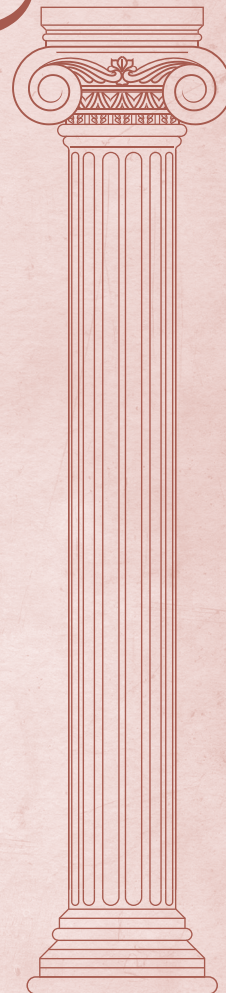
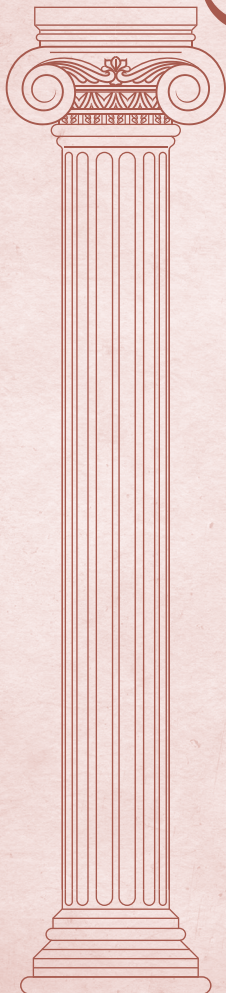
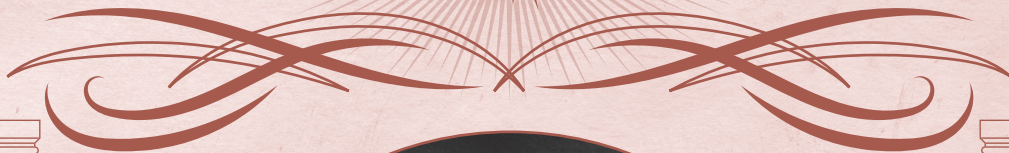
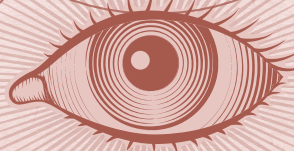


PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW



Odd Fellows help at PA Farm Show - article on page 5.

Volume 100

No. 3

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under the title
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As seen in the 1912 magazine

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JUSTIN C. BAILEY

Editor

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OFFICERS OF GRAND LODGE

- PAUL E. LAUTENSCHLAGER..... GRAND MASTER
101 Maplewood Drive, Honesdale, PA 18431 570-877-5925 pelmhl@hotmail.com
- FRANK A. HILT.....DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
1022 Patriots Way, Quakertown, PA 18951 215-206-7912 hiltf1122@gmail.com
- JAMES W FULLER, SR.....GRAND WARDEN
577 Ridge View Lane, McConnellsburg, PA 17233 717-729-1388 jfuller@innernet.net
- JUSTIN C. BAILEY.....GRAND SECRETARY
1001 West Harrisburg Pike, Middletown, PA 17057 717-944-7419 iooftpaglssecty@verizon.net
- JOHN S. CUPP, JR.....GRAND TREASURER
P. O. Box 275, Hopwood, PA 15445 724-437-4629 jcupp275@gmail.com
- WILLIAM L. RAMSEY, JR.....GRAND REPRESENTATIVE
16620 Trough Creek Valley Pike, Apt 1, Calvin, PA 16622 814-599-0617 wlramsey0809@gmail.com
- DAVID A. YOUNG.....GRAND REPRESENTATIVE
20 Truman Road, Charleroi, PA 15022 724-344-7550 iamanoddfellow@gmail.com
- ROBERT B. RUFF.....JUNIOR PAST GRAND MASTER
1819 Forbes Avenue, Apt 5A, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 412-621-0872 rruff2u@aol.com
- ANDREW L. KILMER.....GRAND MARSHAL
940 Springhill Road, Sterling, PA 18463
- NICOLE B. INAMA.....GRAND CONDUCTOR
153 Lake Drive, Nesquehoning, PA 18240
- TRACY L. KNIGHT.....GRAND CHAPLAIN
747 Main Street, Duke Center, PA 16729
- DAVID MCHUGH.....GRAND GUARDIAN
20 Washington Terrace, Hughestown, PA 18640
- BRIAN L. BARR.....GRAND HERALD
188 Peach Bottom Road, Willow Street, PA 17584
- DEBRA L. YOUNG.....GRAND MUSICIAN
20 Truman Road, Charleroi, PA 15022
- MICHAEL D. BETTS.....GRAND LODGE ATTORNEY
887 West Bristol Road, Warminster, PA 18974
- PAUL L. MILLER.....GRAND MUSICIAN EMERITUS
1105 Stinson Drive, Leesport, PA 19533

