



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE



Vol. 97

January 2022

No. 1

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE AT <http://www.glpaioof.org>

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NEW You can also follow us on Instagram at @paoddfellows

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

PENNSYLVANIA TO HOST THE 63RD ANNUAL MID-ATLANTIC STATES CONCLAVE APRIL 1 – 3, 2022 340 RACETRACK ROAD, WASHINGTON, PA

- Hotel with breakfast for two included, at the Double Tree by Hilton hotel is \$139 per night, plus tax.
- Room Reservations must be made directly with the hotel at 724-222-6200 or www.pittsburghmeadowlands.doubletree.com. When making reservations, you must refer to the Mid Atlantic Conclave-IOOF to receive the special room rate. Deadline for room rate is 3/1/2022

Deadline for advance registration, program ads & boosters, drill/skit registration and all meal reservations is **March 1, 2022**

All forms can be found on the Grand Lodge Website on the URL above! They have also been mailed out to every Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodge

What is conclave you may ask? The Mid-Atlantic States conclave is for all branches of the Order consisting of 8 Jurisdictions of Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. Each Jurisdictions takes a turn hosting the conclave. 2022 is for us!

The last two years were cancelled due to COVID, so we're hoping this to be a great one! The general purpose of the Conclave is to assist in any program that is for the promotion of Odd Fellowship, and to act for the benefit and welfare of the Order. It's a great way to meet Odd Fellows, Rebekahs, etc from our neighboring Jurisdictions.

Any questions, contact Grand Representative David A. Young at iamanoddfellow@comcast.net or his information on page 2 of this magazine

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS	
Friday April 1, 2022	
6:30 P.M.	Dinner (\$50 per person)
8:00 P.M.	Presentation Of Flags and Fun Night
Saturday, April 2, 2022	
9:00 A.M.	General Conclave Meeting
1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.	Drill and Skits
5:30 P.M.	Banquet (\$60 per person)

Places to Go ...People to See

JANUARY

9 / DDGM Assoc. Mtg, Zoom, 6:30PM
16 / Unified Session Committee, Harrisburg 1:00PM
(1/23 Snow date)

16 / Arthritis Committee, Leesport 1:30PM

APRIL

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

JUNE

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

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

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

The Pennsylvania Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine

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



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

MT. ZION LODGE NO. 74, YORK

Michael D. Pastorelli - initiated October 18th
Jeffrey D. Runkle
Ellen E. Graham - initiated November 1st

BRADY LODGE NO. 116, MUNCY

Dilip Elangbam - initiated November 20th

CONNOQUENESSING LODGE NO.

278, BUTLER

Adam Luntz - initiated November 9th

SOMERSET LODGE NO. 438

Terry W. Bruggeman, Jr.

- initiated October 25th

Joe Gorsuch

DESK OF THE GM



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

My Brothers and Sisters, GREETINGS to all!!!

As I write this January (2022!!!!) message on this cold, almost winter morning, my hope is that all your wishes this past Christmas were granted and that the Christmas joy and peace takes you well into the New Year.

We have been so blessed with many things in our lives....as individuals....and as Odd Fellows! For me, our three links tell it all: FRIENDSHIP, LOVE and TRUTH!

As an Odd Fellow, I am truly thankful for the love and Fraternal Friendship which you have extended to me not because I am your Grand Master but because of our "Extended Fraternal Family."

It saddens me, as an Odd Fellow and as

the Grand Master, to know that there are lodges that want to close their lodge doors instead of welcoming new members. Our lodges are not private social clubs nor is it a secret society. It is a meeting place for brothers and sisters to come and to work for the betterment of our communities. A place to support one another; to help in the growth of our order as we extend the hand of friendship.

I hear and understand the words; of being tired; of being "over-extended;" of "having done my share," and of traveling too many miles for that short-timed meeting. I do not understand reason for closed doors.... instead of welcoming new members, the discouragement to members instead of wanting to instruct the ways and traditions of Odd Fellowship. We should be opening our doors to all; to older and younger individuals; male and female; and to all who have the belief in our supreme being. We all have been given a talent.... a gift.

Just think if we, as odd fellows, use our talents for the good of our lodges, and for

our communities, what a different we could make!

My year as your Grand Master is at the "half-way point." During this Christmas Season, I spent time thinking of what we accomplished and what I hope to do moving forward. I see the work being done by a few, going out and talking about our Order and receiving petitions for membership. I want to keep our lodges so that we have them for new Odd Fellows. I want to keep our lodges vital for the next generation.

This is my wish, my hope.... my goal for the new year. It can be done but only with you working with me. We can do it but only if we work to grow lodges instead of wanting to close, and by welcoming new members instead of discouraging them. There is room for all in Odd Fellowship!!

