



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE



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ALL ROADS LEAD TO HARRISBURG FOR UNIFIED SESSION
WILL WE SEE YOU THERE???

PENNSYLVANIA LAYS WREATHS AT THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

We were fortunate enough this year that most of the rain held off for the 90th annual Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery. Laying the wreath for Pennsylvania was Grand Master Robert Ruff, Assembly President Anna Smith and Department Commander David Young. Laying the wreath for Sovereign Grand Lodge was Sovereign Grand Master John Cupp, escorted by PGM Emilie Cupp and Aide-de-Camp David A Young. John Cupp also laid a wreath at the top of the Tomb, along with General Commanding Malin and IARA President Whited.



@100FPA



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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,
 GLASGOW
 Michael J. Waiwick –
 initiated April 22nd
 James W. Laing, III

MOUNT TABOR
 LODGE NO. 125,
 SHAMOKIN
 Shirley DiOrio –
 initiated March 11th
 Calista DiOrio

WARREN LODGE
 NO. 339
 Troy Winkels –
 initiated April 16th
 Roger Gausman

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND MASTER

Sisters and Brothers, Happy Bicentennial! This year was the 200th year of Odd Fellowship in Pennsylvania, the 90th year of laying wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown for the IOOF and 150th year of the Kentucky Derby. Wow, how time has flown by and this is my last article as a Grand Master. I want to personally thank everyone that made this journey for me possible. There are too many to name that have enhanced my life and the wonderful experiences that I have had with so many of you. So I told you you would hear a lot about change this year and while some things have changed most things have stayed as is, I am referring to the way that the organization works. Some changes to the bylaws were introduced last year and we will find out if they were passed by Sovereign Grand Lodge this year. Many other things need to change, it is important that you have a representative go to sessions so that you can have a say in things moving forward. The Deputy Grand Master has some ideas to help move the order forward. And I hope everybody will give him 100% cooperation. I'm sure he would like to have everyone's input for changes that will be needed to be made in the bylaws this year among other things. Because when nobody says anything, you can't rely on things will always go the way you expect. It's the same thing with anything in life - You might start out expecting one thing and something totally different happens for whatever reason —only God knows. Just take for instance, our fraternity (not club) expects very little other than you must believe in a higher power, yet there are those in our fraternity that would like to take that out of the ritual. How would you feel about that? It's been discussed. The fraternity continues to have a communication problem which we are not addressing in the proper manner. I'm not quite sure what the answer is, but with 1500 of us left in the state we better start figuring it out. We spend all this money on education, yet we

don't take care of our own brothers and sisters in need. Maybe if the world saw the way we treated each other in a good way, it might make them think about asking to join. We certainly don't get many of the applications as expected for the return on the thousands of dollars we spend on education year after year after year but is just not yielding anything, hardly a thank you. We need to be more involved in our communities, the lodges that have their own buildings are so lucky and half of them don't realize it. It's a lot of work, a lot of effort but it's a face in the community that can be seen. This is a third year in a row we have not closed down any lodges. That is a start, as well as not losing more members than we gained. However small the number is maybe things are straightening out somewhat. Just because my term is over does not mean that I will go away, but that I will continue to work with the officers and the board to make our fraternity stronger and better. Take a look at the charge of the Past Grand. It is the same for all of us. Anybody that's ever held that office. Sometimes people act like oath and obligations go away, but if you're a person of your word (which we used to judge people by, not so much anymore) that was as good as your weight in gold. I took my oath and obligation over 50 years ago to protect and serve the constitution of the United States and that is the same with anybody that ever served. That oath and obligation follows you all your life from the moment you take it, NO expiration date. We are all here but for a short time and to make good change is something we should all strive to do whether at home or at work or in our place of worship. Once again, thanks to all for all the marvelous experiences and opportunities you have given me. Remember to go to Sovereign GRAND LODGE in Pittsburgh this year and support our own John S. Cupp, Jr., SGM this year. In FLT, Bob Ruff, GM

UNIFIED SESSION BANQUET

Is your reservation in for the Unified Session Banquet on June 22nd? Grand master Ruff is promising special entertainment for the banquet. A string quartet from a local college will be performing. Don't miss it!

