



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE



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August 2023

No. 8

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2023 – 2024 Grand Lodge Officers



(from left to right): Grand Secretary Justin C. Bailey PGM, Grand Representative David A. Young PGM, Grand Musician Debra B. Young, Grand Conductor Michael J. Wallis, Grand Master Robert B. Ruff, Deputy Grand Master Paul E. Lautenschlager, Grand Warden Frank A. Hilt, Grand Guardian Andrew L. Kilmer, Grand Herald Blanche A. Corey

A GIFT FROM UTAH

On our final day at Unified Session, this canvas painting was presented to the Grand Lodge. It was done by Eric Worthington of Pleasant Grove Lodge in Utah. Thanks Brother and great job!



Places to Go...People to See

AUGUST

6 / GL Board meeting – GL Office, 1:00PM

6 / Joint youth Committee – GL Office, 3:00PM

20 – 24/ International Session of the IOOF – Des Moines, IA

OCTOBER

21 / PGP Calhoon Testimonial – Shartlesville+

27-29 / SGM Cupp Testimonial – Coraopolis+

** On the second Sunday of each month, at 1:00PM, year round, Centre Lodge #153 of Bellefonte is still conducting their Music Jams! Please check their facebook first because there may be a scheduling conflict!

All Lodges are reminded when planning an activity, if you would like your state officer's support please contact the Grand Lodge at ioofpaglsecty@verizon.net or 717-944-7419



The Pennsylvania Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine

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1001 West Harrisburg Pike
Middletown, PA 17057
717-944-7419

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

JUSTIN C. BAILEY

Editor

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Middletown, PA 17057

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the magazine, if you would like
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the Grand Lodge at ioofpaglsecty@
verizon.net with your name and
Lodge and this will be done
accordingly.



OFFICERS OF GRAND LODGE

ROBERT B. RUFF.....	GRAND MASTER
1819 Forbes Avenue, Apt 5A, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 412-621-0872 ruff2u@aol.com	
PAUL E. LAUTENSCHLAGER.....	DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
101 Maplewood Drive, Honesdale, PA 18431 570-877-5925 pelmhl@hotmail.com	
FRANK A. HILT.....	GRAND WARDEN
1022 Patriots Way, Quakertown, PA 18951 215-206-7912 hiltf1122@gmail.com	
JUSTIN C. BAILEY.....	GRAND SECRETARY
1001 West Harrisburg Pike, Middletown, PA 17057 717-944-7419 ioofpaglsecty@verizon.net	
JOHN S. CUPP, JR.....	GRAND TREASURER
P. O. Box 275, Hopwood, PA 15445 724-437-4629 jcupp275@gmail.com	
WILLIAM L. RAMSEY, JR.....	GRAND REPRESENTATIVE
16620 Trough Creek Valley Pike, Apt 1, Calvin, PA 16622 814-599-0617 wlrmsy0809@gmail.com	
DAVID A. YOUNG.....	GRAND REPRESENTATIVE
20 Truman Road, Charleroi, PA 15022 724-344-7550 iamanodd fellow@comcast.net	
J. CARL GEORGE.....	JR. PAST GRAND MASTER
225 Sunridge Drive, Freedom, PA 15042 724-601-8098 quickcarl73@comcast.net	
TYLER M. ARNOLD.....	GRAND MARSHAL
503 West Broad Street, Tamaqua, PA 18252	
MICHAEL J. WALLIS.....	GRAND CONDUCTOR
1080 Ridge Road, Montgomery, PA 17752	
JAMES W FULLER, SR.....	GRAND CHAPLAIN
577 Ridge View Lane, McConnellsburg, PA 17233	
ANDREW L. KILMER.....	GRAND GUARDIAN
940 Springhill Road, Sterling, PA 18463	
BLANCHE A COREY.....	GRAND HERALD
220 Ladysmith Road, New Stanton, PA 15672	
DEBRA L. YOUNG.....	GRAND MUSICIAN
20 Truman Road, Charleroi, PA 15022	
MICHAEL D. BETTS.....	GRAND LODGE ATTORNEY
887 West Bristol Road, Warminster, PA 18974	
PAUL L. MILLER.....	GRAND MUSICIAN EMERITUS
1105 Stinson Drive, Leesport, PA 19533	

