



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE



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No. 2

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Pennsylvania Wraps Up 2024 with Several Initiations



Congratulations to the new members throughout the state! The largest initiation was held Thursday December 19th at the hall of Latrobe Lodge No. 541. Being reduced drastically in number, through heavy social media advertising, work by DDGM Bob Ruff, JrPGM, and working within the community, we were able to initiate seven new members into this Lodge. This DOUBLED their regular members! We look forward to a progressive and harmonious 2025.

Places to GO... People to See

FEBRUARY

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

MARCH

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

APRIL

12 / Spring IOOF Rally, Aluta, PA+

MAY

2 - 4 / Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns, Arlington, VA

30 - Jun 1 / Canadian War Memorial Weekend, Ontario (pg# 9)

JUNE

21 - 25 / Unified Session, Red Lion Harrisburg +

** 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



@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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GRAND MASTER'S CORNER

Brothers and Sisters. Happy Ground Hog Day! Will spring come six weeks early or six weeks later? This is a tradition from German folk lore and Pennsylvania Dutch superstition. It is a regional event in the United States and Canada. If you have some time, watch the local news reports to see the live report of Punxsutawney Phil, as he emerges from his den and predicts the arrival of spring. This is a fun weather event that promotes the thought and hope of an early spring with warmer weather. The cold winter weather and snow always present an issue for our lodges to have a meeting. Some of our lodges basically shut down, or as with the Ground Hog, go into hibernation and do not meet during the winter months. I understand that for some of our regions, northwest and northeast PA, receive a greater amount of snow. Travel is difficult, and I would not expect lodges to meet. We must keep the safety of our Brothers and Sisters in mind. It is interesting to me that there are lodges that do assemble throughout the winter. They find ways to

hold meetings. One lodge, for example, finds an alternate place to go, because it is very difficult to drive up the steep hill to reach the lodge building. We have some lodges that do not meet because a few of their members are snowbirds, and the other members feel that they do not have to convene. I commend those lodges that "work out of the box" to obtain a quorum to assemble and continue the work of Odd Fellowship. With our wide and diverse ability to communicate through email, texts or a cell phone, members who are away can attend a meeting. This does not, of course, replace meeting in the lodge building, but it gives us an alternative for the winter months. I hope that the ground hog does not see his shadow. I do not want to hibernate and miss out on the next holiday, Valentine's Day. Keep up the good work and be the anchor of your lodge and our order for 2025.

Fraternally,
Paul E. Lautenschlager
Grand Master

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

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

25 YEARS

David W. Getz, #488

30 YEARS

Gerard V. Frantz, #285

40 YEARS

William W. Ehmann, Jr., #1004

45 YEARS

Timothy E. Osborn, #1128

75 YEARS

Frederick J. Funk, Jr., #447

NEW MEMBER DEGREES



On Monday evening, December 16th, William Conlin and Alan Tshudy were initiated into Strasburg #361 & Earl #413 respectively under the direction of DDGM Brian Barr and a degree team comprised of the members of Strasburg #361 & Earl #413.

On Friday, January 5th, the three Encampment Degrees were conferred upon Patriarchs Michael Warmkessel, of Vienna Lodge No. 847, Allentown (seated left), and Thomas P. Dargis, Jr., of Shenandoah Lodge No. 591 (seated center). Both Patriarchs became members of Scott Encampment #132 of Tamaqua. Starting in February, the degrees will be conducted live so the new members can see them being done live.



ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA 2024 GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania has announced the recipient of the “Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania 2024 Graduate Scholarship Award.”

The Association’s Award Committee (Chairman Robert Grant, George Hogan, John Rebar, Robert Ruff, and Debbie Young) presented their candidate recommendation to the Association’s Board by email on December 17, 2024. The Board members were requested to vote on the Committee’s recommended candidate and return their decisions to the Board’s secretary, Emilie Cupp.



university for placement into her student account. In addition, Madelyn, along with a family member or guest, will be invited to attend an Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania meeting this coming spring or summer. Madely Oliver is the daughter of Melissa and Michael Oliver, Johnstown, PA Her grandfather, Joseph Oliver, ia a member of Alma Lodge #523 (Johnstown, PA). She received the Association’s Undergraduate Scholarship in 2022 and 2023 while attending the University of Pittsburgh and majoring in Communications and minoring in Political Science. Having graduated Summa Cum Laude from Pitt in 2024, Madelyn is presently enrolled in the Master’s Program at Indiana University of Pennsylvania pursuing a degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education. Her future goal is to gain employment in the administration or business office of an institution of higher learning.

