



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE

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June 2013

No. 6

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE AT
<http://www.glpaioof.org>

BEST WISHES TO OUR LEADERS FOR HARMONIOUS SESSIONS AS WE GATHER IN HARRISBURG



Justin C. Bailey
Grand Master



Judith A. Wert
President R.A.



Neil B. Thomas
Grand Patriarch



James V. Keller
Dept. Commander



J. Reba Kuhn
President D.A.

Places to Go... People to See

2013
JUNE

24-27 / 42nd Unified Session, Harrisburg, PA

JULY

20 / Fun Day, Knoebel's Grove *+

SEPTEMBER

28 / PRA Wert Testimonial *+

2014
APRIL

4-6 / 57th Ann'l Mid-Atlantic Conclave, Lancaster, PA +

* denotes furnished by Planning Board
+ denotes details to follow

All Lodges are minded when planning an activity, if you would like your state officers support, please contact the Planning Brd. Secy., Mary Giebel, PO Box 49, , Cassville, PA 16623 or 814-305-2011.

The Pennsylvania Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine

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OF ODD FELLOWS**
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Lodge name, No. and address, night of meeting,
name and address and when a change is necessary
be sure to mention the former address.

Subscribers should be careful to give their correct
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be sure to mention the former address.

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in next month's issue.

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

**Lady Evelyn Rebekah Lodge No. 22,
Cassville**

Dodie Price – initiated April 20th

Salome Rebekah Lodge No. 30, York

Harold A. Boden III – initiated April 20th
Cynthia M. Dennis – initiated April 20th

Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge No. 86

Wanda Schmidt – initiated April 20th

Brady Lodge No. 116, Hughesville

Thomas A. Donofrio – initiated April 20th

Walker Lodge No. 306, Philadelphia

Dolores P. Shorten – initiated April 20th
James S. Shorten Jr. – initiated April 20th

Aluta Lodge No. 488, Nazareth

Samuel Cameli – initiated April 20th

Vincent Lodge No. 762, Spring City

Anthony M. Kuklinski – initiated April 8th
James Dobson – initiated April 8th

Kingwood Lodge No. 1010

Jacob E. Baer – initiated April 6th
Charles E. Groff, Jr. – initiated April 6th
Roger H. Hart – initiated April 6th
Jeremy B. Hoover – initiated April 6th
Joel E. Hoover – initiated April 6th
William L. Peirsel – initiated April 6th
Mathew A. Zerfoss – initiated April 6th

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND MASTER

To all Odd Fellows throughout the Jurisdiction,

Fraternal Greetings! I hope to keep this one short and sweet. As we are nearing Session, we at the office are doing our best to make sure everything is on track. I hope this Session will be a good and productive one! Final plans are being made to make sure everyone is comfortable and as many Lodges are represented as possible. One thing I'd like you to think about is last several years out of 80+ Lodges, less than 30 are represented.

Many Lodges are unhappy with outcomes of laws that are being passed, budgets with increased dues, and actions of the Grand Lodge as a whole at Session. When asked how their Lodge voted, we find out they haven't send a Representative. It is very important that you all realize each Lodge is entitled to have Representation at Session. In order to be a Representative, you must be a Past Grand. The Grand Lodge Degree will be conferred each morning at Session this year.

By now, the Advance Reports have been sent out. If your Lodge doesn't send a Representative, your Lodge will not receive an Advance Report. Call the Grand Lodge office and request one. Ask your Representative to review the laws and reports that will be acted upon this year and see how it will affect your Lodge. You do not have to be present each day, but try your best to attend and make an effort. After the meetings, this is your chance to meet Odd Fellows & Rebekahs from all corners of the Jurisdiction. Become more than just your Lodge, meet Pennsylvania Odd Fellowship as a whole!

In conclusion, I hope to see you all there and invite each and every one of you to the public installation Wednesday, June 26th where I will be sworn in as your Grand Master, Mary Landes President of the Rebekah Assembly and James Sellers Grand Patriarch of the Grand Encampment. This is a public installation and friends and families are also invited. God Bless and hope to see you next month!

