



PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH MAGAZINE

Vol. 92

May 2017

No. 5

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



MEMORIAL DAY



HONOR THE DEAD



Places to Go ... People to See

2017

MAY

5-7 / Tomb of the Unknowns, Arlington, VA

JUNE

3 / Grand Encampment Brd Mtg & Degree Rally,
Johnstown*+

4 / 9th Ann'l Clover Lodge Golf Outing+
17 - 21 / Unified Session

JULY

15 / Fun Day, Knoebel's Grove, Elysburg*(pg11)

AUGUST

5 / State College #1032 125th Anniv.,
State College, PA*+

SEPTEMBER

23 / PPRA Mansberry Testimonial,
Uniontown, PA *+

OCTOBER

21 / PGM Young Testimonial, Somerset, PA*+

** On the second Sunday of each month, at
1:00PM, year round, Centre Lodge #153 of
Bellefonte is still conducting their Music Jams!

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

The Pennsylvania Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine

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OF ODD FELLOWS**
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in next month's issue.

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

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

General Worth Lodge No. 386, Connellsville
Gary Weaver – initiated February 18th

Rush Lodge No. 471
Raymond H. Mayerzak – initiated February 24th

Thistle Lodge No. 512, Pittston
Patrick Tool – initiated March 27th
Carmen DeBella
Leonard Pribula
Ron Faraday

Kingwood Lodge No. 1010
Justin Peck – initiated April 6th
Jason Clevenger
Brandon Younklin

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

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

25 YEARS

David Clemens, #207
George E. Williams, #1004

45 YEARS

Miles E. Weidman, #57

55 YEARS

Francis A. Butkus, #141

60 YEARS

William H. Bauer, #708

70 YEARS

Paul W. Crosby, #510

125 YEARS

Falls Creek Lodge #957

145 YEARS

East Brunswick Lodge #802

I'd like to apologize to Michael J. Mitchell, DDGM#306. He was put in for 40 years last month, which he does not have quite yet. He's only been in 33 years. Sorry!

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND MASTER

We have all hear the old saying, "April showers bring May flowers". But what do April snowflakes bring? We had some below normal temperatures for the first week of April. It even snowed for the Pirates home opener. Well at least it was cooler in Allentown for the degree rally. I want to thank our Grand Secretary, Department Commander, and Past Grand Master, Justin C. Bailey, for once again taking charge and organizing such a great event. I would like to welcome our new members and encourage them to attend as many lodge meeting as they can; and to visit other lodges if possible. Take a look at the lodges in your district and take a couple members with you for a visit. If I am visiting your lodge, or a lodge close to you, come on over and enjoy the evening with us.

In April, I had the opportunity to visit the Grand Lodge of Ohio, along with Grand Marshall Dyzak. It is always nice to visit not only the lodges in your jurisdiction, but also another jurisdiction's Grand Lodge Session, if you are able.

This month is the IOOF Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns at the Arlington National Cemetery. This year's wreath laying ceremony will take place on Sunday, May 7th. As your Grand Master, I plan on attending this solemn ceremony to represent the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. If you have never been to Arlington on the day of the wreath laying ceremony, try to make the trip this year. I am sure it is an event that you will never forget.

Take a look at my schedule for May, and come out and join me and my officers if you are able. We would love to see you.

Fraternally,

David A. Young, Grand Master

COME VISIT THE GRAND MASTER

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

- 2 - Metropolitan #150 - 7:30PM
- 7 - Tomb of the Unknowns, Arlington, VA
- 10 - Pine Grove #148 & Mineral #285 @ 148 - 7:30PM
- 17 - Brady #116 - 7:30PM
- 21 - Unified Session Meeting, Harrisburg Red Lion
- 22 - Lititz #1050 - 7:30PM
- 24 - White Haven #457 - 7:30PM

COME VISIT THE ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT

President Mansberry has scheduled the following visit for May. I am sure she would appreciate seeing you there.

- 1 - District Meeting, Lady Colfax #182 OV, 7:00PM (Dinner @ 6)
- 5 - Consolidation Lady Esther #74 w/ Ernestine #548 @ #548, 7:00PM
- 17 - Maud #175 OV, 1:00PM
- 25 - Regina #230 OV, 2:00PM

EAST BRUNSWICK LODGE #802 HONORS MEMBERS

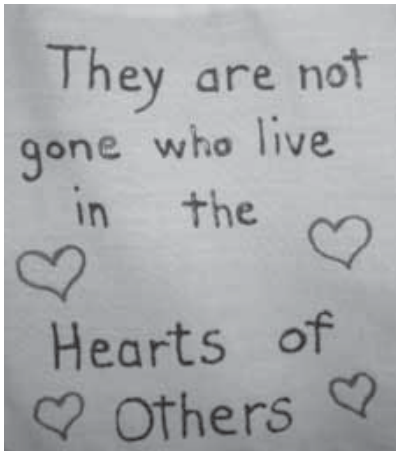


Recently, the Brothers of East Brunswick Lodge #802, New Ringgold, presented a 60 year pin to PG Daniel Freeman, who was initiated November 8, 1956.

