



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE



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July 2021

No. 7

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NEW You can also follow us on Instagram at @paoddfellows

CANTON ALLENTOWN HONORS THE DECEASED

On Memorial Day, Chevaliers of Canton Allentown No. 39, P.M., Sellersville, marched in the annual Tamaqua Memorial Day Parade. This year, we were honored to have our Department Commander, BG Bruce N. Torrence, march with us. Others who participated (left to right) BG[®] Justin C. Bailey, Maj William F. Hanby, Cpt Rory J. King, Cpt Tyler M. Arnold and Maj Nicole B. Inama. Following the parade, the Chevaliers stood guard at the Soldier's Circle Monument at Odd Fellows Cemetery during their program and wreath laying.

At the cemetery, members of Harmony Lodge #86, mainly PG Art Valentine, set up the tent and directed traffic for the spectators, as a large crowd of people gathered for the service and Members of the Rebekah Lodge and Friends of Odd Fellows Cemetery, Ashley Guscott, Jen Swett and Jamie Sanchez, passed out little American Flags and pamphlets for everyone. Though the weekend was miserable, it all paid off on Memorial Day, as we took some time to pay tribute to those who have gone before us.

Places to Go... People to See

JULY

24 / Odd Fellows Rally, Nazareth (pg#11)

OCTOBER

1&2 / Mt. Hor #736 150th Anniversary+ - rescheduled!
16 / PGP Laura Huchel Testimonial, Pittsburgh+

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 or 717-944-7419



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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:

YORK SPRINGS LODGE NO. 211
 Brett R. Otto - initiated May 20th

SHILLINGTON LODGE NO. 1175
 Brian S. Klee - reinstated. Welcome back!

LADY HARMONY REBEKAH LODGE NO. 86, TAMAQUA
 Jennifer J. Swett - initiated June 2nd
 Malynnda M. Everett
 Katie D. Arnold
 Michelle N. Wagner

LADY HALL REBEKAH LODGE NO. 202, NAZARETH
 Robin Angst - initiated May 17th

DESK OF THE GM



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

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

FINALLY!!! We are finally back on the road again. As more and more are receiving their vaccines.... lodges are beginning to open back up....and we are now able to travel and attend lodge meetings with brother and sisters!! I can not tell you what it means to me, as your Grand Master to be in lodges and taking part in the Ritualic work of our Order.

Since the April Spring Rally, I have started traveling, approximately 500 miles in the month of May, visiting lodges. It is good to be with brothers and sisters as they plan their work for the lodges. The pandemic never stopped lodges like Connoquenessing

Lodge #278 from finding ways to support the surrounding areas. The lodges are now busy planning picnics for their members... gathering scholarship applications...working on fund raisers such as golf outings; and instructing new members of the Odd Fellow's ways.

Visiting lodges, listening to the words in our ritualic charges; I realize that these are not just empty words, but words to live by.... charges as to how we all should pattern our lives by. Our fraternal organization have traditions going back more than 200 years; the same charges we recite today has been recited by Odd Fellows for the last 200 years. The degree work that we all learned the principles of our Order, has been taught to brothers and sisters before us. I have asked lodges which I have visited, "do you listen to the charges we say in our Opening? Do you really hear the words in our Valediction or are they just words spoken to get through the meeting? Stop, and really listen the next time you attend

a lodge meeting, these are beautiful words which was written and has lasted over 200 years and will continue another 200 years if we really pay attention and live by their meaning.

With the 49th Unified Session now being a good memory, it is time to get back to work in our lodges and in our communities. I am excited to begin, to spread the story of Odd Fellowship throughout Pennsylvania. Join with me in taking the principles of our order, Friendship, Love, and truth to the next level, as we "do our best work with modest pride and earnest faith" as we support one another and reach out to those in need. The pandemic is behind us, but the need is still all around us.

In Friendship, love, and truth

And,

Always with God's guiding hand,

Shirley J. Whittlinger.
Your Grand Master

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

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

30 YEARS

Theodore W. Bergfelt, #2
Clinton E. Bradney, #192

60 YEARS

Robert S. Morrell, #708

65 YEARS

Arthur G. Barnes, #573

170 YEARS

Jamison Lodge No. 447

175 YEARS

Norristown Encampment No. 37

DESK OF THE DGM

SUMMER IS UPON US

As the Pandemic seems to be loosening its grasp on our lives, I am reminded that with summer comes the outdoor activities of our children. Please remember to proceed with caution as you travel through the neighborhoods. Watch out for the kids on their bikes and skateboards and even the neighbors walking the streets. Let us all enjoy these new freedoms that have opened as this Pandemic seems to be subsiding.

