



# PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE



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No. 3

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## WITH THE YEAR WE HAVE HAD, ODD FELLOWSHIP STARTS TO COME BACK TO LIFE

### 2020 NEW UNIT INSTITUTIONS:

Brazil Lodge No. 1 - Brazil  
Grace Rebekah Lodge No. 25 - Delaware  
Canton Northeast No. 9 - Pennsylvania  
Themis Lodge No. 75 - Louisiana  
Chester Lodge No. 281 - Virginia  
Crescent City Lodge No. 73 - Louisiana  
Ghana Lodge No. 1 - Ghana

### 2021 NEW UNIT INSTITUTIONS:

Family Lodge No. 293, Hammonton, NJ

### SCHEDULED FOR 2021 INSTITUTION:

Lebanon Lodge No. 1 - Lebanon

### Pennsylvania Take A Bow!!

Of the new members initiated during the 2020 year under the Sovereign Grand Lodge:

Odd Fellows Lodges rank **NUMBER 1** in bringing **50 members!** The next highest was Texas with 44

Patriarchs Militant rank **NUMBER ONE** in bringing 12 Chevaliers. The next highest was Illinois with 5

**Keep up the good work and let's make  
2021 be our year!**

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

### MARCH

13 / Grand Lodge board meeting, Middletown 1:00PM

### JUNE

11 / Mt. Hor #736 150th Anniversary+ - rescheduled!

19-23 / 49th Annual Unified Session, Harrisburg (pg 4)

PLEASE NOTE: The Annual Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns and the Mid-Atlantic States Conclave have been cancelled!!

+ denotes details to follow

\*\* On the second Sunday of each month, at 1:00PM, year round, Centre Lodge #153 of Bellefonte is still conducting their Music Jams! Please check their facebook first because there may be a scheduling conflict! - Due to COVID-19, these are on hold. Contact their Facebook page for more information

All Lodges are reminded when planning an activity, if you would like your state officer's support please contact the Grand Lodge at [ioofpaglsecty@verizon.net](mailto:ioofpaglsecty@verizon.net) or 717-944-7419

# The Pennsylvania Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine

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In an effort to save money for the magazine, if you would like to receive this magazine via email instead of hard copy, please email the Grand Lodge at ioofpaglsecty@verizon.net with your name and Lodge and this will be done accordingly.



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

- FRED R. KORMAN LODGE NO. 55, GLASGOW**  
 Daniel Oshall - initiated January 25th
- MT. HOR LODGE NO. 736, CASSVILLE**  
 Joseph L. Boozel, Jr. - initiated January 22nd  
 Carol Foster
- SANDY LAKE LODGE NO. 573**  
 Shawne Balash - initiated January 18th
- CHARLEROI LODGE NO. 1030**  
 Joseph A. Valla - initiated January 7th  
 William T. Palmer, V

## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

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

### 25 YEARS

Paul D. Hitchcock, #1152

### 30 YEARS

Edward E. Mioduski, #1004

### 35 YEARS

Richard C. Wagner, Jr., #1175

### 40 YEARS

Roger J. Browning, #523  
William A. Hudak, #523  
Darren R. Oaks, #523

### 45 YEARS

Paul E. Lautenschlager, #88  
Larry L. Bernet, #141  
Richard A. Arnold, #471

### 50 YEARS

Robert D. Briggs, #306  
Eldon L. Sechler, #1010

### 55 YEARS

Granville W. Sandridge, #141  
Richard G. English, #573  
Paul R. Goodwin, #1128

### 60 YEARS

Gerald L. Richards, #708  
Darwin F. Bradley, #1128

### 65 YEARS

J. Lawrence Urey, #573  
Lee C. Smith, #1050

••• *Thank You* •••

Canton Philadelphia No. 1, P.M. would like to thank their very own Chevalier, Chaplain Dorothea Oertel, for returning several swords to the Canton she has found. They are much appreciated and will be put to good use!

## DESK OF THE DGM



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

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I can honestly say that I miss YOU!! With this Pandemic still hanging on, and with the guidelines for "Staying safe" limiting if not closing our meeting places our Official Visits have been limited.....extremely limited!! It is very frustrating as I want to visit with all, in your lodges, taking part in the ritualic opening and closing; reciting or better yet, singing the odes (especially if Shawn E. Miller is present); and just being with you all!

Friendship, what is a friend? Well, Mr. Webster defines a friend as "a person with whom one enjoys mutual affection and regard", a companion. This is true, but I want to take it one more step, "a friend is a person who knows what you need even before you even know".

One day feeling very frustrated with social distancing and self-isolation; not being able to make official visits, or to volunteer at the

food pantries, I received a text from a good friend and included in his text were a few good down-to-earth words of wisdom for us all during these days of dealing with COVID. It not only brought a smile to my face but a realization that together we will see an end to this pandemic, and we will be much stronger because of it.

The words which I want to share with all of you, my brothers and sisters, this day is from a familiar philosopher, someone from my earlier years; someone who always made me feel a little better, someone who is known by all. These words are from Snoopy and the Peanut Gang's creator, Charles Schulz: When my arms cannot reach people, who are close to my heart...

I always hug them with my prayers. So, my brothers and sisters, even though we cannot meet, always know that I will be keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers. I hope you are in turn, praying for all in your communities that are struggling. Remember that as long as we keep each other close to our hearts, we, together will get through this pandemic.

