



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE



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Allentown Spreads Cheer



Vienna lodge #847, of Allentown, partnered with the Emmaus Lions Club to visit families in the East Penn Area who have personal tragedies and struggles in their lives and how difficult it would be to provide for a nice Christmas. Vienna lodge helped families this past holiday by having a Christmas visit. The visit provides a meal for the family to enjoy on Christmas day, as well as a few presents for their young children, including a visit from Santa. Also this year gifts we delivered to children patients at the Reilly Children hospital at Lehigh Valley. Vienna lodge takes much pride in this yearly Christmas visit and all their community involvement.

Holiday Giving at Paoli Lodge



Paoli Lodge #290 has been busy! Hand delivering holiday donation checks and NG Cindie and Secy Lori delivered 30 duffel bags stuffed to the gills to the VA Christmas drive. The bags were filled with food and clothing.
~ Lori St. George, Secy

VA Rep, NG Cindie and Secy Lori



@IOOFPA



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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:

FRED R. KORMAN LODGE NO. 55
 Charles Henry - initiated December 11th
 Ben Rothwell
 James W. Laing, IV

WARREN LODGE NO. 339
 Kate Glasgow - initiated December
 John Wood
 Danielle English
 Wendi Donachy

LITITZ LODGE NO. 1050
 Marlynn D. Ibach - initiated November 27th

FROM THE DESK OF THE GM

Sisters and Brothers,

The unknown is like the weather, are we complacent in our ways and our thoughts or are we willing to change to meet new systems or challenges? Social or otherwise? Not so for most or many, but for some it leads to new innovations, or ways of thinking, the great scholars and scientists were persecuted for their new thoughts or innovations, because that's not the way we do things. The pilgrims came to America to avoid religious persecution, many were complacent, and did nothing because it didn't really affect them or anybody they cared about and remained under the monarchy's control. Our founding fathers had enough foresight to create this great country, which was no easy task. What if they had thought let's not bother with others because we're getting out of our comfort zone which is difficult for all of us. Why change things if it's always been that way, too much bother otherwise. Or it doesn't benefit me.

How much do you and your Lodge really live FLT? Are you a check writing, faceless, card carrying member and sign displaying lodge, many fraternities or clubs are like that. All flourishing organizations or lodges offer what we have in some form, but are we displaying it all the time or just at times when we need to feel a sense of helping someone or something else. Our fraternity is not a taking organization. We are a fraternity of benevolence, giving and helping whether it is friendship or love or truth or a monetary gift, do you and your Lodge display that to the world or are you silent and complacent? Do you go outside your comfort zone because believe it or not, others notice and it makes them pause and think. Well, that was kind or thoughtful, helpful, understanding, compassionate and yet outside your comfort zone? No one else knows that, and it might change your life in a positive, new wonderful way. Just do something to pay all your blessings forward to your community and to the people in the world. Be noticed get your lodge involved in your community.

If your lodge is stagnant, and has no growth, maybe it's time to think outside of the box and stop writing checks to the same organizations that don't help us change or grow and be non-stagnant. Again, think outside the box. That's what you were taught to do when you were young, and we need the young people to step up and help us now.

Only a few more months to spring so I will be traveling again and we have a SOI being planned for April at Mount Zion #74 Lodge if you have anyone that needs a GRAND LODGE degree please let the GRAND secretary know in advance. Would like to have another rally somewhere, but no Lodge offers yet.

Walker Lodge did a really great job with the last rally. Thank you again!! Doris G. it's been six months since we've seen each other -only six more to go. I hope you're well and look forward to seeing you at sessions. Everybody have a happy, healthy and safe new year and please pray for our fraternity and our service members.