OFFICERS OF REBEKAH ASSEMBLY

- KATE WALTERS.....PRESIDENT
815 Allen Meadow Road, Granville Summit, PA 16929 267-738-8171 katewalters707@gmail.com
- SARAH M. BAERSECRETARY
115 North Centre Avenue, Leesport, PA 19533 610-916-1990 s.baer@baersservice.com

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT

- MICHAEL J. SERVerson.....GRAND PATRIARCH
3422 Vista Street, Philadelphia, PA 19136 215-901-7672 serversonfam@comcast.net
- JAMES W FULLER, SR.....GRAND SENIOR WARDEN
577 Ridge View Lane, McConnellsburg, PA 17233 717-729-1388 jfuller@innernet.net
- SANDRA L. HUCHELGRAND SCRIBE
1809 White Oak Drive, Sinking Spring, PA 19608, shuchel@hotmail.com, 484-794-6781
- JAMES W. SELLERSGRAND TREASURER
2453 Tower Road, Mohrsville, PA 19541 610-926-7023 gramboopy@aol.com

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

- MOUNT ZION LODGE NO. 74, YORK
Steve Seyler - reinstated February 3rd
Ryan L. Seyler - reinstated - Welcome back!!
- FREEDOM LODGE NO. 88, HONESDALE
Deborah A. Harsch - initiated February 5th
Joshua J. Fink, Sr.
- YORK SPRINGS LODGE NO. 211
Cam A. Baer - initiated January 16th
- WHITE HAVEN LODGE NO. 457
Jeremy L. Wilkinson - initiated December 12th
Brad M. Kuhns
- THISTLE LODGE NO. 512, PITTSTON
Frank Domoracki - initiated January 13th
- MAHANoy LODGE NO. 551, DORNSIFE
Mark Ilgenfritz - initiated January 23rd
- SANDY LAKE LODGE NO. 573
Charles Hlavsa
Matthew Boston
- LITITZ LODGE NO. 1050
Reid Miller - initiated January 13th
Stacy Y. Miller

GRAND MASTER'S CORNER

Brothers and Sisters, Happy early Spring, or is it Sad late Spring? In my last article I wrote about Ground Hog Day, and if the Ground Hog would or would not see his shadow. Well, I watched and listened, only to find out that Phil saw his shadow, predicting six more weeks of winter, and Staten Island Chuck did not, and predicted an early spring this year. The long standing tradition is still up for debate as to how accurate their predictions are. Nonetheless, it is a tradition that creates some fun during the cold dreary winter weather we have. I did, by chance, look at my March calendar and saw that on March 20, 2025, Spring begins. March, for me, is the end of my first six months as your Grand Master. I have been looking back over these months and must say, it has been an enlightening experience. The lodges are still struggling to get their September (Annual) report completed and turned in. I am still perplexed by this. Now, my concern is that with this month (March), there is now a Semi-Annual report to be completed and returned to Grand Lodge. I encourage each secretary and treasurer to be more diligent in their position. If you need help, please reach out. Your District Deputy Grand Master should be available to help, if not, please contact me personally. Grand Lodge will find the help you need to complete your

and work. This also brings up several questions: Does your lodge meet in your lodge room, and open and close with the Ritual? Do your members know the password of the term, and do they know the sign? Do your officers make sure that every member sitting in the lodge has paid their dues and are in good standing? These are but a few of the duties each officer and members must attend to at each meeting. These are all questions we must look inside ourselves and ask.

I extend my congratulations to each of the lodges that have brought in new members. In this six month period, there were several lodges that showed a decrease in membership, which could have caused the lodges to go defunct or consolidate. Through the work of the Grand Lodge and the District Deputy Grand Masters, working with each other, there was an increase in membership, resulting in the lodges to remain active. I have been encouraging each lodge in each district to reach out and help the lodges in their region. Working together in harmony and being the anchor of your lodge will continue to make our Order grow. Be faithful to the principles of our Order so that we may continue into the future. Fraternaly,
Paul E. Lautenschlager
Grand Master

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

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

25 YEARS

Timothy G. Wilwohl, #201
Henry L. Leshner, #285
David R. Hockenberry, #523
Edward G. Hockenberry, #523
Kenneth G. Lupold, #551
Joshua A. Schooley, #736

30 YEARS

Guy J. Snyder, III, #551

35 YEARS

Donald G. Davis, #86
Thomas F. Oliver, #471

45 YEARS

Roger L. Dirlam, #88

50 YEARS

James D. Rockafellow, #447
Everett W. Sechler, #1010

70 YEARS

David M. Harris, #87

Places to Go...People to See

MARCH

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

APRIL

12 / Spring IOOF Rally, Aluta, PA (pg 11)

MAY

2 - 4 / Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns, Arlington, VA
30 - Jun 1 / Canadian War Memorial Weekend, Ontario