Upon receiving word the following day that the majority of the members voted affirmatively, Chairman Grant contacted Madelyn Oliver to let her know that she was the recipient of the 2024 Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of W/PA Graduate Scholarship. She received a \$4,000.00 monetary award which was sent to her

On behalf of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania, the Award Committee wishes Madelyn much success towards the completion of her degree and in all her future endeavors.

I.O.O.F. EDUCATION PROCLAMATION

To All Members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs

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 907 students to receive \$510,500.00 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, Paul E. Lautenschlager, 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, 2025, and in the 201st 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

HOLIDAYS WITH WARREN LODGE 339

Warren Lodge 339 again participated in the Warren Downtown Christmas Parade and Downtown Walk by having a booth in front of the Lodge and passed out over 150 cups of hot chocolate and over 150 candy canes. This is the fourth year that the Lodge has participated and many spectators look forward to the hot chocolate every year. As our Lodge is located at the ending point of the parade many participants are happy to warm up to a nice cup. During the time of the parade the members also conduct tours of the Lodge facility to give residents insight into the working of the members.



In photo, from left to right, Kate Glasgow, seated Conny Elston, in back Roger's son Adam, Roger Gausman and Lou Dussia.



Warren Lodge 339 sponsors several Scouting groups. One Scout America Troop that utilizes our facility for a lot of their activities is Troop 8. The girls in this Troop make up the Phoenix Patrol. The weekend of December 13th to the 15th they held their annual Christmas Party and sleepover at the Lodge. Utilizing the Lodge allows them to cook their meals and use the Lodge facilities like Air Hockey, Ping Pong, Pool, Wii video game, Chess tables and other activities.

TAMAQUA PARTICIPATES IN OUTDOOR MARKET

Tamaqua has held a Christmas weekend yearly for the past several years. Harmony and Lady Harmony have participated many times. This year, we were asked by the committee to provide food and beverages. We had hot cider, coffee and not enough hot chocolate. The food consisted of chili, turkey noodle, vegetable and halushki. Though we were off to a bumpy start (kept tripping the breakers), we pulled through and had a great fundraiser. It was also a great night for fellowship! Believe it or not, we were asked to do it again next year!



From left to right: DDP Ashley Guscott, GS Justin Bailey Sis Jody Kellner, VG Jen Swett, GMa Andy Kilmer, GCo Nicole Inama and DDGM Sharon Stokes. Present, but not pictured GM Paul Lautenschlager, DDGM Bobby Gallahar, DDP Kate Bailey and Sis Michelle Wagner.

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

CLOVER LODGE NO. 348, BADEN
Travis Munshower - initiated December 19th

STRASBURG LODGE NO. 361
- William Conlin - initiated December 16th

EARL LODGE NO. 413, NEW HOLLAND
Alan Tshudy - initiated December 16th

LATROBE LODGE NO. 541
Michelle Sterrett - initiated December 19th
Chad Sterrett
Margaret Stuart
Taylor Stuart
John P. Ritchey
Nathan Fencil



Lodges Celebrate the Season



Warren Lodge 339 held their annual Christmas Party on Saturday Dec 21st in the lodge banquet hall. The main course of Chicken Cordon Bleu and beef tips, along with several side dishes, was catered by Caterers Plus. In addition, all members brought their favorite dish, some sides, some appetizers and desserts. The feast was enjoyed by 36 members and guests. Christmas carols were sung before our Chaplain lead us in prayer.



On December 14th, the Lodges and Encampment in Tamaqua came together for their annual Christmas party at Trinity UCC. There were 40 guests in attendance and food for twice the number of attendees! Pins and certificates were given out as shown in the picture. Grand Master Paul Lautenschlager presented Harmony Lodge #86 with a special certificate of recognition, as they celebrated their 25th anniversary of it's reinstitution just a few days prior.

