



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE

Vol. 88

September 2013

No. 9

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<http://www.glpaoof.org>

BRADY LODGE NO. 116 OUR SEPTEMBER SILVER SPONSOR

NEW FLAGS DEDICATED AT GRAND LODGE OFFICE

Session this year was not all business or fun. It was a time of remembering. Remembering those who had dedicated themselves to our Order. During the week,



Members from #2, l to r - Linda Belford, Joan Bergfelt, Robert Watson, Ted Bergfelt, Donna Faub, George Ann & Bill Hubbs.

members of Unified Lodge #2, Pittsburgh traveled with Grand Secretary Bailey to the office to dedicate the new flags at the office. The Odd Fellow flag purchased in memory of Grand Master Faub was purchased by Marilyn & Vito Urso of #2. The Rebekah Flag also purchased in Ken's memory was purchased by Unified #2. The American flag was purchased by Grand Lodge in memory of Grand Master Faub and PGM's Herman L Schlott Jr and Robert A Vaughn Jr.



GS Bailey raising the American flag.

Places to Go... People to See

* denotes furnished by Planning Board / + denotes details to follow

2013
SEPTEMBER

7 / DDGM Assoc. Mtg., Grand Lodge Boardroom, 1:00 PM
21 / Fall Rally, Sandy Lake, PA *
22 / Orchard Manor Memorial Service
28 / PRA Wert Testimonial, Harrisburg, PA *

OCTOBER

5 / PGP Thomas Testimonial, Shartlesville, PA

2014
APRIL

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

JUNE

23-25 / Unified Session, Harrisburg, PA +

All Lodges are reminded 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.

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name and address and when a change is necessary
be sure to mention the former address.

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.

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FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND MASTER

Fraternal Greetings! I must say I really have been enjoying the visitations around the Jurisdiction. I have met a lot of true Brothers and Sisters and am amazed by the motivation and want for improvement. I will continue to try and help in any way I can. I cannot believe the buzz and chatter in the background of Odd Fellowship about the District Deputy Grand Master's Association! This Association, now under the hand of Sherman F. Wooden (Rush Lodge #471) has seen that spark and now struck the match to relight this fire. Plans are being made for the September 7th meeting at Grand Lodge and this committee is ready to restructure and bring the District's back into one well-oiled machine. The standard attendance for my visitations so far has been roughly 25. Not all from the Lodge I'm visiting, but from Lodges in surrounding districts. I was so impressed to see Members traveling again to these visitations. Keep it up and thank you for the support!

September is here and October is close on its tail. When you hold nominations of officers, remember each Lodge is entitled to Representation at Grand Lodge. Please find a Past Grand who would consider coming out even a day or two during Session and nominate them for either Representative or Alternate Representative. Just because you accept that position does not mean you MUST attend Session, but it can only benefit the Lodge. Finally, the rally is coming up at Sandy Lake as they celebrate their 150th Anniversary. This will be done live this year, so please attend and bring your candidates. There will not be an initiatory degree that day, so if you have a candidate, let me know and I will make sure they can get the degree. The next day is the Orchard Manor Memorial Service. For those of you who were at Session in June, much of our time was taken deciding on the future of the Middletown Home and Grand Lodge's interest in it. GS Bailey also had an article in a few months ago so many of you know this is a "hot topic". It is with sadness I come to the conclusion that about 90% of the membership don't even care about the Homes, both of them. Before everyone blows a cork at me... how did I come to this conclusion? People cared at Session... the Annual Home Reps meeting was well attended... How about the Home Days? This is YOUR Home, were you there? Was your Lodge represented? Did your Brother or Sister sit there with no visitors from their own Lodge? These picnics would be nothing if it weren't for the Directors allowing employees to bring their families. Then very few Odd Fellows and Rebekahs, taking out those committee members who met that day, State Officers and Home Board Members, show up. I can probably count on both hands those who were at both picnics combined. Bring your family to these picnics! Visit your Lodge Brother or Sister who resides in these Homes! The Home Days are gone for 2013, the only thing left is the Memorial Services. Prove me wrong Brothers and Sisters, show up to the Orchard Manor Memorial Service on September 22nd to honor those who have gone before us. I promise you all it is worthwhile attending! I will have the date for the Middletown Home service finalized soon enough. Prove me wrong there too. Show you care about the Homes by showing your support to their Odd Fellow Functions!

Again, I will close with saying, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to call and I will do my best to help out, whether it be holding a school of instruction or degree or helping to clean a Lodge Hall. Do what you can to get back out to your Lodge and every member helps! I look forward to seeing you all on the road. Be that spark that will reignite a passion!

