



March/April 2025

**WPL**  
WILLIAM PENN LIFE

**INSIDE:**

How to organize & store your life insurance policies

Recipes for healthier springtime meals

Travel to Hungary with WPA this September

*When one flower blooms,  
spring awakens everywhere.*

*- John O'Donohue*

# Be the difference...



## ...in your community...

## ...in your branch.



WPALife has been an active part of communities throughout the U.S. for more than 135 years. We're proud of the work we've done to ensure the financial security of our members and their families and to make the places they live better for everyone.

Right now, we're looking for motivated, forward-thinking people of all ages and backgrounds living in the New York and Chicago areas to continue our mission of service. We have members ready, willing, and able to volunteer their time and talents to help people in need. We have the financial resources to support them in their efforts. What we need--who we need--are individuals with compassion, vision, and desire to lead us into the next era of service to our communities.

Who we need is you. Will you be the difference?

[If you are a WPA member living in either the New York or Chicago areas and are interested in serving as an officer at your WPA branch, contact Cassie Holmes at 412-231-2979, ext. 126, or email \[cholmes@wpalife.org\]\(mailto:cholmes@wpalife.org\).](#)

*Editor-in-Chief*  
Diane M. Torma

*Associate Editors*  
Cassandra Holmes  
Adam C. Sedar  
Steven F. Charles

*Managing Editor*  
*Graphic Designer*  
John E. Lovasz

**CORPORATE OFFICERS**

*President/CEO*  
Diane M. Torma

*Chief Administrative Officer*  
Cassandra Holmes

*Chief Financial Officer*  
Adam C. Sedar

*Chief Operating Officer*  
Steven F. Charles

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Chair*

Katherine E. Novak

*Vice Chairs*

Debra A. Lewis  
Joyce E. Nicholson

*National Directors*

Michael J. Chobody  
James W. Robertson  
Richard E. Sarosi

Your comments are always  
welcome. Contact us at:  
William Penn Life  
William Penn Association  
709 Brighton Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15233  
Ph: 412-231-2979, ext. 135  
E-mail: jlovasz@wpalife.org

Official publication of William Penn  
Association. Office of publication:  
709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA  
15233 Phone: (412) 231-2979.

Third Class U.S. Postage Paid. Indi-  
ana, PA Permit No. 12

Unsolicited articles, letters, pictures  
and other material submitted to  
William Penn Association or William  
Penn Life are forwarded at the  
owner's risk, and William Penn  
Association and William Penn Life  
expressly deny any responsibility for  
their safekeeping or return. William  
Penn Association and William Penn  
Life reserve the right to edit, revise  
or reject any article submitted for  
publication.

Postmaster: If undelivered, please  
send form 3579 to: William Penn  
Association, 709 Brighton Road,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15233

# Inside

## Columns

4

### Moneywise

How to organize  
and store your life  
insurance records

6

### In the Kitchen with Chef Béla

Winter gone;  
Spring is on



10

Scholarship  
Foundation  
rules and  
application

•

8

WPA Tour 2025  
information  
and reservation  
form

## Departments

2

For Starters

12

Just for Kidz

13

What's  
Happening

14

Branch News

23

Puzzle Contest

24

In Memoriam

## New England fraternalists seek applicants

The New England Fraternal Alliance (NEFA) is seeking applicants for three awards: the Harvey G. Bacque Fraternalist of the Year Award, the Family of the Year Award and the annual scholarship award.

For all three awards, the applicant must be a resident of New England and a member of a fraternal benefit society that holds membership in the NEFA. In the case of the scholarship award, the applicant may either be a member or the child of a member.

For more information, contact John E. Lovasz at [jlovasz@wपालife.org](mailto:jlovasz@wपालife.org).

## WPA branches invited to share Easter Baskets

With the arrival of spring and the Easter season comes another annual tradition, WPA's Easter Baskets program. Similar to our Holiday Baskets program, branches participate in this program by donating non-perishable food and other items to those in need in their local communities, with financial reimbursement from the Home Office. All participating branches are reminded to submit their reimbursement forms to the Home Office by April 30.



## Holiday Baskets program update

After our January/February 2025 issue went to press, we learned that another of our branches had generously participated in our 2024 Holiday Basket program. Our thanks go to the members of Branch 216 Northampton, PA who donated four baskets worth a total of \$200. With their donations, our members and branches donated a grand total of 70 baskets of non-perishable food and other items worth a total of \$4,736.98. Thank you, one and all!

## Barbi Tew appointed Sales Director

The Association recently announced the appointment of Barbara "Barbi" Tew as its new Sales Director.

Barbi brings much experience to her new position, having served as the Association's Sales Coordinator for the past 15 years.

She first joined the Home Office staff in 1986, processing premiums in the Treasury Department. A year later, she began working in the underwriting department.

After working elsewhere, she rejoined the WPA's underwriting department in 2006, and was appointed Sales Coordinator in 2010.

Congratulations, Barbi, and good luck!

# WPA mourns passing of Charles S. Johns



**Charles S. 'Charlie' Johns**  
National Director  
1999-2011

by James W. Robertson

Branch 336 Harrisburg, the Verhovay Home Association and members across WPA mourn the loss of resolute and long-time member, Charles Sheldon "Charlie" Johns, who passed away Jan. 28, 2025. He was 95.

Charlie never met a stranger; he loved talking to people, learning about where they were from and what they did for a living. Amazingly, in a brief period, he would often discover a connection, knowing someone related to them or someone they worked with.

He fostered and enjoyed fraternalism in all the social organizations to which he belonged. He served as president of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance and was the recipient of the Alliance's prestigious John Jordan Upchurch award.

