



# PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE



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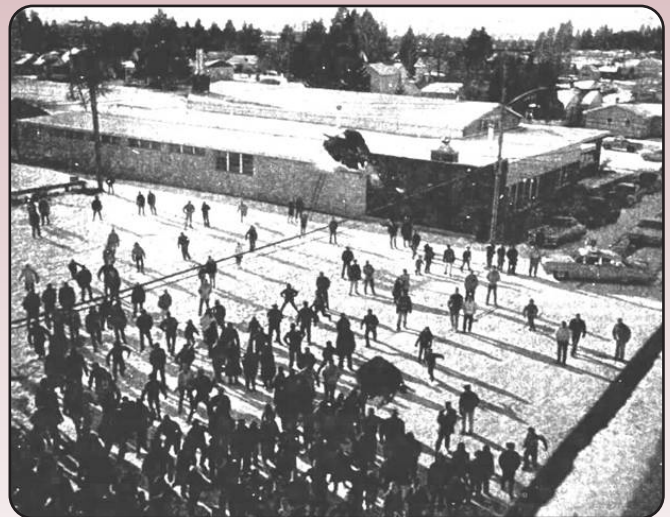
## Happy Thanksgiving Brothers & Sisters!!

I received an email from Sue Grumblatt of Vincent Lodge #762. She found this on Facebook from the "Early Columbia Falls History" page from Columbia Falls, Montana, concerning a very interesting way to celebrate Thanksgiving! ~ Justin

The first (and last) time live turkeys were thrown off the top of the Odd Fellows building. Today's city hall is in the background.

December 15, 1961, Hungry Horse News

TURKEY SCRAMBLE took place in Columbia Falls Saturday as eight live turkeys were tossed from top of buildings in downtown section. Here are two turkeys in air tossed from top of Columbia Variety.



Live turkeys were redeemed at 11 am, 1 and 3 pm for frozen turkeys, paper plates were also used to redeem turkeys. In all 50 turkeys were given away. Chamber and Jaycees helped and event may become annual feature.

## Places to GO...People to See

NOVEMBER

2 / PM Rally, York

FEBRUARY

15 / Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Civil War Unknowns, Biloxi, MS

MARCH

28 - 30 / Mid Atlantic States Conclave, Rehoboth Beach, DE+

\*\* 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 [iopfaglssecty@verizon.net](mailto:iopfaglssecty@verizon.net) or 717-944-7419



@100FPA

# The Pennsylvania Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine

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



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## COME VISIT THE GRAND MASTER

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

- 2 - Patriarchs Militant Rally, York - 10:00AM
- 13 - Pine Grove #148 OV & Installation - 7:30PM
- 17 - DDGM Association Zoom meeting - 6:30PM

## GRAND MASTER'S CORNER

To all Brothers and Sisters,  
The spooky Halloween night was celebrated with bobbing for apples at a party, scary costumes, parades and handing out treats to all of the young children. It was fun to watch the costumed "trick or treaters" come to our door, giggling and laughing as Monique and I handed out a variety of treats. We were really appreciative of the "Thank you, Happy Halloween" response we received as they left to move on to another house.

This was the month of installation of officers in our lodges. I did install officers at several lodges and also assisted District Deputy Grand Masters to complete installation. I find that it is a renewing experience when doing installations because it gave me the chance to listen to the words of the oath of office for each chair in a lodge. It is also a great reminder of the obligations that each officer promises to obey and uphold. These oaths and obligations are not just for the officer. Every Brother and Sister are also taking an oath to work in harmony with their officers. The older members who have served, need to remember that it is each of their duty to assist each officer and to advise on the smooth operation of the lodge. By the time you receive the magazine, each lodge in the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania should have had their officers installed.

We are now entering November, when each new officer should be settling into his new position. Plans for the new year should be made. A calendar of events and committees are needed to plan out the year for the lodge. This month each lodge should be thinking about the needy in their community.

The Thanksgiving holiday will be approaching soon. I know that almost every community has homeless people, as well as those who may have lost a job, and are now seeking help. We should as Odd Fellows reach out to help them. They may need a Thanksgiving dinner to cook for their families, or they may need not only food, but also blankets and coats for the cold weather, and someone to help them find shelter. I am also aware of the need for those in Florida and North Carolina. We have lodge Brothers and Sisters who are in great need. Homes were lost and damage to lodge buildings has occurred. An appeal letter was sent out to each jurisdiction asking for assistance to those who have suffered a great loss. I am encouraging each lodge to raise funds, or to make an outright donation for the disaster relief from Hurricane Helene. Please send your donation to :

Odd Fellows' and Rebekah's Hunger and Disaster Fund, 522 N Trade Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101-2830.  
We have so much for which to be thankful. Now we need to help those who have suffered a great loss.