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

Shirley J. Whittlinger.
Your Grand Master

DESK OF THE GRAND PATRIARCH

Greetings Patriarchs,
Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas visiting with family and friends! I enjoyed visiting lodge Christmas parties. Thank you very much for the invitations! It was nice to fellowship with great friends and meeting new friends. I love the vast amount of music that Christmas time offers. As a musician I love to play and listen to the many beautiful Carols. While playing and singing the different Carols, I am reminded of the great message of faith hidden in each one. One of my favorite verses, 2 Corinthians 5:7, came to mind. That we should walk by faith and not by the circumstances going on around us! For instance, in the song "We Three Kings." They didn't have smart phones, watches or even GPS to guide them, only the faith to follow a star to lead them! Wow, I don't know how I would survive without the GPS on my phone to help me find my way! I loved playing and singing "O Holy Night" and "Silent Night." Those songs reminded me about the strong faith Mary and Joseph

must of had to carry them on their journey and through many circumstances.

Were you able to reach out to your Lodge and Encampment brothers and sisters that you may not have seen in a while? If not, there is plenty of time in the new year to still reach out. One way I like to reach out is by calling and playing Happy Birthday on the piano on their Birthday. I'm sure you have other creative ideas to reach out. Send me an email, text or phone call, I'm always interested in learning new ways to reach out. My contact info is listed in the front of this magazine. Just remember to leave your name and Lodge/Encampment so I know where you are from.

Again, I have to say I am thankful for your diligence to grow and strengthen our Encampments. Continue to walk by faith and not by the circumstances around you! May your Lodge, Encampment and family have a Blessed New Year!

In Faith, Hope, and Charity!

Shawn E. Miller
Your Grand Patriarch

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

30 YEARS

Sherman F. Wooden, PGM#471
Bernard Trudnak, Jr., #899

40 YEARS

Kurt K. Krammes, #148

45 YEARS

George E. Helmuth, #37

50 YEARS

C. Michael Scott, #150

55 YEARS

John F. Leshner, #141

60 YEARS

Dennis W. Smith, #74
Terry P. Price, #141

65 YEARS

Edwin F. Neff, #379

130 YEARS

Charleroi Lodge No. 1030

FREEDOM LODGE GETS TO WORK!

On Saturday, November 21, 2021 Freedom Lodge #88 had a work day with two community minded objectives. The first objective was to assemble six Thanksgiving Baskets for Families in Need. The second objective was to decorate our float for the Honesdale Christmas Parade. The entire group gathered at Sunrise Service (Past Grand, Mike Kinzinger Proprietor). We broke in to two groups to begin work. The weather was in our favor that day so some members were able to work outside to construct the baskets. Special thanks to Brother Mike Flederbach and Super Duper

for helping provide turkeys to supplement the Lodge donations. Inside the garage, members began building the Christmas scene on the back of a trailer. A big thank you to all the Lodge members and especially to Lily, Brother Dennis Buchinski's daughter, (potential future Sister and Scholarship Winner?) for taking charge of this unruly group and adding a creative touch to our parade float. We hope your holidays are warm and bright. Looking forward to a Wonderful 2022!

~Forrest Goodenough, PVG



WYSOX LODGE CONTINUES TO EDUCATE

The Odd Fellows Award is an award that honors the practical nursing graduates who displayed dedication and perseverance in completing the nursing program. Wysox Lodge #1152 presented awards for academic honors at the Practical Nursing Graduation on August 19, 2021. Nelson Silverstrim, Noble Grand, presented the awards to Hunter Pierce, Crystal Brown, Kimberly Geib and Dustin Spiegel.

The Practical Nursing Program located at Northern Tier Career Center, Towanda, is in its 39th year. It is a one-year program that qualifies graduates to apply for licensure in Practical Nursing. Practical Nurses work in nursing homes, doctors' offices, hospitals and home health care as well as in other areas of health care.

For further information on the Practical Nursing Program, contact 570-285-8113



Pictured left to right: Hunter Pierce, Crystal Brown, Kimberly Geib, Dustin Spiegel and Nelson Silverstrim

CANDIDATES FOR GRAND LODGE WARDEN



SHAWN E. MILLER

On January 17, 2009, he was initiated into the Order at Alma Lodge #523, Johnstown, where he has been serving as Musician/ Trustee. He became a PG, receiving his Grand Lodge Degree on November 9, 2012. Commissioned as DDGM of District #15 on June 25, 2014 and currently serving his eighth term. He is the Jr. Past President of the DDGM Association. On June 24, 2015 he was appointed Grand Musician, a position held until being appointed Grand Marshal in June 2021. In August he was appointed Sovereign Grand Musician by SGM Charles E. Lusk for the current 2021-22 term.