In October 2022, Charlie was honored for his commitment and dedication to the Verhovay Home Association and WPA, which included serving as a member of the WPA Board of Directors for 12 years, as treasurer of the Verhovay for over 30 years and as the branch coordinator for Branch 336.

At the ceremony, Charlie was presented with a Gold Lifetime membership card from the Home Association, whose members and officers donated a Gold Leaf on the WPA's Tree of Knowledge in his honor. The inscription on the leaf reads: "In honor of Charles S. Johns for his dedication and service to the WPA and Branch 336." Charlie celebrated that evening with good friends, including William J. Bero, former Vice Chair of the WPA Board, and Sandy Stasko.

Continued on Page 24

**Save the date!**

# **WPA PICNIC**

**SATURDAY  
AUGUST 9, 2025**

---

**Pittsburgh Shrine Center**  
1877 Shriners Way, Cheswick, PA

---

*More details to be announced soon!*



# How to organize and store your life insurance records

From the  
**Insurance  
Information  
Institute**

**T**he last thing you want to happen after you die is for your beneficiaries to be unable to locate and submit a claim on your life insurance. To prevent this, you should have copies of your life insurance records in at least two places. This is to make it less likely that you'll lose them (to fire, flood, accidental discarding, etc.) and more likely that, after your death, your beneficiaries will find them.

## *What information should I keep?*

For each individual life insurance policy on your life, you should record the following information:

- The full name of the life insurance company that issued the policy.
- The city and state of the home office of the company that issued the policy.
- The name and U.S. headquarters of the group, if the issuing company belongs to a group of companies.
- The policy number.
- The date the policy was issued.
- The amount of the death benefit.
- The name and address of the agent/broker who sold you the policy.
- The type of policy (e.g., term, whole life, etc.).
- The location of the original life insurance policy.

## *Employer or group life policies*

You might have life insurance automatically from your employer. Your employer also might offer you the chance to buy additional life insurance under a group policy. And you might be eligible to buy life insurance under a group policy from your union or trade association or other group you belong to (such as a college alumni association or an automobile club). For each of these life insurance benefits, you should record the following information:

- The name of the employer or group that sponsors the insurance.
- The office or person to contact when it's time to file a claim.
- The certificate number (comparable to the policy number under an individual policy).
- The date the insurance was started.
- The amount of the death benefit.

## *Other financial programs with death benefits*

Sometimes financial programs that are mainly designed for income or other purposes have death benefits as additional features. This might include pensions, annuities, workers compensation programs, disability insurance, travel accident insurance, etc. For each such program, you should record the following information:

- The type of policy that has a death benefit as part of its features.
- The full name of the life insurance company that issued the policy.





- The city and state of the home office of the company that issued the policy.
- The policy number.
- The date the policy was issued.
- The amount of the death benefit.
- The name and address of the agent/broker who sold you the policy.
- The location of the original insurance policy.

### ***Credit cards and loans with life insurance benefits***

Credit cards and lending institutions may offer life insurance to pay off your outstanding loans in the event of your death. For each life insurance benefit on your life dedicated to paying off a loan, you should record:

- The full name of the lending institution through which you obtained the life insurance.
- The loan number and issue date of the loan.

- The name of the person or office to contact when it's time to file a claim.
- The policy number of the life insurance policy that pays off the loan.

### ***Where should I keep the information?***

Keep one set of these records in your home, in a place where others who need this information are likely to find it (and after you put the information there, tell the people who'll need it where it is). This might be with your other financial records (such as income tax, checking account, investment records), with your other legal papers (such as a copy of your will, living will, health care proxy, etc.), or anywhere your survivors are likely to look for them.

Keep another set of these records "off site," that is, outside of your home, perhaps in a safe deposit box or with a professional or a relative who can be counted on to produce them when they're needed.

On each page, record the date on which the information was last updated. That way, if the copy in your home differs from the one in the safe deposit box, it's easy to tell which is the more current.



# Come grow with us

William Penn Association is looking to grow and expand its reach in current and possibly new markets. To do this, we are seeking to add highly motivated agents to our list of over 800 existing agents. WPA currently writes insurance and annuity products in 20 states -- CA, CT, DE, FL, IL, IN, KY, MD, MA, MI, MO, NC, NE, NJ, NY, OH, PA, VA, WV and WI -- and in DC. To grow, we need both full-time and part-time agents. WPA has much to offer our members and the agents who write for us. If you are interested in an opportunity to grow with us, then contact Sales Director Barbi Tew at 412-231-2979, ext.120.



## Winter gone; Spring is on

**W**ith winter almost gone, we can now look forward to enjoying some warmer weather outside. And, after getting through the holidays and the festive meals, we hope your resolution for 2025 is to be healthier and to eat healthy, as well. Fortunately, springtime is the perfect time to change your eating habits from “okay” to “gourmet.”

Remember the old saying, “you are what you eat”? It’s true. I find that, as I have grown older, my tastebuds have changed, and what I used to enjoy in the way of meat and potatoes have now been replaced by healthier options. I read food labels, the game plan being to make sure I’m getting more protein and fewer fats and carbohydrates.

Keeping that in mind, springtime has an abundance of veggies, herbs and proteins you can combine for some great meals. It will get you away from heavy stews, meats, pastas and the like.

If you enjoy exploring the World Wide Web (i.e., the Internet), you can learn a lot and be very creative with what you prepare to eat for any meal of the day. Remember: curiosity is the mother of invention and new ideas, especially in the kitchen.

For this issue, I’m sharing five recipes that I consider to be better than ordinary for lunch or dinner. I hope that after trying them, you’ll agree. So, into the kitchen we go!



