



# PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE



Vol. 96

August 2021

No. 8

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

## ONEIDA LODGE NO. 371 CONSOLIDATES WITH RUSH LODGE NO. 471

The Grand Master and staff made the journey east to meet with the Oneida and Rush lodges for the purpose of consolidation. A bittersweet day for Odd Fellowship. The day was concluded with a photo op of the 3 Lady Heads of our order. In the cramped confines of the CASS center in Montrose, PA we found space to fit the

Rebekah President Nadine Hager, the Grand Patriarch Laura Huchel, and our Grand Master Shirley J. Whitlinger.

Oneida Lodge No. 371, met above Fino's Drug Store, in the heart of Dallas, PA, and was instituted August 20, 1849. Rush Lodge No. 471, of Lawton, PA, was instituted May 27, 1875.

It was a double hit for Odd Fellowship in Pennsylvania as earlier that week, Regina Rebekah Lodge #230 of Shamokin consolidated with Idella Rebekah Lodge #58 of Dornsife. Regina Rebekah Lodge was one of the oldest Rebekah Lodges in the Jurisdiction, ending one month past 130 years of service to the Shamokin area.



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

AUGUST

28 / Tunnel to Towers Parade, Hershey 11:00AM

OCTOBER

1&2 / Mt. Hor #736 150th Anniversary+ - rescheduled!

16 / PGP Laura Huchel Testimonial, Pittsburgh+  
23 / Grand Encampment Rally, Sellersville+

PLEASE NOTE: The Educational Pilgrimage for Youth Tour has been cancelled!!

+ 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

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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:

**HARMONY LODGE NO. 86, TAMAQUA**  
 Jennifer J. Swett - initiated July 6th

**YORK SPRINGS LODGE NO. 211**  
 Kelley A. Otto - initiated July 1st

**ALMA LODGE NO. 523, JOHNSTOWN**  
 Dale Thomas - initiated June 4th

**BOYERTOWN LODGE NO. 708**  
 Jamie L. Sanchez - initiated July 6th

**CHARLEROI LODGE NO. 1030**  
 Keith Quinn - initiated June 3rd

## DESK OF THE GM



May the LIGHTHOUSE be your Guiding Light and the Fraternal Beacon of Friendship!!

Greetings Brothers and Sisters, Our year of 2021 is moving right along, August is right around the corner!! With the warm weather of summer, what better way to enjoy family time than to be outdoors. Picnics...swimming... ball games... vacations... just being together, what better way to enjoy the summer months!!!

I took a pause in my traveling long enough to be at our 49th Unified Session. For me, it was great to be with Odd Fellows and Rebekahs again, reconnecting socially after our many months of separation. Just like when visiting lodges, I left Session with more friends than I had when I arrived. We talk about friends, having a friend... being a friend... friendships... brotherly love. Have you felt the bond of friendship; felt the love of a brother or sister? I have, the moment I arrived at the Red Lion Hotel on June 19th. One of the greatest gifts given to us by God is the gift of friendship, and as Odd Fellows, we have been truly blessed with the bond of friendship.

My time at Sessions when by so quickly, from Saturday evening when we as

Odd Fellows and Rebekah spent time reconnecting socially to Sunday's Memorial Service and Banquet; to attending meetings and finally the installation. All the while being surrounded by brotherly and sisterly love. Renewing old friendship and making new; this truly is what Odd Fellowship is all about!!

We, all belong to an Odd Fellow lodge, and as such it is important to attend our lodge meetings. Not only to take part in the ritualic work, but also to be a part of the decision-making. The lodge is the place where we all have a voice in the decision-making of the lodge. To take this one step farther, our yearly session is where our lodges have a voice in the decisions of Grand Lodge. Think about it, if each lodge in Pennsylvania would send one representative there would be 71 members sitting in Sessions having a voice, having a vote in what affect us as Odd Fellows. Each morning at Sessions we average 33 voting members. Our attendance was good considering we have been self-isolating for over a year, but I do hope that in June 2022 that all lodges will be represented.