FLT,
Bob Ruff, GM

CANDID PHOTO

This is what happens when you get the Lodges in Chester County together. If you look last month, you'll see a more "professional" picture of these guys, but this is always why I enjoy going down to District 1! ~ Justin Bailey



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

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

25 YEARS

Steven C. Faustner, #488

45 YEARS

Harry J. Buzard, #278

Jerry L. Weis, #957

60 YEARS

Ronald E. Nelson, #211

65 YEARS

Carl A. Swisher, #361

155 YEARS

Victory Lodge No. 658, Sellersville

175 YEARS

Warren Lodge No. 339

Places to GO... People to See

APRIL

19 - 21 / Mid Atlantic States Conclave, Swedesboro, NJ+

MAY

3 - 5 / Tomb of the Unknowns, Arlington, VA+

JUNE

22 - 26 / Unified Session, Harrisburg+

JULY

27 / Fun Day, Knoebel's Grove, Elysburg+

AUGUST

15 - 22 / SGL Session, Pittsburgh+

+ 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 or 717-944-7419

FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

To all Brothers and Sisters, Holidays come and go, sometimes too fast. Hopefully, we have made loving memories to keep in our hearts. Did you ring in the New Year at a party and watch the ball drop as we reached 2024? Did you get to watch the Rose Parade and see the "All we need is Love" Odd Fellows and Rebekah float? I am always impressed with the beauty of the flowers and seeds that make up these floats. I enjoy the comments from the commentators who describe each float as they pass by. They tell us how each float was constructed and the countless hours it took the volunteers to build them. The commitment and diversity of the volunteers are a direct parallel to the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs who volunteer in their respective lodges to raise funds for scholarships, collect clothing, collect food for the food pantries, collect school supplies for students and to serve food at soup kitchens and meals on wheels. I am proud of the work we do, and hope that it will continue. We all know that our work is not done. Every year we see an increase in the work we do. We should all be proud of our brothers and sisters for their boundless commitment to help make our communities a better place. This will certainly be a big part of our legacy.

In Friendship, Love and Truth,
Paul E. Lautenschlager, DGM

CHOSEN FRIENDS ENCAMPMENT SENDS SOME LOVE

The Holiday season can be stressful for so many. One large group of people we often forget during these times are the people who work in the retail industry. Not only do they not get paid well, they are stuck with bearing the brunt of our frustrations if something doesn't go right at the store, and longer hours, which gives them less time to spend with their families. That was the mind frame of our newest Patriarch, Michele Matherly, as she brought this idea up to Chosen Friends Encampment #88 of Malvern. Coining it as our Retail Charity Giveaway, Michele picked up either a beef roast or a spiral ham, potatoes, desserts, and other "fixins" and passed out six holiday dinner bags to an employee at the Home Depot, Concord Pet Supply, CVS, Fine Wine & Spirits and 2 employees at Boscov's. Michele's friend, David, went with her. It was a busy Christmas Season, but we sure hoped to have helped six families for this Holiday in the spirit of Faith, Hope & Charity.



TAMAQUA HONORS MEMBERS



NG Bobby Gallahar (left) presents PG Ashley Guscott with her Past Grand jewel and her daughter, Lily cheers her on.



NG Gallahar presents Grand Marshal T. Michael Arnold with his 15 year pin, who joined in 2008



NG Gallahar presents PG Robert Leibensperger with his 20 year pin, having joined Harmony Lodge in 2003



DDP Ashley Guscott presents PNG Julie Stokes with her 5 year pin and her Past Noble Grand jewel



Chief Patriarch Sharon Stokes presented Dorothea Oertel with her 40-year Rebekah Veteran Jewel. Dot is an Associate Patriarch to Scott Encampment #132 of Tamaqua. The pin was presented from her Rebekah Lodge, Letitia Penn #173 of Philadelphia.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY AT WALKER LODGE NO. 306

On Saturday December 9th, 2023, Walker Lodge held their annual Children's Christmas party at Walker Hall. As customary, the party started at 12 noon with refreshments being served. During refreshments the kids enjoyed doing various Arts & Crafts which included decorating Gingerbread Houses with goodies. At 1:30 all gathered into Walker's main lodge hall and were entertained by (1) Christmas songs sung by members of the Tri-M Music Honor Society of the Nazareth Academy School; and (2) entertained by about 20 dancers from the Defino Dance Studio who performed various Tap, Ballet and Modern Art presentations who were also members of Nazareth Academy (some pictured below). The singing of Jingle Bells brought Santa Claus into the lodge room with his "Ho Ho Ho - Merry Christmas everyone." With Jennifer Leah-Rosa calling out the ages for the children, Santa gave out presents to all children ages 1 month to 14 years old while smiling parents and friends clicked camera shutters and had video cameras rolling. Believe it or not, Ron Boyle (pictured below with his wife Dolores) mentioned he personally knows Santa. A special thanks goes to Walker's Christmas Committee members: Phil Muscarnero, Jennifer Leah-Rosa, Lesley Muscarnero (who previously matriculated at Holy Family and attended Defino Studio) and Sinead Rider for having another excellent family fun time party for the kids.



