



# PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE



Vol. 98

September 2023

No. 9

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

Follow us on Facebook at The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Independent Order of Odd Fellows

\*NEW\* You can also follow us on Instagram at @paoddfellows



Thistle Lodge #512 of Pittston held its annual Clam Bake and had several other Lodges join in our event.

Good food, several drawings and prizes, good weather (until 05:00 pm) and above all Odd Fellow brotherhood made this a great success.

**Did your Lodge or District celebrate our bicentennial yet???**



@IOOFFPA

## *Places to GO - People to See*

SEPTEMBER

9 / bi-centennial IOOF Rally @ Walker #306 - Philadelphia, 9:30AM

OCTOBER

1 / GL Board Meeting - Middletown, 12:00PM

14 / GE Rally & Brd Meeting - Sellersville+

21 / PGP Calhoun Testimonial - Shartlesville+

27-29 / SGM Cupp Testimonial - Coraopolis

+ 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!

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

(USPS 426-500)

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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](mailto: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:**

**ASKAM LODGE NO. 899, SUGAR NOTCH**  
 Nicholas Bolesta – initiated August 7th

## FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND MASTER

Sisters and brothers,  
Here we are, almost fall. The year is going by quickly already. There has been very much fellowship and fun on my visits. Knoebels was a great success for just starting up again; I am already looking forward to next year and would encourage everybody to participate if possible. Thanks to Mary and Joe for all of the work you did for a successful event. Those from the west, it is a drive but much worth it if you've never experienced it. Congratulations to District one - they were the first ones to have all three lodges consecutively meet with a quorum. There are many events coming up - a rally at Walker lodge on September 9. Yvonne Calhoun's testimonial on October 21. And Encampment Rally at Victory Lodge #658 October 14. Also, the weekend of October 27 will be the testimonial for Brother John S. Cupp Sovereign Grandmaster. It will be held in the Pittsburgh area and PLEASE make JOHN proud of Pennsylvania by attending. Many congratulations to John S. Cupp our new Sovereign Grandmaster and best wishes for a successful year. I am also pleased with the way some lodges are

conducting business and not being complacent about being involved in community activities, and getting our name out into the public which is essential to our survival as a fraternity. Don't forget this month we have nominations for offices. And installations in October. Please make sure that your representative to GRAND LODGE plans on attending or you might consider another person that would. In other words, stop picking your friends or just putting a name on the paper and get somebody to help the fraternity. The same goes for the boards. There will be a memo going out about a new contest in October. There will be several benchmarks to attain and good luck to everybody in your journey to achieve a win. I would like to say again thank you for entrusting the fraternity to my care for this year, and my visitations have been wonderful so far with few exceptions. So in conclusion, I hope I will see you soon on the road and naturally-Happy Bicentennial !!! be proud of our fraternity and it's achievements and what has been accomplished over this past 200 years. In FLT,  
Bob Ruff,GM

## COME VISIT THE GRAND MASTER

Grand Master George has scheduled the following visits for September. I am sure he would appreciate seeing you there.

- 2 - Kingwood #1010 picnic
- 5 - Falls Creek #957 OV - 7:30PM
- 9 - Bicentennial Rally, Philadelphia - 9:30AM
- 15 - Port Matilda #733 OV - 7:30PM
- 18 - Sandy Lake #573 OV - 7:30PM
- 19 - Jordan #192 OV - 7:30PM
- 20 - Brady #116 OV - 7:30PM
- 21 - Mahanoy #551 OV - 7:30PM
- 22 - Mt. Hor #736/Lady Evelyn R#22 OV - 6:00PM
- 25 - Shenandoah #591 OV - 7:30PM
- 26 - Wysox #1152 OV - 7:30PM
- 27 - White Haven #457 OV - 7:30PM
- 28 - Latrobe #541 OV - 8:00PM

## FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Brothers and Sisters,  
Welcome to September, the end of summer, and the beginning of fall. Students are returning to school, our weather will have hot days and cool nights. Everyone will be celebrating Labor Day, the last holiday of summer. May you all enjoy the day off with family and friends.