Fraternally,

Justin C. Bailey, your Grand Master

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

WOW! It has been an exciting April at Grand Lodge. In 6 days we received another 23 members into the Grand Lodge, combine that with the 20 previously this year, that gives a total of 43 new members into the Grand Lodge since September. This is what we need, you see the Grand Master's remarks. We need more Lodges and we also need new blood. Many of our representatives have been serving up-teen year's and are reaching a ripe old age. You need to take this time to start training your replacement. Your service has been fantastic, but now is the time to make sure your Lodge is represented after you are gone. As Justin has said, the Grand Lodge Degree is also conducted every morning 8AM. If you cannot make it every day, try & plan what you feel is most important. Traditionally, Monday is spent approving all the Reports in the advanced report. If time permits and a unanimous consent of the Grand body, the legislation may be acted on. We only have three bills to vote on this year, however they are just to correct typographical errors in the blue book. There are however 5 resolutions to be introduced this year, and these mostly deal with changes we cannot prevent. They are to bring our Blue Book up to code with Sovereign Grand Lodge law. Tuesday first thing is our budget and first thing Wednesday morning is nominations of Grand Lodge Officers.

Since traditionally, I send out notice to the Lodges of the Offices to be nominated this year and since every Odd Fellow receives an issue of the magazine. I will use this to make notice of the following: (Par. 4, Pg. 20 of the By-Laws of the G.L.) states that any Past Grand may make a nomination in writing to the Grand Lodge office no later than one week prior to session (June 17th) or may be made from the floor at Session. Offices for this year are Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Warden, Grand Secretary (2 years), Grand Representative (2 years) Charles Shorten term expiring, Alternate SGRepresentative (2 years) Leon Stamm terms expiring and Alt. SGRepresentative (1 year) to fill the unexpired term of GM Faub.

SEE YOU AT SESSION

Fraternally,
Charlie

REMINDER 2013 AWARD APPLICATION DEADLINE

The *Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania* is continuing to accept applications for consideration in the awarding of a maximum of four (4) - \$3,000 awards. The application deadline for the 2013 Scholarship Award is *July 30, 2013*. A copy of the "Rules," along with an "Application," was sent to all the lodges representing the Western District in early May. An important reminder regarding two of the requirements for the Award: 1) The applicant or a family relative must be a member of the I.O.O.F or Rebekahs of Western Pennsylvania, and 2) The applicant, having completed at least one year of college, must be a full-time Music Major, Education Major, or majoring in a Health Care related field.

If interested in obtaining a copy of the "Rules" and an "Application," contact Chairman Robert Grant @ 724-483-8875 or email him at "robag@comcast.net."

ODD FELLOW & REBEKAH ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN PA PRESENTS AWARD AT ANNUAL MEETING

This is a photo taken at the Annual meeting in Grove City for the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania.

The people from left to right are: *Emilie Cupp, GW (President of the Board), Leonard Santini (Treasurer of our Board), Katrina (a student at Bethany College) and Mort Gamble, Executive Assistant to the President of Bethany College.*

The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania has funded an Endowment at Bethany College and it was presented at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 27, 2013. Scholarships will be awarded to worthy students annually preferably in the fields of education, medical training and the fine arts.



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

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

25 YEARS

Dwight Snyder - #192
Brian Umbel - #254

30 YEARS

Edwin Goldsmith III - #150
David Mulligan - #371
Elwyn Tillotson - #510
Gregory Erdman - #551
Milton Stang - #699

40 YEARS

Robert Leedom - #37
Raymond Swift - #510

45 YEARS

Paul Billig - #192
Charles Metcalf - #899

50 YEARS

John Bonham - #88
Carl Grimm - #88

65 YEARS

Palmer Jacobs - #74
Robert McClaskey - #762

THE MIDDLETOWN HOME/AMERICAN LEGION TRIP TO WASHINGTON, DC



WE LOVE OUR DADS

Father's Day – a perfect time to honor the Fathers, Grandfathers and Great Grandfathers among us – or even the IOOF founding fathers - with a donation to the IOOF Arthritis Committee. Let's get started and meet our 2013-2014 goal!

First: Stop by the Arthritis Table at Unified Session. We'll have our traditional "Christmas in June" bells to decorate the tree and Chances for sale and lots of other things. We'll be glad to help you. Santa will be checking his list, so make sure you're on the good boys and girls side!



Second: July 14th to 19th - Camp JRA can really use our help. The young people get so much from the experience and funding is really a necessity. Camperships to help those who can't afford it on their own, help to fund activities.....whatever suits you.

Third: Other Chapter activities throughout the summer and fall. Golf Tournaments and Walks.

Get involved wherever you live in PA. Call the Chapters at the numbers below.