JUNE

21 - 25 / Unified Session, Red Lion Harrisburg +

JULY

26 / Fun Day, Knoebel's Elysburg+

** 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

THE TREASURER'S TALES - MARCH 2025

March is the beginning of spring. The days are starting to get longer and travel to and from work takes place in daylight. In March 1930, spring broke in New Jersey and many were rejoicing the end of snow. This is the month when we celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

On March 8, 1930, Baseball great, Babe Ruth signed 2-year contract for the then huge sum of \$160,000 with the NY Yankees. In 2025, that is almost \$3,000,000. March 12, Mohandas Gandhi began his 200 mile (300km) protest march against the widely hated British salt tax. On March 20, American fast food restaurant chain Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC) is founded as Sanders Court & Café by Colonel Harland Sanders in North Corbin, Kentucky.

On March 22, American Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize winning composer and lyricist, Steven Sondheim, (*West Side Story*; *Sunday in the Park With George*; *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Gypsy*), was born in New York City. On March 24, American actor Steve McQueen, called "The King of Cool" during the 1960s (*The Magnificent Seven*, *The Great Escape*), was born in Beech Grove, Indiana. On March 26, Sandra Day O'Connor, first female Supreme Court Justice, was born. On March 8, William Howard Taft, 27th US President (Republican: 1909-13) and Chief Justice, died at the age of 72.

The arrival of spring caused the Odd Fellows to want to get out and mingle. Since it was March, the plan was for a corned beef, potatoes and cabbage dinner, with spouses. Barney took a back seat in planning to his father-in-law, Vic. The cost was to be \$.85 per person, a tidy sum in 1930. This included corn, soda bread, beverage and cake. Alice baked a green devil's food cake and put green icing on it.

For those of you who are interested, the following article from the Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corned_beef) Explains corned beef: "Corned beef, bully beef, or salted beef in some Commonwealth countries, is a salt-cured brisket of beef. The term comes from the treatment of the meat with large-grained rock salt, also called "corns" of salt. Sometimes, sugar and spices are added to corned beef recipes. Corned beef is featured as an ingredient in many cuisines.

Most recipes include nitrates, which convert the natural myoglobin in beef to nitrosomyoglobin, giving it a pink color. Nitrates and nitrites reduce the risk of dangerous botulism during curing by inhibiting the growth of *Clostridium botulinum* bacteria spores, but have been linked to increased cancer risk in mice. Beef cured without nitrates or nitrites has a gray color, and is sometimes called "New England corned beef".

The IOOF hall was decorated with green tissue paper streamers and pictures of shamrocks, leprechauns and harps. The Grand Master of

New Jersey was going to attend and give the main speech. He was known for his ability to give comprehensive speeches (i.e. long).

Vic's younger children, John and Virginia, thought they would liven things up by dressing one of the animals from the animal hospital as a leprechaun and taking him to the dinner.

When John and Virginia arrived at the animal hospital to prepare a leprechaun, it was feeding time. It was John's duty to feed the animals. A friendly raccoon was at the door waiting to see what he could beg. Virginia started to pet him and he became quite friendly. Of course, the raccoon was Melchizedek. John and Virginia thought they could fit Melchizedek into the costume and take him to dinner. After a couple small bowls of dog food, Melchizedek was dressed and taken to the dinner.

John and Virginia waited outside, till the Grand Master took the podium. Soon after the first sentence, a raccoon dressed as a leprechaun came bounding in, smelling the corned beef and looking for some inanimate scraps. The crowd went wild. The Grand Master started laughing and couldn't stop. After the crowd sensed that Melchizedek was looking for a treat, many scraps were offered to him.

The Grand Master started speaking, "I have never been upstaged by a leprechaun before. I want to thank all of you for inviting me and my little friend to this fantastic banquet. My daughter is learning to play the piano and she is going to play *Where the river Shannon flows*. Please sing along."

You can listen to the song here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FJyauGHOpb4>. This gets you the John McCormick version with lyrics, there is a Bing Crosby version on YouTube.

After the lodge sang for a bit, the crowd was too interested in Melchizedek to listen to a speech. A couple more sing-alongs and the evening ended on a pleasant note. When John and Virginia took Melchizedek over to his hollow tree, he was too full to walk and was fussy when they removed his leprechaun suit.

Think about some event to get your members out of the winter doldrums and doing something. A St. Patrick's Day dinner sound like a good start.

Comments and questions are always welcomed by the Grand Treasurer and Past Sovereign Grand Master. You can contact him by email at jcupp275@gmail.com or conventional mail at P O Box 275, Hopwood, PA 15445-0275.

100 YEARS AGO

Taken from the August 1925 Pennsylvania Odd Fellow magazine. Though it is 100 years old, they stand true even more today than it did then. If you've seen any frustration in the grand Masters last article, there is a lot of issues with people just completely ignoring deadlines or things that need to be done. If you are one of those people, or if you know one of those people, please read this!

