



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE



Vol. 95

September 2020

No. 9

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE AT <http://www.glpaioof.org>

Follow us on Facebook at The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Independent Order of Odd Fellows

NEW You can also follow us on Instagram at @paoddfellows

CANTON NORTHEAST NO. 9, PATRIARCHS MILITANT INSTITUTED

A historic night was held July 27th at the Hall of Freedom Lodge No. 88 in Honesdale, Pennsylvania. Please welcome Canton Northeast No. 9, Patriarchs Militant. The members are comprised of Brothers and Sisters of Freedom Lodge #88, Honesdale, Rush Lodge #471, Montrose and Calvin Halsey Encampment #32, Montrose. Eight people became Chevaliers that evening, and five others transferred over to sign on to their roster. We have two more to give the Chevalier degree to, and that will bring them to 15 members.

The Canton was instituted by Department Commander Justin C. Bailey, and the staff of the Department Council of Pennsylvania, with a total of 6 Cantons represented that evening.

With the institution of our 8th Canton, this is not only the third Canton instituted/reorganized in the past two years, but it will move the Department Council back up from a Regiment to a Brigade.

The officers of the Canton are:
Captain Dennis Hiller
Lieutenant Paul Lautenschlager
Ensign Andrew Kilmer
Clerk Cynthia Wooden
Accountant Charles Knapp, Jr.

Congratulations to the Chevaliers and welcome to the Patriarchs Militant!!

Places to Go... People to See

SEPTEMBER

12 / PM Session & Installation (pg 9)

OCTOBER

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

+ 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 or 717-944-7419



The Pennsylvania Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine

(USPS 426-500)

Published in the City of Middletown,
PA monthly by
**THE GRAND LODGE OF
PENNSYLVANIA
INDEPENDENT ORDER
OF ODD FELLOWS**
1001 West Harrisburg Pike
Middletown, PA 17057
717-944-7419

ioofpaglsecty@verizon.net
http://www.grandlodgeofpennsylvaniaioof.org

JUSTIN C. BAILEY

Editor

1001 West Harrisburg Pike
Middletown, PA 17057

Publication Number 426500
Periodical Postage paid at Middletown,
Pennsylvania
and additional offices.

** Postmaster **

Send change of address to:
Pennsylvania Odd Fellow
and Rebekah Magazine
1001 W. Harrisburg Pike
Middletown, PA 17057

SUBSCRIPTION RATE

Subscription price \$10.00 per year
10 or more to one address \$9.00 each

Subscribers should be careful to give their correct
post office address and when a change is necessary
be sure to mention the former address.

Articles for publication must reach the office of
the Grand Lodge in Middletown not later than
the 5th of each month to insure their insertion
in next month's issue.

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.



OFFICERS OF GRAND LODGE

DAVID O. WHITLINGER.....	GRAND MASTER
208 Tyler Court, Gibsonia, Pa. 15044 724-443-3012 whitx2@msn.com	
SHIRLEY J. WHITLINGER.....	DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
208 Tyler Court, Gibsonia, Pa. 15044 724-443-3012 whitx2@msn.com	
J. CARL GEORGE.....	GRAND WARDEN
225 Sunridge Drive, Freedom, PA 15042 724-601-8098 quickcarl73@comcast.net	
JUSTIN C. BAILEY.....	GRAND SECRETARY
1001 West Harrisburg Pike, Middletown, PA 17057 717-944-7419 ioofpaglsecty@verizon.net	
JOHN S. CUPP, JR.....	GRAND TREASURER
P. O. Box 275, Hopwood, PA 15445 724-437-4629 jcupp275@gmail.com	
WILLIAM L. RAMSEY, JR.....	GRAND REPRESENTATIVE
16620 Trough Creek Valley Pike, Apt 1, Calvin, PA 16622 814-599-0617 wlr Ramsey0809@gmail.com	
DAVID A. YOUNG.....	GRAND REPRESENTATIVE
20 Truman Road, Charleroi, AP 15022 724-344-7550 iamanoddfellow@comcast.net	
SHERMAN F. WOODEN.....	JR PAST GRAND MASTER
1194 Wooden Road, Montrose, PA 18801 570-278-3199 shanks1@epix.net	
ROBERT B. RUFF.....	GRAND MARSHAL
1819 Forbes Avenue, Apt 5A, Pittsburgh, PA 15219	
FRANCIS A. HILT.....	GRAND CONDUCTOR
1022 Patriots Way, Quakertown, PA 18951	
BRUCE N. TORRENCE.....	GRAND CHAPLAIN
6695 East Passer Road, Coopersburg, PA 18036	
MICHAEL J. WALLIS.....	GRAND GUARDIAN
1080 Ridge Road, Montgomery, PA 17752	
RAYMOND F. RODGERS.....	GRAND HERALD
238 Stock Farm Road, Jackson Center, PA 16131	
SHAWN E. MILLER.....	GRAND MUSICIAN
470 Southmont Boulevard, Johnstown, PA 15905	
MICHAEL D. BETTS.....	GRAND LODGE ATTORNEY
887 West Bristol Road, Warminster, PA 18974	
PAUL L. MILLER.....	GRAND MUSICIAN EMERITUS
1105 Stinson Drive, Leesport, PA 19533	