**Air Fryer Fish Sticks**



**Brie & Fruit Griller**

### Air Fryer Fish Sticks

- 16 ounces frozen haddock, pollock or cod, thawed
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt
- ½ teaspoon ground black pepper
- ¾ cup all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons Old Bay seasoning
- 2 whole eggs
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 2 cups panko breadcrumbs

Divide the fish into eight portions, pat dry with paper towels. Season each piece with the salt and pepper and set aside.

In a small bowl, combine the Old Bay seasoning with the flour. In another small bowl, combine the eggs and Dijon mustard and blend.

Coat the pieces of fish first in the flour, then the egg mixture, and finally with the panko crumbs. Refrigerate until ready to cook.

Preheat your air fryer to 400°F and lightly oil or pan spray your basket or fryer shelf.

Cook the fish sticks for 12 to 16 minutes until golden brown on both sides. Remove from the fryer and serve hot to your guests.

*\*If you don’t have an air fryer, you can bake the fish in your oven preheated to 350°F for 12 to 15 minutes.*

### Brie & Fruit Griller

- 1 tablespoon of your favorite jam
- 1 teaspoon whole grain mustard
- ½ teaspoon fresh rosemary, finely chopped
- 2 slices whole-grain sandwich bread
- 3 slices (2 ounces) Brie cheese

In a small bowl, stir together the jam, mustard and rosemary. Spread the mixture on one slice of the bread, then top with Brie slices and cover with the second bread slice.

Coat a skillet with cooking spray or one tablespoon oil over medium-low heat. Place the sandwich in the skillet and cook until the bottom is golden, about three minutes, then turn over and cook until the cheese is melted, about two to three minutes. Remove from pan, slice and serve.

*William Vasvary, CEC, ACE, MBBQ, (Chef Béla) is an instructor at the Mount Holly Campus of Rowan College at Burlington County, NJ. He is a member of the American Culinary Federation, a Master BBQ Cook, and judge of the Kansas City Barbeque Society.*





## Spinach & Asparagus Quiche

1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil  
 ½ cup onion, chopped  
 1 pound fresh asparagus, cut into one-inch pieces  
 2 cups baby spinach, packed  
 2 teaspoons fresh or dried thyme leaves  
 2 cloves garlic, minced  
 6 whole eggs  
 ½ cup half & half or heavy cream  
 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard  
 ¼ teaspoon salt  
 ¼ teaspoon black pepper  
 1½ cups gruyere or cheddar cheese, shredded

Preheat oven to 375°F and coat a 9-inch-deep pie pan with cooking spray.

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat, then add the onion and cook until translucent. Add the asparagus and cook until it is tender-crisp. Add the spinach, thyme and garlic to wilt the spinach and the mixture is aromatic. Remove from the heat and cool for 20 minutes.

In a mixing bowl whisk the eggs, half & half (or cream), mustard, salt and pepper. Add the asparagus mixture, and then the cheese. Blend well, then spoon the mixture into the pie pan and place the pie pan on a baking sheet to catch any overflow.

Bake for 30 to 35 minutes until the quiche is firm and the edges are a golden brown. Let rest for 10 minutes before slicing then serve to your guests.

## Broccoli Melt

4 cups fresh broccoli florets, finely chopped  
 3 tablespoons water  
 2½ tablespoons extra virgin olive oil  
 2 cloves garlic, minced  
 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning  
 ¼ teaspoon crushed red pepper  
 ½ teaspoon lemon zest  
 ¼ teaspoon salt  
 4 slices whole-wheat or Texas toast bread  
 ¾ cup fontina or cheddar cheese

In a skillet, combine the broccoli and water, then cook until the broccoli is almost tender. Add one tablespoon of olive oil, the garlic, Italian seasoning and crushed red pepper, then cook until the mixture is fragrant and the water has evaporated, about one minute. Transfer the mixture to a bowl, then add the lemon zest and salt, mixing well. Wipe the skillet clean.

Place two bread slices on a flat surface. Top each slice with three tablespoons of cheese and half of the broccoli mixture, then sprinkle the rest of the cheese evenly over each slice. Top each with a plain slice of bread and press down firmly.

Heat the remaining olive oil in the skillet over medium heat and cook the sandwiches until the cheese is melted and the crusts are golden brown. Slice and serve hot to your guests.



## Chicken Caesar Greens

1½ teaspoons Dijon mustard  
 2 cloves garlic, minced  
 ½ teaspoon black pepper  
 8 ounces chicken tenders  
 ¼ cup extra-virgin olive oil  
 ½ cup Greek yogurt  
 ¼ cup Parmesan cheese, grated  
 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce  
 ½ teaspoon anchovy paste  
 ¼ teaspoon lemon juice  
 2 cups romaine lettuce, chopped or shredded  
 2 cups baby spinach, chopped or shredded  
 ½ cup Caesar seasoned croutons

In a small bowl, combine the mustard, garlic and ¼ teaspoon pepper, then add the chicken and toss until evenly coated.

Heat a tablespoon of oil in a skillet over medium heat, then add the chicken and cook, turning once until done (temp should be 165°F). Transfer to a cutting board and let cool before slicing.

In another small bowl, whisk the yogurt, Worcestershire sauce, anchovy paste, lemon juice and remaining oil, then season to taste with salt and pepper.

Add the Romaine lettuce and spinach, then toss until well coated.

Divide the salad between two plates and top with the sliced pieces of chicken, seasoned croutons and Parmesan cheese.