A cookie decorating station was provided for the children and a white elephant gift exchange was also held. It gets livelier and livelier every year! Thanks to all who put the event together, and congratulation to those who have received pins.



Grand Master Paul E. Lautenschlager presents our newest Rebekah, Rayne Shellhamer with her Educational Pilgrimage for Youth Certificate, picture and pin. Rayne had such a great time on the trip, that she came back and joined Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge, where she now serves as Inside Guardian.



Noble Grand Brandon Mooney presents DDGM Sharon Stokes with her five year Odd Fellow pin. She also received her PG/PCP Jewel from Grand Master Lautenschlager, who also is Scott Encampment's Chief Patriarch.



Noble Grand of Lady Harmony presents DDP Kate Bailey with her 15 year Rebekah Jewel. Also receiving Rebekah veteran pins were Kerry Lasky and Sharon Stokes 5 years and Justin Bailey 15 years.



Lodges Celebrate the Season



Lititz Lodge No. 1050, IOOF held its first annual Christmas open house on December 16 at the Community Center of Home Town Square where one of our members resides. We did a potluck dinner which was enjoyed by all offering lasagna, sausage and peppers, Grandma's Sicilian pizza, salad, desserts, and drinks. We collected money for our local police station to provide them lunch for Christmas/ New Year's. We also collected donations for our scholarship fund. We also finalized our donation of snacks, toiletries, candy, and other items to our member Gabe Taylor, who is currently deployed in Djibouti, Africa. Overall the event was a great success welcoming, possibly 4 to 6 new members Lititz Lodge 1050 is trying very hard to grow and is hoping that 2025 will be our year to make our name known in our community



Shenandoah Lodge No. 591 held their annual Christmas Party at Cracker Barrell Restaurant in Frackville on December 9th. There was a great crew of members out, as well as our Grand Master and his wife, Monique.



The highlight of the evening was GM Paul presenting Secy Tim H. Hahn with his 25 year membership jewel. Thanks to all who attended and congratulations Tim on 25 years of dedication!



SPRING CITY SPREADS CHEER

Vincent Lodge #762, of Spring City, spread some holiday cheer to the residents of Whitehall Apartments. Whitehall is low-income veteran only housing that houses 50 veterans. Each resident received a gift bag of essential items along with nonperishable food for their on-site food pantry.

Sue Grumblatt, Secretary



FEBRUARY OBITUARIES

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

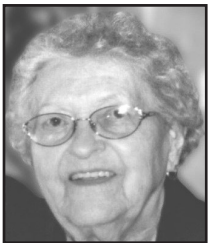


Donald M. Lapinson
Variety Lodge No. 37
December 9, 2024

Brother Donald M. "Don" Lapinson, 79, of Boynton Beach, FL, was initiated into Menorah Lodge #144, Philadelphia, on March 30, 1967, where he became a Past Grand. He became a member of Bridesburg-Menorah Lodge #37 through consolidation on January 13, 1985 and finally Variety Lodge #37 through consolidation on January 13, 1988, where he was a charter member. In the past, he was an Associate Member of Walker Lodge #306, Philadelphia, and the former Kensington Encampment #18, where he was a Past Chief Patriarch. He became a member of Perseverance Encampment #135 through consolidation on July 6, 2000, and remained a member until 2013 when he withdrew.

Surviving is his wife, Bobbi, one son, Paul, who is also a member of Variety Lodge, one daughter and four grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge and burial was held in Shalom Memorial Park, Lower Moreland Township, PA.

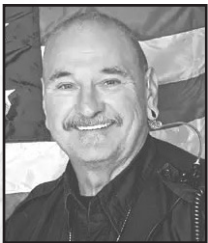


Kathleen E. Wentzell
Lady Hall Rebekah Lodge No. 202
December 10, 2024

Sister Kathleen E. (Smith) Wentzell, 96, of Hanover, PA, was initiated into Lady Hall Rebekah Lodge #202, Bushkill Center, PA, on July 6, 1950, where she became a Past Noble Grand on October 5, 1972 and received her Rebekah Assembly Degree on May 17, 1973. At the time of her death, she was the Lodges oldest member, by age and tenure.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Emmett, and her daughter. Surviving are two sons, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Plainfield Cemetery, Pen Argyl, PA.