Wishing everyone a great Thanksgiving Day with your family, friends and all of our Brothers and Sisters. Be the Anchor of your lodge and community.

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



## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

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

### **25 YEARS**

Timothy H. Hahn, #591  
Paul E. Miller, #802

### **30 YEARS**

Thomas R. Hahn, Jr., #488  
Dennis C. Miller, #488

### **40 YEARS**

Dennis Blanco, #2  
Gary E. Rebeck, Sr., #125  
Samuel T. Lutz, #192

### **50 YEARS**

Randy J. Browning, #523  
Raymond H. Oaks, Jr., #523

### **70 YEARS**

Dwight A. Huster, #523

### **150 YEARS**

Leesport Lodge #141

### **155 YEARS**

General Worth Encampment  
No. 188, Finleyville

### **160 YEARS**

Perseverance Encampment  
#135, Philadelphia

### **170 YEARS**

Thistle Lodge #512, Pittston

# SCHOLARSHIP 2025

It's time once again to remind you about the **Odd Fellow-Rebekah of Pennsylvania Scholarship Program**. Each year we have been able to provide young men and women with help toward their education.

Enclosed is one (1) nomination form for your lodge. Please copy it for your members. The nomination form will also soon appear in the

monthly Odd Fellow magazine. No nominations will be accepted if not on this form. Please make sure you complete the nomination form correctly and meet all deadlines. Members of any branch of the order who are making the nomination **MUST** be members in good standing of their lodge. A student 25 years of age and over must be a member of the order and can then nominate themselves.

Last year we received nearly 75 nominations and were able to award 45 scholarships. We hope that as students return to college we will see an increase in these numbers. We are happy to report that because of Odd Fellow generosity we were able to increase the scholarship last year to \$1000 to those who qualified.

Be sure to mail the nomination to the address on the form. **DO NOT MAIL TO GRAND LODGE**. The deadline for completing and mailing the nomination form is January 31, 2025, and is strictly adhered to. Upon receipt of this nomination form, the scholarship application will then be mailed directly to the nominee. We hope as the nominator you will stay in contact with the student you have nominated and make sure they have returned the application with all necessary attachments by the due date. No extensions will be granted and deadlines are strictly enforced. Students will **NOT** be contacted if items are missing, or application not completed properly.

Remember, only children, grandchildren and step-children under the age of 25 are eligible to be nominated by members of the order. Nieces, nephews, brothers, sisters, neighbors and friends are not. If these non-qualifying relatives or friends wish to apply, please suggest that either their parents or they themselves consider joining an Odd Fellow Lodge.



**PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW-REBEKAH  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
Thomas J. McHugh, PGM - Chair  
NOMINATION FOR THE YEAR 2025  
Please Print Clearly**

Student Nominee Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
*Nominees age 25 & older must be a member of an Odd Fellow Order in their own right.*

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
*This address will be used for all scholarship correspondence.*  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_  
School Presently Attending \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Nominator Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
*\*Nominator must be a member in good standing with the Order.*  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship of Student to nominator \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge # and Name \_\_\_\_\_

DO **NOT** SEND THIS FORM TO GRAND LODGE.  
NOMINATIONS TO BE MADE ON THIS FORM ONLY  
NOMINATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 31, 2025  
MAIL TO:

Thomas J. McHugh, PGM  
PA Odd Fellow Scholarship Program  
288 Church Road  
Mountain Top, PA 18707 (570)793-3692

COMMITTEE USE ONLY: Received \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Application sent \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

## SCOTT ENCAMPMENT NO. 132 INSTALLS OFFICERS



On October 4th, DDGP Sellers and Staff installed the officers of Scott Encampment No. 132 of Tamaqua. For a proud first, we had all our chairs filled, with 17 of our Patriarchs in attendance.



Shown are the elected Patriarchs of Scott Encampment. (1st row l to r) PGMa Justin C. Bailey Scribe; Ashley R. Guscott Treasurer; PGP Dorothea Oertel High Priest. (2nd row l to r) Andrew L. Kilmer Senior Warden, DDGP James W. Sellers, Chief Patriarch Paul E. Lautenschlager, Past Chief Patriarch Sharon J. Stokes and Junior Warden Jennifer J. Swett.

