



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE



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No. 6

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NEW You can also follow us on Instagram at @paoddfellows

All roads head to Harrisburg. Best wishes to our Branch Heads at Unified Session!!

DEGREES CONFERRED AT DAVID O. WHITLINGER MEMORIAL RALLY

On April 17th, Fallowfield Lodge No. 1128 of Atlantic, PA, paid host to the Spring Rally in Memory of our Grand Master David O. Whitlinger. One person was initiated, and seven members went through the three degrees. Afterwards, 6 Past Grands and Past Noble Grands were admitted to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Shirley Whitlinger was then installed as Pennsylvania's Grand Master, and J. Carl George was installed as Deputy Grand Master. All in all, about 50 members were in attendance.



Places to Go... People to See

JUNE

12 / Kingwood Lodge #1010 Chicken Drive
Through BBQ 11:00AM

19-23 / 49th Annual Unified Session, Harrisburg

OCTOBER

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

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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SOCIAL MEDIA MILESTONE

This past April, The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Facebook celebrated a milestone when we received our 1,000th follower! Be sure to tell your friends and family about us! Here's to the next 1,000!



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

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

25 YEARS

Thomas R. Elliott, #1152

30 YEARS

John A. Graziano, #541

55 YEARS

Richard A. Riffert, #306
Robert G. Smedley, #306

70 YEARS

William C. Goodwin, #1128

75 YEARS

Lady Worth Rebekah Lodge No. 328,
Sandy Lake

175 YEARS

Valley Encampment No. 34, Newburg

COME VISIT THE GRAND MASTER

Grand Master Whitlinger has scheduled the following visits for June. I am sure she would appreciate seeing you there.

1 - Smethport Lodge #389 OV - 6:00PM

11 - Consolidation - #371 w/ #471 @ CASS Center - 6:00PM

13 - Clover Lodge #348 Golf Outing, Blackhawk golf course

19 - 23 - Unified Session, Harrisburg

26 - OF & Reb Assoc of W. PA, Hoss's Grove City - 12:00PM

DESK OF THE GM



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

Greetings Brothers

and Sisters,

It is time again, to be thinking about my first message as your Grand Master. This is my opportunity to communicate to every Brother and Sister throughout Pennsylvania; my opportunity which came quicker than I thought it would, as I was installed in April. I realized that maybe there are some that do not know me so may I take this June message to introduce myself. I am, Shirley J. Whitlinger, On April 26, 2011, I, along with David, was initiated into Hampton Lodge #1004. I will always remember the meeting and the date as that was how I celebrated a birthday, being told about a tradition of "riding a goat"!! I continued my Odd Fellow journey by joining the Ambridge Encampment #259 on June 13, 2016; Lady Worth Rebekah Lodge #328 on August 3, 2016 and was charter member of Canton Allegheny #3. Ten years later, I have the honor to be serving as your Grand Master, following again in David's footsteps. What an incredible journey, a family tradition, as my father and grandfather were both Odd Fellows and my grandmother was a Rebekah...a tradition I am proud to continue. We had a great spring rally on April 17, 2021 with 43 Odd Fellows coming together at Fallowfield Lodge #1128 in Atlantic, PA. Six new members received their degrees and nine past grands receiving the Grand Lodge degree. It was a great day for Odd Fellowship. It was great, taking part in the degree work and I hope that we can have another rally again in the East, (or maybe a few more times though out the State) during my term.

Fallowfield Lodge #1128, honored Timothy Osborn who is a member and currently serving as the lodge's secretary with the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Merit Jewel. The jewel is given to a member for outstanding or exceptional service on behalf of the lodge. It was my pleasure and honor as DGM to present the Merit Jewel to Tim for a job well done.

As we look forward to the year ahead of us; as more and more receive their COVID-19 vaccines; and as the guidelines begin to improve, there is work that we, as Odd Fellows need to do. It is time to return to our lodges and to Session this June. We need to continue the work before us as Odd Fellows by helping those in need in our communities. It is also time for us to start reconnecting socially and what better way to do this but to join me at our Unified Sessions. Our Unified Session Committee has been working with the Red Lion Hotel to have the 49th Unified Session with the goal of keeping all in attendance safe. What better way to get our Order back on track!!

As I said in past messages, David loved our Order, and he was proud to serve the Odd Fellows as your Grand Master. David reached out to all in Friendship, Love and Truth as he told the Odd Fellow story by his words and actions. Sometimes actions speak louder than words! He was looking forward to the 49th Unified Session but unfortunately, it was not meant to be. I want to tell all, as David did, the Odd Fellow story!!