OFFICERS OF REBEKAH ASSEMBLY

A. NADINE HAGER.....	PRESIDENT
940 Spring Hill Road, Sterling, PA 18463 570-676-3239 naner5145@yahoo.com	
BERNICE M. THOMAS.....	VICE PRESIDENT
244 Rutter Lane, Smock, PA 15480 724-437-2984	
SARAH M. BAER.....	SECRETARY
115 North Centre Avenue, Leesport, PA 19533 610-916-1990 s.baer@baersservice.com	
MARY D. DELONG.....	TREASURER
307-6 Hilltop Court, Hamburg, PA 19526 484-375-6440 shortygreatgma@gmail.com	

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT

LAURA L. HUCHEL.....	GRAND PATRIARCH
401 Park Avenue, Johnstown, PA 15902 484-333-1595 lhuchel@gmail.com	
CRAIG R. REINHART.....	GRAND SCRIBE
1615 Locust Street, Reading, PA 19604 610-374-9005 creinhart@comcast.net	

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

**THISTLE LODGE NO. 512,
PITTSTON**

Arthur Walton - initiated July 20th

**HARMONY LODGE NO. 86,
TAMAQUA**

Lori Krych - initiated August 12th

OSAGE LODGE NO. 712, LEHMAN

PG G. Lee Johnson - reinstated July 29th

G. Thom Johnson - welcome back!

G. Cody Johnson - initiated July 29th

Lewis Evans

Jennifer Aloji

FROM THE DESK OF THE REBEKAH ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

This sure has been a very different summer, not with just the hot and dry weather. But also with how our lives has changed. I had to go out this morning and almost forgot to put on my mask before I went in for my appointment. It is good I carry two in my pocketbook. And while I was out we were getting hit with the tropical storm. Boy did I get soaked. I think I have 5 inches in my rain gauge.

I have done some traveling. I was in Rew with Grand Master Dave and some of his staff to meet with some from Foster Lodge. I also meet some from Maude Lodge. I have helped with some initiations and the reinstitution of Osage Lodge. I am now a part of a new Canton in Honesdale. There is interest in joining lodges we just have to look around and see who is

interested in joining. Please try It may surprise you.

The virus has been very bad in some areas and have made it hard to meet. If you are meeting please remember to social distant and wear your mask.

As you celebrate Labor Day, Sept 7 I hope you each have a wonderful and safe holiday. Also remember Sept 11, Patriot Day. So many lost their life that day. May it be a good day of remembrance and service to others.

Stay in contact with those of your lodge and neighbors.

Be Safe and Well

FLT

Nadine Hager, President
Rebekah Assembly

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

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

25 YEARS

W. Leroy Fitzgerald, #0
Robert E. Bachman, #361
Thomas R. Wertz, #361
Robert C. Brinker, #488

45 YEARS

Dale E. Binkley, PGM #361

50 YEARS

Paul R. Girvin, #413
Clyde D. Claycomb, #523
John D. Keith, #523

60 YEARS

G. Ralph Rodriguez, #86

130 YEARS

Alert Lodge No. 936, Rochester Mills

GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

Though my travel has been limited during this pandemic, I have been busy having many telephone conversations with members of our order. I have continued making plans for the future of our order and for the balance of my term. I am always available if any member needs to talk to me.

The Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Warden, and I are reorganizing our state into five (5) geographic areas. In doing this we will be better suited for education, communication, and the many other Odd Fellows functions while keeping travel at a minimum. It is our desire with this plan to work closely with the District Deputy Grand Masters. This is a concept that has been discussed for the

last several years. We intend to see it thru to fruition.

On the subject of the Pandemic, I urge all lodges to continue to adhere to what is safe and use what ever means at your disposal to keep your Lodges functioning, by helping and aiding your communities. I have been immensely proud of the work and generosity that I have seen our lodges offer to their communities. Keep up the great work!

Your Grand Master,
In F. L. & T.
David O. Whitlinger



NEW PIN FOR SALE

"Well done good and faithful servant. Enter thou into the joy of the Lord." As an Odd Fellow, this may be told to you twice - once when you get initiated into the Odd Fellows, and one more time as the Lodge gives you final rites at your funeral service.

The Grand Lodge made a beautiful pin that can be worn during the funeral services, or any type of memorial. They're \$2.50 a piece + tax and shipping. Contact the Grand Lodge office for Orders



THE TREASURER'S TALES

SEPTEMBER 2020

September 1925 marked the return to school for Barney. Teachers did not get paid during the summer so Barney had to rely on his farm income. The year had been good and Barney had a number of hogs and steers to sell, as well as a fair crop of corn and peaches. His orchard was usually picked clean by the end of August, but there were still peaches and apples left on Labor Day. He had planted late corn and it was ready for Labor Day. Potatoes were also ready and pumpkins and gourds would soon follow. Farming did not offer big rewards, but it worked out in 1925 for Barney.

On September 5, 1925, Bobby Jones won the U S Golf Amateur Open. On September 13 Brooklyn Dodger Pitcher Dazzy Vance no-hits the Philadelphia Phillies, 10-1; a no-hitter but not a perfect game. On September 22, New York Yankee Ben Paschal hit two inside-the-park home runs. On September 3, Hank Thompson, American country music singer (The Brazos Valley Boys), was born in Waco, Texas (d. 2007). On September 8, popular actor Peter Sellers was born. On September 16, blues guitarist B.B. King was born.

Barney wanted to make the school year interesting. He thought of ways to change his offerings to the tenth graders. He thought about doing more plays. Reading books and writing papers were the standard curriculum, augmented with grammar lessons. This was necessary but led to boredom and discontent. Barney estimated that he had read over 500 papers on Jack London's *Call of the Wild* since he had started teaching. Amazingly, most of them identical, sometimes down to spelling errors. He did not believe his job was to teach students how to copy from each other.

