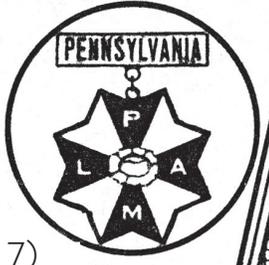


# THE PENNSYLVANIA ODD FELLOW



2025

November



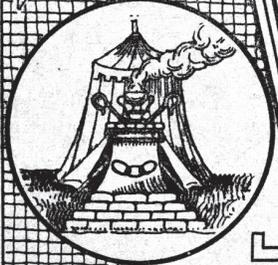
FALL RALLY IN WARREN (TURN TO PAGE 7)



This cover was introduced in the late 1930s. In the 1950's the incorporated the Ladies Auxiliary Patriarchs Militant (LAPM) emblem and moved things around a bit. In the 1960's the magazine was shrunken down to a smaller 5x7 book, which many of our older members may remember. The format was primarily the same, until 1976 when they added the liberty bell as seen on May's magazine.



@IOOFPA



# The Pennsylvania Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine

(USPS 426-500)

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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](mailto:ioofpaglsecty@verizon.net) with your name and Lodge and this will be done accordingly.

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

Freedom Lodge No. 88, Honesdale  
 Krista Miller – initiated October 1st  
 Riley Terysen  
 Steven C. White

York Springs Lodge No. 211  
 Mikel P. Baer – initiated  
 September 18th

Jordan Lodge No. 192, Schnecksville  
 Christopher Solt – reinstated July  
 1st Welcome back!

## GRAND MASTER'S CORNER

Fraternal greetings to all Brothers and Sisters,

October has been a very busy month, visiting lodges and also helping with installation of officers. When you read this article, I hope all the lodges will have had their officers installed in due form. I am relying on all my District Deputy Grand Masters to make sure all lodges in their district are installed, and the new term password has been given to each lodge. The reason I say this is because, when I made visits in September, the last month of our Odd Fellow year, I was greatly surprised and disappointed that some of the lodges did not even know the password for the current term. Now we are in a new term, and my concern is if your lodge has received the new password. This is such a simple task and does not require much time. All District Deputy Grand Masters take an oath *"to sincerely promise and declare that they will faithfully perform the duties of the office of District Deputy Grand Master to the end of the term for which they have been commissioned... That they shall at all times when requested make such reports as may be required... To the performance of all which they pledge their sacred honor as an Odd Fellow."* The entire oath has not been written here, but I feel that each DDGM should remember their Oath and read their commission.

Odd Fellows is a fraternal order that does require commitment. This commitment was renewed on September 27, 2025, when Grand Lodge held a Degree Rally at Warren Lodge No. 339. The Degree Master and team did a wonderful job with each degree. They were able to bestow the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree on 9 new Brothers and Sisters, and the Grand Lodge Degree on 2 Brothers and Sisters. What a wonderful day for Odd Fellowship. There was a tremendous amount of commitment from all the Brothers and Sisters who participated in the degree work. I thank each and everyone who helped make this rally a huge success. The growth of our order depends on everyone who makes a commitment: our District Deputy Grand Masters, new members and current members who work with each other in harmony to be the anchor of our lodges and communities. Enjoy our fall season, and have a spooky Halloween.  
In Friendship, Love and Truth,  
Paul E. Lautenschlager  
Grand Master

### Places to GO...People to See

+ denotes details to follow

**OCTOBER**  
25 / PM Rally, York PA

30 - 11/1 - SGM Calabrese testimonial, Atlantic City, NJ

**2026**  
**MARCH**  
27 - 29 / Mid-Atlantic States Conclave, Roanoke, VA+

**APRIL**  
18 / IOOF Spring Rally, Aluta+

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

## COME VISIT THE GRAND MASTER

Grand Master Lautenschlager has scheduled the following visits for November.

I am sure he would appreciate seeing you there.

- 6 - Mystic #270 OV - 7:00PM**
- 10 - Lititz #1050 OV - 7:00PM**
- 17 - Mt. Zion #74 OV - 7:00PM**
- 18 - Boyertown #708 OV - 7:30PM**
- 21 - Aluta #488 OV - 8:00PM**

## COME VISIT THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

LTG Hanby has scheduled the following visits for November.

I am sure he would appreciate seeing you there.

- 13 - Canton Philadelphia #1 OV - 7:30PM**
- 17 - Canton Allentown #39 OV - 7:30PM**
- 19 - Canton York #14 OV - 7:30PM**

## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

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

### **30 YEARS**

J. Larry Adams, #254

### **50 YEARS**

Joseph S. Graci, #306  
Joseph E. Johnson, #306

### **60 YEARS**

William F. Fluke, #562

## THE TREASURER'S TALES - NOVEMBER 2025

We have been following Barney's exploits on a month by month basis and we are now at November 1930. The big thing in November is Thanksgiving, followed by Armistice Day.