TODAY

One of the tragedies of human life is the failure of individuals to recognize the importance of the present. NOW is the time to do the things we want to do and know we ought to do.

Life is largely a matter of decision. The success or failure of our life is wholly dependent upon how these decisions are made and when they are

carried out. It is much more difficult to think and act in the present than to follow the path of least resistance. Nothing is easy but slumping. Most of the problems that affect our happiness are complicated. The way to perform a difficult and complicated task is to do it and do it now. To think of what we should have done yesterday, is a total loss of mental energy. To resolve to do tomorrow what we know we should do today is a stop formation of a costly practice - procrastination.

Successful people are those who meet their problems of life halfway. And therein lies the reason for their success. To them there is value in today. They live and act in the present, profiting by yesterday's experiences and planning the morrow to be of service to them. Time, present time, is of service to them - they are not its servants.

If we have work to do, NOW is the time to do it. If we want to save a part of our earnings, NOW is the time to begin. If we want to break a bad habit, the time to start is NOW.

V.E.Cribbs

211 NEW MEMBER



Great job to York Springs Lodge No. 211 for conferring the initiatory degree, and welcome new member!

339 SCOUTING



Warren Lodge 339 is very involved with Scouting. Several members are directly involved as leaders and in other positions. Al Webster is Cornplanter council committee member and Pinewood Derby workshop leader. Lisa Bush is a Cub Scout leader, Boy Scout Leader, Venture Leader and Pinewood Race Chairperson. Mike Crone is Scout Camp Olmstead Camp Ranger. Russ Bush is Venture Leader. Gary Landrio is Counsel

Committee person. Jim Tellman is Pack Leader. Wendi Donachy, Lou Dussia, Jim Tellman and Roger Gausman are Pinewood Derby Workshop members. Wendi Donachy, Danielle English and Tammy Dussia are Asst Scoutmasters for Troop 8. Troop 8 recently took 1st Place in the Annual Klondike Derby held at Camp Olmstead Jan 17-19 where the scouts are tested in a variety of Scouting activities. Danielle English is a Girl Scout leader with her regular meetings held at our Lodge.

Many scouting activities take place at the Warren Lodge including various Troops having over night stays, parties and training. This is in addition to the fully equipped wood working shop for helping Cub Scouts design and build their Pinewood Race Cars. ~ Lou Dussia

ODD FELLOWS HELP AT PA FARM SHOW

Last month, the Odd Fellows of Pennsylvania were asked to help out the State Grange at the Pennsylvania Farm Show in Harrisburg. We sold tickets for a quilt to benefit the PA250 project, and the friends of the farm show.



There were well over 500,000 spectators at the show throughout the week. Thanks to all the Odd Fellows throughout the week who helped out and a special thanks to York Springs Lodge #211 for taking the lions share of the time. You guys are doing a great job!




Lodges Celebrate the Season

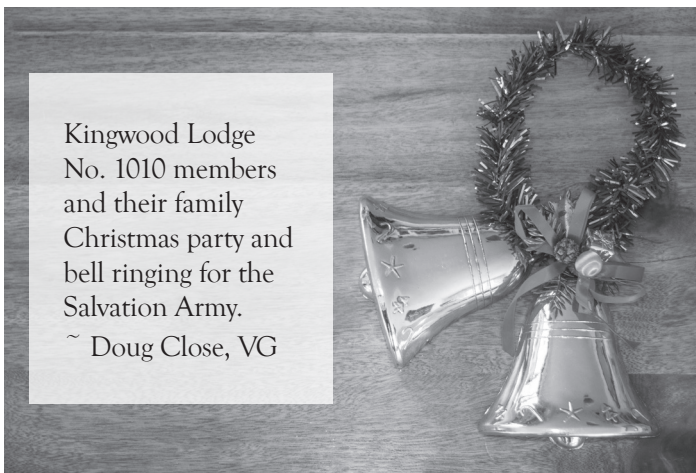



Vincent Lodge #762, of Spring City, recently held our holiday dinner. We had members attend from Paoli Lodge #290, Malvern-Pocahontas Lodge #201, Boyertown Lodge #708 along with Grand Master Paul Lautenschlager, Deputy Grand Master Frank Hilt and Grand Musician Emeritus Paul L. Miller.



The Grand Master awarded a faithful service certificate and pin to Vincent Lodge member Gary Yerger for 25 years of Odd Fellowship. Our basket raffle also raised \$200 towards the Grand Master's campaign of suicide prevention which our lodge will match.

In FL&T,
Sue Grumblatt, Secretary, Vincent Lodge #762





Lodges Celebrate the Season



Boyertown Lodge #708 along with assistance from Vincent Lodge #762 recently participated in Wreaths Across America. Members from both lodges along with other volunteers, placed wreaths on the graves at 2 cemeteries in Boyertown.



Members of Shenandoah lodge #591 stopped by the two nursing homes in the Shenandoah area spreading some Christmas cheer.