OFFICERS OF REBEKAH ASSEMBLY

ANNA L. SMITH.....	PRESIDENT
203 South Academy Street, Boalsburg, PA 16827 814-466-6348	
SARAH M. BAER.....	SECRETARY
115 North Centre Avenue, Leesport, PA 19533 610-916-1990 s.baer@baersservice.com	

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT

THOMAS J. KUTCHNER.....	GRAND PATRIARCH
4538 Aberdale Road, Philadelphia, PA 19136 267-312-5225 tkunch3@aol.com	
SANDRA L. HUCHEL.....	GRAND SCRIBE
1809 White Oak Drive, Sinking Spring, PA 19608, shuchel@hotmail.com, 484-794-6781	

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

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

25 YEARS

Harry K. Klose, #2
John S. Matthews, #8
Rodney L. Ramsey, Sr., #736

William L. Ramsey, Jr., GR#736
William A. Schooley, #736

30 YEARS

Jeffrey L. Holtry, #562

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND MASTER

Sisters and brothers,

Greetings, and I hope your summer is going well but here we are ready to head into fall. In our teachings life can be compared to the seasons, although many of us don't pay attention, until the dead of winter is almost upon us - wondering where that spring time has gone in our lives. Good times, bad times, thick and thin FatherTime waits, for no one. No matter where you are in your journey it is time to nurture and care for the seeds that we have planted or should be planting at this time. Like the pruning season, we should let the younger to be more involved listen to their ideas and help them grow, especially in our fraternal obligations. Everyone is heard me talk about change being the only constant thing in time or in our lives. I know many of our members are hesitant or unwilling to embrace change, especially in the way we now communicate in this world. We have come along way from letters and postcards, and waiting for a response. Now the responses are almost immediate with the technology we now have. Technology is a double edge sword, but let us use that sword to advance our cause. Starting next month on the front of the magazine, we will include a QR code, along with whatever site information is applicable. If you can use the camera on your phone, this will enable you to see what the fraternity is doing, and possibly the world of Oddfellowship. I cannot imagine any easier way available to us to communicate. The "links" will be for our YouTube page, our Instagram page, the twitter

account, our GRAND LODGE website and the Sovereign GRAND LODGE website. (and Justin's IOOF Facebook page.) Hopefully this will make things less daunting for many members.

I'm still working on visitations, Summer seems to be a time when visitations were not well accepted for one reason or another. Just as winter is not conducive to travel in our state, I will try to adapt to lodges wishes. Please remember we have been encouraging district meetings, and if you have enough members from your lodge there, it will be counted as a regular meeting, with dispensation, of course, and no financial information will be disclosed.

This month for brothers of Connoquenessing Lodge number 278 will be sponsoring a picnic on 26 August. Anyone in Western districts are invited to attend. Please just notify the Lodge or Past Grandmaster Whitlinger, information is forthcoming. I would be remiss if I did not mention what a good time was had by all on the Susquehanna river boat cruise. The food was excellent! The band was good and the fellowship was wonderful. Information is on our YouTube page in several short videos (Pa ODDCAST). Until my next article, or I see you -safe travels and spread the word of ODD fellowship in the Commonwealth and be that helpful hand or give the kind words that someone needs. My love to Doris, Vera and Shorty!
In FLT,
Bob Ruff, GM

COME VISIT THE GRAND MASTER

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

- 1 - Triune #307 - 7:30PM
- 3 - Paoli #290 - 8:00PM
- 4 - Aluta #488 - 8:00PM
- 6 - GL Board Meeting,
Middletown - 1:00PM
- 7 - Mt. Zion #74 - 7:00PM
- 8 - Leesport #141 - 7:30PM
- 9 - Variety #37 - 7:30PM
- 10 - Mackinaw #380 - 7:00PM
- 14 - Lititz #1050 - 7:00PM
- 15 - Victory #658 - 8:00PM
- 19 - 23 - SGL Session, Des Moines, IA
- 26 - Connoquenessing #278
Picnic - 1:00PM