*\*For extra flavor, coat the chicken with the mustard/garlic mixture the day before and let it marinate overnight in your refrigerator.*

# WPA Tour 2025

## Explore the Land of the Magyars

### September 8-22

**JOIN US** for the experience of a lifetime as WPALife and EuroVIP Tours present the WPA Tour 2025. This year's tour not only includes visits to some of Hungary's most famous and beautiful destinations, but also includes a day trip to Slovakia. All members and friends of WPA are invited to join us for this exciting journey to the Land of the Magyars, but space is limited, so inquire about bookings as soon as possible. The tour package includes:

- 14 Days & 13 nights in Hungary
- Four-star hotel accommodations
- Two meals each day (buffet breakfast and either lunch or dinner)
- Europe's oldest camera obscura in Eger
- An immersive visit to an ancient Matyó village
- Wine tasting in the Tokaj region
- The beautiful Lipizzaner horse farm in Szilvássvár
- The recently-reconstructed Castle District
- All entrance fees in the planned itinerary
- Ground transportation on a first-class, air-conditioned tour bus
- English-speaking tour guide
- Lots of walking each day
- And MORE!

**For more information,  
contact Judit Ganchuk  
at the WPA Home Office.  
Call 412-231-2979, ext. 149, or  
email [jganchuk@wpalife.org](mailto:jganchuk@wpalife.org).**



**Land Tour: \$3,180.00** (based on double occupancy).

**Airfare: \$1,810.00** (Detroit to Budapest, roundtrip).

Single accommodations are available for an additional \$880.00.

All participants must have a current, valid U.S. passport.

Purchasing travel insurance is encouraged.

## WPA Tour 2025 • Reservation Deadline: May 1, 2025

Name (as it appears on your passport): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ WPALife Member?  Yes  No

WPALife Certificate Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodations:  Double / Roommate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Single (Add \$880.00 to tour price)

Send this form to: **WPA Tour 2025, William Penn Association, 709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233**

**\*Please include a photocopy of your current passport's photo page with this reservation form.**

**DO NOT SEND PAYMENT WITH THIS FORM.**

## Eligibility Rules for Year 2025-2026 Scholarship Grants

The Board of Directors has established the following rules governing eligibility for scholarship recipients:

- a) The student applying for a scholarship grant must be an individual life benefit member of William Penn Association in good standing for four (4) years as of January 1, 2025.
- b) Scholarship grants are awarded to full-time undergraduate students only if they are accepted by or are currently attending an accredited college, university, school of nursing, technical or trade school.
- c) Grants are awarded based on the student's plan of insurance:
  - Applicants with the Special Juvenile Term to Age 25 plan are eligible for a ONE-TIME \$500 grant, **OR**
  - Applicants with any Whole Life plan with a \$5,000 minimum face amount are eligible for a ONE-TIME \$2,000 grant.
  - Conversion from the Juvenile Term plan to a Whole Life plan is permitted to be eligible for the larger grant. This must be completed before finalizing your scholarship application.
- d) All applicants must complete and submit the WPFA Scholarship Foundation, Inc. Application for Scholarship Grant, which can be found in this issue of *William Penn Life*. An application also may be obtained by writing to: WPFA Scholarship Foundation, Inc., 709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233 or may be downloaded from the Association's website at [www.wpalife.org](http://www.wpalife.org).
- e) **All Applicants** must complete ONE (1) of the following requirements:
  - Submit an essay on a topic that is meaningful to you, with a minimum of 150 words.
  - Either attend a current WPA branch event/project, which must be approved and verified by a Branch Officer, **OR** participate in a current community service project, proof of which must be detailed and verified by the Event Coordinator. Such verification from either the Branch Officer or Event Coordinator must be submitted by the student to the WPA Home Office by the application deadline date. You may also submit a photograph of your participation for publication in *William Penn Life*.
  - Write an article for publication in *William Penn Life*, approved at the Editor's discretion.
- f) All applications, essays, documents and articles must be signed and dated by the student applicant and submitted either via the U.S. Postal Service to the WPFA Scholarship Foundation, Inc. at the address listed in section (d) above, **OR** via email to [scholarship@wpalife.org](mailto:scholarship@wpalife.org), **OR** via fax to 412-231-8535. **Materials submitted by anyone other than the student applicant will not be considered.** All applications, essays, articles and other documents (excluding proof of enrollment) must be postmarked, emailed or faxed by **Friday, May 30, 2025**. Items postmarked, emailed or faxed after that date will not be considered.
- g) All applicants must submit proof of enrollment for the Fall 2025 academic term. Such proof of enrollment must be mailed and postmarked, emailed or faxed to the WPA Home Office by **Friday, August 29, 2025**.
- h) Scholarship grants will be awarded to the applicant by the Executive Committee of the WPFA Scholarship Foundation, Inc. on a one-time basis. **Grants will be paid directly to the student applicant provided the student applicant is a life benefit member in good standing on the date the check is issued, and all the eligibility requirements stated herein have been met.**
- i) If for any reason the recipient does not attend the school after receiving the grant, it must be returned to the WPFA Scholarship Foundation, Inc.
- j) In compliance with current privacy laws, all information regarding scholarship status will be divulged only to the adult student applicant or to the parents or legal guardians of a minor student applicant.

*Students with questions about these eligibility rules may contact Mary Ann Kelly-Lovasz at the Home Office.  
Phone: 412-231-2979, Ext. 128 • E-mail: [scholarship@wpalife.org](mailto:scholarship@wpalife.org) • Fax: 412-231-8535.*

# William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233-1821

Phone: 412-231-2979 • Fax: 412-231-8535 • Email: scholarship@wpalife.org



## Application for Scholarship Grant Academic Year 2025-2026



### STUDENT APPLICANT INFORMATION

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE OF BIRTH:** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle Initial

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
No. Street  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip Code

**STUDENT APPLICANT'S PHONE:** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WPA LIFE INSURANCE CERTIFICATE NO.:** \_\_\_\_\_ **WPA BRANCH NO.:** \_\_\_\_\_

### ACCREDITED COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF NURSING OR TECHNICAL/TRADE SCHOOL WHERE ACCEPTED:

