



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE

Vol. 96

December 2021

No. 12

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE AT <http://www.glpaiiof.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

'Tis the season for Friendship, Love & Truth

THE DEPARTMENT ASSOCIATION, LAPM, MERGES WITH THE DEPARTMENT COUNCIL, PM

After 95 years of existence in Pennsylvania, on November 6th, the Ladies Auxiliary Patriarchs Militant merged with the Department Council of Pennsylvania. Through a series of events made within the General Military Council and Sovereign Grand Lodge, orders were sent out following the SGL Session in August that as of 31 December 2021, all Department Associations and their affiliated Auxiliaries will cease to exist and will fold into their respective Cantons and Department Councils. In Pennsylvania, the Department Association is comprised of two Auxiliaries - York #14 and Allentown #39. Over the course of the last approximate century, the Department Council and Department Association of Pennsylvania worked together hand-in-hand. This will now give the uniformed branches of our Order the chance to work together as one, as we continue to grow our Department. The Department Council of Pennsylvania has shown a gain in membership over the past five years, finally getting back to having over 100

Chevaliers across the Jurisdiction, several years being number one in growth under the General Military Council.

At the hall of Triune Lodge #307 of Middletown, the day began with holding our annual PM/LAPM Memorial service, where we paid tribute to our fallen Ladies and Chevaliers - Kathleen Ernst of Allentown Auxiliary #39 and LT Ralph Very and Maj® Raymond "Bull" Boulanger of Canton Allentown #39. Following the service, we were honored to muster three chevaliers into the Patriarchs Militant - Marie D. Harnett into Canton Allegheny #3, Beverly A. Bowers into Canton York #14 and Jennifer Joann Swett into Canton Allentown #39. We then held our semi-annual meeting, where we were honored with several dignitaries. Along with our Grand Patriarch Shawn Miller and Grand Master Shirley Whitlinger, we were also blessed with GC® Joseph M. Strausser, BG Nicole Inama, Bugler General; BG L.D. Walker, Bannerette General; MG

Glenn Adcock, Inspector General; MG John S. Cupp, Sovereign Grand Warden and General Commanding Michael L. Bowers. We had over 30 Chevaliers in attendance, with all 8 Cantons present.

The final ceremony was the consolidation of the Department Association of PA with the Department Council of PA, in which the banner of the Ladies Auxiliary Patriarchs Militant was formally retired. Though it is horrible to see a branch close up, we can only hope this is an eye-opener for Odd Fellowship across all branches and across the world that we must move forward stronger than ever to keep something like this from happening again. We will never forget though the contribution that the Ladies Auxiliary Patriarchs Militant has made to Odd Fellowship, and the Department Council is taking steps to make sure they are forever engraved in our history and in our future.



President of the Department Auxiliary, LAPM, Kate Walters turns over the banner for Pennsylvania to Department Commander Bruce Torrence, as General Michael Bowers looks on

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

SHIRLEY J. WHITLINGER.....	GRAND MASTER
208 Tyler Court, Gibsonia, Pa. 15044 724-443-3012 whitx2@msn.com	
J. CARL GEORGE.....	DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
225 Sunridge Drive, Freedom, PA 15042 724-601-8098 quickcarl73@comcast.net	
ROBERT B. RUFF.....	GRAND WARDEN
1819 Forbes Avenue, Apt 5A, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 412-621-0872 ruff2u@aol.com	
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 wlrmsley0809@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 shanksi@epix.net	
SHAWN E. MILLER.....	GRAND MARSHAL
470 Southmont Boulevard, Johnstown, PA 15905	
JAMES L. LAUTENSCHLAGER.....	GRAND CONDUCTOR
102 Crestmont Drive, Honesdale, PA 18431	
PAUL E. LAUTENSCHLAGER.....	GRAND CHAPLAIN
101 Maplewood Drive, Honesdale, PA 18431	
TIMOTHY H. HAHN.....	GRAND GUARDIAN
21 Spruce Street, Ashland, PA 17921	
JAMES A. MCMAHON.....	GRAND HERALD
18 Oakwood Square, Pittsburgh, PA 15209	
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

JUDITH A. WERT.....	PRESIDENT
379 Kindt Corner Road, Leesport, PA 19533 610-926-1513 wertjudith@comcast.net	
KATHY E. BARBER.....	VICE PRESIDENT
5503 Buffalo Road, Mifflinburg, PA 17844 570-765-0629 kbarber72@yahoo.com	
ELLA LEE TRULICK.....	TREASURER
161 Stover Road, Bellefonte, PA 16823 814-383-4476 ellietrulick@aol.com	
SARAH M. BAER.....	SECRETARY
115 North Centre Avenue, Leesport, PA 19533 610-916-1990 s.baer@baersservice.com	

