



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE

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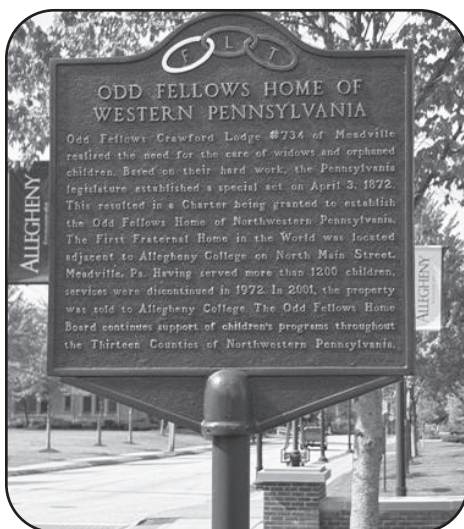
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HISTORICAL MARKER PLACED IN MEADVILLE



world's first fraternal orphanage is located at 400 North Main Street, Meadville, PA. The historical museum is situated on Atlantic Road, Atlantic, PA.

~ DDGM Shawne Balash

As District Deputy Grand Master #18, I am pleased to announce this significant event. The Odd Fellows historical marker ceremony commemorates the establishment of the world's first fraternal orphanage. It has been a distinct honor to collaborate with the dedicated members of Fallowfield Lodge #1128 and Sandy Lake Lodge #573. I am privileged to contribute to the enduring legacy of the Pennsylvania Odd Fellows.

The historical marker designating the



@IOOFPA

Places to GO... People to See

+ denotes details to follow

JULY

25 / IOOF Fun Day, Knoebel's, Elysburg

AUGUST

14 - 20 / SGL/GMC/IARA Session, Frisco, TX

SEPTEMBER

19 / PGM Lautenschlager Testimonial, Dunmore

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



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this will be done accordingly.

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FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND MASTER

I am a member of Warfordsburg Lodge #601, Genesis Encampment #15, and Lady Evelyn Rebekah Lodge #22.

I have been married to Ruth for over 36 years; have two children - James Jr, age 27 and Marie, age 25. I enjoy spending time with my family, including the 4-legged ones - 2 dogs and 2 cats.

I have a Bachelors degree in History Political Science and a minor in Philosophy and Religion. A veteran of PA Army Guard and US Air Force. Previously a volunteer fireman for over 24 years serving in many positions including Deputy Fire Chief. For

employment, I have been working for a mechanical contractor the last 20 years where I use my skills as a commercial estimator and project manager.

I look forward to meeting as many members as I can. I believe in an open door policy - feel free to reach out to me for anything. I will do my best to help you out. Here's to hoping this year will be a 'great' year for Odd Fellowship!

I will be seeing you soon,
Fraternally,
Jim Fuller Sr
Grand Master

PAST GRAND MASTER'S CORNER

Brothers and Sisters, Greetings,

My second term as your Grand Master will have ended at the time of this printing. I have had two exciting and rewarding years in this office. I have met many Odd Fellows and Rebekahs at the state and Sovereign Grand Lodge. The friendships that were made will never be forgotten.

Reviewing the past two years, I am proud of the accomplishments we have made toward my goals. We increased our membership, for which we were recognized by Sovereign Grand Lodge, with more new members than all of the jurisdictions of the Sovereign Grand Lodge. We worked in Harmony within our lodges, with other lodges and other districts, to visit each other, help with degree work and help complete our tasks required by Grand Lodge. Many lodges reached out and assisted those lodges that were struggling and needed help. We held two Degree Rallies which were a huge success. In the last two years we held a zoom seminar on reviewing and completing the Annual Report and reviewed and completed newer instructions on completing the Semi-Annual Report. I am pleased that this action has helped lodges complete their reports, although we still have some lodges that struggle to get them completed and returned to Grand Lodge by the dead line. This is something we will have to continue to work on, so that each lodge may reach that goal of returning reports completed properly and on time. I am pleased to see lodges working within their community and working to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the signing the Declaration of Independence. We, as Brothers and Sisters, must work in Harmony, and be the anchor of our lodge and in our community. You may have noted that this article states we, not I, for without the full support and help from all the Brothers and Sisters within this jurisdiction, the achievements we have accomplished these past two years could not have been a reality. It is with my hand over my heart, and the great passion that I have for the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, I say thank you for your faith and support to the elected and appointed officers and my District Deputy Grand Masters over the past two years for electing me as your Grand Master. Remember, work in Harmony and always be the Anchor of your lodge.