The Chapter contact numbers are listed below. They'll be glad to hear from you as a volunteer or a participant. You can also get more information at www.arthritis.org.

VOLUNTEER!

The addresses and phone numbers of the three PA Chapters are below.

Eastern PA Chapter
Arthritis Foundation
 The Bourse Bldg Ste 500
 111 S. Independence Mall East
 Phila. PA 19106
 215-574-3060

Central PA Chapter
Arthritis Foundation
 3544 N. Progress Ave.
 Suite 201
 Harrisburg, PA 17110
 717-763-0900

Western PA Chapter
Arthritis Foundation
 Foster Plaza # 11
 790 Holiday Drive
 Pittsburgh, PA 15219
 412-566-1645

Charles E. Danihel, Chair, PA IOOF Jurisdictional Arthritis Committee

OBITUARIES

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

EDWARD G. BATH, SR.

Askam Lodge No. 899
March 7, 2013



Brother Edward G. Bath, Sr., 84, of Warrior Run, PA, was initiated into Askam Lodge #899, Wilkes-Barre, on October 22, 1962, where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree on June 7, 1967. He served as Secretary for over 30 years.

He was a U.S. Navy WWII Veteran and a member of the Welsh Presbyterian Church of Warrior Run.

He was preceded in death by a son. Surviving is his wife, the former Dora S. Beverly, three daughters, one son, 11 grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and his brother, John, also of Askam Lodge #899.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge and burial was held at Memorial Shrine Cemetery, Carverton, PA.

ROBERT E. REYNOLDS

Bowmansdale Lodge No. 1179
March 17, 2013



Brother Robert E. Reynolds, 83, of Mechanicsburg, PA, was initiated into Mechanicsburg Lodge #215 on February 8, 1991, where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree on May 17, 1997. He then became a member of Bowmansdale Lodge #1179 through consolidation on November 20, 2000.

He was a U.S. Navy Veteran of the Korean War and a member of the Wesley United Methodist Church, Mechanicsburg.

He was preceded in death by his son. Surviving is one daughter and one son.

Burial was held in Mechanicsburg Cemetery.

JOAN A. GWIAZDZINSKI

Past District Deputy President
Lady Sellers Rebekah Lodge No. 558
March 22, 2013



Sister Joan A. (Shive) Gwiazdzinski, 70, of Hilltown Township, was initiated into Lady Sellers Rebekah Lodge #558, Sellersville, on March 5, 1960 where she became a Past Noble Grand and received her Rebekah Assembly Degree. She also served as District

Deputy President.

She was a member of St. Stephen's United Church of Christ, Perkasio.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Charter members of Lady Sellers Rebekah Lodge #558, John and Dorothy Shive. Surviving is her husband, Anthony, son Brian, both of Victory Lodge #658, Sellersville, daughter Joann Hufnagle and four sisters, Miriam Clark, VPRM Mary Landes, PPLAPM Peggy Walters and Linda Torrence, all members of Lady Sellers Rebekah Lodge #558. She is further survived by two grandchildren.

Burial will be at the convenience of the family.

LOVINE J. MUSCHLITZ

Aluta Lodge No. 488
March 22, 2013

Brother Lovine J. Muschlitz, 91, of Pinellas Park, FL, was initiated into Aluta Lodge #488, Nazareth, on January 25, 1952 where he became a Past Grand.

He was a U.S. Air Force Veteran of WWII and a member of Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, Nazareth.

He was preceded in death by a granddaughter. Surviving is his wife, the former Arlene J. Kocher, two sons, one daughter, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Fairview Cemetery, Moorestown, PA.

WILMER L. FEHNEL

Aluta Lodge No. 488
March 25, 2013

Wilmer L. Fehnel, 89, of Nazareth, PA, was initiated into Confident Lodge #1133, Hecktown, on May 10, 1946 where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree on May 10, 1957. He then became a member of Aluta Lodge #488, Nazareth, through consolidation on June 8, 2001.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran of WWII and a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church, Hecktown.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Mae Seip and a grandson. Surviving is one daughter, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Hope Cemetery, Hecktown, PA.

MARLENE J. MATTER

Idella Rebekah Lodge No. 58
March 25, 2013



Sister Marlene J. (Leitzel) Matter, 76, of Herndon, PA, was initiated into Idella Rebekah Lodge #58, Dornsife, on November 10, 1982.