*Fraternally,
Justin C. Bailey, your Grand Master*

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

Clover Lodge No. 348, Ambridge
David Carlson – initiated June 11th

Mt. Hor Lodge No. 736, Cassville
Glenn Werner – initiated July 26th
Cody D. Booker – initiated July 26th

Lady Harmony Rebekah Lodge #86, Tamaqua
Samantha J. Drust – initiated July 17th

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

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

25 YEARS

Roger Zimmerman - #148
Larry Skinner - #457

30 YEARS

Donald McCartney - #510

45 YEARS

Jack Lentz - #541

50 YEARS

Paul Semmel - #192
Theodore Tomlinson - #1152

55 YEARS

Jay McCoy - #380

60 YEARS

Raymond Carr - #290
William Bennett - #847
Charles Metz - #1152



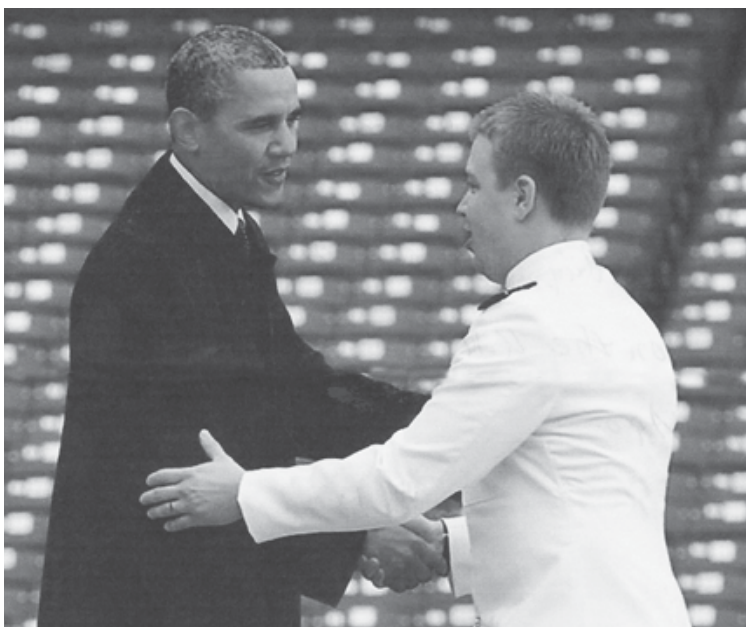
MIDDLETOWN FLAG RAISING

Perseverance Encampment # 135 of Philadelphia presented an I.O.O.F. flag to The Middletown Home on Tuesday, July 16, 2013 just prior to the monthly Board of Directors meeting. The flag was raised with members of the Board, employees and Home residents present for the ceremony. Grand Master, Justin Bailey was also present at the ceremony. The new flag has a place of honor outside the renovated front entrance and can be seen clearly from Route 230 flying beside the Flag of our Country as you drive along the road.



FORMER UN CANDIDATE RECEIVED MUCH HIGHER HONOR

Secretary of Mt. Zion Lodge #74, York, PA is proud to boast his Great-grandson Alex King received congratulations from his Commander-in-Chief, US President Barack Obama at his May 24th graduation from the Naval Academy. Alex was one of our UN Candidates six years ago. It is nice to see where our students end up, Congratulations Alex & Brother Wayne.



MEET YOUR GRAND LODGE APPOINTED OFFICERS

Gary R. Hallock, Grand Conductor of the Grand Lodge of PA, I.O.O.F., was initiated into Lewisburg Lodge #96, Lewisburg on November 11, 1991 and received his three degrees that same weekend at the Dist. 14 Rally held in Pottsville, PA. He became active from the start. He excelled through the chairs and became a Past Grand of the Lodge, Oct. 25, 1993 and received his Grand Lodge Degree Apr. 19, 1994. He was installed in 1994 as Secretary and served until 2010 when was installed as Treasurer a position he still holds. He is a member of the Tri-County Past Grands Assn. and held the offices of President and Secretary. He also is a member of Faith, Hope & Charity Rebekah Lodge #15. Gary married Gloria Erdley in 1967 but she passed to a greater life in 1993. They had one daughter Susan, however she went to be with her mother in 2008. Gary then married his current wife Deborah in 1996, he has two step children Heather and Chris and five grandchildren. He is a member of Dreisbach U.C.C. Welcome aboard Gary !!!



CAMP JRA

Camp JRA was held from Sunday, July 14th through Friday, July 19, 2013. Some of the Arthritis Committee members made our annual trip up to Camp JRA. Sue Trudnak of Thalia Lodge met us there and brought along table decorations as well as their now famous Sundaes on Sunday. The campers (and staff) really look forward to this fun time on opening day. This year's theme was "Heroes" and red, white and blue were the colors for the day and many were dressed in those colors. **Western PA members** – do you see anyone you know in the accompanying picture? This year there were 31 campers who arrived from the Pittsburgh area by bus. Camp JRA had 24 campers from Western PA in 2012, 32 in 2011, and 23 in both 2009 and 2010, so the western part of the state is surely involved. Now that they use the bus to bring in the group, they always need help with chaperone coverage for the trip as camp starts and camp ends. A bus also comes from the Philadelphia area.

