



# Pennsylvania Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine



Vol. 94 June 2019 No. 6

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE AT http://www.glpaioof.org
Follow us on Facebook at The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Independent Order of Odd Fellows
\*NEW\* You can also follow us on Instagram at @paoddfellows

# TWO FAITHFUL REBEKAHS ANSWER THE FINAL CALL



NANCY GALLO-STRAUSSER Association Past President, LAPM Letitia Penn Rebekah Lodge No. 173 Canton Philadelphia No. 1, P.M. April 16, 2019

Sister Nancy Gallo-Strausser, 77, of Ventnor City, NJ, was initiated into Letitia Penn Rebekah Lodge #173, Philadelphia, on May 16, 1987, where she became a Past Noble Grand on October 26, 1991 and received the Rebekah Assembly Degree. She served many years as Secretary. She was District Deputy President from 1999 -2015 and served the Rebekah Assembly several years as Representative to the Home for Orphans of Odd Fellows in Philadelphia and was a regular attendee to Unified Session. She went on to serve the Rebekah Assembly of Pennsylvania as Ambassador of Good Will from 2002 - 2003, Conductor from 2003 - 2004, Canadian Flag Bearer from 2004 - 2005 & 2006 -2007, Left Herald from 2007 - 2009

and Outside Guardian from 2009 -

She joined Philadelphia Auxiliary #1, LAPM and held the position of secretary for many years. She was a recipient of the Decoration of Chivalry in June of 1993. She served the Department Association as Picket from 1997 - 1998 and Color Sergeant from 2006 - 2008 and went on to serve this Jurisdiction as Association President from 2000 - 2002. She excelled to the International Association of Ladies Auxiliary Patriarchs Militant and served as Honor Guard from 2004 - 2005, Right Aide to Chaplain 2006 - 2007, Color Guard from 2007 - 2008 and 2012 - 2013, International Banner Bearer from 2008 - 2009. Ambassador of Good Will from 2009 - 2010 and Historian from 2010 -2011. She served on many committees at International Session. On March 29, 2019 she was mustered in to Canton Philadelphia No. 1, where she held the position of Chaplain. She was also a former Matriarch of Kossuth Ladies Encampment Auxiliary #98, Warren.

Surviving is her husband, Gen® Joseph Strausser, Sr., of Walker Lodge #306, and Letitia Penn #173, one daughter, one son, several stepchildren, grandchildren and greatgrandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of her Rebekah Lodge and entombment was held in Holy Cross Mausoleum, Yeadon, PA. In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions in her memory to the Alzheimer's Association, Philadelphia, PA.



LINDA C. DICKSON
Vice President Rebekah Assembly
Lady Worth Rebekah Lodge No. 328
April 22, 2019

Sister Linda Lucille (Clinger) Dickson, 70, of Grove City, PA, was initiated into Judith Rebekah Lodge #264, Grove City, on September 10, 1968, where she became a Past Noble Grand and received her Rebekah Assembly Degree October 10, 1974. She held the position of Secretary for many years. She became a member of Lady Worth Rebekah Lodge #328, Grove City, through consolidation on March 22, 2001, where she continued to hold active membership. She joined Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge #86, Tamagua, as an Associate Member on October 19, 2011. She was District Deputy President from 1995 - 96 and 1998 - 2001. She went on to serve the Rebekah Assembly as Inside Guardian from 1997 - 98 and Chaplain from

2009 – 2010 and 2014 – 2015. She served as Rebekah Assembly Secretary from 2011 – 2012 and was elected and installed as our Warden of the Rebekah Assembly June of 2017, currently holding the position of Vice

She was a former Lady of Meadville Auxiliary #47, Sandy Lake, having joined 1999 and withdrawing at a later date. She was also a recipient of the Decoration of Chivalry on June 25, 1983. She served since 2004 as Secretary to the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Association of Western Pennsylvania and to Fellowship Manor, both of Grove City, and was a regular attendee to Unified Session.

She was a member of Grace United Methodist Church in Grove City

Surviving is her mother, two sons and three grandchildren. A memorial service will be held July 20th in the Great Room of Orchard Manor.

Memorials may be made in her name to "The Cancer Research Institute, 29 Broadway, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10006."