In Friendship, Love and Truth,

Paul E. Lautenschlager

Grand Master

COME VISIT THE GRAND MASTER

Grand Master Fuller has scheduled the following visits for July.

I am sure he would appreciate seeing you there.

9 - Alma #523 OV - 7:30PM

16 - Warfordsburg #601 OV -
7:30PM

20 - Lewistown #97 OV - 7:30PM

21 - Triune #307 OV - 7:30PM

25 - IOOF Fun Day, Knoebel's
Grove, Elysburg

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

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania would like to welcome our newest members:

Mount Zion Lodge No. 74, York

James V. Keller - reinstated
Welcome back!!

Freedom Lodge No. 88, Honesdale

Dana White - initiated June 3rd

Brady Lodge No. 116, Muncy

Jane Waldman - initiated May 20th

Paoli Lodge No. 290, Downingtown

Wendy Bergeron - initiated March 13th

Triune Lodge No. 307, Middletown

Mark A. Dundee - initiated March 3rd
Kenneth R. Smith - reinstated March 17th
Welcome back!!

Clover Lodge No. 348, Baden

Steve Yurkovic - initiated May 6th

Askam Lodge No. 899, Sugar Notch

Lucas A. Matthew - initiated May 18th

Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge No. 86, Tamaqua

Brian L. Barr - initiated June 3rd

PRESIDENT'S OFFICIAL VISIT

On May 21st, five Rebekah Lodges gathered at Lady Hall Rebekah Lodge No. 202, Nazareth, for good fellowship and the President's Official Visit. The Lodges present were Lady Hall Rebekah Lodge #202 of Nazareth, Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge #86 of Tamaqua, Lady Colfax Rebekah Lodge #182 of Leesport, Nakomis Rebekah Lodge #497 of Honesdale and Lady Sellers Rebekah Lodge #558 of Sellersville. A great meal was served beforehand, and then the formal meeting was held. Thanks to all who attended!



RUSH LODGE HONORS MEMBER

At a recent Rush lodge # 471 meeting GM Lautenschlager & DDGM Kilmer presented Rick Arnold his 50-year pin. Photo by Jessica Kilmer



CHARLEROI LODGE #1030 MEMORIAL DAY 2026 GRAVE-SITE VISITATIONS

Memorial Day Tribute: Brothers Dennis Caldwell, Bob Grant, Dave Metz, and Joe Valla, members of the I.O.O.F., Charleroi Lodge #1030, were out and about during the week preceding Memorial Day 2026, proudly and honorably performing their annual grave-site visitations. This is one of the more gratifying services done by the Lodge because it not only pays tribute to many of their departed brothers but also honors those who faithfully served our country, allowing us to enjoy the freedoms made possible by those who answered the call. The lodge members visited approximately 45 grave sites in six surrounding cemeteries: Charleroi, Monongahela, Maple Creek, Sacred Heart, Belle Vernon, and LaFayette. At each gravesite, the recognizable "F.L.T." stake was topped with the commemorative red, white, and blue "In Memoriam - I.O.O.F." flag. After completing the grave-site visits, each brother reflected on the upcoming Memorial Day weekend, a time to remember the sacrifices of military personnel and their families. The brothers sincerely expressed their honor at having performed this duty once again.

(Submitted by Bob Grant, secy)



Bob Grant is pictured placing "IN MEMORIAM - I.O.O.F." flags at the grave-sites of Charleroi Lodge #1030 members Ethan Allen Culp, Sr. (G.F.I.L.) and Ethan A. Culp, Jr. (F.I.L.), located at Lafayette Memorial Park in Fayette County.

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

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

25 YEARS

Rick L. Dotter, #192

35 YEARS

Theodore W. Bergfelt, #2
Clinton E. Bradney, #192
John A. Graziano, #541

175 YEARS

Jamison Lodge No. 447

180 YEARS

Norristown Encampment No. 37

THE TREASURER'S TALES - JULY 2026

July is the month in which we celebrate Independence Day. Our Independence was declared on July 4, 1776. The declaration was presented July 2, it was adopted on July 4, a printed copy for the journal was produced on July 5. The printed copy was available for signatures on August 2, with a number of delegates signing on that date. Other delegates signed later. The school year was long over and we will not be discussing it again until September.

