of friends and family gathered to see who was getting these awards. The Ceremony was under command of Department Commander, Col. Justin C. Bailey.

BG Tufts has not been active in the various branches for long, but when he became active, he was "all in." A decorated Marine Veteran, he became active in reorganizing Canton Ridgely #8 and held various positions in the Department Council of PA, most recently, Chief of Staff. He held the position of Aide de Camp for PSGM Danny Wood, which gave him the rank of Brigadier General. He is a member of Foster Lodge #333, of Rew, having joined Smethport Lodge #389 in 2003 and being active in both Lodges. He has done extensive work in his community and veterans organizations. George's daughter and granddaughter even drove in from Ohio to surprise him!

Lady Kate Walters' activities in the Rebekahs go back much further. As her family is deeply rooted in the Rebekahs and LAPM, she is currently holding the position of Vice President of the Ladies Auxiliary of Pennsylvania. She is a 30+ year member of Lady Sellers Rebekah Lodge #558 and has done much volunteer work in her church and children's groups in her communities.

Refreshments were provided by PPR A Deborah Tufts and a great evening was had by all. Next year we will take a break from the Decoration and we hope to do it again in 2019. Congratulations to these two deserving members!



Thanks to the efforts of CPT Nicole B. Inama, Department Council Bannerette, the old flags that the Department Council had were sold and new ones were purchased and hung from the ceiling so everyone can see what countries were displayed. All 24 flags used are flags that Odd Fellowship exists in those countries from all over the world. Thank you to Ellie Trulick and the "Letter Ladies" for their help in displaying "Justicia Universalis" (Universal Justice in Latin)

2017 UNIFIED SESSION SPONSORS

"Thank You" to all the lodges who have donated to the 46th Unified Session. Your generosity has helped to maintain an affordable Session to all the Brothers, Sisters and guests who are attending this year. On behalf of the Unified Session Committee and my co-chair, Sister A. Elaine Weekly, I thank you once again.

*Dale E. Binkley, PGM, PGR
2017 Unified Session Chairman*

HONOR ROLL SPONSORS

Mount Zion #74
Lady Colfax Rebekah #182
Foster #333
Strasburg #361
Rush #471
Alma #523
Victory #658
Shillington #1175

SPONSORS

Mystic #270



At the end of the Decoration of Chivalry, the PA-5 Drill team performed, under command of Grand Master David A. Young and PPR A Carolyn G. Barger. General Commanding Dan Mathews then addressed the congregation and awarded BG Tufts with the Special Recognition Certificate and Medallion Awards to CPT Nicole Inama and COL Justin Bailey. Following this, the PA-5 and those in attendance held a Grand March.



Department Commander, Colonel Justin C. Bailey, gives the oath to BG Tufts and Lady Kate Walters



The Ceremonial Canton under command of CPT Nicole B. Inama and LT, Maj Ray Boulanger



THREE LINK PLAN PROGRESS – RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION LEWISBURG LODGE NO. 96

One of the “Links” of our Lodge’s Three Link Plan to revitalization is exciting and new fellowship activities that will draw new members.

When I joined the Odd Fellows earlier this year, I had the opportunity to meet a lot of Brothers and Sisters, and to talk with many folks from all over the United States. What I learned is that many Lodges have forgotten how to have fun! You know the old saying, “all work and no play...”? Well, it seems that a lot of Lodges, including ours, had forgotten how to play together, like all the other cool kids on the block.

We gave a simple test at our Lodge. Everyone gets a piece of paper and a pen. You have 5 minutes to write down why you would join your Lodge. Not the organization, and answers like “it has a rich history,” are not permitted. Be honest. Can you name 5 reasons why you would join your Lodge? We couldn’t and it was a painful eye-opener. If you can’t, it’s time for some serious self-examination of your Lodge. If you can’t think of 5 reasons to join, why would a new comer want to join? If you can think of 5 reasons, please share them with other Lodges!

We show up to meetings, handle Lodge business, and go home. The next meeting, we show up, handle Lodge business...and go home. The next meeting... well...you can guess what happens. Sound like a fun organization to be a part of? Do you think we can attract the younger millennial generation that way? Nope. It is a sure-fire recipe to fade into oblivion. Don’t be afraid, grasshopper, we are in good company. I spoke with a local Masonic Lodge that is using the same business formula, and they are fading away too. Change is necessary.

So what do we do to change? It’s simple! Have fun together. Get off your butts and get out and have fun doing social activities together. Even if it is something like a weekend meet-up for ice cream. Get out there! By doing this, you will have many benefits. Members will be energized and motivated. People will see the Odd Fellows out in public! It’s good advertisement and gets us noticed. When folks start having fun together...it spreads like wildfire. People want to be a part of it! Recently, we began scheduling social events. We wore our t-shirts. And, it led to us finding some historical Odd Fellows documents! When folks see an organization that plays together, and does social activities, they want to be a part of it.