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT

SHAWN E. MILLER.....	GRAND PATRIARCH
470 Southmont Boulevard, Johnstown, PA 15905 814-421-5761 shawndianem@hotmail.com	
SANDRA L. HUCHEL.....	GRAND SCRIBE
1809 White Oak Drive, Sinking Spring, PA 19608, shuchel@hotmail.com, 484-794-6781	

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

MT. ZION LODGE NO. 74, YORK

Philip M. Hamme - initiated October 4th

Daniel L. Lester - initiated October 18th

MACKINAW LODGE NO. 380, NEW BLOOMFIELD

Bobbi L. Armolt - initiated November 8th

Samuel E. Armolt

Mary M. Colledge

J. Kevin Fitzpatrick

Michael J. Smith

DESK OF THE GM



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

My Brothers and Sisters, MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

My Odd Fellowship family, my wish is that as we approach the holidays, Thanksgiving this past month and Christmas in just a few weeks, that you are enjoying each minute of the season and all the preparations it takes for celebrating with family and friends.

As your Grand Master I have taken a break from visitation to enjoy all the craziness of the seasons; baking, decorating, shopping, and all the other jobs that goes along with Christmas. Christmas carols, advent and candlelight services, neighborhood decorations, family get-togethers, and enjoying the Christmas movies (I am already into that, thanks to the Hallmark station!!), I just

cannot wait, and oh, the important thing of all, a visit with Santa!! As you might have guessed, I am just a big kid at heart when it comes to CHRISTMAS!!

There is another part of the holidays that we should keep at the top of our lists, that is, giving to others. Remembering those in our communities which are still in the need, extending our helping hand of friendship. Send a card or make that telephone call to those, especially our lodge members, who you have not seen in a while; make a visit to those with a plate of cookies to those who are housebound; make someone feel special with that gift of your time. Give a gift to the community food pantry so that all will be able to enjoy the holiday meal with loved ones. Give a donation to a local toy drive so that we can help provide Christmas wishes to all children.

Through the love and support of Odd Fellows and Odd Fellow Lodges in Pennsylvania, we can give dreams and wishes to children by supporting my

charity of Make-A-Wish. I am so happy to tell all my brothers and sisters, that we are now working on wish #3!! Thank you, for giving dreams and granting wishes to the kids!!

This time of the year was always a time in the Whitlinger's house to give thanks for blessings we received and to find ways to not only enjoy family and friends but to find ways to give back. My blessing has been friendship!!

This season, as we plan this Holiday season, I hope you all enjoy all the simple joys of Christmas. Give thanks for your family, friends, and lodge family. Extend to all your hand of friendship. Join with me to "aspire to make a difference" wherever we may be.

So, my brothers and sisters,
In Friendship, love, and truth
And, Always with God's guiding hand,

Shirley J. Whitlinger.
Your Grand Master

DESK OF THE GRAND PATRIARCH

Greetings Patriarchs,

I hope you had a Blessed Thanksgiving with your family and friends! Spending time with family and friends is especially important during Christmas time. Many of my fondest memories were created during this time. I hope you make many new memories.

This past November kept me busy. I attended the Testimonial for Sovereign Grand Master Charles E. Lusk, in Dayton, OH, where I provided some music as the SGL Musician. I attended the Memorial Service for Raymond R. "Bull" Boulanger, Past Grand Junior Warden. Bull was a great Odd Fellow, Patriarch, Chevalier, Rebekah and friend! He will be greatly missed. I also had the opportunity to march and play cadence on my snare drum in two parades. The Johnstown Veterans Day Parade with American Legion Post #294 and with fellow Chevaliers in a Light Up Night parade in Beaver, PA.

I will be making an official visit on Tuesday, December 7 to the Middletown Encampment. The meeting is at 6:45 PM at the Triune Lodge Hall in Middletown. The Grand Encampment will be presenting them with their new charter. Hope to see you there!

Take a moment to reach out to your Lodge and Encampment brothers and sisters that you may not have seen in a while. A card, phone call, email or text can brighten someone's day. I am thankful for you! Your diligence to grow and strengthen your Encampments is greatly appreciated. Continue to follow 2 Corinthians 5:7 by walking by faith and not by sight. May you have a Blessed Christmas with your family and friends!