The Grand Master and her officers have continued with traveling throughout the commonwealth. If your Lodge would like a visit from the Grand Master and staff don't wait for a request from her, pick up the phone or send an email requesting a visit and we will try to make arrangements, if it can be worked into a mutually agreed upon schedule. On a more personal note, don't let the Official uniform of the Grand Master and staff cause your lodge to be uneasy about a visit. We don't dress to offend anyone or to make members feel out classed. We dress in respect of the honor bestowed upon us as representatives of the office we have been elected to. We are aware of the issues that can cause discomfort when the Tuxedos appear.

And as always if there is anything that myself or any Grand Lodge Officer can do to assist you or your Lodge please feel free to ask.

Have a safe summer, and use your sun screen.

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

FREEDOM LODGE #88



Freedom Lodge #88 members Steve Martin, Nadine Hager, Paul Lautenschlager, Andrew Kilmer, Jessica Kilmer, Bert Terysen and Mike Kinzinger, participated in Honesdale's Memorial Day Parade.



SPRING CITY COMMUNITY DAY

Vincent Lodge #762 started their year of celebrating 150 years of community contributions, service and fun by handing out free fresh pretzels (in bags) and ice-cold water bottles on a very hot day at the Spring City Community Day.

Needless to say we were popular.

It was very successful. Almost 200 pretzels and 120 bottles of water. That meant at least 120 people stopped in and found out a bit more of IOOF.



Pictured are: George Reitnour, Stephen Boyko Jr, Michael Weiss Also attending was Michael Gennaria, Sue Grumblatt, Chris Grumblatt, Melissa Reitnour

MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE 2021 GRAVE-SITE VISITATIONS BY I.O.O.F. CHARLEROI LODGE #1030

On a rainy and overcast morning, Dennis Caldwell (NG) and Robert Grant (secty), and George Hogan (treas), members of the I.O.O.F., Charleroi Lodge #1030, were out early the Saturday preceding Memorial Day, happy and proud to once again perform their annual grave-site visitations. The morning started with a delicious breakfast at a local restaurant during which time they reminisced about their departed brothers, discussed the "game-plan" for the cemetery visits to follow, and discussed upcoming events which were being considered in the Lodge. This is one of the more gratifying services done by the Lodge because it not only pays tribute to many of their departed brothers, but also honors them for having faithfully served our country, and by having done

so, allows us to enjoy the freedoms we all enjoy today. The brothers visited approximately 40 grave sites located in five surrounding cemeteries: Charleroi, Monongahela, Maple Creek, Belle Vernon, and LaFayette. At each of the grave-sites, a "F.L.T." stake was placed, if needed, and topped with the up-dated commemorative red, white, and blue "In Memoriam - I.O.O.F." flag. Upon completion of the grave-site visitations, the brothers expressed a feeling of "a service well done" and were sincerely honored to have performed the duties of that morning. If any Lodge's have any extra flag holders they are willing to donate/sell, please contact the Grand Lodge office and they will get a hold of Charleroi Lodge.

BUSHKILL ENCAMPMENT #55: GRAND PATRIARCH LAURA HUCHEL'S VISIT

After a hearty dinner of pulled pork, cole slaw and chips at the lodge, Bushkill Encampment #55 of Sellersville met with the visiting Grand Patriarch, Laura Huchel, on her first time at Victory Lodge #658. A lot more had occurred than what was expected at the meeting: A check for a \$200 donation to the Merissa Frye Emergency Response Memorial Training Fund from Bushkill Encampment #55; Chief Patriarch Rory King received a belated 2019 Coming Together Award from Grand Patriarch Laura Huchel for 'Outstanding Performance in Promoting Odd Fellowship Through a Community Project'; and, Grand Patriarch Laura Huchel received two checks for \$150 for her 2021 project, The Polaris Project, a non-profit organization that assists victims of human trafficking and enslavement <https://polarisproject.org/> . Afterwards, we celebrated with a cake for dessert and fellowship.