SHENANDOAH LODGE NO. 591 CELEBRATES THE SEASON



Members, friends and family from Shenandoah Lodge #591 got together at Cracker Barrel in Frackville for a holiday get-together. It was a great evening!
 ~ J. C. Bailey, PG

Lodges Ring in the Holidays

WM F. PACKER ENCAMPMENT HOLIDAY BANQUET



The Holiday Banquet hosted by Wm F. Packer Encampment #127 with the invitation of Alma Lodge #523 and Kingwood Lodge # 1010 held at Anthony's Restaurant Saturday December 9, 2023. A good time was had by one and all. For further details please see the You Tube video from Alma Lodge @kayjay. ~ J. Kuntz

CHARLEROI LODGE #1030 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Charleroi Lodge #1030 celebrated the 2023 Christmas season with their annual Christmas party on December 14, 2023. The "get-together" again took place at Hugo's Restaurant, located on Rte. 40 near Brownsville, PA. The restaurant provided members and guests a delicious 5-course meal featuring Swedish Meatballs, Breaded Pork Chops, and Chicken Romano. The entertainment for the evening was provided by the Charleroi Area High School Choir, which was requested back again this year after their outstanding performance at last years Christmas party. The Choir, which has traveled nationally over the years, presented those in attendance with numerous Christmas selections that were very much enjoyed. The evening once again turned out very successful and the Lodge is already looking ahead to their 2024 Christmas party. ~ Bob Grant, Secty



1010 CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



Kingwood Lodge #1010 and GM Bob Ruff celebrates Christmas at their Lodge



Lodges Ring in the Holidays

FOSTER LODGE NO. 333 ACTIVITIES IN REW



Above picture is Foster Lodge #333 Christmas get together. Mary Shultz, treasurer. Ember Niles, Right supporter to Noble Grand. David Ball, warden. Jane Cole, vice grand. Russell Knight, Noble Grand and Tracy Tanner, secretary. Pizza, pop (soda for those in the east) and cookies were enjoyed by all along with good fellowship! Second picture is of Tracy Tanner and her surprise birthday cake in honor of her 50th birthday which was on December 4th. She was very surprised!

WARREN LODGE CHRISTMAS PARTY



Warren Lodge #339 held their annual Christmas Party Friday, December 8th at the Lodge. Thirty-seven people feasted on a great meal from a caterer and from gourmet dishes prepared by the members.

FEBRUARY OBITUARIES

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

George H. Smith
Wysox Lodge No. 1152
November 25, 2023

Brother George H. Smith, 94, of Wysox, PA, was initiated into Wysox Lodge #1152 on February 3, 1987, where he became a Past Grand on October 15, 1991 and received his Grand Lodge Degree on April 19, 1994. He held active membership in his Lodge, and at the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest living member.

He was a U. S. Army Air Corps Veteran and a member of Wysox Presbyterian Church.

Surviving is his wife, the former Janet Olsen, of Wysox Rebekah Lodge #443 and two sons, one being Gary, also of Wysox Lodge #1152.



Ruth E. Berger
Past District Deputy President
Idella Rebekah Lodge No. 58
November 30, 2023

Sister Ruth E. (Thomas) Sigafoos-Berger, 97, of Northumberland, PA, was initiated into Diana Rebekah

Lodge #423, Trevorton, where she became a Past Noble Grand on April 3, 1957 and received her Rebekah Assembly Degree March 13, 1959. She then transferred to Lady Mabel Rebekah Lodge #94, Snyderstown, on January 26, 1982, where she became a Past Noble Grand on October 14, 1986. She became a member of Lady Eden Rebekah Lodge #56, Augustaville, through consolidation on November 10, 1987 and then a member of Regina Rebekah Lodge #230, Shamokin, through consolidation on December 8, 2005. She was also a former Lady of Wilkes-Barre Auxiliary #31, LAPM, Shamokin. Finally, she became a member of Idella Rebekah Lodge #58, Dornsife, through consolidation on June 9, 2021. She served as District Deputy President from 1992 - 1994 and at the time of her death, was the Lodge's oldest member, by age and tenure.