Barney had served in the Great War and Armistice Day held a deep meaning for him. When the Armistice was declared on November 11, 1918, he was in the trenches, drinking coffee with several other Odd Fellows who were serving with him in France. It is now twelve long years and he has tried to forget the horrors of war. Deeper involvement in the Odd Fellows, marriage, the birth of children and the financial problems of the world have displaced the terrors of war in his memory.

As an English teacher and a public spirited person, Barney tried to concentrate on contemporary events in his classroom. He tried to have the students use their writing skills and engage in theatrical productions as a tool for learning and cultural enrichment. He had used the first Thanksgiving as a theme many times and wished to move into something a bit different but stick to the concept of an essay that the students would present orally in class. Although an exercise in research and writing skills, humor was always interjected, sometimes unintentionally.

Thanksgiving was becoming a civic event, with the religious significance being lost to public displays of patriotism and remembrance of our early history. Barney asked the students for suggestions as to the topic for the essay to be presented the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, since the school would recess at close on Wednesday. Barney tried not to have too much on the last day before a vacation because the students attention was usually diverted. The topic one student raised was somewhat different and Barney decided to use it. The theme would be the first turkey.

Barney raised a few turkeys on his farm. Because of disease that were common in chickens, without causing death to the chicken, but proving fatal to turkeys, raising turkeys was difficult. The number of useful antibiotics was very limited in 1930, but Barney's father-in-law, Vic, was up on all the cures and preventative measures in animal husbandry. Barney had a healthy flock of 22 turkeys and made enough money on them to justify having them. He knew about turkeys.

The prehistorical connection between dinosaurs and birds had not been established yet and Barney wondered what sort of stories his students would concoct.

Elizabeth knew the turkey story well. As a homemaker in 1930, it was her duty to pluck the turkey, clean it, stuff it and roast it.

When Barney discussed the essay topic with her at home, she thought a more fitting topic would be how husbands and children should give thanks that their wives and mothers prepared such a feast annually. Being aware that he was dealing with high school students, Barney disregarded Elizabeth's suggestion.

On the day in question, Tuesday before Thanksgiving, Barney gave each student three minutes to summarize his or her essay and then turn in the paper. He had set forth the rules in early November and had to keep things moving so that all 16 students would be able to speak.

The first student was enthusiastic and volunteered to start the presentation. He told the students that the first turkey was named Tom and he came over with the pilgrims on the Mayflower. He was so shy he couldn't find a girlfriend, so he died from loneliness and the pilgrims ate him. Barney thought this was very creative but showed no research at all.

Most of the essays dealt with native American lore and the discovery of wild birds in the forest. The Indians didn't know what they were, so they killed them and ate them. The logic to killing and eating something you can't identify surprised Barney. He hoped that students would kill and eat every animal they were not familiar with.

One student went through the biological paths of evolution, coming close to a plausible explanation. As I stated above, research in the evolution of birds was not complete and no amount of research by a high school student would give a reasonable answer.

The most creative and amusing story came from a student who was motivated by his stomach more than scientific inquiry. His essay began, "Once upon a time, long ago, a poor restaurant owner was trying to find something new to serve his customers. He went out in his back yard and noticed that he had a female goose that was very sociable and kind, unlike most geese. He put her in a pen with a very aggressive rooster. The two mated and the first turkeys were born. The restaurant owner offered a turkey special and it became a favorite among the early settlers." Barney knew this was pure fantasy, but he liked it and gave the student an A.

After a day of listening to multiple fantasies, Barney went home to Elizabeth. She was having his parents, her parents and siblings as well as their own family over for dinner on Thanksgiving. Warden and Conductor would be fed outside and the little Pomeranian, Rebekah, would beg from those at the table.

She wanted Barney to butcher two turkeys. Barney had to keep at least one tom and several hens to keep the flock going, but he found two old toms that he could butcher. They were a little tough so Elizabeth baked them all day. When dinner finally arrived at 4:30 pm, everyone was hungry. After giving thanks and eating a sumptuous banquet, Barney noticed a little face at the window. He took a plate of turkey skin and the tails of both birds and gave them to Melchizedek.

Please remember to give thanks and enjoy Thanksgiving.

Comments and questions are always welcomed by the Grand Treasurer and Past Sovereign Grand Master. You can contact him by email at [jcupp275@gmail.com](mailto:jcupp275@gmail.com) or conventional mail at P.O. Box 275, Hopewood PA 15445.