In Faith, Hope, and Charity!
Shawn E. Miller
Your Grand Patriarch

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

25 YEARS

John V. Smith, #306
Carl E. Thomas, Jr., #523

50 YEARS

William D. Elkin, #1128

55 YEARS

David B. Bivens, #601

60 YEARS

Melvin E. Hoke, #307

65 YEARS

George B. Hanna, #290
J Glenn Dewane, #762

70 YEARS

M. Hervey Painter, #290

ALMA LODGE ACTIVITIES



Alma Lodge Fun Day: On October 24th, Alma Lodge No. 523 of Johnstown hosted its first Fun Day in over a year. Members and their guests enjoyed an afternoon of trivia and bingo, before enjoying a delicious meal. Those in attendance enjoyed getting the chance to come together and share an afternoon of fun.

Alma Lodge Honors Brother Al Hockenberry: October 29th was a special night here at Alma Hall, as we honored Brother Al Hockenberry during our meeting. Brother Hockenberry was our Lodge treasurer for many years and also served as District Deputy Grand Master for our district. He was presented with three jewels in recognition of his service to our Lodge and our Order. We also presented a special award to Al and Linda recognizing and thanking them for everything they have done for our Lodge. We thank everyone who helped make the meeting and dinner a huge success and we thank all of the members who came out for the meeting, including our friends from Kingwood Lodge and Fred R. Korman Lodge.



Al Photo: Al and Linda Hockenberry with their family following the meeting. All are members of Alma Lodge #523.

VARIETY LODGE DONATES TO PERT TRAIL RESTORATION EFFORT

Variety Lodge #37, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Philadelphia, presented a “big check” to the Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust (PERT) to help in the restoration of its Creek Road Trail, which was severely damaged by the remnants of Hurricane Ida. The trail, which runs parallel to the Pennypack Creek in Huntingdon Valley, PA, was destroyed in several sections by water and debris when the Pennypack Creek rose about 10 feet above normal along the creek, well over flood stage, depositing debris and washing out portions of the trail. The trail is being restored in a significant effort by first clearing the rocks and earth that overran the trail and then utilizing the Geogrid underground grid system for securing the deposition of coarse and then fine gravel to create a new trail bed and trail. The trail is popular with hikers and bikers along the picturesque Pennypack Creek.

Pictured here with PERT Executive Director Chris Mendel (right) are Variety Lodge Past Grand Phil Falkowitz (center), who chairs the lodge’s Charity Committee, and Byron Goldstein (left), Variety Lodge Past Grand, PERT member, and trail hiker. The Pennypack Ecological Restoration



Trust is a member-supported private land trust whose mission is to protect, restore, and preserve the land of the Pennypack Creek Valley. The Pennypack Trust, established in 1970 and recently celebrating its 50 years, spans 852 acres of preserved open space with over 11 miles of trails.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows began in 18th Century England when it

was deemed odd to find people organized for the purpose of giving aid to those in need without recognition and pursuing projects for the benefits of mankind. The US history began in North America, with the United States and Canada, in 1819, and is continually expanding throughout the world, currently in over 26 countries. Odd Fellows strive to make the world a better place in which to live.

ENCAMPMENT DEGREE RALLY A SUCCESS

On October 23rd, Bushkill Encampment #55 of Sellersville hosted the Fall Encampment Rally in Pennsylvania. We were so fortunate to have nine candidates! Encampments that brought in Patriarchs were: Ambridge Encampment #259 - 1, Genesis Encampment #15 of Cassville - 1, Bushkill Encampment #55 of Sellersville - 1, Chosen Friends Encampment #88 of Malvern - 2, and Scott Encampment #132 of Tamaqua - 4. We also had three candidates for the Grand Encampment Degree. Shown left to right are Grand Patriarch Shawn E. Miller, PCP Jim Fuller of Genesis Encampment #15, PCP Rory King of Bushkill Encampment #55 and PCP Don Smith of Chosen Friends Encampment #88. The Degrees were conducted in full and a great time was had by all.



SANDY LAKE LODGE CONTINUES TO EDUCATE

Sandy Lake Lodge #573, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, held a luncheon Monday night to honor two students from Mercer County Career Center, Mercer, Pa. We meet with the families of Isabella Willetts and Owen Miller. We explain what we as the Independent Order of Odd Fellows did in the past and what we are doing today, and how we started a scholarship program and changed it to Honor the man that put the program together. It's called the Harold McQuiston \$500.00 Scholarship.



