



# PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE

Vol. 95

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No. 10

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\*NEW\* You can also follow us on Instagram at @paoddfellows

## DEPARTMENT COUNCIL SESSION A SUCCESS



Bruce Torrence installed as  
Department Commander



Canton  
Northeast #9  
receives charter  
... and more!

### *Places to Go...People to See*

OCTOBER

2&3 / Mt. Hor #736 150th Anniversary+

18 / 2021 Unified Session Meeting, Red Lion,  
Hbg: 1:00PM

+ denotes details to follow

\*\* On the second Sunday of each month, at 1:00PM, year round, Centre Lodge #153 of Bellefonte is still conducting their Music Jams! Please check their facebook first because there may be a scheduling conflict! – Due to COVID-19, these are on hold. Contact their Facebook page for more information

All Lodges are reminded when planning an activity, if you would like your state officer's support please contact the Grand Lodge at [ioofpaglsecty@verizon.net](mailto:ioofpaglsecty@verizon.net) or 717-944-7419

# The Pennsylvania Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine

(USPS 426-500)

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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 ioofpaglsecty@verizon.net with your name and Lodge and this will be done accordingly.



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

- UNIFIED LODGE NO. 2, FALLS CREEK LODGE NO. 957**  
**PITTSBURGH** Ronald D. Myers, Sr. - initiated  
 Marie Harnett - initiated September 1st September 1st
- FRED R. KORMAN LODGE NO. 55, GLASGOW**  
 Daniel L. Ramsey - initiated July 13th

## GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

Greetings to my Brothers and Sisters,

Here we are in the fall of the year already, and what a year it has been. 2020 will be a year we all will remember! In the midst of this pandemic shutdown, I pray that all my brothers and sisters are well and safe.

It was my hope that by this time we would back traveling and making our official visits. I miss being with you in lodge, but with the rise again in COVID-19 across our state, it has not been possible. Keeping lodge members safe is my top priority.

I truly hope that by the time you receive this, the October Magazine, I will be feeling stronger, as I began, September 2nd, a new clinical trial at the Hillman's Cancer Center. As many of you know,

I have been battling Prostate Cancer for some time. It has zapped me of my energy and strength. Until I can travel, and the state's guidelines are lifted that we can be together in Lodge, I need to rely on not only my staff but on the lodge members to keep Odd Fellowship going forward.

Our lodges are finding ways to keep the Odd Fellows' principles alive. It was good to see growth at Osage Lodge #712 in receiving their new members, and to take an interest in your lodge, preserving the local history of Odd Fellowship. Congratulations to Connoquenessing Lodge #278 for remembering the residents at Orchard Manor by providing "Christmas in July". Self-isolation is hard on everyone

especially our Seniors in nursing homes. To all the other lodges who continually find ways to help in their communities, keep up the great work!!

During this time of uncertainty, there are many who need a helping hand, those who have lost employment; those in nursing homes; our children with their schooling changed to virtual learning. Just look around and as Odd Fellows, I know we will find a unique way to help! Let us all work for the good of our Fraternity, in finding ways to lend the hand of friendship. Thank you for all your kind thoughts and prayers.

Your Grand Master

*David O. Whittinger*

## DESK OF THE DGM

It seems so hard to believe as I gather my thoughts to write this message that our year of 2020 is moving into the last quarter. TOMMORROW is September 1st!!! Being in "self-isolation" I thought that 2020 would be slow moving, dragging on forever, but it was just the opposite for me.

Looking over my messages, it seems like only yesterday I was wondering what our summer would be like as we move through this pandemic of ours. COVID-19, sure made our year one that we will never forget. I hope you all enjoyed the summer, maybe vacationing at your favorite "get-away spot; maybe visiting with family you don't see very often; or just relaxing at home, catching-up on those everyday things we just can't find the time to .

The Grand Master and I vacationed in our new home, on Tyler Court. We had the much-needed time to relax and settle into our new neighborhood. I enjoyed my morning walks, took advantage of

our community swimming pool, and most importantly, just having the time to enjoy our front porch. It was GREAT!!! Going away or staying at home, each of us has a favorite vacation. A location where we would want to go every chance we have to get "recharged". My place would be the shore, near water whether it be the ocean, or a lake, that is where you would find me. A perfect vacation, especially if there was a lighthouse to explore.