Members visited the Shenandoah Manor Nursing Center in town and the Ridgeview Health and Rehabilitation Center in Shenandoah Heights with cards and candy canes.

Pictured above from L-R: Emily Fritz, Linda Fritz Dargis, Tom Dargis, Tim Hahn

Featured in the Shenandoah Sentinel



This is a Picture of Boyertown Lodge's Christmas dinner at Spunktown Tavern. ~ Steve Boyko, VG

THE DONALD TRULICK FUND NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

The Trulick fund was set up to send students on the Educational Pilgrimage for Youth Tour. We would like to keep the lodges and members informed that donations help us achieve this. If you would like to contribute you can make a check to the Donald Trulick Foundation and send it to Col John J. Dzyak Quartermaster 126 Hilltop Drive Scottsdale PA. 15683.

We want to thank those who have donated thus far to the foundation! Those who donated from October 1st December 31st were:

Fred R. Korman Lodge No. 55, Fallentimber	\$100
Mount Zion Lodge No. 74, York	\$100
Tunkhannock Lodge No. 699, West Nicholson	\$100
Hampton Lodge No. 1004, Allison Park	\$100
Shenandoah Lodge No. 591	\$50
Shillington Lodge No. 1175	\$50
Leesport Lodge No. 141	\$25

MARCH OBITUARIES

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



Lynn R. Kinzey
Alma Lodge No. 523
William F. Packer Encampment No.
127
November 14, 2024

Brother Lynn R. Kinzey, 80, of Monrovia, MD, was initiated into Alma Lodge #523, Johnstown, PA, on November 22, 1963. He became a Patriarch of William F. Packer Encampment #127, Johnstown, PA on February 4, 1964.

Surviving is his wife, MaryFran, two daughters, two granddaughters, and four great-grandchildren.

Inurnment was held in Frederick, MD.



Franklin D. Leslie, Sr.
Paoli Lodge No. 290
January 9, 2025

Brother Franklin D. "Frank" Leslie, Sr., 88, of Wagontown, PA, was initiated into Star of Hope Lodge #199, Coatesville, PA, on November 21, 1966, where he became a Past Grand on October 20, 1980. He became a member of Paoli Lodge #290, Downingtown, through consolidation on November 17, 2005.

He was a U.S. Navy Veteran and a member of the Wagontown Chapel.

Surviving is his wife, the former Dolores Donofrio, three children, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Burial was held at First Baptist Church of Pequea Cemetery, Gap, PA.



Emily G. Fritz
Past District Deputy President
Lois Elmore Jurisdictional Rebekah
Lodge No. 11
January 18, 2025

Sister Emily G. (Maust) Fritz, 104, of Berlin, PA, was initiated into Lady Berlin Rebekah Lodge #277, Berlin, on May 14, 1959, where she became a Past Noble Grand on October 27, 1983 and received her Rebekah Assembly Degree on April 26, 1984. She served as District Deputy President. She became a member of Queen Victoria Rebekah Lodge #575, Kingwood, through consolidation on October 2, 2008. At the time of the consolidation, she was Lady Berlin's Noble Grand. On November 7, 2015, Queen Victoria went defunct, and she became a member of Lois Elmore Jurisdictional Rebekah Lodge.

She was a member of the Berlin Brethren Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, H. Henry, and one daughter. Surviving is one granddaughter, one grandson, and five great-grandchildren.

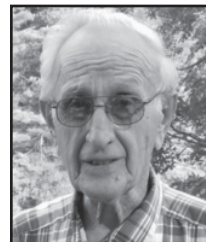
Burial was held in Berlin IOOF Cemetery.



Katherine Cuff
Tunkhannock Lodge No. 699
January 18, 2025

Sister Katherine (Manigault) Cuff, of Montrose, PA, was initiated into Tunkhannock Lodge #699, West Nicholson, on September 18, 2018, where she became a Past Grand on October 29, 2024. At the time of her death, she was serving a second term as Noble Grand. She was a former member of Ernestine Rebekah Lodge #548, Montrose.

Surviving is her husband, Bruce, her mother, two sons, one daughter and 11 grandchildren.



William E. Whiteside
Warfordsburg Lodge No. 601
January 22, 2025

Brother William E. Whiteside, 94, of Warfordsburg, PA, was initiated into Needmore Lodge #458 on March 12, 1963, where he became a Past Grand in 1971. He became a member of Warfordsburg Lodge #601 through consolidation on November 15, 1990. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest tenured member. He was a former Patriarch to Keystone-Fulton Encampment #57, of Needmore, having joined in 1970.

He was a U.S. Army Korean War Veteran and a member of Whips Cove Christian Church, Warfordsburg.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Betty, one son and one grandson. Surviving are two sons, 11 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Whips Cove Cemetery.