Two events happening in August, the Memorial to 911 sponsored by Tunnels-to-Towers Foundation. This year 2021, will mark the 20th anniversary of 911. Do you remember where you were and what you were doing on the day?? On Saturday, August 21st, in Shanksville there will be

a solemn walk from the Shanksville Fire House to the Flight 93 memorial. Frank Siller, whose brother Stephen Siller, a fallen Firefighter will be making his annual pilgrimage from the Pentagon in Washington D.C. to Shanksville then on to New York City. Walkers will be joining him which I hope to be one. Then on Saturday, August 28th there will be a parade in Hershey. The Odd Fellows of Pennsylvania was asked to partner with Tunnel-to-Towers and be a sponsor. As a sponsor, we would like to raise \$5,000.00. Information was sent out to all lodges, encampments, and cantons on the two events and how you can be a part of this memorial. Let us take this time to honor those who gave their lives for our freedom.

Brothers and sisters, there is work to do. Join me, as your Grand Master, in telling our Odd Fellow story to all and the great work being done in our communities. Come along as I visit lodges and reconnect with the lodge members. We need to support one another and spread the warmth and love of friendship to all.

In Friendship, love, and truth  
And, Always with God's guiding hand,

*Shirley J. Whittlinger.*  
Your Grand Master

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

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

### 30 YEARS

Michael Walters, #658

### 35 YEARS

Arthur J. Weiler, #141

Deamer D. Davidson, #562

### 40 YEARS

William C. Knight, #1010

### 135 YEARS

White Haven Lodge No. 457

## GRAND PATRIARCH'S AUGUST SCHEDULE

Aug. 11 Ambridge #259 7:30 PM

Aug. 14-19 Sovereign Grand Lodge Session

Aug. 21 Tunnel to Towers: Shanksville, PA

Aug. 21 Wm. F. Packer Encampment/Alma Lodge Picnic

Aug. 28 Tunnel to Towers Parade: Hershey, PA

*Please let me know If you would like an official visit to your Encampment or special event. You can also see me with the Grand Master on her official visits.*  
In F., H. & C., Shawn E. Miller, Grand Patriarch

## MAHANOY LODGE #551 SECOND ANNUAL PIG ROAST

On June the 18th Lodge members of Mahanoy Lodge #551 and their wives met from 8am until 10:30 and prepared potato salad for 250 people. Then the members met at brother Adam Deeben's home at noon to prep and start roasting the first pig. Then we met at midnight to remove the pig from the roaster to debone the pig. We prepped the second pig and put in the roaster. Then at 10 am on the 19th we met again to remove and debone the second pig. Finished with that we moved to the Lodge Hall to prepare the serving line and make the baked beans. We had sold 208 prepaid takeout meals and pickup time was from 3pm till 5:30pm. All meals were picked up by 5:34. As the meals were being prepped for pick up there were members in the kitchen keeping up with the mounting empty dishes. It went that well that we were able to leave the Lodge at 5:50pm. Great Job Members and their wives.

A special Thank you to member Adam Deeben and his wife Skylar for hosting the roasting of the pigs.



## 70<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY SURPRISE

Freedom Lodge #88 surprised Nadine Hager with a cake for her 70th Birthday on June 16th.



## 50<sup>TH</sup> UNIFIED SESSION IN 2022: WHO REMEMBERS THE 1ST UNIFIED SESSION IN PA?

Brothers and Sisters, we are approaching our 50th Unified Session in June, 2022. Is there anyone still active in our Order that could tell us what the 1st Unified Session was like in June, 1972? I know that the 1972 Unified Session was held at the George Washington Motor Lodge in Allentown, PA. Earl Longstreth was Grand Master presiding over the Grand Lodge that year and Robert Gumbert was installed as the Grand Marshal for incoming Grand Master Isaac Brown. Aside from that, I do not have much information to go on.

If you have any information you could share with me about the 1st Unified Session, please contact Dale Binkley at 484-643-0363 or [dbinkley1@verizon.net](mailto:dbinkley1@verizon.net). If you call me and get my voice mail, PLEASE leave your name and contact number so I can return your call.

Share any history you may have with me so we can look back to our beginnings as a Unified Body in Pennsylvania when we gather to celebrate our "Golden Anniversary" Unified Session in June, 2022.