Being installed on April 17th, I am honored to serve as your Grand Master. I hope to see you, my brothers, and sisters at the 49th Unified Session June 19th through June 23rd.

In Friendship, love, and truth

And,

Always with God's guiding hand,

Shirley J. Whitlinger.
Your Grand Master

DESK OF THE DGM

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES

What a short, or rather what a long year it has been. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the Grand Lodge officers were asked to retain their positions for an extra term. With the extension of our terms and the lack of a unified session due to the CDC regulations regarding social distancing much has transpired. First we have learned how to properly wash our hands and to wear a face cover when in public. We have been asked to maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet and to only travel when absolutely necessary. As a vaccine has become available we can now choose to get vaccinated or refuse if we desire. I personally have chosen to be vaccinated, if only to help open up some of the restrictions imposed by the government.

I was able to attend and participate in several big events through this Pandemic. A new Canton was instituted back in July of 2020 and sadly we consolidated Edinboro Lodge #510 into Fallowfield Lodge #1128 in January of this year. The most notable event was the passing on March 13th of this year of my mentor and friend Grand Master David O. Whitlinger.

It is always sad to lose a friend and doubly sad when you then must follow the tenets of our Order "to bury the dead". I want to thank the brothers and sisters that attended and assisted me in performing our last and most sacred duty for our Grand Master. As we bid "farewell good and faithful servant", until we meet again.

It was the Grand Master's wish that we hold a spring degree rally if at all possible. With the help and consent of Fallowfield Lodge #1128 that rally was held on 17 April 2021, at Talbot Hall in Atlantic PA. A big thank you to the members of Fallowfield for the hospitalities shown to all during the rally. Thanks to Noble Grand Bob Martin and Secy. Tim Osborn for coordinating the lodge room set up and particularly the members who handled feeding approximately 45-50 Odd Fellows. For those who have never been to Fallowfield Lodge when they are serving dessert you don't know what you are missing. The homemade pies are to die for.

I would like to thank all the members who traveled for their degrees. There were brothers and sisters who received the necessary obligations to obtain the third degree in Odd Fellowship. We also had several Past Grands

that received their Grand Lodge Degree.

As a duly obligated member of the Grand Lodge a member is entitled if so choosing to progress through the chairs and if elected become a Grand Master. Even if a member of the Grand Lodge does not desire to progress further up the ladder they are still eligible to cast votes during regular meetings of Grand Lodge. Let your voice be heard.

And the final task at the rally was too officially install Deputy Grand Master Shirley J. Whitlinger as the newest Grand Master of the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. I hope that we can all support our new Grand Master as she continues the work of the order, following in David's footsteps.

With our new Grand Master officially installed and Pandemic restrictions lessening it is time to look forward. Our next big event, hopefully will be the Unified Session.

As the Unified Session Committee tries to maneuver around the most current guidelines and restrictions we must hope that the session can go on in June. I am assured that session will take place in some fashion albeit in some way different than in the past.

The Grand Lodge board as a whole believe that we need to get the cobwebs off our chairs and start meeting in person while following the social distancing guidelines. I for one need the socialization that comes with personal face to face live meetings, even if it means 6 feet apart and face coverings. Sure beats the heck out of virtual meetings.

However, should any brother or sister wish not to participate in session due to fears of the Pandemic be assured that no one will be, or should they be, offended by your choice. If you feel up to participating with the proper guidelines in effect, please come and help make this session a success.

With the state delivering more and more vaccines the hope is that many of the restrictions will be lifted or at least raised to a number more conducive to larger gatherings. Wouldn't it be nice if all who wanted to were inoculated by June and a more normal lifestyle could be held?

Let us continue in the work of our departed Grand Master to lead by example, "to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead and educated the orphan.

Hoping to see all at the Unified session, J. Carl George, PGW now DGM

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

HARMONY LODGE NO. 86, TAMAQUA

Gene Blaukowitch - initiated April 14th
Brandon Mooney

BRADY LODGE NO. 116, MUNCY

Richard L. DeMarte - reinstated April 21st. Welcome back!