# The Pennsylvania Odd Fellow

and Rebekah Magazine

(USPS 426-500)

Published in the City of Middletown,
PA monthly by
THE GRAND LODGE OF
PENNSYLVANIA
INDEPENDENT ORDER
OF ODD FELLOWS
1001 West Harrisburg Pike
Middletown, PA 17057
717-944-7419

ioofpaglsecty@verizon.net http://www.grandlodgeofpennsylvaniaioof.org

# JUSTIN C. BAILEY Editor 1001 West Harrisburg Pike Middletown, PA 17057

Publication Number 426500 Periodical Postage paid at Middletown, Pennsylvania and additional offices.

\*\* Postmaster \*\*
Send change of address to:
Pennsylvania Odd Fellow
and Rebekah Magazine
1001 W. Harrisburg Pike
Middletown, PA 17057

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATE

Subscribers should be careful to give their correct post office address and when a change is necessary be sure to mention the former address.

Articles for publication must reach the office of the Grand Lodge in Middletown not later than the 5th of each month to insure their insertion in next month's issue.

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



#### **OFFICERS OF GRAND LODGE**

SHERMAN F. WOODEN
1194 Wooden Road, Montrose, PA 18801 570-278-3199 shanks1@epix.net
DAVID O. WHITLINGER
2836 Bella Vista Drive, Allison Park, PA 15101 412-487-1083 whitx2@msn.com
SHIRLEY J. WHITLINGERGRAND WARDEN
2836 Bella Vista Drive, Allison Park, PA 15101 412-487-1083 whitx2@msn.com
JUSTIN C. BAILEY
1001 W. Harrisburg Pike, Middletown, PA 17057 717-944-7419 ioofpaglsecty@verizon.net
JOHN S CUPP
P.O. Box 275, Hopwood, PA 15445 724-437-4629 jcupp275@gmail.com
WILLIAM L. RAMSEY JR
16620 Trough Creek Valley Pike, Apt. 1, Calvin, PA 16622 814-599-0617 wmramsey@atlanticbb.net
DAVID A. YOUNG
20 Truman Koad, Charleroi, PA 15022 / 24-344-/ 550 iamanoddfellow@comcast.net  PAUL E. LAUTENSCHLAGERGRAND MARSHAI
101 Maplewood Drive, Honesdale, PA 18431
J. CARL GEORGEGRAND CONDUCTOI
225 Sunridge Drive, Freedom, PA 15042
RAYMOND R. BOULANGER, JRGRAND CHAPLAIN
11 Clarryan Street, Tamagua, PA 18252
BRUCE N. TORRENCE
6695 East Passer Road, Coopersburg, PA 18036
TIMOTHY H. HAHNGRAND HERALI
21 Spruce Street, Ashland, PA 17921
SHAWN E. MILLERGRAND MUSICIAN
470 Southmont Boulevard, Johnstown, PA 15905
MICHAEL D. BETTSGRAND LODGE ATTORNES
887 West Bristol Road, Warminster, PA 18974
PAUL L. MILLER
1105 Stinson Dr., Leesport, PA 19533

#### **OFFICERS OF REBEKAH ASSEMBLY**

A. NADINE HAGE	)	PRESIDENT
	940 Spring Hill Road, Sterling, PA 18463 570-676-3239 naner5145@yahoo.com	
		VICE PRESIDENT
SARAH M. BAER		SECRETARY
	115 North Centre Avenue, Leesport, PA 19533 610-916-1990 s.baer@baersservice.com	
MARY D. DELONG		TREASURER
	311-6 Hillton Court, Hamburg, PA 19596 610-569-8390, shortvgreatgma@gmail.com	

#### OFFICERS OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT

TYLER M. ARNOLDGRAND PATRIARCH
645 East Broad Street, Tamaqua, PA 18252 484-225-8219 tarnold06@yahoo.com
CRAIG R. REINHARTGRAND SCRIBE
1615 Locust Street, Reading, PA 19604 610-374-9005 creinhart@comcast.net

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

# HENRY DISSTON LODGE NO. 8, PHILADELPHIA

William O'Hara - initiated April 13th

#### MOUNT ZION LODGE NO. 74, YORK

William C. Reynolds - initiated April 1st O. Edward Moreau, Jr.