She was a member of the Miller's Crossroads United Methodist Church, Sunbury.

Burial was held in Miller's Crossroads Cemetery, Sunbury, PA.



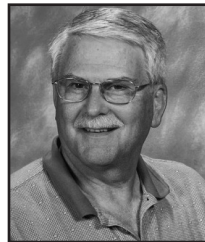
Paul D. Hitchcock
Wysox Lodge No. 1152
December 1, 2023

Brother Paul D. Hitchcock, 85, of Wysox, PA, was initiated into Wysox Lodge #1152 on October 24, 1972. He left the Lodge in 1986 and reinstated in 1996 where he became a Past Grand on October 3, 2000.

He was a U.S. Air Force Veteran and a member of the Wysox Presbyterian Church.

He was preceded in death by his son. Surviving is his wife, the former Louise Kneller, of Wysox Rebekah Lodge #443, three children, seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Bradford County Memorial Park, Burlington Township, PA.



Arden G. McConnell
Fallowfield Lodge No. 1128
December 26, 2023

Brother Arden G. McConnell, 81, of Atlantic, PA, was initiated into Fallowfield Lodge #1128, Atlantic, on February 26, 1961, where he became a Past Grand on October 14, 1996, and received his Grand Lodge Degree April 25, 2013. He held active membership in his Lodge, serving every office. He was a current board member, and former Secretary of the Odd Fellows Home of Western Pennsylvania, Meadville. He was a former associate member of Cussewago Lodge #108, Meadville.

He was a member of Fallowfield United Methodist Church.

Surviving is his wife, Joyce, three children, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge and burial was held in Rocky Glen Cemetery, Adamsville, PA.

FEBRUARY OBITUARIES



Bruce L. Lord, Sr.
Pine Grove Lodge No. 148
December 28, 2023

Brother Bruce L. Lord, Sr., 80, of Llewellyn, PA, was initiated into Social Lodge #56, Minersville, PA, on April 6, 1963, where he became a Past Grand.

He became a member of Pine Grove Lodge #148 through consolidation on May 26, 1995. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest tenured member and the last surviving member of Social Lodge #56 still affiliated with the Order.

He was a member of the English Evangelical Lutheran Church, Minersville.

Surviving is his wife, the former Marianne Polinsky, four children and seven grandchildren.

Burial was held at Mount Peace Cemetery, Minersville.



Doris L. Zuber
Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge No. 86
January 1, 2024

Sister Doris L. (Schick) Zuber, 99, of Bethlehem, PA, was initiated into Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge #86, Tamaqua, PA, on July 19, 2010.

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

She was a member of the former Salem Lutheran Church, Bethlehem.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard, one son and one granddaughter. Surviving are two daughters, one son, six grandchildren, one being DDP Kate Bailey of Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge, and six great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Bethlehem Memorial Park.

THE JURISDICTION OF MARYLAND IS PROUDLY HOSTING THE 2024 MIDDLE ATLANTIC STATES CONCLAVE

We invite and encourage you to attend the 65th Annual Middle Atlantic States Conclave April 19-21, 2024. MARYLAND is hosting however the location will be the same as last year

Holiday Inn Swedesboro, 1 Pureland Dr, Swedesboro, NJ 08085
Hotel room rates are \$119.00 per night, plus applicable state and local taxes

For reservations call main reservations at 800-293-0718 or online at [Htpps://holidayinnswedesboro.guestreservations.com](https://holidayinnswedesboro.guestreservations.com) or directly with the hotel by calling 856-467-3322.

Room reservations must be made using the code "IOO".
Room Choices 2 double beds, 1 king bed with sofa bed or and 1 king bed

The cutoff date for the "IOO" room rate is March 25th, 2024 or when our block of rooms sell out.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Events are open to all members of the Order and their guests.