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

**MALVERN-POCAHONTAS  
LODGE NO. 201, MALVERN**  
Suzanne M. McNellis  
initiated October 7th

**WALKER LODGE NO. 306,  
PHILADELPHIA**  
Joseph Rawson  
reinstated August 26th  
Welcome back!!

**WARREN LODGE NO. 339**  
William F. Littlefield, Jr.  
initiated September 28th

**BOYERTOWN LODGE NO. 708**  
Rudy A. Rivera  
initiated October 7th

**VINCENT LODGE NO. 762,  
SPRING CITY**  
Melissa Davis  
initiated October 7th  
Stella Stein

**HAMPTON LODGE NO. 1004,  
ALLISON PARK**  
Barbara M. Held  
initiated September 10th  
Al Marsico

**LITITZ LODGE NO. 1050**  
Aryanna Zook  
initiated September 30th  
Joe Campagna  
Gina Campagna  
Amy N. Hamilton  
initiated October 7th

**LADY HARMONY REBEKAH  
LODGE NO. 86, TAMAQUA**  
Thomas J. McHugh - transferred  
September 4th

## FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

### FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

Greetings; I want to thank all who have stepped up to help out for the various degrees lately. For some instances, I have hoped to see a better showing. Many of you may not understand the importance of the degree work; it shows you all how we should act at all times. Odd Fellowship is not about obtaining ranks and positions to show the state how important you believe you are, but it's for the practice and promotion of Friendship, Love & Truth. I have learned myself, it is incredibly hard to face people who talk behind your back, or treat a fellow Brother

or Sister with disrespect, but we all must try to set an example of what we should be preaching.

Without getting on a soap box, I found this article from the Oregon Pacific Odd Fellow September 2024 edition from the Pacific Odd Fellow, November 20, 1892. Please read it. And read it as many times as you can until it makes sense. Feel free to gender it to meet today's society and structure, but this is how it appeared in 1892.

**"Speak Well of Brother:** A man who does not use dignified, respectful language when speaking of a brother, is not an Odd Fellow. He may

be a Past Grand or even a Past Grand Master, but he is not a brother. No matter what error a brother may have committed, no matter what injury he may have done us, he is still entitled to our love and protection notwithstanding. Brother, if by that endearing name you are entitled to be hailed, never stand by and hear a member of our Order speak disrespectfully of another brother without kindly admonishing him of his error."

See you on the Road to Odd Fellowship.

Fraternally, Justin C. Bailey, PGM Grand Secretary

# MANY NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED ACROSS THE JURISDICTION

Late September and early October was very busy for Pennsylvania Odd Fellowship! We held a degree rally in Warren, PA, where we initiated one new member in to Warren Lodge #339, conferred the 3 degrees on two members, and conferred the Grand Lodge Degree on 2 members.



On September 30th, Strasburg Lodge conferred the initiatory degree on 3 members from Lititz Lodge #1050 and one from Aluta Lodge #488, Nazareth.

And on October 7th, Malvern Lodge No. 201 hosted the initiatory degree for two members of Vincent Lodge #762, Spring City, one new member in to Boyertown Lodge #708, one new member into Malvern-Pocahontas Lodge #201 and one more in to Lititz Lodge #1050.



*Congratulations to the new members and we're glad to see growth throughout the Jurisdiction!!*

# DOROTHEA OERTEL PGP RECEIVES HONOR



Justin Bailey GS presented a Medallion and Certification of Appreciation to Dorothea Oertel PGP. It was from Ret .Gen GMC Dr. Howard G. Malin for her help to raise money for St. Jude Children Research Hospital. "Doc" had a benefactor who would match the donations for a grand total of \$13,250.00. Of this total, PA matched total was \$8,374.00 We are PA Proud. Dot

# WALKER LODGE DONATION

Shown here is Brother Walt Felix presenting the President of the Friends of the RFG at the former Willow Grove Naval Air Base a check for \$1,000 from Walker Lodge #306 Mary I Clay Fund.



# GM PAUL PRESENTS PINS

Service awards given at Jordan Lodge #192, Schnecksville, installation on 10/1/24 by PDDGM Dave Wilson and GM Paul Lautenschlager. Brother Sam Lutz (left) received a 40 year pin, and Richard Solt (right) received a 35 year pin.