CLOVER LODGE NO. 348, AMBRIDGE

Stephen M. Kusnir - initiated March 17th
J. P. Wetzel

NUCLEUS LODGE NO. 377, FINLEYVILLE

Brian Wise - initiated March 2nd

ALMA LODGE NO. 523, JOHNSTOWN

Austin S. Hoffman - initiated April 17th

OSAGE LODGE NO. 712, LEHMAN

Anthony Kowalczyk - initiated April 14th
Mason Little
Zachary A. Audia
Michael P. Barlow

ASKAM LODGE NO. 899, SUGAR NOTCH

William J. Hagan - initiated May 3rd

KINGWOOD LODGE NO. 1010, MARKLETON

Nathan Enos - initiated May 6th
Shane Phillippi
Terry Phillippi

LADY WORTH REBEKAH LODGE NO. 328, SANDY LAKE

Shawne D. Balash - initiated April 24th
Art McCutchen
Joseph N. Alessio

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

Fraternal Greetings! I'm glad to see Lodges start waking up again across the Jurisdiction! The pandemic, coupled with the harsh winter we had really set us back. I am glad to see page two filled with new members, and not only new members, but new members from Lodges that haven't initiated anyone in quite awhile. Another thing I am impressed with, as you'll see with Fallowfields' picture of their new members, as well as several other new members I have met, there are a lot of younger members coming into our Order again.

I hope you have been listening to our two podcasts, The Three Links Odd Cast, and the Modern Goat Rider, they have been valuable tools throughout this pandemic. I will direct you to Episode 29 of the Modern Goat Rider, wherein the two podcasts had a crossover episode. One of the speakers, Ainslie, of Tuscola, IL, is a younger person, such as myself. I have been to dozens of meetings throughout the state, and many people say the same thing, "Young people just aren't interested in Lodge." He has heard the same thing, and what he said resonated with me. He pretty much stated whoever came up with that "excuse" spread that nasty rumor that has plagued this organization for 70+ years. Because of this excuse, Lodges do not even attempt to recruit anyone under the age of 50, but the question begs to differ, what do we have to offer to those under the age of 50? From the automobile, to TV, to computers, now to phones, the older generations state that these are reasons for younger generations

not getting involved in Odd Fellowship. Even now, my Lodge had to cancel a cemetery walking tour because there was no community participation. The first comment was from an older lady, "I blame the younger generation! Too much electronics and not enough fresh air or church!" We're condemning the younger people before they are given a chance to thrive. And God help us all if one of these "younger people" do join our order. Instead of being welcomed with open arms, they are scolded that things are not the way they used to be, and the rules they must follow if they want to stay in the Lodge. I had a person petition to join a Lodge in this Jurisdiction through our website. I actually had a phone call during their meeting, where the secretary flat out asked me, "Why does he want to join? What does he want to do with us?" That mindframe is a good reason that member left the Lodge a year later.

Without continuing my rant, what Brother Ainslie stated though was the fact, as we are past 200 years of Odd Fellowship now, you better believe in that first 100 years, the Lodges did in fact change also with the times. We must do the same! We need to give something for new members to come in to, other than hear five old guys talk about their ailments and how their community isn't supporting them any more. I encourage you all to put a positive spin on your Lodge. Instead of telling new members what the Lodge used to do, tell them what can be done if we rebuild again, and support these new members! New blood is the key to a future. This does not mean

the old blood is worthless. Give them your knowledge. Let them know the rich history in your Lodge and what it means to be an Odd Fellow. Explain the deeper meanings to the degrees. It's not just a TV show to watch. Go through the full opening and closing; it's what sets us apart.

There is interested youth out there. There are younger men and women looking for an identity, looking for something positive, looking for something to do. They want to be part of something larger than them and are sick of social media and social instability. They are looking for physical meeting, physical interaction. Let's be there for them. We do not need to change the way we run a meeting, or how we do our degrees, but put some effort in to it. Ask them what they would like to get out of being an Odd Fellow and make them feel like they are part of the Lodge. Give them a chair to fill and don't let them just sit on the sidelines, but educate them on how a Lodge runs. Work together for the future!

That's enough of my ranting for now, but I hope you got something out of it. At the end of the day, you have to enjoy being an Odd Fellow and should enjoy going to Lodge. If you're not, you're doing something wrong! I hope to see you this month at Unified Session and hope we can set up the right tracks for a solid future.

See you on the road of Odd Fellowship.
Justin C. Bailey, Grand Secretary

KINGWOOD LODGE INITIATES MEMBERS

Thursday night, May 6th, Kingwood Lodge #1010 initiated 3 new members. Welcome Nathan Enos, Terry Phillippi and Shane Phillippi.



FREEDOM LODGE SUPPORTS COMMUNITY

Freedom Lodge 88 Presenting Reverend Ed and Sue Erb with a gift of appreciation for their years of dedicated service to the great Honesdale Area. The Reverend and Sue are moving on to serve the people of Wellsboro.