A good way to volunteer if you are able

We are trying to encourage your help in the activities the three PA Arthritis chapters run. The Western and Central PA Chapters are reorganizing and from what we've heard, they are very interested in nurturing the IOOF/Arthritis bonds. Fall will begin more activities at the Chapter level and these will include walks as well as the Jingle Bell Runs as the Holiday time nears. We need to continue our efforts to help those affected by arthritis with our time and financial support. Volunteer to help with registrations at an event. Use your talents in some way to help



VOLUNTEER!

The addresses and phone numbers of the three PA Chapters are below. Call and make a commitment to help.

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 15220
412-566-1645

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

THANK YOU

Dear PA Odd Fellow-Rebekah Education Fund,

I'd like to thank you so much for considering me for your scholarship. I feel extremely honored and flattered that I was chosen out of a large group of students. Thank you to you and the education fund for offering this wonderful opportunity. I can't tell you enough how much I appreciate your decision in choosing me as one of the recipients. Thanks again!!

Sincerely, Rachel Bossler

I want to thank you so much for your generous scholarship to help me with my sophomore year at the University of Pittsburgh. I am so excited to continue my studies and your gift is a big help in making that possible.

My father has been an Odd Fellow member for over 30 years so receiving your scholarship means a lot to me.

Thank you for picking me as a recipient of your scholarship. Please thank the entire scholarship committee. I will work hard again this year to keep on track to achieving my goals.

Sincerely, Aidan Hood-Betts

Dear Odd Fellow Members,

Thank you for the generous scholarship. This is a tremendous help toward my fall semester at Gwynedd Mercy College. The scholarship is a great aid in furthering my nursing education. Thank you again for your generosity and support.

Sincerely, Lauren Manjardi

COMMITTEE GATHERS TO INVESTIGATE POTENTIAL MEMBER

Pictured in front l to r - Darlene Bond, Dave Young, PGM Dale Binkley & Laura Bailey. back l to r - PGM Bob Gumbert, Vera Crump (our leader) & GS Charlie Bailey, made their annual drive to dine on the river at Duke's in Wormleysburg during the week of session. This has been going on for years and although the group is getting smaller we still enjoy the time to get together, reminisce & laugh of the good old days. In an effort to see that this too doesn't go by the way side, Brother Young, nominee for Grand Warden and son-in-law of the late PGM Clyde Barger was investigated as potential member. Session is the greatest way to bond as Brothers and Sisters throughout the jurisdiction and make life long friendships.



OBITUARIES

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

GEORGE W. WHITE
Nucleus Lodge No. 377
May 20, 2013

Brother George W. White, 92, of Elrama, PA, was initiated into Advance Lodge #697, Elrama, on May 7, 1952. He then became a member of Nucleus Lodge #377, Finleyville, through consolidation on December 11, 1976. At the time of his death, he was Nucleus Lodge #377's oldest tenured member.

He was a WWII U.S. Army Air Corps Veteran and a member of the First United Methodist Church in Monongahela.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Gail Dowler and one son. Surviving are two daughters, one son, nine grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Monongahela Cemetery.

GLENN R. KARNES
Connoquenessing Lodge No. 278
June 16, 2013



Brother Glenn R. Karnes, 85, of Parker, PA, was initiated into Lawrenceburg Lodge #782, Parkers Landing, on November 2, 1956 where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree on March 13, 1960. He then became a member of Connoquenessing Lodge #278, Butler, through consolidation on September 12, 1978.

He was a member of the Parker United Methodist Church. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth Heisel. Burial was held in Perryville Cemetery, Parker, PA.

BANKS F. WILLHIDE
Bowmansdale Lodge No. 1179
June 20, 2013



Brother Banks F. Willhide, 90, of Carlisle, PA, was initiated into Carlisle Lodge #91 on May 1, 1950. He then became a member of Bowmansdale Lodge #1179 through consolidation on August 19, 1991. He was a Past Grand.

He was a U.S. Army WWII Veteran and a member of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carlisle.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Helena Wagner. Surviving is a stepdaughter, three grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Cumberland Valley memorial Gardens, Carlisle, PA.

JOHN A.C. KINDIG
Mt. Zion Lodge No. 74
July 4, 2013



Brother John A.C. Kindig, 88, of York, PA, was initiated into Mt. Zion Lodge #74, York, on May 20, 1946 where he became a Past Grand on October 7, 2002.