This is the month when the Lodges will also see some changes. At this time they should have had their report from the Nominating Committee and plan to hold their election on the last meeting night of September. When Lodges elect members to an office, care should be taken that the member proposed for office is qualified, prepared and willing to serve. Follow your By-Laws and the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge and Sovereign Grand Lodge. Each Lodge must also elect a Representative and Alternate Representative for the Unified Session. Please do not just fill the positions to complete the forms and send them to Grand Lodge. Elect two members that are willing and able

to attend the Unified Session Grand Lodge meetings. Each Lodge will receive an advance report that the Representative should read over and advise the Lodge of any Legislation coming before the Grand Lodge for approval. Your Lodge has a voice and should send that voice to speak for your Lodge. The information that one will receive at the Unified Session should be brought back to your Lodge in a report. Lodges that work together and work with the Grand Lodge, will grow together. May your elections be harmonious and progressive as you move forward to a new year in your Lodge.

All of the District Deputy Grand Masters are prepared and willing to install your new officers in October. Keep in touch with them and work with them to schedule your installation.

In Friendship, Love and Truth,  
Paul E. Lautenschlager,  
Deputy Grand Master

## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

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

### 30 YEARS

Forrest C. Goodenough, #88  
Steven R. Martin, #88

### 35 YEARS

Roger A. Zimmerman, #148  
Larry C. Skinner, #457

### 55 YEARS

Theodore J. Tomlinson, #1152

### 60 YEARS

Paul W. Semmel, #192

## NEWS FROM THE JURISDICTIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE

The JYC met at Session on June 24th. One of the items discussed was getting more youth involved in activities in the hope of getting them to form or join a youth group. Some suggested activities would be road or park clean ups, planting a community garden, a movie night, food drives or visits with Santa. Keep in mind that these activities need to be lodge sponsored. That means the adults should have their Child Abuse and State Police Clearances. They do NOT cost anything. Just put down that you are a volunteer, and the clearances are free. The children do NOT have to be in a youth group. That's what we're trying to form. These activities are to generate interest. Send a picture of the activity and The JYC will pay \$50 towards a pizza party for the group! The links for the clearances are below. Once you have your clearances, send a copy to the JYC Secretary.

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/KeepKidsSafe/Clearances/Pages/PA-Child-Abuse-History-Clearance>  
<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/KeepKidsSafe/Clearances/Pages/Criminal-Background-Check>

Here's to our Youth!  
 Mary Giebel - IOOF JYC Secretary  
 PO Box 49 • Cassville, PA 16623

## ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS ASSOCIATION OF W. PA 2023 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania recently announced the recipients of their "2023 Scholarship Awards." The Association's Award Committee (Chairman Robert Grant, George Hogan, John Rebar, and Debbie Young) presented their eight candidate recommendations to the Association's Board during their Grove City meeting on July 22, 2023. The candidates, each having fulfilled the requirements of the Award, were unanimously approved by the Board. Each received a \$4,000 monetary award which was sent to their respective college/university. In addition, the recipients, along with a family member or friend, were invited to attend the next Board meeting/luncheon of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania which will take place in Grove City on a Saturday in October (date to be determined).

**Luke Federici** - son of Mary Anne and Mark Federici (Eastlake, OH). Luke's grandfather, Thomas Stachura, is a member of Clover Lodge #348 (Ambridge, PA). Luke will be entering his sophomore (2nd yr.) at Youngstown State University (Youngstown, OH) majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

**Alexander Irwin** - son of Pamela and David Irwin, (Erie, PA). Alexander's grandfather, Merle Wood, was a member of Presque Isle #107 and is presently a member of Fallowfield #1128 (Atlantic, PA). Alexander completed his freshman (1st yr.) at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, where he is majoring in Biology.

**Jonathon Kiggins** - son of Jennifer Bitner (West Newton, PA) and David Kiggins (Pittsburgh, PA). Jonathon and his grandfather, James Howells, are both members of Charleroi Lodge #1030 (Charleroi, PA). Jonathon will be entering his sophomore year at Westmoreland County Community College (Youngwood, PA), focusing on Nursing as his career choice.

**Jennifer LeSuer** - daughter of Michele and Kyle LeSuer (Edinboro, PA). Jennifer's grandfather, Dentscil LeSuer, is a member of Fallowfield Lodge # 1128 (Atlantic, PA). Jennifer previously received one of the Association's Scholarship Awards in 2021. She completed her junior year at Penn State Behrend majoring in Nursing.