65 YEARS OF ODD FELLOWSHIP

Brady Lodge No. 116, Muncy - Fred Fiester 95 years old of Nordmont Pa. was honored for 65 years of odd fellowship service last night at our regular monthly meeting. Pictured Nobel Grand Grand Rodney Phillips, (back left to right, Warden Kaydee Miller and Vice Grand Donna Weimer.

Brother Fiester was initiated into Sonestown Lodge #221, in 1955, where he became a Past Grand. He became a member of Hughesville Lodge #331 through consolidation on July 13, 1960 and finally Brady Lodge #116 through consolidation on May 24, 1985. He's the last surviving member of both #221 and #331 still affiliated with the Order, and the last surviving Odd Fellow from the Sullivan County Lodges. Congratulations on 65 years!



JAMISON LODGE HOLDS FIRST PHYSICAL MEETING SINCE COVID

Due to the pandemic, members of Jamison Lodge #447 were holding meetings via social media to keep their members current on the Lodge's events. In April, they were finally able to get together outside the Lodge hall to see each other again.



LINDA GARNER RETIRES AFTER 53 YEARS OF SERVICE

Join us in congratulating Linda Garner! She is retiring after 53 years of dedication to Orchard Manor. The team threw her a surprise party to celebrate her retirement.

Retirement is not the end of the road. It is the beginning of the open highway. We wish you nothing but happiness and fun as you embark on this new journey.

~ From Orchard Manor



FALLOWFIELD LODGE #1128 ON THE MOVE

Fallowfield Lodge recently initiated 7 Brothers, all who joined March 2021. Fourteen members of their Lodge are all related: Hornes, Osborns Matola

Shown from left to right: Marshall Horne, Seth Osborn, Carter Osborn, Griffen Osborn, Owen Matola, Dawson Osborn and Adam Horne



Recently, Fallowfield Honored longtime member, Hugh Shields, in a 70-year pin celebration. Right side of the picture is John Redfoot. Both members are PDDGM's. Hugh's wife Virginia is our Sister Rebekah and been a member for 69 years.



DAYS GONE BY - 75 YEARS 1946

Menorah Lodge #144 was formed January 7, 1926 from a consolidation of several Lodges. On January 13, 1985, they consolidated to form Bridesburg-Menorah Lodge #37, finally three years later, in 1988, they consolidated with Ivy-Roxborough Lodge #295 to form Variety Lodge #37. In 1946, when the picture was taken, their hall was 1229-1231 North 6th Street, Philadelphia.



A. Max Munzel Selected To Place Floral Wreath on Unknown Soldier Tomb

Wangum Lodge No. 448, of Hawley, consolidated September 14, 1981 with Freedom Lodge No. 88, of Honesdale.



A. MAX MUNZEL

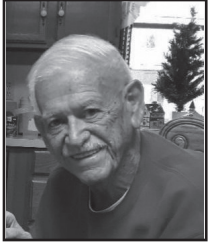
A. Max Munzel, Hawley manufacturer and Grand Guardian of the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., of Pennsylvania, and a member of Wangum Lodge, No. 448, I. O. O. F., at that place, has again been honored. He received the appointment from Franklin B. Hosbach, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., of Pennsylvania, to attend the Annual Pilgrimage, June 2, to place a floral wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Munzel has been active in the Order for many years and is one of its best-known members throughout the State.

— Honesdale News.

MAY OBITUARIES

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



ROBERT S. HOCH, SR.
Triune Lodge No. 307
April 12, 2021

Brother Robert S. Hoch, Sr., 91, of the Middletown Home, was initiated into Triune Lodge #307, Middletown, PA, on July 16, 1991. He was a U.S. Army Veteran.

He was preceded in death by one son and one grandson. Surviving is his wife, the former Pearl Stepp, five children, eight grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Burial was held in Hillsdale Cemetery, Middletown.

EUGENE H. BARNES
Mt. Hor Lodge No. 736
April 20, 2021

Brother Eugene H. Barnes, 82, of Calvin, PA, was initiated into Mt. Hor Lodge No. 736, Cassville, PA, on November 28, 2003, where he became a Past Grand on October 23, 2009 and received his Grand Lodge Degree April 23, 2010.

He was a U.S. Veteran.

Surviving is his wife, Dorothy, of Lady Evelyn Rebekah Lodge #22, Cassville, and children.



CHARLOTTE E. DICKIE
Mon Valley Rebekah Lodge No. 82
April 26, 2021

Sister Charlotte E. (Muntan) Dickie, 93, of Cranberry Township, PA, was initiated into Mon Valley Rebekah Lodge #82, Finleyville, PA, on July 3, 1993, where she became a Past Noble Grand and received her Rebekah Assembly

Degree October 26, 2002. At the time of her death, she was the Lodge's oldest living member.