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address or P. O. Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAJOR COURSE OF STUDY (e.g., ENGINEERING, PRE-MEDICAL, BUSINESS, ETC.):** \_\_\_\_\_

**HAVE YOU EVER RECEIVED A WPFASF, INC. SCHOLARSHIP GRANT?**  YES  NO

I hereby certify that I have read the eligibility rules prior to completing this application. I further certify that this application contains no misstatements or omissions of material fact and that the statements herein are, to the best of my knowledge, complete and correct. I also hereby authorize and approve the WPFASF Scholarship Foundation or its representatives to share or discuss this application with my parents and/or legal guardians.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Student Applicant**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**Completed application form & other documents required under section (e) of the eligibility rules (excluding proof of enrollment) must be mailed & postmarked or sent via email or faxed by May 30, 2025. If you do not receive acknowledgement of your email submission within 7 days, please contact us.**

## Paper folding tricks and facts

Believe it or not, you can have a lot of fun -- and even do some pretty amazing things -- with a sheet of paper, a pair of scissors and some tape. We'll show you one trick below. But, first, here are a couple of fun facts about paper you can share with your friends:

Fun Fact #1: Did you know that it's impossible to fold a piece of  $8\frac{1}{2}$  x 11-inch paper in half more than seven times? That's because the number of layers doubles each time you fold the paper, and it quickly gets too thick and too small to fold. In fact, according to *BBC Science Focus* magazine, if it were possible to fold that sheet of paper in half 26 times, it would be thicker than the height of Mount Everest.

Fun fact #2: In 2002, Britney Gallivan, a high school student from California, set the current world paper-folding record when she managed to fold a 3,900 foot-long piece of tissue paper 12 times!

Now, for a fun paper folding trick you can do to impress your friends. You'll be turning two paper rings into a square!

### **What you need:**

- A sheet of paper
- A pen or pencil
- A pair of scissors
- Tape

### **What you do:**

- Cut two strips of paper, each about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide.
- Tape each strip into a loop, one inside of the other, without twisting them.
- Draw a line around both of them and tape the loops together as pictured.
- Cut around both circles following the lines.
- When you finish, open it up, and you will have a large square!



**Help us build up our community on Facebook and X by sharing photos safely @WPALife and #wpalife. Make sure you tag #papertricks and #WPALife and share us with family and friends.**

# What's Happening

EVENTS PAST AND FUTURE

## April

- 05** Free Hungarian Reformed Church Spring Bingo Luncheon, McKeesport, PA. Information: 412.672.7298
- 26** Eastern European Heritage Experience, American Czech-Slovak Club, Dayton, OH. Information: 937.207.8748, [MagyarClubofDayton.org](http://MagyarClubofDayton.org)

## May

- 04** Branch 336/Verhovay Home Association Golf Outing. Information: [verhovayhomeassn@gmail.com](mailto:verhovayhomeassn@gmail.com)

## June

- 07** 50th Anniversary of the First Hungarian Festival on Somerset Street, New Brunswick, NJ. Information: [www.hungarianfestival.org](http://www.hungarianfestival.org)
- 07** Branch 89 / Al and Betty Vargo Memorial Golf Outing, Champion Lakes G.C., Bolivar, PA. Information: 412.398.2078

## July

- 26** Branch 226 Bacon Roast, McKeesport, PA. Information: text message 412.566.7191

## August

- 09** WPA Picnic, The Shrine Center, Cheswick, PA. More information to be published in upcoming issues of *WPALife*.
- 16** Branch 89 / Steel Valley Fire Department Golf Outing, Grandview Golf Course, Braddock, PA. Information: 412.398.2078

## September

- 08-22** WPA Tour 2025, leaving from Detroit, MI. Information: [jganchuk@wpalife.org](mailto:jganchuk@wpalife.org)
- 19-20** Polacek Family Johnstown Slavic Festival, Johnstown, PA. Information: [www.jaha.org/events/johnstown-slavic-festival/](http://www.jaha.org/events/johnstown-slavic-festival/)
- 21** Branch 336/Verhovay Home Association Golf Outing. Information: [verhovayhomeassn@gmail.com](mailto:verhovayhomeassn@gmail.com)

If you know of an event happening in your area that you think your fellow WPA members might like to attend, send your information to John Lovasz at [jlovasz@wpalife.org](mailto:jlovasz@wpalife.org).

## Branch 9 Hazleton, PA

**By Dora S. McKinsey**

Greetings from Branch 9! Happy spring to all! Officially, spring starts on March 20 this year. May March usher in warmer days and sunshine. Flower buds will soon be opening and I, for one, can't wait to get my hands dirty digging in the soil.

Easter falls on April 20 this year. Since Easter falls later in the calendar year, young girls' and boys' Easter outfits will most certainly be on display for all to enjoy. May you remember and celebrate the real reason for the holiday.

Branch members continue to volunteer at Pine Grove Area Pathway, a food and essential item pantry. More and more people have been coming due to the high cost of food in the stores. Pathway operates solely on donations, monetary or otherwise. Please remember to donate to your local food pantry since the need is so great.

Remember that WPA is a safe and reliable place to purchase life insurance and/or invest in an annuity. Contact your local agent, Sara Barra, at [s\\_mckinsey@hotmail.com](mailto:s_mckinsey@hotmail.com) to help with all your needs. Now would be a perfect time to make sure your beneficiaries are up-to-date, too.

Be safe and healthy. May you find peace and contentment in ordinary, everyday occurrences.

## Branch 14 Cleveland, OH

**By Richard E. Sarosi**

Warm winter greetings to our members and friends. The planning of the Hungarian activities has begun in the Hungarian community in Cleveland and northeast Ohio. You can be sure that interesting events and activities will take place in 2025.



## NEXT DEADLINE

The next issue of William Penn Life will be a combined May/June 2025 issue.