Friday, April 19, 2024

3:30 pm - 5:30 pm Registration in the Lobby

6:00 pm Presentation of Flags, Remember to bring your state flag

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Fun Night Buffet

come dressed as your favorite 70's TV Celebrity or in your Favorite 70's outfit

7:30 pm - 8:30 pm 70 Game Show

8:30pm - 9:30 pm Disco Dance off and stroll down memory lane

10:00pm - 11:00pm Hospitality Suite

Saturday, April 20, 2024

9:00 am - 11:00 am Registration in the Lobby

9:00 am General Conclave Meeting

11:30 am -12:30 pm Practice of Drill and Skits

12:00 pm -12:30 pm Lunch in hospitality suite

1:00 pm Drill and Skit Presentation

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Hospitality Room open

5:30 pm Reception Hour: Cheese,fruit,veg display & cocktails

6:30 pm Introductions of Dignitaries

6:30 pm - 8:00 Buffet with carving station

9:00 pm - 11:00 am Hospitality Trivia (section next to bar)

** All forms have been mailed to all Lodges and can be found on the Grand Lodge website!!

THE TREASURER'S TALES FEBRUARY 2024

We have been following Barney's exploits on a month by month basis and we are now at February 1929. The big thing in February is St. Valentine's Day on the 14th, followed closely by Groundhog Day on the second, our attention will be placed on February 12, Lincoln's birthday. The most famous Odd Fellow, as an Odd Fellow was Thomas Wildey, but the most famous American who belonged to the Order was Abraham Lincoln. People stay in groups to keep warm and repel the ill effects of snow and cold, hence they look for reasons to come together and celebrate something. After our historical recollections, we will explore such a meeting.

February 1929 marked a few interesting events, on February 5, Jimmy Hatlo's "They'll Do It Every Time" cartoon debuted in San Francisco. On February 14, St. Valentine's Day Massacre occurred in Chicago, 7 gangsters were killed, allegedly on Al Capone's orders. On February 20, Boston Red Sox announce they will play Sunday Baseball games at Braves Field; Fenway Park was located too close to a church. On February 4, Jerry Adler, American actor, director and producer (The Sopranos, The Good Wife), was born in Brooklyn, New York. On February 15, Graham Hill, British auto racer (Formula One World Champion, 1962 & 1968), was born in Hampstead, London. On February 20, Amanda Blake [Beverly Louise Neill], American actress (Kitty Russell-Gunsmoke), was born in Buffalo, New York. On February 23, Elston Howard, American baseball catcher (12 x MLB All-Star; 6 x World Series; AL MVP 1963; first African-American NY Yankee), born in St. Louis, Missouri.

Special events were not widely celebrated because of snow and difficult travel. The school and other organizations held Valentine's Day dances, dinners, plays, etc. Barney's lodge sought to celebrate Abraham Lincoln's Birthday. The 12th was on a Tuesday, so the lodge decided to hold the affair on Saturday, February 9, 1929. Much thought was put into deciding a format. Banquet's were the customary affair and that was decided as the way to go. Many affairs were done at the lodge hall, but the Rebekah's were the customary caterers for functions held at the lodge hall. The Rebekah's were starting to object to preparing meals when they wanted to sit in the audience and enjoy the meal. After some searching, the Eastern Star offered to cater the dinner in the Masonic temple. The cost for the evening was \$1.75 per person. This was on the high end of lodge functions, but the meal was touted as a fine banquet.

The evening was to have several members speak on Abraham Lincoln. Barney was to speak about his record as an Odd Fellow and brother Hugh Cardon, a history professor at Princeton, to was speak about Lincoln the historical giant. Elizabeth had conned her sisters Mary and Virginia into putting on a show with a raccoon dressed like Lincoln, performing tricks.

The varied events and the lack of competition in the snowy winter brought a number of reservations. Although Barney's lodge had around 300 members, you rarely got 100 to any event. Tickets were sold throughout the state. There were 210 reservations. This caused a little fuss with the Eastern Star, since they rarely handled more than 150 people.

Barney spoke for about five minutes. Once you get past dates of initiation, it gets rough to find material from 70+ years ago. Brother Cardon did not suffer the same disability. He had written his doctoral dissertation on Lincoln many years ago. After he spoke for 55 minutes, there was an intermission before the raccoon show.