Grand Master Young presents PG Robert C. Dunn with his 55 year pin, having been initiated March 27, 1962.

Brother Ed Folk was also honored with his 30 year pin (see Grand Master's visit on page 6).

MIDDLETOWN HOME MEMORIAL SERVICE



On March 23, 2017, family and friends gathered at Middletown Home to hold a Memorial Service for our beloved residents that have gone to the Lord this past year. The chapel was alive with singing, beautiful flowers, and the cherished memories of loved ones being remembered. Pastor Dan gave words of comfort and encouragement, and provided booklets to bring hope and courage to those who need it. Lou Vogel read the names of each individual, as a bell was rung, and a flower was presented to a friend or family member. The Middletown Choir sang "In the Garden" to commemorate their dearly loved friends. The residents also presented a hand-made quilt with quotes and pictures decorating it. After a closing hymn and a prayer of encouragement, the gathering moved to the dining room where a lavish spread of food was supplied by the kitchen staff. Food, memories, encouragement, and laughter continued to be shared well into the evening.

BERKS 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!

BERKS COUNTY:

Bernville – Bernville Lodge #122 – consolidated 1976

Birdsboro – Neversink Lodge #514 – defunct 2008

Blandon – Blandon Lodge #1084 – consolidated 1940

Boyertown – Boyertown Lodge #708

Douglassville (Mount Airy) – Mononacy Lodge #441 – consolidated 1960

Griesemersville – Griesemersville Lodge #1109 – defunct 1951

Hamburg – Symmetry Lodge #103 – consolidated 1996

Kutztown – Brotherly Love Lodge #77 – defunct prior 1900

Kutztown – Kutztown Lodge #194 – defunct 1854

Leesport – Leesport Lodge #141

Long Swamp – Long Swamp Lodge #534 – defunct 1913

Lyons Station – Lyons Lodge #634 – consolidated 1960

Millersburg – Bethel Lodge #820 – consolidated 1953

Morgantown – Caernarvon Lodge #557 – consolidated 2009

New Storeville – Helm Lodge #518 – defunct 1865

Reading – Montgomery Lodge #58 – defunct 1900s

Reading – Salome Lodge #105 – defunct 1903

Reading – Metamora Lodge #147 – defunct prior 1900s

Reading – Germania Lodge #158 – consolidated 1911

Reading – Emblematic Lodge #169 – consolidated 1944

Reading – Vigilance Lodge #194 – consolidated 1969

Reading – Oley Lodge #218 – consolidated 1988

Reading – Reading Lodge #348 – defunct 1905

Reading – Progressive Lodge #470 – consolidated 1944

Reading – Mount Penn Lodge #518 – consolidated 1928

Reading – Muhlenberg Lodge #1085 – consolidated 1944

Rehlersburg – Rehlersburg Lodge #498 – defunct 1867

Shillington – Shillington Lodge #1175

Shoemakersville – Perry Lodge #1055 – consolidated 1957

Sinking Spring – Sinking Spring Lodge #660 – consolidated 1988

Strausstown – Strausstown Lodge #77 – defunct 1936

Wernersville – Wernersville Lodge #835 – consolidated 1960

Womelsdorf – Golden Rule Lodge #159 – defunct 1950

Reading had 11 Lodges. WOW!

33 Lodges with 3 active. 1st Lodge Montgomery Lodge #58 in 1838



The former Temple of Neversink Lodge #514 in Birdsboro.

Many can remember the huge rallies that were once held at the Hall of Boyertown Lodge #708.



One of the main focal points of Morgantown is the Odd Fellows Hall on Main Street, the former Hall of Caernarvon Lodge #557.



The former Hall of Strausstown Lodge #77 still stands today.

Next month – Blair County – Get your pictures and articles in now!

4TH ANNUAL ODD FELLOW'S OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT

We would like to take this opportunity to announce the 4th Annual Odd Fellows Open Golf Tournament to be held on June 24, 2017. The tournament will be held at Wedgewood Golf Course located at 4875 Limeport Pike, Coopersburg, PA.

All proceeds from the tournament will be donated to Camp JRA (Juniors Reaching Achievement). The camp is a six day residential camping experience for campers ages 8 to 18 who suffer from arthritis and rheumatic diseases. Campers learn how to cope with their disease and form bonds with other campers who face the same challenges. These bonds will last a lifetime. The past 3 years we were able to donate over \$16,000, which sponsored over 55 children to enjoy the Camp JRA experience.