Seated is Isabella Willetts and Owen Miller. Standing from left to right is RSNG Raymond Rodgers, RSVG Dewey Rearick, IG Don Pleaso, VG Susan Rodgers, Secy Faye Pleso, Shawne Balash, Fin Sec Beth Slater, NG Jessica Bence, Treas Clinton Cassi and Chaplain Joe Alessio

Places to Go... People to See

2022

JANUARY

9 / DDGM Assoc. Mtg, Zoom,
6:30PM

16 / Unified Session Committee,
Harrisburg 1:00PM
(1/23 Snow date)

APRIL

1-3/ Mid-Atlantic States Conclave,
Pittsburgh +

JUNE

24 - Jul 1 / 50th Unified Session,
Harrisburg +

+ 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

On the Road with

KINGWOOD LODGE #1010



On October 7th, the Grand Lodge Staff traveled southeast to visit the brothers of Kingwood Lodge #1010. A perfect fall evening for traveling as the leaves in western Pennsylvania begin to change colors. Traveling with the Grand Master for this visit was J. Carl George, D.G.M.; Robert B. Ruff, Grand Warden; and Shawn E. Miller, Grand Marshal and D.D.G.M of District #15. Visiting along with the Grand Lodge were members from Somerset Lodge #438, Somerset, Pa.; and Alma Lodge #523, Johnstown, Pa. Congratulations to Kingwood as they have received petitions for membership!! It was another great evening of Odd Fellowship with the Noble Grand conducting a good meeting. After the meeting, the lodge provided a light meal before we all said our goodbyes and headed home.

Thank you, Kingwood Lodge, for your hospitalities and to the Grand Warren for being our photographer.

NUCLEUS LODGE #377



Another great night for Odd Fellowship!!

Back on the road again, this time traveling south to Finleyville, PA to visit with brothers and sisters of Nucleus Lodge #377. Visiting in the home lodge of Past Grand Masters, Emilie J. Cupp and David A. Young and the Sovereign Grand Warden, John S. Cupp. What a great evening!! As always, the Noble Grand, Blanche Corey conducted a good meeting. Traveling with the Grand Master was J. Carl George, DGM; Robert B. Ruff, Grand Warden (thanks Bob for the picture); James McMahon, Grand Herald; and John J. Dzyak, DDGM of District 23. Refreshment were provided by the lodge before all headed homeward. Thank you Nucleus Lodge for a great evening.

CLOVER LODGE #348

On October 20, 2021, the GM, and her staff, traveled to her hometown of Ambridge, Pa to make an official visit to Clover Lodge #348. The visit was also to be with the DDGM of District 20, David Carlson as he installed the officers of Clover Lodge. It was a great meeting and David did an outstanding job with the installation. Traveling with the GM was J. Carl George, DGM; Robert B. Ruff, Grand Warden; and James McMahon, Grand Herold. As always, all presents enjoy the great fellowship along with the lunch provided by the lodge.

Thanks to the Grand Warden for taking this picture.



CONNOQUENESSING LODGE #278

October being the month of lodge installations, the GM along with Robert B. Ruff, Grand Warden stopped in Lyndora, Pa to visit and to help the DDGM in the installation of Connoquenessing Lodge #278. It is always a pleasure being with the lodge brothers. Noble Grand, Dan Veith conducted a good meeting as did the DDGM, David Carlson in the installation service. After the meeting, the lodge provided lunch and a time of fellowship. It was a great start for a day of travel for the GM and Grand Warden, (who is again behind the camera!)

Thank you Connoquenessing, for all your hospitality.



the Grand Master

FALLOWFIELD LODGE #1128

Next stop on our October 25th travels was Atlantic, Pa to visit Fallowfield Lodge #1128. Traveling with the GM was the DGM, J. Carl George; Robert B. Ruff, Grand Warden (who is again, behind the camera); and Shawn E. Miller, Grand Marshal. It was also great to have members from Sandy Lake Lodge #578 visiting with us. This was a good night as Robert Martin, Noble Grand conducted a good meeting, as always and with the aid of the Grand Lodge Officers, the DDGM, Raymond Rodgers installed the officers of Fallowfield. Before we all departed for home, we enjoyed good fellowship and homemade pie which the lodge provided.

What a great evening for Odd Fellowship!!

Thank you Fallowfield for all your hospitality!



HAMPTON LODGE #1004

On October 12, 2021, the GM and staff made an Official Visit to her home lodge of Hampton Lodge #100, Allison Park. Traveling with Shirley this evening was J. Carl George, DGM and D.D.G.M. of District 21; Robert B. Ruff, Grand Warden; Shawn E. Miller, Grand Marshal; James A. McMahon, Grand Herald, and David A. Young, SGL Representative. The Grand Lodge staff helped with the installation service. It is always great to come home especially when it is Installation night. To be able to help with installation of my lodge was another hi-light of my term. After a good meeting lead by George Williams, NG, the lodge provided a time of fellowship with a light lunch.