**Cameron Oaks** - son of Jaime and Craig Oaks (Murrysville, PA). Cameron and his father are members Alma Lodge #523 (Johnstown, PA). He received one of the 2022 Association Scholarship Awards. Cameron will be entering his junior year at Seton Hill University (Greensburg, PA) where his major area of concentration will enable him to become a Physician Assistant.

**Madelyn Oliver** - daughter of Melissa and Michael Oliver (Johnstown, PA). Madelyn's grandfather, Joseph Oliver, is a member of I.O.O.F. Alma Lodge #523 (Johnstown, PA). She also received one of the Association's Scholarship Awards last year. Madelyn will be entering her senior year at the University of Pittsburgh majoring in Communication and minoring in Political Science and Theatre Arts.

**Jillian Warner** - daughter of Barbara and Matthew Warner (Erie, PA). Jill's grandfather, Merle Wood, was a member of Presque Isle #107 and is presently a member of Fallowfield #1128 (Atlantic, PA). She completed her 1st year at Penn State Behrend, where she is majoring in Biology/Pre-Dentistry.

**Paige Wilt** - daughter of Amy Wilt (Markleton, PA) and Donald "Shawn" Wilt (Confluence, PA). Paige's grandfather, Dr. Gary Compton, is a member of Kingwood Lodge #1010 (Markleton, PA). She will be transferring from Potomac State College to West Virginia University to begin her junior year and majoring in Nursing.

On behalf of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania, the 2023 Scholarship Award Committee wishes Luke, Alexander, Jonathon, Jennifer, Cameron, Madelyn, Jillian, and Paige, continued success toward the completion of their degrees and in all their future endeavors.

## ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS ASSOC. OF W. PA 2023 GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania is presently offering three - \$4,000 Graduate Scholarship Awards during the Fall of 2023. A copy of the "Rules" and an "Application" for the 2023 Graduate Scholarship Awards can be obtained by 1) contacting Robert Grant, 40 Cypress Way; Charleroi, Pa 15022, or 2) emailing a request to ".robag@comcast.net." The "Rules" and "Application" may also be downloaded from our website: "www.glpaioof.org" during the September to late November time period. The deadline for submitting applications will be **November 30, 2023**.

Regarding the Graduate Scholarship Award, the applicant or a living relative must be a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) or Rebekahs of Western Pennsylvania and enrolled in the graduate program of an accredited college or university with all areas of concentration being eligible. Also, the applicant must be:

A) a college graduate continuing his/her education toward an advanced degree (i.e. Masters in Education (M.Ed), Masters in Music (MM), etc.) or

B) enrolled in a degree program requiring more than the usual four (4) years of undergraduate studies to complete (i.e. Physician Assistant (PA), Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD), Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) etc.).

Note: Previous applicants/recipients of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of W. PA Scholarship Award (undergraduate) may apply for this scholarship award.

## 762 MURAL

Vincent Lodge #762 was proud to be a sponsor of the beautiful mural commemorating the history of Spring City. Pictured are some of our members along with borough officials attending the official presentation of the mural and plaque.

Sue Grumblatt  
Secretary, Vincent Lodge #762



## 2023 UNIFIED SESSION • CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW

As I sit to write this review, I cannot believe that the Unified Session has been completed for 2 weeks already. This is my summary of the event side of our gathering, not the business side of it. As we have for several years, we met at the Red Lion Hotel in Harrisburg, PA. We met from Friday evening, June 23rd through Wednesday, June 28th.

I first want to recognize that Mt. Zion Lodge #74 was an Honor Roll Sponsor for our Unified Session this year. The donation arrived after my article listing our sponsors was submitted for the magazine, this is my acknowledgment to them that their donation was greatly appreciated. Most of the Unified Session Committee members gathered on Friday evening to assist the Registration Committee in filling the registration bags with the bounty of donations given to us by lodges and members. I was a few minutes late in arriving and, to my surprise, most of the bags had already been filled by the large number of volunteers who showed up to help. The bags were filled in less than half an hour and ready for distribution by the Registration Committee.