#### PINE GROVE LODGE NO. 148

Dick Miller - initiated April 13th

#### MALVERN-POCAHONTAS LODGE NO. 201

Zachary Porreca - initiated April 13th

#### LITITZ LODGE NO. 1050

Karl P. Tribelhorn – initiated April 13th William Ed Beamenderfer Kim M. Beamenderfer Gerald E. Kemmerer

# JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

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

#### **35 YEARS**

David A. Geist, #523 Edward G. Thiele, #1175

#### **45 YEARS**

William H. Nancollas, #523 John N. Weakland, #523

#### **50 YEARS**

Robert R. Fenimore, #348 C. Richard Johnson, #361 Harold E. Arment, #413

#### 55 YEARS

Robert L. Brown, #1152

#### 65 YEARS

Claude W. Keyser, Jr., #307

#### 175 YEARS

Lewisburg Lodge No. 96, I.O.O.F.

### COME VISIT THE GRAND MASTER

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

1 - Grand Encampment Rally, Johnstown

3 - Bowmansdale #1179 & York Springs #211 consolidation OV @ #1179 - 7:30PM

4 - Wysox #1152 OV - 7:30PM

5 - Freedom #88 OV - 7:00PM

14 - Rush #471 OV - 8:00PM

17 - Canawacta #207 OV - 7:00PM

18 - Tunkhannock #699 OV - 7:30PM

22 - GL Officers Board meeting, Red Lion Harrisburg, 10:00AM

### COME VISIT THE GRAND PATRIARCH

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

1 - GE Board meeting & Rally, Johnstown - 9:00AM 4 - General Worth #188 OV - 7:00PM

# COME VISIT THE ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT

RA President Hager has scheduled the following visits for June. I am sure she would appreciate seeing you there.

5 - Nakomis #497 OV

22 - Board Meeting, Red Lion Harrisburg 2:00PM23 - 26 - Unified Session, Harrisburg

### FROM THE DESK OF REBEKAH ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT NADINE HAGER

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

June means summer time is almost here but for PA IOOF it means session time. Many things are being planned for us this year so I hope many of you will be attending if not the whole time at least one day. Please come and join us to see what new things may be happening and maybe get some ideas to take back to your lodge.

Also in June is Fathers Day, so Happy Father's Day to all the Fathers. Also is Flag Day on June 14th. Please hang your flag proudly.

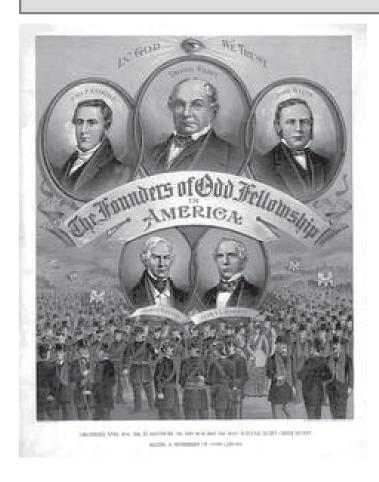
I will be doing Official Visit with Nakomis Rebekah Lodge

on June 5th. So if you can attend please let me know. I will be planning other OV soon. I know there are other things planned for the summer months so if you have something special planned please let me know.

Thank you to all the help so many have given to me this past year. You are greatly appreciated. The "kindness" will not be forgotten. See you at session