Always with God's guiding hand,  
*Shirley J. Whittlinger, DGM*

## GRAND MASTER'S MARCH MESSAGE

Well, that pesky Ground Hog, Phil saw his shadow, so we are saddled with six more weeks of winter!!

I have remained busy talking to many lodges, and brothers and sisters, to keep our fraternity connected during this pandemic. I will admit, I thought we would be making better progress by this time. This nasty virus will not cut us any slack.

On January 11th, we had the consolidation service for Edinboro Lodge #510 of Edinboro, PA and Fallowfield Lodge #1128 of Atlantic, PA. Although it is a sad occasion to see a lodge close its doors for the final time, it was good to witness the formation of a stronger Fallowfield Lodge. I wish all the best to Fallowfield Lodge #1128 as they move forward with their Odd Fellow work in the Northwest.

Approaching spring our fraternity has certain meetings that we must prepare and plan to hold. It makes this planning difficult with an uncertain future. The Unified Session Committee is busy planning the 49th Unified Session which will take place June 19th thru the 23rd. We will keep our membership well informed as we are able to set our schedules moving into 2021.

During this pandemic I continue to ask that we all stay connected and help one another whenever the need arises. If you know of any member that needs any help or aid, please let us know.

May God's love touch you,  
Your Grand Master,  
*David O. Whittlinger*

**49TH ANNUAL PA IOOF UNIFIED SESSION 2021**

To All Odd Fellow & Rebekah Lodges, Encampments, Cantons, & Ladies Auxiliaries of Pennsylvania:

The 49th Unified Session of all Branches of our Order in Pennsylvania will be held at the Red Lion Hotel Harrisburg Hershey, 4751 Lindle Road, Harrisburg, PA, 17111 from Saturday, June 19th through Wednesday, June 23th, 2021, inclusive.

**Please Note: All Unified Session Functions (meals, events, etc.) are subject to COVID rules in place at that time. We will make you aware of any changes closer to the time of Session!**

**Room Reservations:** Reservations must be made directly with the hotel. The room rate is \$ 105.00 plus tax. Telephone 717-939-7841. Deadline for room reservations is June 4, 2021. When making your Room Reservation please tell the hotel representative that you are with the "Independent Order of Odd Fellows - Grand Lodge." (Limit 4 persons per room).

**PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE FOR ALL ROOM, BANQUET AND REGISTRATION RESERVATIONS IS JUNE 4, 2021. NO GUARENTEES OF ROOMS OR MEALS AFTER THE DEADLINE! PLEASE MAKE YOUR ARRANGEMENTS PROMPTLY!**

**Session Registration:** Pre-registration is \$10.00 per person. Send all registrations by June 4, 2021. Send registrations to Paul

Lautenschlager, 101 Maplewood Drive, Honesdale, PA 18431. There will be a breakfast and lunch buffet offered each day to Session registered guests attending the Unified Session at \$9.50 each, plus tax and gratuity. (Note: Restaurant meal specials subject to COVID & hotel decisions).

**Banquet:** The Banquet for all Branches will be held on Sunday, June 20th, 2021. The cost per person will be \$35.00. Choice of Dinner Entrees will be Stuffed Chicken Breast with Champagne Sauce or Sliced London Broil with Mushroom Sauce. Reservations with remittance should be sent to Anna Smith, 203 S. Academy Street, Boalsburg, PA 16827-1438. Phone: (814) 466-6348

**2021 Program Booklet:** Please print or type all ads and booster names. Send with remittance to Thomas J. McHugh, **\*\*288 CHURCH RD., MOUNTAIN TOP, PA 18707.** Deadline for all ads and boosters is June 1, 2021.

Full Page B/W- \$30.00, Half Page \$20.00, Quarter Page \$10.00. No extra charge for pictures. Booster Names (No Titles) - \$1.00. Preferred format for ads submitted is PDF file format.

**Raffle Tickets:** Raffle tickets are available from John S. Cupp, P.O. Box 275, Hopwood, PA 15445 (jcupp275@gmail.com), for a donation of \$1.00 per ticket. Send Money and ticket stubs to Mary DeLong, 307-6 Hilltop Ct., Hamburg, PA 19526.

**Special Function Meals:** Any group desiring breakfast, lunch or dinner arrangements should contact Sarah Baer, 115 N. Centre St, Leesport, PA 19533. Telephone 610-916-1990.

**FUN NIGHT:** Fun Night will take place on **SATURDAY, JUNE 19th.** We will have "A Night at The Ballpark". We will have a baseball night at the hotel; come dressed in your favorite team's colors, jersey, cap, etc. Details to follow.

**Flowers:** Anyone wishing to order Memorial Flowers or any flowers for Session should contact Sarah Baer, 115 N. Centre St, Leesport, PA 19533. Telephone (610)-916-1990. Flowers arrangements are priced at \$ 65.00

**MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "UNIFIED SESSION COMMITTEE"**

Dale E. Binkley, Chairman  
Mary D. DeLong, Co-Chair

**ATTENTION**  
**Mailing address for Thomas McHugh has changed.**  
**Do not use the PO Box!**  
**New address is 288 Church Road,**  
**Mountain Top, PA 18707**

## 2021 UNIFIED SESSION: WHAT IS AHEAD FOR THIS YEAR???

### To all members of all Units of the Order in the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania:

The 2021 Unified Session Committee is actively planning your 2021 Unified Session. We hope that we will be able to have a complete Unified Session as in years gone by. At this time last year, we had no idea that the 2020 Unified Session would be cancelled. Unfortunately, this year is no different. Once again, we have many questions and concerns about how the COVID-19 virus situation will affect the 2021 Unified Session at the Red Lion Hotel in June. As I write this (January 20, 2021) I will attempt to answer a few questions.