Barney offered his students the opportunity to pick the first play for presentation. *Dracula* had been popular, but Barney thought it would not be received well by parents or the administration. The *Gorilla* was a popular play and was eventually made into a movie, see https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-an_YlSeOVM, not perhaps an accurate rendition of the play. This idea was discarded after a consideration of production costs.

Popular theater was not as well regarded as the classics, such as Shakespeare. The Mer-

chant of Venice was finally decided upon. If all went well, Barney promised to hold a hog roast for them Saturday, October 3.

Many of the students had read the play in ninth grade and looked forward to performing it. Barney thought he could review the literary significance of the play before beginning the staging process. He ran off scripts on the mimeograph machine in the office. This ancient process of reproduction dates back to 1881 and results in somewhat blurry images. Nonetheless, full page size scripts were more manageable than the small books in the supply room. You can read more about this play at https://www.shakespeare.org.uk/explore-shakespeare/shakespeadia/shakespeare-plays/merchant-venice/?gclid=Cj0KCQjwyJn5BRDrARIsADZ9ykGeCsmvpf-5RoX-212jg4PPxeVGyn1VgCrBHXROUBB-TEOnv76AUcl8aAuC0EALw_wcB.

Barney assigned the play to the students the first day of class, September 1, which was a Tuesday. The play would be presented to the entire school on September 30, which was a Wednesday. It was easy to find volunteers, tenth graders were still active from the summer break and wanted to move around and do things. Almost all the boys wanted to be Shylock. Antonio seemed to be too much of a goody-goody for the boys. The girls all wanted to be Portia.

Practice began immediately. Parts were assigned at random, with a different cast for each act, allowing most of the students to perform. Pulling names from a hat was the fairest way to go, but the most talented students sometimes were given non-speaking, minor parts.

The only pranks were minor and Barney made the students clean up any messes. Barney, proved a good director, having done several plays before. His expectations of an enthusiastic class were met and he didn't have many sleepers. The play went off quite well, until a costume mix up occurred during the third act and the actor playing Antonio was wearing Portia's dress (and vice versa). Barney was almost ready to restart the act, but he figured out no one in the audience could tell the difference.

Barney arranged to hold the hog roast at the Odd Fellows Hall, fulfilling his promise to the tenth grade class. The price of hogs was

somewhat low since everyone in New Jersey had a big boost to their herd because of the bumper crop of field corn. There were at least eight girls in his class taking home economics, so Barney asked them to bake corn bread. Picnic tables were spread outside with the food on them and tables for eating were inside. The hog was put in a pit with coals over him. There were thirty-seven tenth graders who came to the hog roast. Elizabeth washed five dozen potatoes and they were baked in the ground near the hog. Barney had the hog in the ground by 7:30 am so that they could eat around noon. Elizabeth baked a dozen pies and had Alice and Vic come over to help with the meal. Vic had a huge kettle and he put four dozen ears of sweet corn in it at a time.

The girls arrived with their corn breads around 11:45 am. Barney started the lunch line at noon sharp. Everything seemed to be going better than he expected. When the last student came in to eat, Vic followed him. He told Barney they were almost out of corn bread. Barney couldn't believe it. There were eight girls who baked corn bread. Each corn bread was cut in twelve pieces. There were only 37 students and four adults there, and the adults hadn't eaten yet. Barney went outside and watched the corn bread. After two minutes, a small hand came out from under the table and took the next to the last piece of corn bread. Barney ran over to the table and yelled, "Melchizedek" and a raccoon scurried out from under the table and made a bee-line for the woods. The mystery was solved.

There was a lot of everything (except corn bread) left at the end. Barney went out of his way to shower the girls who baked the corn bread with compliments. He told them they would have no trouble finding husbands with their excellent cooking skills. Vic laughed while Barney spoke. All's well that ends well. Next month, probably Halloween.

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.

DESK OF THE DGM

Greeting Brothers and Sisters:

September! ~ Summer of 2020 is one that I will not forget as I am sure you all will agree....baseball games without fans.... summer celebrations without fireworks.... self-isolated cookouts and picnics, all with the wearing of our new "in style" masks, but all necessary to stay well and safe.

I start each month's message with the same thoughts, "what could I say or what have I done this month that would be of interest?????" This month was no different until, I received this picture from a good friend and lodge brother, and I knew I had to share this with all.

This Memorial to All the Odd Fellows and Rebekah's at Conneaut Lake, Pa., a town in Crawford County. For those who are not familiar with Conneaut Lake, it is the largest natural lake in Pennsylvania being 3 miles long and covers approximately 929 acres. The town of Conneaut was settled along the lake's southern edge. Conneaut is taken from the Seneca Indians which means "Snow Waters" because the snow stayed on the water longer than other places.

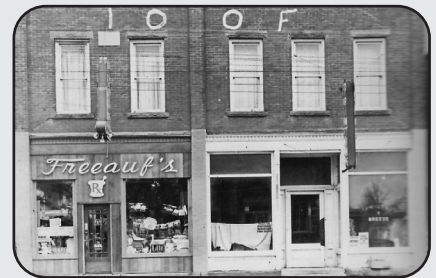
Conneaut Lake Lodge #980, instituted May 16, 1881 and the Rebekah's of the Lake Lodge #142 instituted in 1939 called Conneaut Lake "home". Both lodges are gone but not forgotten. The Odd Fellows

consolidated with Fallowfield Lodge #1128 in 2002.

After writing to the Conneaut Historical Society, I received a telephone call from their President inviting the GM and myself to come for a visit to the museum where they currently have a display honoring the Rebekah's.