Our Tournament's goal is to provide full and partial scholarships to campers whose families may have fallen on economic hardship. This is where we are asking community leaders such as you, to step in and help provide these children with an experience that they will remember forever. We are asking for \$100 donations to sponsor a hole. With a donation of \$400 (Bronze Level), it will allow you to sponsor a hole and enter four golfers of your choice into the tournament. Because of sign production, we are asking all sponsors to mail their donations and required forms by June 15, 2017.

We understand that times are tough and we greatly appreciate any donations that you see fit, such as: Gift Cards, Golf accessories, or prizes for the Tournament, as well as any cash contribution you may want to give. For this, you will be recognized in our awards program as a "Friend of JRA".

For anyone who would like to make a donation, please mail donations to the address listed below.

Odd Fellows Vienna Lodge #847
C/O Rory King
4447 Mill Road
Emmaus, PA 18049

Checks should be made payable to Vienna Lodge #847, and if you have any other questions regarding the Tournament, Sponsorship, or donations, please do not hesitate to call Rory King at 610-972-6444 or email at rking@efbutzins.com.

We thank you for your generosity in advance, and the sponsored campers will surely appreciate your kindness.

2017 Unified Session Committee Independent Order of Odd Fellows



2017 Unified Session Sponsorships

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Our annual Unified Session is quickly approaching. This is the time of year when members and representatives gather to meet and plan the future of this great Order in the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. We also have many visitors from other Jurisdictions and the Sovereign Grand Lodge that join with us to share this time of work and fellowship.

I invite your lodge or unit of the Order to become a sponsor of this year's Unified Session. Your donations are used to help offset the cost of the Session and keep the events of the week affordable to all who attend.

"Honor Roll Sponsor" – for a donation of \$100 or more your lodge or unit will be listed in the Program Booklet and in the "PA Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine".

"Session Sponsor" - any donation that your lodge or unit can make will be listed in the Program Booklet and published in the "PA Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine".

I would also encourage all of you to attend the major events of this year's Session to see what your donations support. The events in the evening are open to all, not just members of the Order.

Saturday evening is our "Fun Night", details to follow.

The Memorial Service on Sunday afternoon gives us all time to reflect on the members of our Order who have passed on during this past year.

The Banquet on Sunday evening (reservations required) is our time of fellowship and introduces our officers who will preside over our meetings during the week.

The Decoration of Chivalry will be conferred on Monday evening under the direction of the Department Commander of the Department Council of the Patriarchs Militant.

The Installation of the Officers of the Grand Lodge, Rebekah Assembly and Grand Encampment for the upcoming year will take place Tuesday evening.

Why not attend at least one of these events and enjoy the fellowship and friendship of your Brothers and Sisters?

Please send all donations to Dale E. Binkley, 106 Glenloch Drive, Landenberg, PA 19350. Make all checks payable to the "Unified Session Committee". Deadline for donations is May 19, 2017 to be included in the Program Book.

On behalf of the Unified Session Committee and my co-chair Sister A. Elaine Weekley, I thank you all in advance for any donation that you can send to the Unified Session Committee to support the Unified Session.

Dale E. Binkley, PGM, PGR

Dale E. Binkley

2017 Unified Session Chairman

GRAND MASTER YOUNG VISITS VICTORY LODGE #658



Grand Master David Young and his Officers visited Victory Lodge #658 on Tuesday, April 4th, to see what the lodges in eastern Pennsylvania look like, and the members of them. GM Young was impressed with the members in attendance from Victory Lodge #658, as well as from Jamison Lodge #447, Jamison, and Montgomery-Curtis-Norris #57, Norristown, and the lodge hall itself. There were about 25 members that came out to see GM Young.

GM Young's statement to us was clear about his concerns with the remaining lodges, as mentioned above, in terms of expanding lodge membership and keeping the lodges open. He went on to advise us of his numerous missions this year to promote fellowship among lodges with 'The Travelling Gavel' in eastern and western Pennsylvania; and, his charitable idea, to help support local food banks.

Afterward, we gathered for fellowship, with refreshments and conversation among ourselves.

Steve Nathan, PG #658



ON THE ROAD WITH GRAND MASTER YOUNG



On March 7, the Grand Master traveled with Grand Chaplain Metz to meet the members of Shillington #1175. Joining him were Grand Secretary Bailey, Grand Herald Boulanger, and not pictured, taking the photo was the Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Encampment, Tyler Arnold.



On May 20, the Grand Master traveled to New Ringgold to meet with the members of East Brunswick #802. It was nice to see PGM Adams. You will notice some of the usual officers in attendance, and if you look carefully, you can see Brother Jim Manton of Strasburg Lodge #361 in the back row. Thanks to Tyler for taking the picture once again.



On Thursday, May 16, the Grand Master and staff visited the members of Charleroi #1030. Some members from Nucleus #377 came along for the visit. Taking the picture this time was the Grand Master's wife Debra Young.



On May 27, the Grand Master traveled East to visit the members of Malvern-Pocahontas #201. It was nice to see all of the hard work the lodge has been doing to their building. Keep up the good work everyone.