## LODGE 699 DONATION



Members of Tunkhannock lodge #699 donated a check to Seven Loaves food bank. Photo by Jess Kilmer

## 100TH ANNIVERSARY – THE FAITHFUL FEW

In this day of hustle and bustle we are liable to fall into the habit of shifting our own responsibility to the shoulders of someone else, or to the officers of our lodges. Using street or business vernacular, “pass the buck” to the faithful few. In all branches of our Order we have members who are perfectly willing to sit down at home and peruse the sport columns or devour the scandal sheet of our daily papers, while the faithful few are attending to the business of their Lodges and initiating new members into the Order. They know there are those who are willing to make all kinds of sacrifices for the good of the order. It does not disturb their consciences in the least to spend the cold winter evenings in their cozy homes with their families, or the sultry evenings of good old summertime motoring along the beautiful highways, enjoying the cool breezes of night time, while their brothers are wrestling with problems which come up within the walls of the Lodge room. Some may say, “What is the use?” “I am not an officer,” “Neither am I on the degree team,” etc. Brothers [and Sisters], your very presence in the lodge room is an inspiration. You can enter into the discussions, and you can give the lodge the advantage of your experience and wise counsel. Then the moral support your presence will lend to your degree staff is a big item. Odd Fellowship presents a field of service broad enough for all to at least have standing room. There are not enough easy seats for all on the moving caravan, but there is plenty of room at the end of the tongue, where we can stretch our traces and pull to our heart’s content. If we are desirous of knowledge, we can recall how we were reminded, as we entered the very threshold of our Order, of the Order, of the complete thralldom of ignorance and vice, and how man gropes his way to light and liberty. What man among us, if he boast of red blood in his veins, will not endeavor to burst

the shackles of illiteracy and strive to reach a plane of knowledge which will best fit him for service to his fellow man and to the great Author of his being. Every lesson in our Order is calculated to lead a man to a true conception of his capabilities for good and help him realize that immortality of his soul, and will aid him in leading a more exemplary life. Odd Fellowship makes no claim that it can save a man’s soul. It does, as all good Odd Fellows know, assist greatly in preparing the soil in man’s heart for growth of grace and for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Surely it is worthy of our acceptance. Odd Fellowship does not pretend to supplant the Church, but it aids greatly in preparing men for entering the Church and leading a life of Christian service.

If a man seeks friendship and desires to be more fraternal, let him search the annals of history from the very beginning of time and at least he will lay aside the laborious task, all unfinished, and come back to the simple and undefiled exemplification of friendship so beautifully demonstrated in the first degree.

Suppose one clamors for a love that is pure and undefiled. Let him consider the sanctity of the home, let him consider the love of a father toward his son, the affection of a loving mother toward her daughter; let us draw aside the curtain and make bare the sacredness of love in all its purity. He can return to the beautiful demonstration of love illustrated in the second degree, only excelled in the wonderful love of God, summoned up in the familiar Bible reference, John 3:16.

Then we come to the last degree of a Subordinate Lodge, the degree of truth. If we are sticklers for truth, and we should be, can we find a more concise consummation of truth than that which is explained in the third degree? Brothers, when we stop and seriously meditate upon the lessons we

have learned in our advancement in the Order should we not be proud that Odd Fellowship reached its strong arm of protection down to us and elevated us to a position of honor?

In the closing ceremonies of the Scarlet Degree we are reminded that there are advanced degrees embraced in the Patriarchal and Patriarchs Militant Degrees. Brothers, it is altogether true that these teach beautiful lessons. No man can receive the Patriarchal degrees without having his faith greatly strengthened in the God of our fathers.

The Golden Rule Degree is all that is name implies. Here we get a close-up view of the meaning of toleration. No odd Fellow gets the true meaning of many of the lessons taught in the various degrees until he has received the Royal Purple Degree. Some of the sublimest lessons of our order are explained most vividly in this degree. Here one gets a practical idea of the lessons as a whole. If possible every Odd Fellow should endeavor to attain the Royal Purple Degree.

Then last, but by no means least, comes the Patriarchs Militant Degree. An impressive lesson is taught which appeals to the ambitious and dignified. It is only by perseverance that one reaches the stage where he can worthily wear the beautiful uniform of the P.M. Degree. Brethren, do you wonder that the faithful few reach the height of their ambition when they can have the honor of wearing the decoration of the highest branch of our Order? Faithfulness always returns its reward. Then, “Go on,” faithful few. You have been faithful in a few things; you shall be rulers over many things. *C.P. Burchette, Grand Patriarch, in the North Carolina Odd Fellow. Reprinted January 1926 the Pennsylvania Odd Fellow*



**NAKOMIS  
REBEKAH LODGE  
SUPPORTING  
THEIR  
COMMUNITY**

Members of Nakomis Rebekah Lodge # 497, of Honesdale, donated an Alburitis spruce tree to the Bethany Library as part of the Living Legacy program.