Dale Binkley, 50th Unified Session  
Chairman, 2022

## 2021 UNIFIED SESSION FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S PERSPECTIVE

Our 2021 Unified Session is now complete. The work for the year at the Grand Body level is done and the new leaders for each of the branches in the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania have been installed into their respective offices.

As Session Chairman, I had mixed feelings as we approached the recent Unified Session:

**Excitement** - We had not met at this level for 2 years. How much of our "normal" activities would we be able to participate in? How many of the members I have not seen in 2 years will show up?

**Nervousness** - I was concerned about the safety of all our attendees even though Pennsylvania is fairly well vaccinated. It was tough trying to balance the "normal" events with some degree of COVID protocols to make everyone feel safe.

At the time of the last Session Committee meeting in mid-May, 2021 (only 6 weeks prior to our event), Pennsylvania was still at 25% capacity in restaurants and masks were required in public areas with meeting room mask use optional. There were rumors as we met that day that some restrictions would ease soon but there were no guarantees. Would we have enough attendees to satisfy the quorums we need for our Grand Bodies to meet? The hotel graciously waived all the minimum attendance guarantees for rooms and meal counts since they too were looking for some business coming in to help them get back to normal.

The Session Committee decided to proceed with the Unified Session hoping that we could continue moving back to normal and move the business of the Order in Pennsylvania forward again. We

agreed that mask use would be determined in meeting rooms by the presiding officer and asked all attendees to abide by the decision. All other protocols would determine how we acted in the other areas of the hotel.

From my point of view, as Chairman, our Unified Session could not have proceeded any better than it did. The hotel staff worked with us tirelessly to make our stay at the Red Lion Hotel comfortable and productive. This was the second Unified Session I have chaired. The only complaint I had brought to me was that the banquet meal did not have actual mushrooms in the sauce on the beef dish that was served. I felt that if this was the worst complaint I had; the hotel staff must have done a standout job.

Yes, there were inconveniences. The restaurant was not always open the hours we wished, this was due to staffing shortages and the cost of being open for a handful of customers. Food prices were higher and some items were in limited supply but the hotel did the best they could to serve us.

One noticeable improvement was the security officers the hotel had on site each evening to walk around the hotel and ensure the outside doors were secure and noise inside the hotel was kept under control (there were MANY youngsters on site Saturday and Sunday for local sports tournaments).

There was a problem with the AC unit serving the large meeting room the Grand Lodge met in for the week. Due to supply chain problems, a needed repair part was late in arriving to repair the unit. We were able to work around this and open an adjoining room and move the cool air from it into our meeting room. This would have worked better the first day if we had been aware of this issue

earlier in the morning. But the room felt better for the remainder of the week.

There were a few adjustments made to our events for the week. The Religious & Memorial Service was moved downstairs to a section of the ballroom. There were many compliments about this move, the room felt more comfortable and less confining for everyone attending. There were also small changes in the Installation of Officers for the Grand Lodge, Rebekah Assembly and Grand Encampment. We will discuss these changes going forward to see if we want to make them permanent. There were other room changes made to accommodate the hotel, some of these rooms also were under mechanical repair.

I want to thank everyone who attended the Unified Session this year and compliment them on their patience with the Committee and hotel staff. We will be returning to the Red Lion Hotel for the next 2 years for sure, possibly even a third year.

Next year we will be holding our 50th Unified Session. Plans have started already to make this event special as we celebrate our "Golden Anniversary" of meeting together in Pennsylvania. Make plans to attend and join in this celebration. If you have not attended our Unified Session in the past, I invite you to come out and attend at least 1 event to see what you are missing. Tentative plans for our Fun Night hope to bring an event that will be enjoyed by both young and old. Details will be released as the plans become finalized.

Again, on behalf of my committee, I want to thank all who attended the 49th Unified Session and made it a success...at least in my eyes.

Dale E. Binkley Chairman

## FIVE PAST GRANDS ADMITTED TO THE GRAND LODGE

We had a very successful Unified Session this past month! Our first order of business was conferring the Grand Lodge Degree and admitting those eligible Past Grands into the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. From left to right - Grand Marshall Shawn E. Miller, Past Grand Seth C. Anthony from Triune Lodge No. 307 of Middletown, Past Grand Kenneth R. Smith from Lititz Lodge No. 1050, Past Grand Thomas J. Kutchner from Walker Lodge No. 306 of Philadelphia, Past Grand Wilmer P. Quick from Shenandoah Lodge No. 591, Past Grand Chris E. Miller from Brady Lodge No. 116 of Muncy and Grand Conductor Frank A. Hilt.