TREASURER'S TALES - MAY 2017

We continue to follow Barney's exploits on a month by month basis and we are now at May 1922. The most important holiday in May is Memorial Day. Memorial Day celebration began after the Civil War, see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memorial_Day. In baseball in May 1922, Jesse Barnes of the New York Giants pitched a 6-0 no-hitter against the Philadelphia Phillies at the Polo Grounds. He faced the minimum twenty-seven batters possible, but gave up a fifth-inning walk that was erased by a double play.

Bridal showers began in the 1890's and are gift-giving parties held for a bride-to-be in anticipation of her wedding. Since Elizabeth and Barney are going to marry in June 1922, the shower was set for May. It was set for Sunday afternoon May 21 at the lodge hall. It was hosted by Elizabeth's Rebekah Lodge and was centered around fun and games, gifts and refreshments.

The usual fun and games for bridal showers would be much different in 1922 from those of today. The general mood was more conservative and technology hadn't quite arrived in Grover's Mill. As you are probably guessing, Sunday afternoon is not a busy time in a rural community. The weather was beautiful, the birds were singing, the bees were buzzing and the raccoons, well that will come later.

Elizabeth had just completed her two-year training to become a teacher and arrived back in New Jersey on May 10, 1922. She did not bother looking for a teaching job, since she was going to marry Barney next month and married women did not work in 1922. She was almost 20 years old. Barney was 27, had a teaching job, operated a farm with his father and was working on a novel. Publication of the novel would be years off.

Elizabeth had plenty of free time to plan the wedding. Her father, Vic, was the only veterinarian in the county, so she could always spend a little time working at the animal hospital. She was always caring for strays, for which she would find homes. Vic liked the idea, every stray dog or cat she placed in a loving home was a potential customer. The care, feeding and training of raccoons, however, only amused the Odd Fellows.

The party started at 3:00 p.m. with a game of guessing the number of beans in a jar. There was a peanut hunt, which worked like an Easter egg hunt. Each guest was to bring a favorite recipe

on cloth paper and they were sewn together to form a booklet for Elizabeth. These were the roaring twenties and there were three theaters in the area, showing modern life in motion pictures. Even the Rebekahs had one or two members who carried a flask in her purse. Ouija boards had become popular and there was a board there with the most common question being, "Who will be the next girl after Elizabeth to get married?"

An Edison Amberola was brought and there were a half dozen different disks, including the Charleston, the Black Bottom and the Raccoon. The Raccoon was a dance, you can hear it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TufVEF50d7U>. It was popularized by the fad of wearing raccoon coats. Rebekah and Melchizedek were not in favor of people wearing raccoon coats, they should be reserved for the raccoons.

Well, as you might guess, all the noise inside the lodge hall made Rebekah (the mother raccoon of previous stories) a little agitated. The day was warm and the windows were open. One of the younger girls, Mary, went outside to soothe her with a couple apples. This seemed to work, but Melchizedek heard his mother chattering and emerged from the woods. Mary was not alert enough to see Melchizedek follow her back inside. He decided he could dance to the music as well as the Rebekahs and you can see a video of him dancing here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DeQ1DN7n2Eg>, he has a few friends with him in this scene.

By six o'clock the party was starting to wind down when Barney came to join them for refreshments. The wedding had been completely planned and the Ouija board predicted the next to marry (and it turned out to be accurate). Oh yes, when Barney arrived, Elizabeth had been saving two tea sandwiches for him in the kitchen, they disappeared. Any guesses on what happened to them? Think of a name starting with M.

Next month Barney and Elizabeth get married. The wedding will be attended by many Odd Fellows and Rebekahs. The world is still peaceful in 1922.

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.

CLOVER LODGE #348 - 9TH ANNUAL IOOF GOLF SCRAMBLE SUNDAY, JUNE 4TH @ BLACK HAWK GOLF COURSE, BEAVER FALLS, PA

Clover Lodge 348, in existence for over 100 years, is the only lodge in Beaver County. To provide college scholarship money to area youths, our lodge is sponsoring the 9th Annual I.O.O.F. Golf Scramble at Black Hawk golf course in Beaver Falls to be held on Sunday, June 4th. Over the past eight years, we were fortunate to give over \$33,000 in college scholarships.

It is our hope that your donation can help make this year's event an even larger success.

- ✓ For a \$100 donation (Silver Sponsorship), you can secure tee/green sponsorship signage on the golf course. Your logo may also be displayed on the sign provided a digital copy of such is provided.
- ✓ For a \$300 donation (Gold Sponsorship), your sign will be displayed on a refreshment golf cart. For a \$500 donation (Platinum Sponsorship), your sign will be prominently displayed on the pavilion where we will be conducting registration prior to the event and a dinner following the event.

- ✓ Donations or gift certificates of less than \$100 will be provided in the form of prizes to the golfers.