Saturday had Board meetings of the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly. This is also the day that many of our participants check in to the hotel for their stay. Saturday evening was "Fun Night" - this year was something different. "A Night at the Ballpark" was a replay of the 2010 playoff debut of Roy Halladay of the Philadelphia Phillies. Roy pitched a no-hitter in his debut. I attended this game in person along with my son and grandson. I offered "behind the scenes" commentary of what was going on in the ballpark that evening. In spite of some audio-visual glitches, the event took place and was enjoyed by those attending. Thank you to the sponsor who helped to fund this free evening to all attendees. There were 3 autographed baseballs handed out to some of our attendees, I am sure that these keepsakes will greatly increase in value as time passes by. Sunday was our traditional Religious & Memorial Service. I want to thank all who participated and also thank everyone for the supportive comments you gave to me personally. Our banquet on Sunday evening was well attended, we were back to pre-COVID levels of attendance. We had comments from the 4 Heads of the Order from Pennsylvania and all of our visiting dignitaries representing the International Branches of our Order (Sovereign Grand Lodge, International Association of Rebekah Assemblies and General Military Council).

Our business meetings were held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (Grand Lodge & Rebekah Assembly on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday mornings; Department Council on Monday afternoon; Grand Encampment on Tuesday afternoon).

Monday evening, we saw the conferring of the Grand Decoration of Chivalry on Past Department Commander Justin C. Bailey under the direction of Department Commander David Young. The ceremony was beautiful, you would not realize how little practice there was by the participants to conduct such a wonderful ceremony. This was followed by the Grand March for all participants and guests in attendance.

Tuesday evening was the Installation of the new presiding officers for the Grand Lodge (Grand Master Robert Ruff), Rebekah Assembly (President Anna Smith) and Grand Encampment (Grand Patriarch Thomas Kutchner). The installation went well and everyone had an opportunity to socialize and congratulate the officers who were installed that evening. There was a Cookie Contest under the direction of Grand Master Ruff. I am not sure who won but there were many tasty entries. I am pleased to say that I stuck to my limit of 2 cookies for the evening and it was quite a chore to narrow down which 2 cookies I would treat myself to.

Wednesday completed our business and we were off to other events and then home. The most common complaint I heard was not being able to check out late on Wednesday. The normal checkout time for the hotel is 11:00AM. They did extend checkout to 12:00PM (noon) for most who requested it. The hotel cannot give everyone a late checkout because they have to turn all the rooms around for the next group coming in to stay with them. While we would all like to have an early check in time and a late check out time, this is not always possible.

I want to thank all who attended and supported this event. I have a wonderful committee who works very hard all year long to bring you a successful Unified Session. The Chairman has the least amount of actual work to do. I allow my committee to function in the manner they best see fit to do their job to bring you all a successful event. As I have said many times in the past, my job as Chairman is to "herd the cats" and keep them running in the same direction.

We will see you in 2024 at the Red Lion Hotel for the 52nd Unified Session!  
Dale E. Binkley, PGM, PGR  
Unified Session Committee, Chairman

# ON THE ROAD WITH THE GRAND MASTER



Official Visit Fallowfield Lodge #1128



Connoquenessing #278 Official Visitation



Official Visitation Aluta Lodge #488 and Lady Hall Rebekah Lodge #202



Official Visit Triune Lodge #307



## CANTON NORTHEAST NO. 9 INSTALLATION

On Monday, July 31st, the officers and Chevaliers of Canton Northeast No. 9 were installed by Regimental Commander, BG(R) William F. Hanby, and staff.

Congratulations to the newly installed Officers. Present are: (seated l to r) ESN Bob Schumacher, LT Jessica Kilmer, installing Aide PDC Bruce Torrence, and Chaplain Nadine Hager. (standing l to r) Regimental Commander BG(R) William Hanby, Commandant CPT Andrew Kilmer and retiring Commandant/Battalion Commander LTC Paul E. Lautenschlager.

Canton Northeast No. 9, Patriarchs Militant, IOOF, of Honesdale, PA, was instituted July 27, 2020

# ON THE ROAD WITH THE GRAND MASTER



On July 26th, Grand Master Robert Ruff, traveled from Pittsburgh to visit the Officers and Members of Harmony Lodge No. 86, Tamaqua. There were several other Grand Lodge officers in attendance, along with visiting Brothers from Pine Grove Lodge #148 and Victory Lodge #658 of Sellersville.

A check was presented to him for his charity, Alzheimer's Association of Pennsylvania. Thanks to all who attended!