All along our coastline, you cannot travel far without spotting a lighthouse. The beacon of light was a guide for ships that land was near. It also warned sailors of dangerous shoals or of rocky shorelines. Although there are many, did you know that no two lighthouses are the same?? Lighthouses .... a source of comfort and a beacon of hope, what a comfort!!!

LIGHTHOUSES remind me of our fraternity!!!



As we begin the autumn of 2020, I pray that this pandemic is nearing its end and that all can get back to normal. I know that the Grand Master and I miss seeing all our brothers and sisters throughout our state. I also know that there are many who are in need. Until we can meet again, let us all be the beacon of light and hope as we begin our endeavors as Odd Fellows and Rebekahs. Until we can be together again, help me by reaching out to all the hands of Friendship, Love and Truth.

Always with God's guiding hand,

*Shirley, DGM*

## ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS ASSOC. OF W. PA 2020 GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania is accepting applications for their two - \$3,000 Graduate Scholarship Awards. A copy of the "Rules" and an "Application" for the 2020 Graduate Scholarship Awards can be obtained by 1) contacting Robert Grant, 40 Cypress Way; Charleroi, Pa 15022, or 2) emailing your request to "robag@comcast.net" The "Rules" and an "Application" may also be downloaded from our website: "www.glpaiiof.org" during the September through late November time period.

Regarding the Graduate Scholarship Award, the applicant or a living family relative must be a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) or Rebekahs of Western Pennsylvania and enrolled in the graduate program of an accredited college or university with an area of concentration in Music Education, Teacher Education, or a Health Related Field. Also, the applicant must be:

- A) a college graduate continuing his/her education toward an advanced degree (i.e. Master's Degree) or
- B) enrolled in a degree program requiring more than four (4) years to complete.

The application window will run from September through late November with the deadline for submitting applications for the 2020 Graduate Scholarship Award being November. 21, 2020.

### DEGREES CONFERRED AT FALLS CREEK

On September 1st, the Initiatory Degree was conferred upon Ronald Myers of Falls Creek Lodge #957 and Marie Harnett of Unified Lodge #2 of Pittsburgh. Following that, the three degrees were conferred on Sis Harnett, and a class of Members from Ridgway Lodge #969 and Falls Creek Lodge #957. In attendance was Grand Secretary Justin C. Bailey, Grand Marshal Robert B. Ruff and District Deputy Grand Master of District 16, Craig F. Tutton.

### SCOTT ENCAMPMENT WELCOMES NEW PATRIARCH

Scott Encampment #132 of Tamaqua recently conferred the Patriarchal and Golden Rule Degrees upon Patriarch Sharon J. Stokes, of Harmony Lodge #86. In October, they will confer the Royal Purple Degree. Congratulations to Patriarch Stokes on her membership!

### NEW ITEM FOR SALE



We figured to try something different instead of the normal attire. The IOOF dog tag comes with the beaded chain and is double sided. Cost is \$7.50 plus tax and shipping. Contact the Grand Lodge for orders!

## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

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

### 35 YEARS

Randy J. Gross, #192

### 40 YEARS

James F. Blatt, #141  
Glenn H. Cockerham, #201  
James R. Logan, #348  
Ross G. Walker, III, #1004  
Robert L. Willison, #1004

### 45 YEARS

Willis E. Ide, #371  
James R. Kuntz, Jr., #523  
Daniel J. Murton, #523

### 50 YEARS

Gary L. Compton, #1010  
John W. Kreger, Jr., #1010  
Eugene W. Sechler, #1010

### 55 YEARS

David E. Mensch, #96

### 60 YEARS

Robert A. Harris, #290

### 70 YEARS

Charles W. Anchors, #1004

### 135 YEARS

Henry Disston Lodge No. 8,  
Philadelphia

### 150 YEARS

Port Matilda Lodge No. 733  
Mt. Hor Lodge No. 736, Cassville

## DEPARTMENT COUNCIL SESSION A HUGE SUCCESS

17 Chevaliers shown up from 7 of the 8 Cantons across the Jurisdiction for an abbreviated Session. During this, the various reports were approved, Canton Northeast No. 9 of Honesdale was voted to receive their charter, General Commanding Jack Roberts installed the new officers of the Department and the Sword Proficiency Award was given. It was a busy day, but a great day of fellowship to get out amongst friends once again. Afterwards, a buffet style meal, served by the Red Lion Hotel, accommodated 20 of the members and family.