She was a member of St. Paul's UCC, Urban.

Surviving is her husband, Lamar, three daughters, one grandson and one daughter.

Services were conducted by the members of her Lodge and burial was held in Saint Paul's Cemetery, Urban, PA.

NEVIN H. WHITCOMB

Bowmansdale Lodge No. 1179

April 4, 2013



Brother Nevin H. Whitcomb, 86, of Mechanicsburg, PA, was initiated into Bowmansdale Lodge #1179 on November 11, 1946 where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree on October 19, 1963.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran of the Korean War and a member of the Shepherdstown United Methodist Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Lois Rowe. Surviving is his son, daughter, four grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Burial was held in Chestnut Hill Cemetery.

RICHARD E. ZEIGLER

Mt. Zion Lodge No. 74

April 11, 2013



Brother Richard E. Zeigler, 85, of Dallastown, PA, was initiated into Dallas Lodge #1017 on March 26, 1953 where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree on November 12, 1966. He then became a member of Dallas Katahdin Lodge #1201, Red Lion, through consolidation on June 23, 1973. During the time of the consolidation, he was the #1201's Secretary and finally became a member of Mt. Zion Lodge #74, York, through consolidation on October 1, 1984. He maintained active membership throughout his tenure and at the time of his death he was the Lodge's current Vice Grand.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran of the Korean Conflict and a member of the Christ Lutheran Church of Dallastown.

Surviving is his wife, the former Mary Hulanick, three children and seven grandchildren.

Burial was held in St. John's Blymire's U.C.C., Dallastown.

GEORGE M. GERNSBACK

Unified Lodge No. 2

April 14, 2013

Brother George M. Gernsback, 87, of White Oak, PA, was initiated into Unified Lodge #2, Pittsburgh, on March 11, 2010, along with his wife, Shirley.

He was a U.S. Army WWII Veteran.

Surviving along with his wife are two daughters and five grandchildren.

Burial was held in Temple Cemetery.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY INTERESTING FACTS:

How many Odd Fellow Lodges were in YOUR County?? Did you ever wonder if your town had an Odd Fellow 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!

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY:

Andreas – Blue Ridge Lodge #1153 – consolidated 1963
 Ashland – Locust Mountain Lodge #538 – defunct 1967
 Auburn – Auburn Lodge #543 – defunct prior to 1923
 Cressona – Herndon Lodge #550 – consolidated 1954
 Delano – Asa Packer Lodge #328 – defunct 1900s
 Donaldson – Donaldson Lodge #382 – consolidated 1949
 Frackville – District Lodge #823 – consolidated 1969
 Friedensburg – Friedensburg Lodge #341 – consolidated 1934
 Gilberton – Gilberton Lodge #420 – consolidated 1928
 Girardville – Aqua Lodge #737 – defunct 1951
 Hegins – Heginsville Lodge #726 – defunct 1949
 Klingerstown – Klingerstown Lodge #637 – defunct 1946
 Lavelle – Danube Lodge #972 – consolidated 1956
 Llewellyn – Llewellyn Lodge #287 – defunct 1861
 Mahanoy City – General Grant Lodge #575 – defunct 1964
 Mahanoy City – Mahanoy City Lodge #617 – consolidated 1925
 Middleport – Middleport Lodge #474 – consolidated 1920
 Minersville – Social Lodge #56 – consolidated 1995
 Minersville – Anthracite Lodge #136 – defunct prior to 1900
New Ringgold – East Brunswick Lodge #802
 Nuremburg – Nuremburg Lodge #1075 – consolidated 1948
 Orwigsburg – Grace Lodge #157 – consolidated 1978
Pine Grove – Pine Grove Lodge #148
 Pitman – Upper Mahantango Lodge #822 (German Lodge) – consolidated 1947
 Port Carbon – Schuylkill Lodge #27 – consolidated 1958
 Pottsville – Miners Lodge #20 – defunct 1974
 Pottsville – Haydn Lodge #44 (German Lodge) – defunct 1951
 Pottsville – Girard Lodge #53 – consolidated 1927
 Pottsville – Lily of the Valley Lodge #281 – defunct 1961
 Ringtown – Ringtown Lodge #287 – defunct 1958
 Rock – Autumn Leaf Lodge #508 – consolidated 1944
 Sacramento – Wiest Lodge #568 – defunct 1861
 Schuylkill Haven – Carroll Lodge #120 – consolidated 1976
 Shenandoah – John W. Stokes Lodge #515 – consolidated 1932
Shenandoah – Shenandoah Lodge #591
 Shenandoah – Plank Ridge Lodge #880 – consolidated 1924
St. Clair – Mineral Lodge #285
 Summit Station – Farmers Lodge #649 – consolidated 1954
Tamaqua – Harmony Lodge #86
 Tamaqua – Ringgold Lodge #318 (German Lodge) – defunct 1900
 Taylorsville – Taylor Lodge #226 – defunct prior 1900
 Tower City – Tower Lodge #755 – consolidated 1955
 Tremont – Tremont Lodge #245 – consolidated 1961
 Tuscarora – Tuscarora Lodge #328 – consolidated 1857
 Valley View – Ellsworth Lodge #568 – consolidated 1964
 West Penn – West Penn Lodge #515 – defunct 1883