On July 1, the first ice vending machine was installed in Los Angeles, \$.15 for 25 pounds. On July 1, President Hoover declared a one-year moratorium on the payment of war debts. On July 11, the New York Giants defeated the Philadelphia Phillies 23 to 8. On July 24 a fire in a home for the elderly in Pittsburgh killed 48.

Famous births in July 1931 include July 1, Leslie Caron, French actress. On July 8, Roone Arledge, famous sportscaster was born. On July 10, Nick Adams, TV actor was born in Nanticoke, PA. On July 28, Darryl Hickman, TV and movies star was born. On July 1, Alice Mary Robertson died at the age of 77, she was the second woman ever elected to Congress.

The era of the Academy Awards is now full on us. There were almost no television sets and radios weren't universal in 1931. The awards were not given every year. The awards were given for the two-year period 1931-32. The best movie was a 1932 production of *Grand Hotel*. The best actor Oscar was split between two men, Frederic March for *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* and Wallace Beery for *The Champ*. The best actress award was given to Helen Hayes for *The Sin of Madelon Claudet*.

Signs of economic turmoil were everywhere. Because of prohibition, there was no alcohol for drinking in the United States. The Odd Fellows and other fraternal societies prospered because Americans had few options. There was no network of government agencies to provide for those who did not have the necessities of life, and private charity was more personal. In short, life was very different. Since the time period is 95 years ago, almost none of you will have a personal recollection of the era.

Barney was the workhorse of the Odd Fellows. The July 4 picnic was a big thing and the Odd Fellows had children, grandchildren and other young relatives who looked forward to this event for weeks. Barney had different members taking charge of different aspects. His mother-in-law, Alice, was always in charge of pies and cakes. This year Barney himself was in charge of the homemade root beer. As noted above, this is prohibition.

Modern root beer is made as a syrup that is then diluted and either force-carbonated or lightly fermented to add the sparkle. If you do not mind artificial ingredients, it is very simple to make since root beer extract is available commercially. Extract can still be found in some specialty stores and is fermented with yeast. Your author has made root beer in years long past. The yeast gives it a little "kick" that would have been popular in the prohibition era.

Barney began the process in early June and had five gallons ready by July 4th. If you have ever made root beer, you know that it is usually put in Mason jars and has a tendency to explode when the yeast gets active.

Barney had 20 quart jars filled with root beer. Only one exploded, so he thought he was still OK. Another member made iced tea and one of the Rebekahs was bringing lemonade. Jiggling in the car ride to the park caused two more jars to blow their lids off, making a bit

of a mess. Once at the park, the root beer was placed on ice and all the lids were loosened. The picnic was served at 12:30 pm. Many of the children wanted root beer. As the afternoon progressed, Barney noticed that several of the smaller children were acting a little strange. He had not made a connection to the root beer until he decided to check out the drinking area. He thought that someone may have spiked the drinks.

Upon arriving at the area where the drinks were stored, he noticed the table cloth had been pulled off the tub where the root beer was stored. He ran over and found a large raccoon (Melchizedek) and a smaller one (Saul) drinking the root beer. He began yelling at them and they started to scamper away, but they weaved and were unsteady. Barney poured himself a glass and found that the fermentation had been too successful. It was almost like regular beer. Barney thought he would be alright since the picnic was almost over and there wouldn't be much more drinking.

Barney enjoyed the remainder of the picnic and headed back to the car. Elizabeth stopped him and told him to watch his step. Saul was a young raccoon and had no experience with alcohol. He drank too much root beer and stopped to throw up. He threw up on the ground next to Barney's car door. This was the last time homemade root beer was served at a picnic.

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, Hopewood PA 15445.

SPRING CITY COMMUNITY DAY

Vincent Lodge had a great day of meeting people, telling them who we are and what we do along with giving away soft pretzels and water at Spring City's Community Day. We also collected donations for the Grand Master's campaign of Suicide Awareness!

Sue Grumblatt, Secretary





Remember our Oath to Educate



CHARLEROI LODGE #1030 HONORS CAHS STUDENTS FOR 2026

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.), Charleroi Lodge #1030, recently honored five Charleroi Area High School senior students during the school's Class of 2026 "Salute to Scholars" evening award presentations on Wednesday, May 20, 2026. Each recipient was proudly acknowledged and presented with a \$1,000 check by Lodge #1030 members/presenters Dennis Caldwell and Bill Palmer. This event showcases our lodge's ongoing commitment to supporting local students and strengthening our community ties, inspiring pride and connection among community members. Hopefully, this special evening will serve as a reminder of their outstanding scholarly achievements during their four years at CAHS. It may someday prompt them to consider becoming members of the Odd Fellows and/or Rebekahs organization(s).