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

FOSTER LODGE NO. 333, REW
Ember Niles - initiated May 20th

GRAND MASTER RUFF'S CHARITY

Sisters and brothers,

For the 200th year in odd-fellowship in Pennsylvania my charity is going to be the Alzheimer's Association, the Greater Pennsylvania Chapter. This year I am asking all lodges to send a donation and a personal donation if you desire. The change this year is there will not be any pins being sold. I'm counting on the generosity of our lodges and all of our members to help. Past Grand Master S. Whitlinger set the standard very high for those who follow her in fundraising through my charity is different. I believe that we have all been touched by Alzheimer's disease. Through a friend, acquaintance or relative, neighbor or lodge brother or sister—possibly not even knowing it. Thinking maybe it was forgetfulness, a little confused at times, forgetful or referred to as different. Or perhaps

mean senile people that we might encounter in everyday life. Currently in Pennsylvania, there are 400,000 individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's or some other form of dementia. The only way anybody can tell the difference in the disease is upon autopsy after death. The Alzheimer's Association serves individuals and their caregivers by hosting education programs and support groups, providing a 24/7 helpline and offering care consultations to those going through a dementia diagnosis. The Alzheimer's Association leads the way to end Alzheimer's, and all other dementia by accelerating global research, emphasizing risk reduction and early detection and maximizing quality care and support for those affected. Your support will help the association to offer those dealing with this devastating disease, practical answers and proven techniques for care of both the patient

and caregiver funds raise will be used to advance the care support and research efforts of the association. They are at 501(C)3 organization. Please send your donation to the GRAND LODGE with 'ALTZ' Charity marked on it. This is a terrible both physically and emotionally debilitating disease. Our whole family suffered during my step-mothers battle with this terrible disease, especially my father. It is hard to know and love someone for many years and one day they don't even know who you are. Painful for all even those involved with the disease. Imagine how frightening it must be to know something is not right with yourself -but what? Thank you in advance for your donations to combat this terrible disease.

In FLT, Bob Ruff
Grandmaster

Souvenir Program Booklet
John S. Cupp Jr.
Sovereign Grand Master
October 27-29, 2023
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

A souvenir program booklet is being planned for Sovereign Grand Master John S. Cupp Jr.'s testimonial on October 27-29, 2023, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Ad prices are as follows:

Full Page	\$60
Half Page	\$40
Quarter Page	\$25
Booster, one line, individual or couples	\$5

Please consider purchasing an ad. Please make checks payable in U.S. Dollars to:

Cupp Testimonial Committee

Please submit your ad copy, along with the appropriate amount to:

Thomas J. McHugh,
288 Church Rd.,
Mountain Top, PA 18707

You can email the ads to Tom at: tmchugh@epix.net

Preferred format for ads submitted is PDF file format.

Rate: \$119 per night, plus applicable state and local taxes. Room reservations must be made directly with the hotel at (412) 788-8800 or 800-228-9290; mention: **Independent Order of Odd Fellows**

Registration Form - One Per Person - Deadline October 1, 2023

Name	_____	Title/Rank	_____
Address	_____	Phone	_____
	_____	Email	_____

Flight Information:

Arrival Date	_____	Arrival Time	_____	Airline	_____	Flight No.	_____
Depart Date	_____	Depart Time	_____	Airline	_____	Flight No.	_____

Friday, October 27 - Octoberfest Buffet/Stations - Casual Attire

5:30 p.m. Social Hour	\$65	\$ _____
6:30 p.m. Dinner & Dancing		
7:30 p.m. Trick or Treat (Costumes Preferred)		

Saturday, October 28 - Banquet - Formal Attire

5:30 p.m. Social Hour	\$75	\$ _____
6:30 p.m. Dinner & Entertainment		

Please Select Entree Choice: ☐ Chicken Trentino (Asiago encrusted boneless chicken breast/cognac cream sauce.)

☐ Pan Seared Haddock ☐ Roast Pork Tenderloin **TOTAL** \$ _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Mail to:	David and Debbie Young 20 Truman Rd Charleroi, PA 15022	Checks Payable to: Cupp Testimonial Committee Email: iamanoddfellow@comcast.net Question: 724-344-7550 (David Young)
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(over)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is great to read about scholarships and grants awarded by Odd Fellows lodges and groups to deserving students in college or going off to college. But it distresses me to read that the checks are sent to the college because in many cases that will not help students' finances at all.