Thanks, FLT Nadine Hager, President Rebekah Assembly of PA

## DAYS GONE BY - 200 YEARS



Well last month we had a tight magazine, so I took a month off in delivering the information on the remaining Brothers of this picture shown here. We finished off on the 200th anniversary with Thomas Wildey, founder of American Odd Fellowship. Prior to, we had Brothers Entwisle and Welch. We will continue now on the lower two on the links, the first one being James Gettys. His name is tied in a lot with Thomas M. Abbett, who was originally from Philadelphia and West Chester. It was on Abbett's move to Washington DC that he found there were no Odd Fellow Lodges in Washington. Though Getty's early history is unknown, he was second to Abbett in his influence in the District of Columbia, having been a charter member to Georgetown Lodge #2, he was the second Rep to the GLUS and served for 1830 - 31 and 1833 (GLUS was the parent to the SGL, standing for Grand Lodge of the United States). In 1833, Thomas Wildey decided the Order was changing and growing drastically, and it was time for someone to step up and take his position of Grand Sire. "We on this day can scarcely conceive of the difficulty of finding a successor for the founder. No man in the Order could fill his place as he had filled it, nor was it necessary that such a one should be chosen. ...It was then only necessary that the successor should be a lover of the law and a faithful administrator. There qualifications were conspicuous in Gettys, and he was unanimously chosen as the second Grand Sire." Thomas Wildeys tenure of Grand Sire ran from 1825 - 1833. Gettys went on then from 1833 - 1835. His officers were also notable Odd Fellows, having been Samuel Pryor, Grand Secretary and Augustus Mathiot, Grand Treasurer. He passed in 1844, and by the time this book was written in 1878, again most of the members that knew Gettys, were gone, so Ridgely just had the books to go off of. Unfortunately, it states, "not much of any special interest, except as showing the working of the body under the constitution and bylaws of 1833, which had been framed by the new men who had now taken charge of the enterprise. After he went out of office, he assisted in helping establish the Order in New York, but then for the rest of the time remained active in DC.

Next month we shall finish off this portrait by the author and last Odd Fellow shown here, James L. Ridgely.

<sup>~</sup> Justin C. Bailey, Grand Secretary

Excerpts taken from History of American Odd Fellowship, The First Decade by James L. Ridgely, 1878



#### SHILLINGTON LODGE #1175 ANNUAL DINNER

Shillington Lodge #1175 held its Annual Dinner on Saturday evening, April 27, 2019 at the Doubletree Inn in downtown Reading. After the Cocktail Hour, thirty members and guests were welcomed by Noble Grand Antonio Galantuomo. Chaplain Michael Duley offered the grace, and the members enjoyed the buffet, which included Prime Rib and Crabcakes.

After Dinner, Secretary Peter Uhniat opened the Awards Ceremony with a few comments explaining the origin and purposes of the Odd Fellows, including a list of famous Americans who were Odd Fellows.

The following Brothers received service pins and Certificates of Appreciation for their years of Odd Fellow membership: Edward Thiele (35 years), John Bonanno (30 years), and Michael Duley (10 years). In addition, Past Grand John Bonanno received a Certificate of Appreciation and a Past Grand Medallion.

Financial Secretary James Sellers, the 2017 recipient of the Lodge's Brother of the Year Award presented the Brother of the Year Plaque to Treasurer Neil Thomas, the 2018 recipient of the Lodge's Brother of the Year Award. Previous recipients were Leon Stamm (2015) and Peter Uhniat (2016).

After the Awards Ceremony, the members and guests enjoyed additional cocktails and conversation.



Submitted by Peter Uhniat, Lodge Secretary



# **GRAND PATRIARCH ARNOLD VISITS**

On April 19th, Grand Patriarch Tyler Arnold visited the Patriarchs of Genesis Encampment No. 15 in Cassville. Genesis is the home Encampment of PGP/ PGM William L. Ramsey, Jr. Also along were Grand Senior Warden Laura Huchel, and Grand Marshal Justin Bailey.

Despite the inclimate weather going on outside, it was definitely a great night of Patriarchal Odd Fellowship!



#### PENNSYLVANIA LAYS WREATH AT THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWNS

In recent years, it was more of a colder, and much more rainy day then Odd Fellowship has experienced during the annual Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns, but there was still a great turnout and Pennsylvania was represented by the Heads of each Order and several others in attendance, along with a bus from Walker Lodge #306. Though the Jurisdictional wreaths are no longer placed up at the Tomb, but in front of it at the stairs, it is still a true honor to get to do this.

The heads of the five branches of PA were present for the 86th Annual wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington, VA.



Pictured Left to Right: Department Commander, Brig. Gen. Justin C. Bailey; Grand Patriarch, Tyler M. Arnold; Grand Master, Sherman F. Wooden; Rebekah Assembly President, Nadine Hager; President of the LAPM, Katie Walters



As Aide-de-Camp to the Sovereign Grand Master, BG Justin Bailey carried the wreath for the Sovereign Grand Lodge, that was presented by SGM Douglas E. Pittman

# ALERT LODGE #936, ROCHESTER MILLS, HOLDS EASTER CELEBRATION

Easter Party with an egg hunt, crafts, balloon tricks & face painting. This year many members joined in the fun, along parents & grandparents. A good time was had by all. 25 plus young children participated in the event.