Q - Will the Unified Session be held at its scheduled time?

A - We will do our best to hold some type of gathering at the scheduled time. It will depend upon any restrictions in place

from the Governor Wolf's office, the hotel policies in place, and the collective decision of the Unified Session Committee, Grand Master Whitlinger and the other Heads of the Order in our jurisdiction.

Q - What should I do if I usually attend the Unified Session?

A - PLEASE make plans to attend as usual. There are room reservation deadlines, banquet ticket and special meal deadlines, Session program book deadlines and any other arrangements you usually make ahead of time. If there are any changes in the timing or format of the Unified Session, we (the Unified Session Committee) will work through the changes with you. BUT, if you do not make any arrangements and miss the deadlines, we cannot guarantee that post deadline arrangements for meals and rooms can be made for attending the Unified Session.

Q - Will the raffle ticket drawing be held?

A - YES, the drawing will be held.

The 2021 Unified Session Committee has scheduled its next meeting for Sunday, April 18, 2021 at 1:00PM at the Red Lion Hotel. The weekend prior to the meeting, the Session Committee will decide if we meet in person or virtually. If we change to a virtual meeting, we will let as many of you as possible know of this change. If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact me. This meeting should help us decide what type of Unified Session we will be able to present to our members this year. We hope and pray that you all are safe and healthy in the meantime and hope to see you in June at the Red Lion Hotel.

Fraternally

Dale E. Binkley, Chairman

2021 Unified Session Committee

dbinkley1@verizon.net (484)643-0363

## FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

Fraternal Greetings! Gomer Lodge #64, Elm Tree Lodge #297, Ansonville Lodge #1005, Coalport Lodge #781, Gallatin Lodge #517, Ideal Rebekah Lodge #63, Lackawanna Lodge #291. What do these Lodges have in common? Unfortunately, if you have paid close attention to the obituaries, these are just a few of the Lodges whose final candle extinguished on the passing of their last member affiliated with the Order. As is stressed during consolidation ceremonies, after the ceremony, both Lodges now are one, and one member has as much to do with their current Lodge as another, regardless of what Lodge they came from. What's the point you may ask? The point is, do not forget though where you have come from! If your Lodge has a member that came from another Lodge, find out about that Lodge they came from! That is now part of your history and who you are as a Lodge.

My Lodge, Harmony #86 of Tamaqua, lost a valued member in January. Ralph Rodriguez was a 60 year member, but only the past 13 years or so with Harmony. He came from

Conyngham Lodge #308, and before that Hazleton Lodge #65. He was a District Deputy when Beaver Meadows still had a Lodge. When he would come to a meeting, I would ask him about these Lodges to get a better history of who he was, what he did, and what these Lodges, which are now part of Harmony, have done. He even had pictures from when he was District Deputy.

I had the pleasure of seeing an old friend and Brother recently during a consolidation. He regarded his times at Cranesville Lodge, as well as a piece of regalia his mother in law bought him when he became a Past District Deputy. Would you believe this? Someone getting a gift after his term as DDGM. It's a great idea and definitely something that needs to come back! Remember and honor your heritage. It means a lot to the newer members of the Lodge. Let them know what used to be, and what still can be.

It has been a rough year as we know it, but as you see on the front cover, an interesting year as we are seeing new Lodges open up

all over the globe. This goes to show, even during these times, growth and survival are possible. Your Lodge just needs to be open to it! Remember, though you are part of a Lodge, it is not YOUR lodge alone. I am the secretary of Harmony, but I only play a small roll in the 20 years of history it holds, plus the roughly 145 years of it's past before it consolidated. A letter was sent out recently that the Grand Lodge is here to help if your Lodge is having issues bringing in new members. Please take us up on this offer! Put your Grand Lodge officers to work and make sure we are earning what your dues are paying towards!

If you hear of a story of an old Lodge, or even your Lodge, send it in to the magazine. Show the Jurisdiction what we are made of! I hope to see you all soon and as always, if you need anything, never hesitate to ask.

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

## DAYS GONE BY

### 75 Years Ago – 1946

DIVISION "I" – T.J. No. 19 – Delaware and Philadelphia Counties and Degree Demonstration

Our first attempt in many years to stage a large demonstration, class initiation, three degree on one night was a complete success.

In a room filled to capacity 250 Odd Fellows met on Friday evening, February 8, 1946, in the Odd Fellows Hall, 1210 W. Lehigh Ave., Philadelphia. Twenty-nine candidates were admitted, advanced and exalted into Encampment Odd Fellowship.

Mt. Ararat, No. 93, and Perseverance, No. 135, jointly conferred the Patriarchal Degree. A new combination working in harmony proved beyond a question of doubt that combining the talents of two Encampments is the answer to the man shortage in degree work. This would apply also to subordinate lodges if the Brothers would only organize for such purposes.

This degree was conferred in an exceptionally fine manner and the members of both Encampments are to be congratulated.