# YORK SPRINGS LODGE HOLDS MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

York Springs Lodge # 211, Noble Grand, Brian Ecker placed a wreath at the Memorial Day Service held in York Springs to honor the Lodge members who served our country. The presentation for the day, "The Great War and the Spanish Flu", written by PG

Yolanda Howe was well received by the 300 who attended the service.

During the Memorial Day Service held at York Springs, Past Grand Yolanda Howe presents Mrs. Harold Davis Jr and Shirley

Davis Ogburn a rose to place on a cross honoring deceased Harold Davis Jr., a 51 year member of York Springs Lodge 211, for his U.S.military service.



Pictured left to right Linda Davis, PG Yolanda Howe, Shirley Ogburn

# SHENANDOAH LODGE PARTICIPATES IN 4TH OF JULY EVENT

Good things are happening in coal country! Shenandoah Lodge #591, I.O.O.F., of Shenandoah, Schuylkill County, sold cotton candy and candy apples at the annual Frackville Fireworks. District Lodge #823 of Frackville, consolidated in 1968 with Shenandoah Lodge #591, who is in their 155th year of service to the area. From that consolidation, they inherited Frackville Odd Fellows Cemetery. Along with their own cemetery, this is the only Lodge in the state that maintains two cemeteries. Shown left to right is Lodge Secretary and DDGM Tim Hahn, Warden Nicole Inama, Secretary of Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge, Kate Bailey, Treasurer Robert Briggs, Noble Grand Wilmer Quick and our cheerleader, Carol. Schuylkill County is the last county in the state to have five Lodges - Tamaqua, Pine Grove, St. Clair, Shenandoah and New



Ringgold. There was a great turnout and we look forward to participating again next year!



## DECORATION OF CHIVALRY CONFERRED

On Monday evening of the 49th Unified Session, the Decoration of Chivalry was conferred upon Lady Peggy Walters of Allentown Auxiliary No. 39 and Chevalier Patricia Faustner of Canton Allentown #39. Lady Peggy joined the Rebekahs in 1967 and has been active in her Rebekah Lodge and her Auxiliary, where she joined in 1984.

She is a Past President of the Department Association LAPM and has served the Rebekah Assembly and Department Association in many capacities. Chevalier Patricia Faustner is celebrating her 20th year as a Rebekah and is also a Past President of the Department Association, LAPM. She is active in the Rebekah Assembly and

currently is serving as Chaplain for the Department Council of PA.

There was a great turnout of Chevaliers and Ladies to conduct the Decoration. Thanks to all who participated!

~ BG® Justin C. Bailey, Director of Works



## VIENNA LODGE HELPS TO CELEBRATE FLAG DAY

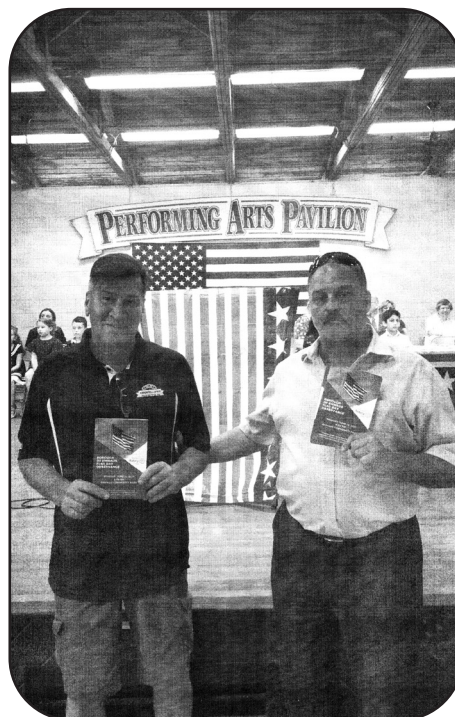
Noble Grand Brian Snyder and Treasurer Rory King of Vienna lodge #847, IOOF, of Allentown, for Vienna Lodge, partnered with the Emmaus Rotary club to present The Borough of Emmaus Flag Day Observance. Vienna Lodge were proud sponsors of the programs and songbooks. We look forward to continuing this tradition in our community going forward.