The I.O.O.F. Charleroi Lodge #1030 is proud to support local students through the 2026 Scholarship Awards. On behalf of the lodge, the Scholarship Awards Committee congratulates Katie, Janie, Camdyn, Aubree, and Kelsey and wishes them many happy, healthy, and academically fulfilling years at their respective institutions of higher learning. Their achievements reflect the lodge's dedication to community development and student success.

(Submitted by Bob Grant, Secretary)



Pictured above, L to R, are Katie Carpenter, Janie Dzurinko, Camdyn Carson, Aubree Downer, and Kelsey McKita. Katie, daughter of Heather and Russel Carpenter, will pursue a degree in Neuroscience at Penn State University. Janie, daughter of Kimberly and Michael Dzurinko, will be attending Ithaca College (Ithaca, New York) and is undecided on a major at this time. Camdyn, daughter of Jaime and Joshua Carson, has chosen Speech-Language Pathology as her major while attending Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Aubree, daughter of Sally and Ryan Downer, will be attending Washington and Jefferson College (Washington, PA) and has chosen Nursing as her field of study. Kelsey, daughter of Mishelle and the late Gregg McKita, has selected Diagnostic Medical Sonography as her major while attending Indiana University of Pennsylvania.



NAKOMIS CONTINUES TO EDUCATE

Members of Nakomis Rebekah Lodge #497, Honesdale, met at the lodge hall and presented scholarship winners with their award. winners were Lydia Gilson and Garrett Quigley. Photo by Andrew Kilmer

ALMA LODGE ACTIVITIES



In April 2026 Alma Lodge donated a total of \$10,600.00 split between four food pantries and the Salvation Army and the Red Cross. Alma Lodge does this donation before Easter and Again before Thanksgiving each year.

May 14, 2006 Alma Lodge No. 523 of Johnstown held a banquet for the winners of our annual scholarship awards. We gave FOUR STUDENTS SCHOLARSHIPS OF \$3,000.00 each from Cambria County and Northern Somerset County. We had 30 applicants. The names of the winners are: Colin Dinyar, Ezekiel Thomas, Scott Beers, Cody Farabaugh.





Remember our Oath to Educate



CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Odd Fellows "Home" Board of Northwestern PA • PO Box 1290 • Meadville, PA 1633

GRAND LODGE PRESS RELEASE

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

Recipients of the 2026 Continuing Education Citizenship Awards for \$700 each are as follows: Owen Wolfe, Eric Stanton, Jordan Pilling, Amara Vella, Keira Mrozek, Lorelai Allen, Sophia Glass, Victor Oquendo, Jacob Balsamo, Jamir Rowan, Owen Grettler, David Boyd, Brynn Monteforte, Samuel Mackowski, Giana Gracey, Adeline Kitchen, Adeline Crawford, Aislyn Rutherford, Abraham Truchen, Luke McGill, Landon McConnell, and Piper Kirkman.

Recipients of 2026 School to Work Citizenship Awards for \$600 each are as follows: Emmalee Burkett, Ryan McClure, Fredrick Knerr, Samuel Toth, Kaitlyn Johnson, Shannon Laugherty, Jeremiah Queenan, Tyler Wright, Hannah Daily,

Mackenzie Ogden, Boyd Hess, Austin Suscheck, Leann Chapman, Landon Pierce, Gary Ryan, Mason Burke, Lucas Phelps, Tyson Hopper, Axel Myers, Lydia Chapin, Matthew Colich, and Gavin Cole.

The Citizenship Awards Committee selected the following students to also receive the 2026 Continuing Education Board Memorial Award in the amount of \$1,000 each. The students are Adeline Crawford from Red Bank High School and Lorelai Allen from Cochranon High School.

2026 School to Work Board Memorial in the amount of \$1,000 each went to Gary Ryan from McDowell High School, and Lydia Chapin Saegertown High School.

Since 2012 the Board of Directors has awarded \$213,500 to students through participating schools within thirteen N.W. counties.