Congratulations to Bruce Torrence, who assumed responsibilities of the Department Council. He is also the first Department Commander with the rank of a Brigadier General in quite a few years, due to the institution of our 8th Canton. With that, we have two new Regiments, the eastern area under command of General Joseph Strausser and the western area under command of Colonel Shawn Miller. Major Nicole Inama was installed as our new adjutant and Colonel® John Dzyak still holds the position of Quartermaster.



*Shown here is Aide to the General Commanding, Brig Gen Bernita Roberts, pinning Brig Gen David A. Young as Deputy Department Commander, as Maj Nicole B. Inama pins Dept Commander Brig Gen Bruce Torrence.*



*Shown left to right: General Commanding John "Jack" Roberts, Dept Commander BG Bruce N. Torrence, Battalion Commander Maj J. Carl George, Dept Adjutant Maj Nicole B. Inama, Dept Quartermaster Col® John J. Dzyak and Battalion Commander William F. Hanby, III.*

### *Thank You!*

I wanted to say how grateful I am for receiving the Odd Fellow Scholarship! My grandfather, Joe Bonanno is a proud member and this is why this scholarship is so important to me! I am very excited to be going to Penn State, thank you so much for helping!  
Sincerely,  
Victoria

### *Thank You!*

Thank you so much for honoring me with the Pennsylvania Odd Fellow – Rebkeah Education Fund Scholarship. I feel so honored to have received this scholarship. The money will be used towards my college expenses!  
Thanks again!!  
Sincerely,  
Lydia Kovach

### *Thank You!*

Thank you for honoring me with your generous scholarship. I will use this money towards my studies at Penn State University. I truly appreciate your support and your selecting me for this award. Thank you.  
With great thanks,  
John Kotz

## CHRISTMAS IN JULY AT ORCHARD MANOR

Warm holiday cheer was shared with the Residents during Orchard Manor's week long Christmas in July celebration. While following all safety guidelines Orchard Manor was able to plan daily activities to brighten spirits and make the Residents smile. Due to a generous donation from the I.O.O.F of PA Connoquenessing Lodge 278, Orchard Manor was able to purchase gift bags and fill them with items such as magnifying glasses, pens, note pads, storage pouches, guardian angel pins, stress balls, and much more. The Residents really enjoyed receiving and looking through their bag to discover what treasures were inside. Other activities for the week included Christmas Bingo, a snack of iced sugar cookies, a holiday craft, and a packet of Christmas in July word puzzles and games. The Dietary Department provided a holiday feast complete with ham, sweet potatoes, green beans, dinner roll, and layer cake.

Throughout the past several months Orchard Manor has been coming up with creative ways to keep the Residents smiling. The Residents have participated in activities such as bingo and exercise from the doorway of their room while wearing a mask. Fun days such as crazy sock day, polka dot day, and sports jersey day have given the Residents and staff something to look forward to. Orchard Manor has even celebrated days such as National Iced Tea Day and National Vanilla Ice Cream Day by handing out treats related to the day being celebrated.

During these trying times Orchard Manor recognize that the Residents miss visiting with their families and friends. The staff have been working hard to spend time with each Resident individually and provide reassurance that we are here to



*Marjorie Stewart celebrating July*

help them through the quarantine. Social Services has been facilitating video meetings between the Residents and their families. The Residents mood brightens upon being able to see and communicate with their loved ones. Many families are also visiting at the windows and communicating via telephone.

The Residents and Staff sincerely thank the Board of Directors and all Odd Fellows and Rebekahs for their generosity and support shown to Orchard Manor, not only during this difficult time but always. We are looking forward to seeing everyone again soon.

## THREE CHEVALIERS RECEIVE THE SWORD PROFICIENCY



Following the Department Council Session, the Sword Proficiency test was conducted upon three Chevaliers: (from left to right) Capt Michael J. Wallis of Ridgely No. 8, Col<sup>®</sup> John J. Dzyak of Pittsburgh No. 5 and Maj J. Carl George of Allegheny No. 3. Gen Jack Roberts called the commands and the Chevaliers were graded by Maj Nicole B. Inama, BG David A. Young and BG<sup>®</sup> Justin C. Bailey. To their delight, all three received the First Class Proficiency Medal. Congratulations!!

# FREEDOM LODGE 88 SPONSORS ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE

Over forty donors participated in the Lodge's annual drive! We are proud to be able to help others this way. The Lodge is currently meeting outdoors and hope to return to our hall soon. Freedom Lodge meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday. Join the Brotherhood!