Shawn was initiated into William F. Packer Encampment #127 on June 6, 2009, and serves as Musician and Trustee. He became a PCP on September 16, 2014 and received his Grand Encampment Degree on June 6, 2015. In 2016, he was appointed Grand Inside Sentinel, he advanced through the GE chairs, being elected Grand Patriarch for current 2021-22 term.

Shawn also joined Pittsburgh Canton #5 in 2014, is a Past Commandant and currently the Commander of the 2nd Regiment for the Department Council. He holds Associate memberships with Fred R. Korman Lodge #55 and General Worth Encampment #188. On July 7, 2021, he joined Mon Valley Rebekah Lodge #82.

He was a school music teacher for 28 years and directed a church choir for 16 years. He continues to teach drum lessons and perform locally. He has been married for 27 years to Diane, his lovely bride.



PAUL E. LAUTENSCHLAGER

Proud member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having been initiated into Freedom Lodge #88 - 03/22/1976 and becoming a Past Grand 10/1/1977

Grand Lodge Degree - June 20, 2016, serving from then as Representative District Deputy Grand Master - 6/20/17 to present for District No. 9 and 10 Associate member: Canawacta Lodge No. 207 8/19/2019. Reorganized Canawacta Lodge with remaining members and Associate Members. Elected Noble Grand September 2019. Relocated from the old building in New Milford to Mason Lodge Hall in Hallstead, Pa on 6/07/21

Associate Member: Tunkhannock Lodge No. 699 11/02/17, serving as NG in 2018.

Instrumental along with members of Tunkhannock Lodge to relocate the Lodge to the United Methodist Church building in West Nicholson.

Updated the by-laws of Freedom, Canawacta and Tunkhannock Lodge

Canton Northeast No. 9, Honesdale, Charter Member and Lieutenant 7/27/20

Captain - 6/28/21

Associate Member: Harmony Lodge #86 8/12/20

Chaplain: 2020 - 2022.

Lady Harmony No. 86 - Initiated 09/08/21

Scott Encampment No. 132 - Joined 10/25/21 received all three degrees at the Grand Encampment Rally.

Grand Marshall 2017 - 2019

Grand Chaplain - 2021 - present

Grand Lodge Unified Session Planning committee - Registration - 2020- 2021Session and 2021- 2022 Session.

Grand Lodge Standing Committees:

2021 -2022 : Testimonial, .Grand Lodge Building

2020 -2021 : Grand Lodge Building

2019 -2022 : Membership and Communications

2017 -2019 : Jurisdictional Planning Board , Testimonial

District Deputy Grand Master Association: President: - 06/2021 -present

Vice- President: 06/2020 - 06/2021

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

Fraternal Greetings! It's been awhile since I put anything in the magazine, so we have a few extra spots, I figured I'd fill them up! Remember, this is for Lodge activities, which include your members. If someone has a birthday or anniversary, put it in the magazine! I have been trying to keep quiet, normally to no avail, but as I looked at the 1947 magazine to put something in from 75 years ago, I found two poems. Please read them!! Then put down the magazine. The following day, read the poems again! Keep reading them! The "Stay Away" poem I have seen happen. I have seen Lodges close because the members try bending over backwards to make a member happy that you can tell never will be happy. Sometimes, all they want to see is the Lodge's demise. It

is such a shame to see Lodges close over one person. The "Speak kindly" poem also hits home. We are taught in Odd Fellowship to think before we speak. How smooth our lives would be if we did this! Sometimes it's easier said than done; sometimes we shoot back because someone else said something. Remember, you are accountable for yourself and only yourself. If you call yourself an Odd Fellow, in it's simplicity, you need to try your best to show friendship, love and truth. It's not always easy, but it's who we are supposed to be. Let's try our best in 2022 to do that! Enjoy the poems!

See you on the road of Odd Fellowship.

Justin C. Bailey, Grand Secretary

FREEDOM LODGE #88

On November 3rd, the Grand Master along with her staff, traveled to Honesdale, Pa. to pay an Official Visit to Freedom Lodge #88. Home lodge of Grand Chaplain, Paul Laudenschlager, Grand Conductor, James Laudenschlager, and Nadine Hager, Past President of the Rebekah Assembly. This was a special evening for Andy Kilmer as it was his first official meeting as Noble Grand. And what an excellent job he did!! Traveling with the GM was J. Carl George, DGM; Robert B. Ruff, Grand Warden; and Shawn E. Miller, Grand Marshal. Also visiting Victory Lodge was Jr Past Grand Master, Sherman F. Wooden.

Thank you, Freedom Lodge for the great evening; an exceptionally good meeting; good fellowship; delicious evening meal before the meeting; and surprising the GM with cake and coffee afterwards. Special thanks to the Grand Warden for taking this picture. Special Thanks to my friend, Nadine Hager for the dinner she prepared for the Grand Lodge travelers and all the visitors. Best wishes for a good year to Jessica Kilmer as she begins her year as the secretary for the lodge.