Here is why: let's say a student qualifies for \$15,000 in financial aid from a college. That aid usually comes from the college and from sources the college arranges. If a lodge or group sends the college a check on behalf of the student for \$1500, for example - the college will in just about every case deduct the \$1500 from the financial aid the college provides - so the college grants \$15,000 MINUS the \$1500 from the Odd Fellows source. So the student only gets the same \$15,000 in aid. The Odd Fellows grant does not really benefit the student in any way. To benefit the student, the check for the grant should go to the student or the student's family after proof of the student attending the college.

Our lodge and organizations I belong to have for many years provided grants directly to the student or family for college materials - textbooks, computers, software, etc. upon presentation of receipts for the materials, so the money is not deducted from the financial aid the college provides.

I have been an independent college admissions counselor for over 20 years and time after time I have seen colleges deduct money from the aid they provide when another source sends the check directly to the college.

Please, please send checks to the student or family.

In FL&T,
Byron Goldstein, Variety Lodge #37

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DAVID!

Once again, we got to celebrate David's birthday at session. You might of guess he was 41 or heard.

I want to also thank Justin Bailey for sharing his room celebration as receiving the Grand Decoration of Chivalry

GT Jim Sellers

David with SGW Workman discussing his birthday.



SPRING CITY HAPPENINGS

Vincent Lodge #762 attended the Spring City community day in June to spread the word of Odd Fellowship and educate the public about who we are and what we do. We handed out free soft pretzels and water to everyone attending.



ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION VISITS GRAND LODGE



The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Congratulations on a successful Unified Session this week and for your welcoming and hospitality. Your support and commitment to the Arthritis Foundation is needed and appreciated. Peter J. Knockstead, Lititz #1050 & Holly Maddams
Join us and Do Good things for our community:
Arthritis.org/glpaioof.org

The Arthritis committee raised \$503.00 from the Odd Fellows & Rebekahs during session ~ Bruce Torrence, Chair

NORRISTOWN PRESENTS MEDAL



Bill Wurtz and the rest of us made a presentation to John Lazowicki Past Grand & Past Grand Patriarch medal. From left to right, Frank Hilt, Recipient John Lazowicki, Bill Wurtz, Jimmy Dimpter, seated Bob Hinderliter, Sr. & tablet - Jan Boggess & Bob Hinderliter, Jr. John Lazowicki traveled up from Florida & attended the meeting.
~ FLT Brother Frank

HALLSTEAD LODGE MEMBERS HELP COMMUNITY

Monday night June 19, 2023 Canawacta Lodge No. 207 members presented a check to David Palmer of the New Milford Area Rotary Club to help support a Ukrainian Refugee Family, Roman Bobyr, his mother and grandmother. Pictured are Nadine Hager, presenting check to David Palmer, Andrew Kilmer, Paul Lautenschlager and Roman Bobyr. In response to global crises such as the one in Ukraine, humanitarian sponsorship was created by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to allow Americans to help people such as Roman, his mother and grandmother. Sponsorship under this program allows for humanitarian parole and allows Roman to apply for employment. Photo was taken by Jessica Kilmer.



VIENNA LODGE #847 HELPS CELEBRATE FLAG DAY



Vienna lodge #847, IOOF of Allentown, partnered with the Emmaus Rotary club to invite local residents, friends, veterans, scout troops and area dignitaries to gather Wednesday 6/14/23 at 6:00 to present THE BOOUGH OF EMMAUS FLAG DAY OBSERBANCE. Students in the 5Th and 8TH Grade read their winning poetry & essays about "What the American Flag means to me". Vienna Lodge #847 are proud sponsors of the programs, songbooks, trophies and awards, and they provided refreshments to all. This is a yearly tradition for Vienna #847 and we look forward to continuing into the future.

~ Rory J. King



WARREN LODGE HITS ANOTHER HOME RUN

On Wednesday June 21st, Warren Lodge #339 hosted our winning team in the Warren County Youth Baseball Softball League. Our sponsored team, Girls Majors, took first place in the county with a 10-3 record. A pizza party was held for the winning girls at the Warren Lodge with pizza, chips, popcorn and drinks. An awards ceremony was conducted in the Lodge meeting room and the girls were presented with trophies and Warren County drink mugs, made locally by Whirley Drink Works.