All sponsors will also be listed in a program to be given to each golfer. The corresponding sponsorship level will be indicated in the program.

Golf is \$85/person which includes 18 holes of golf, cart, free beverages on the course and a buffet dinner following the round.

We ask that you please consider providing us with sponsorship or golf participation for this event.

If you would like more information concerning the event, please feel free to contact Dave Carlson (724-561-4679), Thomas Stachura (724-869-5971) or Gerry States (724-513-8745). You may also reach us via e-mail at bruins83@comcast.net, trs46@comcast.net, or gwstates@comcast.net.

Thank you in advance for your time and donation.

OBITUARIES

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

HELEN W. STEWART

Salome Rebekah Lodge No. 30
York Auxiliary No. 14, L.A.P.M.
March 19, 2017



Lady Helen W. (Wright) Stewart, 95, of York, PA, was initiated into Lady Hebron Rebekah Lodge #53, Delta, on April 19, 1949, where she became a Past Noble Grand on October 21, 1952. She then became a Member of Salome Rebekah Lodge #30, York, through consolidation on February 27, 1992. She was also a Lady the L.A.P.M., originally joining White Rose Auxiliary #6 in York, where she became a Past President. White Rose Auxiliary #6 consolidated with Harrisburg L.A.P.M. #54, which then consolidated with Leesport L.A.P.M. #2. She then transferred to become a charter member of York Auxiliary #14, when they reinstituted in 2014. At the time of her death, she was the oldest member of her Rebekah Lodge and Auxiliary, by age and tenure and the last surviving member of White Rose Auxiliary #6 still affiliated with the Order. She and her husband, James, were members of the Rebekahs and Odd Fellows for many years.

She was a member of Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church, Whiteford, MD. She was a school teacher and was honored by President Bush for her 52 year teaching career.

Sister Helen is survived by two sisters: Betty Shirey and Pauline Hupper, nieces and nephews.

Graveside services were held March 22nd at Centre Presbyterian Cemetery, New Park, PA. Salome's Charter was draped on March 23rd in memory of Sister Helen.

ROBERT O. CARLSON

Unified Lodge No. 2
March 26, 2017

Brother Robert O. Carlson, 89, of Ross Township, PA, was initiated into Unified Lodge #2, Pittsburgh, PA, on May 20, 1982, where he became a Past Grand in 1994 and received his Grand Lodge Degree on June 22, 1998. He was also an associate to Hampton Lodge #1004, Allison Park, PA, and becoming a Past Grand there on October 9, 2001. He also held associate membership in the former Peter Fritz Lodge #486, Pittsburgh, having joined in 1987 and retaining membership there for several years.

Surviving is his wife, the former Mary Hough, two sons and two grandchildren.

EDWARD P. BASKEYFIELD

Shenandoah Lodge No. 591
March 31, 2017



Brother Edward P. Baskeyfield, 89, of Ringtown, PA, was initiated into Shenandoah Lodge #591 on March 15, 1954, where he became a Past Grand on October 6, 2014. He also assisted on the installation team and in the District 6 degree team. At the time of his death, he was the Lodge's oldest living member.

He was a U.S. Army WWII & Korean Conflict Veteran and a member of the former Welsh Baptist Church, Shenandoah.

Surviving is his wife, the former Nadia Adamyck, one son, one daughter, three grandchildren, one being Matt Roulin, also of Shenandoah Lodge #591, and four great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge and burial was held in Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville, PA.

MILFORD R. JOHNSON

Past GE Appointed Officer/PDDGP
Alma Lodge No. 523
William F. Packer Encampment No. 127
April 2, 2017



Brother Milford R. "Jake" Johnson, 96, of Johnstown, PA, was initiated into Alma Lodge #523, Johnstown, on April 14, 1962, where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree on April 26, 1975. He was also a Past Chief Patriarch, having joined William F. Packer Encampment #127, Johnstown, on October 16, 1962. He was active within the Grand Encampment, serving as Grand Marshal for PGP Browning 1982-83, Grand Outside Sentinel for PGP Ribblett 1991-92 and Grand Inside Sentinel for PGP Kelly 2001-02. He also served as District Deputy Grand Patriarch from 1988 – 2002. He was a former Rebekah, having joined Dorcas Rebekah Lodge #35, Johnstown, on May 10, 1971. When Dorcas Rebekah Lodge #35, he and his wife, Bobbie, transferred membership to Lady Berlin Rebekah Lodge #277, Berlin, PA, on April 28, 1994. They became members of Queen Victoria Rebekah Lodge #575, Kingwood, through consolidation on October 2, 2008, where they held membership until they withdrew in 2013.

He was a U.S. Navy Veteran and a member of Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown.

Surviving is his wife, the former Bobbie Anderson, two daughters, one being Sandra Huchel, and one granddaughter, Laura. Bobbie, Sandra and Laura all also members of Alma Lodge #523 and William F. Packer Encampment #127.