All submissions for that issue will be due in our office by April 4, 2025.

I had the opportunity to attend the 67th Fehér Rózsa Bál (White Rose Ball) on Feb. 1 at Lovett Hall of the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, MI. This formal event was sponsored by the Hungarian Arts Club. Music for the Bál was performed by Walt Mahovich and the Harmonia Orchestra. Highlights of this very enjoyable evening included the presentation of the 2025 debutantes, the announcement of the 2025 Hungarian Arts Club scholarship award winner and a performance of the Palotás dance.

On Feb. 6, I attended a reception for Hungary's Ambassador to the United States Of America, Szabolcs Takács, at the Cleveland Hungarian Heritage Museum (Clevelandi Magyar Múzeum). Ambassador Takács is in Cleveland and will be attending the Mándoki Concert (László "Leslie" Mándoki) performance, at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in downtown Cleveland.

Leslie Mándoki was born in Budapest, Hungary in 1957. He was arrested 17 times by the communist regime and escaped through a tunnel to freedom. He became a world-famous musician who has performed with other famous musicians, such as Jethro Tull's Ian Anderson, Chaka Khan, Robin Gibb, Deep Purple's Jon Lord, Peter

Frampton, Phil Collins and Lionel Richie.

Dr. Balázs Mártonffy, Hungarian Counsel General from the Chicago Office accompanied Ambassador Takács. It was an exciting opportunity for our visitors to see the displayed Hungarian artifacts and historical items from the Hungarian community of Cleveland.

Ambassador Takács and his entourage also visited Mindszenty Plaza to place flowers on the Hungarian Revolution statues.

A small reception was held for the ambassador before the concert.

Although his visit was short, Ambassador Takács and his group enjoyed their visit to some of Cleveland's Hungarian sites. We hope he will visit Cleveland again.

Congratulations to Branch 14 students who received a scholarship for the 2025 school year. Follow your dreams and goals to the best of your ability and the results will be wonderful for you. No one can take away your education.

Remember, parents, to support and encourage your students in their education and career goals. They represent the future. They have educational opportunities and activities available to them which would not be possible without your support and the support of family members purchasing



WPA life insurance and annuities.

To the moms and dads of our students: You are now taking the place of your parents and grandparents in the purchasing of WPA insurance policies for your children. And, when your children grow into adults, make sure they sign up for their adult life plans. Contact your WPA sales representative, who will assist you and your child in selecting the best policies to fill your and their needs.

Remember: your child must be a member of WPA with a minimum of \$5,000 face amount of life insurance for at least four years to qualify for a grant through the WPAFA Scholarship Foundation.

Branch 14 meetings are held at St. John Byzantine Catholic Church, located at 36125 Aurora Road, Solon, OH (at the corner of Aurora Road and Liberty Road). All Branch 14 adult members and adult guests are welcome to attend the branch meeting.

All meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month, March through June and September through December, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Our schedule for Branch 14 meetings for 2025 is as follows:

- March 5
- April 2
- May 7
- June 4

- Sept. 3
- Oct. 1
- Nov. 5
- Dec. 3

In addition, our branch's annual Christmas party is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 6, at Mentor Presbyterian Church, 5855 Hopkins Road, Mentor Ohio 44060. (Time to be announced.)

Please call Branch 14 President Caroline Lanzara at 216-970-2769 or Branch 14 Secretary/Treasurer Richard Sarosi at 440-248-9012 with questions regarding the scheduled meeting dates listed above.

We remember those WPA members who have passed away or may have recently lost a loved one. May our friends, family and WPA members who are no longer among us rest in peace.

Get well wishes are being sent to all WPA members who might be feeling under the weather, dealing with health issues or recovering from a surgery. Please keep them in your prayers and thoughts.

Happy birthday and happy anniversary wishes are being sent to all of our branch members, Home Office staff and fellow WPA members who are celebrating a March or April birthday and/or anniversary.

It is important to keep in touch with someone you haven't seen or talked with in a long time. It is so

good to have contact and catch up on how they are doing. Take the time to call, write, email or text. Plan a visit, if you can. It makes a difference.

It is especially important to remember family and friends who are in hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, nursing homes and extended care facilities. Call ahead to check where visits may or may not be possible. Everyone loves to receive cards, notes, telephone calls, have visits and the opportunity to hear from family and friends. Do not forget them.

Branch 14 members having news to share about themselves or family members can reach me at [Richsaro@att.net](mailto:Richsaro@att.net) or at 440-248-9012.

## Branch 28 Youngstown, OH

*By Kathy Novak*

Happy spring! I hope the weather will be bringing us brighter days, allowing us to be able to return to outdoor activities. Now we can start to think about all the upcoming summer events.

Just a reminder to our members planning to attend college or continuing education: The application deadline for WPA's Scholarship program is May 30, 2025.



**Double the value of your hurricane relief donation**

WPALife is calling on its members and friends to help those left homeless or otherwise in need following last year's hurricanes which devastated much of the Southeastern United States. Hurricanes Helene and Milton killed hundreds of people, left thousands of homes uninhabitable and destroyed the livelihoods of many families. To aid those affected by these latest disasters, WPALife -- through its William Penn Association Foundation -- has initiated a special matching funds donation campaign, in conjunction with Brother's Brother Foundation, to provide food, water, clothing, and other necessities to those so desperately in need. All donations collected will be matched dollar-for-dollar by WPALife, up to a total of \$10,000, thus doubling the value of your donation. If you would like to help those affected by the hurricanes, please make your tax-deductible donation payable to "William Penn Association Foundation" and send it to:

**Hurricane Relief, William Penn Association Foundation  
709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233**



## Are your beneficiaries up to date?

That's a question you should ask yourself at least once a year. Regularly checking the beneficiaries listed on your life insurance certificates is the only way to ensure that the people you want to receive the benefits of your life insurance are the ones who will receive it.