She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Monongahela.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William. Surviving are three sons, one daughter, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Monongahela Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made to Mon Valley Rebekah Lodge #82, 3684 Finley-Elrama Road, Finleyville, PA 15332.



KENNETH M. STRAUSSER
Walker Lodge No. 306
Perseverance Encampment No. 135
April 27, 2021

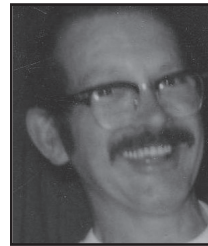
Brother Kenneth M. Strausser, 66, of Philadelphia, PA, was initiated into Walker Lodge #306, Philadelphia, on November 19, 1979, where he became a Past Grand April 7,

1986. He became a Patriarch of Perseverance Encampment #135 on May 13, 1988 and becoming a Past Chief Patriarch October, 1993. He held associate membership in Variety Lodge #37, Philadelphia, having joined January 16, 2002. He was active in the Walker Lodge Installation and Degree Team and was Santa for many years for the Holiday events. He also was active with the Pilgrimage for Youth and served both Walker and Variety Lodges as Secretary for several years.

He was a U.S. Air Force Vietnam War Veteran.

He is survived by his wife, the former Nancy Byrne, two daughters, one son, two grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, one brother, PGM Joseph Strausser, also of Walker Lodge and two sisters, one being Lillie Panichelli of Letitita Penn Rebekah Lodge #173, Philadelphia.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge and in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Grand Lodge of PA.



DONALD D. DEE
Connoquenessing Lodge No. 278
April 28, 2021

Brother Donald D. Dee, 89, of Cochranon, PA, was initiated into Lawrenceburg Lodge #782, Parkers Landing, PA, on March 26, 1954. He then became a member of Connoquenessing Lodge #278, Butler,

through consolidation on September 12, 1978.

He was of the Methodist Faith.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Doris. Surviving is one son and one daughter.

Burial was held in Perryville Cemetery.



RALPH R. VERY
Rush Lodge No. 471
Calvin C. Halsey Encampment #32
Canton Allenton No. 39
May 3, 2021

Brother Ralph R. Very, 75, of Fairdale, PA, was initiated into Rush Lodge #471, Lawton, on August 1, 1964, where he became a Past Grand

April 19, 1993 and received his Grand Lodge Degree April 16, 2016. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's Right Supporter to the Vice Grand. He was president of the Rush Hall Association and at the time of his death, was the Lodge's oldest tenured member. Ralph was a proud third generation Odd Fellow. He became a charter Patriarch of Calvin C. Halsey Encampment #32, Lawton, and at the time of his death was the Encampment's Junior Warden.. He was a Chevalier of Canton Allentown #39, Patriarchs Militant, Sellersville, having been mustered November 17,

2016 and holding active membership with the rank of Lieutenant. Last month, he was nominated as Commandant, to be installed in July.

He was a U.S. Navy Veteran.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Marlene Gamble. Surviving is his son, Russell, also of Rush Lodge and Calvin C. Halsey Encampment, one daughter and five grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge and burial was held in Fairdale Cemetery.

A TRIBUTE TO KENNY

Kenny was a proactive doer and always willing to participate in any activity to create positive change. But when he spoke others listened because they knew, "He walked the Talk." By drawing on his vast number of years as an active member, he frequently proposed a personal message in hope to guide and council the lodge to a positive solution as other elders had done many times at Walker Lodge. Kenny was always there when called upon to go the extra mile, whether it was committee work, investigating new candidates, degree work, installation staff work, visiting the sick and other fraternal works.

It's difficult to capture all the milestones, achievements, accomplishments and self-sacrificing efforts he had given to the Order over his Odd Fellowship years. But one thing is obvious he derived great satisfaction in giving of himself for the needs of others. I am sure there are many more such stories of unselfish dedication to works of Odd Fellowship that each of our members that knew him could add.

Finally, if one were to ask "Who was Brother Kenny *Strausser*?" I would reply. He was many things to many people: a loving husband, a caring Father, one who without need of recognition performed acts of good will and charity to others. And unknowingly to the children at the Walker Lodge Kids Christmas Party, Kenny was Santa Clause for many years. And, ultimately, he was our friend and "True Odd Fellow."