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

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

40 YEARS

David A. Geist, #523

55 YEARS

C. Richard Johnson, #361
Harold E. Arment, #413

180 YEARS

Lewisburg Lodge No. 96, New
Columbia

FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Brothers and Sisters of the Three Link Fraternity,

As I mentioned in an earlier article, the change in the weather also brought on the busy season of our order. We held a School of Instruction in April that was very successful, and the laying of the wreath on the Tomb of the Unknowns on May 5, 2024. What a great honor for our order! I was particularly impressed with the Guards at the Tomb: the precision of steps they took, the crisp turns and the handling of their arms, as well as their uniform. What dedication they have for their duty. My thoughts then turned to the I.O.O.F., as they always do. How much better our Lodges would be, if we all had that kind of dedication to our duty: to visit the sick, to relieve the distressed, to bury the dead, to educate the orphans and to impress upon mankind the great principle of Universal Love and Universal Justice. My year is winding down as Deputy Grand Master. As I prepare for the next step in my journey, I sincerely hope that all of my Brothers and Sisters will give great thought and help to advance this order for the future. We will not, and cannot, do this without every member and every Lodge working together. I look forward with great expectations for our Order as I take this next step as Grand Master.

Fraternally,
Paul E. Lautenschlager, DGM

THE TREASURER'S TALES

JUNE 2024

June is the month in which we celebrate Flag Day and Father's Day. Father's Day is usually near the time of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge session. Our session returns to the Red Lion again this year.

June 1929 held a few more interesting events that we should note before going on to our story. On June 15, 1st time NY curb stock exchange transacts more business than NY Exchange. On June 25, US President Herbert Hoover authorized building of Boulder Dam (renamed Hoover Dam in his honor).

A number of important people were born, on June 3 Chuck Barris, TV game show producer and host (Gong Show), born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; as an aside Barris claimed to have been a hitman for the CIA. On June 10, James "Jim" McDivitt, American Air Force Brigadier General and NASA astronaut (Gemini 4, Apollo 9), was born in Chicago, Illinois. On June 11, Frank Thomas, American baseball outfielder (3 x MLB All-Star; Pittsburgh Pirates), born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. On June 23, June Carter Cash was born.

We have done stories on Father's Day and Flag Day. This month we will try to go in a different direction. School is out and Barney is farming. Vic is hard at work with his veterinary practice. Elizabeth is busy with kids, dogs and Barney. The lodge is contemplating going dark for the summer. In 1929 there was no such thing as an air conditioned lodge hall. Those who had the time and money went to New England or Atlantic City to avoid the heat.

The costumes used to confer the degrees were heavy and required a bit of care after each degree conferral. Alice decided the Rebekahs would repair and wash the robes for the Odd Fellows. This proved a daunting task and Alice was worn out by the time she had the initiatory robes hanging on the line to dry. As you might guess, our friendly, neighborhood raccoon decided he wanted to try on one of the robes. Fortunately Vic had a number of dogs hanging around in various states of recuperation. The noise from the dogs frightened Melchizedek and he ran off.

This would have been enough, but he liked the idea of playing with clothes hanging on a line. There were no clothes dryers in 1929 and all the women hung their clothes out to dry. A great uproar arose about the nuisance raccoon roaming the area. It was decided that wash day would be on Monday and Melchizedek would have to be put in a cage or pen on that day.

As you may recall from a previous story, Melchizedek had found a place where a moonshiner dumped his mash and ate his fill. As a result, he

would get drunk. Barney and Vic knew the moonshiner and made a deal. For their silence, he would dump a five gallon bucket of used up mash near Melchizedek's tree every Monday morning. By ten o'clock, Melchizedek was tipsy and easy to catch. The lodge members took turns picking him up and putting him in a cage till sundown. Initially he didn't like being caged, but a variety of apples and bananas that were too ripe calmed him down. It was easy to release him at first, but after a few weeks, he decided he liked the apples and bananas and would sit outside the cage for as long as three hours, hoping to get fed again.

