



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE



Vol. 101

June 2026

No. 6

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ALL ROADS LEAD TO HARRISBURG – UNIFIED SESSION JUNE 20 – 24



SPRING RALLY A HUGE SUCCESS

On April 11th, the Hall of Aluta Lodge No. 488, Nazareth swelled to almost capacity, as dozens of Odd Fellows came to receive, partake in, or watch the various degrees. Three members were initiated in to the Order, fourteen went through the three degrees, and nine members received their Grand Lodge Degree.

The Initiatory Degree, under direction of Grand Marshal Andrew Kilmer, comprised mainly of Members from District 8 & 9; the First Degree, under direction of Grand Secretary Justin Bailey, comprised mainly of Members from District 6; the Second Degree, under direction of NG Steve Boyko, comprised mainly of Members from District 1; and the Grand Lodge conferred the Third Degree.

Thanks to Aluta Lodge for the hospitality and great food and thanks to all who made the day memorable!



@IOOFPA



ASSOCIATION PAST PRESIDENT LAPM PEGGY L. WALTERS

CALLED HOME APRIL 21, 2026



OBIT ON PAGE #8

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GRAND MASTER'S CORNER

Greetings Brothers and Sisters, Hopefully, June will bring sunshine, warm weather and gentle rain for the flowers and gardens to grow. The month of June has Flag Day, Juneteenth Day, Father's Day, and the first day of summer is June, 21 2026. It is also the month when we have our 54th Annual PA IOOF Unified Session. The session runs June 20, 2026 to June 24, 2026. Another busy and rewarding month for Odd Fellowship. I will be looking for you at session.

I have visited many lodges in the past two years, and I often am asked: "How do we get members, and how do I talk about what Odd Fellows are?" Here is some information that may help answer these questions.

Odd Fellowship is one of the oldest fraternities in the world. This non-political and non-sectarian order was founded on the basis of universal brotherhood. The Order stresses the importance of the principals of Friendship, Love and Truth and seeks to elevate the character of men and women. The first lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in the United States was formed in 1819 by Thomas Wildey in Baltimore,

MD. The lessons of Odd Fellowship are taught by impressive and solemn ceremonies called degrees. We are seeking civic-minded men and women, who enjoy fellowship with similar individuals. Community involvement is a priority of the Odd Fellows Lodge. The Odd Fellow lodge is always there to lend a helping hand. It's where the action is, in many communities. It is through sports, community involvement, partnering with other civic and community organizations that we are able to help those in need. Let any prospective member know what your lodge does in your community. Seek individual people who have a similar interest in what you do. My resources for the above-mentioned information is from the application form put out by Sovereign Grand Lodge, my own experiences and those of other Odd Fellows that have been successful in recruiting new members. Let's reach out to older members, other lodges and the officers and committee members of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for any help you may need when looking for new members.

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

EAGLE SCOUT CEREMONY

Brady Lodge #116 attended an Eagle Scout ceremony on Saturday the 18th. Mason Price is in center of picture with his mother "Scout Master ". Everyone in picture are members of the Lodge. ~ PDDGM Art Danley



COME VISIT THE GRAND MASTER

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

- 8 Walker #306 OV - 8:00PM
- 15 Mt. Tabor #125 OV - 7:30PM
- 20 Joint Youth/ GL Board Meeting, Harrisburg
- 20-24 54th Unified Session, Harrisburg

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

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

Harmony Lodge No. 86, Tamaqua
Kandy A. Kraemer
initiated April 22nd

Warren Lodge No. 339
John Huber
initiated March 5th

Earl Lodge No. 413, New Holland
Yazmin Alvarez-Santos
initiated April 11th

Shenandoah Lodge No. 591
Matthew Bayliff
initiated April 11th

Boyertown Lodge No. 708
Henry C. Miller
initiated April 11th

Charleroi Lodge No. 1030
Mike Wilkinson
initiated April 16th

Lady Harmony Rebekah
Lodge No. 86, Tamaqua
Tamie M. Sturgis
initiated April 15th

REBEKAH HOMES

To close off the years of the Rebekah Lodges that have been listed in the magazine, I wanted to point out the various Rebekah Homes that were in the Jurisdiction.