In summary: We are all aware that nothing lasts forever. An inscription on one of the great pyramids states, "Even this shall pass away." Given these words of wisdom, how does one express the sorrow in the loss of a loved one, a true Odd Fellow and friend? For Kenny, it should not be expressed as sorrow, but rather in the positive expression which states: **"I'M GLAD HE PASSED OUR WAY."** We all learned from his noteworthy examples. And to his family we say, your loss is deeply shared by all of us.

In Friendship, Love & Truth, Brother Bob Smedley



INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT WARREN 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!

WARREN COUNTY:

Bear Lake - Lilac Rebekah Lodge #250 - defunct 1969
 Clarendon - Pollyanna Rebekah Lodge #552 - defunct 1933
 Columbus - Lady Ruth Rebekah Lodge #241 - defunct 1934
 Corydon - Helen Brown Rebekah Lodge #68 - defunct 1927
 Grand Valley - Camellia Rebekah Lodge #357 - defunct 1935
 Kinzua - Lillie Grace Rebekah Lodge #150 - defunct 1937
 Lander - Lady Nightingale Rebekah Lodge #459 - defunct 1924
 Lottsville - Stella Rebekah Lodge #239 - defunct 1964
 Russell - Lady Pine Grove Rebekah Lodge #364 - consolidated 1967
 Sheffield - Matilda Rebekah Lodge #79 - defunct 1909
 Sheffield - Lady Harriet Rebekah Lodge #206 - consolidated 1977
 Sheffield - Katharine Rebekah Lodge #428 - defunct 1930
 Sugar Grove - Maplewood Rebekah Lodge #325 - defunct 1960
 Titoute - Lady Jane Rebekah Lodge #441 - defunct 1957
 Warren - Lady Warren Rebekah Lodge #209 - defunct 2002
 Youngsville - Florence Rebekah Lodge #32 - defunct 1879
 Youngsville - Lady Gray Rebekah Lodge #38 - consolidated 1987

17 Rebekah Lodges with 1 still active

1st Rebekah Lodge - Florence Rebekah Lodge #32 in 1879

19 Odd Fellow Lodges

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

DAYS GONE BY

45 years ago - June 1976 - Brother Robert G. Gumbert, at this time of Beallsville Lodge #832, was installed as Pennsylvania's youngest Grand Master.

25 years ago - June 1996 - Brother Charles H. Bailey was installed in Butler as Pennsylvania's youngest Grand Master. A position only held a few years from PGM Dale E. Binkley, who served from 1992 - 1993. Boy how times flies!!!

THE TREASURER'S TALES

JUNE 2021

We have been following Barney's exploits on a month by month basis and we are now at June 1926. On June 5 the Cleveland Indians executed a triple play against the New York Yankees and won 15 to 3; June 19 DeFord Bailey is the first African American to perform on the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville; and on June 23 the College Board administered the first Scholastic Aptitude Test to evaluate college applicants.

There were a few notable births in June 1926 with June 1 being the birthday of both Andy Griffith and Marilyn Monroe. On June 14 major league baseball pitcher Don Newcombe was born and on June 28 Mel Brooks, famous director and actor was born. Brooks most famous movie was *Blazing Saddles*, a clip of which may be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A2tPgGiBvkc>.

Two of the most famous works of literature were written in 1926. Ernest Hemingway wrote *The Sun Also Rises*, a tale of the decadent lifestyle of American expatriates in Europe in the 1920's. Will Durant wrote his *Story of Philosophy* in 1926, see the Wikipedia commentary: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Story_of_Philosophy. Durant was criticized for substituting his shortened commentary for the works of the great philosophers. To all who wish a philosophical inquiry, I urge you to read *The Republic* of Plato and explore the applications to modern times. Durant may tease you with his comments, but Plato needs to be read without editing.

Bye, Bye Blackbird was the number one song of 1926, you can hear a bit of it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DfANFQOLGKA>. Popular motion pictures from 1926 include: *Ben-Hur, a Tale of the Christ, What Price Glory* and *Beau Geste*. These were silent films and the entire movie industry was centered around silent movies. You can watch the chariot race scene from *Ben-Hur* here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7fKgVQ7JiQ>. As with many YouTube clips from silent movies, the music has been updated. If you compare movies to plays, the dialogue is key and silent movies were worthless. This shows the divergence of the two art forms, movies stressing the visual and plays the dialogue. The merger of the two forms with talking movies resulted in a restructuring of the acting community.

June is the month for weddings, picnics, parades and fishing. Your author is an occasional fisherman and so was Barney. I discuss a book by Hemingway above. Hemingway worked on novels in the morning and went fishing at noon almost every day. He is supposed to have said, "A day without fishing is a wasted day." Perhaps some of you will agree.