Solving one problem does not insure that another will not arise. Grovers Mill had a number of wild animals on the outskirts of town, and some weren't as friendly as Melchizedek. On the first Sunday in June, Barney went out to start his Model A to go to church. Sitting on the rear bumper was a bobcat. The bobcat ran when he saw Barney, but he ran up Melchizedek's tree. A hollow tree can accommodate several raccoons, but not a raccoon and bobcat. A harsh disagreement followed. Barney was sure that if he understood the language of the animals, they would be saying things to each other that should never be said, especially on Sunday. Melchizedek was a very large raccoon and he would prove a hard fight for a bobcat. This was a small bobcat. You can see a fight between a bobcat and a raccoon here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iC1fDUQ1oUk>. As you can see, unless the bobcat can jump on the raccoon from an elevated position (not shown) the bobcat runs away. All Melchizedek had to do was bare his teeth and grunt and the bobcat ran away.

Melchizedek had his hollow tree all by himself and took a nap after the adventure. Barney felt so sorry for him, he took the scraps from Sunday dinner over to him.

We have heard the phrase "lion laying down with the lamb" from the Bible. Although there was a truce, you will never see Melchizedek lying down with a bobcat.

Celebrate flag day, show your colors. Remember the colors of the Odd Fellows lodge are red, white and blue. When you hold a picnic or other function, remember the Star-Spangled Banner and sing a verse of it. Go to cemeteries where Odd Fellows are buried and be sure there is a flag somewhere. I hope to see you at session at the Red Lion.

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.

Places to GO...People to See

JUNE

- 1-2 / Canadian War Memorial, Ottawa, ON
- 1 / Warren Lodge #339 car show
- 15 / Three Links 5K run/walk, Tamaqua, 9:00AM
- 22 - 26 / Unified Session, Harrisburg

JULY

- 14 / IOOF Golf outing, Beaver Falls, 12:00PM
- 27 / Fun Day, Knoebel's Grove, Elysburg (pg 9)

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

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT BUCKS 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!

BUCKS COUNTY

Bristol - Lily Rebekah Lodge #366 - consolidated 1978

Croydon - Evening Star Rebekah Lodge #224 - consolidated 1967

Jamison - Lady Jamison Rebekah Lodge #411 - defunct 1970

Langhorne - Orange Blossom Rebekah Lodge #339 - defunct 1911

New Hope - Washti Rebekah Lodge #190 - defunct 1954

Riegelsville - Glendora Rebekah Lodge #92 - went defunct 1879

Sellersville - Lady Sellers Rebekah Lodge #558 - instituted 1947

7 Rebekah Lodges with 1 active

1st Rebekah Lodge - Glendora Rebekah Lodge #92 in 1874

21 Odd Fellow Lodges

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

CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Odd Fellows Home of Western PA

PO Box 1290

Meadville, PA 16335

2024 GRAND LODGE NEWS RELEASE

The Odd Fellows Home of Western Pennsylvania in Meadville, PA continues to support students in the thirteen Northwest Pennsylvania counties by providing Citizenship Awards through Vocational Technical Career Centers and individual high schools.

Recipients of 2024 Continuing Education Citizenship Awards of \$700 were: Antany Paris, Allison Cressley, Austin Freer, Darrin Peterson, Luke Field, Bailey Roberts, Joseph Lipchik, Ty Carrier, Emma Knicely, Ava Gifford, Cody Jespersen, Michael Wickstrom, Summer Stitt, Zachery Aston, Michael Kovach, William Nicholson, Marcel Cheeks, Owen Bickel, Seth Sturgin,

Recipients of 2024 School to Work Citizenship Awards of \$600 were: Daniel Evans, Kasey Blair, Zack Coxson, Trenton Rodgers, Dominic Sproveri, Joslyn Oblinski, Adreona Lindenberger, Sam Rhodes, Reese Walker, Zane Wonderly, Cole Monrean, Issac McCauley, Brook Lynne Woods, Rain Foust, Skieler Pompeo, Kierstin Barger, Hunter Hilliard, Peter Plummer, Jr., Syon Rain, Zachery Coverdale.

The Citizenship Awards committee selected the following students to also receive a 2024 Board Memorial Award in the amount of \$1,000 each:

Joseph Lipchik from General McLane High School, and Zachery Coverdale from McDowell High School.