Above: Members of Freedom Lodge  
Left to right. Forrest Goodenough, James Lautenschlager, Mike Kinzinger, blood drive coordinator Charlie Knapp and Todd Kinzinger

Top Right: Forrest Goodenough donating

Bottom Right: First time donor Noble Grand Mike Kinzinger

# KINGWOOD LODGE #1010 HONORS LONGTIME MEMBER

District Deputy Grand Master, Dist 15 Shawn Miller (on left) and Noble Grand Neil Bender (on right) presents Allan Burnworth with a 50 year medal.

~ Doug Close, Kingwood #1010



# INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT LEBANON AND LANCASTER COUNTIES

The Rebekah Lodges numbered around 1,000. Some of the numbers, you'll also see more than once, as some of these Lodges only lasted a few years.

How many Rebekah Lodges were in YOUR County?!

Did you ever wonder if your town had a Rebekah 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!

Next Month - Washington County. Get your pictures and articles in now!

### LEBANON COUNTY:

- Annville - Starlight Rebekah Lodge #243 - defunct 1950
- Lebanon - Abigail Rebekah Lodge #210 - consolidated 1997
- Palmyra - Lady Palm Rebekah Lodge #274 - defunct 1953
- 3 Rebekah Lodges with 0 still active
- 1st Rebekah Lodge - Abigail Rebekah Lodge #210 in 1889
- 10 Odd Fellow Lodges

### LANCASTER COUNTY:

- Columbia - Cora Rebekah Lodge #59 - defunct 1876
- Elizabethtown - Betsy Ross Rebekah Lodge #129 - consolidated 1993
- Ephrata - Lucia of Sharon Rebekah Lodge #472 - consolidated 1952
- Kirkwood - Queen Ann Rebekah Lodge #552 - consolidated 1974
- Lancaster - Olga Rebekah Lodge #93 - defunct ~ 1900
- Lancaster - Rose of Sharon Rebekah Lodge #99 - consolidated 1966
- Lititz - Lady Sutter Rebekah Lodge #435 - defunct 2008
- New Holland - Lady Alice Dunn Rebekah Lodge #280 - consolidated 1986
- Strasburg - Kathryn Thompson Rebekah Lodge #6 - consolidated 1945
- 9 Rebekah Lodges with 0 still active
- 1st Rebekah Lodge - Cora Rebekah Lodge #59 - 1874

Dear Brothers, Sisters, Friends,

With your help, we are having a dinner for the 169 staff at our Odd Fellows Middletown Home for the time they are putting in to keep everybody safe during this crisis. Anything you could do to help out would be appreciated. Please make checks out to the Middletown Home and send them to Neil B. Thomas, 3508 Reading Crest Avenue, Reading, PA 19605-1627. This will not be open to the public, as they still haven't fully opened up, and will be done sometime in the future.

In Faith, Hope & Charity,  
Neil B. Thomas, Past Grand Patriarch



## NOW THAT'S DEDICATION



### DEDICATION

Lake City's 72 year old Herb Filby makes it a point never to miss a meeting of Nickel Plate Lodge 1125, I.O.O.F., if he can help it and even a leg amputation last year hasn't kept him from tackling the stairs to the lodge hall's upstairs meeting room. Herb, undaunted, simply takes off his artificial limb and goes up in a seated position. The vice grand may be a little slower in getting to the meeting, but his participation is lively.

Really, now, what is your reason for staying away from Lodge and not taking an active part?

*Taken from the June 1980 issue of the Pennsylvania Odd Fellow & Rebekah Magazine*



## THE HISTORY OF AN ODD FELLOW

As we look for things to keep us involved mentally during these trying times of isolation and concern, I am remembering how I became a member of this great fraternity.

Many years ago, my bride and I joined a local church, as we were new to the community, thinking it a way to meet new people of a like interest. My bride making one of her few mistakes noticed in the church bulletin mention of a golf league starting and suggested I may want to join. (perhaps her worst mistake). This led to me meeting some of my most dear friends and mentors.

These men also bowled, another passion of mine. Suggesting I join them I was introduced to the Clover Lodge Bowling League. It took a while for me to meet the bowlers. Although my mentors thought to get me into the fraternity, the caveat to becoming a member was the annual traveling National IOOF Bowling Tournament. It was a few years and the undying commitment of at that time the Grand Patriarch of PA, Herman Cruise who finally got me to fill out an application.