Photo: from left to right, Pat Nelson -director of Library, Nadine Hager, Jessica Kilmer & Andrew Kilmer, Photo taken by Shawn Kinzinger



Nakomis Rebekah Lodge # 497 donated a Trex bench to H.O.S.T. (Historians of Sterling Township) members gathered on a sunny fall day. members seated Doris Goerlitz (belongs to both organizations) Jessica Kilmer NG of lodge. 2nd row l to r Andrew Kilmer, Nadine Hager, Paul Lautenschlager, Karina Pettenger and June Phillips back row -Jim Borell, Debbie Davis, Rose Mary Maconeghy Paulette Nicholas. Host meets in the old Lodge Hall of Sterling Lodge No. 959, which ran from 1898 to 2000. Photo taken by Stacy Pilgram

**FREEDOM LODGE #88 DONATES BENCH TO  
WAYNE CO AGING OFFICE**

The Brothers and Sisters of Freedom Lodge #88 have formed many partnerships around Wayne County to acquire soft plastics for recycling. Every 1,000 lbs yields a Trex Bench that can be donated to a Non-Profit Organization in the area. On Tuesday, August 5, 2025, a Beautiful Rainforest Canopy (Green Colored) Trex Bench was donated to the Wayne County Aging Office, 323 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Honesdale, PA 18431. This agency enhances the lives of Older Adults through many available programs and partnerships. Their Goal is simple - support our local Older Folks so they can achieve a higher quality of life and still maintain independence in their Home and Community. This organization also helps coordinate the local Food Pantry which serves nearly 300 Families on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month. The Food Pantry in turn helped with this effort by providing hundreds of lbs of plastic towards the 1,000 lb goal. With multiple organizations teaming up to collect plastic, it took little time to earn this bench.



Pictured from LEFT to RIGHT are as follows: Gibsen Goodenough (Freedom Lodge #88), SEATED: Clarissa Wimmers (Food Pantry Coordinator) and Mary Ursich (Wayne County Aging Office) and Forrest C. Goodenough (Freedom Lodge #88). ~ Forrest Goodenough, PVG

**Within 1 Hour - Freedom Lodge Donates 2<sup>nd</sup> Bench!**



Shortly after Freedom Lodge Members donated a Trex Bench to the Wayne County Aging Office at 9am, a second Trex Bench - Treehouse Colored was donated to the Hawley Public Library, 103 Main Avenue, Hawley, PA 18428 at 10am. This marks the second bench we have donated to this particular location. Library Director Amy Keane was ecstatic and already had a location plotted out when we arrived!

Pictured from LEFT to RIGHT are as follows:Dennis Hiller (Freedom Lodge #88), Director Amy Keane and Forrest C Goodenough (Freedom Lodge #88). We

hope to partner up with Amy and her Team during the upcoming year in an effort to get OUR Names out in the community. However, rest assured we will be back next Spring to add another bench. Remember that the best partnerships do not begin and end with one project but rather continue forever with many experiences! ~ Forrest

## GRAND MASTER VISITS FOSTER LODGE

We then had our meeting. Present was a delegation from Smethport Lodge No. 389, DDGM Albert Webster, Grand Marshal Andrew Kilmer, Grand Representative J. Carl George, Grand Secretary Justin C. Bailey and Grand Master Paul E. Lautenschlager. A great time was had by all. Thanks Foster for the Friendship, Love & Truth!



What a fantastic Lodge! On September 23rd, Grand Master Paul Lautenschlager and staff paid an official visit to Foster Lodge No. 333, in Rew, McKean County. "Rew City" as it used to be called, has a population of 135. It's on top of a mountain as a suburb to the middle of nowhere. It is home to our Grand Chaplain, Tracy Knight. This Lodge has been known for their wonderful dinners. We always have a great sit-down meal beforehand. This was definitely one for the books. We had smoked ham and alligator sausage, with all the fixins.

## IOOF FALL RALLY IN WARREN A SUCCESS

The Rally held at the Warren Lodge on September 27th was very well attended. There were 43 members in attendance including one who came quite a distance. Scott Ballard from Mineala-Pacific Lodge 125 traveled from Long Island NY.. Ten members completed various degrees, 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

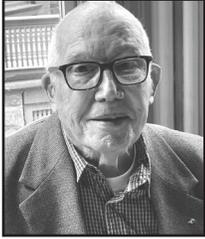
A great lunch was prepared and served by the Warren Lodge dinner crew, headed up by Dan Swab and his wife Lynette. Pork and sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, perogies, baked beans, eggs and a salad bar was offered to all in attendance. Donuts were provided for breakfast and cookies were the lunch dessert. Various beverages were also served. No one should have gone away hungry.