The Board of Directors has awarded \$160,130.00 since 2012 to students through participating schools as an investment in the future.

ODD FELLOWS & REBEKAHS ASSOC. OF WESTERN PA 2024 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The *Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania* has begun accepting applications for consideration in the awarding of a maximum of six (6) \$4,000 scholarships. This will mark the 19th consecutive year that the Association has offered these Awards and having awarded an undergraduate total, thus far, of \$196,000. The application deadline for the 2024 Scholarship Awards will be **Friday, June 28, 2024**. A copy of the "Rules," along with an "Application," was sent to all the lodges representing the Western District on April 1, 2024. All areas of concentration will be considered. An important reminder regarding three of the requirements for the Awards:

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

If interested in obtaining a copy of the "Rules" and an "Application," this can be done by:

- 1) contacting your Lodge secretary,
- 2) emailing Chairman Robert Grant at "robag@comcast.net," or
- 3) downloading from our website: "www.glpaiioof.org" during the April through June time period.

NORRISTOWN RECEIVES CERTIFICATE



Grand Warden visit presenting a Visual Certificate to Montgomery-Curtis-Norris Lodge #57. From left to right: Frank Hilt, Grand Warden, Jimmy Dimpter, Noble Grand, seating "Pop" Robert Hinderliter, Sr., Chaplain, Robert Hinderliter, Jr., Secretary, Bill Wurtz, Financial Secretary, and on the tablet from Florida, John Lazowicki, Vice Grand.
~ Frank Hilt

LEHIGH VALLEY LODGES ASSIST CHILDREN

2024 Big Brothers/ Big sisters Bowl for Kids Sake- members of Vienna Lodge #847 of Allentown, Victory Lodge #658, Bushkill Encampment #55 and Allentown Canton #39 all of Sellersville took part in annual Big Brothers/ Big Sisters of the Lehigh Valley "Bowl for Kids Sake" at the Jordon lanes in Allentown PSA. A big thank you to all that raised \$1200 for this great cause and coming together for this great day of fellowship. WE were also very proud to sponsor 2 teams from the Mercy School for special learning, whose mission is to provide all children and young adults with special needs the best opportunity to reach their utmost potential- both academically and in life. ~ Rory King



DEGREES PERFORMED



With a special dispensation from Grand Lodge, the Second and Third degrees were recently conferred on 10 members of the order at the hall of Thistle Lodge 512 in Pittston. DGM Paul Lautenschlager and PGM Tom McHugh acted as degree masters and Past Grands from Thistle 512, Osage 712, Freedom 88, Canawacta 207 and Tunkhannock 699 participated in the ceremony. These members will now be able hold offices in their respective lodges, advance in the order, and bring future leadership and creative ideas to help grow our jurisdiction.

After the ceremonies, an evening of food and fellowship was held sponsored by Thistle Lodge.

LODGES COME OUT OF HIBERNATION

Vincent Lodge #762 of Spring City recently assisted Boyertown Lodge #708 in spreading the word of Odd Fellowship at Boyertown's Coming out of Hibernation celebration. Members from both lodges handed out water, answered questions about who we are and what we do. They also collected \$36.00 in donations for the Grand Master's Alzheimer's campaign which both lodges will match.

Fraternally,
Sue Grumblatt, Secretary, Vincent Lodge #762

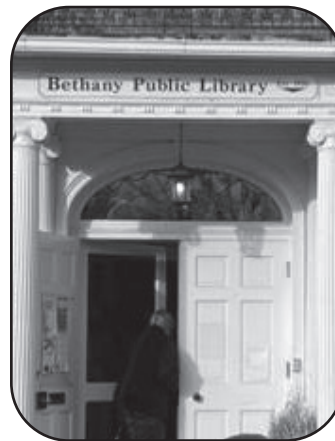


NAKOMIS REBEKAH LODGE DONATES BENCH

Through the Trex soft plastic program, Nakomis Rebekah Lodge #497 donated a bench to the Bethany Library on April 23, 2024. Pictured are Brothers Paul Lautenschlager and Andrew Kilmer and Sisters Nadine



Hager and Jessica Kilmer presenting the Trex Bench to Bethany Library representatives, Pat Nelson and Karen Gravel.