# VIENNA HALL PACKED ONE FINAL TIME AS THE SPRING RALLY GIVES A FINAL SENDOFF

It was a bittersweet day as folding chairs needed to be brought upstairs to accommodate the large influx of members who came to support the final spring rally in Allentown. For 8 years, Vienna Lodge #847 of Allentown paid host to Odd Fellows from all over the Jurisdiction. Due to the increase of expenses for the four story temple, along with the lack of income, the Lodge has been forced to sell their building. Starting May 18th, they will be meeting in the Allentown Masonic Temple, 1524 Linden Street.

However, that didn't stop the enthusiasm as records were broke for the number of members that went through the degrees. We had 7 initiates, 9 for the Grand Lodge Degree and 27 who went through the three degrees. Throughout the day, there were over 130 Odd Fellows in attendance, with having the honor of three Brothers from the Philippines in attendance. The Initiatory Degree consisted primarily of Members from Lancaster County, including Earl Lodge #413 of New Holland, Strasburg Lodge #361 and Lititz Lodge #1050, under command of degree master DDGM Charles Stern. The First Degree consisted primarily of Members from Schuylkill County, including Harmony Lodge #86 of Tamaqua, Pine Grove Lodge #148, Mineral Lodge #285 of St. Clair, Shenandoah Lodge #591 and East Brunswick Lodge #802 of New Ringgold under command of degree master GS Justin Bailey. The Second Degree consisted primarily of Member from District #9, consisting of Freedom Lodge #88 of Honesdale, Rush Lodge #471 and Tunkhannock Lodge #699 under command of degree master Cynthia Wooden. The Third Degree consisted primarily of Members from Lewisburg Lodge #96 under command of degree master Scott Robinson. The Lodge was opened and closed by Freedom Lodge #88 of Honesdale and Victory Lodge #658

of Sellersville with the Colors being presented and retired by the Department Council, Patriarchs Militant, under command of Color Sergeant Cpt William F. Hanby. Special thanks go out to Brothers Michael Mitchell of Walker Lodge #306 and Michael Wallis of Brady Lodge #116 for their great help in the degrees. Over the 8 years, this rally has initiated around 40 Members and conducted well over 125 members through the three degrees.

Next year the rally will be held in the new home of Lewisburg Lodge #96 in New Columbia. Information will be available at a later date and we truly hope you can continue supporting growth in Pennsylvania and will attend! A sincere thank you to all of you who have helped to make this rally the "goliath" it has become over the years. There were so many who have helped behind the scenes to make this what it has become and strong degree teams have emerged out of it. Helping each other to do something of this magnitude is what this Order is all about.

Fraternally,
Justin C. Bailey, Grand Secretary





Left: After the Lodge closed, members in attendance crowded together for a group photo.

Above: Past Grands
William Warke and John
A. Pechulis of Askam Lodge
#899 in Sugar Notch
received the Grand Lodge
Degree on April 13, 2019
in Allentown. A total of 9
Past Grands received the
Grand Lodge Degree.

# JUNE OBITUARIES

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



#### RICHARD F. BALL Edinboro Lodge No. 510

Edinboro Lodge No. 510 January 22, 2019

Brother Richard F. Ball, 82, of Cambridge Springs, PA, was initiated into Cambridge Lodge #901 on October 5, 1954. He became a member of Edinboro Lodge #510 through consolidation on October 14,

1976. At the time of his death, he was the last surviving member of Cambridge Lodge #901 still affiliated with the Order.

He was a member of Millers Station United Methodist Church, Cambridge Springs.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Carol. Surviving are one son, two daughters, eight grandchildren and eleven greatgrandchildren.

Burial was held in Millers Station Cemetery.



#### VERA C. MOORE

Lois Elmore Jurisdictional Rebekah Lodge No. 11 February 1, 2019

Sister Vera C. (Snyder) Moore, 95, of West Middlesex, PA, was initiated into Lady West Rebekah Lodge #166, West Middlesex, on November 26, 1955, where she became

a Past Noble Grand October 23, 1961, and received the Rebekah Assembly Degree November 29, 1977. She served as Secretary of her Rebekah Lodge until they went defunct December of 1984. She then transferred membership to Endeavor Rebekah Lodge #367, Sharpsville, PA where she held active membership and again served as Secretary until they went defunct on December 8, 2005. She then remained in Lois Elmore Jurisdictional Rebekah Lodge. At the time of her death, she was the last surviving member of Lady West Rebekah Lodge #166 and Endeavor Rebekah Lodge #367 still affiliated with the Order.