"Jake" was the first person in recent history to be NG more than once at Alma. He was a longtime trustee of the Lodge (including during the 1977 Johnstown flood) and the encampment, and felt strongly about growing Lodge investments for the betterment of the community. He was always more interested in what the Lodge could do to help people, and Odd Fellows charities, than in the benefits it could provide for its members. He was very proficient in degree work, memorizing most of his parts, namely Vice Grand for the Initiatory Degree and Good Samaritan in the Second Degree. He was the District Deputy Grand Marshal for many years and had his charges memorized, as well as the placement of officers for the installation. He made a concerted effort to recruit Odd Fellows in daily life, particularly from his church and was a welcoming force, often the first one to introduce himself, and others, whether it was to members at other Lodges in his district at installation, at session, or to members at Lodges that consolidated with Alma.

Burial was held in Grandview Cemetery, Johnstown, PA.



In 2015, Jake was honored to receive his 50 year Encampment Jewel by GP Ramsey with his Granddaughter, Laura Huchel, presenting it.

THE CURING RETINAL BLINDNESS FOUNDATION THANKS YOU

Here's a thank you from the "Curing Retinal Blindness Foundation" CRBF. For those of you and your IOOF organizations that have supported us in the past, I want to personally thank you for the contributions.

OUR MISSION: is to fund research for a cure for children that are blind or visually impaired due to CRB1 degenerative retinal disease. We are parents of affected children, professionals, and supporters working together to cure this blindness. The CRBF is a 100% Volunteer Organization. The children in our foundation are blind or visually impaired due to mutations in the CRB1 gene causing a rare degenerative retinal disease called (Leber's Congenital Amaurosis, Retinitus Pigmentosa, or cone-rod dystrophy).

WHAT WE DO: we raise funds and work with experts in the field to deliver those funds to qualified projects that will advance CRB1 degenerative retinal blindness to a cure. In the year 2016 we made research grants totaling \$100,000 and a good portion of that funding came from Odd Fellowship.

With May being "Visual Research Month" please direct a portion of your donation to the CRBF which also happens to be Lee Etta Mansberry's project for her term in office as President of the Rebekah Assembly.

Your continued support will help bring vision to my two Grandsons (Michael 17 and his brother Mitchell 13 who expressed: "One day, I will see my own face I hear it is adorable." For more info about our foundation and how to donate, visit CRB1.org. (CRBF is a 501-C-3 organization.) Or you can see your name mentioned in the Pennsylvania Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine by directing donations via the Secretary of the Grand Lodge.

FYI, below is a link to a recent CBS Philly Channel 3 TV clip featuring my daughter-in-law Kristin Smedley (CRBF President) Michael and Mitchell's mom. This is just one of many TV coverages over the years that the Smedley family was featured in by local Philadelphia TV stations to cover our mission and activities to find a cure. The clip is called: "Bucks County Mother On A Mission To Change The Perception Of Blindness" which plays after the advertisement.

<http://philadelphia.cbslocal.com/2017/03/27/bucks-county-mother-change-perception-blindness/>
The TV segment was by Stephanie Stahl, CBS 3 and The CW Philly 57's Emmy Award-winning health reporter, featured daily on Eyewitness News.

*With sincere appreciation, Bob Smedley -
Director CRBF & Walker Lodge 306 member*



GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA
INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS
OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER
1001 West Harrisburg Pike, Middletown, PA 17057

David A. Young
Grand Master
724-344-7550
iamanoddfellow@comcast.net

VISUAL RESEARCH PROCLAMATION

To the Officers and Members of all Degrees of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs
Fraternal Greetings,

Whereas, the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Visual Research Foundation organized in 1958 supports a Research Chair at the Wilmer Institute of John Hopkins University and Hospital which is working to find ways to enable many to have better vision, and

Whereas, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has been assisting Odd Fellows and Rebekahs and their families for years with help for glasses and examinations.

Whereas, as Grand Master, I have chosen the Pittsburgh Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh as my project,

Now, therefore, I, David A. Young, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, by authority in me duly vested, do hereby proclaim that,

The month of MAY as Visual Research Month throughout Odd Fellowship

Further, this program needs our support through: Fund Raising Campaigns, Treasury Donations, Memorial Donations and Publicity. This program supported by contributions from Odd Fellows and Rebekahs open eyes that many may see! Remember, many have sight Only a few have vision.

Done in Middletown, Pennsylvania, this fourth day of April, 2017 and in the 193rd year of this Grand Body.

Yours in Friendship, Love & Truth,

David A. Young
David A. Young, Grand Master

Attest,

Justin C. Bailey
Justin C. Bailey, Grand Secretary

Please fill out the form below and return with your donation.

Checks should be made payable to Grand Lodge of PA, IOOF and sent to 1001 W Harrisburg Pike Middletown, PA 17057

_____ Lodge No. _____ is pleased to contribute _____ to this program.

Please credit our donations to (Please check one of the Funds below).