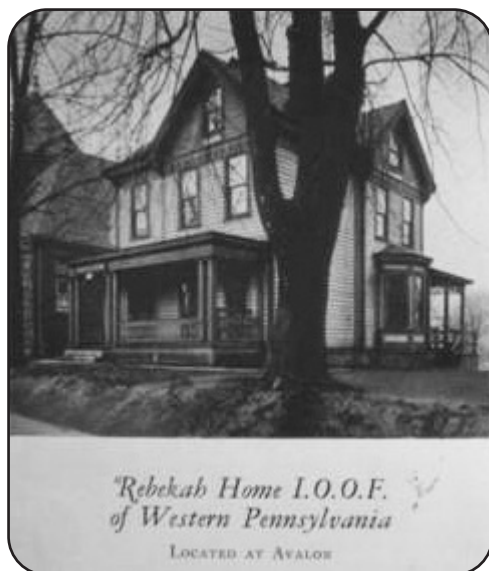
Much of this information was taken from the Album of Odd Fellows Homes, 12th edition 1927, which lists many of the Homes organized and maintained by the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs across the Country. While the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs worked together, the Rebekahs also started out somewhat as group homes for older Rebekahs that may not have had any family or caregivers. Remember, there were not really nursing homes back then; you ended up going to an almshouse perhaps.



The Eastern district Home, located in Philadelphia, was organized in June of 1894 for wives and widows of Odd Fellows, and dependent Rebekahs. The board was managed by 27 Rebekahs and is maintained by Per Capita and donations.

In 1927, they had 19 residents. Later on, they moved up to 2835 North Front Street in Harrisburg.

The Western Rebekah Home, located in Avalon was organized in 1912 and incorporated in 1914. This was strictly for the Western Lodges, and had a board of directors. The Lodges paid \$1.00 per member which allowed them admission to



the Home, and was supported by Per Capita and voluntary contributions.

The Home had 11 rooms.

As Avalon's home grew bigger, the need for a larger building came to light. They also moved more directly in to Pittsburgh.

What happened to the Homes? Well, the Pittsburgh Home consolidated with the Odd Fellows Home of Western Pennsylvania, then to be known as the Odd Fellows & Rebekahs Home of Western Pennsylvania. Years later, when that home was sold, the name was changed as we know it now to the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania.



The Eastern Home consolidated shortly after Hurricane Agnes, September of 1975, the Rebekah Home consolidated with the Odd Fellows Home of Pennsylvania, Middletown. Though the name stayed the same, this is how the Rebekahs now have seats on the Board of Directors.

I hope you enjoyed the Rebekah lists these past few years and learned a little bit! In the future, we will combine the Encampments and Cantons. Start gathering pictures!

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

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

60 YEARS

Richard A. Riffert, #306
Robert G. Smedley, #306

80 YEARS

Lady Worth Rebekah Lodge #328, Sandy Lake

175 YEARS

Somerset Lodge #438

180 YEARS

Valley Encampment #34, Newburg

TREASURER'S TALES - JUNE 2026

We continue following Barney's exploits on a month by month basis and we are now at June 1931. On June 6 the play *Girl Crazy* opened on Broadway. Also on June 6, the New York Yankees executed a triple play, but still lost to the Cleveland Indians 7 to 5. On June 9, Robert Goddard patented the first rocket-powered aircraft. On June 12, Al Capone was indicted on 5,000 counts of prohibition violations and perjury. On June 15, Eddy Collins retired from baseball. On June 23, Wiley Post and Harold Gatty began their trip around the world by air.

There were a number of notable births in June 1931. On June 3, Raul Castro, brother of Fidel and Cuban dictator. On June 9, Billy Verdon, Pittsburgh Pirates outfielder and manager. On June 20, Olympia Dukakis, actress in *Moonstruck* and other motion pictures. On June 24, Billy Casper, golfer. On June 28, Junior Johnson, stock car driver and personality.

Dracula starring Bela Lugosi was playing in theaters across the country. If you are a horror film fan, you have seen this picture more than once.

June is the month for weddings, picnics, parades, Flag Day, Father's Day and fishing. School ended in late May and Barney worked feverishly to get his crops planted and make way for summer activities. We remember Barney had increased the size of his dairy herd over the past few years and was up to 37 fresh cows and seven heifers. He owned two bulls and was working so hard during the school year that he had hired a farm hand to help him. He still had beef cattle, now numbering 40. His farm was fully used and he was able to increase his herd when other farmers in the area were forced out by the great depression.