During the down time the attendees enjoyed playing Pinball and Pool and enjoyed touring our Lodge facility. Many were impressed by our Cub Scout Pinewood Derby workshop with wood working tools, paint booths etc. ~ Lou Dussia



## NOVEMBER OBITUARIES

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



**Fred L. Fiester**  
Brady Lodge No. 116  
August 16, 2025

Brother Fred L. Fiester, 97, of Muncy Valley, PA, was initiated into Sonestown Lodge #221 on January 23, 1955, where he became a Past Grand and received his Grand Lodge Degree on April 25, 1959. He became a member of Hughesville Lodge #331 through consolidation on July 13, 1960, and finally Brady Lodge #116, Muncy, through consolidation on May 24, 1985. He was the Lodge's oldest member, by age and tenure. He was also the last surviving member of Sonestown Lodge #221 and Hughesville Lodge #331, and the last surviving Sullivan County member still affiliated with the Order.

He was a member of the Zion Lutheran Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Hewlen Kuhnle. Surviving are one son and one daughter. His son, Leo, was presented with Fred's 70 year jewel during their recent 180<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner.



**Joanne Faint**  
Alma Lodge No. 523  
September 17, 2025

Sister Joanne (Hargraves) Faint, 90, of Johnstown, PA, was initiated into Alma Lodge #523, Johnstown, PA, on December 16, 2016.

He was preceded in death by her husband, Paul, and one grandson. Surviving are three sons, one being Dan, and his wife, Lynne, both of Alma Lodge, eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



**Stephen S. Slavic, Jr.**  
Nathan Lewis-Fort Necessity Lodge No. 254  
September 28, 2025

Brother Stephen S. "Steve" Slavic, Jr., 94, of Uniontown, PA, was initiated into Nathan Lewis-Fort Necessity Lodge #254, New Salem, PA, on February 10, 1981, where he became a Past Grand on October 20, 1986, and received his Grand Lodge Degree May 16, 2015. He was a former Associate member of Jeannette Lodge #701 and a current Associate member to Monongalia Lodge #10, WV. At the time of his death, he was the oldest tenured regular member of Nathan Lewis-Fort Necessity Lodge #254.

He was a member of St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church of Uniontown.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Rose Dragone. Surviving are four children, one being Denise Slavic, of Lodge #254, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge and burial was held in Sylvan Heights Cemetery, Uniontown, PA.



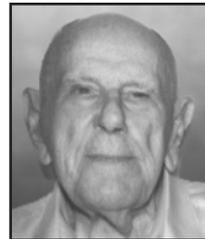
**DeWayne P. Horne**  
Fallowfield Lodge No. 1128  
September 30, 2025

Brother DeWayne P. Horne, 93, of Jamestown, PA, was initiated into Fallowfield Lodge #1128, Atlantic, PA, on February 2, 1952. He later reinstated into the Lodge on April 1, 1983 and served many years as Chaplain. He was a former Associate member to Cussewago Lodge #108 of Meadville, PA.

He was a member of the Jamestown and Fallowfield Methodist Churches.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, the former Joan Nesbitt. Surviving is his second wife, the former Mary Courtney, two sons, two daughters, five step-children, fourteen grandchildren, twelve step-grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. His sons, stepsons and several of his grandsons are all members of Fallowfield Lodge #1128.

Services were conducted by the members of his Lodge, and burial was held in Rocky Glen Cemetery.



**John W. Lackey**  
**Pennsylvania's oldest tenured member**  
Sandy Lake Lodge No. 573  
October 6, 2025

Brother John W. Lackey, 100, of Stoneboro, PA, was initiated into Sandy Lake Lodge #573 on April 23, 1945. He was the oldest member of Sandy Lake Lodge, by age and tenure. He was Pennsylvania's oldest tenured member, recently achieving 80 years as an Odd Fellow.

He was a member of Clarks Mills Community Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Elvidra Griffin, one son, two infant daughters and an infant grandson. Surviving are three sons, 11 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

Burial was held in Oak Hill Cemetery, Stoneboro.



**Robert J. Taylor**  
Clover Lodge No. 348  
October 8, 2025

Brother Robert J. Taylor, 80, of Economy, PA, was initiated into Clover Lodge #348, Baden, PA, on May 10, 1974. He left the Lodge on March 25, 1994 and reinstated on March 4, 2020.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran and a member of St. Luke the Evangelist/St. John & Paul Church.