History, especially our local Pennsylvania history is important to me. Having a summer cottage, I spent each summer with my family at the lake; swimming, fishing, enjoying the Park, what better place to go! I know and love the area. I can imagine my Grandfather and my Dad, visiting the Lodge of Conneaut while on vacation. The picture I found in "Images of America, Conneaut Lake" shows the building with the I.O.O.F. at the top and the town's drug store occupying the first floor.

The history of our Order is ever so strong throughout Pennsylvania. In each village, town, or community you could find a lodge. As we travel our state, visiting lodges, I am going to be more aware in searching for memorials. They could be in town squares, or parks dedicated to the honor of our Service men and women. I will also be looking up towards the top of buildings for either the three links or the letters, I.O.O.F., in search for the town buildings that housed our lodges. We need to remember our story in this state so that we can relay it to future Odd Fellows and Rebekah's.



Although I would like to think that Conneaut Lake is unique with its tribute to the Odd Fellows, I know it's not. I know there are other memorials and buildings with the insignia. Help me add to my "started" collection of lodge buildings. Send me a picture of Odd Fellows' lodges, active.... or not, by the end of my Grand Master's year, I wonder how many I will have???

Keep well and safe until we can be together again.

Shirley, DGM

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

The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania will again be offering two - \$3,000 Graduate Scholarship Awards. These scholarship awards were inaugurated in 2016 and having received no applications for this Award last year, the Association is hoping to present two scholarships this December. 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 "Application" may also be downloaded from our website: "www.glpaoof.org" during the September through 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. 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 November with the deadline for submitting applications for the 2020 Graduate Scholarship Award being November. 21, 2020.

FREEDOM LODGE 88 AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

Our Lodge awarded four scholarships this year this year!

Matt Kinzinger, Maya Wehrmann, Kelly Varcoe and Grace Grimm each received a \$500.00 scholarship.

Matt won a Freedom Lodge 88 Award and will be studying at Penn College.

Maya was awarded the Howard Goodenough Memorial Award to help pursue studies at California University of Pennsylvania.

Kelly who will continue her education at Penn State was awarded the Honesdale Oddfellows Award.

Grace also was awarded a Freedom Lodge 88 Award as she will be studying at Pensacola Christian College.

Congratulations to all the recipients!
Freedom Lodge meets 1st and
3rd Wednesday
Join the Brotherhood!



Matt Kinzinger- Bert Terysen



Kelly Varcoe- Jon Chipego



Chuck Grimm - Grace Grimm



Steve Martin- Maya Wehrmann- Forrest Goodenough

ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA 2020 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania has announced the recipients of the "Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania 2020 Scholarship Awards."

The Association's Award Committee (Chairman Robert Grant, John Rebar, and George Hogan) presented their candidate recommendations to the Association's Board during their meeting on July 11, 2020. The four recipients, each having fulfilled the requirements of the Award, were unanimously approved by the Board. Each received a \$3,000 monetary award which was sent to their respective college/university. In addition, the recipients, along with their family members, were invited to attend the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania Annual Meeting which usually takes place at Orchard Manor, Grove City, PA in April.

Hannah McCurdy - daughter of Sarah and Joseph, Charleroi, PA. Her father is a member of Charleroi Lodge #1030 (Charleroi, PA). Hannah will be entering her junior year at Geneva College (Beaver Falls, PA) majoring in Biomedical Engineering.

Megan Roche - daughter of Kim Roche, Smithfield, PA. Her grandfather, Steve Slavic, is a member of Nathan Lewis-Fort Necessity Lodge #254 (Waltersburg, PA). Megan, having chosen Nursing as her area of concentration, is a sophomore at Penn State-Fayette, The Eberly Campus (Lemont Furnace, PA.)

Harley Stuebgen - daughter of Kimberly and Jason Stuebgen, Freedom, PA. Her father is a member of Clover Lodge #348 (Ambridge, PA). Harley is a senior at Robert Morris University (Moon Twp., PA) majoring in Accounting and Finance.

Christian Workman - son of Shelly and Tyce Workman, Williamsfield, OH. Christian's grandparents, Susan and Ray Rodgers, are members of Sandy Lake Lodge #573 (Sandy Lake, PA). Christian completed his junior year at Kent State University (Kent, OH) majoring in Architecture.

On behalf of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania, the Award Committee wishes Hannah, Megan, Harley, and Christian continued success toward the completion of their college degrees and in all of their future endeavors.

OSAGE HALL COMES BACK TO LIFE AS CITIZENS ENSURE ITS FUTURE

May of 2020 marked the 150th year that Osage Lodge #712, Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) stood as a silent sentinel, watching over the community of Lehman Township. As the membership of the Lodge grew smaller and older, the former members determined it time to close its doors. A Facebook post to the Lehman Township page shown the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania that this Township is interested in carrying on this rich tradition.

Odd Fellowship dates back 200 years to America and is an Organization backed in strengthening the community and helping out mankind. We pledge to support our communities and support each other. Something our country sorely needs at this time.

February of 2020 marked a great day, as the open house brought in many from around the area. The only downfall was the fact it was 22 degrees out! Well I can tell you Wednesday it was a little warmer, 95 to be exact. However, of the 16 people that signed up in February, five of them stood to help re-institute this historic Lodge: G. Lee Johnson, G. Thom Johnson, G. Cody Johnson, Lewis Evans and Jennifer Aloii. They were initiated into the Odd Fellows, and they are incredibly enthusiastic and motivated to get the Lodge restored to their former glory, recruit new members, and start working back again within the Lehman Community.