Barney also had a number of hogs and chickens. Perhaps in some December story I will tell you how Barney became a major egg nog dealer, but that is another story.

Barney was now selling his milk to the school system. This was the best customer in the county and made things work out. Barney's new farm hand was George Rogers. George was a young man whose uncle belonged to the Odd Fellows. As luck would have it, George lived a few houses down the road from Barney, on the other side of the woods. His trip to Barney's farm (by foot) was directly past the woods. As we know, Melchizedek and Saul lived in the woods. These two raccoons watched George as he traveled back and forth and knew that when he left the farm and Barney went in the house, the barn would be unattended until milking the next morning.

Saul had looked up to his uncle Melchizedek and wanted to honor him on Father's Day. He was in a quandary about what to get him. Saul was a hard-working raccoon and was limited by what he could steal. When Barney finished milking he could pilfer animal feed and tools, but that was it. As you recall from a few years back, Barney had operated a dairy bar and sold it after two months, making a profit. Saul was not yet born when Barney operated the dairy bar, but he knew where the dairy bar operated.

Saul watched the dairy bar for two straight weeks. He knew the garbage schedule and was always licking the cartons after closing time. He hoped that he could find something to give his uncle, Melchizedek. The Friday before Father's Day, his prayers were

answered. The owner of the dairy was told by the health officer, that his condiments were too old and he had to replace them. That night, Saul was busy gathering sprinkles, cherries, wet nuts, syrups and malt powder. It was all that Saul could do to carry the treats to the woods. On Sunday morning, June 21, he spread all the goodies on the forest floor next to Melchizedek's tree. Melchizedek awakened to singing and laughter, when his whole extended family was there to wish him a happy Father's Day. Saul, Melchizedek and the entire forest was a happy place, almost like Disneyland.

There are reasons for everything. Health inspectors do not make restaurants and dairy bars throw out food without a reason. Salmonella had been detected in the food locker at the dairy bar. The ice cream and other dairy products turned over quickly, so little loss was realized. The condiments, however, were long term supply items. Salmonella poisoning takes between 12 and 72 hours to show up. Tuesday, June 23, 1931, became known as throw-up Tuesday and is celebrated as such in the raccoon community. It is observed by fasting and meditation. Saul was forced to hide in a neighboring county for three weeks after throw-up Tuesday, for fear of retaliation. Things worked out and the woods will be normal by July 4.

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.

Places to GO... People to See

+ denotes details to follow

JUNE

5-7 / Canadian War Memorial, Ottawa

20 - 24 / Unified Session, Harrisburg

JULY

25 / IOOF Fun Day, Knoebel's, Elysburg+ (pg #11)

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

WILDEY REMEMBERED ON FOUNDERS DAY

On Saturday, April 25, Malvern Pocahontas Lodge #201 was represented at the Odd Fellows Founders Day reenactment held at the Historic Village Inn in Englishtown, New Jersey.

The Village Inn is a site of considerable historical interest. Its oldest section dates to 1732, and the building is recognized for its architectural and military significance. Today, it serves as a museum and event venue, carefully preserved and furnished in period style, including a common room with tables and other features of a historic tavern, and with tricorne hats and vests available for hosts and visitors to wear.

The property is maintained by members of the Order, who have found a creative and engaging way to use it in service of Odd Fellowship. Several years ago, they introduced a Founders Day reenactment, recreating the three meetings at the Seven Stars Tavern that marked the beginning of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in America. The event has since gained recognition and continues to attract participants from neighboring jurisdictions.

Upon arrival, visitors were welcomed with hospitality and given an opportunity to tour the inn. Conversations with Brothers and Sisters from New Jersey and beyond - including guests from Texas - added to the sense of fellowship that characterized the day.

The reenactment itself was concise and engaging, allowing for both historical interpretation and a degree of spontaneity. At its conclusion, participants joined hands in a circle, forming a simple but expressive closing scene that echoed the principles of Friendship, Love, and Truth. An especially notable aspect of this year's event was the way it was documented and shared. Photos and video were captured and made available almost immediately, reflecting how modern tools can be used to support and promote our traditions.