You know what they say, "There's no place like home"!! Thank you, Hampton, for all your support.



SANDY LAKE LODGE #573



Here we go, traveling to Sandy Lake Lodge #573, in Sandy Lake, Pa. It was another great night for Odd Fellowship as the Grand Lodge Officers helped with the installation of officers. Traveling with the GM was J. Carl George, DGM; Robert B. Ruff, Grand Warden; Shawn E. Miller, Grand Marshal; and James McMahon, Grand Herold. Sandy Lake Lodge is the home lodge of Raymond Rodgers, D.D.G.M. of District 18. The lodge members provided dinner before the meeting giving all present a time for fellowship before the meeting. Congratulations and best wishes to all the new officers of Sandy Lake.

FREEPORT LODGE #379



October 6th, the Grand Master, and staff traveled Freeport Lodge #379 along with David Carlson, D.D.G.M. of District 20. Traveling with the Grand Master were J. Carl George, D.G.M.; Robert B. Ruff, Grand Warden; Shawn E. Miller, Grand Marshal. Thanks to the D.G.M. for also being the photographer for the evening. It was a good night of Odd Fellowship as the Grand Lodge Staff helped with the installation. Before the meeting, good fellowship was enjoyed by all as we sat around the dinner table enjoying the light dinner of homemade vegetable soup and sandwiches with Elaine's up-side-down pineapple cake for dessert. Thank you, Elaine, and Freeport Lodge for a great dinner and meeting.

DECEMBER OBITUARIES

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



SHIRLEY SEVERCOOL
Past RA Appointed Officer/ PDDP
Ernestine Rebekah Lodge No. 548
Tunkhannock Lodge No. 699
August 22, 2021

Sister Shirley (Harvey) Smith-Severcool, 90, of Tunkhannock, PA, was initiated into Nakomis Rebekah Lodge #497, Lake Como, PA, on

January 12, 1971. She transferred membership to Lady Esther Rebekah Lodge #74, Tunkhannock, PA, in 1972, where she became a Past Noble Grand on October 10, 1979. She was a recipient of the Decoration of Chivalry in 1983. She formerly held associate membership in Lady Milford Rebekah Lodge #189 of New Milford and Mary Rebekah Lodge #7 of Montrose. She held the position of Secretary for Lady Esther Rebekah Lodge for many years, and became a member of Ernestine Rebekah Lodge #548, Lawton, PA, through consolidation on May 5, 2017. She served as District Deputy President from 1998 - 2011 and served the Rebekah Assembly as Outside Guardian from 2000 - 2001, Left Herald from 2003 - 2004 and Inside Guardian from 2005 - 2006. She became a member of Tunkhannock Lodge #699 on November 5, 2002, where she became a Past Grand on April 18, 2006, and received her Grand Lodge Degree on May 18, 2007. She was a regular attendee to Unified Session and was very active in the Order.

She was a member of the Lemon United Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by two husbands, Arthur Smith and Thomas Severcool, and two grandsons. Surviving are four sons, four daughters, 18 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Sunnyside Cemetery, Tunkhannock.

WILLIAM D. WYKE
Unified Lodge No. 2
August 29, 2021

Brother William D. Wyke, 71, of Coraopolis, PA, was initiated into Hampton Lodge #1004, Allison Park, on November 30, 2010. He then transferred to Unified Lodge #2, Pittsburgh, on August 11, 2011.



FRANK J. BARNISH, III
Mt. Hor Lodge No. 736
September 30, 2021

Brother Frank J. "Bud" Barnish, III, 55, of Mapleton Depot, PA, was initiated into Mt. Hor Lodge #736, Cassville, PA, on April 10, 2009. He was of the Lutheran Faith.

Surviving is his wife, the former Tracy Swindell,

his mother and three sons, two of which, Matthew and Christopher, are also members of Mt. Hor Lodge.

Burial will be held at the convenience of the family.

TERRY W. BRUGGEMAN, SR.
Somerset Lodge No. 438
October 1, 2021

Brother Terry W. Bruggeman, Sr., 69, of Manns Choice, PA, was initiated into Somerset Lodge #438 on November 13, 2014. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's Vice Grand.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran and a member of Christ Victory Church, Manns Choice.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Amelia Hawk. Surviving is one son, one daughter and two grandsons.



GEORGE W. WOLFF, III
Mineral Lodge No. 285
October 15, 2021

Brother George W. Wolff, III, 88, of Saint Clair, PA, was initiated into Mineral Lodge #285, Saint Clair, on April 16, 1979, where he became a Past Grand. He served many years as Vice Grand, and more recently as Secretary, a position he held at the time of his death. He was also the Vice President of the Saint Clair Odd Fellows Cemetery. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest living member.