Arlene B. Miller
Lady Colfax Rebekah Lodge No. 182
January 26, 2025

Sister Arlene B. (Boyer) Miller, 90, of Leesport, PA, was initiated into Lady Colfax Rebekah Lodge #182, Leesport, on January 21, 2013. She held several appointed offices and helped out whenever it was needed.

She was a member of the former Trinity UCC, Leesport. She was preceded in death by her husband, Carl.

Surviving are two daughters, four grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson.

Burial was held in Bern Cemetery.

MARCH OBITUARIES



Jean S. Wieand
 PDDP/ Past RA Appointed Officer
 Lady Hall Rebekah Lodge No. 202
 January 29, 2025

Sister Jean S. (Stump) Wieand, 91, of Kunkletown, PA, was initiated into Lady Lillie Best Rebekah Lodge #222, Schnecksville, PA, on June 18, 1958, where she became a Past Noble Grand on October 15, 1969 and received her Rebekah Assembly Degree June 15, 1970. She was incredibly active during her tenure, serving as Treasurer for many years. She served as District Deputy President from 1993 - 1995 and served the Rebekah Assembly several times. She served as Chaplain from 1996 - 97, Pennsylvania Flag Bearer from 1998 - 99, Conductor from 2000 - 01, and Marshall from 2005 - 06 and 2011 - 12. In 1997 she received the Decoration of Chivalry. She became a member of Lady Hall Rebekah Lodge #202, Bushkill Center, through consolidation on April 19, 2018. Her and Stanley were regular attendees to Unified Session, and she was representative for a long time for Lady Lillie Best. At the time of her death she was the oldest member, by age and tenure.

She was a member of Union United Church of Christ, Neffs.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Stanley. Surviving are four children, seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Burial was at Union Church Cemetery, Neffs.

HURRICANE HELENE RELIEF DONATIONS

Listed in the IOOF News

Thanks to the following for their donations:

LODGE

- Unified #2
- Fred R. Korman #55
- Mount Zion #74
- Harmony #86
- Lewisburg #96
- Canawacta #207
- Nathan Lewis-Ft.
- Necessity #254
- Mystic #270
- Walker #306
- Foster #333
- Mackinaw #380
- Strasburg #361
- Alma #523

- Newburg #562
- Shenandoah #591
- Tunkhannock #699
- Port Matilda #733
- East Brunswick #802

REBEKAH

- Rebekah Assembly
- Lady Colfax #182
- Nakomis #497

ENCAMPMENT

- Valley #34
- Perseverance #135

PERSON

- Sarah & Mark Baer

Total received throughout the SGL was \$92,316.97

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT ALLEGHENY COUNTY - PITTSBURGH PROPER

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!

Here goes nothing! A lot of these Rebekah Lodges moved in and around the Pittsburgh area, so if you know of a Pittsburgh Rebekah Lodge, but don't see it here, check out next month for the rest of Allegheny County!

ALLEGHENY COUNTY - PITTSBURGH

- Adelaide Nicholson Rebekah Lodge #186 - consolidated 1971
- Alice Carey Rebekah Lodge #120 - consolidated 1954
- Anna L. Lynch Rebekah Lodge #15 - defunct prior to 1920
- Electa Rebekah Lodge #22 - defunct 1874
- Elizabeth McGimpsey Rebekah Lodge #415 - defunct after 1915
- Fredericka Rebekah Lodge #201 (German speaking) - consolidated 1944
- Hazel Rebekah Lodge #240 - defunct prior 1900
- Isabel E. Boyd Rebekah Lodge #179 - consolidated 1942
- Lady Montefiore Rebekah Lodge #269 - consolidated 1962
- Lady Park Rebekah Lodge #486 - consolidated 1976
- Lady United Rebekah Lodge #3 - consolidated 2003
- Liberty Rebekah Lodge #332 - defunct 1920
- Lydia Wood Rebekah Lodge #194 - consolidated 1934
- Margaret Finch Rebekah Lodge #124 - consolidated 1937
- Martha Rebekah Lodge #237 - defunct 1899
- Martha Rebekah Lodge #491 - consolidated 1981
- Mary I Shaddle Rebekah Lodge #222 - defunct 1936
- Mary Magdaline Rebekah Lodge #365 - defunct 2005
- Mary Sheridan Rebekah Lodge #360 - consolidated 1988
- Nancy Harden Rebekah Lodge #115 - consolidated 1964
- Sadie E. Creighton Rebekah Lodge #399 - consolidated 1956
- Theodora Rebekah Lodge #208 - consolidated 1985

- 22 Rebekah Lodges with 0 active
- 1st Rebekah Lodge - Electa Rebekah Lodge #22 in 1869
- Last Rebekah Lodge - Mary Magdaline Rebekah Lodge #365 in 2005
- 47 Odd Fellow Lodges

FROM THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER... HONORING MAJOR GENERAL EVAN W. REESE, PDC

Snow on the ground and freezing temperatures did not deter four dedicated Chevaliers from helping me honor our tenth Department Commander, Major General Sir Evan W. Reese, GDC. Grand Master Lieutenant Colonel Paul Lautenschlager, Past Department Commander Major General Justin Bailey, Department Adjutant Brigadier General Nicole Inama and Chevalier Jennifer Swett joined with me at Mountain View Cemetery in West Hazleton shortly before Thanksgiving to remember the man who led our Department from 1964 - 1969.