Following the program, attendees were invited to a traditional roast dinner, generously prepared and served in abundance. The hospitality extended by the hosts made it clear that the event is well prepared to welcome even larger gatherings in the future.

During the day, participants also explored contemporary approaches to preserving tradition, including the sharing of AI-generated musical interpretations of historic Odd Fellows songs - an example of how emerging technology can complement historical appreciation.

The event proved well worth the journey. Malvern Pocahontas Lodge looks forward to future participation and encourages broader attendance in the years to come.

Photographs for this article were provided by Sister Meredith Moore.



HARMONY LODGE RELIEVES THE DISTRESSED



This year, Harmony Lodge No 86, of Tamaqua, conducted a drive for The Willow Foundation in Hazleton. Their Heartwood center is open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and serves breakfast and lunch for the homeless. They also have items that people can take with them such as soap and shampoo.

Members of The Lodge over the last several months collected and donated deodorant, soap, shampoo, and other toiletries. Shown here on the right is our Noble Grand Jen Swett presenting the items to the foundation. We are continuing to collect items to take up there.

Though Heartwood Center is in Hazleton, they do accommodate Tamaqua also. Hazleton is important to Tamaqua, due to their Lodge consolidating with Conyngham Lodge, and then consolidating with Harmony Lodge. This is a way of showing we still continue to work in the communities that make Harmony Lodge who we are today.

PENNSYLVANIA WELL REPRESENTED IN WASHINGTON DC



On the first weekend in May, members of all the branches of the Order convened in Arlington, VA, for the 92nd annual Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns. In most recent history, we have also taken place in the Shenandoah Apple Blossom Parade in Winchester, VA.

In a surprising turn of events, the State Police, who normally have an honor guard for the parade, we unable to do their part, and one of the main parade organizers, who is an Odd Fellow, was instrumental in getting the Patriarchs Militant to be the Honor Guard for the 99th Annual parade. Of the seven Chevaliers who made up the Honor Guard, three of them, LTG William F. Hanby Dept Commander, Col Michael J. Wallis Regimental Commander and MG Justin C. Bailey Past Department Commander, all hail from Pennsylvania.



The next day, the various branch heads from the Jurisdictions get to lay a wreath below the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Laying the wreath (left to right) is PPRA Sarah M. Baer IARA Treasurer, PPRA and current President Izetta McGill, Grand Master Paul E. Lautenschlager, and Department Commander LTG William F. Hanby, III.

The weather was on the cooler side this year, but made it wonderful for those who were in Patriarchs Militant Uniforms, and there wasn't a drop of rain! If you are looking to do something throughout the year, and want to see Odd Fellows in action, consider attending the Annual Pilgrimage. The events are all open to the public and as many have said, is one of the most memorable and honorable things to be able to do.

GM VISIT TO VICTORY LODGE



Paul E. Lautenschlager, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and Officers of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania were welcomed by the Officers and Members of Victory Lodge #658, Sellersville, on Tuesday, April 7th for an official visit. The Officers and Members of Jamison Lodge #447 also attended the event.

Grand Master Lautenschlager was presented with a check to support the GM's charity by Bill Hanby, Noble Grand.

Andrew Kilmer, Grand Marshal, requested all present to please take part in his fund raiser using a jar of Jolly Ranchers. Alan Johnson, of Jamison Lodge

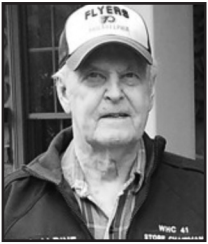
#447, won the jar. Alan was also presented with his 25 years membership pin from Grand Master Lautenschlager during the meeting.



After the meeting we gathered in fellowship to have a special cake for Grand Master Lautenschlager's visit and to talk amongst ourselves about whatever was on our minds. Article and photos by Steve Nathan, Secretary

MAY OBITUARIES

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



William J. McAlpine, Jr.
Paoli Lodge No. 290
April 11, 2026

Brother William J. "Jim" McAlpine, Jr., 95, of Glenmoore, PA, was initiated into Star of Hope Lodge #199, Coatesville, PA on October 18 1954, where he became a Past Grand on October 6, 1958 and received his Grand Lodge Degree March 4, 1963. He became a member of Paoli Lodge #290, Downingtown, through consolidation on November 17, 2005. At the time of the consolidation, he was Star of Hope Lodge's Noble Grand. He then held the position of Warden for many years, a position he was holding at the time of his death.