Keith E. Quinn
Charleroi Lodge No. 1030
December 19, 2024

Brother Keith E. "Cap" Quinn, 70, of Charleroi, PA, was initiated into Charleroi Lodge #1030 on June 3, 2021. At the time of his death, he was the

Lodge's Outside Guardian.

Surviving is his wife, Kimberly, and one daughter.



Robert J. Tucker, Jr.
Past GE Appointed Officer
Walker Lodge No. 306
Perseverance Encampment #135
December 26, 2024

Brother Robert J. "Bob" Tucker, Jr., 85, of Collegeville, PA, was initiated into Walker Lodge #306, Philadelphia, on June 7, 1993, where he became a Past Grand on April 29, 2001 and received his Grand Lodge Degree on June 18, 2001. He was active in the Walker Lodge Installation and Degree Team. He was a Past Associate Member of Variety Lodge #37, Philadelphia. He joined Perseverance Encampment #135, Philadelphia, on November 13, 1993, where he became a Past Chief Patriarch and received his Grand Encampment Degree on November 11, 2000. He served as Grand Outside Sentinel for PGP See from 2003 - 2004 and Grand Inside Sentinel for PGP Haussler from 2006 - 2007. He was a Past Noble Grand of Letitia Penn Rebekah Lodge #173, Philadelphia, having joined November 18, 2000. He was a former Chevalier to Canton Philadelphia #1, P.M., having been mustered January 18, 1997 and serving many years as Commandant. He served the Department Council as Bannerette from 2000 - 2002. He was also a longtime attendee and representative to Unified Session, the Home for Orphans of Odd Fellows and the Odd Fellows Home of Pennsylvania.

He was a U.S. Navy Seabee Veteran.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Nancy Freedman. Surviving is one daughter.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge.



Gene D. Dolnick
Variety Lodge No. 37
December 28, 2024

Brother Gene D. Dolnick, 82, of Langhorne, PA, was initiated into Variety Lodge #37, Philadelphia, PA, on October 14, 2004. He served as Treasurer for many years, a position he was holding at the

time of his death.

He was preceded in death by his son. Surviving is his wife Ilene, two daughters, one son and six grandchildren.

Burial was held in Shalom Memorial Park, Huntingdon Valley, PA.

TREASURER'S TALES - FEBRUARY 2025

We have been following Barney's exploits on a month by month basis and we are now at February 1930. The big thing in February is St. Valentine's Day on the 14th, followed closely by Groundhog Day on the second. February is a cold month, with snow. As much as people stay in groups to keep warm and repel the ill effects of snow and cold, so do animals.

February 1930 marked a number of interesting events. On February 3, William Howard Taft resigned as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States because of health reasons, Taft had previously been President of the United States, the only person to hold those two positions. On February 18, US astronomer Clyde Tombaugh discovered Pluto; Pluto has since been downgraded from planet status.

On February 10, Robert Wagner, American actor (It Takes a Thief; Switch; Hart to Hart), was born in Detroit, Michigan and is still living. On February 12, Arlen Specter, American Senator (Republican-PA, 1981- 2011), was born in Wichita, Kansas (d. 2012). On February 27, Joanne Woodward, American actress, producer, activist, and philanthropist (3 Faces of Eve, Rachel), was born in Thomasville, Georgia and is still living.

Sometimes holidays and important world events dominate a particular day of month. We will try to differ from that custom. Barney owned three breeding sows. Sows have been known to have large litters. Barney was familiar with breeding hogs and Vic had helped him build styes where the piglets could retreat, if the sow came after them. As a Valentines' gift, all three sows gave birth, leaving Barney with 28 piglets to care for. Barney had 17 other pigs, both male and female, that were young. Adding the sows, piglets and other immature pigs, he was up to 48 hogs. Vic advised him that he could build up a large enough drove of pigs to go into the hog farming business and abandon teaching.

At the next lodge meeting Barney was discussing the various benefits and weaknesses of hog farming. There were visitors from a dozen other lodges there because of the Valentine's Day dinner. Every lodge represented encouraged him and suggested they would like to have a hog roast in the late summer when the pigs were ready. As Barney quickly determined, they wanted him to give them a hog for their respective hog roasts. He decided he would stick to teaching and keep farming as a sideline.