Cyprus, No. 257, conferred the Golden Rule Degree and Philadelphia, No. 1, the Royal Purple.

Both encampments have very capable degree staffs and each is qualified in every manner to confer any one of the three degrees. The efficiency of both is gratefully acknowledged and I wish it possible that the names of individuals, particularly in all degrees, could be printed in this Odd Fellow paper and words of praise to accompany each name. We lack space for such comment.

Patriarchs from the surrounding counties were present and, believe it or not, we extended a most cordial welcome to a large delegation of Patriarchs from the Jurisdiction of Delaware. Eight candidates were initiated for the Delaware Encampments and we had the pleasure of having as a novitiate patriarch the Mayor of Wilmington, Thomas Herlihy, Jr. Here is just another example of Odd Fellowship appealing to a very important citizen of an influential city. Such cases are numerous in Philadelphia we apparently lack that which Pennsylvania and elsewhere. However it is required to interest the busy administrative heads of our municipality.

We evidently do not have the necessary card of introduction or if we possess it, we then lack the courage of contact.

Encampment Odd Fellowship marches on.  
W.W.L.

(Editors Note: Mt. Ararat was the subordinate Encampment to Mystic Lodge #270. Philadelphia #1 was the subordinate Encampment to Pennsylvania Lodge #1. Cypress was the subordinate Encampment to Ivy Lodge #295, which eventually merged to form Variety Lodge #37. All of these Encampments merged into Perseverance Encampment, which survives.)

**CENTRE LODGE, No. 153, OBSERVES 100TH ANNIVERSARY** – Members of Centre Lodge, No. 153, located at Bellefonte, Penna., celebrated the completion of 100 years of Friendship, Love, and Truth, Thursday evening, February 21st, and all day the 22nd, with Grand Lodge Officers as guests.

Thursday evening, Noble Grand Carl F. Schenck opened the Lodge in the Third Degree, when Clinton Lodge Degree Team of Lock Haven, Pa., exemplified the teachings of that degree on a class of thirty-two, fifteen of whom came from Lick Run Lodge, Howard, Pa.

One of the highlights of the program was the introduction of Past Grand J. Millard Hartswick, Grand Master Franklin B. Hosbach, Deputy Grand Master W. E. Preston Haas, Grand Warden Guy S. Powell, Grand Secretary Frank Shannon, Grand Treasurer Louis J. Suess, Grand Representative H. E. Robinson, Grand Chaplain Roy H. Persons, Grand Marshal Clarence A. Laurer, Grand Guardian Max Munzel, Deputy and Past Deputy Grand Masters of Centre County who were given the honors of the Order.

On Friday morning, 11:00A.M., a business session of the Board of Grand Lodge Officers presided over by Grand Master Franklin B. Hosbach was held in the Lodge Rooms. At 1:00P.M. the Grand Lodge reconvened for the purpose of conferring the Past Grands' Degree on a class of twenty Past Grands from surrounding Lodges. A prepared program of talent and entertainment was held in the Lodge Rooms at 2:15P.M. with group singing, presentation of birthday cake, and the introduction by District Deputy Sister Alexander of Vernice Ayers, President of the Rebekah Assembly of Pennsylvania, and her Marshal, Sister Evelyn Powell. Ladies of the local Rebekah Lodge having charge of the full program.

The closing feature was the 100th anniversary banquet held at the Grange Hall at nearby Pleasant Gap where three hundred Odd Fellows, Rebekahs and their guests assembled to witness the presentation of 50-year jewels by Grand Secretary Frank Shannon to J.H. Eberhart, John T. Billet, Thomas Moore, Alfred Showers, George L. Williams, R. E. Cronemiller, C. M. Bauder, and C.C. Caldwellander. Unable to be present on account of sickness was James D. Seibert, the only living member of Centre Lodge who wears the 50-year jewel from a previous presentation. President of the Rebekah Assembly Vernice Ayers, and Grand Master Franklin B. Hosbach were the principal banquet speakers. The McClure quartet rendered several musical and vocal selections, after which members of the local Rebekah Lodge presented a half-hour comic skit entitled "The Truth for a Day."

## ALICE CLELAND & THE MIDDLETOWN HOME

Alice Cleland lives here at the Middletown Home, but it isn't the first time! Between 1946-1947, Alice lived and worked at The Middletown Home. At that time she was 14 years old, it was when she was in 7th and 8th grade. Alice helped in dietary, laundry, and occasionally she would help in what was then called the infirmary. The young workers would sleep up on the fourth floor.

A typical day for Alice would be waking up to help with breakfast, riding her bike to school, riding back to the home to help with lunch, going back to school for the afternoon, and then coming back to the home to help serve supper! The board members would come once a month to eat meals at The Middletown Home and Alice said that she would help to serve their meals (see the picture to the right).

At that time the Middletown Home looked a lot different. There used to be a Smoker's Room, which was nicknamed "Tin Can Alley" - this is where the men would spend a lot of their time. Back then, men and women stayed on separate sides of the building, and at the time only the original building was standing (the very front part facing the highway). The original building did not have elevators, instead there were marble stairs (see the picture to the right).

Alice said that occasionally her and the other young workers would go out together in the evenings after they finished with their duties. They would go on walks or go shopping. But Alice said it was very important that they get back to the Middletown Home by 10:00pm! There was a Night Nurse who was very strict and would watch the stairs to see if the girls were in by 10:00pm - and if they weren't they'd be in big trouble!