He was preceded in death by two wives, the former Mildred Mohr and Suzanne Deck, a stepson, a grandson, and a step-granddaughter. Surviving are three children, four stepchildren, five grandchildren, 16 step-grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and 15 step-great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge.

ODD FELLOWS & REBEKAHS ASSOC. OF W. PA 2026 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The *Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania* is accepting applications for consideration in the awarding of a maximum of six (6) \$4,000 scholarships. This will mark the 21st consecutive year the Association has offered these Awards and has awarded an undergraduate total of \$252,000 since its inception in 2006. The application deadline for the 2026 Scholarship Awards will be **Saturday, June 27, 2026**. A copy of the "Rules," along with an "Application," was sent to all the lodges representing the Western District on April 1, 2026. All areas of concentration will be considered. An important reminder regarding three of the requirements for the Awards:

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

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

- 1) contacting your Lodge secretary,
- 2) emailing Scholarship Chairman Robert Grant at "robag@comcast.net," or
- 3) downloading from our website: "www.glpaioof.org" beginning April 1, 2026. Applications must be postmarked no later than June 27, 2026.

Peggy L. Walters
Association Past President, LAPM
Lady Sellers Rebekah Lodge No. 558
Wysox Rebekah Lodge No. 443
April 21, 2026

Sister Peggy L. (Shive) Walters, 82, of Granville Summit, PA, was initiated into Lady Sellers Rebekah Lodge #558, Sellersville, PA, on June 27, 1967, where she became a Past Noble Grand on October 26, 1971. She served as District Deputy President 1976-77, 86-88 and 89-90. She served many appointed Offices in the Rebekah Assembly - Outside Guardian from 2009 - 10, Canadian Flag Bearer & Ambassador 2011 - 12, Rebekah Flag Bearer 2012-13 and Ambassador 14-15. She joined Wysox Rebekah Lodge #443 as an associate on September 26, 2005.

She became a Lady of Allentown Auxiliary No. 39 and was very active on a state level. She served as Officer of the Day from 1997-98, 2006-08 and 2016-18, Officer of the Guard from 1998-99, Canadian Flag Bearer from 1999-2000 and Color Sergeant from 2000-01, 04-06 and 15-16. She served as President to the Department Association, LAPM, from 2010 - 2012, and as Vice President from 2020-21. She had the honor of placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington, VA. She was the last of the Ladies Auxiliary in Pennsylvania to receive the Decoration of Chivalry, on June 21, 2021. She joined Canton Allentown No. 39, on August 16, 2021, and received an Honorable Discharge on December 18, 2023.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bob, of Victory Lodge #658, Sellersville and one sister, Joan Gwiazdzinski. Surviving are five children, eight grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and three sisters. Coming from a family of Odd Fellows & Rebekahs, many of her family are members - Siblings Mary Landes, Linda Torrence, Miriam Clark, daughters Judy Lodwig, Kate Walters & Barbara Walters, granddaughter Rachel Walters and many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

JAMISON LODGE HONORS MEMBER

At the recent Grand Lodge visit to Victory Lodge No. 658, of Sellersville, Past Grand Alan Johnson was honored by receiving his pin for 25 years of membership. He joined Jamison Lodge No. 447 on March 9, 2001, and became a Past Grand in 2008. He served the office of Noble Grand for roughly 15 years. Congratulations on 25 years, Brother!



LODGE NO. 708 COMING OUT OF HIBERNATION



Boyertown Lodge #708 along with help from Vincent Lodge #762, joined the town of Boyertown in celebrating their Coming Out of Hibernation Festival by giving out 225 bottles of water and spreading the word of Odd Fellowship

ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS OF WESTERN PA SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATIONS

Please meet Kirsten Woerner and Sarah Altman. It was my pleasure to attend and meet the two recipients of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs of Western Pennsylvania scholarships. This is 150th year Grove city College is celebrating and these two lovely students are to be commended for their hard work and dedication to their careers and schooling. They were very interested in the fraternity- what we did and what we represent, hopefully new members in the future. Congratulations again to the girls and to the IOOF for helping with their education and giving me the opportunity to meet them and represent the fraternity. PGM Ruff



FROM THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER... HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL HERMAN SCHLOTT, PDC

Odd Fellows and family members recently assembled for a memorial service at the beautiful grounds of Finleyville Cemetery. We gathered to honor and remember our nineteenth Department Commander, Brigadier General Herman Schlott, who led the Pennsylvania Patriarchs Militant from 2000 to 2002.