He was a U.S. Army WWII Veteran.

Surviving is his wife, Mary, two children and five grandchildren.

Burial was held in Mt. Rose Cemetery.

GEORGE L. WOLFORD
Malvern-Pocahontas Lodge No. 201
July 5, 2013

Brother George L. Wolford, 89, of Kennett Square, PA, was initiated into New Century Lodge #1122, Kennett Square, on February 13, 1963. He then became a member of West Chester-Pocahontas Lodge #42, West Chester, through consolidation on July 25, 1967 and finally a member of Malvern-Pocahontas Lodge #201, Malvern, through consolidation on December 19, 1988. He held the rank of Past Grand.

Surviving is his wife, the former Agnes Rhoades, two daughters, four grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Burial was private.

HAROLD E. ROELANDS
Wysox Lodge No. 1152
July 6, 2013

Brother Harold E. "Harry" Roelands, 82, of Wysox, PA, was initiated into Wysox Lodge #1152 on February 3, 1987 where he held active membership and assisted with the Lodge's recycling program and nursing scholarship program.

He was a Korean War Veteran.

Surviving is his wife, the former Judy Sandt, two sons and two daughters.

Burial was private.

LIONEL R. BECK
Paoli Lodge No. 290
July 7, 2013

Brother Lionel R. Beck, 90, of Coatesville, PA, was initiated into Star of Hope Lodge #199, Coatesville, on April 23, 1945. He then became a member of Paoli Lodge #290, Downingtown, through consolidation on November 17, 2005.

He was a member of the Olivet Methodist Church, Coatesville.

Surviving is his wife, Emma, one daughter, one son and four grandchildren.

Burial was private.

J. MARTY WERTZ

Strasburg Lodge No. 361
July 9, 2013



Brother J. Marty Wertz, 66, of Strasburg, PA, was initiated into Strasburg Lodge #361, on June 23, 1969.

He was a Purple Heart Marine Corps Veteran.

Surviving is his wife, the former Fay Rinier, one son, two daughters, eleven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

ROBERT J. SMITH

Thistle Lodge No. 512
July 10, 2013

Brother Robert J. Smith, 93, Brook, PA, was initiated into Lackawanna Lodge #291, Scranton, on January 13, 1967 where he became a Past Grand. He then became a member of Thistle Lodge #512, Pittston, through consolidation on June 14, 1999 and received his Grand Lodge Degree on March 19, 2001.

He was a U.S. Army WWII POW Veteran and a member of the North Pocono Bible Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Audrey M. Evans. Surviving is one daughter, one son and three grandchildren.

Burial was held in Fairview Memorial Park, Elmhurst.

ROY B. BESTOW

Montgomery-Curtis-Norris Lodge No. 57
July 18, 2013

Brother Roy B. Bestow, 79, of Lansdale, PA, was initiated into Montgomery-Curtis-Norris Lodge #57, Norristown, on January 17, 1972.

He was a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran, having served in the Korean War.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Nancy Pederson. Surviving are four children.

Burial was held in Whitmarsh Memorial Park.

CLARK L. KRONK

Clover Lodge No. 348
July 25, 2013



Brother Clark L. Kronk, 93, of Beaver, PA, was initiated into Edith Lodge #812, Freedom, on October 9, 1941. He then became a member of Clover Lodge #348 through consolidation on October 1, 2008. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest tenured member.

He was a WWII U.S. Army Air Corps Veteran and a member of the Beaver United Methodist Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Elsie Snead. Surviving are three daughters, one son, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held in Beaver United Methodist Church.

RONALD A. LINT SR.

General Worth Lodge No. 386
July 27, 2013

Brother Ronald A. Lint, Sr., 74, of Mt. Pleasant, PA, was initiated into General Worth Lodge #386, Connellsville, on April 4, 1989 where he became a Past Grand on November 21, 1992.

He was a member of the Otterbein United Methodist Church of Connellsville.

Surviving is his wife, the former Verna M. Ulery, two children, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge and entombment was held in Green Ridge Memorial Park Mausoleum.

JAMES W. SEYLER

Past Grand Guardian
Mt. Zion Lodge No. 74
Mt. Vernon Encampment #14/ York Canton #14
July 29, 2013



Brother James W. Seyler, 90, of York, PA, was initiated into Mt. Zion Lodge #74, York, on January 16, 1956 where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree on April 19, 1971. He held the position of Grand Guardian for PGM Stewart L. Brenneman from 2007-2008. He was a Patriarch of Mt. Vernon Encampment #14, having been initiated March 28, 1983 and receiving his Grand Encampment Degree November 14, 1987. He also was a Chevalier, having been mustered July 24, 2000 into Philadelphia Canton #1 and later transferring to become a charter member of York Canton #14.