Alice said that she enjoyed her time working here and now it feels like a "full circle" that she is living here again.

Alice says, "When they're serving me coffee in the dining room, I will think to myself, 'that used to be me!'"

Thank you for sharing Alice! What a neat story, we are so glad to have you here with us at The Middletown Home! The only person I can make out is the man on the very right. He is Raymond A. Transue who served as Grand Patriarch from 1946 - 47. Does anyone know any of the other men? If so, contact the Grand Lodge office!



## EDINBORO LODGE #510 CONSOLIDATES WITH FALLOWFIELD LODGE #1128

On January 11th, Edinboro Lodge #510 of Edinboro, Erie County, consolidated with Fallowfield Lodge #1128 of Atlantic, Crawford County. Edinboro Lodge turned 135 years old on January 7th and

was the last surviving Lodge in Erie County. The consolidation was done by Deputy Grand Master Shirley J. Whitlinger with several of the Grand Lodge Officers present.



*Shown are the officers of both Lodges, and holding the charter of Edinboro Lodge #510 is Robert Martin Noble Grand of Fallowfield Lodge #1128, DGM Shirley Whitlinger and Lisa Brinker Noble Grand of Edinboro Lodge #510*

## MARCH OBITUARIES

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



**ROBERT A. HARRIS**  
Paoli Lodge No. 290  
November 23, 2020

Brother Robert A. Harris, 94, of Montrose, PA, was initiated into Star of Hope Lodge #199, Coatesville, PA, on October 17, 1960. He became a member of Paoli Lodge #290, Downingtown, through consolidation on November 17, 2005.

He was a U.S. Maritime Service Veteran.  
Burial was held at Fairview Cemetery, Coatesville.



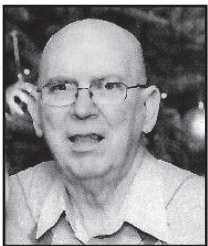
**ROBERT S. BRANT**  
Somerset Lodge No. 438  
December 8, 2020

Brother Robert S. Brant, 92, of Somerset, PA, was initiated into Somerset Lodge #438 on April 19, 1948. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest tenured member.

He was a U.S. Army Korean Conflict Veteran and a member of the Breachdale Church of the Brethren, Berlin, PA.

He was preceded in death by a son. Surviving is his wife, the former Helen Long, two children, two grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and two step-great-grandchildren.

Burial was held at Somerset County Memorial Park.



**GLENN S. HENRY**  
Lititz Lodge No. 1050  
December 15, 2020

Brother Glenn S. Henry, 77, of Manheim, PA, was initiated into Lititz Lodge #1050 on November 8, 1976.

He was a member of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lititz.

Surviving is his wife, the former Deena Cole, four children, ten grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Burial was held in Manheim Fairview Cemetery.



**RICHARD A. STRAND**  
Ridgway Lodge No. 969  
January 6, 2021

Brother Richard A. Strand, 94, of Lakeland, FL, was initiated into Ridgway Lodge #969 on October 24, 1952, where he became a Past Grand. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest member, by age and tenure. He received his 65 year Jewel in 2019.

He was a U.S. Navy Veteran and a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Plant City, FL..

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Grace Young. Surviving are two daughters, one son, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Oakmont Cemetery, Ridgway, PA.



**KATHLEEN M. ERNST**  
Past DDP/RA Officer  
Dept. Assoc. LAPM Officer  
Lady Hall Rebekah Lodge No. 202  
Allentown Auxiliary No. 39,  
L.A.P.M.  
January 10, 2021

Lady Kathleen M. (Mitman) Millheim Ernst, 78, of Nazareth, PA, was initiated into Lady Hall Rebekah Lodge #202, Nazareth, on December 6, 1962, where she became a Past Noble Grand On October 2, 1975 and received her Rebekah Assembly Degree September 23, 1976. She served as District Deputy President from 2008 - 09 and served the Rebekah Assembly as Pennsylvania Flag Bearer from 2003 - 04 and Musician from 2009 - 10 and 2014 - 15. At the time of her death, she was the Lodge's Musician. She joined Allentown Auxiliary #39, Sellersville, on October 27, 2004 where she became a Past President She served the Department Association as Pennsylvania Flag Bearer from 2008 - 09 and served as Chaplain and Musician for many years after that, positions she held at the time of her death. She was also Chaplain of her Auxiliary at the time of her death. She was a regular attendee to Unified Session, a member of the PA-5 Drill Team and was also currently a director of the Home for Orphans of Odd Fellows, Philadelphia.

She was a member of Hope Lutheran Church, Easton, PA.

She was preceded in death by two husbands, Burton Millheim and Maynard Ernst, and one stepson. Surviving are one son, two daughters, two stepsons, one stepdaughter, seven grandchildren, eight step-grandchildren and one step great-grandson.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.



# MARCH OBITUARIES

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



**THOMAS FITCH**  
**Ridgway Lodge No. 969**  
**January 11, 2021**

Brother Thomas "T.O." Fitch, 64, of Ridgway, PA, was initiated into Ridgway Lodge #969 on April 6, 2004. He left the Lodge and reinstated on

November 17, 2017. He served the Lodge as Inside Guardian and Warden.

He was of the Catholic Faith.

Surviving are three sons, one daughter and nine grandchildren.

Burial was held in St. Leo's Cemetery, Ridgway.