He was preceded in death by his grandson. Surviving is his wife, the former Marilyn Miller, one son, four daughters and ten grandchildren.

Burial was held in Good Samaritan Cemetery, Sewickley, PA.

## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT BUTLER COUNTY

**Interesting Facts:**

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

How many Rebekah Lodges were in YOUR County??

Did you ever wonder if your town had a Rebekah Lodge? Do you know where it was or do you even remember some of these Lodges?

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

### BUTLER COUNTY

- Bruin - Lady Bruin Rebekah Lodge No. 78 - consolidated 1970
- Butler - West Sunbury Rebekah Lodge No. 19 - defunct 2012
- Butler - Lady Grant Rebekah Lodge No. 114 - consolidated 1974
- Butler - Queen Elizabeth Rebekah Lodge No. 463 - consolidated 1998
- Chicora - Lady Whitney Rebekah Lodge No. 5 - defunct 1904
- Chicora - Lady Whitney Rebekah Lodge No. 219 - consolidated 1986
- Evans City - Drusilla Rebekah Lodge No. 152 - defunct 1908
- Evans City - Drusilla Rebekah Lodge No. 530 - consolidated 1930
- Hilliards - Queen Naoma Rebekah Lodge No. 424 - defunct 1957
- Karns City - Jessica Rebekah Lodge No. 411 - consolidated 1958
- Portersville - Hattie Rebekah Lodge No. 164 - defunct 1899
- Portersville - Lady Lindy Rebekah Lodge No. 427 - defunct 1938
- Prospect - Mary Warren Rebekah Lodge No. 478 - consolidated 1966
- Saxonburg - Lady Montgomery Rebekah Lodge No. 248 - defunct 1899
- Slippery Rock - Sarabelvina Rebekah Lodge No. 572 - consolidated 1947
- Valencia - Lady Valencia Rebekah Lodge No. 561 - defunct 1947
- West Sunbury - Iola Rebekah Lodge No. 406 - defunct 1917
- Zelienople - Zelia Rebekah Lodge No. 401 - consolidated 1978

18 Rebekah Lodges with 0 remaining. 21 Odd Fellow Lodges  
 Last Rebekah Lodge - West Sunbury Rebekah Lodge No. 19 in 2012

**NEXT MONTH - We will work with Rebekah Lodges in the city of Philadelphia! Get your pictures and articles in now!**

## FREEDOM LODGE #88 EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY DONATION

On Monday, September 22, 2025, Members of Freedom Lodge met at the Alpine Wurst & Meat House to pick up hundreds of pounds of meats for donation to the Emergency Food Pantry. All processing and packing were performed by the Alpine located at 1106 Texas Palmyra HWY, Honesdale, PA 18431. Included in this bundle of protein goods was Pork Chops, Ham Steaks, Sweet Sausage and Breakfast Sausage. Huge thanks to Mark Eifert and Team for also donating \$100 of Bacon to this effort! Pictured from Left to Right: Forrest C Goodenough (Freedom), Linda Granquist (Pantry Volunteer), Doug Buchinski (Freedom NG), Sharon Herzog (Pantry Director), Rebecca Murray (Pantry Volunteer), Sandy Cheng (Pantry Volunteer) and Bert Terysen (Freedom). Thanks to all that support or donate to any and all of our fundraisers. As we head into Fall 2025, Freedom Lodge #88 will kick-off it's Meat Tray Raffle (also involving the Alpine) to further raise funds that help local community efforts like Food Pantries and School Scholarships. Please consider helping Freedom Lodge by purchasing tickets! In FLT-Brothers/Sisters of Freedom Lodge #88 in Honesdale. Forrest Goodenough



## STRASBURG LODGE# 361



Official visit and installation of Strasburg Lodge# 361. In attendance also members of Earl Lodge# 413

~ Brian Barr, DDGM & Grand Guardian

## FROM THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER... HONORING MAJOR GENERAL ROGER W. HAAS, PDC



I recently visited beautiful Evergreen Cemetery in Harmonsburg to honor our fourth Department Commander, Major General Roger W. Haas, who led the Pennsylvania Patriarchs Militant from 1929 to 1934.

Roger Ward Haas was born 1888 to George and Adaline Haas. He spent his entire life in Meadville. After graduating from Meadville High School in 1906, Roger Haas entered into the family floral business, where he had already been working from an early age. In 1912 he married Eva McMillan. They were dedicated members of the Stone Methodist Church of Meadville where they were regional directors of the Epworth League, a youth ministry which still exists under a different name. Mr. Haas enlisted in the US Army during WWI, was promoted to sergeant and served honorably until 1921.