He was a U.S. Army Korean War Veteran and a member of St. John United Church of Christ, Saint Clair.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Patricia Stiles. Surviving is one daughter, two sons, seven grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge and burial was held in Odd Fellows Cemetery, Saint Clair, PA.



ELIZABETH V.T. HARTUNG
Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge No. 86
October 21, 2021

Sister Elizabeth V.T. "Betty" (Moyer) Folk-Hartung, 90, of Orwigsburg, PA, was initiated into Constance Rebekah Lodge #161, New Ringgold, PA, on March 14, 1964, where she became a Past Noble Grand on October 26, 1978. She was

instrumental in providing the religious services at the Middletown Home for Constance Rebekah Lodge and East Brunswick Lodge, and helped at many of the fundraisers. She transferred membership to Lady Colfax Rebekah Lodge #182, Leesport, in 2002 and then to Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge #86, Tamaqua, on August 7, 2012. At the time of her death, she was the oldest tenured member of Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge #86.

She was a member of Calvary Evangelical Methodist Church, Tamaqua.

She was preceded in death by two husbands, William Folk and Ethan Hartung. Surviving are two sons, one being Edward Folk, of East Brunswick Lodge #802, New Ringgold, four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Services were conducted by the members of her Rebekah Lodge and burial was held in Steigerwalt's Church of God Cemetery, New Ringgold, PA.

DECEMBER OBITUARIES

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



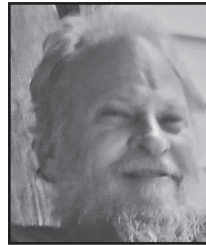
VIRGINIA M. TAYLOR
 Past District Deputy President
 Idella Rebekah Lodge No. 58
 October 27, 2021

Sister Virginia M. (Strohecker) Taylor, 99, of Sunbury, PA, was initiated into Lady Eden Rebekah Lodge #56, Augustaville, PA, on February 13, 1990, where she became a Past Noble Grand on October 10, 1995. She then became a member of Regina Rebekah Lodge #230, Shamokin, through consolidation on December 8, 2005. She then went on to serve as District Deputy President from 2010 to 2011. She finally became a member of Idella Rebekah Lodge #58, Dornsife, through consolidation on June 9, 2021. She was also a Past President of the Tri-County Rebekah Association.

She was a member of The First Reformed United Church of Christ, Sunbury.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles, and one son. Surviving are two sons, one daughter, many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Pomfret Manor Cemetery, Sunbury.



TERRY L. BURKHOLDER
 Earl Lodge No. 413
 October 31, 2021

Brother Terry L. Burkholder, 79, of East Earl, PA, was initiated into Earl Lodge #413, New Holland, PA, on November 10, 1978.

He was preceded in death by a granddaughter. Surviving is his wife, the former Sherry Ruland,

three daughters, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. A celebration of life service will be held at a later date.



INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT INDIANA 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!

INDIANA COUNTY:

- Black Lick - Mary D. Bell Rebekah Lodge #106 - consolidated 1961
- Blairsville - Thelma May Rebekah Lodge #253 - consolidated 1980
- Cherry Tree - Lady Cherry Rebekah Lodge #505 - consolidated 1978
- Clymer - Cordelia Rebekah Lodge #460 - defunct 1927
- Creekside - Felicia Rebekah Lodge #496 - defunct 1930
- Homer City - Penelope Rebekah Lodge #431 - defunct 1961
- Indiana - Una Rebekah Lodge #292 - 1994
- Marion Centre - Lady MacBeth Rebekah Lodge #423 - defunct 1915
- Pine Flats - Barbara Rebekah Lodge #573 - defunct 1944
- Plumville - Desdemona Rebekah Lodge #350 - consolidated 1992
- Rochester Mills - Silva Rebekah Lodge #349 - defunct 1931
- Rochester Mills - Electa Rebekah Lodge #537 - defunct 2002
- Rossiter - Canoe Rebekah Lodge #307 - defunct 1942
- Saltsburg - Cecelia Rebekah Lodge #170 - defunct 1988

14 Rebekah Lodges with 0 still active

1st Rebekah Lodge - Cecelia Rebekah Lodge #170 in 1888

Last Rebekah Lodge - Electa Rebekah Lodge #537 in 2002

24 Odd Fellow Lodges



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

THE TREASURER'S TALES

DECEMBER 2021

December is the month for Christmas and December 1926 was no exception. No event in December ever compares to Christmas. On December 3, 1926, novelist Agatha Christie disappeared for 11 days. On December 7, 1926, the gas refrigerator was patented. On December 16, the contract of Kennesaw Mountain Landis was renewed for 7 years as commissioner of baseball. On December 20, the St. Louis Cardinals traded future Baseball Hall of Fame infielder Rogers Hornsby to NY Giants for Frankie Frisch & Jimmy Ring. On December 25, Crown Prince Hirohito of Japan assumes the throne upon his father, Emperor Yoshihito's, death.