After the very impressive initiatory and the three degrees performed live by the then western degree team, it was now time to attend an actual meeting. The degree work was performed at the Holiday Inn at the Pittsburgh Airport. This did not afford me any preparation to entering the actual lodge. I was a nervous wreck. How could I remember all of the nuances of entering a lodge?

Our lodge met every Friday night at that time. The senior members were sticklers for tradition, Suit and Tie were a must. If you were not dressed appropriately, they could refuse to let you in the meeting.

As the years drew on my other obligations began to diminish to the point where I could attend meetings more regularly and also to participate in the lodge room. I thought I would like to get more involved but was reluctant to volunteer. That all changed around 2010 when the lodge was running out of active members to fill the respected chairs. Looking around the room some how I was seen and nominated for Vice Grand. I probably should have worked overtime that night, (lol). By accepting the nomination, it would mean, if elected at least a 2-year commitment. As most know the line of progression in the chairs tends to be short and straight. So, from Vice Grand to Noble Grand today in most lodges of the order is a predrawn conclusion.

As I became more visible to the Lodge some of the members also were members of the Ambridge Encampment and guess what? I was through the degrees and through the chairs and a past Chief Patriarch in record time.

As a Past Grand, I was now qualified to obtain the Grand Lodge Degree. This degree is given either at the Annual Session or by special dispensation of the Grand Master during a Degree Rally. This degree allows for further progression in the Order. As a representative from my lodge and having the Grand Lodge degree I was permitted to speak and vote during Grand Lodge session.

While attending one of these sessions, I was asked if I would like to fill out a spot in a golf foursome during a lull in the meetings one afternoon? Remember this is how this all started (go golfing meet new people). And the fix was in. The co-conspirators Marc R., Dave Y. and lastly my dear friend Dave W., as they

allowed me the privilege of low score to push through their agenda. Hey Carl have you ever thought about Grand Lodge positions. Perhaps accepting the Grand Conductor's chair?

By accepting this nomination if elected would probably mean at least another 4-5 years of active Grand Lodge work along with any lodge or encampment work that might also be on my plate. I asked and received a one-day time frame to give them my answer. Well here it is year 3 of a now possibly 6-year commitment. Due to the Pandemic I am serving my second term as Grand Warden.

I have enjoyed my time in Odd Fellowship immensely and would like to thank all the men and women who have helped along my journey. Some of these I feel need to be recognized every time I speak of the fraternity, Robert Pfeifer who, got most of the current members in Clover Lodge, through the bowling league. My dear friends and mentors Thomas R. Stachura, Gerald W. States Robert Fenimore who without them there would be no story. And lastly PGM David Young, the current Deputy Grand Master Shirley J. Whitlinger my inspiration and the current Grand Master of the great state of Pennsylvania David O. Whitlinger my hero and tutor.

I would love to here other stories on how you came to join the Order. You do not have to be a Grand Lodge Board member to post in the magazine.

In F, L & T  
J. Carl George, GW

### *Thank You!*

Thank you so much for awarding me with a \$500 scholarship!  
It was used for me to go to college for special education!  
Thanks again,  
Lisa VanPelt

Thank you so much for choosing me to receive the scholarship this year. I greatly appreciate it and will put that money to good use at Keystone College where I will be attending as a sophomore transfer student.  
From,  
Jennifer Tometchko

### *Thank You!*

I just wanted to say thank you to the IOOF Education Foundation for the scholarships that I have received over the years! They are extremely helpful. I appreciate and am grateful!  
God bless,  
Amanda Deeben

Thank you for the scholarship money, it will help me throughout my educational career this year.  
Thanks,  
Zachary Ochman

### *Thank You!*

Thank you so much for awarding me an Odd Fellow-Rebekah Scholarship this year! I am currently entering my 3rd year of medical school at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and this money will help me purchase textbooks and equipment that I will need as I start to see patients. As you know, the cost of education continues to rise, each year, so this scholarship is a tremendous help! Your continued support means the world to me and my family. I hop you're all staying as safe and healthy as possible during these challenging times!  
Thank you,  
Lindsay Williams

## THE TREASURER'S TALES

### OCTOBER 2020

October is most notably identified with Halloween. Trick or treat and spooky parties are standard for October. In 1925 Halloween was not pre-packaged as it is today. There were products sold for Halloween and candy was always popular, but the plastic "ghouls" with computer chips and pre-recorded moans were a long way off. Life was less dominated by technology and required individuals to be more creative.