LADY HARMONY INITIATES 4 REBEKAHS

On June 2nd, Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge #86, of Tamaqua, PA, initiated a class of four members, seated from left to right are Malynnda Everett, Jen Swett, Katie Arnold and Michelle Wagner (standing). Welcome to our new members!!



CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

The Odd Fellows Home of Western Pennsylvania Board of Directors in Meadville, PA., awarded Citizenship Awards of \$700 each during May and June to:

Continuing Education

- Matthew Bailor - Clearfield County and Career Center
- Christopher Connor - Erie Technical School
- Noah Dawson - Clarion County Career Center

School to Work Awards

- Joe Simmons - Jeff Tech
- Ryan Moyer - Venango Technology Center
- Hunter Seelinger - Warren County Career Center
- Koltin Kline - Clarion County Career Center

Individual School Awards of \$600 each were awarded to:

- Zachary Redmond - Johnsonburg High School
- Addy Derby - Corry Area High School
- Emma Swartzfager - Corry Area High School

Each recipient was selected by a school committee based on a "B" average in a technology field, involvement in school/community activities and acceptance to continuing education or employment.

The 2021 Board of Directors Memorial Awards of \$1,000 each were awarded to Christopher Conner of Erie and Hunter Seelinger of Warren.

ON THE ROAD WITH GRAND MASTER SHIRLEY J. WHITLINGER



The Grand Master was off and visiting in May. First stop, Connoquenessing Lodge #278 in Butler, PA. It is always a pleasure to visit with our brothers, Bill Watson, Rex Hurd, Ken Black, Al Walters and Dan Veith, NG. As always Dan led a good meeting and after the meeting, the lodge provided a light lunch with good fellowship. Accompanying the GM was J. Carl George, DGM; Shawn E. Miller, Grand Marshal; and Robert B. Ruff, Grand Warden, who also provided this picture.

Thank you, Connoquenessing for a great first visit!

Continuing on, we traveled to Rochester Mills, PA to visit the members of Alert Lodge #936. It was a perfect spring day, and perfect for traveling. We arrive at the lodge in time to enjoy the evening meal with the members. The fellowship around the table was also fun with many reminiscing of days gone by. It was a great day for Odd Fellowship with NG, Dave Hamilton leading a good meeting. Accompanying the GM, was J. Carl George, DGM; Shawn E. Miller, Grand Marshal; and Robert B. Ruff, Grand Warden, who again is not in the picture as he was behind the camera.

Alert Lodge, thank you for all your hospitality and for the great evening.



Traveling again, found the GM on her way to Falls Creek, PA to visit all the members at Falls Creek Lodge #957. It was another great day with perfect weather for another great night of Odd Fellowship. Falls Creek has taken in new members and is busy instructing all the principles of our Order. Along with the GM was J. Carl George, DGM, Robert B. Ruff, Grand Warden; Shawn E. Miller, Grand Marshal; David A. Young, PGM. This picture taken by J. Carl George.



Another visit in May was to Charleroi Lodge #1030 in Charleroi, PA. This was another great visit being with good friends and as always, with new friends. After the meeting, we enjoyed a light lunch and good fellowship before heading home. Grand Master Shirley J. Whitlinger was again accompanied by J. Carl George, DGM; Robert B. Ruff, Grand Warden; Shawn E. Miller, Grand Marshal; David A. Young, PGM; and John J. Dzyak, DDGM. Photo by DGM J. Carl George

Thank you, Charleroi Lodge, for all your hospitality.



ON THE ROAD WITH GM CONT.



June 1, 2021, we traveled to Smethport PA, to visit with the members of Smethport Lodge #389. To the surprise of the GM, members of Warren Lodge #339 traveled from Warren, PA to also visit. This was a great evening for Odd Fellowship in the north-west corner of our state. The meeting was led by NG, Troy Herzog, who also serves as the DDGM, and an extra bonus was the music provided by Shawn E. Miller. Accompanying the Grand Master on her trip to Smethport, was J. Carl George, DGM; Robert E. Ruff, Grand Warden; and Shawn E. Miller, Grand Marshal.

It is always a great evening being with good friends. I hope more lodges visit each other, as I am truly enjoying my visits!