Think about the changes that have occurred in your life since you purchased your life insurance. Getting married, having children, losing a loved one and getting remarried are all life changes that affect your responsibilities. Do the beneficiaries listed on your life insurance certificates reflect such changes?

If you need to update the beneficiaries listed on your WPA certificates—either primary or secondary beneficiaries—contact your WPA representative. Or, call our Home Office at 412-231-2979.

Congratulations to the Hungarian Arts Club of Detroit for preparing and hosting the annual traditional White Rose Ball on Feb. 1. Those who attended once again saw a wonderful presentation.

Best wishes to WPA's new Sales Director, Barbi Tew, and new Sales Coordinator, Nicole King. Looking forward to the ideas they will be bringing to the Association.

Please continue to remember all those unfortunate victims of the LA fires. We never know how life can change in a split second.

Get well wishes go to everyone who has not feeling up to par, especially Nancy Gunyula, Irene Devlin, Tina Nemeth, Dana Risi, Mamie Tollas and Frank Prologo.

Best wishes to all those celebrating a birthday or anniversary.

We extend our sincere sympathy to all those who have recently experienced the loss of a loved one.

We especially remember retired National Director Charlie Johns who passed away in January. He was always supportive of all of the fraternal events of the WPA. Through the years, he mentored many directors and branch members. Charlie will be greatly missed.

Our thoughts are also with the family of Rev. Kalamán Ludwig who also passed away. Rev. Ludwig was a friend to all who made his acquaintance. May they rest in peace.

Hoping everyone has a blessed and beautiful Easter season.

For WPA information, please call Alan at 330 482-9994 or Kathy at 330-746-7704.

## **Branch 89** **Homestead, PA**

**By Mark S. Maskarinec and Lisa S. Toth-Maskarinec**

Baby it's cold outside, as the saying goes. But, we have already started planning for our June golf outing. Last year, you may recall we rebranded this golf outing the

Al Vargo Memorial Golf Outing. The outing benefits the William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation and the First Hungarian Reformed Church of Homestead. This year, we are rebranding yet again to include Al's wife, the late Betty Vargo. So, the outing will now be called the Al and Betty Vargo Memorial Golf Outing.

Last year, with limited time and resources, we were able to raise over \$3,000 for the Scholarship Foundation. Fortunately, we were blessed to have the support of not only Al and Betty's daughters -- Karen, Diane and Sharon -- and their families but also William Penn Association. We had first-rate auction items and swag bags and all sorts of stuff. But, more than anything else, we had a lot of fun.

This year, we want to build on last year's success, and we need your help to do that. The outing will be held at Champion Lakes Golf Course in Bolivar, PA on Saturday, June 7. More about the outing itself in the next issue. We hope you will attend. We always need golfers. If you are a golfer, please plan on attending and bring a foursome (or two!). Don't golf? Come anyway. If you come early, you can always volunteer. We always need volunteers. Even if you can't make it, you can sponsor a hole or donate a prize (such as a bottle of wine or lottery tickets).

This is truly a labor of love for us. So, save the date and join us!

Branch 89 wants to take this moment to wish everyone a Belated and Happy Easter. Hope it was a very special day for you and your family.

We represented the branch at the 3rd Annual Night at The Races on Feb. 1. This was a benefit for the volunteer fire companies in the Steel Valley Area. They are the same firefighters who benefit from our golf outing in August and are very appreciative of any assistance

**Open to all members and friends of WPA!**



## Al and Betty Vargo Memorial Golf Outing



Saturday, June 7, 2025  
Champion Lakes Golf Course  
Bolivar, PA



For more information about  
golfing in the outing,  
hole sponsorships,  
donating & volunteering,  
contact Lisa or Mark at:  
[tothmaskarinec@gmail.com](mailto:tothmaskarinec@gmail.com)  
or 412-398-2078

Proceeds to benefit The First Hungarian Reformed Church of Homestead, PA  
and the WPFA Scholarship Foundation, Inc. in memory of Al & Betty Vargo

they receive and are always willing to help. We figured if we expected them to help with the outing in August, we definitely needed to support them with this event. It was truly a wonderful night. Even though Mark's horse, Callahan's Charm, came in last, a great time was had by all, and the ultimate winners were the fire departments who are there for all of us in our time of need.

Due to the rising prices of ingredients (especially eggs), it doesn't look like our church will be doing its holiday baking project. We are trying to figure out less expensive ways to continue this project. Let us know if you will still be interested in purchasing baked goods.

We extend our condolences to the families of our recently departed members: Edith Clydesdale, William Grega, Steven Gyure, David Howe, George Kiro, Julia Linn and Stephen Szabo. May they rest in peace.

Our article is a bit shorter than usual, but as it gets closer to the

golf outing time, we will have more news.

Lisa will be reserving a block of rooms at the Ramada Inn in Ligonier for the golf outing. Please let us know if you will need a room or two.

Let's go spring and warm weather.

And, as always, please take time to do something nice for someone. In the end, they will feel better and so will you. It takes very little effort to smile and be nice than to be mean.

## Branch 129 Columbus, OH

**By Debbie Lewis**

Hello, everyone, from Columbus, OH. Hoping this issue finds all in good health and spirits.

The weather has been cold with some warm days here and there. Hoping the warmer weather and the sunshine get here soon and stays!

Important dates for March include: Mardi Gras (March 4), Ash Wednesday (March 5), Branch 129 meeting (March 12), St. Patrick's Day (March 17) and spring begins (March 20).

Days of note coming in the month of April include: April Fool's Day (April 1), Palm Sunday (April 13), Tax Day (April 15), Good Friday (April 18), Easter Sunday (April 20), Earth Day (April 22) and Arbor Day (April 25).