Every month has its share of activities and events, apart from our friends at Grover's Mill.

October 1925 is no exception. On October 4, Harry Hellman gets six hits in a double header with Detroit defeating the St. Louis Browns, Hellman edged out teammate Ty Cobb for the American League batting title with a .393 to .389 average. On October 5, WSM radio in Nashville, home of the Grand Ole Opry, began broadcasting. On October 15, the Pittsburgh Pirates defeated the Washington Senators 4 games to 3 to win the World Series. Baseball had a viable Pacific Coast League that was active in the 1920's and on October 18, Tony Lazzeri, later to become a part of the New York Yankees murderers row, hit his 60th home run for the year while playing for Salt Lake City. On October 13, Margaret Thatcher was born, on the 16th Angela Lansbury and on the 23rd, Johnny Carson was born. Christy Mathewson, American baseball player died on October 7.

Halloween is always October 31, and in 1925 this was a Saturday. The lodge was always on the lookout for different things it could do for Halloween, and Barney usually was charged with planning. They had tried dances, pumpkin carving contests, costume parties, and almost everything else. Last year there was a parade in Grover's Mill and the lodge entered a float. This year Barney wanted to put the major effort on the Rebekahs. He discussed this with the lodge trustees and it was decided that there would be a pumpkin pie baking contest. As one of the senior members, Vic had been chosen to be the judge. Since both Alice and Elizabeth would enter pies, all the entries had to be labeled in a way that the judge would not know who baked the pies. In 1925 the Rebekahs were in their heyday and there were 6 lodges in the district with about 750 sisters. Barney thought they might get a ten percent response. They got over a twenty percent response. There were 163 entries, with four prizes to be awarded. Brother Sullivan owned a millinery (ladies hats) store and he donated gift certificates to be the prizes.

Vic loved pumpkin pie. He had to sample 163 pies and come up with the four best. He didn't know which pie was baked by his wife Alice or his daughter Elizabeth. Since it was a district contest, his daughter Alberta from Trenton was entering a pie as well. He calculated that one bite from each pie would be equal to eating almost two and one-half

pies before the first round. He would need to take a second bite of some pies, before making a decision. Almost half the pies used a common recipe (found here: <https://www.verybestbaking.com/recipes/18470/LIBBYS-Famous-Pumpkin-Pie>) and it was one Vic liked. Some were variations, including more than a half dozen that were pumpkin cheesecake (see recipe: <https://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/pumpkin-cheesecake/>).

Help was everywhere, but Vic couldn't rely on it. As he looked out the window, Melchizedek peered in at the long tables covered in pumpkin pies, he was willing to help.

Barney brought two gallons of freshly pressed cider to help Vic wash down the pie. Usually one person could eat two pieces of a good pumpkin pie at one sitting. Some could eat three and a few four. Over two whole pies was a completely different situation. Vic thought he could divide the pies into groups of ten, have another brother pick the best of ten and he would only need to select from the 17 winners of each group. But this wouldn't be fair, since everyone had a different taste. Should he lump all the cheesecake pies together?

Should he throw out the pies that looked over-done without tasting them? How much fresh cider could he drink without becoming ill? There were three pies that were pumpkin-peanut butter (recipe here <https://www.recipegirl.com/pumpkin-peanut-butter-pie/>). Should they be counted? Then the question of garnish arose. Some had whipped cream (mostly shriveled), some had chopped pecans or walnuts, and one each with a twist of lemon, sprig of mint and sliced apple.

Was originality a criteria for judging?

It was prohibition, so Vic was stuck with cider. He took a cup of cider and sat down to make up a grading sheet. His committee was Barney, Clancey, Sullivan and Barker. If he had the committee do the initial selection, he would be down to four pies to judge one to four and he would be done. The problem was that each committee member would have to try at least 40 pies. He decided that he would call the committee together and let them decide.

Lodges are like government and large businesses, referring something to a committee is a sure way to delay a decision. The committee liked the idea of each member getting to test pies, but the thought of testing 40 pies sunk in as a big job. What if the best four pies were all in the group that one committee member tested? There was no simple solution. Clancey suggested auctioning off the pies and awarding prizes to the four pies that brought the most money. It would take too long to auction off all 163 pies and the bidders would lose interest after a while. There was always the suggestion of letting the raccoon pick the winners, but that didn't get taken seriously.