*Thank You!*

Dear Odd Fellow-Rebekah Education Committee,

I would like to personally thank you for your outgoing and continuing support of my college education. I will continue to put my full effort into school and preparation for life after school.

Thank you, Justin Koser, WE ARE



**BOROUGH OF EMMAUS FLAG DAY OBSERVANCE**

Emmaus Rotary Club

MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2021  
6:00 PM  
EMMAUS COMMUNITY PARK

SPONSORED BY EMMAUS ROTARY CLUB  
PROGRAMS COURTESY OF VIENNA LODGE 847  
INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

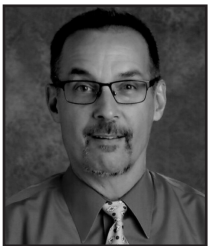
## AUGUST OBITUARIES

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

**JAMES X. RAGAN**  
Charleroi Lodge No. 1030  
April 28, 2021

Brother James X. Ragan, 86, of Avella, PA, was initiated into National Lodge #81, Washington, PA, on April 17, 1993, where he became a Past Grand on October 12, 1995, and held the position of Secretary. He then became a member of Charleroi Lodge #1030 through consolidation on July 19, 2007.

Burial was held at Forest Lawn Gardens Cemetery, McMurray, PA.



**KURT W. BINKLEY**  
Shillington Lodge No. 1175  
May 7, 2021

Brother Kurt W. Binkley, 60, of Wernersville, PA, was initiated into Shillington Lodge #1175 on March 21, 1989.

He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Wernersville.

Surviving is his father.



**MICHAEL W. GEMAS**  
Hampton Lodge No. 1004  
May 11, 2021

Brother Michael W. Gemas, 53, of Verona, PA, was initiated into Brushton-Swissvale Lodge #1107, Pittsburgh, on August 1, 2002, where he became a Past Grand October 21, 2004. He then became a member of Hampton Lodge #1004,

Allison Park, through consolidation on September 27, 2016.

Surviving is his wife, the former Tammy Keslar, and his mother.

Burial was private.



**HAROLD W. ANKENY**  
Somerset Lodge No. 438  
June 3, 2021

Brother Harold W. Ankeny, 88, of Somerset, PA, was initiated into Somerset Lodge #438 on February 11, 1956. He served as Financial Secretary for many years.

He was a member of Christ Casebeer

Lutheran Church.

Surviving is his wife, the former Germaine Heist, two children, seven grandchildren and eighteen great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Casebeer Cemetery, Somerset, PA.

**ROBERT S. MORRELL**  
Boyertown Lodge No. 708  
June 5, 2021

Brother Robert S. Morrell, 78, of Boyertown, PA, was initiated into Boyertown Lodge #708 on July 18, 1961, where he became a Past Grand on October 14, 1975 and received his Grand Lodge Degree May 18, 2002. In the past, he was active on the Boyertown Installation and Degree Team. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's current Financial Secretary, a position he held for many years.

He was a member of Good Shepherd United Church of Christ, Boyertown.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Shirley Marburger. Surviving are two sons, Raymond and Randall, both of Boyertown Lodge, one stepson, one stepdaughter, 12 grandchildren and his companion.

Burial was private at the convenience of the family.



**C. WILLIAM MACHENRY**  
Paoli Lodge No. 290  
June 11, 2021

Brother Charles W. "Bill" MacHenry, 89, of Thorndale, PA, was initiated into Star of Hope Lodge #199, Coatesville, on October 20, 1952, where he became a Past Grand on October 3, 1960. He became a member of Paoli Lodge #290,

Downingtown, PA, through consolidation on November 17, 2005.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Gwendolyn, and one son. Surviving are two sons, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Hephzibah Cemetery, Coatesville, PA.



**KHLAR L. PRICE, JR.**  
Charleroi Lodge No. 1030  
June 24, 2021

Brother Khlar L. "Lin" Price, Jr., 86, of Charleroi, PA, was initiated into Charleroi Lodge #1030 on January 3, 2008, where he became a Past Grand on November 1, 2012 and received his Grand Lodge Degree October 15,

2016. He held active membership in his Lodge and at the time of his death, he was the Lodge's current Conductor. He was also on the Board of the Odd Fellows & Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania.