~ D. R. Gallahar, DDGM



# NOVEMBER OBITUARIES

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



**Kenneth G. Knapp**  
Victory Lodge No. 658  
September 21, 2024

Brother Kenneth G. "Kenny" Knapp, 90, of Quakertown, was initiated into Victory Lodge #658, Sellersville, PA, on January, 20, 1976, where he became a Past Grand in October of 1979. He served as Secretary for many years. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest living member and the Lodge's Inside Guardian.

He was preceded in death by two wives, the former Grace Kramer, and the former Liz Steich, one son and one daughter. Surviving is one daughter, one son, 10 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and 5 step-children.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge and burial was held in Hilltown Union Cemetery, Hilltown Township, PA.



**Allen D. Moyer**  
Triune Lodge No. 307  
Middletown Encampment No. 10  
Canton York No. 14, P.M.

Brother Allen D. Moyer, 70, of Elizabethtown, PA, was initiated into Triune Lodge #307, Middletown, PA, on September 19, 2017, where he became a Past Grand on October 4, 2022. He became a charter member of Middletown Encampment #10 on August 6, 2019. He became a Chevalier in Canton York #14 on November 2, 2019. At the time of his death, he was the Warden of Triune Lodge and the Senior Warden of Middletown Encampment.

Surviving is his wife, Emily, and two daughters.

# FREEDOM LODGE #88 DONATES BENCH TO HAWLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Summer of 2024 provided another opportunity for the Brothers and Sisters of Honesdale's Freedom Lodge to present a Bench to another Local Library. The Goal is to cover every library in the Wayne County Library Alliance - seven in all! After collecting our latest 1,000 lbs of plastic, we received a bench and donated to the Hawley Library, 103 Main Avenue, Hawley, Pa 18428. Not only were staff of library happy to receive such an addition, many passersby also commented on this nice gesture and how good it will look to the public. Knowing this was another 1,000 lbs of waste NOT heading to Landfills is another victory in this process!



Pictured on site in front of the Hawley Library (circa 1966) from left to right are as follow: Front row - Amy Keane, Hawley Director, Sally Ann Whalen, Staff and Back Row - Freedom Lodge #88 Members Forrest C Goodenough, Bert Terysen - Noble Grand, Dennis Buchinski Sr, Mike Kinzinger, Connor Buchinski and Doug Buchinski - Vice Grand.





## VINCENT LODGE CONTINUES RELIEVE THE DISTRESSED

Vincent Lodge #762 recently concluded our food collection drive. We placed collection boxes in businesses in our area to collect non-perishable food which we donated to our local food bank, Project Outreach.



We collected over 12 cartons of food that will benefit many families in our area dealing with food insecurity. It is also to be noted at our previous fundraiser, \$142 was raised for the Grand Master's project of Suicide prevention, that our Lodge will match.

Fraternally,  
Sue Grumblatt  
Secretary, Vincent Lodge #762

## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT FOREST & FULTON COUNTIES

### 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!

### FOREST COUNTY

Marienville - Effie Rebekah Lodge #107 - defunct 1931

Tionesta - Lenora Rebekah Lodge #198 - defunct 1919

2 Rebekah Lodges with 0 active

1st and last Rebekah Lodge - Effie Rebekah Lodge #107 in 1897

3 Odd Fellow Lodges

### FULTON COUNTY

Harrisonville - Aspasia Rebekah Lodge #341 - defunct 1917

New Grenada - Rachel Edwards Rebekah Lodge #117 - defunct 1940

Wells Tannery - Dorinda Rebekah Lodge #477 - defunct 1939

3 Rebekah Lodges with 0 active

1st Rebekah Lodge - Aspasia Rebekah Lodge #341 in 1908

Last Rebekah Lodge - Rachel Edwards Rebekah Lodge #117 in 1940

7 Odd Fellow Lodges

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

## THE TREASURER'S TALES • NOVEMBER 2024

November is the month of Thanksgiving, which took place on November 28 in 1929. On November 4, Richard E. Byrd began a 2½ month, 1500-mile dog-sledge journey into the Queen Maud Mountains. The first exploration of the interior of Antarctica. On November 7, the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) opens in the Hecksher Building in New York. On November 20, Salvador Dali held his first one-man show. On November 12, American actress Grace Kelly (Rear Window) and Princess of Monaco, was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. On November 30, Dick Clark, American radio and television personality (American Bandstand), born in Mount Vernon, New York.