SCOTT ENCAMPMENT #132

On Friday evening, June 4th, Scott Encampment #132 of Tamaqua entertained the Grand Encampment officers for the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. (sitting l to r) Joshua Guscott High Priest, William L. Ramsey, Jr Grand Marshal, Neil B. Thomas PGP (standing l to r) Sharon Stokes Sentinel, Laura L. Huchel Grand Patriarch, Nicole Inama Chief Patriarch and Dorothea Oertel PGP. Scott encampment, named after Tamaqua's Scott rifles, is entering into its 160th year of service to the community and is eligible through Odd Fellow membership



DO YOU REMEMBER?



(www.t2t.org) has reached out to our Jurisdiction to start planning different events as Frank Siller, brother of fallen Firefighter, Stephen Siller, makes his annual 42 day, 6 state, 500 mile pilgrimage from the Pentagon, to Shanksville, then to the World Trade Center. Many will remember the 2018 Grand Decoration of Chivalry Ceremony held at Shanksville, where the heroes that perished during Flight 93 were honored for their actions. It's time for us as an Order to step up again!

Shanksville, PA - August 21st and Hershey, PA - August 28th, both Saturdays. Frank Siller, will be making his way through these areas. There will be a walk from the Shanksville Fire House to the Flight 93 area, and then a larger parade August 28th in Hershey. Odd Fellowship in Pennsylvania felt we should step up and take a part in this as a sponsor. For that, we are looking to raise \$5,000 to memorialize this walk. If you look up the website, you can see all the wonderful things the Tunnel to Towers Foundation does for Firefighters, Military and gold-star families. More information will be forthcoming, but here's where we need you. If you are interested in supporting this, please send a check payable to "Grand Lodge of PA, IOOF" and mail it to the Grand Lodge office at 1001 West Harrisburg Pike, Middletown, PA 17057-4848, with T2T in the memo. Any excess money will go towards either their cookout they're having in Hershey, or directly as a donation for the programs they hold. If you send the money directly to the foundation, it will not be counted for our Order! A full report of the funds raised will be given to the branches that were involved in this.

Brothers, Sisters, Patriarchs, Chevaliers and Ladies, the heads of our Jurisdiction are asking for us all to step up and use this as a time to pay homage to those who stepped up to defend our freedom during this time. Please consider being a part of this.

Mail all checks made payable to: Grand Lodge of PA, IOOF and mail to 1001 West Harrisburg Pike, Middletown, PA 17057-4848

_____ Lodge/Enc/(LA)PM No. _____ is pleased

to contribute _____ to the Tunnel to Towers Foundation

JULY OBITUARIES

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

RAY E. FRIEDLINE
Somerset Lodge No. 438
February 16, 2021

Brother Ray E. Friedline, 96, of Somerset, PA, was initiated into Somerset Lodge No. 438 on May 8, 1950. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest tenured member.

He was a member of Christ Casebeer Lutheran Church.

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

Surviving is his wife, the former Jean Stutzman, two children, four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

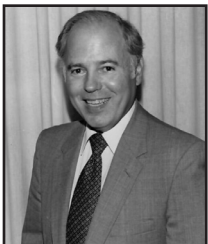
Burial was held in Somerset County Memorial Park.



GRANVILLE W. SANDRIDGE
Leesport Lodge No. 141
May 8, 2021

Brother Granville W. "Sandy" Sandridge, 90, of Leesport, PA, was initiated into Leesport Lodge #141 on March 14, 1966, where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree

November 7, 1970. He was a former Rebekah of Lady Colfax Rebekah Lodge #182, Leesport, joining as a charter member of January 24, 1970. He was a U.S. Army Korean War Veteran and was the Mayor of Leesport. He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Rose Gerhart. Burial was held in Leesport Cemetery.



DONALD A. CELASCHI
Charleroi Lodge No. 1030
May 14, 2021

Brother Donald A. Celaschi, 87, of Charleroi, PA, was initiated into Charleroi Lodge #1030 on January 13, 1987.

He was a member of St. Andrews the Apostle

Church Parish.

Surviving is his wife, the former Arlene Bogdan, two daughters, one son, six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Monongahela Cemetery.