TAMAQUA MARCHES IN PARADE



As we have in the past, Chevaliers of Canton Allentown No. 39, Sellersville, and the Department Council, formed an Honor Guard to march in the Tamaqua Memorial Day parade. We again had the honor of Past Grand Josh Guscott, of Harmony Lodge, marching in our group in his Army uniform, as he is currently serving in the National Guard.

Memorial Day is a busy day for Tamaqua, as the parade normally ends in the IOOF Cemetery, where hundreds gather for a Memorial Service. This year, due to the unpredictable weather,



that service was cancelled. This freed up the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs and they were able to march with us. We had a vehicle with our magnets on it, and the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs walked behind us.

Thanks to all who attended and those who put in the hours to make our cemetery beautiful!

JULY OBITUARIES

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

Daniel G. Albright, Sr.

Alma Lodge No. 523

May 19, 2026

Brother Daniel G. Albright, Sr., 86, of Johnstown, PA, was initiated in to Alma Lodge #523, Johnstown, PA, on May 16, 1964.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Esther. Surviving are three children, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Burial was held in Benshoff Hill Cemetery.



Bobbie J. Johnson

Past RA Appointed Officer/PDDP

Lady Evelyn Rebekah Lodge No. 22

Alma Lodge No. 523

William F. Packer Encampment No. 127

May 30, 2026

Sister Bobbie Jean (Anderson) Johnson, 97, of Johnstown, PA, was initiated into Dorcas Rebekah Lodge #35, Johnstown, PA, on October 12, 1970, where she became a Past Noble Grand on October 28, 1974 and received her Rebekah Assembly Degree October 14, 1975. She served as District Deputy President 1983-84, 88-90 and 95-96. She served many appointed Offices in the Rebekah Assembly - Pennsylvania Flag Bearer from 1990-91, Rebekah Flag Bearer from 1995-96, Left Herald from 1999-2000 and Right Herald from 2001-02. After Dorcas Rebekah Lodge #35 went defunct on September 15, 1993, she became a member of Lady Berlin Rebekah Lodge #277, Berlin, on April 28, 1994. She became a member of Queen Victoria Rebekah Lodge #575, Kingwood, through consolidation on October 2, 2008. She resigned and later joined Lady Evelyn Rebekah Lodge #22, Cassville, PA.

She joined Alma Lodge #523, Johnstown, on September 8, 2007 and received her Grand Lodge Degree on September 28, 2019. She joined William F. Packer Encampment #127, Johnstown, on June 7, 2008 and was an associate member to Genesis Encampment #15, Cassville, where she became a Past Chief Patriarch and received her Grand Encampment Degree.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Milford "Jake". Surviving are two daughters, one being Grand Scribe Sandra Huchel and one granddaughter, Laura Huchel.

Burial was held in Grandview Cemetery, Johnstown, PA.

ENCAMPMENT DEGREE WORK IN YORK PA

On Saturday, May 9, Mt. Vernon Encampment #14 held a degree rally at the Odd Fellows Hall in York, Pennsylvania, where the degree team assembled by the Grand Encampment of Pennsylvania conferred the three Encampment degrees upon five candidates

The event was attended by Grand Master Paul E. Lautenschlager and Grand Representative David A. Young.

While the degree team, led by PGP Laura Huchel, taught the lesson of hospitality through the ritual work of the Patriarchal Degree, the York Odd Fellows demonstrated the same lesson in practice. The Lodge Hall was in excellent order, refreshments were available from the very beginning, and a hearty lunch was served in abundance. The hosts were always ready to assist with the team's requests.

As for the degree team, before they could guide the candidates through the obstacles of the degrees, they first had to overcome a number of challenges of their own. Two important team members were unable to participate, and several props could not be brought to York. Nevertheless, it was decided that the full ritual would be performed, with improvisation where necessary.

And improvise they did. Local Patriarchs and guests were invited to fill minor roles. During the Royal Purple Degree, the Guide also served as sound engineer, rapidly switching between applications on his phone to read lines and manage sound effects at the same time. Missing props were substituted creatively - one with chairs, another with dog-training equipment.