VICTORY LODGE HONORS MEMBER

Victory Lodge #658, Sellersville, celebrated Bob Raffensberger's 30th Anniversary as a member of the IOOF by giving him his well-deserved pin for his multiple services over the years with leading and participating in events and causes, such as his long-standing raffle to benefit the kids at Camp JRA. The members took a

short recess at New Business for the presentation and celebration that caught Bob by surprise. Bob was very appreciative of the pin commemorating his service as an Odd Fellow to the community. We expect to see Bob at our meetings for many years.



GRATITUDE FOR ALL THOSE WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY

Courtesy of Kevin Edwards, Tri-County Independent

Sometimes when I sit down at this keyboard to write my weekly column, there's so much information coursing through my brain that I hardly even know where to begin.

However, that's not the case here today. On this particular morning, my mission is simple and clear ... and, it can be summed up with just one word: gratitude.

Thank You!

As we all know, life can be a messy and complicated business, made even moreso by the whirlwind of thoughts that buffet our brains nearly every waking moment.

Focusing on just one concept when the baby is crying, the kids are fighting, the TV's blaring and the phone's ringing can be just about impossible.

This morning I'm going to make it easy on myself, though. It's Veterans Day and I simply want to say "thank you" to every man and woman who's served our country in the Armed Forces during times of war and peace.

Thanks to your sacrifices, I'm able to sit here in this newsroom free from any outside pressure. There's no one looking over my shoulder telling me what to write and how to write it.

I can pour out my heart onto these pages secure in the knowledge that no agent of the government will kick down my door, threaten my life or censor my words.



The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Freedom Lodge 88 in Honesdale, created this sign. It's displayed every year at Sunrise Service on Rte. 191 just outside the Borough. The simple words deliver a powerful message, one of profound gratitude for all who serve and have served. Thank you! Kevin Edwards, Tri-County Independent

Freedom is an amazing ideal. In fact, it's the very foundation upon which this country was built. But, this freedom wouldn't exist without all the courageous men and women who put on the uniform and risk their lives every day in its defense.

We should never, ever forget that, folks.

THANKSGIVING WITH VINCENT LODGE



Vincent Lodge #762 shared some Thanksgiving cheer with the Whitehall Apartment Veterans Residence in Spring City.

Each apartment received a delicious pie from the Dutch Country Market also in Spring City.

Members Michael Weiss and Sue Grumblatt were happy to help spread some holiday cheer to our veterans.

Sue Grumblatt, Secretary Vincent Lodge #762

JANUARY OBITUARIES

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

WESLEY F. MIKES, SR.
Metropolitan Lodge No. 150
August 20, 2021

Brother Wesley F. Mikes, Sr., 83, of Cherry Hill, NJ, was initiated into Metropolitan Lodge #150, Rockledge, PA, on November 7, 1956, where he became a Past Grand September 17, 2002. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest member, by age and tenure.

Surviving is his wife, the former Dolores Fry, one daughter, one son, Wesley Jr., also of Metropolitan Lodge, and six grandchildren. Services were private.



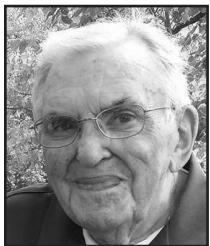
CHARLES B. ANDERSON, SR.
Centre Lodge No. 153
August 30, 2021

Brother Charles B. Anderson, Sr., 102, of Bellefonte, PA, was initiated into Centre Lodge #153, Bellefonte, on April 18, 1985, where he became a Past Grand on October 7, 1993. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest member.

He was a U.S. Army WWII Veteran and a member of the Valley View United Methodist Church in Bellefonte.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Grace Walker, one son and one daughter. Surviving are five sons, ten grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Meyer Cemetery, Bellefonte.



ARLAN ROTHSTEIN
Port Matilda Lodge No. 733
September 23, 2021

Brother Arlan Rothstein, 91, of Port Matilda, PA, was initiated into Port Matilda Lodge #733 on May 1, 2015, where he held active membership. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest living member, and the current Chaplain, a position he held for several years.

He was a U.S. Army Korean War Veteran and a member of the Port Matilda Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Shirley Beckwith, two children and two granddaughters. Surviving are seven children, 11 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and a step-daughter and her family.

Burial was held in Williams Cemetery, Martha Furnace, PA.



DORENE F. WEHRY
Idella Rebekah Lodge No. 58
November 12, 2021

Sister Dorene F. (Maurer) Wehry, 77, of Dornsife, PA, was initiated into Idella Rebekah Lodge #58, Dornsife, on June 11, 1997, where she became a Past Noble Grand.

She was a member of Salem Church, Rough and Ready, PA.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John. Surviving is her mother, three sons and 8 grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of her Lodge and burial was held in Salem Cemetery, Klingerstown.