= 46 total Lodges with 5 still active

REGINA REBEKAH LODGE #230, SHAMOKIN CONTINUES TO AID COMMUNITY

The Regina Rebekah Lodge #230, Shamokin, Pa. held a craft show on March 16, 2013 to raise monies for the Cancer Care Assistance Foundation. Two of the lodge members on the Ways and Means Committee, Nancy King, Treasurer, and Doris Wheary, Warden, presented Tammy Brumbach a check in the amount of \$750. The Regina Rebekah Lodge #230 members would like to thank

all vendors for their participation in making this event a success, lodge members who helped with their time or monetary donations, all merchants for their donations and a special thank you to Mr. James Brumbach, owner of the building where the event was held. Lodge committee members, Nancy Miller and Carol Collier, were not available for the picture.



HARRISONVILLE LODGE #710 CONSOLIDATES WITH WATERFALL LODGE #773

On April 27th, in a solemn ceremony, Harrisonville Lodge #710 joined in with Waterfall Lodge #773 in order to help cement the remaining Fulton County Lodges. It was truly a bittersweet night as many recollected the pasts of visiting the other few Lodges that were in the county. However, the strong bonds of Brotherhood were felt in Waterfall Hall, and I know this will continue to help this Lodge to grow.



Harrisonville Hall was claimed by PennDot as a project to widen the highway. This hall will soon become a piece of the past.



NG Kevin Mountz (left) of Waterfall #773 shakes hands with NG Clair W. Hawkins (right) of Harrisonville #710 as he welcomes their two Lodges together. Also shown from left to right (front) is Secy Neil D. Rotz #773, Mountz, Hawkins, Secy Bobby Snyder II #710, (back) JrPGM Arthur R. Moyer, GM Justin C. Bailey, GR William L. Ramsey Jr. Not pictures are Acting GMa Tyler M. Arnold #86 and DGM Joseph J. Giebel Jr.

ALLENTOWN RALLY ANOTHER HUGE SUCCESS

Vienna Hall was busting at the seams as the membership in attendance at the 2nd Allentown Rally doubled in size from last year. On April 20th, roughly 150 Odd Fellows and 40 Rebekahs filled the four story temple with a degree of Odd Fellowship and enthusiasm that hasn't been so strong in years. Going through the Odd Fellow Degrees were four initiated, 27 through the 1st Degree, 17 through the 2nd Degree, 15 through the 3rd Degree and 13 welcomed into the Grand Lodge Degree. Conducting the 1st Degree was Lodges from Schuylkill County - Harmony #86 of Tamaqua, Shenandoah #591 and East Brunswick #802 of New Ringgold. The 3rd Degree was conducted by Walker Lodge #306 of Philadelphia. As this was more hectic than last year, the initiatory and 2nd Degrees were both conducted by a mix of members from various Lodges throughout the Jurisdiction. Enough time was given to these members to look over their parts, and they shined! I must give my sincere thanks to all who helped, and I just want to name a few, but there were so many who stepped up and made these a success - my NG's for the initiatory and 2nd Degrees, and officers in the Grand Lodge Degree PGM's E. Keith Harvey, Dale E. Binkley and PG Mike Miller. The Officers of Victory Lodge #658 of Sellersville for their assistance in these Degrees. Brothers George Tufts, Grady Slade, Sherman Wooden, and the members of Cassville for driving the long journey to show your pride! Also, I'd like to commend PDDGM David Wilson and Brother "Bull" for their marching in the 2nd Degree, as well as the outstanding Degree work shown by PDDGM Bill Smedley, DDGM Mike Wallis and Bro Stephen MacPhail as the main actors of this Degree. For those of you who do not know, that was Mike and Steve's first time's doing those parts, and those are ones many of us will never forget. This goes to show how much can be accomplished when everyone works together for the same cause. No matter how big or small your



The newly initiated Scarlet Degree candidates with GM Bailey, GP Thomas and DC Keller. Also at the Rebekah Degree was PRA Judith A. Wert.