Unified Lodge #2 Official Visitation



Nucleus Lodge #377 Official Visitation

## GRAND WARDEN AND FAMILY ATTEND FUN DAY AT KNOEBEL'S

The one picture is my whole family at Knoebels. I had 11 members of my family, my 3 girls, my grandchild & her boyfriend and two of my other grandchildren and my great grandchild. The following are the names:

1. Eileen - my wife;
2. Jennifer Weeber - My oldest girl;
3. Nicole Stolarski - My middle child;
4. Charlene Hilt - My youngest child;
5. Madison Stolarski - My grandchild;
6. David Schlotter - Madison's Boyfriend;
7. Kaleb Kosterbauder - My grandchild;
8. Casey Kosterbauder - My grandchild;
9. Elsie Lamone - My great grandchild.
10. Nicholas Stolarski - My grandchild; and
11. Myself - Frank Hilt.



The other is my wife Eileen & Myself on the Carousel at Knoebels.

## SEPTEMBER OBITUARIES

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

### Dolores M. Lafferty

Past District Deputy President  
Maud Rebekah Lodge No. 175  
July 10, 2023

Sister Dolores M. (Goodwin) Bennett Warfield Lafferty, 93, of Duke Center, PA, was initiated into Lady Eldred Rebekah Lodge #526 on May 19, 1950. She transferred on October 1, 1953 to Maud Rebekah Lodge #175 of Rew where she became a Past Noble Grand October 2, 1963, and received her Rebekah Assembly Degree the 11th of that month. In 1982, she was a recipient of the Decoration of Chivalry. She served as District Deputy President from 1988 - 1990 and served as Secretary for many years. At the time of her death, she was the Lodge's oldest member, by age and tenure.

She was preceded in death by three husbands, Alexander Bennett, Robert Warfield and John Lafferty, and one stepson. Surviving are two sons, one stepson, five grandsons and one great-grandson.



### Mark A. Dussia

Warren Lodge No. 339  
July 14, 2023

Brother Mark A. Dussia, 55, of Warren, PA, was initiated into Warren Lodge #339 on April 15, 2023, where he received his three degrees.

He was born in Ridgway, Pa., on October 23, 1967, son of Louie Dussia and Mary Lutz Maines. Mark was a 1985 graduate of Warren High School, where he played trumpet in the marching band and was a member of the National Honor Society. Mark was the service technician and shop manager at Dreamboat Marine and Hobby Shop in Starbrick, Pa., where he worked with his father for the past 38 years. He had the reputation as the number one certified Mercury Mercruiser Technician in the area and was sought out for his analytical skills.

He was devoted to his family and loved spending time with them. He was an avid and studied chess player. He had a passion for classic Mopars and VWs and owned various classical automobiles over the years. He was a dedicated weightlifter and strove to maintain a healthy lifestyle. He was an assistant scout master for Boy Scout Troop 8, served as their treasurer, and was affectionately known to them as "Mara's Dad."

In addition to his parents, Mark is survived by his wife Tammy Robinault Dussia, daughter Mara Dussia, stepson Tanner Rosenberg (Devon), stepdaughter Taylor Lent, and three stepgrandchildren: Kora, Klay, and Clara.

Mark was preceded in death by his sister, Melanie Dussia Martire. A private celebration of Mark's life will be held at the convenience of the family.



### David R. Green

Mystic Lodge No. 270  
July 22, 2023

Brother David R. Green, 68, of Philadelphia, PA, was initiated into Mystic Lodge #270, Philadelphia, on November 29, 1982, where he became a Past Grand on October 16, 2006. He was incredibly active in his Lodge, serving as Noble Grand from 2005 - 2009 and 2010 until the time of his death. He was a trustee to the Lodge and helped as a tour leader for the Pilgrimage for Youth.

Surviving is his wife, the former Barbara Smith, siblings, as well as his brother-in-law, Steven Toll, of Mystic Lodge, several nieces and nephews, also being Joshua and Amy Toll, also of Mystic Lodge.



### Garner R. Lloyd, Jr.

Sandy Lake Lodge No. 573  
July 28, 2023

Brother Garner R. Lloyd, Jr., 78, of Stoneboro, PA, was initiated into Adoniram Lodge #739, Sharpville, PA, on June 7, 1963, where he became a Past Grand. He left the Lodge in 1978 and reinstated on January 21, 2008 into Sandy Lake Lodge #573, where he received his Grand Lodge Degree on September 27, 2008. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's Inside Guardian.