JOHN W. BATH
Askam Lodge No. 899
November 13, 2021

Brother John W. Bath, 78, of Warrior Run, PA, was initiated into Askam Lodge #899, Sugar Notch, PA, on May 6, 1963, where he became a Past Grand on October 21, 1968 and received his Grand Lodge Degree on

November 6, 1985. He assisted in many installations for the former Wilkes-Barre Lodges and held active membership up until the time of his death. He served many years as Secretary and at the time of his death, he was the current Left Supporter to the Noble Grand and the Lodge's oldest tenured member.

He was a member of the Welsh Presbyterian Church, Wilkes-Barre.

Surviving is his wife, Barbara, two daughters and five grandchildren.

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



NANCY L. LESUER
Fallowfield Lodge No. 1128
November 16, 2021

Sister Nancy L. (Krautter) LeSuer, 80, of Edinboro, PA, was initiated into Edinboro Lodge #510 on December 13, 2007, where she served as secretary for several years. She became a member of Fallowfield Lodge #1128, Atlantic, PA, through consolidation on January 11, 2021.

She was a member of Franklin Center United Methodist Church, Edinboro.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Wendell. Surviving are three children, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of her Lodge and burial was held in Edinboro Cemetery.



THOMAS MORRIS
Hopkins Lodge No. 87
November 17, 2021

Brother Thomas Morris, 81, of Levittown, PA, was initiated into Hopkins Lodge #87, Bristol, PA, on July 12, 2007.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Irene. Surviving are three children, nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

JANUARY OBITUARIES

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



ROBERT E. LEHR, JR.
Victory Lodge No. 658
Bushkill Encampment No. 55
November 23, 2021

Brother Robert E. Lehr, Jr., 65, of Zionsville, PA, was initiated into Victory Lodge #658, Sellersville, PA, on January 7, 2003, where he became a Past Grand on October 18, 2005. He joined Aluta Lodge #488 as an associate on January 6, 2004, where he became a Past Grand on October 21, 2011. He became a Patriarch of Bushkill Encampment #55, Sellersville, on September 6, 2002, where he became a Past Chief Patriarch.

He was a member of Old Zionsville UCC.

Surviving is his wife, the former Donna Bortz, his mother, two sons and two granddaughters on the way.



GLENNA M. NULTON
PDDP/ Past RA Appointed Officer
Lady Landis Rebekah Lodge No. 303
November 24, 2021

Sister Glenna M. (Spotts) Nulton, 91, of Shermans Dale, PA, was initiated into Mahoney Rebekah Lodge #428, New Bloomfield, PA, on September 30, 1958, where she became a Past Noble Grand on October 3, 1967 and received her Rebekah Assembly Degree on April 1, 1968. In 1973, she was bestowed upon the Decoration of Chivalry. She held the position of Treasurer for many years in her Lodge, and served as District Deputy President from 1994 to 1998. She was an Associate member of Lady Landis Rebekah Lodge #303, Landisburg, serving as Delegate to Rebekah Assembly for many years. She went on to serve the Rebekah Assembly as Rebekah Flag Bearer from 2000 - 2001 and Canadian Flag Bearer from 2005 - 2006. She then became a member of Lady Landis Rebekah Lodge #303, New Bloomfield, through consolidation on December 11, 2018. She served as Representative to the Middletown Home. At the time of her death, she was the Lodge's oldest living member.

She was a member of Christ Lutheran Church in New Bloomfield.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Samuel. Surviving are three sons, six grandchildren and four great-grandsons.

Inurnment was held in New Bloomfield Cemetery.



MELVIN SWENDSEN
Freedom Lodge No. 88
November 24, 2021

Brother Melvin "Mel" Swendsen, 82, of Seneca, SC, was initiated into Freedom Lodge #88, Honesdale, PA, on May 10, 1971.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran.

Surviving is his wife, Anita, three daughters, two stepsons, 16 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.



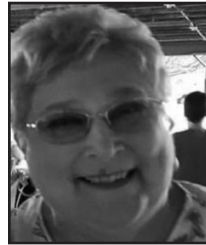
JOSEPH N. ALESSIO
Sandy Lake Lodge No. 573
Lady Worth Rebekah Lodge No. 328
November 28, 2021

Brother Joseph N. Alessio, 63, of Sandy Lake, PA, was initiated into Sandy Lake Lodge #573 on November 21, 2011, where he became a Past Grand on October 19, 2020. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's current Chaplain. He was initiated into Lady Worth Rebekah Lodge #328, Sandy Lake, on April 24, 2021.

Surviving is his companion, Judy Wheeler.

He was a member of The Church of the Beloved Disciple, Grove City.

Burial was held in Crestview Memorial Park, Inc., Grove City.