Evan Reese was born in Edwardsville in 1902. He lived in Hazleton for about half of his life, then Conyngham. In his younger years he worked as an inspector for the Lehigh Valley Railroad and then had a forty-four year career at Pennsylvania Power and Light. Mr. Reese was an active member of the First United Methodist Church of Conyngham where he sat on various boards and committees. He was a member of numerous civic and fraternal organizations. He married Mildred Kay in 1931.

Major General Reese was a member of Conyngham Lodge #308 (now consolidated with Harmony Lodge #86), Freeland Encampment #21 and Canton Wilkes-Barre #31. He was elected Grand Patriarch for 1954-1955. Brother Reese served in many Lodge, Encampment and Patriarchs Militant positions over the years as one would expect of such a dedicated Odd fellow. Some noteworthy and less common offices were Grand Scribe of the Grand Encampment starting in 1956, chairman of the Board of Control of Junior Lodges in the early 1950's and President of the Knights of the Grand Decoration of Chivalry. He was awarded our highest honor, the Grand Decoration of Chivalry, in 1956 by the General Commanding while attending Sovereign Grand Lodge in Omaha, Nebraska. In 1964 Major General Reese became our tenth Department Commander and served in this office until his untimely death at the age of 67 in 1969.

An interesting chapter in Major General Reese's Patriarchs Militant career came in 1960. In that year he was appointed Inspector General of the World by General Commanding Walter Jessup. Not only was he the first Pennsylvania Chevalier to be appointed to this post, but he was again appointed to the same national position in 1961 by General Commanding Edward Ludvigson. Note that Major General Reese had not yet served as a Department Commander when he was appointed Inspector General, which runs contrary to our rules today. The fact that Major General Reese was recognized with this prestigious national position two times before having even served as Department Commander indicates how



respected and involved he was at the national level. We have had at least two Inspector Generals of the World from Pennsylvania since that time (General Joseph Strausser and Major General Justin Bailey) and we are proud of this legacy begun by Major General Reese in 1960.

Also remembered during the ceremony was Lady Mildred Reese.



Lady Reese was a member of Conyngham Rebekah Lodge #404 as was Major General Reese. She later belonged to Regina Rebekah Lodge #230 in Shamokin. Mildred Reese rose up through the Ladies Auxiliary Patriarchs Militant to eventually be elected President of the Pennsylvania Department Association in 1952. She remained very active as Past President until her death in 2005. Lady Mildred re-married in the years after she lost Evan but we find that they are now at rest together, in their hometown, with their eternal dedication to our

Order carved upon their stones in the form of our sacred symbolism. On this day we remembered them, and we prayed that all Pennsylvania Odd Fellows will join us in carrying on the memory of Lady and Major General Reese.

Evan and Mildred Reese had no children of their own. Major General Reese did have two brothers and after diligent research I was able to find and speak to a grandson of one of these brothers. While he had no knowledge and frankly little interest in Major General Reese he did recall visiting relatives in Hazleton as a child and sent his regards and thanks for recognizing the achievements of his grandfather's brother.

I was honored to have Grand Master Paul Lautenschlager joining with me for a solemn graveside service. The Grand Master, a Battalion Commander and Past Commandant of Canton Northeast #9, offered a moving prayer. Past Department Commander Major General Sir Justin Bailey, GDC sounded taps. After an Odd Fellows memorial flag was placed for Major General Reese, Chevalier Swett placed a Rebekah memorial flag for Lady Reese in an old Rebekah flag holder that we found someone had placed at the grave many years ago.

This was a moving memorial experience for me and I am sure for all present in that we realized that if it were not for us there would be no visitors to this, the final resting place of Mildred and Evan Reese. There is no biological family that knows much of them, nobody that remembers or frankly that cares - so it was left to us to gather at this place, to visit the dead and perhaps, for the last time, let them know that their legacy of Odd Fellowship lives on. Lady and Major General Reese - we do honor you and remember you in your Odd Fellows fraternal family - you are our Brother and Sister.

Uniform Facts:

In recent articles I have been focusing on the Patriarchs Militant Class A or Full Dress Uniform. Our other commonly worn uniform is the Class B or Field Uniform. It is much simpler than the Class A but is still authorized for wear much of the time. As with the Full Dress Uniform, the Field Uniform is based on the long standing male version with optional components for our female Chevaliers if they so choose.