Lodges from Muncy, Montrose, Honesdale, Tamaqua and Pittston were present to welcome the new members and put on the degree work, which dates back over 200 years.

The Grand Lodge is working continuously with these members to get things ready for October when the members will resume full ownership of the Lodge and Officers can be elected. They however still need your help! If you are interested in joining, please contact myself, Justin Bailey, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Independent Order of Odd Fellows at ioofpaglsecty@verizon.net, 570-449-5617, or one of the members above.

The name Odd Fellows was chosen because back in the 1800s it was "odd" to see common people come together for mutual assistance and to work within their community. Are you *odd enough* to join?!



IN SEARCH OF THE GHOST OF REBECCA DAVIS
WORLD-FAMOUS 1920'S MEDIUM
OCTOBER 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
 Tickets go on sale August 1
 Lewisburg Odd Fellows presents:
A night of scary theatre
 An historical re-creation of a 1920's seance
 1920's dress encouraged but not required
 It helps our ghost feel at home!
 Advance tickets only
\$35 INCLUDES GHOST TOUR (\$45 Halloween night)
 Hurry! Seating limited! To buy tickets - www.iooflewisburg.org or (570)541-3494
 Held at: Lewisburg IOOF Lodge No. 96 - 10491 River Rd - New Columbia
 Musical score by Chad Lawson

SHE FLEECED LOCALS OF THEIR FORTUNES IN 1924 SHE WAS FOUND DEAD UNDER QUESTIONABLE CIRCUMSTANCES
DOES HER GHOST WANT TO BE HEARD? ARE YOU BRAVE ENOUGH TO FIND OUT?

WARNING! PERSONS UNDER 18 WILL NOT BE ADMITTED. THIS PROGRAM IS FOR ENTERTAINMENT ONLY - NOT RECOMMENDED FOR THOSE WHO ARE FAINT OF HEART, UNDER MENTAL STRESS, OR WHO ARE AFRAID OF THE DARK. ADVANCED TICKETS ARE REQUIRED. SPECIAL SHOWS ON HALLOWEEN (2 SHOWS - 7PM & MIDNIGHT). NO ONE ADMITTED AFTER DOORS CLOSE ON ANY DATE. NO REFUNDS. ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT IOOF NO. 96. SPECIAL DATES & SHOWS FOR GROUPS, PLEASE ASK.

VICTORY LODGE #658



Shown is the presentation of the 50 year ring & certificate to Peggy Walters in honor of her deceased husband Walter Sr. The presentation was Friday, August 7th. ~ Frank Hilt, Victory Lodge #658

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT FAYETTE COUNTY

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 - Lebanon County. Get your pictures and articles in now!

FAYETTE COUNTY:

Belle Vernon - Lady Bell Rebekah Lodge #214 - consolidated 1974

Brownfield - Gladys Rebekah Lodge #103 - Instituted 1904

Brownsville - Agatha Rebekah Lodge #456 - defunct 1983

Connellsville - Edna Rebekah Lodge #32 - consolidated 2006

Connellsville - Edna Rebekah Lodge #101 - defunct prior to 1900

Fairchance - Lady Olyphant Rebekah Lodge #386 - defunct 1938

Fayette City - Maria Louisa Rebekah Lodge #41 - defunct 1880

Fayette City - Blue Bell Rebekah Lodge #288 - consolidated 1938

Ohiopyle - Almira Rebekah Lodge #470 - defunct 1973

Point Marion - Magdalena Rebekah Lodge #535 - consolidated 1983

Smithfield - Lady Gallatin Rebekah Lodge #309 - defunct 1938

Uniontown - Madeline Rebekah Lodge #143 - consolidated 1970

Uniontown - Lady Belle Rebekah Lodge #399 - consolidated 1914

Vanderbilt - Inez Rebekah Lodge #273 - consolidated 1932

Waltersburg - Ellen Rebekah Lodge #233 - consolidated 2020

15 Rebekah Lodges with 1 still active

1st Rebekah Lodge - Maria Louisa Rebekah Lodge #41 in 1870

25 Odd Fellow Lodges

MIDDLETOWN HOME

It's hard to believe that the summer is almost over! This summer has certainly been unlike any other. Despite the changes due to the pandemic, the Middletown Home has still been providing as many laughs and smiles as we possibly can! Tuesdays have been our spirit days. Recently we had: "Hawaiian Day," "Patriotic Day," and "50's Day." Along with dressing up, our staff will provide special snacks and music as they go door to door to each of our residents. The residents look forward to seeing what crazy scheme our Activities Staff will come up with next! Follow us on Facebook to see more pictures and videos of our staff in action.



PM SESSION

TO ALL CANTONS, DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA

The Patriarchs Militant of Pennsylvania are hereby ordered to mobilize at the Red Lion Harrisburg East, 4751 Lindle Road, Harrisburg, PA, on September 12th, 2020, where a General Cantonment, Department Council, Patriarchs Militant will be held. This will be a one-day session with the installation in the evening. Room rates will be \$99.00 + tax and can be made through the Red Lion Hotel - (717) 939-7841. Tell them you are with the "Odd Fellows" to get the rate.

Business Sessions

Business sessions for the Department Council will be held Saturday afternoon, September 12th, from 12:00 - 4:00PM. (tentative). The rooms will be set up to assist with social distancing.

P.M. Installation / Decoration of Chivalry

There will be no Decoration of Chivalry this year. Those up for installation are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Delegate to the General Military Council. The Joint Installation of the Department Council will be held Saturday evening, September 12th. We need all to attend; this is an open event so all friends and relatives may witness the ceremony. Please

after the business session stay for the installation.