The girls,

- Brooke Scott
- Rylee Rectenwald
- Haley Kent
- Sophia DePasquale
- Maci Benton
- Peytynn Kirby
- Rylee Kocher
- Allison Hackman
- Ellery Chase
- Shelby Rhoades

were accompanied by head coach Neal Kent and Assistant coach Kevin Roberts.

Hosting the event were Warren Lodge members Al Webster, Dan Swab, Lou Dussia, Wendi Donachy and Moe Movinsky.

Here are the girls in a serious pose and then their crazy pose, with the coaches and Noble Grand Al Webster behind.



GP CALHOON OFFICIAL VISIT



The Grand Patriarch visited William F. Packer Encampment #127, Johnstown, on Tuesday June 20

Left to right: GP Yvonne Calhoon, Chief Patriarch and PGP Laura Huchel, GMa Jeff Calhoon



ON THE ROAD WITH THE GRAND MASTER

Clover  lodge #348 official visitation. Thanks to all who participated! GM Ruff



AUGUST OBITUARIES

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



Twila Wassum
Past RA Appointed Officer/PDDP
Lois Elmore Jurisdictional Rebekah
Lodge No. 11
May 20, 2023

Sister Twila Wassum, 91, of Shelocta, PA, was initiated into Silver Star Rebekah Lodge No. 67, Elderton, PA, on April 25, 1986. She became a Past Noble Grand on October 7, 1992 and was very active throughout her tenure. She served the Rebekah Assembly as District Deputy President from 1997 – 2009, and served as RA Inside Guardian for PPRA Bertha Reitz from 1994 – 1995 and Pennsylvania Flag Bearer for PPRA Mary Leitzel from 2000 – 2001. In 2009, her Rebekah Lodge went defunct, and she has been a member of Lois Elmore Jurisdictional Rebekah Lodge #11 ever since. At the time of her death, she was the last surviving member of Silver Star Rebekah Lodge #67 still affiliated with the Order.

She was a member of Elderton Presbyterian Church.
Burial was held in Sligo Cemetery, Sligo, PA.

Claude W. Keyser, Jr.
Triune Lodge No. 307
June 21, 2023

Brother Claude W. Keyser, Jr., 94, of Lebanon, PA, was initiated into Triune Lodge #307, Middletown, PA, on June 30, 1954, where he became a Past Grand. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest living member.

He was a member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Lebanon, PA.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Norma. Surviving are two stepchildren, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Mt. Lebanon Cemetery.



Theodore C. Rothrock, Sr.
Jordan Lodge No. 192
June 22, 2023

Brother Theodore C. "Ted" Rothrock, Sr., 87, of Schnecksville, PA, was initiated into Jordan Lodge #192, Schnecksville, on September 29, 1962, where he became a Past Grand on December 6, 1983 and received his Grand Lodge Degree May 16, 2009. He held active membership in his Lodge, as well as being on the Initiation and installation teams, and at the time of his death, was the Lodge's Vice Grand. He was a former Patriarch of Pleasant Corner Encampment #54, Schnecksville.

He was a PA National Guard Veteran and a member of Jordan United Church of Christ, Allentown, PA.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Gouldie Schultz, and two children. Surviving are three children, nine grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and his brother, Kenneth, also of Jordan Lodge #192.

Burial was held at Jordan UCC Cemetery.



Wayne S. Fair
Mount Zion Lodge No. 74
Mount Vernon Encampment No. 14
July 3, 2023

Brother Wayne S. Fair, 96, of York, PA, was initiated into Mount Zion Lodge #74, York, on March 20, 2000, where he became a Past Grand on November 1, 2004 and received his Grand Lodge Degree on September 24, 2005. He held the position of Recording Secretary for several years. He was a Past Chief Patriarch of Mount Vernon Encampment #14, of York, having joined October 22, 2001. He was a former Chevalier of Canton York #14, P.M., having been mustered November 8, 2008 and receiving an honorable discharge in 2020. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest living member.