He was a member of Oak Grove Church, Mercer, PA.

Surviving is his wife, the former Marion Vath, four children, two step-children, 14 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, 4 step-grandchildren and his sister and her husband Faye and Don Pleso, of Fallowfield Lodge #1128, Atlantic, PA.

Service was private.



### Shirley A. London

Idella Rebekah Lodge No. 58  
August 3, 2023

Sister Shirley A. (Rebuck) London, 89, of Herndon, PA, was initiated into Idella Rebekah Lodge #58, Dornsife, on May 26, 1982, where she became a Past Noble Grand on October 11, 1989 and received her Rebekah Assembly Degree. She held many offices in her Lodge, was a member of the Tri-County PNG Association, was a Delegate to Rebekah Assembly and was on the Degree Staff. She was a recipient of the Decoration of Chivalry in June of 1994.

She was a member of the Himmel's Lutheran Church in Rebuck.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard. Surviving are three children, five grandchildren, three great-grandsons, one step-grandson and two step-great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of her Rebekah Lodge and burial was held at Himmel's Church Cemetery, Rebuck, PA.



## INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS OF PENNSYLVANIA BICENTENNIAL 2023 RALLY • SEPTEMBER 9TH, 2023

### Proudly held in Walker Hall, Philadelphia, PA

BRING YOUR CANDIDATES! It's that time of the year to start getting your plans made for the Fall Rally! The location is Walker Hall, home of Walker Lodge No 306, 1290 Southampton Road, Philadelphia.

\*\* There will be a registration of \$1.00 per person attending, including candidates.

Lodge will open at 9:30AM

Initiatory Degree - 10:00AM

1st Degree - 11:30AM

Lunch - 12:30

GL Degree - 1:30PM

2nd Degree - 1:45PM

3rd Degree - 3:00PM

3:45PM Introduction of Dignitaries & Closing the Lodge.

Lunch will be provided at a cost to be determined.

It has been a while since we had a degree rally at Walker Lodge, but it's time again to come in strong and celebrate 200 years of Odd Fellowship, so let's pack Walker hall. Please come out and support Odd Fellowship. It will be a day worth coming down and even brushing up on the degrees! We have survived two hundred years of Odd Fellowship in Pennsylvania. It's birthplace was in Philadelphia, so let's go back home to celebrate making it this far! For those of you who have never been here, don't let "Philadelphia" scare you; it is not in the city. There are also several hotels and restaurants in the area.

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

## GRAND ENCAMPMENT RALLY INVITE

TO ALL PATRIARCHS,

A Grand Encampment Degree Rally is scheduled for Saturday, October 14, 2023. The Rally will begin at 10:30AM in the hall of Bushkill Encampment No. 55, 203 North Main Street, Sellersville, with Bushkill Encampment No. 55 acting as our hosts for the Rally. A Grand Encampment Special Session will be held after the Rally. Please show up to support your Grand Encampment and your Grand Patriarch!

The Schedule for the Grand Encampment Class is as follows:

- 9:00a.m. Grand Encampment Board Meeting
- 10:30a.m. Opening the Encampment & PATRIARCHAL DEGREE
- 12:00p.m. LUNCH
- 1:00p.m. GOLDEN RULE DEGREE
- 2:00p.m. ROYAL PURPLE DEGREE
- 3:00p.m. Introducing Dignitaries and closing the Encampment
- 3:30p.m. Special Session for the admission of all eligible Past Chief Patriarchs

This is YOUR Encampment rally. We have had issues in the past with poor attendance and the same 5 or 6 people running around trying to pull the degrees together. It seems the only time some Encampments show up is when they have a candidate. We need everyone's help. Please start trying to build up your Encampments and bring some candidates! Even if you do not have any, we are asking if anyone is willing to help out at the rally, whether it be speaking or non-speaking parts, we can really use the help. Spend the day out with your fellow Patriarchs and come to the rally as an Encampment! The more help we have, the easier it runs and the better experience the candidates will get. This only works if everyone works together. If you are willing to help, call Justin at 717-944-7419 or email at [ioufpaglsecty@verizon.net](mailto:ioufpaglsecty@verizon.net).