He was a U.S. Marine Veteran of the Korean War.

Surviving is his wife, the former Jean Parker, four children, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in National Cemetery of the Alleghenies.



**GERALD M. KIGER**  
Charleroi Lodge No. 1030  
June 27, 2021

Brother Gerald M. Kiger, 86, of Willow Street, PA, was initiated into Waynesburg Lodge #469 on August 14, 1956. He then became a member of Charleroi Lodge #1030 through consolidation on January 19, 2006.

Surviving is his daughter, Susan.

Burial was held at Green County Memorial Park, Waynesburg, PA.



## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT MERCER 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!

### MERCER COUNTY:

Farrell - Lady Unity Rebekah Lodge #359 - consolidated 1974  
 Fredonia - Lady Fredonia Rebekah Lodge #447 - consolidated 1968  
 Greenville - Lady Augusta Rebekah Lodge #297 - defunct after 1905  
 Grove City - Judith Rebekah Lodge #264 - consolidated 2001  
 Grove City - Wayside Rebekah Lodge #280 - defunct 1915  
 Hermitage - Sharpville Rebekah Lodge #110 - defunct 2008  
 Jackson Center - Lady Carter Rebekah Lodge #384 - consolidated 1927  
 Jamestown - Electa Rebekah Lodge #511 - defunct 1927  
 Mercer - Betsy Ross Rebekah Lodge #450 - defunct 1931  
 Mercer - Betsy Ann Ross Rebekah Lodge #450 - consolidated 1977  
 New Hamburg - Lady Lawango Rebekah Lodge #591 - defunct 1977  
**Sandy Lake - Lady Worth Rebekah Lodge #328 - instituted 1946**  
 Sandy Lake - Princess Rebekah Lodge #442 - defunct 1992  
 Sharon - Adella Rebekah Lodge #284 - consolidated 1988  
 Sharpville - Endeavor Rebekah Lodge #367 - defunct 2005  
 Sheakleyville - Mary Jane Rebekah Lodge #438 - defunct 1923  
 Sheakleyville - Mary Jane Rebekah Lodge #496 - defunct after 2010  
 South Sharon - Easter Lily Rebekah Lodge #223 - consolidated 1911  
 Stoneboro - Water Lily Rebekah Lodge #380 - defunct 2001  
 West Middlesex - Lady West Rebekah Lodge #166 - defunct 1984

20 Rebekah Lodges with 1 still active

1st Rebekah Lodge - Sharpville Rebekah Lodge #110 in 1902  
 Last Rebekah Lodge - Lady Worth Rebekah Lodge - Home to our Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Warden  
 27 Odd Fellow Lodges

**Next Month Tioga County**  
 Get your pictures and articles in now!



## CANTON INSTALLATION

On June 28th, Canton Northeast No. 9, P.M., of Honesdale, was installed by Battalion Commander, BG(R) Justin C. Bailey, with help by the Department Council Staff. BG Bruce Torrence also officially visited the Canton. Congratulations to the new officers - Captain Paul Lautenschlager, Lieutenant Andy Kilmer and Ensign Jim Lautenschlager



## 2021 UNIFIED SESSION SPONSORS

"Thank You" to all the lodges who have donated to the 49th 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 Mary D. DeLong, I thank you once again.

Dale E. Binkley, PGM, PGR  
 2021 Unified Session Chairman

### Honor Roll Sponsors

Mount Zion #74  
 Freedom #88  
 Lady Colfax Rebekah #182  
 Victory #658  
 Vincent #762  
 Alert #936  
 Falls Creek #957

Sponsors  
 Alert #936

## THE TREASURER'S TALES

### AUGUST 2021

August is a hot month in New Jersey. In August 1926 it was a hot month. Barney was a tenth grade English teacher and a progressive farmer. Progressive farmers were planners. Barney planned to harvest corn in August. There are many types of corn, but the two types we will concern ourselves with in the bulk of this story are sweet corn, for people to eat, and field corn, for animal feed.