MARTIN G. WILLIAMS
Brady Lodge No. 116
May 21, 2021

Brother Martin G. Williams, 83, of Muncy, PA, was initiated into Brady Lodge #116, Muncy, on May 17, 2014, where he became a Past Grand on October 4, 2017 and received his Grand Lodge

Degree April 7, 2018.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran and a member of Clarkstown United Methodist Church.

Surviving is one son, Marty Braim, also of Brady Lodge, two grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and his companion, Donna Barto.

Burial was held in Green Lawn Memorial Park, Montgomery, PA.



EUGENE BRAMBLE
Montgomery-Curtis-Norris Lodge
No. 57
Norristown Encampment No. 37
May 28, 2021

Brother Eugene "Bucky" Bramble, 86, of Collegeville, PA, was initiated into Montgomery-

Curtis-Norris Lodge #57, Norristown, PA, on April 27, 1987, where he became a Past Grand in 2004 and received his Grand Lodge Degree April 16, 2016. He was also a Past Chief Patriarch of Norristown Encampment #37, having joined November 23, 1987. He was the Lodge and Encampment's oldest living member as well as the Encampment's oldest tenured member, and served as the Lodge's Warden and Encampment's Junior Warden for many years.

He was preceded in death by one daughter. Surviving is his wife, the former Barbara Kriebel, one daughter, four grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and a brother-in-law, Robert Kriebel, also of Norristown's Lodge and Encampment.

A memorial will be held at a later date.

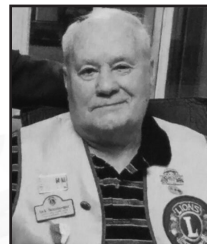
JOHN N. WALKER
Malvern-Pocahontas Lodge No. 201
May 30, 2021

Brother John N. Walker, 85, of Astatula, FL, was initiated into Malvern Lodge #201 on February 7, 1966.

He was a U.S. Air Force Veteran.

Surviving is his wife, the former Dorothy Smith, one son and one daughter.

Burial will be held at a later date.



JACK L. HEMMINGER
Somerset Lodge No. 438
June 1, 2021

Brother Jack L. Hemminger, 82 of Somerset, PA, was initiated into Somerset Lodge #438 on April 8, 1967, where he became a Past Grand.

He was a member of the Grace United

Methodist Church, Somerset, PA.

He was preceded in death by an infant daughter. Surviving is his wife, the former Martha Landis, three children, five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and his brother, Jay, also of Somerset Lodge.

Burial was held in Lavansville Cemetery, Somerset, PA.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT LYCOMING 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!



The community of Cammal, in McHenry Township, Lycoming County, was settled in 1820. In 1884, a post office was open and by the 1890s, three logging railroads came through here. Cammal Lodge #1001 was instituted around the same time, 1885. During this boom time, the town had stores, four hotels and saloons, four churches, and the Odd Fellows Hall, which sometimes doubled as a church, along with a newspaper. In 1905, timber dwindled and the town took a new focus. In 1946, Cammal Lodge went defunct. In 2002, the post office closed and a few businesses remain. Luckily though, the former Odd Fellows Hall, now the McHenry Township Community Center, still stands. (Some information taken from Wikipedia)

LYCOMING COUNTY:

- Cammal - Fedoria Rebekah Lodge #53 - defunct 1921
- Carmel - Fedora Rebekah Lodge #467 - defunct 1938
- English Centre - Marietta Rebekah Lodge #61 - defunct 1911
- Hughesville - Lady Hughes Rebekah Lodge #215 - defunct 2003
- Jersey Shore - Josephine Rebekah Lodge #6 - consolidated 1936
- Jersey Shore - Viola May Rebekah Lodge #73 - consolidated 1982
- McIntyre - Mountain Rose Rebekah Lodge #75 - defunct 1879
- Montgomery - Lady Wildey Rebekah Lodge #156 - defunct 1916
- Montgomery - Lora Rebekah Lodge #332 - consolidated 1955
- Montoursville - Celestia Rebekah Lodge #80 - defunct 1988
- Muncy - Pocahontas Rebekah Lodge #114 - defunct 1881
- Muncy - Lady Reverie Rebekah Lodge #416 - defunct 1971
- Newberry - Lady Iona Rebekah Lodge #403 - defunct 1948
- Oval - Lady Vivian Rebekah Lodge #498 - defunct 1925
- Ralston - Rosa Rebekah Lodge #46 - defunct 1899
- Ralston - Lady Langdon Rebekah Lodge #528 - consolidated 1978
- Trout Run - Winnetaska Rebekah Lodge #433 - defunct post 1930
- Unityville - Dorcas Rebekah Lodge #108 - defunct prior to 1898
- Williamsport - Olive Rebekah Lodge #11 - defunct 1882
- Williamsport - Maria Elizabeth Rebekah lodge #33 - defunct 1880
- Williamsport - Naomi Rebekah Lodge #52 - consolidated 1983
- Williamsport - Harriet Louisa Rebekah Lodge #145 - defunct 1922