_____ PA Special Visual Fund - This is used to assist PA members and families who need assistance in the purchase of glasses or for examinations.

_____ IOOF Visual Research Fund - 25% of the contributions are forwarded to the SGL. The balance is distributed by our Joint Committee to various Eye-Banks throughout PA

_____ Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh - GM Young Project

_____ Curing Retinal Blindness Foundation (CRBF) - Pres RA Mansberry Project.

ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN PA 2017 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The *Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania* will continue offering \$3,000 scholarship awards to a maximum of four (4) students who fulfill the specified requirements of the Award. This will be the 12th consecutive year of the Award since its inauguration back in 2006. Award committee chairman, Robert Grant, wants to remind those considering applying or those considering potential applicants, of three requirements in particular:

1. The applicant or a living family relative must be a member of the I.O.O.F. or Rebekahs of Western Pennsylvania.
2. The applicant must be a full-time student majoring in one of the three eligible areas: music, education, or a health related field.
3. The applicant must have also completed at least one year of full-time college.

As in previous years, a copy of the "Rules" and an "Award Application" will be sent to all the lodges representing the Western District in mid/late-May. The 2017 Awards Committee requests that all lodge secretaries and scribes relay the information to their respective membership and make copies as necessary for distribution. Information regarding the 2017 Scholarship may also be found on our website: glpaioof.org. The deadline date for submitting applications will be August 31, 2017. The committee also asks that the public be made aware of our Award by informing schools, colleges, newspapers, churches, etc. in your respective areas. Your cooperation and assistance in relaying this information will be very much appreciated. Hopefully, we will once again be honored in announcing the Awards to four qualified and worthy recipients this coming October.

The Awards, of course are being made to not only defray some of the cost associated with higher education, but also to help increase public awareness of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs, and in turn, hopefully receiving petitions for membership to promote our great Order.

FYI....

To avoid any confusion or misunderstanding, the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania now offers two (2) different scholarship awards annually:

The original Scholarship Award is presented to four (4) recipients attending an accredited college/university to assist them financially in attaining an undergraduate degree in music, education, or any health related field. The applicant, or a living family relative, must be a member of the IOOF or Rebekahs of W. PA. An application and "Rules" for this Award are sent to all the lodges, encampments, and cantons in Western PA around mid/late May of each year. Notification of this award is also submitted to our monthly magazine, *The Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine*. The deadline for submission of the application is usually around the end of July of the same year. The recipients are then notified before or at the beginning of the fall semester.

The new "Graduate Scholarship" is presented to two (2) recipients attending (full/part-time) a graduate program in an accredited college/university to assist them financially in securing a degree in music, education, or any health related field beyond the undergraduate (4 yrs.) college level. Again, the applicant, or a living family relative, must be a member of the IOOF or Rebekahs of W. PA. Notification of the award will be submitted for publication in the Nov. and/or Dec. issue(s) of *The Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine*. An application and "Rules" for this award may be requested online or by mail at the address which will be given in the magazine article(s). The deadline for submission of the application will be around the end of January. The recipients are then notified around the end of February.

ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN PA 2017 GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania announced the recipients of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs 2017 Graduate Scholarship Awards at their February 18, 2017 meeting. Surprisingly, the same two recipients of last year's inaugural 2016 Awards were again chosen to receive the 2017 Scholarship Awards. How this came about was as follows:

With a 2017 Scholarship application deadline of January 31, 2017 approaching, an inquiry was received by committee chairman Robert Grant as to whether a previous recipient of this Award could apply again for this particular Award. Having not considered this situation previously, chairman Grant replied that he would have to discuss this matter with committee members (Leonard Santini, John Rebar, Bonnie Phillippi, and Don Pleso) before the Board's next meeting date in February, which of course, would be after the application deadline. Being that no applications were received for the Award as of mid-January, chairman Grant suggested to the inquirer to forward this information to whomever may be concerned and inform them to submit an application, just in case the Board would take this matter under consideration. So, to make a long story short, a few contacts were obviously made and the only applications received were from the same two recipients of this Award last year!

Chairman Grant brought the above situation to the Board during the February meeting and, after some discussion, a motion was made and unanimously carried to not only accept both applications, but to also award both individuals as recipients of the 2017 Graduate Scholarships. Each received a \$3,000 monetary award which was sent to their respective university. It was also agreed to by the Board, that in the upcoming years of this Graduate Scholarship Award, previous recipients will be able to apply again; however, preference will be given to those applicants who have not previously received the Award. Also, an individual can only receive this Award a maximum of two (2) times during their graduate school enrollment.