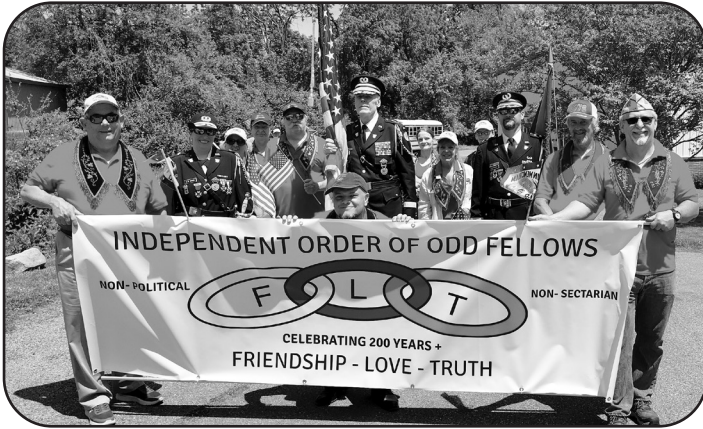
One especially interesting challenge involved the hoodwink, which was also missing. Attempts to replace it with various articles of clothing proved unsatisfactory. During recess, one Patriarch happened to examine the Odd Fellows Hall display and discovered a historic hoodwink with opening metal caps in remarkably good condition - a Kalamazoo No. 7101E, to be precise. Permission to use the valuable item in the ritual was immediately requested from the hosts and generously granted.

Despite the unexpected obstacles, the degrees were successfully conferred, and all participants departed in good spirits after an enjoyable and memorable day.

Our photo shows members of the degree team and volunteers after performing the Golden Rule Degree ritual.



MALVERN MEMORIAL DAY PARADE



On Sunday, May 31, Odd Fellows from across Southeastern Pennsylvania marched in the Malvern Memorial Parade.

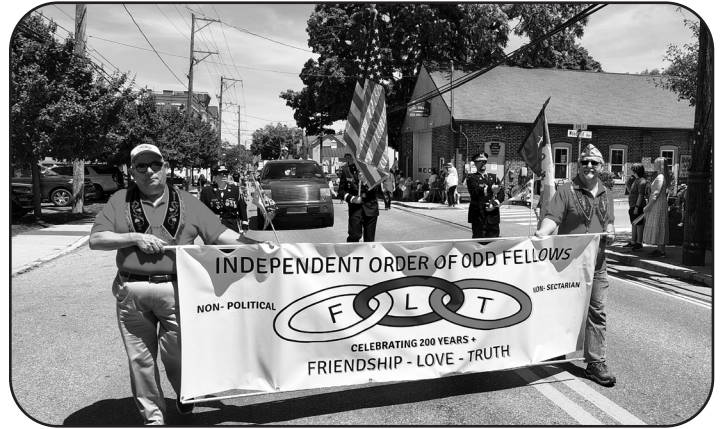
In years past, Malvern Odd Fellows participated in the Memorial Parade regularly. With the help of Vincent Lodge #762, we revived that tradition last year and were determined to make an even stronger showing this year.

To help make that happen, we invited members of the Patriarchs Militant from Cantons Philadelphia #1 and Allentown #39. They answered the call and even brought reinforcements from Harmony Lodge #86.

We also arranged a truck with straw bales for those who preferred not to walk the entire route. Many participants wore Lodge and Encampment collars, making us more visible and, we hope, sparking curiosity about our Order. Brothers and Sisters carried newly printed brochures, ready to share information with anyone interested in learning more about Odd Fellowship.

Our visibility extended beyond the parade route. Channel 6 televised the event, and several Brothers and Sisters later learned that friends and family had spotted them on television.

One experiment was less successful: we brought a powerful speaker and tried playing historic Odd Fellows marches. Unfortunately, it could not compete with the noise of the parade and ended up entertaining only those riding in the truck and a few people nearby.



After the parade, we gathered at the Lodge for lunch, refreshments, and plenty of friendly conversation.

It was a hot day, and by the end most of us were tired – but also proud. Thanks to the efforts of Brothers and Sisters from several lodges, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was once again well represented in the Malvern Memorial Parade.

GRAND PATRIARCH OFFICIAL VISIT



Mt. Vernon Encampment #14, of York, had Grand Patriarch James Fuller join us for dinner followed by our meeting on May 11. Attached is a photo with Howard Tendler presenting to GP Fuller a check for his charity, the Ronald McDonald House.

~Nancy Wagner

FROM THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER...