The time was growing short and winners needed to be picked before the pies got stale.

Barney told Vic he should write down each possible judging strategy on a piece of paper, put the papers in a hat and let someone else draw the procedure. Vic agreed. The strategy of letting each committee member pick a pie, with Vic to put the final four in order was selected. This worked well except that two of the final four were cheesecakes. Vic knew that his wife and both daughters used a different recipe and none of them made a cheesecake. He was afraid he was going to disappoint his whole family, but he had to make the final choice.

After Barney had tasted 41 pies and drunk almost a quart of cider, he didn't know whether he wanted to throw up, pass out, or both. He excused himself and went home. Only Brother Sullivan stayed for the final decision. He was to help Vic give the prizes and he had wisely taken very small bites. Vic ate a small piece of each of the four pies. He gave the classic pies the first and fourth spots with the cheesecakes taking second and third. As luck would have it, Alice won fourth place. The trip home would not be so complete a disaster. Now what to do with the remainder of the pies. The rules stated that all contestants were to pick up their pies and prizes by four o'clock in the afternoon of the contest (October 31). Seventeen pies (no prize winners) were left unclaimed by 5:30 pm and Vic and Sullivan wanted to go home to greet the trick or treaters. A glance toward the window offered one solution, but they thought that would just encourage more begging and misbehavior on the part of Melchizedek. Sullivan took five pies home and Vic dropped six off at Barney's and took six more home. Elizabeth told Vic that Barney had gone to bed, he wasn't feeling well. Alice had what was left of her fourth place pie, six losers and a certificate for \$2.00 at the millinery store. She was happy. Vic and Alice had four children at home, they would eat pie for several days.

Life was simpler in 1925. Pie contests drew interest and the world was not beset with the problems of twenty-first century society. Before you get too emotional over past memories, recall that our hero, Barney, was recovering from eating forty-one pieces of pie and a quart of cider. If you think this was easy, write to let me know how you feel after eating forty-one pieces of pie and drinking a quart of cider.

Next month will be November and we will have a Thanksgiving theme.

*Comments and questions are always welcomed by the Grand Treasurer. You can contact him by email at [jcupp275@gmail.com](mailto:jcupp275@gmail.com) or conventional mail at P.O. Box 275, Hopwood, PA 15445.*

# SEPTEMBER OBITUARIES

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



**HERMAN C. CRUSH**  
Aluta Lodge No. 488  
August 13, 2020

Brother Herman C. Crush, 93, of Bethlehem, PA, was initiated into Confident Lodge #1133, Hecktown, PA, on May 14, 1948, where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree May 10, 1957. He then became a member of Aluta

Lodge #488, Nazareth, through consolidation on June 8, 2001.

He was a Member of Trinity Lutheran Church of Hecktown.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Thelma Hahn.

Surviving are three daughters, six grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Hope Cemetery, Hecktown.



**DOROTHY M. SCHOLL**  
Lady Hall Rebekah Lodge No. 202  
August 18, 2020

Sister Dorothy M. (Beers) Scholl, 95, of Bath, PA, was initiated into Lady Hall Rebekah Lodge #202, Nazareth, on April 1, 1971, where she became a Past Noble Grand and received her Rebekah

Assembly Degree May 15, 1982.

She was a member of Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church of Moorestown.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Allen. Surviving are two daughters, one son, 11 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, with one on the way, and 11 great-great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Fairview Cemetery Moorestown, PA.



**ELIZABETH F. CHRISTIE**  
Past Rebekah Assembly Soloist  
Golden Rule Rebekah Lodge No. 198  
August 19, 2020

Sister Elizabeth F. "Betty" (Merriman) Christie, 89, of Greenville, PA, was initiated into Golden Rule Rebekah Lodge #198, Atlantic, PA, on May 13, 1959, where she became a Past Noble Grand October 12, 1966 and received

the Rebekah Assembly Degree. She went on to serve as Rebekah Assembly Soloist from 1982 - 1983 for PPRA Jane McElhaney. In the past, she also hosted several picnics for her Rebekah Lodge.

She was a member of Adamsville Presbyterian Church.

She was preceded in death by three husbands, Raymond Smith, Charles Courtney and Emerson Christie, one son, one daughter and two grandchildren. Surviving are four sons, one daughter, nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by her Rebekah Lodge and burial was held in Rocky Glen Cemetery, Adamsville.