PATRIARCHS MILITANT MARCH IN PARADE



One of the largest parades in the country, Chevaliers from Pennsylvania and other Jurisdictions took part in the Grand Feature Parade for the Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival in Winchester, VA. Tens of thousands of onlookers saw the Patriarchs Militant Honor Guard march down the one-and-a-half-mile route. This is the second year of this being done, having been coordinated by General Commanding Retired Jack Roberts of Virginia, and an associate to Canton Pittsburgh #5. This year (from left to right) attending were BG® William F. Hanby III, VP and member of Philadelphia #1; LTC Chris Ekberg of Kansas; BG David A Young, Dept Commander and member of Canton Pittsburgh #5, GC® Jack Roberts, associate member of Pittsburgh #5; MG Justin C. Bailey, Inspector General and member of Allentown #39; BG® Nicole B. Inama, Dept Adjutant and member of Allentown #39 and Col J. Carl George, Regt Commander and member of Allegheny #3. We are looking to grow our participation in this parade, as this is probably the most watched event that the IOOF takes part in. If the weekend is the same as the Tomb of the Unknowns next year, that will certainly help. Stay tuned for more information! *Photo courtesy of J. Carl George*

JUNE OBITUARIES

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



Richard G. Bellows, Sr.
Wysox Lodge No. 1152
February 5, 2024

Brother Richard G. "Dick" Bellows, Sr., 88, of Canton, PA, was initiated into Leroy Lodge #832 on September 12, 1963, where he became a Past Grand and served as Treasurer. He became a member of Wysox Lodge #1152 through consolidation on May 3, 2005. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest member, by age and tenure.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran and a member of the Ogdensburg Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by one son and three grandsons. Surviving is his wife, the former Barbara Swain, five children, thirteen grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.



Evelyn R. Glenn
Past District Deputy President
Letitia Penn Rebekah Lodge No. 173
March 21, 2024

Sister Evelyn R. (Farrell) Glenn, 96, of Philadelphia, PA, was initiated as a charter member, Left Supporter to the Vice Grand, into Lady Oxford Rebekah Lodge #241, Philadelphia, on January 28, 1950, where she became a Past Noble Grand on October 9, 1959 and received her Rebekah Assembly Degree on June 13, 1960. She served as District Deputy President from 1968 - 1970. She became a Member of Lady Mystic Rebekah Lodge #141, Holmesburg, through consolidation on July 23, 1987, where she served as Noble Grand from 1991 - 1992. She then held the position of secretary for several years, until the consolidation on November 13, 2000 with Letitia Penn Rebekah Lodge #173, Philadelphia. At the time of her death, she was the Rebekah Lodge's oldest living member, by age and tenure, and the last surviving member of Lady Oxford Rebekah Lodge #241.

She was a member of Rhawnhurst Presbyterian Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harry. Surviving are two children and one grandson.

Burial was private.



Jacob L. Detrie
Connoquenessing Lodge No. 278
April 5, 2024

Brother Jacob L. Detrie, 81, of Butler, PA, was initiated into West Sunbury Lodge #1154 on February 14, 1968. He became a member of Connoquenessing Lodge #278, Butler, through consolidation on February 9, 1993. At the time of his death, he was the last surviving member of West Sunbury Lodge #1154 still affiliated with the Order.

He was a U.S. Army Vietnam War Veteran and a member of the First Baptist Church.

Surviving is his wife, the former Carol Michael, two sons and four grandchildren.

Burial was held in the Cemetery of the Alleghenies.



Lee C. Smith
Lititz Lodge No. 1050
April 7, 2024

Brother Lee C. Smith, 91, of Myerstown, PA, was initiated into Myerstown Lodge #358 on March 13, 1956, where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree June 9, 1958. He became a member of Lebanon Lodge #121 through consolidation on December 26, 1967, and finally a member of Lititz Lodge #1050 through consolidation on November 10, 2003. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest member, by age and tenure, and the last surviving member of Myerstown Lodge #358 still affiliated with the Order.

Surviving is his wife, Mary, three children, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.





IIOOF Knoebels Picnic

July 27, 2024 • Pavilion "Q" Lunch at Noon

There will be gifts for all kids 12 and under!