**G. RALPH RODRIGUEZ**  
**Past District Deputy Grand Master**  
**Harmony Lodge No. 86**  
**January 13, 2021**

Brother George R. "Ralph" Rodriguez, 80, of Hazleton, PA, was initiated into Hazleton Lodge #65 on

September 9, 1960, where he became a Past Grand October 1, 1965 and received his Grand Lodge Degree September 24, 1966. He served as District Deputy Grand Master from 1967 - 1970. He became a member of Conyngham Lodge #308 through consolidation on February 28, 2003, and finally Harmony Lodge #86, Tamaqua, through consolidation on January 23, 2008. He held active membership, and at the time of his death, was a Trustee to Harmony Lodge as well as their oldest tenured member. He was active in the Harmony Lodge Degree Team and recently received the Degree of Siam.

He was a U.S. Navy Veteran and a member of Christ Lutheran Church, Hazleton.

Surviving is his wife, the former Janice Haslego, one daughter and one granddaughter.

Services were private at the convenience of the family.



**SHARON LEE ZIMMERMAN**  
**Pine Grove Lodge No. 148**  
**January 23, 2021**

Sister Sharon Lee Zimmerman, 74, of Pine Grove, PA, was initiated into Pine Grove Lodge #148 on April 12, 2014. She was active in her Lodge

her entire tenure, serving several years as Chaplain, and currently Vice Grand, a position she held at the time of her death. She was also a recipient of the Degree of Siam and was active on the District 6 First Degree Team, serving as a Noble Grand Supporter.

She was a member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Pine Grove.

Surviving are two sons, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

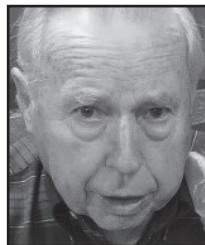
Services will be held at the discretion of the family.

**WARREN I. ERNST**  
**Leesport Lodge No. 141**  
**January 26, 2021**

Brother Warren I. Ernst, 91, of the Middletown Home, was initiated into Leesport Lodge #141 on October 28, 1947. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest tenured member.

Burial will be private at the convenience of the family.

**LEE F. LASHLEY**  
**Warfordsburg Lodge No. 601**  
**February 3, 2021**



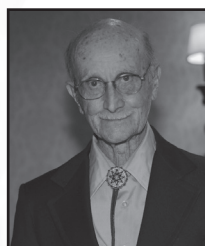
Brother Lee F. Lashley, 84, of Warfordsburg, PA, was initiated into Warfordsburg Lodge #601 on June 3 1971, where he became a Past Grand.

He was a U.S. Army Reserves veteran and a member of the Buck Valley Christian Church, Warfordsburg.

Surviving is his wife, the former Alda Mae Crawford, one son, one daughter, two grandsons, one great-grandson and one great-granddaughter.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge and burial was held at Buck Valley Memorial Cemetery.

**TITUS G. MUSSER**  
**Earl Lodge No. 413**  
**February 11, 2021**



Brother Titus G. Musser, 98, of New Holland, PA, was initiated into Earl Lodge #413, New Holland, on June 1, 1956, where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree

November 17, 1962. He held active membership in his Lodge, and at the time of his death, was the Lodge's oldest member, by age and tenure.

He was a member of Ranck's United Methodist Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Mildred Geigley, one son, Timothy and one grandson. Surviving are three children, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Burial will be held in Ranck's United Methodist Cemetery.

## THE TREASURER'S TALES

### MARCH 2021

We have been following Barney's exploits on a month-by-month basis and we are now at March 1926. The notable days in March 1926 were St. Patrick's Day on Wednesday, March 17 and Easter on Sunday, March 21. March is still a cold month, but warming up. Snow is a major topic of conversation.

March 1926 marked a number of interesting events, on the 16th, Robert Goddard launched his first rocket; March 26th, the Montreal Canadiens defeated the Pitt Pirates to win the NHL championship; on March 4th, Richard DeVos, founder of Amway was born; on March 6th, economist Alan Greenspan was born; and on March 16th, Jerry Lewis was born.

Barney had converted his Model T to a snowmobile for the winter and was doing fairly well with his travels. He was able to go places almost no other motor vehicle could go. His father-in-law was a bit ahead of him, since he owned several well-trained mules. Barney's father had a pair of Percheron draft horses that were fairly sure-footed as well.

On St. Patrick's Day, on his way home from school, Barney went to the local general store and bought a bag each of orange and green gum candy for Elizabeth. As he went to get in his car, he slipped on the ice and fell. It was an effort to get up and one of his students came by and helped him. It was quite cold and Barney had been proud of his mobility with the Model T turned snowmobile. After being helped up, he thanked the student and noticed his left arm wasn't working very well. Fortunately, his Model T was a more recent model and had a starter so he didn't have to crank it.

When Barney arrived and gave Elizabeth the candy, he had trouble taking his overcoat off. Elizabeth could tell there was a problem, so she made Barney sit down in a chair by the fire and brought him a cup of warm tea. They had recently acquired a telephone, so she called her mother to tell her she thought Barney had injured his arm. Just as Barney was getting comfortable sipping his tea by the fire, Vic came in.

"How's my son-in-law doing?" Vic asked. Barney grumbled, "OK for a winter day, just relaxing after a fall"

Vic pressed him. "Did you hurt anything?"