Herman L. Schlott was born in 1952 in Pittsburgh to Herman (an Odd Fellow) and Norma Jean Wallace Schlott. Mr. Schlott married Tamara Gerhold in 1982 and they had two children, Amanda and Kimberly. He lived much of his life in Finleyville where he worked in facilities maintenance. Mr. Schlott belonged to Castle Shannon Methodist Church in Pittsburgh and honorably served in the US Marine Corps during the Vietnam era.

Brother Schlott joined Peter Fritz Lodge #486 in 1990, transferring to Nucleus Lodge #377. He received his Grand Lodge Degree in 1992 and became a DDGM ('92-'96). Brother Schlott served as Grand Herald to Grand Master Binkley ('92-'93) and was elected Grand Master ('03-'04). In Encampment, Patriarch Schlott was exalted to Royal Purple at Monongahela Encampment #109. He was our Grand Patriarch in 1999-2000. His Rebekah membership was in Mon Valley Rebekah Lodge #82.

Patriarch Schlott joined Pennsylvania Patriarchs Militant Canton Pittsburgh #5, rose through our ranks and served in various Department Council offices until 2000, when he was promoted to Brigadier General and assumed the office of Department Commander of Pennsylvania, Patriarchs Militant - our nineteenth Commander, serving until 2002. Brigadier General Schlott kept the Department stable during his term and we maintained Brigade status.

One of Brigadier General Schlott's greatest contributions to our Order was his degree and ceremonial work in which he displayed an incredible memory for every part. When I was new to Pennsylvania Odd Fellowship and before I had any knowledge of who Herman was, I remember hearing about his legendary memory for the long passages found in our degrees. To this day people talk about it. Just recently Brothers J. Carl George and Dave Young were telling me how important and memorable it was for them to go through the degrees under the guidance of Brother Schlott and to see them performed by this talented Odd Fellow. General Strausser, who worked closely with Brother Schlott and preceded him as Department Commander, said, "Herman was my buddy - a good man with an incredible ability to recite almost any part in our Rituals". Brigadier General Schlott was an outstanding Odd Fellow, contributing to our Order with his unique talents. He was a popular and effective leader and in these ways he faithfully carried out our stated principles.

Another distinction marking Brigadier General Schlott's time as an Odd Fellow was that he was one of very few to be the head of three branches. To put this achievement in context, within twelve years of taking the Initiatory Degree he had become Grand Master, Grand Patriarch and Department Commander. In fact, he served in these highest offices almost back-to-back. Interestingly, this means that if you go from his last day as Grand Patriarch to his first day as Grand Master, he served in all three offices within three years! This was clearly a time in our history where Brother Schlott was the leading figure in this Jurisdiction and the respect that our Brothers and Sisters had for



him was reflected in this series of successive elections. His name is still reverently spoken within our Lodges.

Brigadier General Herman L. Schlott, PGM, PCP, PDC sadly died in 2012, age 59. He was accorded our sacred ceremonies at his funeral, with services conducted by Grand Master Faub and Past Grand Patriarch Cupp. This quote from Grand Master Schlott's inaugural speech was published in his obituary, showing the kind of Odd Fellow he was - "It only takes a moment to be a friend in need, to spread a little sunshine, while doing a good deed". There are still many active Odd Fellows that knew Brigadier General Schlott and all were his friends. Everyone that I have spoken to has fond memories of him. Even with the physical challenges that he faced later in his life his extraordinary abilities made him one of the best Odd Fellows that Pennsylvania ever had.