She was a member in the United Methodist Church of West Middlesex.

Surviving is her husband, Robert, three daughters, three sons, 15 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. Burial was held in America's Cemetery, Hermitage, PA.

#### RICHARD W. WRIGHT

Newburg Lodge No. 562 March 12, 2019

Brother Richard W. Wright, 83, of Upper Strasburg, PA, was initiated into Letterkenny Lodge #663, Upper Strasburg, on April 30, 1954, where he became a Past Grand. He then became a member of Newburg Lodge #562 through consolidation on February 18, 2014.

Surviving is his wife, Mercina, two children, one being Michael,

of Newburg Lodge #562, two grandchildren, three great-grandsons and three siblings, one being Bobby, also of Newburg Lodge.

Burial will be at the convenience of the family in Emanuel Lutheran Cemetery.

#### RUSSELL H. YOST

Earl Lodge No. 413 March 25, 2019

Brother Russell H. Yost, 93, of New Holland, PA, was initiated into Carroll Lodge #120, Schuylkill Haven, PA, on November 2, 1948, where he became a Past Grand on April 10, 1951. He then transferred membership to Earl Lodge #413, New Holland. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest tenured member and the last surviving member of Carroll Lodge #120 still affiliated with the Order.

He was a U.S. Army WWII Veteran and a member of St. Stephen Reformed Church in New Holland.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Ruth Staller.

Burial was held in St. Stephen Cemetery, New Holland, PA.

#### ROBERT M. MCCLASKEY

Vincent Lodge No. 762 April 9, 2019

Brother Robert M. McClaskey, 95, of the Middletown Home, formerly of Phoenixville, PA, was initiated into Phoenix Lodge #212 on June 9, 1948, where he became a Past Grand. He then became a member of Vincent Lodge #762, Spring City, through consolidation on May 24, 2001. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest member, by age and tenure.

He was a U.S. Army WWII Veteran.

Services were conducted by members of the Order and burial was held in the Middletown Home Cemetery.



#### SCOTT H. KINZINGER

Freedom Lodge No. 88 April 24, 2019

Brothers Scott H. Kinzinger, 54 of Honesdale Pa, was initiated into Freedom Lodge #88, Honesdale on February 2, 2007. He served as Secretary for many years and designed most of the Lodge's insignias.

Scott was a lifelong supporter of youth baseball and softball in Honesdale. His generosity was so appreciated that the sports complex was named after him.

A Memorial Tribute will be held on "Opening Day" in April of 2020 at the sports complex presided by Grand Master Sherman Wooden. Scott will be missed by all.

#### MIDDLETOWN HOME ARTICLE FOR SPRING

Algernon Charles Swinburne said it best: "Blossom by blossom the spring begins!" Here at The Middletown Home, we have seen spring blooming in each flower one by one until before we knew it, we had a beautiful burst of spring right outside our door! This month has been full of springtime fun. From Easter Egg Hunts, to decorating eggs, to Spring Fling Parties! Our residents spent a whole afternoon filling eggs for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. We had over 300 eggs hidden around the home for the kids to find. This year we had a special visit from the Easter Bunny. The gorgeous spring day was a perfect backdrop for photos. Residents have been spending time out on the terrace and porches around the home soaking in the sunshine and shaking off their winter blues! This year our residents have been captivated by a little momma duck who has built her nest in our flower bed just under the flagpole on the front terrace. It looks like we will have six baby ducklings waddling around The Middletown Home before too long! This month has been a breath of fresh air after a long winter of snow and cold. We take each day as it comes, rain or shine! But we sure appreciate these beautiful spring days when they come our way.



Can you see the momma duck hiding among the flowers on her nest?



It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood at The Middletown Home!



The Easter Bunny came to visit us here, the residents and kids had a great time getting their photos taken!

# LEWISBURG LODGE #96 IN NEW COLUMBIA GETS NEW SIGN

Our new sign is up and in place! Now people know who we are! The sign is lit with solar lighting and will eventually be landscaped.