To do this we need the assistance of every Chevalier present. All uniformed members of the Patriarchs Militant are needed. Help us show all Odd Fellows and Rebekahs what the PM can do. **Please note! This is a public installation, so if you are not a member of the Patriarchs Militant, and still want to come to get together with Members across the state, feel free to do so!

"Department Council of PA" and sent to Justin Bailey at the address above. In the event of cancellation, your check will be returned. **DEADLINE IS AUGUST 28TH.**

This is truly a confusing time in our history, so things are subject to change. We will keep everyone up to date on changes, and social distancing will be exercised and masks will be encouraged. We are keeping this to one day in hopes to accommodate everyone.

Following are the proper uniforms for scheduled events at the Sessions:

EVENT	CHEVALIERS	
Business Session	Full Dress or Field uniform With sword	12:00 - 4:00
Lunch/banquet		4:00 - 6:00
Joint Installation	Full Dress - with sword	6:00 - 8:00

If you do not have a full dress uniform, please wear your class B Uniform, or blank pants and a white button-up shirt.

Banquet

There will be a buffet style meal served at the Red Lion Hotel at 4:00PM. It will consist of a chicken and a pasta dish, along with sides and beverages. The cost is \$25.00 per person (contact the Dept Commander if you need a special meal). Check may be made payable to

All Chevaliers and Ladies are urged to attend the Cantonment in Uniform and participate in the various activities Saturday.

2021 UNIFIED SESSION – PLANNING COMMITTEE AND MEETING DATE

Brothers and Sisters of all Units of the Order in PA:

Planning is underway for the 49th Unified Session of all Branches of the Order to be held at the Red Lion Hotel in Harrisburg from June 19 - 23, 2021.

Our next planning meeting will be held on Sunday, October 18, 2020 at the Red Lion Hotel beginning at 1:00PM. Please contact

me and let me know if you plan to attend this meeting. I am asking all attendees to wear masks and we will do our best to adhere to some type of social distancing. Please email me at dbinkley1@verizon.net or call me at 484-643-0363 if you plan to attend this meeting. Our backup plan will be a teleconference call. We hope that the COVID-19 situation will allow us to hold this meeting as

scheduled. If there are any changes to this meeting date or the location, I will notify you prior to the meeting if you have contacted me to let me know of your attendance.

On behalf of the Committee,
Dale E. Binkley, PGM, PGR
2021 Unified Session Chairman
dbinkley1@verizon.net

DMC NEWSLETTER JULY 17, 2020

Dear Dedicated Members for Change,

It's 2020 - the year of the pandemic. Can Odd Fellowship in North America survive till 2030?

The question is shocking, I know. And probably somewhat offensive to faithful and enthusiastic Odd Fellows. But in light of the statistics year after year and decade after decade in the United States and Canada, it is not only a fair question, but it is an existential question. With few exceptions, our membership is declining and the numbers of our Lodges are diminishing. There are jurisdictions that go through the motions of holding Grand Lodge Sessions with attendance a shadow of prior years. Some Lodges are held together with a patchwork of associate members, and the members elect each other to office in a musical-chairs sequence.

Can we stop the decline and restore our Order to growth and vitality?

The answer, in my mind, is a resounding and unequivocal "YES." How can I be so sure, you ask? Well, the answer to the future growth of our Order is right in front of our eyes, if we actually take the time to look. While it is certainly true that most jurisdictions and most Lodges have been declining in membership, it is also a fact that there are a few - a remarkable few - Lodges that have bucked the descent of membership and have been gaining members. And I'm not talking about the occasional gain - I'm talking about consistent, steady and manifest gains in membership, year after year. When we see this, we know two things are true: First, those who say that the era of fraternal orders is a thing of the past are wrong. If there are Lodges that steadily gain members, it shows that even in the 21st Century, fraternities are relevant. Second, it shows that there are Lodges that know how to grow and, in fact, do grow. They have discovered the secret of success, the fountain of youth, the golden ring to the future of our Order. These growing Lodges are the Petri dishes that show us the cure to fraternal decline. If only our fraternal leaders and other Lodges studied these success stories, they may learn how to stanch the declines. I'm not saying that other Lodges should copy or replicate the approach of the growing Lodges - every community and every Lodge is different and unique. But I am saying that Lodges with membership problems should analyze what the growing Lodge are doing (or not doing), and should determine what might work for them. If your Lodge has been declining in membership for years now - what do you have to lose?

Let me give you an example of a growing Lodge and what has worked for that Lodge.

The Lodge with which I am most familiar, of course, is my own Davis Lodge #169 in Davis, California, a community of about 75,000 people. When I joined this Lodge in 2003, the Lodge had less than 30 members on the books - a typical membership number for a 21st Century Lodge. Today, in 2020, our membership exceeds 300 and we have shown a net gain in our membership each and every year since 2005. How did this happen? In 2005 I found myself chosen Noble Grand of the Lodge and I served as Noble Grand for four straight years. Such a lengthy service as Noble Grand is not normally recommended - but I had to do it in order to change the culture and the direction of my Lodge. Now, there are many reasons for this steady growth in membership, and we can't cover them all in this article. However, I can highlight the "Top Ten" reasons we have grown, and if it provides some food for thought in your Lodge, then I will have accomplished my mission. I can say that I know at least four other Lodges in California that have inquired into our techniques, and have then utilized many of the techniques - resulting in a more active Lodge and membership growth. So, bottom line, it works. Here, for your consideration, are the Top Ten:

1. Poll the members. Early on we polled the members of the Lodge to determine what THE MEMBERS wanted to do. This polling was very informative and revealing. We chose the top three activities in which members wanted to engage, and we implemented them. The top three will vary from Lodge to Lodge, of course. It might be as diverse as a

Lodge poker night, or a trip to a winery, or a talent show, or a hike.