COME AND BRING YOUR CANDIDATES.

## THE TREASURER'S TALES

### SEPTEMBER 2023

September sees the end of summer and beginning of fall. In September 1928 it was a warm month with a few days still hitting 80.

Many things happen all over the world, every day. Turning our attention to September 1928, we find that it was no exception. On September 3, outfielder Ty Cobb recorded his 4,189th and final career hit, as a pinch hitter for Philadelphia A's in 6-1 loss v Washington Senators. Cobb would have his last turn at bat on September 11, when he popped out against the Yankees. On September 12, Katherine Hepburn made her New York stage debut. On September 13, KOH-AM in Reno NV began radio transmission. On September 15, Scottish bacteriologist Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin while studying influenza. Also on the 15th, St. Louis Cardinals set National League record of 18 men left-on-base during one game; though they still beat Phillies, 8-6 at the Baker Bowl, Philadelphia. September 17, Boston Braves pitcher Ray Boggs hit 3 batters in 1 inning during his 4th and final major league appearance, in a 15-5 loss to Chicago Cubs. On September 21, "My Weekly Reader" magazine made its debut; it was still in publication when I graduated from high school in 1968. On September 28, US acknowledged Chinese government of Chiang Kai-shek.

1928 was a popular year to be born, on the 1st, George Maharis, American actor (Route 66 - "Buz"; The Happening; The Most Deadly Game), was born in Astoria, Queens, New York. September 4, Dick York, American actor (Darrin-Bewitched, Inherit the Wind), was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana. On September 11, Earl Holliman, American actor (The Rainmaker, Police Woman, Tribes, Cry Panic), was born in Delhi, Louisiana. On September 17, Roddy McDowall, British actor (Planet of the Apes, Cleopatra, Lord Love a Duck), was born in London, England. On September 19, Adam West [William West Anderson], American actor (Batman, Last Precinct), was born in Walla Walla, Washington; this was when Batman was more a comedy than a drama.

The lodge hall in Grovers Mill was a typical late 19th century structure. It had two stories, with the social hall on the first floor and the lodge hall on the second.

There was an attic that could be reached through a trap door in the anteroom or an outside door, that required a ladder. The lodge decided that the attic hadn't been cleaned for several years and the costumes that were there should be attended to. When the trustees attempted to open the trap door, it wouldn't move. A trunk had fallen on top of the trap door causing the problem. On a bright and sunny day (also a hot day), the trustees put up a ladder and got into the attic. Once inside, the trunk was moved and further access was through the trap door in the anteroom.

Cleaning the attic, putting old costumes in order and generally taking inventory was a tedious process that took two days. It was not until the job was completed, that someone thought to remove the ladder and close the exterior door.

September 1928 found a renewed interest in the Ouija board. This is a game and is for amusement, although some believe it has mystic powers, read about it online at: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ouija>. You can see a short video on the subject here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eO92ABfq2I>.

The Rebekahs held their second meeting on Wednesday, September 19, 1928. After the meeting, the sisters (and a few brothers) decided to try a Ouija board for entertainment. Most of the members thought that this was nonsense, but all played along for entertainment. Several card tables were put together and the 27 people who stayed after the meeting gathered round them.

One of the sisters asked, "What should be our first question to the board?"

A member answered, "We should ask Schuyler Colfax what he thinks of the way we are conducting ourselves as Rebekahs?"

The Noble Grand and Vice Grand both held the pointer and acted as if they were in a trance and began moving the pointer. A loud, scratching noise came from the ceiling, as if someone was trying to get in. The members began to look at each other. The pointer went to the "T" and then hovered over the "O" for half a minute. There was a bang, as if something had fallen up in the attic. Everyone went silent and didn't move.

After a period of silence, the sisters began to move the pointer again. The pointer went to the "M", then the "U", the "C" and the "H". More noises came from overhead. The group was now frightened. One of the brothers was about to get a lantern so he could look in the attic, when the wind kicked up outside and blew a small limb off a tree on the edge of the parking lot, striking the IOOF sign.

After some silence the Noble Grand and Vice Grand again began to move the pointer. It first went to "A" and then to "R" when there was the sound of feet running across the floor above. The pointer began to move more quickly and went to "G", "U", "I", "N" and "G." A louder bang was heard and Brother Barney went to the anteroom and opened the trap door. Out popped Melchizedek, who ran over Barney on the ladder and went straight down the stairs to the kitchen. The smell of sandwiches and fruit salad had aroused him from the nap he was taking on one of the guard costumes that he had pulled off a hanger in the attic.