He was a very visible figure in his community, acting as master of ceremonies for many Meadville events, singing in church services, memorials,

funerals and in vaudeville shows, a popular form of theatre at the time. He was often called on to provide highly acclaimed decorating services throughout the Meadville area thanks to talents developed through his family flower business. He and his wife were active in many civic clubs and service organizations. It was however in Odd Fellowship that Roger and Eva Haas achieved significant state wide recognition.

Roger Haas first joined our Order in 1909, age 21, by becoming a Brother of Crawford Lodge #734 (consolidated with Cussewago then Fallowfield #1128). Brother Haas was Exalted to the Royal Purple Degree in 1910 as a member of Olympas Encampment #82 (consolidated with Oil City then Henoesis Adolphon, defunct 2013). In 1943, near the end of his life, Patriarch Haas served as Grand Patriarch, a position he held at the time of his death..

He took the Chevalier Degree late 1910 and thus became a member of PA Patriarchs Militant Canton Meadville #47. Chevalier Haas rose through our ranks until 1929 when he was promoted to Major General and assumed the office of Department Commander of Pennsylvania - our fourth such Commander. He served in this office through 1934. Major General Haas received our highest award, the Grand Decoration of Chivalry, in 1921. He was Department Commander during a time when our numbers were huge by today's standards and having command of the Army was quite an honor. Here are a few examples of the size of the Corps of Chevaliers at that time. From the Franklin News-Herald, October 1930: "More than 1000 members of the Order, the uniformed rank of the IOOF, took part in Tuesday's parade...there were 3 floats and 7 bands. The parade was in three divisions, headed by a police escort and officers of the Department Council, followed by massed national colors... in the evening 3000 persons witnessed the conferring of the Decorations of Chivalry...Department Commander Roger W. Haas of Meadville was in charge". Also from the News-Herald, April 1932: "2000 Odd Fellows and Rebekahs attend a great celebration in Meadville...Major General Roger Haas, Department Commander of the Patriarchs Militant, uniformed branch of Odd Fellows acting as parade marshal...throng lined the streets to watch the march". These were the glory days of the Pennsylvania Patriarchs Militant and Major General Haas led us during those momentous times.

To add to all of this was a seemingly endless list of contributions to our Order. Among them were the long-term leadership of the Western Crawford County Past Grands Association and DDGM for District #57 for many years. He was a founder of the Odd Fellows Association of Northwestern PA in 1937.

His greatest contribution to fulfilling our stated principles was his involvement with the Meadville Home where, after many years as an active trustee, he was appointed superintendent. He counseled and improved the lives of many young orphans and served in this capacity until close to his death. His obituary speaks of the meaningful impact he had on the lives of orphans, so much that he was affectionately known as "dad" to the residents of that great institution. It is possible that there are those alive today whose lives were made better by "dad". His many other committee and office assignments are too long to list.

Serving in the Meadville Orphanage with Major General Haas was his wife, Eva. She too was an Odd Fellow and dedicated many years to the good works of numerous branches of our Order with much distinction. She was a long-time member of Myrtle Rebekah Lodge #60 of Meadville (as was her husband) where she served many years as District Deputy. Most notably she was a member of Meadville Ladies Auxiliary Patriarchs Militant and rose to be Department President in 1932. It is interesting to note that this was the first time in our jurisdiction that a husband and wife were heads of two branches of our Order at the same time. We respect the many years of her life that she dedicated to our Order and the faithful assistance that she gave to Major General Haas in the carrying out of his duties.

Major General Sir Roger Ward Haas, GDC, PGP, PDC sadly died at the young age of 56 in 1944. Odd Fellows of Pennsylvania and residents of the orphanage lost one of their greatest friends too soon, but they knew that he left our Order stronger due to his popular and effective leadership. Interestingly, Major General Haas' wife Eva went on to marry Past Grand Master John Thompson and remained active in Odd Fellowship until her death in 1968. She then joined Major General Haas in eternal rest at Evergreen Cemetery.

Joining me for a solemn ceremony was Chevalier Marie Harnett who had just recently suffered an injury in a fall. Nonetheless she insisted on being driven to the cemetery by her very kind neighbor who also participated in the ceremony. I am deeply appreciative of their extraordinary efforts in helping me honor Major General and Lady Haas. During my travels I have occasionally learned about incredible husband and wife leaders in Odd Fellowship. None have been more significant to the Patriarchs Militant and the LAPM than the Haas'. May Lady and Major General Haas continue to rest in peace together. They will not be forgotten by the members of our great Order.