22 Rebekah Lodges with 0 still active

1st Rebekah Lodge - Olive Rebekah Lodge #11 in 1869

Last Rebekah Lodge - Lady Hughes Rebekah Lodge #215 in 2003

26 Odd Fellow Lodges

Next Month Mercer County
Get your pictures and articles in now!

CHARLEROI LODGE #1030 HONORS CAHS STUDENTS FOR 2021

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.), Charleroi Lodge #1030, honored two Charleroi Area High School senior students during the school's Class of 2021 "Salute to Scholars" evening award presentations on Thursday, May 26, 2021. Each of the recipients was presented a plaque to serve as a remembrance of this special evening in recognizing their outstanding achievements during their educationally fulfilling years at CAHS. A \$1,500 monetary award was also sent to each student's university and placed into their respective account.

Pictured, from left to right, are Dennis Caldwell (NG & committee member), award recipients Delia McCurdy and Aspen Virgili, and Robert Grant (secty & committee chair). Delia, daughter of Sarah and Joseph McCurdy, will be attending Bethany College (Bethany, WV) to major in Psychology. Aspen, daughter of Raquel and Sean Virgili, will be attending the University of Pittsburgh (Greensburg Campus) to major in Nursing. On behalf of the I.O.O.F. Charleroi Lodge #1030, the Scholarship Awards Committee wishes Delia and Aspen many happy, healthy, and educationally fulfilling years at their respective institutions of higher learning.



THE TREASURER'S TALES

JULY 2021

We have been following Barney's exploits on a month by month basis and we are now at July 1926. For those of you who are new to our serial, Barney Welles is a mythical Odd Fellow who lives in Grover's Mill, New Jersey. Grover's Mill was the site of the Martian invasion of 1938, see https://waroftheworlds.fandom.com/wiki/Grovers_Mill,_New_Jersey. Barney was a veteran of World War I, a tenth through twelfth grade English teacher and a farmer. He was a faithful Odd Fellow and most of his exploits had connections with the Order. All the characters and events in the story are fictional.

July 4, 1926 was Independence Day and it fell on Sunday. July 1926 was a notable month in history. On July 9, Chiang Kai-shek was appointed revolutionary supreme commander in China; on July 10, Lake Denmark, New Jersey arsenal explodes, killing 21, with \$75million in damage; on July 16, National Geographic takes its first color, underwater photographs; on July 22, Cincinnati Reds right fielder Curt Walker ties the National League record of 2 triples in one inning in a 13-1 trouncing of the Boston Braves (before they went to Milwaukee); on July 10, Fred Gwynne, actor (Car 54 Where Are You, Munsters), was born in NYC, New York (d. 1993); on July 21, Paul Burke, actor (Naked City, Thomas Crown Affair, 12 o'clock High), born in New Orleans, Louisiana (d. 2009); and on July 25, Cuban president Fulgencio Batista (25) weds Elisa Godínez y Gómez (25), Batista was overthrown in 1959 by Fidel Castro.

George Pratt had advanced to Noble Grand and, had planned the picnic the previous year, because the Vice Grand was in charge of planning the picnic. The current Vice Grand was Robert Clancey, nephew of the oft-mentioned Clancey. Robert broke his leg on June 14 while repairing the town flag pole. He begged off planning the picnic. George thought that the job should go to someone with experience, but he wanted to be fair. He put the names of the members in a hat and had Vic draw the name of the picnic chairman out. It was Barney, the lodge secretary. Two weeks later, when he was burning the trash, Barney discovered his name was on every slip of paper, but it was too late to object as the picnic was over.