After the dinner meeting, Barney strolled out into the parking lot and took the garbage out to the can. His faithful friend and nemeses was watching from a tree. Barney was a bit down since his dreams of full-time farming had been quashed. He decided to discuss the matter with Melchizedek, throwing him a piece of biscuit and some chicken bones. Barney had supplied the chickens for the dinner at what was less than cost. The economy was shrinking and he was grateful that he still had a job teaching. Melchizedek chattered as he ate the biscuit and Barney thought he was giving words of encouragement. It seemed like he was telling Barney to seek the truth and remain faithful to the principles that

had guided him for over 35 years.

Many would have thrown stones and tried to make the raccoon go back in the woods, but as the parking lot emptied, Barney picked out the best of the trash and made sure Melchizedek had a decent meal on a cold winter's evening. Although perhaps not historically accurate, we associate St. Valentine's Day with love. Friendship, love and truth is our motto, perhaps we should show a little bit of love toward our furry friends who live out in the cold.

Comments and questions are always welcomed by the Grand Treasurer and Past Sovereign Grand Master. I am a bit late in turning this story in as I was in California for seven days helping to prepare and ride on the IOOF float in the Tournament of Roses parade. You can go on youtube at this link, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MliWVSG3hL4>. You can see the IOOF float at 1:45. Hope you get to see the parade now, if you didn't get to see it live. You can contact him by email at jcupp275@gmail.com or conventional mail at P.O. Box 275, Hopwood, PA 15445.

54TH ANNUAL CANADIAN WAR MEMORIAL WEEKEND MAY 30, 31, JUNE 1

To All Members and Friends of Odd Fellowship:

Greetings:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Canadian War Memorial Celebration and Wreath Laying Ceremony to be held on May 30, 31, June 1, 2025.

Our headquarter's hotel will be the Best Western Plus, Ottawa Civic Centre, 1274 Carling Ave., Ottawa, Ontario. Room rates are \$189.00 per night (Canadian funds plus applicable taxes). SEE PAGE 2 FOR RESERVATION. Rooms in our block are limited and must be ordered before **April 30, 2024**. All rooms will be released after this date.

Our annual banquet and entertainment will be held at the hotel 1274 dining room on Saturday, June 1st. The evening will begin at 5:00 p.m. with a time of fellowship and cash bar. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Tickets for the banquet are \$70.00 and must be ordered in advance, No later than May 15. Your choice of **Chicken, Salmon or Beef** must be shown on the **pre registration form attached**. Suggested dress code is men in tuxedo, business suit or military uniform. For the ladies is street length dress or formal gown.

Our Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony will take place on **Sunday, June 1st** at the National War Memorial commencing at 11:00 a.m. Transportation will be provided. Wreaths are made of artificial flowers and can be used for many years. Those Jurisdictions who currently have a wreath are urged to have a representative available to present their wreath. The name of the person should be sent to the Secretary no later than May 15, 2025. If no representative is available, the committee cannot guarantee that your wreath will be presented. Jurisdictions that do not have a wreath and would like to order one may do so by contacting the Secretary. The cost of a new wreath is \$200.00 and must be ordered no later than March 1, 2025.

On Friday evening there will be a informal get together in the Club 1274 Lounge from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Banquet tickets** will be available for pick-up at that time.

On Saturday we have scheduled no events for group participation for Saturday morning, however last year many people who arrived Friday evening decided on exploring Ottawa. See information on page 2.

The committee is looking forward to greeting you in Ottawa May 30, 31, June 1, 2024
If you have any questions please feel free to contact the secretary

David Anderson, Secretary
andersond1@sympatico.ca 613-700-9500

FROM THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER...

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL RICHARD J. LIPPEY, PDC

My quest to visit all of our deceased Past Department Commanders took me to Hart's Cemetery in Easton, final resting place of Past Department Commander Major General Sir Richard James Lippey, GDC. Major General Lippey served as our third Department Commander (1920-1929).