He was a U.S. Navy WWII Veteran and a member of 4th United Methodist Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former M. Jeanne Baker, one daughter and one granddaughter, Kelly Otto, of York Springs Lodge #211. Surviving is one son, five stepchildren, two grandchildren, eleven step-grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, eleven step-great-grandchildren, seven great-great-grandchildren and one step great-great-grandchild.

Services were conducted by the Members of his Lodge and burial was held in Holy Saviour Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Mt. Zion Lodge #74, PO Box 7268, York, PA 17404.



L. James Van Ness
Wysox Lodge No. 1152
June 30, 2023

Brother Lawrence James "Jim" Van Ness, 89, of Monroeton, PA, was initiated into Wysox Lodge #1152 on March 28, 1978, where he became a Past Grand October 19, 1982 and received his Grand Lodge Degree September 26, 1983.

He was a U.S. Navy Korean War Veteran.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Evelyn Thompson. Surviving are four children and six grandchildren.

Burial was held in Wysox Cemetery.

AUGUST OBITUARIES



Gavin N. Brossman
Harmony Lodge No. 86
July 10, 2023

Brother Gavin N. Brossman, 20, of Coaldale, PA, was initiated into Harmony Lodge #86, Tamaqua, PA, on May 11, 2022, where he was a second-degree member. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's youngest member. He volunteered several times at the Odd Fellows Cemetery in Tamaqua.

He was a member of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Tamaqua.

Surviving is his mother, one sister, four grandparents, and a future step-father and several step-siblings.



George A. Broll
Walker Lodge No. 306
July 14, 2023

Brother George A. Broll, 81, of Philadelphia, PA, was initiated into Walker Lodge #306, Philadelphia, on April 5, 1999, where he became a Past Grand on April 1, 2002 and received his Grand Lodge Degree November 16, 2002. On December 22, 2004, he joined Variety Lodge #37, Philadelphia, as an Associate Member. He held active membership in both Lodges, serving as Right Scene Supporter of Walker Lodge #306 and Outside Guardian of Variety Lodge #37.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Joanne Gleba. Surviving is his daughter, two sons and eight grandchildren.

Burial was held at Resurrection Cemetery, Bensalem, PA.

Mark A. Dussia
Warren Lodge No. 339
July 14, 2023

Brother Mark A. Dussia, 55, of Warren, PA, was initiated into Warren Lodge #339 on April 15, 2023, where he received his three degrees.

Surviving is his wife, Tammy, and father, Louis, both of Warren Lodge.

Thank You!

Dear Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania,

Thank you for granting me the award of this scholarship. I really appreciate how this will help me for my freshman year at Moravian University this fall.

Sincerely, Avery Koser, Victory Lodge No. 658

LADY SELLERS REBEKAH LODGE NO. 558



Great turnout of Rebekah Assembly Staff in Sellersville. 19 Rebekahs out. ~ Bruce Torrence

FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Brothers and Sisters,

I am happy to report that we had a very productive Unified Session. Participation was up slightly over last year, and I hope it continues into next year. The Unified Session is the network for the lodges to learn what is happening at Grand Lodge. The information that is provided advises the lodges on the work which the Grand Lodge is involved, how it effects Grand Lodge and impacts the subordinate Lodges. Times and events that have an impact on our I.O.O.F. are always changing. We must be attentive and diligent to ensure that our Fraternal Order continues to grow.

Be progressive. Keep up with the moving world while not discarding what has value in the old. But don't cling to the old when its worth has passed. Don't be a person so set in your views that nothing can change you.

May we continue to work together in Friendship, Love, and Truth, with Faith, Hope, and Charity, following the Golden Rule to achieve Universal Justice.

Fraternally,
Paul E. Lautenschlager DGM

THE TREASURER'S TALES

AUGUST 2023

August is a hot month in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. In August 1928 it was a hot month. Barney was a tenth grade (sometimes 11 or 12 too) English teacher and a farmer. School started in September, so Barney did some planning for the fall semester, but his greatest efforts in August were toward farming.