REBECCA A. HECKMAN
PDDP/Past RA Appointed Officer
Golden Rule Rebekah Lodge No. 198
December 1, 2021

Sister Rebecca A. (Cook) Heckman, 69, of Hadley, PA, was initiated into Mary Jane Rebekah Lodge #496, Sheakleyville, PA, on August 28, 1998 where she became a Past Noble Grand. When Mary Jane Rebekah Lodge went defunct in 2009, she joined Jurisdictional Rebekah Lodge #0 and later transferred to Golden Rule Rebekah Lodge #198, Atlantic, on September 8, 2010. She served as District Deputy President from 2005 - 2007 and went on to serve as RA Musician from 2013 - 2014 and RA Outside Guardian from 2014 - 2015. She was a current Board Member of the Odd Fellows Home in Western Pennsylvania, Meadville.

She was a member of the Sheakleyville United Methodist Church.

Surviving is her husband, Norman, two daughters and five grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of her Rebekah Lodge and burial was held in Sheakleyville Cemetery.

EUGENE N. FAUST
Mount Tabor Lodge No. 125
December 6, 2021

Brother Eugene N. "Gene" Faust, 71, of Coal Township, PA, was initiated into Mount Tabor Lodge #125, Coal Township, on March 5, 1973, where he became a Past Grand on September 30, 1999. He was also Superintendent of the Odd Fellows Cemetery, Coal Township, for many years, a position he held at the time of his death. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's current Vice Grand.

He was a member of Grace Lutheran Church, Shamokin.

Surviving is his wife, the former Shelly Ford, his son, Rod, Secretary of Mount Tabor Lodge #125, and his stepmother.

Services will be private at the convenience of the family.

THE TREASURER'S TALES

JANUARY 2022

Winter is cold and snowy, the days are short and the night is long. In January 1927, winter in New Jersey followed this ancient pattern. The snow and cold sometimes overtake the people (and raccoons) and make life more difficult. This was true in 1927. The month began on a Saturday and school went back in session on Monday, January 3, 1927.

On January 1, 1927, Alabama played Stanford to a 7-7 tie in the Rose Bowl. On January 5, baseball commissioner Landis began a 3-day public hearing on charges that 4 games played between Chicago & Detroit in 1917 had been thrown to the White Sox. On January 11, Louis B. Mayer head of film studio MGM, announces creation of Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences; more about the Oscars in future columns. On January 15, Tennessee Supreme Court overturns (on a technicality) John T. Scopes' guilty verdict for teaching evolution, but the law itself remains in force. On January 31, the National League (baseball) ruled that future Baseball Hall of Fame infielder Rogers Hornsby can't hold stock in the St. Louis Cardinals and play for the NY Giants; he earned \$2,916 dividend on same day. On January 17, Juliette Gordon Low, American founder of the Girl Scouts of the USA, died from breast cancer at 66.

Weather will play the central theme this month. January is not the month for beach parties or cookouts, unless you are a polar bear. Since we are located in New Jersey, there are no polar bears or palm trees. The infamous four-letter word of fear and contempt, snow, will challenge our heroes. Barney Wells, a famous Odd Fellow, high school English teacher and farmer returned to his class room after a Christmas break on January 3 as we noted above. On January 3 it started to snow. It snowed so much and for so long that the roads were closed, the sidewalks were impassable, and the Grovers Mill High School ran out of coal for its boiler, forcing a shutdown on January 6 that would last for a week. The school boards were sensitive toward operating costs as well as weather and it was cheaper to close the school for a week than to try to keep it open and pay more for coal.

During the shutdown, Barney applied most of his skills toward his occupation as a farmer. All bundled up, he poured a tea kettle of water into the troughs for the animals. He devised an ingenious system for heating his chicken coop. He got an old wood stove, put a metal jacket around it and gravity fed heated air by a short

pipe into the coop. As he walked to his corn crib, he noticed small paw prints in the snow, some deeper than others. The variation in the paw prints indicated the animal had hopped over the deep snow to get to the corn crib. A fair amount of yelling caused a famous raccoon, Melchizedek, to hop out of the corn crib and scurry toward the woods. Barney had been bested again. He didn't lose enough corn to cause a problem and he laughed when he saw his pet and nemesis run out of sight.

Barney spent more time outside than he liked, because of the cold. He mounted the snowmobile treads on his 1926 Model T and prepared to move once the snow had stopped. He had a central heating system in his house and he welcomed the return to warmth and companionship. He knew that the day would come when he would have to teach school to students who had one vacation after another and were not settled down. This caused some apprehension.

There would be no Odd Fellows meeting during the snow storm. The roads were too slippery for members to safely go to the meeting and cold weather was always marked with lower attendance. As most of you are well aware, there was no ZOOM for meetings in 1927. About half the members walked to lodge and the other half took cars. Grovers Mill had no streetcars that ran near the lodge hall. The street car and railroad were for travel to Trenton, New York or Philadelphia.