The meeting quickly broke up and all went down stairs for refreshments before the feisty raccoon got into the food. Alice had been paying close attention to the Ouija board and pointed out that the message from Schuyler Colfax was "too much arguing." The group fell silent, looking at each other for several moments, with blank stares at each other. This somber note was ended when Elizabeth put a dish of fruit salad on the floor and Melchizedek began to chatter with happiness. Barney scratched his head and pondered, "I wonder when he got in."

Perhaps the message that Brother Colfax sent to the Grovers Mill Rebekahs is worth considering today. Do we argue too much in our meetings?

*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.*

## BRADY 116 SUPPORTS BOY SCOUT TROOP #26

Brady Lodge #116 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows presented a check to the Hughesville Boy Scouts Troop #26 to assist scouts in their mission to earn the rank of Eagle Scout. The Lodge is very honored and proud to be a part of these scouts projects. The Odd Fellows And the Scouts are always looking for new members.



# GM RUFF SPECIAL TRAVELS



GM Ruff Official visit to District No. 1 - Vincent Lodge #762 at the Hall of Malvern-Pocahontas Lodge #201. Paoli Lodge #290 also had a quorum in attendance, along with other visitors from Earl Lodge #413 of New Holland. First District Winner - Congratulations to DDGM Grumblatt and all.



GM Ruff presented a 25 year jewel to PG James Pierson of Paoli Lodge #290



GM Ruff Official visitation to Warfordsburg Lodge No. 601. He presented PG William Whiteside with a 60-year pin.



GM Official visit to Mount Zion Lodge #74 of York



Thanks to the social committee chair for a nice visit!

Periodicals

JULY DONATIONS

GM RUFF PROJECT – ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION		
762	Vincent	1,000.00
270	Mystic	500.00
278	Connoquenessing	500.00
290	Paoli	500.00
86	Harmony	100.00
97	Lewistown	100.00
847	Vienna	100.00
BG*	Nicole B. Inama, Dept Adj.	100.00
1030	Charleroi	50.00
773	Waterfall	<u>25.00</u>
		2,975.00

VISUAL ASSISTANCE		
96	Lewisburg	30.00
2	Unified	<u>25.00</u>
		55.00

VISUAL RESEARCH		
1128	Fallowfield	66.37
2	Unified	<u>25.00</u>
		91.37

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION		
1128	Fallowfield	66.37
2	Unified	<u>50.00</u>
		116.37

PA EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND		
1128	Fallowfield	165.91
PA EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND		
2	Unified	50.00

A testimonial dinner for PGP, Yvonne M. Calhoon, is scheduled as follows:  
 Date: **Saturday, October 21, 2023**  
 Time: **6:00 P.M. cocktail hour with dinner beginning at 6:30 P.M.**  
 Place: **Blue Mountain Family Restaurant, 24 Roadside Drive, Shartlesville, PA**  
 Cost will be: **\$35.00**  
 A meal will be served family style, consisting of Roast Chicken, Roast Beef and Deep-Fried Haddock, with Dutch potato filling, whipped potatoes, yellow corn, tossed salad and homemade pie.  
 There will be a testimonial booklet and cost of ads are as follows:  
**Full page - \$30.00 • Half page - \$20.00 • Quarter page - \$10.00**  
 Booster Names - \$1.00 (no titles)  
 Grand Encampment officers are being asked to wear their formal officer attire.  
 The deadline for reservations and placement of ads is **October 1st.**  
 Send your ad with remittance to Tom McHugh. Please print or type all ads and booster names and send them to Thomas J. McHugh, 288 Church Rd., Mountain Top, PA 18707. You can email the ads in pdf format to Tom at tmchugh@epix.net.  
**All checks for ads and reservations are to be made out to the “Grand Encampment of PA”.**  
 And send them to Sandra L. Huchel at 1809 White Oak Dr., Sinking Spring, PA 19608.  
 Please consider attending to honor PGP Yvonne M. Calhoon and bring your friends and family as well. This should be a great evening of fellowship.  
 Reservation name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total attending: \_\_\_\_\_