On August 1, Babe Ruth hit home run number 42 in the Yankees 12-1 win over the St. Louis Browns, taking him 4 weeks ahead of his 1927 pace. On August 11, NY Giants pitcher Carl Hubbell registers his first victory, a 4-0 shutout of Philadelphia Phillies at the Polo Grounds, New York. On August 27, in the Kellogg-Briand Pact, 60 nations agree to condemn "recourse to war for the solution of international controversies," this proves a waste of paper when Hitler invades France. On August 31, Bertolt Brecht & Kurt Weill's play with music "The Threepenny Opera" premieres at the Theater am Schiffbauerdamm, Berlin. The Threepenny Opera contains many familiar phrases and songs, most notably "Mac the Knife." You can watch act 1, here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rpMxpMSG0Sc>.

On August 6, 1928, Andy Warhol was born. On August 9, basketball star Bob Cousy was born, and he is still living. On August 10, singer, actor and sausage maker, Jimmy Dean was born. On August 31, actor James Coburn was born.

There were a number of prominent books published in 1928, including *The House at Pooh Corner*, by A. A. Milne; *All Quiet on the Western Front*, by Erich Maria Remarque; and *Orlando* by Virginia Woolf. You may recall the the New American Library rated the 100 best pieces of fiction in the twentieth century some time ago (see: <https://thegreatestbooks.org/lists/2>). There were at least three written in 1928.

People always wonder about old movies. In 1928 silent movies were still the medium. The Jazz Singer had been released in 1927, marking the beginning of talking films. The motion picture industry would undergo a revolution and artists who had distracting accents or unpleasant sounding voices would be forced to enter other professions.

Barney loved going to the fair. He was almost love struck when he saw the first model John Deere GP tractor. His old Model T tractor was outdated and he was in the market for a new tractor. "GP" stands for "general purpose". This new model GP had the same horsepower, engine displacement, weight, and three-speed transmission as the John Deere model C. The John Deere was almost twice as expensive as the Ford. The price today would be around \$12,000. Inflation has really affected farm machinery, with a new John Deere entry level costing far more than the 1928 model. There is no real comparison, because modern tractors do not compare to the 1920's models. The \$700.00 asking price for the new tractor was almost half Barney's annual salary of \$1,600 as a teacher. Elizabeth was not so impressed. Barney went to the fair every night and spent hours looking at tractors, reading all the brochures and talking to salesmen.

The owner of the tractor agency, Bill Roi, was becoming a friend to Barney and he was a lodge member from Trenton, to boot. He

knew Barney wanted the tractor and that his wife would make life very unpleasant if he bought the tractor (not to mention making him sleep in the barn next to the tractor). Barney was feeling low when the fair finally ended and he wouldn't get to visit the tractor exhibit. Bill approached Barney and asked him if he would like to become a part-time salesman for John Deere. He told him there were generous commissions and he could get a discount on tractors and other farm equipment. You would think Barney struck gold, he was thrilled.

The next day Barney got up early, fed the animals, milked and went straight to the John Deere dealership. Bill was waiting for him. The salesmen had to wipe off the tractors every morning before showing them. It seems the lot was close the woods and the raccoons liked to play on the tractors at night. Barney knew what a mess raccoons could make, so he was prepared. After cleaning the tractors, he was ready for his first customer. Barney met six customers his first day on the job, all of whom said the tractors were too expensive.

Barney came home at 6:30 p.m., milked the cows, cleaned a couple stalls and came in to dinner. Elizabeth asked how much he made for spending ten hours at the tractor dealership. The answer of nothing did not impress Elizabeth. She had to watch three children, feed the dogs and chickens, slop the hogs, collect eggs and sew the children's clothing. She could only discuss world events with her small children and the little Pomeranian, Rebekah, which she kept in the house. She was not happy.

Elizabeth told Barney he could work for John Deere part-time until school started, then he had to quit if he wasn't making money. She did not like being alone without any compensation. The time dragged on and after eleven days, still no sales. The twelfth day, Barney sold a tractor and a combine, making him the top salesman for August and earning him enough commission to order a new tractor for himself. With such an income stream, Barney kept working part-time when school started. He was putting in too many hours but he paid off the tractor with sales commissions by October 31 and then quit being a salesman. He had his tractor. The tractor was delivered on October 16, while Barney was at school. Barney couldn't wait to get home from school to try it out. Much to his shock, Elizabeth was driving the new tractor when he arrived home. Shiny new machines attract women and men.

Barney wondered if he could make more money selling things than he could farming or teaching school. He pondered this thought for many years, but never acted on it.