Barney replied, "My left arm hurts and I feel cold and a bit nauseated."

Vic asked, "Can I look at your arm?" After Barney removed his shirt, Vic manipulated and looked at the arm. After a thoughtful interlude, Vic remarked, "You should go to a people hospital and have an X-ray taken. I think your humerus has a break in it. It is a proximal fracture, near the shoulder and does not appear displaced. I could do the X-ray at my animal hospital, but that wouldn't do any good since you would still need to go to a people hospital for treatment."

After a bit of arguing with Vic and Elizabeth, Barney finally agreed to let Vic drive him to the hospital in his Model T snowmobile. Because of his discomfort and feeling of urgency, Barney had not shut the door of the car when he arrived home. Curled up on the warm sheepskin Barney used as a seat cover, was Melchizedek, fast asleep. Vic roused the rascally raccoon and received dirty looks as he trod off in the snow to the hollow tree on the edge of the field.

Barney was wrapped in a blanket and seated on the right, front.

By the time they reached the hospital in Trenton, it was 5:30 p.m. The receptionist told them the doctor went home for dinner and she would have to call to see who was on duty that evening. After a two hour wait, a doctor came in to look at Barney. It was such a cold, snowy night that no one was out. Barney was told that the break would heal in time and all he had to do was wear a sling for six weeks. When they got back to Grovers Mill, at 10:30 p.m., there was a fight going on outside the Junior Order Hall. A St. Patrick's Day party was going on inside and too much illegal (remember it is Prohibition) alcohol had been consumed. Vic was able to manipulate the snowmobile on the snow-covered street, but one of the inebriated revelers bumped into them (he was not in a car, so no damage to the Model T). Vic tried to get out to help him up, when he fell on the ice.

Barney got to his home with Vic, when Vic began to complain that his left arm hurt. Vic's wife and Elizabeth's mother, Alice was over at Barney's home with Elizabeth. When she saw Vic, she told him he needed to go to the hospital and she wouldn't let him take her home. Elizabeth was a fairly decent driver, but Barney did not like for her to drive. Alice told Elizabeth she would take care of Barney and the children while Elizabeth took Vic back to the hospital in Trenton.

The road was dark and empty as they reached Trenton at midnight. When Elizabeth and Vic entered the hospital, the receptionist looked at Vic and commented, "Weren't you here a couple hours ago?" Vic nodded.

There had been a car accident and the doctor was still in the hospital but almost done with the last patient. After about ten minutes he looked at Vic. The doctor asked, "Weren't you here with another patient a few hours ago?" Vic replied feebly, "Yes."

After taking an X-ray and prodding Vic a little, the Emergency Room doctor looked at Vic, "You have the same injury as your friend had. I am prescribing the same treatment." Elizabeth helped her father to the car and started off for Grover's Mill at 12:45 a.m. She reached home at 1:30 a.m., picked up Alice and took her parents' home. Woody was still up, but the other children had gone to bed. Woody was a racer and mechanic and one year older than Elizabeth. He was drinking coffee and sitting at the kitchen table. He cheerily spoke up and said, "I have been called out to start five cars this evening and towed one out of a ditch with my Model T. I made \$22.00 while you were away and I am ready to paint the town." Alice looked at him sternly and responded, "Your father and brother-in-law both fell and broke their arms on the ice. You might be 25 years old, but you go to bed. It isn't fit to go out, even if you have some money and it's St. Patrick's Day." Woody sadly went up to bed.

Vic was fairly stubborn and resisted all suggestions, except those by Alice. He went to bed with a hot water bottle. Elizabeth returned home, checked on the children and joined Barney in bed. They had a furnace, but there was a fire in the heater in the bedroom and it was time for a long winter's nap (even if it was almost spring).

*Comments and questions are always welcomed by the Grand Treasurer. You can contact him by email at [jcupp275@gmail.com](mailto:jcupp275@gmail.com) or conventional mail at P.O. Box 275, Hopwood, PA 15445.*

# INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT LEHIGH COUNTY

The Rebekah Lodges numbered around 1,000. Some of the numbers, you'll also see more than once, as some of these Lodges only lasted a few years.

How many Rebekah Lodges were in YOUR County??  
Did you ever wonder if your town had a Rebekah Lodge?  
Do you know where it was or do you even remember some of these Lodges?

If you can take a picture of the Lodge Hall that was once in your town and mail it in, we'd be glad to have it for our archives and it could perhaps end up in the magazine!

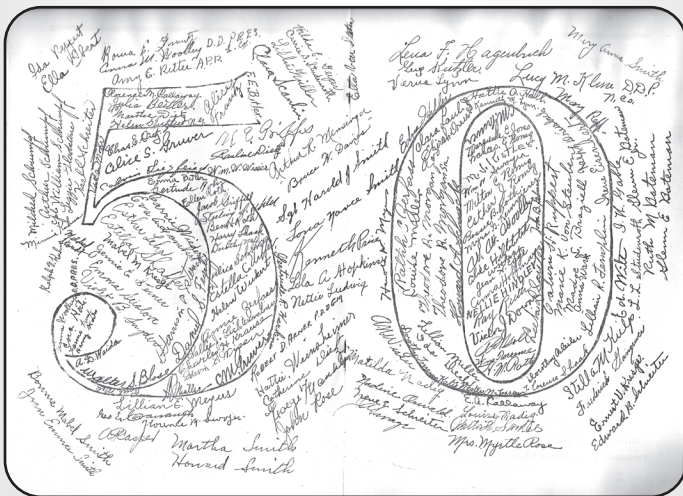
## Next Month Somerset County

Get your pictures and articles in now!