Barney wanted to have something different, so he decided on a hog roast. He and his father had a bumper crop of hogs and they harvested a large one. The pig was in the ground by 8:00 am and Elizabeth and her mother, Alice, were making a special barbecue sauce. Honey, brown sugar, homemade tomato paste, garlic, onions and other spices were in the mix. Woody and John (Elizabeth's younger brothers) thought it would be interesting to add some moonshine to the mix. While Elizabeth and her mother were in the front room checking on Schuyler and Rebekah (Barney and Elizabeth's children) Woody and John spiked the sauce. After cooking for two hours, most of the liquor had evaporated but the sauce had a different taste. Alice kept adding more brown sugar to get the taste right.

Barney and Vic supervised the arrangement of the picnic tables. There was one large table reserved for the hog. It was on a pole for "easy" transport. The carcass weighed in at a hefty 153 pounds. The anticipated crowd was only 115 people, so there was over one pound per person. Clancey felt bad since his nephew chickened out, so he had his wife bake 15 dozen rolls (this was before women were liberated.) George Pratt made 20 gallons of homemade root beer. Barney made 25 gallons of iced tea. Everyone brought a covered dish. The tables were groaning from the weight of the food.

The large table was covered with three layers of newsprint. The hog was pulled at high noon. Barney was slicing it down and giving each person a generous portion as they walked by. He noticed two of the boys, around 8 years old, were going through the line multiple times. He asked Vic to follow them. One boy was in the parking lot, feeding the usual suspect. Melchizedek

apparently had a love of pork. Vic ended lunch for the friendly raccoon and brought the boy back to the picnic. He asked him about the other boy and was told that he was feeding a stray cat in the woods, because it had kittens.

Vic scouted for ten minutes and found the other boy, George Pratt's grandson. He was on the edge of the woods calling, "here kitty, kitty." By the time Vic arrived at the edge of the woods, his fears were completely realized, the black and white cat was actually a mother skunk with six kittens. If Vic had not been a veterinarian, he might have blown the picnic. He got Jimmy Pratt to throw all the pork he had behind a log and run back to the picnic grove. No skunk followed. George gave his grandson a major scolding.

Vic settled down to finish his pork. He thought Alice had done a fine job on the sauce, he couldn't remember when it had such a fine, sweet tang. He was using more sauce than normal and began to think it was having an effect on him.

When Barney got around to eating, he was the last one. There was a lot of pork and most other items left. The red velvet cake and blackberry pie were gone. So was the barbecue sauce, so he put mustard on his pork sandwich. He enjoyed it all.

Games followed lunch, with the three legged race and egg balancing contest keeping the children busy. Barney was more cautious than most. He supplied the eggs and hard boiled them before taking them to the picnic.

A baseball game finished the afternoon. Ice cream was made during the game by the non-players and it was eaten after the game. Barney decided there would be no speeches or similar ceremony, just the prizes for the children's games. He bought cap guns for prizes. Usually the boys won all the games, but a girl won the egg balancing contest. Barney didn't know if she would want the cap gun, but she accepted it with great enthusiasm.

Fireworks, noise makers, cap guns and other disturbances created a situation that adults tried to avoid. In peacetime, it sounded like a war. This was the middle of the roaring twenties and there was more roar than the older members liked.

As he was packing his Model T, Barney reflected with Elizabeth on the events of the day. Their family had been together and enjoyed the 150th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. He remembered how the founding fathers brought forth a new nation. President Calvin Coolidge addressed the American People and spoke at great length. I believe one paragraph captures the essence of his purpose: "It is not so much, then, for the purpose of undertaking to proclaim new theories and principles that this annual celebration is maintained, but rather to reaffirm and reestablish those old theories and principles which time and the unerring logic of events have demonstrated to be sound. Amid all the clash of conflicting interests, amid all the welter of partisan politics, every American can turn for solace and consolation to the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States with the assurance and confidence that those two great charters of freedom and justice remain firm and unshaken. Whatever perils appear, whatever dangers threaten, the Nation remains secure in the knowledge that the ultimate application of the law of the land will provide an adequate defense and protection."

Enjoy the Fourth of July and the blessings of freedom with best wishes from the Grand Treasurer.

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.