The recipients of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania 2017 Graduate Scholarship Awards were as follows:

Chelsea E. Grant, daughter of Taryn and Robert Grant, Charleroi, PA. Chelsea's father is a PG of Charleroi Lodge #1030 and a member of General Worth Encampment #188, Connellsville, PA. Upon graduation from Slippery Rock University in 2014, Chelsea obtained a teaching position in the Seneca Valley School District, teaching 1st at the Connoquenessing Valley Elementary School. She is now completing her 3rd year teaching where she has established a reputation by incorporating the latest technology into her everyday classroom. In addition, she is presently enrolled in the Graduate School Program at Slippery Rock University pursuing a M. Ed. Degree as a Reading Specialist. She is on schedule to earn her degree by the Spring of 2018, after which a wedding day in June will be forthcoming. In the near future, Chelsea hopes to earn a doctorate degree and become an elementary principal or a college professor.

Nicholas J. Petrilla, son of Georgiann and Christopher Petrilla, Berlin, PA. Nicholas' grandfather, George Jock, is a member of Somerset Lodge #438. Nicholas is enrolled in a 7-year educational program at Shenandoah University, located in Winchester, VA. He completed his undergraduate degree in 2014 and will hopefully be presented with a Doctorate of Pharmacy Degree (Pharm.D.) in 2018.

On behalf of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania, the Award Committee once again wishes Chelsea and Nicholas continued success toward the completion of their graduate degree and in all of their future endeavors.



IOOF and Rebekah Annual Knoebels Picnic 2017 Saturday, July 15th Pavilion "J" Lunch at 1PM

\$11 Adult Meals All meals include dessert and drinks ¼ BBQ Chicken * Pork BBQ Sandwich * Baked Potato * Apple Sauce * Ice Cream * Iced Tea	\$5 Kids Meal Includes dessert and drinks Chicken Tenders * Mac & Cheese * Ice Cream
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Soda (Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Sierra Mist and White Birch Beer) will be available at the pavilion from 12PM until 3PM. Cold water bottles will be available until 5PM.

Ride Tickets 	Ride tickets will be available at our pavilion for \$5 a book. This will save you time in line at the park office. You may pre-order your ride tickets with your meal order
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IOOF and Rebekah Knoebels Picnic Order Form 2017

- Adult Meal (BBQ Chicken & Pork Sandwich.....#_____ meals x \$11 = \$_____
- Kid's Chicken Tender & Mac & Cheese.....#_____ meals x \$5 = \$_____
- Books of Ride Tickets.....#_____ books x \$5 = \$_____

Total amount due and enclosed \$_____

Please fill out the reservation COMPLETELY including a phone number if there are any questions about your reservation.

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
 Address: _____ (Street or PO Box)
 _____ (City, State, Zip Code)
 Lodge Name: _____ # _____

Make checks out to the IOOF PA PLANNING BOARD and mail to:

Mary Giebel, Planning Board Secretary
 17483 Lucy Anna Street
 Cassville, PA 16623

Call (814) 305-2011 or (814) 599-7916 if questions

Payment MUST accompany order.
 Deadline to order is July 1st NO EXCEPTIONS!

NOTICE FROM THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS OF PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

The Grand Encampment will hold a Degree Rally at Alma Lodge Hall, the home of William F. Packer Encampment No. 127, 440 Main Street, Johnstown, PA, 15904, on Saturday, June 3, 2016. The three Encampment Degrees will be conferred by a combination of members from several different Encampments, beginning at 10:30 am. A Grand Encampment Officers Board Meeting at 9:00 am will precede the Degree Work. Letters with further details will be sent to each Encampment prior to the Rally.

If there are any questions or comments, please contact GS Craig Reinhart at 610-374-9005 or by email at: creinhart@comcast.net. **BRING THOSE CANDIDATES!**

Periodicals

March Donations

Arthritis Month

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

2	Unified	100.00
762	Vincent	100.00
573	Sandy Lake	50.00
		250.00

PA ARTHRITIS COMMITTEE

306	Walker	750.00
87	Hopkins	500.00
270	Mystic	300.00
	Camp JRA	
361	Strasburg	200.00
413	Earl	100.00
488	Aluta	100.00
96	Lewisburg	50.00
278	Connoquenessing	50.00
307	Robert S. Hoch, Truine	50.00
471	Rush	25.00
		2,125.00

EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND

	OF Home of W/PA (Meadville)	610.00
	1004 Hampton	50.00
		660.00

PA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

377	Nucleus	350.00
2	Unified	100.00
R82	Mon Valley	50.00
471	Rush	25.00
R328	Lady Worth	25.00
R452	Lady Emily	25.00
R558	Lady Sellers	25.00
		600.00

SGL EDUCATION FUND

R198	Golden Rule	20.00
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PA ODD FELLOW & REBEKAH MAGAZINE

87	Hopkins	500.00
R452	Lady Emily	25.00
R82	Mon Valley	10.00
		535.00

VISUAL RESEARCH

2	Unified	50.00
R558	Lady Sellers	25.00
		75.00

PA VISUAL ASSISTANCE

2	Unified	50.00
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