2. Membership Committee. Every Lodge should have a Membership Committee, so the Lodge can stay focused on increasing membership. The Committee needs a strong chair to make sure that membership is a topic of discussion at every meeting of the Lodge.
3. The partners. When new applicants for membership are brought in, the Lodge would be remiss if it didn't also inquire about the husband, wife or partner of that applicant. Having husbands-wives, boyfriends-girlfriends, partners, as applicants and members can almost double the size of your applicant pool.
4. Open the Lodge. Lodges that remain hidden behind their closed doors and windows remain unknown to the community. I still remember the time I visited the downtown of a small northern California town with a Lodge smack in the middle of the main street. I asked five different local residents to direct me to the Odd Fellows Lodge (including two locals who were in the coffee shop across the street from the Lodge) - not one of them could tell me where the Odd Fellows Lodge Hall was located. The IOOF was "invisible" in that town. That is not welcoming to potential new members.
5. Social meetings. Not every meeting of the Lodge has to be a formal meeting, with full ritual, passwords and signs. It's perfectly permissible to have fun social meetings, perhaps with meals, to discuss upcoming events in the lives of members and the Lodge. Fraternal orders are, in fact, social societies and such social meetings certainly foster friendship and love.
6. Committees. Most Lodges have the Committees required by Code such as the Finance Committee and Visiting Committee, and little else. But one of the great secrets of success are Committees. They show the activity and vibrancy of the Lodge. My Davis Lodge has some 50 committees focusing Lodge attention on projects and activities that the Lodge members enjoy.
7. Stop saying "no". I have visited Lodges where suggestions by members - particularly newer members - are met with a big "no". Expressions like "we can't do that", or "we tried that before and it didn't work", or even "that's a stupid idea" will quickly discourage and disillusion members and will lead to really boring meetings. If new members don't feel like they are a contributing part of the Lodge, they will decide to dedicate their energy elsewhere.
8. The Pledge Process. My Lodge does not immediately initiate applicants. We make them go through a process (we call it the "Pledge Process") to qualify to be put forward for balloting. In this Pledge Process, which can take several months, these applicants participate in Lodge activities and "interview" members. They get to know the Lodge and the membership and feel much more committed to the Order.
9. Media. When Lodges do community activities and events, it is important to bring community attention to it. High visibility in the community makes it easier to attract potential new members. Newspapers are important, but in the 21st Century, social media is king. In particular, social media is the communication tool of those under 40 - who are, after all, the future of every Lodge.
10. Clean up your Lodge. I have visited Lodges where the paint is peeling, the windows are dirty, the IOOF signage is lacking, and the entry hall smells funny. These sorts of things send out the wrong message. The face of the Lodge to the world is the Lodge Hall.

Failure to grow the membership of your Lodge is a disservice to the fraternity that you joined. The status quo may be nice for you, but it is deadly to Odd Fellowship.

F - L - T

Dave Rosenberg, PGM
Jurisdiction of California

ODD FELLOW / REBEKAH SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The members of the IOOF Scholarship Committee have been working diligently to complete our task of judging and awarding educational scholarships for this year. Mailing deadline for completed applications was March 15, 2020.

This year we received a total of 91 nominations, 1 more than the year before. Three nominations were disqualified because the nominee did not meet requirements. Scholarship applications were sent to each qualified nominee.

By the postmark deadline, 62 completed applications were received, a 68% return rate. We received only 57 applications the previous year and a 64% return rate.

The Joint Education Committee is pleased to submit the following report for the 2019-20 Pennsylvania Odd Fellow-Rebekah Scholarship Program. These scholarships will be available to recipients for the 2020-2021 school year. On behalf of my fellow committee members, I wish to thank all the lodges that made contributions to the Scholarship Program this year. In particular, we would like to give a special thank you to the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Association of Western PA. Through their extraordinary support, we were able to provide 10 additional students with an IOOF Scholarship.

We appreciate the efforts of those members who submitted nominations. We urge current members to recruit relatives, friends and acquaintances to join the order so that we may extend the principles of Friendship, Truth and Love.

The Committee accepted 88 nominations for the 2019-20 cycle. From those nominations, we received 62 completed applications. That number is 5 more than last year.

~ Thomas J. McHugh, PGM

Variety #37 - Whelan

Fred R. Korman #55 - Spanik, Schultz

Harmony #86 - Gregoire

Freedom #88 - Burke, Kinzinger

Lewisburg #96 - Runkle

Lewistown #97 - Kuykendall

Nathan Lewis-Ft Necessity #254 - Roche

Walker #306 - Kanfer, Lennon

Clover #348 - Stuebgen, Stuebgen, Stachura, Kovach, Ochman, Stuebgen

Oneida #371 - Williams

Jamison #447 - Van Pelt

White Haven #457 - Lipinski, Wood

Rush #471 - Wooden, Tometchko, Arnold

Thistle #512 - Rivera

Alma #523 - Oliver

Shenandoah #591 - Cataldo

Warfordsburg #601 - Sardina, Ward, Fuller, Fuller, Ward

Victory #658 - Stolarski

Boyetown #708 - Morrell

Mt. Hor #736 - Parks

Charleroi #1030 - McCurdy

Lititz #1050 - Smith

Shillington #1175 - Leffler, Himmelreich, Chuprinsky, Morrison, Thomas

Faith, Hope & Charity Rebekah #15 - Will

Idella Rebekah #58 - Deebein

Lady Hall Rebekah #202 - Kotz

SEPTEMBER OBITUARIES

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



EMMA D. NEILEY
Past District Deputy President
Wysox Rebekah Lodge No. 443
May 10, 2020

Sister Emma D. "Frankie" (Kolb) Neiley, 90, of Wysox, PA, was initiated into Wysox Rebekah Lodge #443 on June 6, 1983, where she became a Past Noble Grand October 20, 1986. She held the office of District Deputy

President from 1987 - 1991.