This was an especially moving ceremony in that I was joined by Herman's wife Tamara, PPRA, daughter Kimberly, two grandsons, and Tamara's sister. It was the largest family turnout of any visit so far. Also making this a special day was the beautiful singing of Sovereign Grand Musician Debbie Young. Chevaliers of Cantons Pittsburgh and Allegheny and other Lodge members assisted with flags, prayers and wonderful memories of Herman. The day also served to reunite the Schlott family with Odd Fellow friends that they had not seen for years. I imagined Brigadier General Schlott looking down from his heavenly home, seeing this group gathered at his final resting place, smiling, singing, reminiscing and coming together over the memory of this good husband, father, grandfather and Odd Fellow. We came together on this day in the spirit of FLT, FHC and UJ to affirm our commitment to carry on his good work. Our great fraternal Order, that Herman 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

MALVERN LODGE BEAUTIFIES COMMUNITY

On Saturday, March 21st, Brothers Rod and Dmitry kicked off the volunteering season by participating in a stream cleanup organized by CRC Watersheds.

Rod focused on repairing stakes and fencing for the saplings - some of which we planted last fall - while Dmitry set out to collect trash, determined to find something BIG... and he succeeded. Thanks to a great team effort, the work was completed quickly, and by 10:30 AM the Brothers headed out in good spirits. But the day didn't end there. Brother Rod went the extra mile (0.3 miles, to be exact) and replaced the insect screen on one of the Lodge windows. Great work, Brothers - and a strong start to the season!

~Dmitry Panchenko



Freedom Lodge 88

Posted by Kim Longo Rodney
Just now · 🌐

The weather was beautiful this past Saturday as fellow brothers and sisters came together for the good of our community. A little trash clean up followed by some float work in preparation for Memorial Day 🇺🇸 Great job everyone!



IOOF Knoebels Picnic

July 25, 2026

Pavilion "S" Lunch at Noon

Name / Lodge: _____ **Phone #** _____

Adult Meal includes: Hamburger & hot dog, baked beans, macaroni salad, cookie
\$12.00 also includes a book of ride tickets.

Kid's meal includes: Chicken Tenders _____ or Hamburger _____ or hot dog _____
Mac & Cheese, Apple Sauce, chips and cookie **\$6.00** Check what entrée you would prefer

Kids 15 & under receive 3 ride ticket booklets

Water, iced tea, lemonade will be provided free of charge. If you would like soda, please feel free to bring it.

Adult meals: _____ @ \$12.00 = \$ _____

Kids meals: _____ @ \$6.00 = \$ _____

Kids tickets (no meal) _____

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

Total Due\$ _____

Make Payment to: IOOF PA Jurisdictional Youth Committee

Mail to: Kathy Barber
5503 Buffalo Road
Mifflinburg, PA 17844

Please call if you have any questions: (570) 765-0629

Since we are now required to pay prior to the picnic...
Order and Payment must be received no later than July 1st.
NO EXCEPTIONS! NO REFUNDS.
Event held rain or shine

Periodicals

APRIL DONATIONS

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

57	Montgomery-Curtis-Norris	250.00
87	Hopkins	250.00
211	York Springs	100.00
488	Aluta	100.00
562	Newburg	100.00
899	Askam	100.00
1128	Fallowfield	80.36
2	Unified	50.00
201	Malvern-Pocahontas	<u>50.00</u>
		1,080.36

ARTHRITIS COMMITTEE

87	Hopkins	250.00
899	Askam	100.00
254	Nathan Lewis-Fort Necessity	50.00
471	Rush	<u>25.00</u>
		425.00

PA EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND

1128	Fallowfield	200.19
1004	Hampton	<u>50.00</u>
		250.19

PA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

2	Unified	50.00
471	Rush	<u>25.00</u>
		75.00

•	PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW & REBEKAH MAGAZINE	
•	Grand Encampment of Pennsylvania	1,000.00

GRAND MASTER'S PROJECT - SUICIDE PREVENTION

•	150	Metropolitan	500.00
•	447	Jamison	300.00
•	447	PG Alan Johnson	200.00
•	658	Victory	<u>100.00</u>
•			1,100.00

PA VISUAL ASSISTANCE

•	762	Vincent	500.00
•	899	Askam	100.00
•	2	Unified	<u>25.00</u>
•			625.00

VISUAL RESEARCH

•	306	Walker	1,000.00
•	762	Vincent	300.00
•	86	Harmony	100.00
•	899	Askam	100.00
•	1128	Fallowfield	80.36
•	201	Malvern-Pocahontas	50.00
•	2	Unified	25.00
•	R443	Wysox Rebekah	<u>12.00</u>
•			1,667.36