He was a U.S. Army WWII Veteran and a member of the Christ Lutheran Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Fairy R. Hamme. Surviving are two sons, two grandchildren and one great granddaughter. His son, Jerry, and grandson, Ryan are also members of Mt. Zion Lodge #74.

Burial was held in Manchester Union Cemetery.

HATS OFF

to Pennsylvania, the latest SGL figures are in and we moved from 4th to 2nd place for membership in the U.S. and Canada with a total of 33 new Odd Fellows. Let's work for first, California is in first with 58. Also a big Kudos to the Rebekah Lodges, they are also in 2nd place with 11 members, Kansas is in 1st with 12. REMEMBER you need to report these new members to the jurisdictions secretary in order for us to get the credit. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.

BRADY LODGE #116, THIS ISSUES SILVER SPONSOR

Brady Lodge #116 was chartered in the town of Muncy, County of Lycoming on the 16th day of June, 1845. Years ago they sold their hall and have now moved to 745 Rt. 405 Hwy., Suite 1, Hughesville. Aside from the support of the Lodge toward your Magazine, **the Grand Lodge gratefully acknowledges the donation of \$2,500.00 from them toward the purchase of new computers and software.** Members, Grand Lodge needed and voted to accept purchasing the same as well as the continued support of the magazine, just so you realize how donations like this keep your per capita from increasing, THANKS AGAIN BROTHERS !!

BRADY LODGE #116 MEMBERS

Italic denotes Past Grand

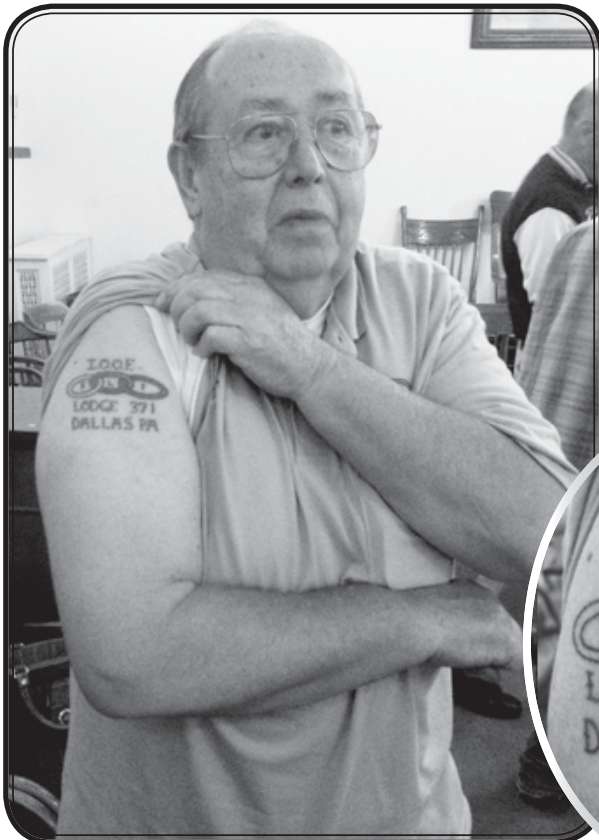
* denotes current District Deputy Grand Master

ANDERSON, Robert
ARTLEY, James
AYRTON, Denny
BAUMER, Kenneth
BILGER, James
BURKHOLDER, Clint
COOPER, Clarence
COTNER, David
DANLEY, *Arthur*
DANLEY, Charles
Donofrio, Thomas
ENTZ, *Walter*
FENSTERMAKER, *Frank*
FETTER, James

FIESTER, *Fred*
GOULD, Stanley
HARDESTY, *Robert*
HARVEY, Collin
HARVEY, Corey
HELMS, Richard
JOHNSON, Michael
KING, Joshua
KOLTZ, Keegan
KREHEL, Michael
MacPHAIL, Stephen
McCLEMONS, Paul
OHMNEISS, *Rickey*
PETERMAN, *Larry*

PETERMAN, Lewis
POUST, Steven
RODKEY, Steven
SELTZER, Nicholas
SMEDLEY, *William E.*
SMEDLEY, William P.
SMITH, Allen
TREESE, Jeff
* WALLIS, *Michael*
WALTMAN, Jeffrey
WERTMAN, Byron
WHITAKER, Johnny
ZEISLOFT, Roy
ZEISLOFT, Wesley

DEDICATION & PRIDE



I have seen so much on my travels the past few years. Some good and some bad; some things have really touched me and opened my eyes on the true side of Odd Fellowship. That brought me to a Brother by the name of Peter Hallam of Oneida Lodge #371 in Dallas. He was initiated and advanced to the third degree at our first Allentown Rally in May of 2012. I found out he was from a long line of Odd Fellows and had a great interest in this Order. However, it took him until the age of 70 to join. When I saw him afterwards, he said he had something to show me and then lifted up his sleeve. What I saw was impressive. Now you must realize, this gentleman has no other tattoos... it took him 70 years to

get his first tattoo. He was so enthused in this great Fraternal Body that he decided to carry it with him forever. That, is true dedication. He has since told me another IOOF tattoo is coming up also, I'm figuring it will be a portrait of the Grand Master! His Lodge has warned him though, that if he were to get suspended, they'll have to take his arm too! Congrats Brother Pete and may you continue to be an inspiration to those you meet!