### TREASURER'S TALES - JUNE 2019

June is the month in which we celebrate Flag Day. Flag Day was proclaimed by President Wilson in 1916. It did not become official until 1949, when it was established by an act of Congress. Father's Day is another favorite June holiday. The first observance in United States was held on July 5, 1908, in Fairmont, West Virginia. The third Sunday in June is celebrated as Father's Day. In 1924 Barney was, indeed a father.

June 1924 held a few more interesting events that we should note before going on to our story. On June 2, President Coolidge signed the Indian Citizenship Act, making all Native Americans citizens (weren't they born here?) Ford manufactured its ten millionth Model T, J. Edgar Hoover assumed leadership of the FBI, and a tornado struck Sandusky and Lorain, Ohio, killing 93. George H. W. Bush was born on June 12 and Franz Kafka died on June 3.

The lodge thought a Fathers' Day celebration should be in order, since Barney was now a father. It should be noted that the birth of Schulyer Colfax Wells on May 18, 1923, not only made Barney a father but Thomas Wells and Vic, grandfathers. Things were too hectic in June 1923, but now is the time to celebrate.

Death and sacrifice accompany many ancient celebrations. The Odd Fellows determined that the death and sacrifice of many chickens would mark Fathers' Day 1924. The third Sunday was June 15. On Flag Day, June 14, while others were watching a colorful parade, the refreshment committee for the Grovers Mill Odd Fellows Lodge was cleaning chickens. The job was great, because there were over 120 reservations for the dinner on the following day. A fifty pound bag of flour was fully used to make biscuits. There was a sack of fifty pounds of dried beans resurrected from storage as well. Chickens were in fear of extinction as forty chickens were selected to participate in the Fathers' Day feast. Creamed chicken and biscuits was a popular item that would commemorate fatherhood (fittingly, most of those consumed were roosters.) There are many variations on this, you can find one here: https://www. pillsburybaking.com/recipes/old-fashioned-creamed-chickenand-biscuits-2498,

Dessert was another matter. It was a bit early for blackberries, but many Rebekahs wanted to use up the canned 1923 blackberries, because the new crop would be ripening in July. Try this recipe for blackberry pie: https://www.foodandwine.com/recipes/marilyn-batalis-blackberry-pie. The meal was complete.

Despite the fact that young Schuyler was 13 months old, Barney was still the newest father in 1924. He would hold this honor another month before he would be replaced by a younger man. He was given a seat at the head table on Sunday, but the real honor was on Saturday. He got to peel all the potatoes. While some watched the parade, Barney was sitting around a wash tub, peeling the potatoes and putting them in ice water after peeling. The job was big but 120 people would eat a lot of potatoes.

When Sunday came and the meal was being assembled, the mass of chicken bones, chicken skin, potato peelings and miscellaneous waste was piled high, to be hauled away and plowed under later in the week. It was then that the true meaning of Fathers' Day would be exhibited. Recall back in February when Melchizedek was spending Valentine's Day with his new love interest. While the Odd Fellows' ate inside, Melchizedek, his girl friend and four small raccoons were out at the garbage pile, celebrating as well. When Vic looked out the back door, he was sure he saw Melchizedek standing atop the pile, with the smaller raccoons saluting him with chicken bones.

There were speeches after the meal. No Odd Fellow can eat without being given a talking to. The virtues of fatherhood and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows were touted in several different ways, with the Grand Master of Delaware as the guest speaker. Delaware is a small state, so the Grand Master believed he must deliver a long address to compensate. It was for this reason that he would not be invited to speak at such event again.

The Odd Fellows baseball league planned its Fourth of July double header after the conclusion of the festivities.

When Barney got home, Warden and Conductor were sitting by the back porch, waiting for the leftovers. Elizabeth had been careful to save a meal for them. Schuyler had been along, but he ate a special diet. Warden and Conductor were not fussy and ate whatever was left for them.

The virtue and values of fatherhood and out family institutions have taken a terrible beating since 1924. It is in the best interests of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows to pursue family values and family activities. You can find a lot of restaurants that will fix you chicken and biscuits, but none will give you the fellowship of a friendly lodge.

Our July story will try to follow a July 4th theme. Remember the baseball double header was planned, perhaps it will find its way into the story.