HONORING COLONEL CHARLES SHORTEN, PDC

The beautiful grounds of Lawnview Odd Fellows Cemetery in suburban Philadelphia was the setting for a solemn ceremony to remember our twenty-fifth Department Commander, Colonel Charles Shorten - an Odd Fellow that is very special to our history in Pennsylvania. Colonel Shorten led the Pennsylvania Patriarchs Militant from 2016 to 2017.

Charles M. Shorten was born 1940 in the Fairhill section of Philadelphia to Ezra and Irene Engle Shorten. His father was one of the many hard working men of the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard and his mother worked for the Philadelphia Board of Education. He was the youngest of six siblings and was Baptised at Eden Methodist Church in Philadelphia. In 1963 Charles married Delores O'Donnell in Trenton, remaining together for 54 years. They had 5 sons - William, Michael, James, Joseph and Charles. He lived his life in Philadelphia - starting in Fairview and making his way to the Somerton section where he was active in the local civic association. His career was in the transportation industry and he honorably served in the US Army.

Brother Shorten joined our order in 1982 as a member of Walker Lodge #306 and an associate of Variety #37 and Mystic #270. He was elected Grand Representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge, serving from 2012 onward. In 1982 Patriarch Shorten was Exalted to Royal Purple in Perseverance Enc. #135. He was later chosen by GP Haussler to serve as Grand Marshall of the Grand Enc. for 2006-7. He joined Letitia Penn Rebekah Lodge #173 (now with Lady Harmony #86) in 2006.

Charles received the Chevalier degree in 1999 and became a member of Patriarchs Militant Canton Philadelphia #1, rising through our ranks and serving in various Department Council offices. He actively participated in our Decoration of Chivalry ceremonies and served in the Honor Guard at the Pilgrimage to the Tomb. In 2016 he was promoted to Colonel and became the twenty-fifth Department Commander of Pennsylvania, serving until we lost him in February 2017. He was in office for about 7.5 months, the second shortest term of any of our Department Commanders (MG Perry served for only six months in 1964).

Colonel Shorten's greatest contribution was his work with the Educational Pilgrimage For Youth. All of us know the legendary status that he achieved as "Pops" to countless participants in this outstanding program. His name is still frequently mentioned when the United Nations trip is discussed and it truly is his enduring legacy. At Sovereign Grand Lodge he is a celebrity for his legendary leadership and he was presented the Medallion Award by SGM Chuck Renninger for his work. One person summed it up nicely in the comments on Charlie's online obituary by saying,

"I had the honor and privilege of working with Charles on the United Nations Pilgrimage For Youth through the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs. His personal dedication and commitment to this program was extraordinary. Across the many years, he positively affected hundreds if not thousands of impressionable youth who will never forget him. He helped to mentor me for which I am exceedingly grateful. Always wishing you the best Pops."



Even with all of this, Colonel Shorten found time to be a board member of both the Philadelphia Home for Orphans and the Odd Fellows Home in Middletown. He was also well known for his proficiency and leadership in our degree and ceremonial work. Colonel Shorten served as Degree Master and Installation Staff Director where he ably conducted the various teams. His unique talents, hard work and popularity made him well known throughout our jurisdiction and beyond. He was a leading figure in Pennsylvania Odd Fellowship and the respect that our Brothers and Sisters had for him is evident. His name is still reverently spoken within our Lodges.

Colonel Charles M. Shorten, PDC died in 2017, age 77. He left behind a huge family, some of whom are Odd Fellows. He is fondly remembered by friends and family for enjoying good times playing poker, hunting and camping, particularly with his sons. His funeral was attended by many fraternal Brothers and Sisters, including SGL Officers. Services included US Army honors, a Patriarchs Militant Honor Guard and IOOF memorial ceremonies by Walker Lodge. It was a funeral service full of respect for a man that was so important to us. How can it be almost 10 years since we lost Charlie? His name is spoken so often, his memory so vivid, it is as if he is still here, energizing and entertaining us with his wit and humor. He is well remembered in Philadelphia, the state and even internationally. When the Youth Pilgrimage is discussed he is mentioned, when I tell people at SGL that I am from Philadelphia they ask if I knew Charlie - and on and on. He was one of the best Odd Fellows that we ever had and he lived up to the sacred principles of our Order.