*Fraternally,
Justin C Bailey, Grand Master*



SESSION SPONSORS ACKNOWLEDGED

The Unified Session Committee would like to thank the major sponsoring Lodges who supported this years Unified Session. Without their help, our goal to have a first rate annual

gathering would have not been received. Our apologies to Hampton Lodge #1004, this years Credential sponsors, they left with the sign before a picture could be captured.



(Brady) DDGM Mike Wallis & Secy. Bill Smedley.



(Perseverance) Bob & Nancy Tucker and Charlie & Jane Danihel.

KNOEBELS 2013...WOW!

I only have 2 words for this year's Odd Fellow and Rebekah Picnic and they are "Wow" and "Thanks"! Each year the number of those attending the picnic at Knoebels Grove in Elysburg has gone up, but this year was a complete surprise even to me. The weather was beautiful, sunny and dry for most of the day. Although it was hot, it was not the oppressive heat of the week before. It was the perfect day for a picnic and our brothers and sister sure know how to have a picnic! We served a whopping 258 meals and had

close to 300 people! This year in addition to the adult's meal, we offered a kid's meal of chicken tenders, macaroni and cheese and, of course, ice cream for dessert. Everyone who attended, children and adults, got a raffle ticket for a chance to win one of four baskets. The first included all the things to keep your car clean and running well. The second was a garden set complete with flower bulbs and pots. Third, we had a family BBQ basket with plates, grilling utensil and some treats. Lastly, we had the kid's basket

loaded up with all the goodies a kid needs to have a fun summer. As an added surprise, each basket included a few books of ride tickets. All kids received a bottle of bubbles and the pavilion looked like it was going to float away with all the bubbles in the air! If you missed it this year, make plans to attend next year. It was a great day to come together for some fellowship. Thank you to all who attended and made the day possible and thank you to the people at Knoebels who do such a great job taking care of us.

*Yours in Friendship,
Love and Truth,
Mary Giebel,
Planning Board Secretary*



SESSION FUN NITE TURNS TO A FEUD



Session Chm. Tom McHugh & members of Thalia Rebekah work hard again to make Session Fun Nite a success. This years theme was based on the popular TV show Family Feud. *Editors observation: Note they pitted the Grand Master and his wife against each other.*



ANNUAL UN PILGRIMAGE A SUCCESS

Students sponsored by various lodges met in Middletown on July 4th for a send-off to their trip as part of the IOOF United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth. After welcoming remarks and a delicious luncheon, the group headed to Gettysburg to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. From there it was a whirlwind 13 day tour of the historical sites in Philadelphia, Washington, DC, New York City, Boston and Salem Massachusetts, and various spots in Canada including Niagara Falls. They returned safe and sound on July 16th and a good time was had by all.



The UN Pilgrimage Students gather for a group photo before heading out on their big adventure.



Grand Master Justin C. Bailey discusses his experience as a UN Pilgrimage Participant with some of the students before they depart on their trip.



Students get last minute instructions from UN Pilgrimage Committee co-chair PGM Tom McHugh (former "Pop" on the tour)



UN Pilgrimage Committee co-chair Sarah Baer, Rebekah Past President Judy Wert and Rebekah Assembly President Mary Landis stand at the ready to make sure the students have everything they need before they head to the bus.

2013 MIDDLETOWN HOME DAY A SUCCESS



ON THE ROAD WITH GRAND MASTER JUSTIN



GM Bailey & Staff with Brothers of Harmony Lodge #86 and Shenandoah Lodge #591 - 25 Members Present.



GM Bailey & Staff with Brothers of Metropolitan Lodge #150.



GM Bailey & Staff with Brothers of Strasburg Lodge #361 and Earl Lodge #413 - great turnout of support!



GM Bailey & Staff Commissioning DDGM Harvey at Oneida Lodge #371 with Brother os Askam Lodge #899 present. 25 members in attendance. Great turnout!



GM Bailey & Staff along with Rebekah Assembly officers welcoming new member Samantha Drust as their Lodge also conferred the Rebekah Degree this night.