On December 19, Jeanne Kirkpatrick, US ambassador to UN was born. On December 21, Joe Paterno, American college hall of fame football coach (Penn State) and Sports Illustrated Sportsperson of 1986, born in Brooklyn, New York (d. 2012). On December 5, Claude Monet [Oscar-Claude], French impressionist painter (Water Lilies, Haystacks, Poplars), dies from lung cancer at 86.

On December 5 - The 1925 Soviet film Battleship Potemkin premiered in the United States, at the Biltmore Theater in Manhattan; see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ca0c4vEe5Is>. Despite having disappeared for 11 days, Agatha Christie published the popular Murder of Roger Ackroyd. Among other songs, Gene Austin's Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue, was popular, see: <https://playback.fm/charts/top-100-songs/video/1926/Gene-Austin-Five-Foot-Two-Eyes-of-Blue>.

Christmas was on Saturday and the students felt cheated that the holiday was on a weekend. The Christmas school vacation began on Monday, December 20, 1926. Barney now had three children to look after as well as a farm and teaching school. There is an old saying among Odd Fellows (and others) you can only get something done if you ask a busy man to do it. Barney was busy. The lodge scheduled a Christmas party for December 18. Vic knew they would stick Barney with planning if he didn't step in, so he did. Alice, his wife, was so thrilled that Vic volunteered to plan the Christmas party that she made him sleep in the veterinary hospital with the animals for two nights. This didn't bother Vic, because he was closely watching a valuable bull that had sprained his leg chasing an unwilling cow.

There was snow and it was cold. Vic needed to find a group of willing cooks to cater the banquet. The Rebekahs usually helped, but they expected to accompany their husbands to the Christmas Party. Vic's brother was a member of the Knights of Pythias, so he thought he might be able to engage the Pythian Sisters to cater the meal; for a more contemporary view of their magazine, see: <https://pythiansisters.org/documents/PSTJan2015.pdf>.

Since the Pythian Sisters had very little overlap with the Rebekahs, this didn't cause too much trouble (Brother Clancy's wife was the vocal exception). It was not possible in 1926 to isolate any date or group. Fraternalism was everywhere and most men who could afford it belonged to two or more organizations. The Odd Fellows was the largest organization, which created its own problems. New Jersey covers a fair amount of territory and every nook had an Odd Fellows lodge in 1926. There were five Odd Fellow Christmas Parties, three Rebekah Christmas parties and the New Jersey State PM/LAPM Christmas party all on December 18. Other weekend dates were just as bad.

In selecting the main course, Vic decided on ham. There was an abundance of pork in 1926 and he thought this would keep the price down. Ham was running \$0.22 per pound, this is the same as \$3.41 per pound today (with supply chain problems, you might have to pay that much). Vic was quoted \$1.25 for the banquet, the equivalent of \$19.37 today. He jumped on the offer and sold tickets for \$1.35 so that he could purchase favors for the table.

The Pythian Sisters wanted more if they used the Pythian Hall, so Vic had them use the IOOF hall. Alice was asked to purchase the favors, a thankless task. You can hear the comments now, "I don't need another candle" "Candy Canes are so childish" "Who drinks cocoa anymore" "I have a stocking for the mantle" etc. Vic would spend another night in the animal hospital after the banquet.

The Grand Master was invited to attend. He was also invited to four other Christmas parties and decided to visit a lodge in Pennsylvania to keep from being criticized for playing favorites. The best leadership Vic could muster was the District Deputy Grand Master, Charles Kelley, who was his first cousin. There was a barbershop quartet that was willing to sing for a free meal. The entertainment was adequate and drew little criticism.

Barney did not escape some duties, he was in charge of parking lot patrol. There had been rumors of a small animal or child pilfering loose items from cars in the parking lot. Barney put a stocking on his stable with the name Melchizedek written on it and put a lump of coal in it. It is believed that this may have brought about reprisals in the parking lot.

Brother Kelley was somewhat long-winded and Barney heard the remark that Santa would be coming soon, despite it being December 18. There has always been a tendency for Odd Fellows to speak at length. While many of you may enjoy all the enduring legends and exploits of our ancestors, the awe of our story can be dimmed by its repetition.