Virginia and Mary had not practiced nearly enough with Melchizedek. The sisters of the Eastern Star were a bit put off by a raccoon in their hall. This was compounded by the fact that once Mary and Virginia got Melchizedek in the hall, he smelled the ham and sweet potatoes roasting. His attention span had gone from short to non-existent. All the banquet goers were in the rest rooms and Melchizedek wanted to find the baked ham, or at least a sweet potato. Mary had brought a small bag of stale Christmas cookies, which helped controlling Melchizedek for a little while. Getting past the kitchen to get to the stage was a chore. Virginia finally got the idea that if she took a slice of ham just off curtain, she could get Melchizedek to perform.

It took three cookies to get him in the Lincoln suit and stove-pipe hat. Mary was on stage-right with cookies and Virginia was on stage-left with the slice of ham. There were three little displays, with cookies buried in them. The first was a rail-splitter scene with a small dish of crumbled cookies. Mary sent Melchizedek on stage and he went straight to the rail-splitter scene and received oh's and ah's from the audience. The cookies kept him pleased till they were done and then he moved on to the scene of the Capitol, the small dish of cookies behind the dome, were hard to pull out. Melchizedek became frustrated and moved on to the third scene, a podium with the word "Gettysburg" also had some cookies behind it. By the time he got to the cookies at Gettysburg, he was able to smell the ham Virginia had. He raced off the stage amid laughter and applause. This ended the show.

Mary collected Melchizedek and took his stove-pipe hat off. She held him while Virginia fed him the ham. People walked over to the raccoon for a closer look on their out. He was a bigger star than either of the speakers.

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.

1.O.O.F. EDUCATION PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the Educational Foundation, the oldest project of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, established in 1927, has made it possible for thousands of people from all walks of life to further their education with low interest loans amounting to more than 7 million dollars, and

Whereas, the Pennsylvania Odd Fellow - Rebekah Education Fund, established in 1993, has made it possible for 872 students to receive \$475,500.00 in scholarships, and

Whereas, the need for loans and scholarships is ever increasing to meet higher costs of helping men and women find their place in life, and

Whereas, one of our commands of to "educate".

Now therefore, I, Robert B. Ruff, by virtue of the authority duly vested in me as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, do hereby proclaim, the month of February as EDUCATIONAL 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 eighth day of January, 2024, and in the 200th year of this Grand Body.

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

_____ Lodge No. _____ is pleased to contribute _____ to this program.

Please credit our donation to: (Check one of the following)

_____ PA Scholarship Fund – This is applied directly toward a scholarship

_____ PA Education Endowment Fund – This is placed in a fund, interest derived from this is applied toward scholarships

_____ Sovereign Grand Lodge Education Fund – This is to furnish loans.

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

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT SCHUYLKILL COUNTY

Interesting Facts:

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!



We print above the photograph of the float of Hester Rebekah Lodge, No. 29, which participated in the Centennial Celebration in Tamaqua recently. This float won the Special Prize of \$10.00. Other prizes were awarded to the Sunbury Orphanage Band, for coming the greatest distance, and Harmony Lodge, No. 86, for having the largest number in line in the parade.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY

Ashland - Sarah Rebekah Lodge #9 - defunct 1878
 Ashland - Lady Ridgely Rebekah Lodge #9 - defunct 1965
 Auburn - Augusta Rebekah Lodge #224 - defunct prior to 1900
 Delano - Lady Mary Rebekah Lodge #162 - defunct 1900
 Frackville - Jennie Rebekah Lodge #136 - defunct 1902
 Frackville - Lady Heywood Rebekah Lodge #596 - consolidated 1956
 Gilberton - Orilla Rebekah Lodge #216 - defunct 1899
 Girardville - Mercy Rebekah Lodge #148 - consolidated 1949
 Heginsville (Hegins) - Calla Lily Rebekah Lodge #305 - defunct prior to 1920
 Mahanoy City - Anna Harrison Rebekah Lodge #83 - consolidated 1960
 Minersville - Elizabeth Rebekah Lodge #16 - defunct 1878
 Minersville - Olivia Rebekah Lodge #508 - defunct 1971
 New Ringgold - Constance Rebekah Lodge #161 - consolidated 2002
 Nuremburg - Berg Rebekah Lodge #512 - consolidated 1933
 Orwigsburg - Lavender Rebekah Lodge #49 - defunct 1960
 Pine Grove - Lady Rosalin Woodbridge Rebekah Lodge #490 - defunct 1967