GM Bailey & Staff with Ernestine Rebekah Lodge #548. They are reactivating and doing a great job on securing a future in Rush! Keep up the good work!

ON THE ROAD WITH GRAND PATRIARCH JIM



GP Sellers makes his first official visit to Mt. Vernon Encampment, York, PA

ENCAMPMENT RALLY SCHEDULED

GREETINGS PATRIARCHS;

A Degree Rally will be held at the hall of Walker Lodge #306, IOOF, 1290 Southampton Road, Philadelphia, PA, on Saturday, October 12th, 2013, beginning at 10:30 AM. The Rally will be hosted by Perseverance Encampment #135 and the Grand Encampment of PA.

The schedule will be as follows:

- 10:30 AM – Patriarchal Degree
- 12:00 PM – Lunch
- 1:30 PM – Golden Rule Degree
- 3:00 PM – Royal Purple Degree
- 4:00 PM – Special Session Limited (if needed)

Encampments who are interested in attending the Rally with candidates should please contact me directly prior to September 28th. at the following:

Email : creinhart@comcast.net
Phone : 610-374-9005
Cell : 610-301-5128

My mailing address is : 1615 Locust Street, Reading, PA, 19604.

A letter with forms for listing candidates will also be sent to all Encampments in the Jurisdiction.

Fraternally in F. H. & C.,

Craig R. Reinhart, Grand Scribe

Chairman, PA Grand Encampment Degree Work Committee

The Grand Lodge "Visual Research Committee" requests your support for the following two events benefiting "The Curing Retinal Blindness Foundation" – Bike the Basin & The Fore Sight Classic Golf Tournament.



Michael and Mitchell Smedley, have the CRB1 gene of Leber's Congenital Amaurosis (LCA). LCA is the most severe form of degenerative retinal disease: the cells of the retina die every day until there are no more working cells to send messages from the eyes to the brain. Both of the boys were born with less than 10% of the vision of a typically sighted person and they are likely to be in complete darkness by their late teens/early twenties. Michael just turned 13... the clock is ticking.

These boys are remarkable young guys and rarely let blindness stop them from chasing their dreams. But even with the best adaptations and efforts, many of their dreams are fading as their vision fades: Michael's dream of becoming a pitcher, even just for a little league team, is gone: he can't safely play baseball anymore. Mitchell's dream of being a great soccer goalie on a team with his buddies is gone: he can't safely play on the same field as sighted kids anymore. Driving a car, a dream they both have, is getting further from possible every day that there is no treatment to reverse their vision loss.

It is treatments that the Curing Retinal Blindness Foundation is working toward! The Smedley Family is leading the CRBF a mission to connect funding with CRB1 gene specific research to bring treatments to Michael and Mitchell and the other CRB1 kids. With enough funding, multiple treatments may very well be available before the Smedley boys lose the minimal vision they have, and ultimately, hopefully, the vision lost will be restored so Michael can suit up again for baseball, Mitchell can get back on that soccer field, and they can argue with their parents about driving privileges!

The money raised from BIKE THE BASIN will go directly to retinal research. This research that the Curing Retinal Blindness Foundation is coordinating and funding is not just general research: it is specific to Michael and Mitchell's gene that is causing their blindness. And in order to maximize the money raised, ALL of the families involved in moving this mission forward are volunteers!

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE! DONATIONS APPRECIATED! To learn more about how to support this event, please visit the website at www.bikethebasin.org or email curingretinalblindness@gmail.com

Note: for information on how you can support or participate in the "Fore Sight Classic Golf Tournament" held on October 8th at the Spring Mill Country Club in Ivyland PA, click on the associated tab on www.bikethebasin.org.

"What's different and special about this event is that it is FOR kids, BY kids. And not only does it raise awareness for retinal diseases, but it gets kids active and it teaches them bike safety."

Merrill Reese, voice of the Philadelphia Eagles

ORCHARD MANOR 22nd ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC JULY 13, 2013



Resident Clare O'Brien visits with her family.



Resident Gail Bestwick shows the balloon corsage she had made at the picnic.



Resident Kate Bachmeyer and her friend Lloyd.



Resident Shirley Baker with her husband on the Sunshine Way patio.



Resident George Hunter spends some time with his daughter, Liz.



Resident Edna Montgomery and her husband, Bud.



Resident Kathryn Hockenberry and her daughter, Jean.



Resident Audrey Wilson waves to the camera.



Resident Irene Boyer and friend.



Resident Melissa McCoy enjoys the picnic with her family



Resident Lynette Dallas, with Davey bear and Activity Aide Twila Vogel.



Resident Sydell Rehbein gets a visit from her family.



Resident Isabelle Sweetapple along with her daughter, Marsha.



Resident Philip Haag and some of his family



Residents George and Virginia Taylor love being outside at the picnic.