School ended in late May and Barney worked feverishly to get his crops in and make way for success. In the summer evenings, Barney milked around 6:00 p.m. This corresponded to the morning milking at 6:00 a.m. Barney was not primarily a dairy farmer with only six fresh cows. He sold some milk, but chickens, eggs, hogs and beef cattle were his primary animal products, with corn and beans being major crops as well.

After milking, on a night when there was no lodge meeting, Barney would meet his father-in-law, Vic, his brother-in-law Woody and lodge brother Clancey, or some of them and hit a local stream around 7:30 p.m. The sun had not set and their shadows were long and did not frighten the fish. The problem was that this is the time mosquitoes were most active and repellants were not well known in 1926.

On Thursday, June 17, 1926, the band of four met outside Barney's barn at 7:20 p.m. The short walk to the local stream was pleasant, with a warm breeze kissing their faces. They had a large supply of worms what Woody dug from the area behind Barney's hog pen. The great fisherman positioned themselves on both sides of the stream with enough distance to allow for a small amount of casting. Each had his own creel (wicker basket used for

carrying fish) which had been lined with wet grass. The stream was about 12 feet wide, so they divided the fishing crew at a bridge with two on each side. Swatting mosquitoes was the primary pastime as they silently waited for trout, bass, bluegill and sunfish. The catch almost always centered around bluegills. After an hour Barney had caught four, Vic had caught five, Woody had caught three and Clancey had caught four; all bluegills.

When Barney put his fourth bluegill in his creel, he only had one in the creel when there should have been three. He looked all over the bank where he had been fishing to see if any of the fish had flopped out. He could find none. He called a conference and said he was missing two fish. The other trusty fisherman checked their creels and Vic found he was missing two fish as well. Clancey said his son had seen a bear running around the stream the day before. All became quiet and the failing light seemed to project ominous creatures on horizon at the edge of the woods the stream ran through. Vic was aware of the unpredictability of bears. He had a long scar on his right leg from treating a circus bear cub before World War I. He suggested the crew pack up and move out.

Woody became excited and slipped into the stream. He was soaked and noted the stream had a bad smell because of the runoff water that fed it. As he crawled up the bank, he noticed he lost his pocket knife. He wanted to go back for it, but the stream was six feet deep and he thought he saw the bushes move. An owl screeched and he slipped down the bank, almost to the water's edge. He exited the area quickly, he was on the wrong side of the stream and had to get to the bridge and out of the woods. He didn't want to get stuck in woods over night. He was on the same side of the stream as Barney and Barney had the same desires. Barney helped Woody climb up the bank and get on level, dry land. As they began to cross the bridge in the failing light, Barney thought he saw the bushes on the other side of the bridge move. Were they going to walk in to a bear?

Wait, Barney thought, he and Vic both had missing fish, yet they were on different sides of the stream. Surely they would have seen a bear if it had been that active. Could there be a better explanation? A bear would have torn up the creels, made more noise, eaten all the fish and certainly not have passed within a few feet of Barney without being noticed.

Barney whispered to Woody to be quiet and sneak over the bridge slowly. Vic and Clancey were a couple hundred feet up the path and almost out of sight. As Barney reached the other side of the bridge, there in the moonlight, he recognized the image of a familiar raccoon. Melchizedek was eating a bluegill with great enthusiasm. Barney shouted and he ran off, carrying what was left of the fish. Mystery solved, it was one of the usual suspects.

In the moonlight the crew went to the lodge hall and put on a coffee pot while they cleaned the fish. The four sat around a card table and played pinochle while the fish fried. The card games usually lasted longer than the fishing and they all got home around midnight. Alice had gone over to spend the evening with Elizabeth and Clancey's wife was at a quilting bee. The wives knew that fishing was more about card games and telling stories than catching fish. The unanswered question was, "Did the wives believe the story of the raccoon or did they think this was just a cover for a longer card game?"

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

As we see the weather warming up and the flowers blooming once again, the folks at the Middletown Home are full of hope and anticipation for the summer to come! This has been a year like no other. During this difficult time we have leaned on one another and drawn closer as a Middletown Home family. Now that we are able to think about group activities, events, and trips again, we are all chomping at the bit have our residents enjoying things as they used to before COVID entered all of our lives. This month we were able to get a taste of normalcy as our residents went on some lovely Spring Scenic Drives! They were so excited to get out of the building and go for a ride around the communities that they know and love! This month we were also able to once again have Sunday Church Service in the chapel. It is wonderful to see our residents fellowshiping together on Sundays again. Next month we will continue to introduce activities and trips such as: Bowling League, Breakfast Club, Fishing Trips, and more! We are counting our blessings and not taking for granted what a joy it is to have activities, groups, and trips for our residents to look forward to! Keep up to date on all of our fun activities by following us on Facebook.