Lodge Name: _____ # _____

Note: The following person will be responsible to pick up meal tickets and pre-ordered ride tickets at our Pavilion for distribution to their lodge members.

Lodge Rep: _____ Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

Adult Meal: Choice of: Chicken Tenders (3), Hamburger (cheese), or hotdog and Mac & Cheese, Baked Beans, Fresh Fruit Salad & drink. \$15.00

Kid's Meal: Choice of: Chicken Tenders (2), Hamburger (cheese) or hotdog and Mac & Cheese, Apple Sauce and drink. \$7.00

Number of Adult Meals # _____ x \$15.00 = \$ _____

Number of Kid's Meals # _____ x \$7.00 = \$ _____

Books of Ride Tickets # _____ x \$4.50 = \$ _____

Total Due.....\$ _____

Order and Payment must be received no later than July 12th. • NO EXCEPTIONS!

Make Payment to: IOOF PA
Jurisdictional Youth Committee

Mail to: Mary Giebel JYC Secretary
PO Box 49
Cassville, PA 16623

Please call if you have any questions:
1-814-305-2011

HOT OFF THE PRESSES!!!!

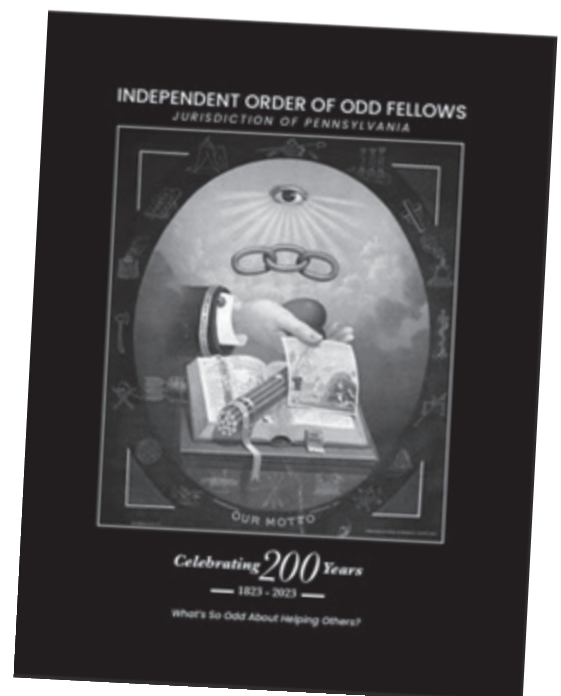
NEW 200TH ANNIVERSARY PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOWS BOOK

After months of research, writing, compiling information, and editing it all together, it's finally here. In celebration of our 200th Anniversary, a 300-page history of Pennsylvania Odd Fellowship is published and ready for distribution. This 8 x 10 hardcover library edition book examines the 200-year history of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and all of the Odd Fellow lodges that existed in the state.

Complete with facts, figures, and plenty of pictures, the book tells the stories of the people and lodges that made our order what it is today. It also covers the stories of homes and orphanages, Odd Fellow cemeteries, and recollections of Odd Fellows past and present. With a Foreword by PA Odd Fellow and current Sovereign Grand Master John S. Cupp Jr., this book is perfect for anyone who is curious about the Odd Fellows and their significance in our state, our country, and the world as a whole.

The book will be a perfect gift for any Odd Fellow, and a terrific coffee table book to act as a conversation starter about Odd Fellowship. Lodges can even consider providing copies of the book to their high school, college and public libraries, and even their local historical societies since numerous Odd Fellow Lodges existed in every county of the state and its members made up the very history of those communities.

The book will be debuted at Grand Lodge Session in Harrisburg June 22-26.



YORK SPRINGS LODGE PRESERVES HISTORY

York Springs Lodge 211 recently donated a check to Ye Olde Sulphur Spa Historical Society for \$1500 to their Capital Campaign. They are raising money to put a new roof on their building and to expand their archives storage area. The Historical Society has worked closely with our Lodge providing meeting space when we didn't have a Lodge building. They also have a permanent display of local Odd Fellows regalia in their museum and have assisted with fundraising projects for the Lodge.