Resident Dot McConnell with her husband and former Resident, Bob.



Resident Ruth McKinley with some of her family members



Resident Marilyn King and her husband, Gene.



Resident Shirley Attridge and her granddaughter

MERCER 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!

MERCER COUNTY:

Charleston – White Oak Lodge #569 – defunct prior 1900s
 Clark – Cressona Lodge #349 – defunct 1882
 Clarksville – Lacon Lodge #349 – defunct 1851
 Farrell – Misbeth Lodge #59 – consolidated 1971
 Fredonia – Eulalia Lodge #818 – consolidated prior 1900s
 Fredonia – Bessemer Lodge #1110 – consolidated 1980
 Greenville – Alhambria Lodge #293 – consolidated 1974
 Grove City Lodge #910 – consolidated 1996
 Hamburg – Eilert Lodge #582 – defunct prior 1900s
 Hendersonville – Worth Lodge #554 – consolidated 1975
 Jackson Center Lodge #771 – defunct prior 1900s
 Jamestown Lodge #421 – defunct 1928
 Mercer Lodge #323 – defunct 1946
 Mercer – West Central Lodge #33 – consolidated 1963
 New Castle – Shenango Lodge #195 – consolidated 1961
 New Hamburg – Lowango Lodge #1022 – consolidated 1985
 New Virginia Lodge #841 – defunct 1906
 Pine Grove – Wolf Creek Lodge #910 – defunct prior 1900s
Sandy Lake Lodge #573 – Happy 150th!!!
 Sharon Lodge #347 – consolidated 2008
 Sharon – Calvin Lodge #577 (German) – defunct prior 1900s
 Sharpsville – Adoniram Lodge #739 – consolidated 2008
 Sheakleyville – William G. Brown Lodge #592 – *changed name to below*
 Sheakleyville Lodge #592 – consolidated 2002
 Stoneboro Lodge #501 – consolidated 1972
 West Middlesex Lodge #593 – consolidated 1992
 Wheatland Lodge #174 – consolidated 1928

= 27 total Lodges with 1 still active

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

RUSH #471 JOINS COMMUNITY IN CELEBRATING OUR INDEPENDENCE

The members of Rush Lodge #471, Lawton, PA joined the city of Montrose to celebrate the 4th of July. During the parade and the afternoon the members held their annual bar-b-que to raise funds for their Lodge. Ike Wooden & NG Grady Slade manned the grill to make burger & dogs. PGM Arnold & Tom Wooden took the orders and Sherman & Cindy Wooden, Ralph & Russell Very & Bob Schumarcher made the orders up & served.

right: Brother Ike making sure the dogs don't roll away.



above: NG Grady flipping the burgers.

right: PGM Alton & Bro. Tom ready to take your order.



MERCER LODGE #323

Here, left, lies the old Lodge to Mercer Lodge No. 323 - in the town of Mercer, County seat to Mercer. Located directly to the left of the town square in which the County Building is located. This Lodge instituted 165 years ago this past July and held firm until they went defunct in 1946. They reorganized as West Central Lodge #33 in 1949 and consolidated again in 1963. Through various consolidations, they ended up in Fallowfield Lodge #1128, Crawford County.



COME VISIT THE GRAND MASTER

Grand Master Bailey has scheduled the following visits for September.

I am sure he would appreciate seeing you there.

5 – Charleroi #1030 – 1PM /
Bruston Swissvale #1107 – 8PM

9 – Somerset #438 – 7:30PM

12 – Vincent #762 – 7:30PM

16 – Henry Disston #8 – 8PM

17 – Last Esther R#74 – 7PM /
Tunkhannock #699 – 8PM

20 – Ridgway #969 – 8PM

21 – Fall Rally, Sandy Lake – 10AM

22 – Orchard Manor Memorial Service – 2PM

23 – Lititz #1050 – 7:30PM

28 – PPRA Wert Testimonial – 6:30PM

Periodical Mail

July Donations

PA SPECIAL VISUAL ASSISTANCE

R123	Phoebe Rebekah	25.00
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CRB – 1 FUND

R30	Salome Rebekah	25.00
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VISUAL RESEARCH

1128	Fallowfield	53.40
2	Unified	50.00
562	Newburg	25.00
		128.40

UN PILGRIMAGE FOR YOUTH

Rebekah Assembly Collection	137.25
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ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

1128	Fallowfield	53.40
2	Unified	50.00
471	Rush – R. Very	10.00
		113.40

CAMP JRA

Phyllis Shakley		
	in Memory of J. Wallace Shakley	100.00
371	Oneida	50.00
1004	Hampton	50.00
		200.00

EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND

1128	Fallowfield	133.49
2	Unified	50.00
		183.49