Richard James Lippey was born in Glendon in 1875. He attended Glendon schools until the age of sixteen at which time he went to work training in the cabinet and pattern making trades, using this knowledge to eventually start his own successful business. He was so successful that he was able to purchase the Easton Brass and Machine Co. in 1925. He remained president of the company and subsequent manufacturing concerns for the rest of his life. Mr. Lippey was an active member of the Glendon Methodist Church and both the YMCA and Red Cross of Easton as well as numerous other civic and fraternal organizations. He was well known in Easton as a member of the Easton School Board from 1917-1925, during which time he was largely responsible for the planning and building of the Easton High School. He married Katie Ferguson in 1900.

Major General Lippey was a member of Lehigh Lodge #244, Valley Union Encampment #196 (now with Bushkill Encampment #55), Charity Rebekah Lodge #3 and Canton Lafayette #22 of Easton. He was elected Grand Patriarch for 1912-1913. Brother Lippey served in many Lodge, Encampment and Patriarchs Militant offices over the years. Some noteworthy and less usual offices he held were Rebekah Degree Master and Supreme Monarch of the Supreme Sanctum, A.M.O.S., making him Chief Knight over the US, Canada and Mexico. He was also a board member of the Aged Odd Fellows Home of Philadelphia. He was awarded the Grand Decoration of Chivalry in 1909. In 1920 Major General Lippey became our third Department Commander and served for what was at the time three terms, or nine years, until 1929.

An aspect of Major General Lippey's time as an Odd Fellow and a Patriarchs Militant Chevalier is how his life tracked the beginning, rise, glory days and start of the downsizing of the Patriarchs Militant. Major General Lippey was born in 1875, before the Patriarchs Militant even existed. He joined the Odd Fellows in 1900, when the Patriarchs Militant was a mere twelve years old. Shortly after that, in 1903, he joined the Patriarchs Militant and rose up through the ranks until, in 1920, he became our third Department Commander. This was the beginning of the Patriarchs Militant at its peak. The 1920's saw the Pennsylvania Department of the Patriarchs Militant membership and prestige at its highest levels. We were an impressive corps of uniformed

ranks that regularly held spectacular parades in communities across Pennsylvania. Consider this account reported in the October 20, 1926 edition of the Hazleton Standard - Speaker newspaper: "Gettysburg streets resounded today to the tread of marching hundreds of members of Patriarchs Militant ... with flags and banners stiffening in the breeze, the brightly outfitted members of the Cantons of the militant order marched to the blare of several bands, playing stirring patriotic and martial tunes. Headed by Richard J. Lippey ... several hundred Chevaliers of the Cantons, the highest degree in Odd Fellowship, swung through the street wearing the plumed helmets and braid bedecked uniforms of their rank. Sabres gleamed and flashed in the glare of the bright sunshine as the leaders of the various Cantons called sword drills along the line of march. Applause from the crowds which lined the sidewalks along the route greeted each different figure in the drill."

By the 1930's, and through the following decades, Major General Lippey saw our branch of Odd Fellowship slowly begin to contract, until his death in 1954. And so it has been, more or less, since that time. But we do find that we are still strong enough to carry on the great principles, rituals and structure of the Patriarchs Militant branch of Odd Fellowship in such a way that, were he with us today, I am confident that Major General Lippey would feel quite proud and at home with the Department that he led during its greatest days.



Joining me for a solemn graveside service honoring Major General Lippey were Past Department Commander Major General Sir Justin Bailey, GDC and Past Commandant Major Patricia Faustner, both of Canton Allentown #39. During the ceremony an Odd Fellows memorial flag was reverently placed for Major General Lippey. Major Faustner offered a prayer from our Department Council Memorial Service. We were particularly honored to have on this day a special guest bugler - Kenny Bailey, son of Major General Bailey. Not only did Ken sound an excellent Taps in very adverse weather conditions, he also wore an authentic period uniform - one of the the type that was worn during Major General Lippey's term as Department Commander. Kenny displayed fine military bearing and I thank him for his outstanding contribution to Major General Lippey's Memorial Service.

Uniform Facts:

Women of the Patriarchs Militant can be seen wearing a variety of Class A (Full Dress) uniforms with more versions available to them than are available for the men. It seems that the version chosen most often for wear by our female Chevaliers is what has traditionally (since 1937) been the male Class A uniform. It is identical to that which is worn by our male Chevaliers in almost every respect and may be tailored to fit the wearer as needed.