Pictured from left to right are David Creel, Vice President YOSSH, Donna King, Secretary YOSSH, Harry Howe, Financial Secretary IOOF, and Yolanda Howe, Past Grand.



SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION

A very successful School Of Instruction was held on April 27, 2024 at Mt. Zion Lodge No. 74, York, PA. There were 33 Brothers and Sisters from 6 Districts in attendance. Classes were held for the following chairs: Noble Grand, Vice Grand, Secretary, Treasurer, and new members. The comments that were received after the school were very positive. Thank you to Ellen Graham and members

of Mt. Zion Lodge for hosting this event. The instructors did an excellent job in presenting each of the classes, which made the school a success. A big thank you to GM Ruff, JPGM, J. Carl George, PGM Dale Binkley, PGM Thomas McHugh, and GS Justin C. Bailey.

Submitted by Paul E. Lautenschlager DGM



GM Ruff and Jr PGM George held a class for the Noble and Vice Grands



PGM Thomas McHugh held a round table discussion with many of the newer members



GS Bailey held a class for the Secretaries



PGM Dale Binkley held a class for the Treasurers

MID-ATLANTIC STATES CONCLAVE

See below for photos from the above Conclave. From left to right: Frank Hilt, GW, Eileen Hilt, John Cupp, SGM. Emilie Cupp. Jimmy Dimpter, Noble Grand, Norristown #57, & Anna Smith. The 2nd photo is a skit put on by New York Lodges. It was the 70th theme. ~ Frank Hilt, GW



VINCENT LODGE PARTICIPATES IN IOOF EVENT

Members of Vincent Lodge #762 of Spring City made the trip to Washington DC for the 90th Odd Fellows wreath laying ceremony at the tomb of the unknown soldier.

Pictured are Vice Grand, Melissa Reitnour, Treasurer, Steve Boyko, Thomas Reitnour, Noble Grand, Don Shaner and Bernice Trace. Special thanks to Walker Lodge #306 for allowing our members to tag along on their bus and for their exceptional hospitality.



Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh

April 2, 2024

Mr. Justin Bailey, Grand Secretary
Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs of Pennsylvania
1001 West Harrisburg Pike
Middletown, PA 17057

Dear Mr. Bailey:

On behalf of the individuals we serve at Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh, I thank the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs of Pennsylvania for their generous gift. Donations like this enable us to provide much needed programs and services to individuals who are blind, vision impaired, or have other disabilities. We are truly grateful for your support.

This \$1,169.56 donation was received on April 1, 2024. It is 100% tax-deductible. Please keep this letter as a receipt for tax records, verifying that no goods or services were provided in consideration of this contribution.

Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services fulfills its mission every year by serving more than 1,500 adults and teenagers through 16 different program areas that provide comprehensive rehabilitation, vocational and community services, and 14,000 children through the Children's Vision Screening Program. It is our mission to improve the lives of persons with vision loss and related disabilities by teaching independence and self-advocacy. Your support will help us carry out our mission, allowing those we serve to live lives of independence and self-advocacy.

Again, thank you members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs of Pennsylvania for your donation. Your support of our programs and services is very much appreciated by all the individuals who are blind, vision impaired or who have other disabilities that we serve.

Sincerely,
Erika Petach
Erika Petach
President

Periodicals

APRIL DONATIONS

GM RUFF PROJECT - ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

88	Freedom	100.00
	Odd Fellow & Rebekah Ass'n of Western PA	<u>100.00</u>
		200.00

ARTHRITIS COMMITTEE

R198	Golden Rule Rebekah	100.00
1004	Hampton	50.00
699	Tunkhannock	<u>25.00</u>
		175.00

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

2	Unified	100.00
57	Montgomery-Curtis-Norris	100.00
1128	Fallowfield	64.93
1175	Shillington	50.00
333	Foster	<u>25.00</u>
		339.93

1128	PA EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND	
	Fallowfield	162.33

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

2	Unified	100.00
R198	Golden Rule Rebekah	100.00
333	Foster	<u>25.00</u>
		225.00

VISUAL RESEARCH

1128	Fallowfield	64.93
2	Unified	<u>50.00</u>
		114.93

VISUAL ASSISTANCE

2	Unified	50.00
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