MIDDLETOWN HOME

Happy Mother’s Day from the Middletown Home! We were thrilled to be able to host our annual Mother’s Day Brunch this year. For health and safety purposes, the event was held outside. We were a little worried about the weather, but despite a chill in the air, it turned out to be a great morning for our event! Families and friends were able to spend time with their loved ones while enjoying the wonderful music and the delicious food! The music this year was provided by one of our favorite bands, “No Last Call.” As always they put on a spectacular show! People were tapping their toes and grooving to the music! Everyone could not stop talking about the food! Our kitchen did an incredible job making a variety of sandwiches and wraps, as well as yogurt and granola parfaits, and chocolate covered strawberries. Our compliments to the chefs—everyone loved it! This year we had 500 flower baskets for sale, and they were beautiful. We want to thank everyone who came to support us this year and we also want to thank all of the hard-working staff who made it such a success. We are looking forward to more events this summer where we can bring our residents and their families together for lots of fun and festivities!



SUMMER 2021 RALLY



**Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Pennsylvania
Summer 2021 Rally
July 24th, 2021**



Proudly held in Aluta Hall, Bushkill Center, PA

BRING YOUR CANDIDATES! It’s that time of the year to start getting your plans made for the Summer Rally! The location is Aluta Hall, home of Aluta Lodge No. 488, 1068 Bushkill Center Road, Nazareth, PA 18064. There will be a registration of \$1.00 per person attending, including candidates.

**Lodge will open at 9:30AM
1st Degree – 11:30AM
GL Degree – 1:30PM
3rd Degree – 3:00PM**

**Initiatory Degree – 10:00AM
Lunch – 12:30
2nd Degree – 1:45PM
3:45PM Introduction of Dignitaries & Closing the Lodge.**

Lunch will be provided, cost to be determined. As restrictions are now easing and Lodges are starting to meet again, we have found a large number of candidates and members needing degree work. Let’s make this a rally to remember! Please come out and support Odd Fellowship! It will be a day worth coming down and even brushing up on the degrees! Please, even if you do not have any candidates, support this by

attending. There are always a few parts that need to be filled. If you are willing to help, please get in contact with the Grand Lodge Office as soon as possible. The better we as a Jurisdiction look, the more impressed the candidates will be. Also, do not forget your “Request for Degree” slips. If your Lodge does not have any, they are available at the Grand Lodge office. Try and get there earlier so we can get the candidates signed in and start on time.

Periodicals

MAY DONATIONS

MAY IS VISUAL MONTH

VISUAL RESEARCH		ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION	
306	Walker 400.00	2	Unified 100.00
278	Connoquenessing 100.00		
2	Unified 50.00		CAMP JRA
116	Brady 50.00	R497	Nakomis 100.00
658	Victory 50.00		
936	Alert 50.00		PA SCHOLARSHIP FUND
R86	Lady Harmony 50.00	2	Unified 100.00
R182	Lady Colfax 50.00	471	Rush 50.00
591	Shenandoah 25.00	658	Victory <u>50.00</u>
699	Tunkhannock 25.00		200.00
R173	Letitia Penn 25.00		
C1	Philadelphia 25.00		PA EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT
C39	Allentown <u>25.00</u>	1004	FUND Hampton 50.00
	925.00		
PA SPECIAL VISUAL			
87	Hopkins 1,000.00		
270	Mystic 750.00		
306	Walker 400.00		
278	Connoquenessing 100.00		
361	Strasburg 100.00		
1004	Hampton 100.00		
2	Unified 50.00		
55	Fred R. Korman 50.00		
348	Clover 50.00		
658	Victory 50.00		
936	Alert 50.00		
R86	Lady Harmony 50.00		
C39	Allentown <u>25.00</u>		
	2,775.00		

To All Members and Lodges,

I am happy to announce my charity during my year as Grand Master will be Make-A-Wish. An organization which works to grant children with critical illnesses their wishes. Make-A-Wish, Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia serves 57 counties across Pennsylvania and the entire state of West Virginia. They grant more than 700 wishes each year, with the average wish being approximately \$4,000.00.

As in past Grand Master's years, my pin, the "Lighthouse" will be sold at \$3.00 with all proceeds going towards my charity. Donations will also be accepted. My goal this year is to provide a child with his or her wish.

Donations can be made by sending it to me using the address above. It will be deposited in a saving account until the end of my term in June 2022 when all proceeds will be given to Make-A-Wish.

*In Friendship, Love, & Truth,
Shirley J. Whitlinger
Your Grand Master*