On August 5, 1926, Harry Houdini stayed in a coffin underwater for one and one-half hours before escaping. On August 11, 1926, Tris Speaker of the Cleveland Indians hit his 700th double. On August 21, Chicago White Sox pitcher Ted Lyons no hits Boston Red Sox, 6-0 in just 67 minutes at Fenway Park. On August 3, American singer Tony Bennett was born. On August 13, Cuban dictator and Communist leader Fidel Castro was born; of interest, his mother was a Rebekah and our Order was never banned in Cuba but it was, and still is, closely monitored. On August 23, famous actor Rudolph Valentino died of pleuritis in New York, he was 31.

One of the most popular movies of 1926 was Sparrows, starring Mary Pickford. You can watch it on YouTube, here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MHxKEeOHEf8>.

The most frequently played on the radio songs can be found here: <https://playback.fm/charts/top-100-songs/1926>. Just click on the song title to play the song. It takes a while to load.

Barney was an English teacher and he was quite interested in new novels as they were published. Ernest Hemingway published *The Sun Also Rises* in 1926. The story follows a group of American and some British expatriates who live rather decadent lives in France and Spain. There are some bullfight scenes, fishing and a lot of drinking. The book was made into a movie starring Tyrone Power in 1957, click here for movie version: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DufU6vregY>.

Barney planted sweet corn for his family to eat and to sell to local markets; he planted field corn for his cattle, pigs, chickens and sheep. Confusion with the varieties can result in unpalatable meals for people, although the cattle and pigs would not care. Barney was a planner. The largest field was planted in field corn, about 35 acres. Barney planted 10 acres of sweet corn on the second weekend in May, which he could pick the first week in August. He planted ten more acres two weeks later and, finally, 15 acres two weeks after that. Because school was not yet out for summer vacation, he had to do a lot of the work on weekends. The first two plantings provided corn for sale and consumption.

The third planting also provided corn to be canned for use during the winter. There are several web sites that discuss canning corn, see: <https://www.thegratefulgirlcooks.com/how-to-can-corn/>. This was the only means of preservation in the 1920's with refrigeration still in the primitive stages, see: <http://www.historyofrefrigeration.com/refrigeration-history/history-of-refrigerator/>.

Elizabeth and Alice spent many hours canning corn. Barney's mother came over to help. The Wells household was a busy place, because corn was only one thing that was canned. If you could eat it, you could can it. August and September were the big time canning months. Many things were simply not available during winter, in the fresh form, at any store.

Canned goods were taken to the county fair in late August and

judged for appearance and taste. Elizabeth canned hundreds of jars of corn. She was a frequent contributor to county fairs and agricultural programs. She placed all her jars of corn on a shelf that received decent sunlight, selecting the most colorful and replacing the rejects with other jars from her inventory. She spent over an hour selecting the jar she would submit. She noticed that about five of the jars were bright and had somewhat larger kernels.

As luck would have it, some field corn was mixed in with the sweet corn when they were picked. During processing, the field corn had the brightest color, so Elizabeth (not knowing it was field corn) submitted a quart jar of the field corn to the county fair for judging. It was a widely held belief that a local farmer or grocer would not do justice, so three farmers (and Odd Fellows) from Pennsylvania were brought in to judge the agricultural products. No names were attached to the jars of canned goods, just a registry number. There were ten entries in the canned corn category and they were first judged for color and appearance in the jar.

Elizabeth's entry overwhelmed the judges. They put her jar at the head of the list. The second judge then opened each of the jars. In turn the three judges used their own spoon to take two or three kernels from each jar and taste them. The first judge was still chewing his spoon of corn when the second judge took his sample. After the third judge had sampled the corn, Elizabeth was moved from first to last place.

Elizabeth had taken first two years in a row and her mother Alice, who helped her, had never placed lower than third since they started the fair in 1899. Elizabeth took some comfort in the fact that she received a first or second in green beans, lima beans, berries, pears, mince meat, chicken, pork and elderberry jelly. She could not wait to take her entry home to find out why she did not get a ribbon, since she was sure her entry was more attractive than any of the winners. Barney tasted the corn first and spit it on the floor (Warden was in the house, so there was no need to clean up). The corn was terrible. Vic tried it and he knew the answer immediately, "This is field corn!" he exclaimed. All eleven jars of bright shiny corn were opened, checked to make sure the contents had been properly identified, taken out behind the barn and dumped. Around dusk, a small creature with a ringed tail came out of the woods and eliminated all evidence of Elizabeth's only culinary failure for 1926. In 1927 we will discuss green apple pie.