# Thank You!

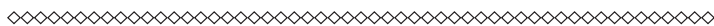
I am writing to thank you, and everyone involved for the generous Pennsylvania Odd Fellow - Rebekah Scholarship. I was so grateful when I was notified that I had been selected as a recipient of your scholarship.

I am now in my sophomore year of nursing school at Penn State Fayette and will be starting classes this coming fall. I am dedicated to receiving good grades and graduating in 2023. I recently had an interview at Ruby Memorial Hospital to begin working as a resource/pool nurse and am waiting on a start date. In the near future I plan to work at Ruby for the remaining three years of college and obtain an RN position at Ruby as well. Thanks to the help from all of you, I can continue my path and proceed to grow.

By awarding me with the Pennsylvania Odd Fellow-Rebekah Scholarship, you have lifted some weight from my finances and have made it easier for me to focus on the importance of my education. Your generosity has made it possible for me to purchase my schoolbooks and other necessary school supplies.

Your kindness inspires me to help other. I hope one day, I too, will be able to help students just as you helped me.

Sincerely,  
Megan Roche



I am writing to thank you for your generous scholarship. I was very happy and appreciative to learn that I was selected as the recipient. I am a chemical engineering major with a minor in biomedical engineering at Penn State University! I will be a senior this upcoming fall, and graduating in May of 2021. From there, I will hopefully be starting my dream career. Thank to you, I am one step closer to that goal!

By awarding me this scholarship, you have lightened my financial burden, which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of school, learning. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me!

Sincerely,  
Megan Himmelreich



Thank you so much for awarding me the PA Odd Fellow Scholarship. This scholarship means a lot to me and my family. I really appreciate the PA Odd Fellows for believing in me. It means a lot to a kid, who has worked hard to make his community proud, to have people that support him every step of the way. As a result, I will continue to strive to better myself and to further my education, so I can eventually help others and give back.

This upcoming fall semester, I will be attending Mansfield University in northern Pennsylvania. I will continue my basketball career at Mansfield while studying Biology/Pre-Med. My future plans are to get into medical school to pursue my career as a physician assistant in orthopedics.

It is an honor to receive such a prestigious award and I can't thank you enough! I hope everyone enjoys the summer in a safe and healthy fashion.

Sincerely,  
Graham Wooden

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Periodicals

## AUGUST DONATIONS

VISUAL RESEARCH

512	Thistle	100.00
847	Vienna	50.00
1004	Hampton	50.00
R86	Lady Harmony Rebekah	25.00
591	Shenandoah	<u>15.00</u>
		240.00

*Thank You!*

As a recipient of the 2020 Pennsylvania Odd Fellow-Rebekah Scholarship, I'd like to take this moment to thank you for this generous award.

It was a privilege to have had the opportunity to apply and I was thrilled when I learned that I had been selected as one of this year's recipients. I eagerly look forward to the start of the semester in mid-August and beginning my journey at Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Thank you again for your support of students, like myself, and the investment in our future.

With Sincerest appreciation,  
Matthew Kinzinger

### NEW DEPARTMENT COUNCIL OFFICERS:

- Department Commander - BG Bruce N. Torrence, Sellersville
- Vice President and Chief of Staff - BG David A. Young, Charleroi
- Adjutant - Maj Nicole B. Inama, Nesquehoning
- Quartermaster - Col® John J. Dzyak, Scottsdale
- 1st Regimental Commander - Gen Joseph M. Strausser, Ventnor, NJ
- 2nd Regimental Commander - Col Shawn E. Miller, Johnstown
- Inspector & Military Advisor - Col® John S. Cupp, Jr., Hopwood
- Chaplain - Maj Patricia A. Faustner, Nazareth
- Bannerette - Maj Roger A. Calhoon, Hummelstown
- First Aid Officer - Maj A. Scott Robinson, Middleburg
- Commander 1st Bat, 1st Regt - Maj William F. Hanby, III, Philadelphia
- Commander 2nd Bat, 1st Regt - BG® Justin C. Bailey, Tamaqua
- Commander 1st Bat, 2nd Regt - Col® James V. Keller, York
- Commander 2nd Bat, 2nd Regt - Maj J. Carl George, Ambridge
- Aide to the Dept Commander - Cpt Tyler M. Arnold, Tamaqua