After the dinner, Barney directed the cars from the parking lot before returning home. Something had been smeared on his windshield. The prints looked like small paws or the hand of a child. After much examination, Barney determined that coal dust had been mixed with snow. He was suspicious of the origin, but kept an open mind.

The next Monday was the last day of school. An orphaned Monday is a terrible school day. None of the students wanted to be there. Several of the boys were carrying mistletoe in their pockets and Barney was not as concerned over the girls who were alarmed as he was of the ones who appreciated the attention. He had awakened to having his windshield covered with sooty water again and he was trying to figure out how to make peace with the raccoon; Elizabeth found a pumpkin pie that was shoved in a corner after Thanksgiving and she became the queen of raccoons, while Barney was happy to be ignored.

Barney asked his students to discuss their Christmas traditions which went fairly well. He did, however, rethink the wisdom of this when one of the children said they all got drunk on moonshine so they felt warm. Barney was glad to see the last student leave and get into his car (which was as clean as it was when he got to school that morning) to go home.

I don't think I gave you as much humor as I try to offer, but more a reminiscence. Think of the holidays when you were young and try to appreciate a simpler time. Perhaps next year will be better.

I always like to offer a little entertainment to end my column, listen to these Christmas songs: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EuBN3kp8_zc (ignore the commercials).

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.

SANDY LAKE LODGE #573

The first Monday night of Nov. Sandy Lake Lodge #573 invited Sarah M. Bowen Executive Director of, Promise of Life Network, to talk about their Programs that they are involved with before their regular meeting. At the end of talk Sandy Lake Lodge #573 gave Sarah a check for \$500.00. Sitting at table Sarah M. Bowen Executive Director, Susan Rodgers Noble Grand, Raymond Rodgers Secretary, standing up from left to right Clinton Kassi Treasurer, Jim Donley Vice Grand Left Supporter, Dewey Rearick Noble Grand Right Supporter, Jessica Bence Vice Grand Right Supporter, Faye Pleso Vice Grand, Robert Wilson Conductor, Don Pleso Chaplain, Shawne Balash Warden and not picture Beth Slater Financial Secretary.



KINGWOOD LODGE #1010 PICNIC A HUGE SUCCESS

Approximately 2,500 people came to the Kingwood IOOF 100th Picnic. There was 1,400 BBQ chicken dinner that was sold. Also included at the picnic live entertainment, craft vendors, petting zoo, bounce house and horse shoe pitching contest. The picnic was only cancelled three times, twice in WW2 and in 2020.



Front row left to right - Doug Close VG, DDGM Shawn Miller & Bill Young
Back row left to right - Allan Burnworth, Everett Sechler, Dave Tannehill & Josh Sechler

MINI WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S 2021

This year the Middletown Home was proud to host our first "Mini Walk to End Alzheimer's!" Our residents joined us for an afternoon of supporting and remembering those with Alzheimer's. The Walk to End Alzheimer's is a foundation that works to spread awareness and to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease. Every year there is a walk in Harrisburg at City Island where people gather to commemorate those who have Alzheimer's. For our "Mini Walk" our residents each got a flower which they would raise high in the air to recognize caregivers, individuals with Alzheimer's disease, and those supporting the cause. We took our "Mini Walk" around the building and then enjoyed Italian Ice from Sunset Slush. It was such a nice afternoon that we even decided to stay outside for Bingo! We are thankful to everyone who supported our team for this year's "Walk to End Alzheimer's" and we all are hoping and praying for a day when we can celebrate the end of Alzheimer's disease for good!



 Periodicals

OCTOBER DONATIONS

TUNNEL TO TOWERS

2	Unified	500.00
699	Tunkhannock	50.00
R123	Phoebe	<u>25.00</u>
		575.00

VISUAL RESEARCH

1128	Fallowfield	61.84
------	-------------	-------

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

1128	Fallowfield	61.84
1004	Hampton	<u>50.00</u>
		111.84

PA EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND

1128	Fallowfield	154.61
1004	Hampton	<u>50.00</u>
		204.61

Thank You!

Odd Fellow & Rebekah Association of Western PA,

I was selected for your scholarship. I am sincerely honored that you found me worthy of your esteemed scholarship. Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness. This funding has allowed me to impact my future career and prospects. Therefore, I will work hard to achieve success. Thank you again for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,
Christian W. Workman
Ken State University

Thank You!

All our Brothers & Sisters, Thank You very much for all your prayers, calls, cards & thoughts during our bout with Covid. We are feeling much better.

"May God's Angels Watch Over You Always"

Mary Leitzel, PP/RA

Ken Lupold