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

#### PHILADELPHIA ODD FELLOWS INVOLVED IN CANCER 5K

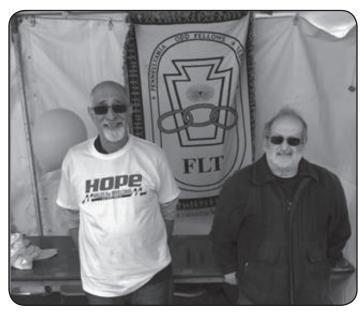
The 11th annual Miles for Myeloma was attended and supported by Variety Lodge #37 of the I.O.O.F.

Myeloma is a blood cancer which presently has no known cure. Money is raised for further research, advocacy, patient programs and education, by the I.M.F. (International Myeloma Foundation) located in W. Hollywood, CA. since 1990. It serves not only patients in the U.S. but has a large membership in 140 other countries. It has been gives the highest praise from Charity Navigator.

The race/walk/ raised \$83,000 last year. We are expecting the same this year. It is drawing annually about 800 participants and held in Phila.'s Fairmount Park on the beautiful grounds of the Please Touch Museum. It is run for the I.M.F by my group the Phila. Multiple Myeloma Networking Group founded in 1995(P.M.M.N.G.). We are proud of our sponsors large and small and include as mentioned earlier the Variety Lodge #37, Perseverance Encampment #135, Walker Lodge #306 and the Mystic Lodge #270. All of the lodges are based in Philadelphia. I am grateful for their financial giving for a needed cancer cause. A shout out to Brothers Phil Muscarneo, Elliot Tenenbaum and Charles Danihel is needed.

I, as the patient with M.M. am grateful for all that participated in this family friendly event. Hope to see some of you in 2020.

In Friendship, Love and Truth Phil Falkowitz, Variety Lodge #37





# ALMA LODGE NO. 523 OF JOHNSTOWN INSTALLS



On April 5th, our officers for the new term were installed by DDGM Shawn Miller and his installation staff. Thank you to Past Grand Carl Thomas for a successful term and congratulations to incoming Noble Grand Lynne Faint and Vice Grand Joseph Costlow.

Front Row (L to R): PG William Young, Vice Grand Joseph Costlow, Noble Grand Lynne Faint, DDGM Shawn Miller.

Back Row (L to R): Past Grand Warden Carl E. Thomas Jr. and Past Grand Randy Browning.

Periodicals

# **April Donations**

PENNSYLVAINA ODD FELLOW & REBEKAH MAGAZINE					
E135	Perseverance Encampment	\$1,500.00			
ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION					
1128	Fallowfield	57.03			
2	Unified	50.00			
957	Falls Creek Hall Association	50.00			
		157.03			
PA ARTHRITIS COMMITTEE					
899	Askam Camp JRA	250.00			
957	Falls Creek Hall Associaton	50.00			
		300.00			
EDUC	ATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND				
1128	Fallowfield	\$142.57			
PA EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP					
2	Unified	50.00			
VISUAL RESEARCH					
899	Askam	100.00			
1175	Shillington	100.00			
1128	Fallowfield	57.03			
2	Unified	25.00			
R558	Lady Sellers	25.00			
		307.03			
PA SPECIAL VISUAL ASSISTANCE					
899	Askam	100.00			
2	Unified	25.00			
		125.00			

# Places to Go...People to See

#### JUNE

1 / Grand Encampment Rally, Johnstown+ 22 / Jt Youth & Planning Board meet, Red Lion 22 - 26 / Unified Session, Harrisburg

#### **SEPTEMBER**

21 / Knoebel's Fun Day, Elysburg, PA+\*

#### **OCTOBER**

5 / PPRA Hager Testimonial, Red Lion Harrisburg+ 6 / Unified Session Committee, Red Lion Harrisburg, 11:00AM

- \* denotes furnished by Planning Board
- + denotes details to follow
- \*\* On the second Sunday of each month, at 1:00PM, year round, Centre Lodge #153 of Bellefonte is still conducting their Music Jams!

All Lodges are reminded when planning an activity, if you would like your state officer's support please contact the Planning Board Secy, Mary Giebel, PO Box 49, Cassville, PA 16623 or 814-305-2011. mcgiebel@msn.com