We always associate November with Thanksgiving and a big turkey dinner. Turkeys were costly to produce in the 1920's and 30's because of their susceptibility to diseases that were carried by chickens without killing the chickens. We are told that the pilgrims shared turkey and deer with the native Americans in the seventeenth century. Turkey is currently one of the best values for protein. You can find a video of Martha Stewart stuffing a turkey here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kFK3eqoK7oU>. I like to accompany my turkey with cranberry sauce or cranberry Jello salad and pumpkin pie.

School was in full swing in November and Barney tried to use plays to keep his students interested. When appropriate, he used popular plays that were a couple years old, thereby having to pay lower royalties for performing them. Barney also wrote a couple of forgettable plays about early Thanksgivings. He was once inspired to write a play about the early settlers being led to a nesting site for turkeys so they could catch some for Thanksgiving dinner. They were led by a Native American who used his pet raccoon to locate the turkeys. People laughed, there was a volunteer playing the part of the raccoon and it met approval. No Pulitzer prize for this one.

November is a difficult month to keep the students interest because of the approaching holidays. This was especially true in 1929 because there was looming depression and all the news was negative. It has been well over half a century since I was in high school, so I can't

recall how much the news affected me, and I was in the TV age. In 1929 only about 40% of the US had radios. The school library subscribed to the local and New York newspapers, but not many 10th and 11th graders read the newspapers in the school library. It should be noted that more students read the Sunday paper on Monday because of the cartoon section.

Barney thought he could get a little interest going by having the students write about articles in the newspapers. There were many comic strips in 1929, indeed it was far more popular than today. To name a few, Buck Rogers, Tarzan, Moon Mullins and Little Orphan Annie were all popular strips. Barney hoped for serious journalism about news stories. His hopes were quickly dashed. All the students wrote about comic strips. After eating a huge Thanksgiving dinner, Barney sat in his chair by the fire and read the student papers. He soon drifted off to sleep.

While snoozing, Barney began to dream. He was in comic land. The Odd Fellows had scheduled a pumpkin pie contest. All the pies were set in the social hall and Barney and the other officers came in the day after Thanksgiving to judge them. When he entered the door, he saw the well-known comic book heroes, Magic Melchizedek and his Power Raccoons. They were eating all the pies and growing so fat they had to waddle. As Barney approached Melchizedek, he waved a wand and cast a spell over Barney. Just then, Barney was awakened by a scratch at the window. It was Melchizedek. Barney gathered some scraps and took them out on the porch for our little friend. Happy Thanksgiving to all, no matter how furry you are.

Next month is December and our story will probably surround Christmas or something else seasonal. Again, I will try to incorporate Melchizedek in my Christmas story. He likes candy canes and always wants to check out the Christmas cookies.

*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.*

### PRESIDENT WALTERS OFFICIAL VISIT TO TAMAQUA

On October 2nd, President Kate Walters and Staff visited Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge #86 in Tamaqua. Thanks to all who attended. A great time was had by all on this memorable meeting.



## FROM THE DESK OF DEPARTMENT COMMANDER... HONORING MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES I. KRAMER, PDC

I continued my solemn and fascinating journey to visit all of our deceased Past Department Commanders with a September trip to Limerick Garden of Memories, Montgomery County, final resting place of Past Department Commander Major General Sir Charles Irwin Kramer, GDC. Major General Kramer, of Collegetown, served as our 7th Department Commander (1959 - 1962).



Charles Irwin Kramer was born in 1906 at Limerick, PA. Mr. Kramer worked hard throughout his life, first for Rainy-Wood Coke Co. of Conshohocken (later part of Alan Wood Steel) and then for Container Co. of Oaks, providing a comfortable home in Collegetown for his wife Geneva and daughter Bertha.

By the early 1940's Major General Kramer was active in Odd Fellowship and showed a particular interest and ability in conducting award winning drillwork with the Pennsylvania Patriarchs Militant. He was a member of Economy Lodge

#397 of Pottstown (now consolidated with Vincent Lodge #762), Excelsior Encampment #85 and Canton Pottstown #6 (now consolidated with Canton Leesport #2). He became our 7th Department Commander in 1959 and served until 1962, successfully leading our Department at a time when it held Division status (meaning 16 or more Cantons). Major General Kramer was awarded our highest honor, The Grand Decoration of Chivalry.