On this beautiful late May day, under a blue sky and a gentle breeze, I was joined by a large group of multiple generations of Charlie's extended family. Chevaliers of Canton Philadelphia joined with Department Council Officers and the Grand Master to conduct this solemn ceremony. We came together at Colonel and Mrs. Shorten's final resting place to affirm our commitment to carry on his good work. We honored and remembered his many good deeds - we made this trip to let Colonel Shorten know that the great fraternal Order, that he so selflessly committed much of his life to, will always cherish his memory. He will never be forgotten.

Lieutenant General William F. Hanby
Department Commander



INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT ENCAMPMENTS & CANTONS

Though the Encampments numbers ended in the early 300's, there were over 500 encampments in their almost 200 years of existence! Some of the numbers, you'll also see more than once, as some of these Lodges only lasted a few years.

How many Encampments were in YOUR County?? Did your County even have an Encampment?

Did you ever wonder if your town had an Encampment?

Do you know where it was or do you even remember some of these Encampments? If you can take a picture of the Lodge Hall that was once in your town and mail it in, or even a story about an encampment, we'd be glad to have it for our archives and it could perhaps end up in the magazine!

Since our Grand Patriarch is from Philadelphia County, the last two branches I saved them for last since it was such a huge undertaking. This time, we will focus on the Philadelphia County Encampments right away!

Dedicated in the 1850's this beautiful marble slab is found in the Washington Monument



PHILADELPHIA COUNTY ENCAMPMENTS

Frankford - Morning Star Encampment #3 - consolidated 1883
 Frankford - Frankford Encampment #3 - defunct 1891
 Frankford - Frankford Encampment #131 - consolidated 1883
 Germantown - Mount Horeb Encampment #18 - defunct 1896
 Germantown - Perseverance Encampment #135 - instituted 1864
 Hestonville - Logan Encampment #83 - consolidated 1908
 Holmesburg - Mount Ararat Encampment #93 - consolidated 1974
 Kensington - Kensington Encampment #18 - consolidated 2000
 Manayunk - Andrew Jackson Encampment #9 - defunct 1902
 Northern Liberties - United Brothers Encampment #26 - consolidated 1952
 Northern Liberties - Jefferson Encampment #48 (German) - consolidated 1885
 Northern Liberties - Jordan Encampment #55 - consolidated 1944
 Northern Liberties - Jerusalem Encampment #58 - consolidated 1878
 Northern Liberties - Manitau Encampment #62 - consolidated 1904
 Northern Liberties - Harmony Encampment #65 - consolidated 1913
 Richmond - Anthracite Encampment #83 - defunct 1850
 Richmond - Outalanna Encampment #112 - defunct prior to 1880
 Roxborough - Roxborough Encampment #66 - consolidated 1974
 Southwark - Mt. Zion Encampment #24 - defunct 1897
 Spring Garden - National Encampment #47 - consolidated 1903
 Spring Garden - Keystone Encampment #57 - consolidated 1917
 West Philadelphia - Paradise Encampment #53 - consolidated 1878

CANTONS & AUXILIARIES

Germantown - Canton Rose Peltz No. 59 - consolidated 1924
 1st Encampment - Morning Star Encampment No. 3 - 1833
 Last Encampment - Perseverance Encampment No. 135. Talk about "perseverance!"
 22 Encampments with 1 remaining

NEXT MONTH - Philadelphia City

LADY HARMONY INITIATES NEW MEMBERS



Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge No. 86 of Tamaqua has been busy! Welcome to our two new members, Tamie Sturgis, who was initiated on April 15th and Brian Barr who was initiated on June 3rd.

Periodicals

MAY DONATIONS • MAY IS VISUAL RESEARCH MONTH

PA VISUAL ASSISTANCE

361	Strasburg	300.00
254	Nathan Lewis-Fort Necessity	200.00
278	Connoquenessing	100.00
847	Vienna	50.00
957	Falls Creek	50.00
1004	Hampton	50.00
1030	Charleroi	50.00
2	Unified	25.00
377	Nucleus	25.00
471	Rush	<u>25.00</u>
		875.00

VISUAL RESEARCH

488	Aluta	100.00
1175	Shillington	100.00
207	Canawacta	50.00
847	Vienna	50.00
1004	Hampton	50.00
2	Unified	25.00
96	Lewisburg	<u>25.00</u>
		400.00

• ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

• 2	Unified	50.00
• 377	Nucleus	<u>25.00</u>
•		75.00

• ARTHRITIS COMMITTEE

• 348	Clover	50.00
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• PA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

• 2	Unified	50.00
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