Farming was good in New Jersey in 1928. The soil was rich and the summer warm with sufficient rain. Barney harvested more hay than he needed, so he sold some. The chicken and egg business were going well and he had more than enough hogs to sell. He had fifteen steers to sell by fall and he was producing more milk than he, his father and Vic could use. The new tractor made the fall chores easier. His fall semester at school was a different story, but that will be next month.

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.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT COLUMBIA & MONTOUR COUNTIES

Interesting Facts:

The Rebekah Lodges numbered around 1,000. Some of the numbers, you'll also see more than once, as some of these Lodges only lasted a few years.

How many Rebekah Lodges were in YOUR County??

Did you ever wonder if your town had a Rebekah Lodge?

Do you know where it was or do you even remember some of these Lodges?

If you can take a picture of the Lodge Hall that was once in your town and mail it in, we'd be glad to have it for our archives and it could perhaps end up in the magazine!

Next Month – Crawford County. Get your pictures and articles in now!

COLUMBIA COUNTY

Benton – Lady Martha Rebekah Lodge #440 – defunct 1961
 Berwick – Mary Frantz Rebekah Lodge #370 – consolidated 1976
 Bloomsburg – Maria Knapp Rebekah Lodge #394 – defunct 1986
 Catawissa – Marweda Rebekah Lodge #16 – defunct 1984
 Centralia – Victoria Rebekah Lodge #39 – defunct 1915
 Espy – Ruth Espy Rebekah Lodge #534 – consolidated 1964
 Millville – Lois Edna Rebekah Lodge #373 – defunct 1956
 Numidia – Mellesena Rebekah Lodge #577 – defunct 1989
 Orangeville – Lady Marion Rebekah Lodge #557 – consolidated 1983

9 Rebekah Lodges with 0 active

1st Rebekah Lodge – Victoria Rebekah Lodge #39 around 1900

Last Rebekah Lodge – Mellesena Rebekah Lodge No. 577 in 1989

12 Odd Fellow Lodges

MONTOUR COUNTY

Danville – Lady Hannah Rebekah Lodge #522 – defunct 1985

Only 1 Rebekah Lodge!

8 Odd Fellow Lodges



**GOVERNOR
JOSH SHAPIRO**

June 25, 2023

Greetings:

It is my pleasure to welcome those gathered for the 200th anniversary of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Pennsylvania.

Since its inception, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Pennsylvania has remained committed to visiting the sick, relieving the distressed, burying the dead, and educating the orphan. Based on the founding principles of community service and improving and elevating the character of mankind, this outstanding organization continues to empower members and communities with innovative programs and powerful initiatives. I applaud you for your dedicated work to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. As you celebrate this historic anniversary celebration, I hope you all reflect with great pride on your many accomplishments and knowing this organization will continue to have a positive influence on the Commonwealth for many years to come.

As Governor, and on behalf of all Pennsylvanians, I am delighted to welcome those gathered for the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Pennsylvania. Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable event and continued success.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this twenty-fifth day of June two thousand twenty-three, the year of the Commonwealth the two hundred forty-seventh.

Governor Josh Shapiro

LADY WORTH REBEKAH LODGE #328



Lady Worth #328 of Sandy Lake awards its first scholarship grant to Johnathan Wollensack. NG Ray Rogers, members and mother and grandmother Karen Kopp and Sue Adams.
~ Bob Ruff



Periodicals

JUNE DONATIONS

VISUAL ASSISTANCE

87	Hopkins	250.00
348	Clover	50.00
2	Unified	25.00
C9	Northeast	<u>25.00</u>
		350.00

VISUAL RESEARCH

87	Hopkins	250.00
R103	Gladys	50.00
2	Unified	25.00
C9	Northeast	<u>25.00</u>
		350.00

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

2	Unified	100.00
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CAMP JRA

R182	Lady Colfax	In Memory of PGM Adams	25.00
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PA EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND

Odd Fellows Home of W/PA, Meadville	2,000.00
Grand Lodge session collection	90.00
1004 Hampton	50.00
Rebekah Assembly session collection	<u>36.00</u>
	2,176.00

PA EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Odd Fellows Home of W/PA, Meadville	2,000.00
2 Unified	<u>50.00</u>
	2,050.00