The second version of the female Class A uniform is less common. I do see it worn by high ranking officers at the General Military Council (national) level. It consists of a shorter coat, skirt and female U.S. Army style cap. No Sam Browne Belt is worn but a hook is provided on the uniform for hanging the sword. The neck tab style tie is worn along with black hosiery and military style pump shoe. All patches, rank and other awards and insignia are worn as usual. This is a sharp uniform and I have seen it worn by two and three star Generals at the national level, including the current Chief of Staff to the General Commanding.

The third Class A uniform option is very special. Ladies of the former LAPM are permitted to wear their traditional and distinctive LAPM uniform. This was one of the provisions put in place upon their merger with the Patriarchs Militant. There are exceptions, such as higher ranking offices which require a switch to the Patriarchs Militant uniform, but we are honored to still have ladies in our ranks who carry on the great LAPM legacy by wearing this historic uniform. One final note on the female class A uniform. You may rarely see a female Chevalier, dressed in regulation Patriarchs Militant uniform, wearing silver General's stars (unlike the standard gold). The silver stars indicate that the wearer was a high ranking Officer within the LAPM before the merger with the Patriarchs Militant. These silver stars may be worn until that Chevalier achieves higher rank in the Patriarchs Militant. There has also been recent national legislation proposing unique uniform components for former LAPM members - shoulder cords, patches, pins, etc. None have yet been adopted. It has only been a few years since the PM-LAPM merger and while we have done our best to adjust the uniform to current standards it is certain that the female class A uniform will continue to evolve.

BG William F. Hanby
Department Commander

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT CLINTON 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!

CLINTON COUNTY

- Lock Haven - Queen Rebekah Lodge No. 24 - consolidated 1975
- Logantown - Silver Leaf Rebekah Lodge No. 216 - defunct 1940
- Oak Grove - Lady Leone Rebekah Lodge No. 282 - consolidated 1954
- Renovo - Gracie Rebekah Lodge No. 212 - consolidated 1982

4 Rebekah Lodges with 0 active

1st Rebekah Lodge - Queen Rebekah Lodge #24 in 1869

Last Rebekah Lodge - Gracie Rebekah Lodge #212 in 1982

7 Odd Fellow Lodges

Next Month - Allegheny County - Pittsburgh proper. Get your pictures and articles in now!

NAKOMIS SOUP SALE

Nakomis Rebekah Lodge#497, of Honesdale, held a soup and bake sale on a chilly day. Soups sold were beef barley, chili and cream of broccoli. After the sale, Noble Grand Jessica Kilmer and Secretary Andrew Kilmer took soup to Sister Doris Goerlitz. The left over soup was donated to Light of Christ Church and Pastor Pat Lee. Thank you to the brothers and sisters who baked, helped with the soup and the sale.



Periodicals

DECEMBER DONATIONS

GM PAUL PROJECT – SUICIDE AWARENESS & PREVENTION

290	Paoli	500.00
1004	Hampton	250.00
HHS Class of 1966		
In memory of class members who have departed		206.63
211	York Springs	125.00
Odd Fellows & Rebekahs Ass'n of Western PA		100.00
86	Harmony	<u>20.00</u>
		1,201.63

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Odd Fellows & Rebekahs Ass'n of Western PA		20,000.00
2	Unified	<u>50.00</u>
		20,050.00

CAMP JRA

74	Mount Zion	1,000.00
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VISUAL RESEARCH

2	Unified	25.00
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PA VISUAL ASSISTANCE

2	Unified	25.00
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ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

2	Unified	50.00
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100TH ANNIVERSARY – ARE YOU A BUILDER?

A shorter article this month, but one that deserves to be read by every member at least twice, or until it is certainly understood. This comes from the August 1925 Pennsylvania Odd Fellow Magazine:

ARE YOU A BUILDER?

We are either building or tearing down. If we are really building, then we lawfully hold title to our Lodge membership. If we are tearing down, then we are wrongfully in possession of something which we do not deserve and are sailing life's seas under false colors. Where do you stand? If you are a builder, take comfort, and dip your oar blades even deeper. If you are tearing down, don't be a dead weight in the boat. Do something constructive, or jump overboard.