Garbage cans were for personal use. There was no trash collection and everyone burned or buried trash in his back yard. The cans were almost all metal (a few wood bins) and behind most houses. Melchizedek had learned that he needed to jump up and position his hind legs on the handle and push the lid with his front legs to pop the can open. This procedure worked over eighty percent of the time. Having been roused from the corn crib, Melchizedek was forced to resort to trash cans or bins. New Jersey had a small, but hungry, bear population. Melchizedek learned that when a bear approached, any dispute over ownership of the garbage can and its contents always was resolved in favor of the bear. He had several small scars on his left rump to remind him of this.

We detailed how Melchizedek enjoyed the January treats last year. This year the weather was colder and there was more snow. Our friendly mascot had to search a bit more and work a bit harder to find dinner.

He offered several times to help Warden and Conductor (Barney's outside dogs) with their leftovers. His kind offer was rejected with snarls. Barney watched the hapless raccoon trying to eat a frozen orange peel and was impressed with his fortitude and amused by his lack of success. This prompted Barney to think of a question for his students to ponder when they returned to school. After all, Barney had time to prepare a detailed lesson with the snow stopping most activities. Valley Forge was not far away and Washington's courage and resolve during the cold winter of 1777-1778 was more intrepid than Melchizedek. He wanted to check with the history teacher to see how much the students had learned in history, after all he was trying to teach them literature and how to write, not history. A bit of inspiration rethought and abandoned.

Bram Stoker's nineteenth century novel, Dracula, was introduced as a play in 1927. He thought perhaps he could use that to stimulate his class, but the topic may offend some. He decided to stick to Shakespeare. He reviewed all his old college notes on Hamlet and had the parts ready for the return to school. He wanted to challenge the students to understand the play and perform it. Plays are meant to be heard, not read. The costumes and movement by the actors is not as important as the dialogue and how it is perceived by the listener. Hamlet is a standard and for those of you who would like to view its variations, Check out this site: <http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLHaHzhFOF017SMulYDU-SdvcZ8CA9cTYM> Where David Tennant of Dr. Who fame, portrays the lead in twentieth century costume. Barney revised the play so he could have it performed with common dress from 1927. Perhaps in February we will pursue the answers to the pertinent questions: Will Barney capture the students interest? Will he be able to pull off a production in modern dress and scenery? What changes will he need to make? Will I answer these questions in February? Read next month's column.

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.

THE STAY AWAY

BY SN

Old Bill came to Lodge last night
Determined that some wrongs he'd right.
A clique was running things, he'd heard,
And what they did was quite absurd.

They'd raised the dues five cents a week.
Who ever heard of such a cheek
They'd agreed to furnish a Club Room, too,
And other things they'd planned to do.

We'll run the Lodge as it ran before,
Shouted Bill, and was he sore,
What was good enough for Dad and me
Is good enough for others. See?

Then there arose a Brother meek
Who quietly began to speak
"Isn't it true that for many a year
Neither Brother Bill or his Dad were here?"

Why should these stay-aways
Blame us for more modern ways?
It seems to me if they cannot boost
Back home they go and there they roost."

Well, so it is with some of the guys
Who come once a year and then talk wise.
They are different fold I have in mind,
And Lodges are run by a different kind.

THE STRANGE CASE OF PHILIP J. VETTER

While going through old journals of the Department Council, I found excerpts that were incredibly interesting how things turned out here. Enjoy! LTC Vetter was a druggist from Scranton, which was also where the Department Commander was from.

As per the Dept Council minutes of July 21, 1899 by Dept commander's report:

"Since last we met in annual session we have lost one of our most useful and honorable members; the former Chief of Staff and the Vice-President of this Council, Lt. - Col. Philip J. Vetter, of [Canton Scranton] No. 4. The sad news of his death came to us a few days ago; he was returning home with a party of prospectors from the Alaska gold fields, all but one of the party perished from exposure, sickness and hunger.

We shall miss him in the years to come, for he was ever and earnest worker, not only in this branch of the Order, but in the cause of Odd Fellowship.

Resolution adopted

"As this Dept Council meets in Annual Session in the home city [Scranton] of it's respected Vice-President, Lt.-Col. Philip J. Vetter, former Chief of Staff of the Department of Pennsylvania, the profoundly saddening announcement comes to us through the public press of his death from exposure in the far-off Eldorado of his hopes, the mighty, mystery-abounding Klondyke.