The big difference with the Field Uniform is that there is no jacket as is worn with the Class A Full Dress Uniform. Instead, a white short sleeve open collar shirt with flap pockets is worn. The best way to



describe it is similar to the shirt typically seen worn by security guards. Female Chevaliers have the option of wearing a blouse type top. Only three things are required to be worn on the shirt - our regulation name tag, P.M. collar insignia and rank insignia for Officers. The name tag is worn on the right side above the pocket and the P.M. collar insignia are gold colored metal. Officer rank is worn on the shirt epaulet tabs or optionally the insignia may be mounted on a black epaulet sleeve which can be slipped over the shirt epaulet. This can be switched back and forth to the Chevalier's Class A Uniform as needed. Optional on the Class B Uniform shirt are ribbon awards earned in the US Armed Forces and the I.O.O.F. Some are worn on the left side and some on the right. A Patriarchs Militant Swordsmanship badge may be worn on the right side below the name tag. This is the only badge, medal or jewel authorized for wear on this uniform. The most unusual optional component to this uniform shirt are sleeve patches. The same three sleeve patches (discussed in an earlier article) that are required on our class A Uniform are optional for wear on our Class B Uniform shirt. I have rarely seen one or two of these patches worn and have never seen all three.

The Class A hat (male or female version) or the garrison cap may be worn with this uniform but most prefer to wear our black ball cap style hat with embroidered P.M. insignia. A simple black web belt with gold buckle is required, to which a clip for hanging the sword is attached. Optionally a Chevalier may also wear the Sam Browne belt as is worn with the Class A Uniform. This same belt may be worn without the shoulder strap part but I have never seen this done. In either case, when wearing the Sam Browne belt option, the sword would be suspended from it and not the web belt. Gloves are worn when with sword. With reference to the sword, our newest uniform manual eliminates the requirement of wearing a sword except for certain Officer positions. Men and women wear the Class A trousers. Optional for women are the Class A skirt or slacks (with or without pockets). The Class A skirt can be with or without belt loops. No belt loops creates an exception to the web belt requirement which in turn would not give the female Chevalier a place to hang the sword and thus a Sam Browne Belt would have to be worn for that purpose. This is an odd quirk in the uniform manual and is probably so rare as to be of little consequence. Black Class A shoes are worn with the optional pump style available for female Chevaliers.

There are some fine points on when and where the Class B Uniform is authorized, but in general it is a fully acceptable way to be in regulation uniform in the Patriarchs Militant Army. It is of course a preferred option for warm weather use and many feel that it is simply more comfortable than the Full Dress Uniform. When worn correctly this uniform presents a sharp, professional and functional appearance. For many newer Chevaliers and perhaps for those less interested in the uniform aspect of our branch of Odd Fellowship, the basic Class B uniform with name tag and ball cap is a simple and inexpensive way to be in proper uniform and participate in Canton activities.

BG William F. Hanby
Department Commander

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS OF PENNSYLVANIA SPRING RALLY

APRIL 12, 2025

PROUDLY HELD IN ALUTA HALL, NAZARETH, PA

Greetings,

BRING YOUR CANDIDATES!

It's that time of the year to start getting your plans made for the Spring Rally! The location is Aluta Hall, home of Aluta Lodge No. 488, 1068 Bushkill Center Road, Nazareth, PA 18064.

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

- 9:30AM Lodge will open
- 10:00AM Initiatory Degree
- 11:30AM 1st Degree
- 12:30PM Lunch
- 1:30PM GL Degree
- 1:45PM 2nd Degree
- 3:00PM 3rd Degree
- 3:45PM Introduction of Dignitaries & Closing the Lodge

Lunch will be provided of spaghetti, meatballs, chicken and "all the fixins" for \$10.00 per person.

It seems like the rallies have dwindled in the past years; people have stopped coming, and forget what their importance is. Please come out and support Odd Fellowship. It will be a day worth coming down and even brushing up on the degrees!

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

Periodicals

JANUARY DONATIONS

PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW & REBEKAH MAGAZINE

306	Walker	250.00
523	Alma	250.00
762	Vincent	200.00
116	Brady	116.00
55	Fred R. Korman	100.00
86	Harmony	100.00
96	Lewisburg	50.00
488	Aluta	50.00
847	Vienna	25.00
86	Harmony – Randy Gormley	<u>25.00</u>
		1,166.00

GM PAUL PROJECT – SUICIDE AWARENESS & PREVENTION

192	Jordan	50.00
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PA EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND

1128	Fallowfield	162.33
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EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

2	Unified	50.00
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VISUAL RESEARCH

1128	Fallowfield	64.93
488	Aluta	50.00
R86	Lady Harmony Rebekah	50.00
2	Unified	25.00
C8	Canton Ridgely	<u>20.00</u>
		209.93

PA VISUAL ASSISTANCE

R86	Lady Harmony Rebekah	50.00
2	Unified	25.00
88	Freedom	<u>25.00</u>
		100.00

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

1128	Fallowfield	64.93
2	Unified	50.00
488	Aluta	<u>50.00</u>
		164.93

For this month's 100th anniversary article, turn to page 4