Lodge is, it takes the individual members combining to move mountains.

Meanwhile, while we were "crashing through the floorboards," in the floor beneath us, members of Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge #86 of Tamaqua and Lady Hall Rebekah Lodge #202 of Nazareth put together their first (of many I hope) Rebekah Degree as they welcomed four new members into their Branch. Also three Brothers received the Rebekah Assembly Degree. This was the first time these Lodges worked together, and the first time in several years the Rebekahs put on a degree. The motivation shown was great and I hope this to be a continued endeavor.

I am hoping to get more rallies going again. I had several people call and offer their assistance and this goes to show the Lodges are willing to step up to bat. Mistakes were made, as they always were and always will be, but we tried, and Odd Fellowship shown through that day in Allentown. Please consider joining together with your Lodge or District and let's get more days like these again. There again were more Lodges here bringing in members that didn't have any new initiates in years. Keep up the good work and let's keep this going!

*Fraternally Submitted,
Justin C Bailey, Grand Master*



This picture shows how large this temple is and shows how tightly packed we all were.

PRESIDENT, JUDITH A. WERT VISITS



PRESIDENT, JUDITH A. WERT AND STAFF OFFICIAL VISIT TO LADY LILLIE BEST #222 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2013

I had my Official Visit at Lady Lillie Best in Schnecksville. We had a very good meeting with good feed back from the Sisters and Brothers present. They are doing well and had good projects to make money, it was very interesting. We enjoyed wonderful deserts and fellowship after the meeting.

Pictured L to R: Avalion Bossler, Chaplain; Charlene E. Greib, Conductor; Mary D. DeLong, Marshal; Mary J. Landes, Vice President; Judith A. Wert, President; Sarah M. Baer, Secretary Pro Temp; Beverly Miller, Inside Guardian; Peggy Walters, Rebekah Banner Bearer. Also, traveling with us but not pictured Paul Miller and John F. Leshner both from Lady Colfax #182.

PRESIDENT, JUDITH A. WERT AND STAFF OFFICIAL VISIT TO WYSOX #443 MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2013

We traveled to Wysox Rebekah Lodge on Monday, April 15, 2013 and had a very lovely meeting. The Soloist/Pianist sang and played the Presidents songs and they were beautiful. They also very nice readings and a very funny story told by their Chaplain. Sister Peggy Walters, Rebekah Banner Bearer is and Associate Member there and their DDP Phyllis Gilpin was also present. It was a pleasure to visit with them. We had a great lunch after meeting with lots of great fellowship and food.

Pictured L to R: Front Row: Jessie Holzapfel, Warden; Judith A. Wert, President; Sarah M. Baer, Secretary Pro Tem. **Back Row:** Mary D. DeLong, Marshal; Avalion Bossler, Chaplain; Beverly Miller, Inside Guardian; Peggy Walters, Rebekah Banner Bearer; and Charlene E. Grieb, Conductor; also attending but not pictured Paul Miller, Lady Colfax #182.



PRESIDENT, JUDITH A. WERT AND STAFF OFFICIAL VISIT TO FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY #15 TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2013

We had our Official Visit to Faith, Hope and Charity in Lewisburg and had a very nice Meeting. This is the home of Lodge of Cherry Will, Outside Guardian; Kathy Barber, Pennsylvania Flag Bearer adn Molly Criswell, DDP. While this is a small Lodge they do a lot within their community and have good projects to make money for their Lodge. We had an enjoyable fellowship time after the meeting with lots of goodies and home made ice cream. **Pictured L to R:** Avalion Bossler, Chaplain; Charlene E. Grieb, Conductor; Mary D. DeLong, Marshall; Judith A. Wert, President; Kathy Barber, PA Flag Bearer; and Cherry Will, Outside Guardian.