WHO'S DOING WHAT THIS YEAR

As I think about our order, I often wonder, how can we interest the younger generations in Odd Fellowship? Is there something that can pull younger members into the Order?

I recall my first experiences with members of the Order. Clover Lodge had a bowling league. Upon joining the league I learned that the Odd Fellows had a national bowling tournament that traveled primarily in the mid-west annually. You had to be an Odd Fellow to go to the tournament. This was the final selling point for me in joining the order.

Bowling seems to be a lost art now. So what other outside the lodge activities are there to attract the younger generations? I have heard that some lodges have members that belong to car clubs. Perhaps a traveling state car cruise?

Fun nights where the members could bring prospective applicants to socialize with the lodge members and discuss the order.

My thoughts have been a semi-annual golf tournament. Is there any interest for a 1 or 2 day golf tournament? I'm thinking, what about a state traveling golf tournament? We could have one in the east somewhere and one somewhere in the west. A chance to mingle off the odd fellow clock. To get something like this started would require 20-30 member golfers interested in the idea. If each district could come up with just 1 or 2 foursomes I think this could work. This could start out as a fun weekend no fund raising, just sharing the weekend with members that we don't see often enough. We could use this outing to invite non members into a social gathering. My thought would be that each foursome have at least 2 IOOF members to participate. We might persuade the Grand Lodge to help off set some of the cost, perhaps even donate some prize money?

I would greatly appreciate input from the membership in this endeavor as I think this could happen as soon as later on this year if there is enough interest.

Are there any other thoughts for growing our Order? Any ideas as to fun nights or other ways to bring in new members would be greatly appreciated.

I would like to hear from any and all as to a yes or no on a golf tournament.

I can be contacted by text @ 724)601-8098, or email quickcarl73@comcast.net. in F, L & T,
J. Carl George, DGM

EASTER EGG HUNT

On April 3rd Kingwood IOOF Lodge #1010 had there Easter Egg Hunt. 50 children came out to the Easter Egg Hunt. Baskets and scooters were donated for prizes.



Periodicals

APRIL DONATIONS

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION		
1128	Fallowfield	61.84
2	Unified	50.00
211	York Springs	50.00
211	Darrell Ulsh, DDGM	50.00
847	Vienna	<u>25.00</u>
		236.84
PA ARTHRITIS COMMITTEE		
847	Vienna	25.00
R30	Salome	<u>25.00</u>
		50.00
PA SCHOLARSHIP FUND		
2	Unified	50.00
R30	Salome	<u>25.00</u>
		75.00
PA EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND		
F&AM 436	Mozart	200.00
1128	Fallowfield	<u>154.61</u>
		354.61
VISUAL RESEARCH		
1128	Fallowfield	61.84
2	Unified	<u>25.00</u>
		86.84
PA SPECIAL VISUAL		
2	Unified	25.00
R30	Salome	<u>25.00</u>
		50.00

REMINDER Odd Fellows & Rebekahs Assoc. of W. PA 2021 Scholarship Awards

The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania is continuing to offer \$3,000 scholarship awards to a maximum of four (4) students who fulfill the specified requirements of the Award. The Scholarship Committee began accepting applications for consideration on April 1, 2021, thus marking the 16th consecutive year of the Award since its inauguration back in 2006. The application deadline for the 2021 Scholarship Awards will be Wednesday, June 30, 2021. Award chairman, Robert Grant, wants to remind individuals considering applying or those considering potential applicants, of three of the requirements in particular:

- 1) The applicant or a living family relative must be a member of the I.O.O.F or Rebekahs of Western Pennsylvania,
- 2) The applicant must have completed at least one year at an accredited college/university or technical/trade school.
- 3) The applicant must be enrolled as a full-time student at an accredited college/university or recognized technical/trade school.

A copy of the "Rules" and "Application" was sent to all the lodges representing the Western District on April 1, 2021. It was requested that all secretaries and scribes relay the information received to their respective membership and make copies as necessary for distribution. Information regarding the 2021 Scholarship Award can also be found on our website: glpaioof.org.

The Awards, of course, are being made to not only defray some of the cost associated with higher education, but also to help increase public awareness of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs organizations, and in turn, hopefully receiving petitions for membership to perpetuate or great Orders.