She was a member of Christ Episcopal Church, Towanda, PA.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Stephen. Surviving are three children, one being Francys Hoffman, also of Wysox Rebekah Lodge, seven grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA.

NANCY L. TUCKER
Letitia Penn Rebekah Lodge No. 173
May 18, 2020

Sister Nancy L. Tucker, of Collegeville, PA, whose obituary was published in the July 2020 Magazine, was also an active member and director of the Home for Orphans of Odd Fellows, Philadelphia.



JERRE GROFF
Strasburg Lodge No. 361
August 4, 2020

Brother Jerre Groff, 92, of Lancaster, PA, was initiated into Strasburg Lodge #361 on November 9, 1953, where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree March 4, 1963.

He was a U.S. Navy Veteran.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Jane Rineer, and one son. Surviving are four children, 13 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren with 1 great-grandchild on the way.

Services were private at the convenience of the family.



GEORGE I. WOOD, JR.
Past Grand Herald/PDDGM
White Haven Lodge No. 457
August 8, 2020

Brother George I. Wood, Jr., 90, of White Haven, PA, was initiated into White Haven Lodge #457 where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree November 20, 1981. He was also an Associate Member to Thistle Lodge #512, Pittston. On June 5, 1999, he joined as a Charter Member to Thalia Rebekah Lodge #116, Pittston, becoming a Past Noble Grand in 2010, and holding membership for several years after. He went on to serve as District Deputy Grand Master from 1994 - 2006 and served the Grand Lodge as Grand Herald from 1998 - 1999 under PGM Alton Arnold. In the past, George was a regular attendee of Unified Session and he held the position of Treasurer of White Haven Lodge #457 for many years. In the past, he was also active in the PA-5 and the Ben L. Jenkins Welfare Bureau. At the time of his death, he was White Haven Lodge's oldest tenured member.

He was a member of White Haven United Methodist Church.

Surviving is his wife, the former Mary Chasar, three sons, one being Todd, also of White Haven Lodge, and one granddaughter.

Services were conducted by the Members of his Lodges.



PRYOR O. BERRY, JR.
Connoquenessing Lodge No. 278
August 9, 2020

Brother Pryor O. Berry, Jr., 93, of Chicora, PA, was initiated into Bruin Lodge #534 on May 21, 1945. He became a member of Miller-Karns Lodge #931, Chicora, through consolidation on March 21, 1970 and finally Connoquenessing Lodge #278, Butler, through consolidation on January 28, 1992.

He was a U.S. Navy WWII & Korean War Veteran and a member of St. John's Reformed Church in Chicora.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Dotty Haas, one son and one grandchild. Surviving are three sons, three daughters, 11 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Bear Creek Cemetery, Petrolia, PA.

Periodicals

JULY DONATIONS

PA EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND		
1128	Fallowfield	149.55
PA EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP		
R30	Salome	25.00
PA ARTHRITIS COMMITTEE		
899	Askam CAMP JRA	500.00
R30	Salome	<u>25.00</u>
		525.00
ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION		
1128	Fallowfield	59.82
PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW & REBEKAH MAGAZINE		
	Rebekah Assembly of Pennsylvania	100.00
VISUAL RESEARCH		
E135	Perseverance	500.00
899	Askam	200.00
1128	Fallowfield	59.82
116	Brady	<u>50.00</u>
		809.82
PA SPECIAL VISUAL		
E135	Perseverance	500.00
899	Askam	<u>200.00</u>
		700.00

BULLETIN BOARD

NEEDED: Still looking for one more Grand Lodge committee person.

A brother or sister to serve a three-year term on the Visual Research Committee. Must have the Grand Lodge Degree.

AN INTERESTING OBSERVATION

Since we have been in shutdown mode due to the pandemic, Shirley & I have been watching old reruns of Gunsmoke. Gunsmoke was a popular western series running from 1955 thru 1975. Its setting is Dodge City, Kansas in the 1870's. The other evening, we watching the show filmed in 1965. The scene of interest was a shot of main street as it paused on a sign painted above a doorway, "I.O.O.F. Hall" Shirley & I both smiled in amazement. Shirley then reminded me that the great Wyatt Earp was an Odd Fellow.

I hope you find this as interesting as I did!

David
Your GM

Amazing what you will see in old western reruns!!!

2020 Charity

Our organization has been linked with charity giving since its beginning. Visual Research: Camp JRA, Prostate Cancer Research, just to name a few. With the pandemic, we could also add the aid to all the food pantries that lodges have helped.

This year we would like to help with the Angels of Christmas, a charity that is keeping the light of Christmas bright for children whose families have fallen on hard times. Another charity to help children especially during this pandemic.

Keep watching for future updates.



In
Friendship, Love & Truth



Take Care, Stay safe,
And
Keep Well!