Port Carbon - Fluvia Rebekah Lodge #426 - defunct 1951
 Pottsville - Mabel Rebekah Lodge #237 - defunct 1970
 Ringtown - Julia Rebekah Lodge #167 - defunct 1904
 Schuylkill Haven - Alice Rebekah Lodge #506 - consolidated 1943
 Shenandoah - Lydia Rebekah Lodge #112 - defunct 1976
 Shenandoah - Rosetta Rebekah Lodge #180 - defunct 1902
 Tamaqua - Hester Rebekah Lodge #29 - defunct 2023
 Tamaqua - Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge #86 - instituted 2010
 Tremont - Grace Rebekah Lodge #66 - defunct 1904
 Valley View - Marigold Rebekah Lodge #257 - defunct 1961

26 Rebekah Lodges with 1 active

1st Rebekah Lodge - Sarah Rebekah Lodge #9 in 1869

Last Rebekah Lodge - Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge #86

46 Odd Fellow Lodges

Next Month - Potter & Cameron Counties. Get your pictures and articles in now!

JURISDICTIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE NEWS 2024

I am writing this the week before Christmas and looking out the window at the snow-covered ground. It makes everything feel festive & bright! Here are some activities to foster interest in a youth group.

January: Get a group of kids together & shovel snow for the elderly. Take a thermos of hot chocolate with you & offer them a cup. Ask if they need anything from the store & run an errand or two for them. Collect pinecones, smother them in peanut butter then dip them in bird seed. Hang them from trees to feed our feathered friends this winter. Keep the Christmas tree outside (or any outdoor shrubbery) and decorate it with New Year resolutions or paper snowflakes.

February: Re-decorate the tree with Valentine hearts. Spend time at the local senior center. Make Valentine Day cards and cookies to take on your visit or make the cookies at the senior center with their

help. Paint in the snow! Fill a spray bottle with water. Add a few drops of food coloring and you have the whole outside for a canvas!

March: Time to decorate the tree again with Shamrocks! Visit the local senior center and read to them. Ask them to teach you a craft, such as, crocheting or painting. Put on a show for them by singing or dancing or act out a story. Make salt dough decorations.

3-ingredient salt dough recipe (Yields 2 and ½ cups of Salt Dough)

Ingredients:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup water

Directions:

1. Combine the flour and salt in a large mixing bowl.

2. Gradually add water while stirring and mixing to form a dough with a Play-Doh like consistency.

3. Form the dough into a ball and knead for 5-7 minutes, until the dough is smooth and firm. Additional water may be needed, depending upon humidity. Add a teaspoon of water at a time until the dough reaches the proper texture. On the other hand, if the dough is too sticky, add more flour by the teaspoon until it's no longer tacky.

4. Use cookie cutters to cut out shamrock and/or Pot o' Gold shapes.

5. Store the salt dough in a Ziploc bag when it's not in use to prevent it from drying out.

6. Place them on a foil-covered baking sheet in a 250-degree oven. Baking time will vary depending on the size and thickness of your crafts. For each

1/4" in thickness, allow a half hour of baking time, or bake until surface turns light golden brown. Turn each piece frequently so that they dry out evenly. If an area puffs up, poke a hole in it with a pin or toothpick to release the air.

Notes: I recommend covering your work/play area with an inexpensive plastic tablecloth to make cleanup easier!

Whatever you hand out or do, make sure to have a card or note saying courtesy of... so the word gets out that the Oddfellows love their communities! Take pictures and send them to me. The Jurisdictional Youth Committee will reimburse you \$50 toward a pizza or holiday party. We will be getting updates on Youth Committees and also be discussing Knoebels 2024! Knoebels note: We have a tentative date of Saturday, July 27, 2024. Save the date!

Periodicals

DECEMBER DONATIONS

GM RUFF PROJECT – ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION

377 GH Blanche Miller 100.00

VISUAL RESEARCH

74 Mount Zion 1,000.00

1004 Hampton 250.00

2 Unified 25.00

1,275.00

VISUAL ASSISTANCE

2 Unified 25.00

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Odd Fellows & Rebekahs Association

of Western PA 20,000.00

2 Unified 50.00

20,050.00

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

2 Unified 50.00

1004 Hampton 50.00

100.00

CAMP JRA

74 Mount Zion 1,000.00