What can we do about recruitment? Simple! Open our doors to the public. Hold an open house. Far too often we retreat into the safety and secrecy of our Lodge. The public has no clue who we are, what we do, and that we even still exist. Invite them into our home (Lodge) for a day. When they see our symbolism, the rich history of many of our Lodges, you can bet they will be intrigued! Offer refreshments, hold door prize drawings, and a food drive for the local food bank... and don’t forget to put out the donation jar! Make it an “event”! Advertise! Invite local media. Think of the publicity we could get. Who knows, you may even recruit new members.

Odd Fellows and Rebekahs are some of the most amazing and nicest folks that I have met. We need to let the public see this. Yes, we are a secret organization, but there are many parts that we don’t need to keep secret. Reach out to your community. Hold social and fellowship activities that will attract new members. How about joint socials with a neighboring Lodge? The possibilities here are endless.

We are going to purchase a permanent Lodge for Lewisburg No. 96. Our goal is to make it the hub of community activity. That almost guarantees new members, income, and our survival for future generations. Folks will want to be a part of a Lodge that is active, energetic, and visible! We are determined to be a success story.

There is a Lodge, in another state, that has grown from several members to several hundred, they bring in over \$600k/year, and have hired 22 full-time employees to handle their events and the Lodge. How do they do it? Lot’s of social events, including a motorcycle and car club!

It takes work. It takes thinking outside of the box. It takes a Plan. It takes marketing your Lodge. It can be done! I challenge you – re-invent your Lodge and let’s have some success stories to share next year for the GLPA Grand Session!

For more information, please feel free to contact:
Scott Robinson, Lodge No. 96, Lewisburg, PA
scottr@ioofflewisburg.org • www.ioofflewisburg.org

LETITIA PENN REBEKAH LODGE #173 VISITS HOMEBOUND MEMBER AND RECEIVES AN INTERESTING DONATION

Members of Letitia Penn Rebekah Lodge #173 of Philadelphia recently made a visit to Simpson House to visit with Norma K. Fields, longtime member of Letitia Penn. It was a nice evening as she recalled stories of her earlier days in Rebekah Fellowship. Though she lived in Philadelphia most of her life, she was not always a “city girl.” She was initiated into White Dove Rebekah Lodge #538, in Leroy, Bradford County, back in 1963. Shortly after, she moved down to Philadelphia, and raised her children with her husband, and member of Walker Lodge #306, Alton Wayne Fields. He died suddenly in 1987 and she recalled Gil Rand, and other members of Walker coming to her aid in her time of grief. She also recalled the better times in her Lodge, when Letitia Penn held a surprise baby shower for her, wheeling gifts in to the Lodge room in a crib. She became a Past Noble Grand of Letitia Penn #173 in 1969, but was unable to attend meetings when the Rebekah Lodge moved locations. Since then, she has been a resident of Simpson House on Belmont Avenue.

While we were there, she gave us a treasure. When they were tearing down the old Home for Orphans of Odd Fellows, they were going to throw away the Bible. She said she couldn’t see that getting tossed, and the Bible was given to her then. When she moved in to Simpson House, she gave it to the pastor to hold on to, but when we arrived, she wanted to see it go back home. She presented Charles Danihel, Rep to the Orphans Home from the Department Council, and VG of #173, to give at their upcoming meeting. We had a great time with Norma and hope we can visit with her again soon!



Pictured are DDP and Treasurer, Jean Fowler, our entertainment for the evening Kenny Bailey, and Norma Fields.



Members of Letitia Penn Rebekah Lodge #173.



Norma presenting Philadelphia Orphanage Bible to Charles Danihel.

Periodicals

June Donations

VISUAL RESEARCH		
254	Nathan Lewis – Fort Necessity	228.00
	Rebekah Assembly Session donation	217.00
899	Askam	200.00
899	Askam Pittsburgh Blind & Visual – GM Young Proj.	100.00
1175	Shillington Pittsburgh Blind & Visual – GM Young Proj.	100.00
348	Clover	50.00
2	Unified	25.00
		<hr/>
		920.00

PA VISUAL ASSISTANCE		
899	Askam	200.00
86	Harmony	50.00
2	Unified	25.00
R30	Salome CRBF – PRA Mansberry Proj.	25.00
R303	Lady Landis CRBF – PRA Mansberry Proj.	25.00
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		325.00

PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW & REBEKAH MAGAZINE		
	Rebekah Assembly	250.00
ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION		
2	Unified	50.00
PA ARTHRITIS COMMITTEE		
899	Askam Camp JRA	500.00
	Session Raffle Camp JRA	41.00
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		541.00

PA SCHOLARSHIP FUND		
	Odd Fellows & Rebekah Association of Western PA	8,000.00
	Session Memorial Service Collection	218.00
2	Unified	50.00
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		8,268.00

**ARTHRITIS DONATIONS
FOR MAY, 2017**

NAME	AMOUNT
LADH LILLIE BEST REBEKAH LODGE #222	\$25.00
FAITH, HOPE & CHARITY REBEKAH LODGE #15	\$25.00
WM. F. PACKER ENCAMPMENT #27	\$100.00
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	\$150.00