SGM CHARLES L. RENNINGER PAYS A VISIT TO WALKER LODGE #306

On April 15th, Walker Lodge #306 of Philadelphia had the distinguished honor of having an Official Visit by SGM Charles L. Renninger. Also in attendance was PSGM Harry Lohman, Commanding General Retired Joseph M. Strausser of the GMC also of #306, GM Justin C. Bailey, GS Charles H. Bailey, GR Charles M. Shorten, PGM James E. Blaney and DDGM Robert G. Smedley. One of the highlights of

the night was our "beloved" GR Charles M. Shorten being presented the Medallion Award for the long hours he has invested into the UN Pilgrimage for Youth. Congrats Charlie! All in attendance had a great night and welcomed the message that SGM Renninger delivered.

*Fraternally Submitted,
Justin C Bailey, GM*



SGM Renninger addressing the members in attendance.



SGM Renninger presents GR Charles M. Shorten with the Medallion Award for his tireless efforts with the United Nations Pilgrimage.



The members and visitors in attendance.

THE APRIL FOOL REBEKAH

I met a true Rebekah as an April fool. No, not on April 1st but on May 1st, and I am the April fool.

On May 1st, I went hiking with my other half, Joe. Having severe arthritis in my knees, I decided to risk the consequences and enjoy the beauty of the day by hiking. The brochure described it as an easy hike of under 2 miles from Egelman's Park to Antietam Lake on gravity railroad lines. However, our hike was over 5 miles long and the trail steep and rugged. Around the 4 mile mark my knees were screaming and I was complaining relentlessly.

Upon our arrival at Antietam Lake we noticed a wheelchair accessible path and 2 men down by the lake shore fishing. Giving no further thought to them we started to discuss how we would go back to the car. With my knees bothering me, Joe volunteered to hike back to the car and come back for me. While we sat drinking coffee and talking, the one gentleman who had been down at the lake shore approached us. He wanted to know if one of us could help him get his companion back up to the road level from down where he was fishing. Joe, devil that he is, started harassing him about his railroad oriented shirt. When I looked at him. I knew him and his companion's identity. I leaned over to Joe and told him to mind his manners, as the young man that was in need of assistance was a wounded warrior and Brother Neil Thomas was his companion.

Joe went to help Neil and talked to Ed as he assisted with getting him to where Neil could pick him up in his vehicle. Ed was very candid about his circumstances and about what had happened to him as he did his patriotic duty in Afghanistan. As I helped him to remain steady he told me that when he was wounded, all he wanted was to live. He has a wonderful attitude. He was just grateful that he was alive and able to enjoy the beautiful day. Right then and there I knew that I was the April fool for whining about my knee pain, as this patriotic young man has no knees to complain about. My knees work, and at least I have knees that can hurt.

The other thing that I realized is that Brother Neil Thomas is great example of a Rebekah. I believe that with Neil's help our local wounded warrior has a much better outlook on life. I also believe that Neil selflessly contributes much more to this young man's well being than we will ever know. What he does comes straight from his heart. I saw this with my own eyes. I hope you are as thankful to Neil as what I am. Thank you Brother Neil Thomas for the service and kindness that you bestow on this hero.

Sincerely,
Cindy Shollenberger, R#182

Periodical Mail

April Donations

PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE

116	Brady	1,000.00
1152	Wysox	340.00
762	Vincent	200.00
306	Walker	150.00
37	Variety	100.00
86	Harmony	100.00
87	Hopkins	100.00
333	Foster	100.00
380	Mackinaw	100.00
389	Smethport	100.00
573	Sandy Lake	100.00
591	Shenandoah	70.00
936	Alert	50.00
R74	Lady Esther Rebekah	30.00
57	Montgomery-Curtis-Norris	25.00
699	Tunkhannock	25.00
1107	Brushston-Swissvale	25.00
R86	Lady Harmony Rebekah	25.00
R558	Lady Sellers Rebekah	25.00
		<u>2,665.00</u>

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

1128	Fallowfield	53.40
2	Unified	50.00
		<u>103.40</u>

EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND

1128	Fallowfield	133.49
2	Unified	50.00
		<u>183.49</u>

VISUAL RESEARCH

1128	Fallowfield	53.40
2	Unified	50.00
		<u>103.40</u>

UN PILGRIMAGE FOR YOUTH

R58	Idella Rebekah	200.00
R558	Lady Sellers Rebekah	100.00
R15	Faith, Hope & Charity Rebekah	25.00
R182	Lady Colfax Rebekah	25.00
		<u>350.00</u>