He had been called to face the inevitable finale of life's grim tragedy at his own hearthstone surrounded by his friends, his taking off would have elicited from us sincere regret. We would have missed his genial presence, his honest face, the warm, manly pressure of his friendly hand, but now what should we say, thousands of miles away in the ice-bound realm of the frozen north, his legion of friends a dream of the past, the rigors of hardship increasing daily and hourly until they overwhelm the courageous soul, and the iron will yields at last to the dread power, which will not be denied: before this scene, words fail of their expressive power, regrets are vain, memorials are inapt, but in the silent hearts of those who knew him the true and honest tributes will be paid.



Dated 1905

Should this announcement by chance prove incorrect, should he still survive to fight his way to life and home, the rejoicing would be great; and with this slight but improbably hope as our single ray of light, we bid our friend and brother "good bye" but not farewell."

Williamsport 7/20/1900 rpt from Dept Commander:

"When we met in annual session one year ago our hearts were sad because we believed that we had lost one of our most esteemed members - Colonel Philip J. Vetter, the then Vice-President of this Council; our hearts are glad today because the dead is alive again, not only alive, but very much alive, and he has again taken place as Chief-of-Staff in this Department. He was one of the very few men in this world who lived to read his own obituary notice. As he is with us today, I am sure that all will extend to him the "glad hand."

From the Editor - It was custom back then when a person died, that other members and Lodges would send resolutions of his esteem. They had the book to present to his widow, but as he was found and back in action, they presented him then with the book.

SPEAK KINDLY

BY SN

We have in mind a parody which emphasizes clearly the point we wish to bring out in this article. It is as follows:

"I show an arrow int the air,
It fell to earth I know not where,
But a former said it had killed his calf
And I had to pay him six and a half.

I bought some poison to slay the rats
But an old maid said it had killed her cats,
And rather than quarrel over the fence
I paid her four dollars and fifty cents.

And I set sailing a toy balloon
I hoped it would soar 'til it reached the moon.
But the candle fell out in the farmer's straw
And I had to settle or go to law."

So it is with the random shot,
It rarely hits the proper spot
And the joes you fling and think so smart
May leave a sting in some other's heart."

We recall in our earlier days how we interrupted a pompous individual in the course of his address with what we thought was a smart wise crack. It hurt, and hurt deeply although we had not intended, wished or expected to do so. Upon another occasion we jokingly criticized a dear friend on his absence from a meeting and his retort indicated that he was deeply hurt. Those instances convinced us that it is better to avoid any semblance of wise-cracking that might, as the parody tells, "leave a sting in some other's heart." How often have we been present when some speaker indulged in sarcasm with no regard for the heartache his smartness might cause to others. Disregarding all decency and encouraged by the laughter brought forth by his so-called wit, he continued to leave in the hearts of those who would be his friends darts that stung to the quick. There are so many nice and kind things to be said that those who are called upon as speakers might say that it seems the height of folly to take advantage of another affliction, fault or misfortune. We shall close with this admonition:

"If you see a tall fellow ahead in a crowd
And you know of a story that the telling aloud
Would cause that proud head to in sorrow be bowed,
It's a pretty good plan to forget it."
Sn.

 Periodicals

NOVEMBER DONATIONS

	VISUAL RESEARCH	
2	Unified	\$50.00
	VISUAL ASSISTANCE	
2	Unified	\$50.00
	ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION	
2	Unified	\$100.00
	PA EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND	
	PIARA Mowry-Harbstreit	\$33.45
	PA EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND	
2	Unified	\$100.00
	PA ODD FELLOW & REBEKAH MAGAZINE	
	Rebekah Assembly	\$100.00

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT CHESTER 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!

Berwyn - Lady Harrison Rebekah Lodge #25 - defunct 1905
 Coatesville - Huldah Rebekah Lodge #37 - defunct 1922
 Coatesville - Hope Rebekah Lodge #200 - consolidated 1967
 Cochranville - New Century Rebekah Lodge #244 - defunct 2002
 Honey Brook (Waynesburg) - Rhoda Rebekah Lodge #77 - defunct 1880
 Kennett Square - Flora Rebekah Lodge #583 - consolidated 1954
 Lionville - May Rebekah Lodge #103 - defunct 1903
 Lionville - Lady Chester Valley Rebekah Lodge - defunct after 1950
 Paoli - Lady Paoli Rebekah Lodge #136 - defunct 2005
 Phoenixville - Adelaide Rebekah Lodge #42 - consolidated 1981
 Spring City - Marcella Rebekah Lodge #437 - defunct 1917
 Spring City - Marcella Rebekah Lodge #459 - consolidated 1990
 West Chester - Florentina Rebekah Lodge #203 - consolidated 1980

13 Rebekah Lodges with 0 still active

1st Rebekah Lodge - Huldah Rebekah Lodge #37 in 1870

Last Rebekah Lodge - Lady Paoli Rebekah Lodge #136 in 2005

25 Odd Fellow Lodges

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