Lieutenant General William F. Hanby, Department Commander



## ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS ASSOC. OF W/PA 2025 GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS (FINAL REMINDER)

The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania will continue to accept applications for up to three 2025 Graduate Scholarship Awards. The exact amount of the award will be determined based on whether the applicant is full-time or part-time, as well as the number of credits completed and currently in progress.

For the Graduate Scholarship Award, we extend a warm welcome to all applicants who are either a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) or Rebekahs of Western Pennsylvania or have a living relative who is a member. We believe in the potential of every individual and encourage all eligible candidates to apply. These awards, with a maximum value of \$4,000 each, are designed to support students in their pursuit of higher education. We are committed to fostering an inclusive and diverse community of scholars.

We understand the challenges of pursuing higher education, and we are here to support you. We value the commitment and dedication of our previous applicants and recipients of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of W/PA Scholarship Award. Your commitment to your education is commendable. We are dedicated to helping you advance your education and providing the support you need to succeed. We encourage you to continue your educational journey. If you are eligible to apply for this scholarship award, we look forward to seeing you do so and to your continued success.

The applicant must be enrolled in the graduate program of an accredited college or university, with all areas of concentration being eligible. Also, the applicant must be:

- A) a college graduate continuing their education toward an advanced degree, such as a Master's in Education (MEd), Master's in Music (MM), or other similar degrees, or
- B) enrolled in a degree program requiring more than the usual four (4) years of undergraduate studies to complete (e.g., Physician Assistant (PA), Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD), Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT), etc.).

To apply, you can obtain a copy of the "Rules" and an "Application" for the 2025 Graduate Scholarship Awards by contacting Robert Grant, 40 Cypress Way, Charleroi, PA 15022, or by emailing a request to "[robag@comcast.net](mailto:robag@comcast.net)." The "Rules" and "Application" may also be downloaded from our website: "[www.glpaiiof.org](http://www.glpaiiof.org)" during the period from September to mid-November. The application form should be completed entirely and submitted along with all the required documents requested in the "Rules." Please note that the postmark deadline for submitting applications is Saturday, November 15, 2025. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

Submitted by Bob Grant, 2025 OF&RA Scholarship Chair

## VINCENT LODGE MOVING THROUGH THE AREA



Left to right: Steve Boyko, Chris Grumblatt, NG Don Shaner

Several of the members of Vincent Lodge No. 762 of Spring City, recently participated in the Royersford Community Day. Royersford Lodge No. 1038 was instituted in 1892 and consolidated with Vincent Lodge on April 3, 1941. They gave out 300 soft pretzels and water, met a lot of new people and collected \$119 for the Grand Master's campaign.



Vincent Lodge #762 participated in the Spring City Music and Market Fest.

It was a beautiful day to meet new people and let them know who we are and what we do.

We gave out soft pretzels and much appreciated water (it was a hot day). We also were grateful to be able to collect \$113.00 in donations towards the Grand Master's campaign of suicide awareness!

Periodicals

**SEPTEMBER DONATIONS**

<b>GM LAUTENSCHLAGER PROJECT</b>		
57	Montgomery-Curtis-Norris	250.00
957	Falls Creek	<u>100.00</u>
		350.00
<b>ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION</b>		
2	Unified	50.00
1004	Hampton	50.00
88	Freedom	<u>25.00</u>
		125.00
<b>PA VISUAL ASSISTANCE</b>		
2	Unified	25.00
<b>VISUAL RESEARCH</b>		
2	Unified	25.00
<b>PA EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND</b>		
2	Unified	50.00

**LODGE ATTENDANCE**

Who are you trying to fool? Have you stopped attending your own local lodge to spite The Sovereign Grand Lodge or the Grand Lodge of your Jurisdiction?

If so, hearken to the voice of the Warden of the Initiatory Degree and the Admonition of the Vice Grand of the same Degree and BE AT ONCE UNDECEIVED,

You only hurt your friends in your own home lodge by not attending. YOU DO NOT HURT THE GRAND LODGE NOR THE SOVEREIGN GRAND LODGE.

Remember that the local Lodge exists to help you AND your fellow members. If you only attend the Encampment while your subordinate lodge dies what will your actions have brought?

NOBODY is so busy with life that they cannot spare one hour at least six times a year to attend the subordinate lodge.

Life is busy, it is true.

But if you don't want to attend your own local Lodge; WHY ARE YOU STILL A MEMBER?

Things must change.

Attend or quit. PERIOD!

Perhaps it is time for new by-laws that stop all benefits from the lodge if you are within the visiting limits of your lodge and you don't attend 4 to 6 times a year unless prevented by sickness.

Make time for your lodge family. We stand ready to welcome you back.

In FRIENDSHIP, LOVE, and TRUTH,

Sincerely,  
A Past Grand Member.