I would also like to acknowledge the accomplishments of Mrs. Kramer. Lady Geneva Kramer was herself a notable person in Pennsylvania Odd Fellowship. She was elected President of the Department Association, L.A.P.M. in 1957-1958, serving at the same time as one of our most revered Department Commanders, Major General Russel Patterson. Both Mr. and Mrs. Kramer were members of Perkiomen Rebekah Lodge #92.

We lost Major General Kramer at the young age of 59 in 1966. Lady Geneva joined him in 1994. They left a daughter, Bertha, who was also a Rebekah. And now Major General and Lady Kramer rest together in eternal peace,

the embodiment of dedication to Odd Fellowship, having both served at the highest Department levels of the Patriarchs Militant and the L.A.P.M. May they always be remembered by their Fraternal Family.

Joining me for a solemn graveside service and representing Major General Kramer's Lodge were DDGM Chris Grumblatt and Sister Suzanne Downes of Vincent Lodge #762. Past Department Commander Major General Sir Justin Bailey, GDC represented Canton Leesport #2. During the ceremony an Odd Fellows memorial flag was reverently placed for Major General and Lady Kramer by Brother Grumblatt who also offered a prayer from our



Department Council Memorial service. Taps were sounded by Major General Bailey.

An interesting occurrence took place in relation to this visit. I planned quite randomly some time ago to visit Major General Kramer's grave on September 10th. It just seemed like a good day to me - nothing more than that. The morning of my visit, while reviewing my materials in preparation for the ceremony, I noticed for the first time that Major General Kramer was born that very same day - on September 10th! The day of our visit was his birthday! I will leave it to the reader to make their own judgment as to the significance of this, but I can report that the consensus of those present at our graveside service was that this was not mere coincidence but was instead brought to be by the guiding hand of a higher power.

#### Uniform Facts:

You may have noticed that Chevaliers of the Patriarchs Militant wear various colored shoulder cords on their dress uniform. I have often been asked by both Patriarchs Militant members and non members alike what each of these colored ropes stand for. Our shoulder cords are only worn on the full dress (class A) uniform. The cords, worn on the left side, feature a braided part which hangs over the arm, a brass tip suspended in front, and a clover shaped knot (trefoil) which rests on the shoulder. All Chevaliers wear a shoulder cord, starting with a maroon cord authorized for wear immediately upon receiving the Degree. This cord is worn until one takes office, either elected or appointed, at the Department (State) level, when a purple shoulder cord is worn. The purple cord is also permanently worn by past elected and appointed Department (State) Officers. Moving up to the national level (General Military Council) brings a whole new set of colors for our shoulder cords. Appointed national Officers wear a gold and green braided cord to be worn only for the term the Chevalier holds office. We currently have no Chevaliers in Pennsylvania that wear the gold and green braided cord. After a General Military council appointed Officer leaves office (generally one year) that Officer may permanently wear a solid green shoulder cord to indicate their national appointed officer retired status. Finally we have the prestigious gold shoulder cord, reserved for our national elected officers. They wear this cord during their elected term and permanently thereafter. In Pennsylvania we are honored to have two such wearers of the gold cord: Past Sovereign Grand Master Cupp (Commander in Chief Retired of the Patriarchs Militant) and General Joseph Strausser (General Commanding Retired of the Patriarchs Militant).

BG William F. Hanby  
Department Commander

Periodicals

**AUGUST DONATIONS**

GM PAUL PROJECT – SUICIDE AWARENESS & PREVENTION		
116	Brady	300.00
86	Harmony	250.00
712	Osage	152.00
96	Lewisburg	<u>76.00</u>
		778.00
PA EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND		
1004	Hampton	50.00
EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND		
2	Unified	50.00
VISUAL RESEARCH		
488	Aluta	50.00
2	Unified	<u>25.00</u>
		75.00
VISUAL ASSISTANCE		
2	Unified	25.00
ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION		
2	Unified	50.00
488	Aluta	<u>50.00</u>
		100.00

**ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS ASSOC. OF W. PA 2024 GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS FINAL REMINDER**

The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania is presently offering three - \$4,000 Graduate Scholarship Awards during the Fall of 2024. A copy of the “Rules” and an “Application” for the 2024 Graduate Scholarship Awards can be obtained by 1) contacting Robert Grant, 40 Cypress Way; Charleroi, Pa 15022, or 2) emailing a request to “robagg@comcast.net.” The “Rules” and “Application” may also be downloaded from our website: “www.glpaoof.org” during the September to late November time period. The deadline for submitting applications will be November 30, 2024.

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 (e.g. 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 (e.g. 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.