### LEHIGH COUNTY:

- Allentown - Keturah Rebekah Lodge #72 - defunct prior 1895
- Allentown - Lady Lincoln Rebekah Lodge #72 - consolidated 1993
- Catasauqua - Orpha Rebekah Lodge #159 - defunct 1966
- Coopersburg - Lady Cooper Rebekah Lodge #43 - consolidated 1981
- Emmaus - Lady Liberty Rebekah Lodge #15 - defunct 1955
- Fogelsville - Deborah Rebekah Lodge #27 - defunct prior 1893
- Fogelsville - Lady Fogel Rebekah Lodge #581 - consolidated 1982
- Macungie - Emma L. Weaver Rebekah Lodge #597 - consolidated 1944
- Schnecksville - Lady Lillie Best Rebekah Lodge #222 - consolidated 2018
- Slatington - Lady Rose Rebekah Lodge #531 - defunct 1940
- Steinsville - Lady Follweiler Rebekah Lodge #313 - defunct 1959

- 11 Rebekah Lodges with 0 still active
- 1st Rebekah Lodge - Deborah Rebekah Lodge #27 in 1869
- 14 Odd Fellow Lodges



In 1945, Lady Lincoln Rebekah Lodge #72 of Allentown, held a 50th anniversary at the Americus Hotel. For the spreadsheet of their booklet, the members signed around the "50."

# FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

I would like to introduce myself and give you a little background on myself. My Grandfather introduced me to join the Odd Fellows before I got drafted, I joined Coopersburg Lodge #390 in Coopersburg and shortly thereafter joined the Saucona #117 Encampment in Coopersburg. My Grandfather William E. Torrence was also a Brigadier General, Chaplin of the World for the GMC not sure what year. My Grandmother was also a Past President of the LAPM. My Father was also a member of the order in 3 branches.

I went to Victory Lodge in Sellersville for their 100th Anniversary in 1969 with my Grandparents and there I met Linda nee Shive at the Anniversary Banquet, and the rest is history we were married in 1972.

In 1970 I got drafted in the Army went thru Boot camp in Kentucky, and later sent to Fort Sill, Oklahoma where I went to Non-Commissioned officers school then sent to Vietnam as a Forward Observer with infantry in the 101st Airborne Div. The same outfit Justin Bailey served with in later years.

In 1972 when I got out of the Army I joined Lady Sellers Rebekah Lodge # 558 and also joined the Patriarchs Militant Allentown Canton #39 where I went thru the chairs and was my Mother-in-laws Dorothy Shive's Chief of Staff during her term as LAPM President. And held many offices during my time as a Canton member.

I have 2 daughters who are Rebekahs and 3 grandsons that are members of Victory Lodge #658

As you can see my wife Linda's nee (Shive) has also come from a large family of this order and so have I.

With what is going in this world today, I would like to apologize for not being able to make visitations to the Cantons that put me into this office.

Hopefully come spring and everything gets back to normal somewhat, I will be making visitations to the Cantons in this jurisdiction.

Be Safe and stay healthy.  
Fraternally yours,  
BG Bruce N. Torrence Commanding



Periodicals

JANUARY DONATIONS

		VISUAL RESEARCH	
899	Askam		100.00
1128	Fallowfield		<u>59.82</u>
			159.82
		PA SPECIAL VISUAL	
254	Nathan Lewis-Ft Necessity		309.00
899	Askam		<u>100.00</u>
			409.00
		ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION	
1128	Fallowfield		59.82
		CAMP JRA	
899	Askam		250.00
		PA SCHOLARSHIP FUND	
Henry Elliott Trust			500.93
55	Fred R. Korman		<u>150.00</u>
			650.93

I.O.O.F. ARTHRITIS PROCLAMATION

Fraternal Greetings:

Whereas, the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs are proud to be recognized once again for their support in relieving the pain and suffering caused by Arthritis. I along with the Sovereign Grand Lodge and the Pennsylvania Joint Arthritis Committee, in turn, are proud to recognize everyone who has donated time and money in supporting this cause over the past years.

Whereas, the Arthritis Committee of Pennsylvania, composed of members of all Five Branches of Odd Fellowship have been working diligently with the local Chapters of the Arthritis Foundation and Camp J.R.A., through various programs and projects.

Now, I, David O. Whitlinger, Grand Master, do proclaim the month of March as **Odd Fellow and Rebekah Arthritis Month** throughout the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania.

Further, request all Lodges to support this project by holding a money-raising event or a treasury donation and send to the Grand Lodge Office.

Done in Middletown, Pennsylvania, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021, and in the 197<sup>th</sup> year of this Grand Body.

Please fill out and return with your donation payable to "Grand Lodge of PA"

\_\_\_\_\_ Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_ is pleased to contribute \_\_\_\_\_ to this program. Please credit our donation to: (check one of the following)

\_\_\_\_\_ PA Arthritis Committee – This is to be used for various projects and commitments by the committee.

\_\_\_\_\_ Arthritis Foundation – This is sent to the Chapter from your area and used at the Foundation’s discretion.

MAIL ALL CHECKS TO GRAND LODGE!!! NOT THE GRAND MASTER