The fair had been wonderful, Barney and Elizabeth took little Schuyler and Rebekah to see the attractions. Although the children were too small to appreciate the animals, Barney could not get over the 1,311 pound sow that won the swine competition. Barney was always looking for new ideas, so when a carnival exhibitor was selling a mix for barbecue sauce, he bought a jar. After figuring out how to make the sauce, Elizabeth made a gallon for the Labor Day hog roast sponsored by the Odd Fellows. Maybe I will try to incorporate that into next month's story.

*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.*

## DAYS GONE BY 25 YEARS AGO – 1996

How time flies! I was so excited that my boy, Kenny, was able to be Bible Bearer for Grand Master Shirley Whitlinger this year. Not only is that a great honor for him, but a great honor for me, as 25 years ago, in 1996, I was able to be Bible Bearer for my dad, Charles, when he was installed as Grand Master. One can ask the question, who did it better? Though we both were 11 at the time, either he was much taller than me, or one of the Grand Masters is quite shorter than the other??

~ Justin C. Bailey, Grand Secretary



## THE DONALD TRULICK FUND NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

The Trulick fund was set up to send students on the Educational Pilgrimage for Youth Tour. We would like to keep the lodges and members informed that donations help us achieve this. If you would like to contribute you can make a check to the Donald Trulick Foundation and send it to Col John J. Dzyak Quartermaster 126 Hilltop Drive Scottdale PA. 15683.



When Brother Don Trulick passed unexpectedly, the Department Council of Pennsylvania wanted to do something to honor him that can be used on a year-to-year basis so his memory will never be forgotten. Due to COVID and other unexpected issues, it has been a few years since we were able to sponsor a student, but we're hoping we can for 2022! Help us be part of it and carry on his memory.

## BOYERTOWN LODGE HOLDS INITIATORY DEGREE

Great things are happening in Boyertown! On July 6th, members from all over the southeast region of Pennsylvania came together to confer the initiatory degree on Jamie Sanchez into Boyertown Lodge #708 and Jennifer Swett into Harmony Lodge #86 (Tamaqua). The members came from Harmony Lodge #86 in Tamaqua, Victory Lodge #658 in Sellersville, Vincent Lodge #762 in Spring City and Alma Lodge #523 in Johnstown. Boyertown also welcomed their second Associate member, DDGM Christopher J. Grumblatt, of Vincent Lodge #762, who resides in the neighboring town of Pottstown.

As the Odd Fellows always do it, the temperatures were in the mid to high 90's that week, and we're on the third floor with no air conditioning, it was a perfect night to put on the robes! In the thoughts of everyone though was the fact this Degree was done in memory of longtime dedicated member, Robert Morrell, who was their Financial Secretary for years. This July, he would have marked 60 years as an Odd Fellow, but sadly passed away one month short. Following the initiatory degree, the charter was draped in his memory. His two sons, Ray, who is the Treasurer, and Randy, who acted as Vice Grand, were in attendance for the evening. Welcome to the new members and we see a bright future for Boyertown Lodge. Keep up the good work!

~ J C Bailey, Grand Secretary



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 Periodicals

## JUNE DONATIONS

VISUAL RESEARCH		
377	Nucleus	150.00
708	Boyertown	100.00
86	Harmony	50.00
2	Unified	25.00
1030	Charleroi	25.00
C9	Northeast	<u>25.00</u>
		375.00

PA SPECIAL VISUAL		
86	Harmony	100.00
708	Boyertown	100.00
R303	Lady Landis	50.00
2	Unified	<u>25.00</u>
		275.00

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION		
2	Unified	50.00
C9	Northeast	
	In memory of GM David Whitlinger	<u>25.00</u>
		75.00

PA SCHOLARSHIP FUND		
		1,000.00
2	Unified	<u>50.00</u>
		1,050.00

SPECIAL OLYMPICS		
1030	Charleroi	25.00

TUNNEL TO TOWERS		
		250.00