Our next branch meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 12, at 4:00 p.m. It will be held at Plank's Cafe, located at 743 Parsons Ave. in Columbus. At this meeting, we will be discussing our participation in various programs sponsored by the Home Office, including Easter Baskets, Join Hands Day and Join Hands Against Hunger, as well as other activities planned for later in the year.

We would like to wish everyone a Blessed Easter. Hoping we will have great weather and be able to spend time with family and friends.

Congratulations to all celebrating birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and additions to their families in the months of March and April.

Get well wishes to all those who have been ill or hospitalized. We wish all of you have a speedy recovery.

We also extend our sincere sympathy to all those who have recently lost a loved one. Please keep them and all deceased members of our branch in your thoughts and prayers.

If you have any news you would like to share about yourself or family members in the pages of this magazine, or if you would like more information about WPA life insurance and annuity plans, please contact me, Debbie Lewis, at 614-875-9968, 614-214-1840 or e-mail [DAL9968@aol.com](mailto:DAL9968@aol.com).

## Branch 226 McKeesport, PA

**By Judit Ganchuk**

We know spring weather and spring events are just around the corner. Happy Easter, or in Hungarian, *Kellemes húsvéti ünnepeket kívánunk!* Happy and blessed Passover and Ramadan to all who celebrate.

We want to spread some sunshine to our members, especially Shirley Marczinko and Goldie Szarka, who is now in a nursing home

We pray for the family and friends of Larry Matsick. May he rest in peace.

We hold our quarterly meetings in March, June, September and December. Our first meeting for the year 2025 will be held on Tuesday, March 25, at 6:00 p.m. at the Chik-fil-A restaurant at the Waterfront shopping center, about 15 minutes from McKeesport.

The next regular quarterly meeting will most likely be held on Tuesday, June 24, at 6:00 p.m. If that changes, we will let you know in our next branch report. In the meantime, please plan on attending so we can plan bigger and better things with you and your family in mind.

The Free Hungarian Reformed Church in McKeesport is hosting a Spring Bingo Luncheon on Saturday, April 5. Tickets cost \$25 and doors open at 11:30 a.m. Call 412-672-7298 for more information.

We are excited for our branch's bacon roast on Saturday July 26, and then we can meet you and your family at the WPA Picnic to be held on Saturday, Aug. 9, at the Shrine Center near Springdale/Cheswick.

Check out the William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation rules and application form, which can be found on pages 10 and 11 of this issue. Don't forget: the student applicant must be a life benefit member of WPA



for at least four years to be eligible for a grant from the WPFA Scholarship Foundation. Are all of the children in your family covered for this scholarship grant program?

Another thing for your growing to-do list: update your beneficiaries on your life insurance or annuity. You have time to discuss these ideas with your family around Easter, but don't wait too long!

Do you have good news you'd like us to share? Text message the branch at 412-566-7191 or find our private Facebook Group online. If you're on Facebook, we'd love to have you join our group. Make sure to "like" the main William Penn Association page on Facebook, too!

Remember: You are stronger than your excuses.

## Branch 249 Dayton, OH

**By Mark Schmidt**

Well, here we are in March. Mother Nature, make up your mind, is it winter or spring? One day it's 65 degrees, the next day it's 32 and snowing. Come on, make up your mind. Spring and winter coats don't both fit in my front door closet. And don't even get me started on pants or shorts!

I am looking at the calendar and noticed some peculiarities. Lent starts on Fat Tuesday, March 4, and in the middle of it is St Patrick's day, a day not known as one of fasting and restraint. And tax day, April 15, is in the middle of

Holy Week. I guess what the Good Lord giveth, the tax man taketh.

And on top of all this, we lose an hour sleep with Day Light Saving Time.

But, we don't lose locally with events.

We have the 3rd annual Eastern European Heritage Experience (EEHE) on Saturday, April 26, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the American Czech-Slovak Club grounds, located at 922 Valley St., Dayton. The EEHE is being promoted by the Magyar Club of Dayton to foster exposure, enthusiasm, cooperation and participation with the large number of Eastern European clubs, groups, businesses and entertainment that is in the greater south western Ohio region.

This event will provide guests with a cultural experience through foods, folk art, music, dancing and informational booths representing the 28 or so countries that make up Eastern Europe. There will be multiple food trucks, food booths, pastries, beer and wine, as well as two sound stages with ethnic music, entertainment and dancing all day. There will also be ethnic items and crafts for sale.

The WPA Home Office will again be a major sponsor with a WPA music stage and, of course, Branch 249 will have a table there. So, mark your calendar to save that Saturday for a fun time for kids and adults. At this early date, I do not have specific information about food, music, entertainment and kid's activities. I would check

the Magyar Club of Dayton website ([magyarclubofdayton.org](http://magyarclubofdayton.org)) around April 1, no fooling (pun intended).

We're looking forward to participating in WPA's Join Hands Against Hunger campaign, by making donations to The FoodBank Inc. and the House of Bread.

Our condolences go out to all those who have recently experienced the passing of a loved one. Remember that you are in our thoughts and prayers for comfort and healing.

Happy birthday to you winter

and spring babies. At this time of the year, it's hard to figure out if you're coming or going, just like the weather.

Good wishes also go out to those couples celebrating anniversaries in March or April. I hope you have really warm temperatures like your love or really cold temps so you can snuggle together for body warmth; if you get my drift!

If you have recently had a baby or grandchild, congratulations are due! Just remember what a great company WPA is and make that new child a member like you.

Speaking of new members, welcome Jackson Sifford, a fourth generation member of our Association.

Give me a shout on the phone or email me with any questions you may have about WPA or our activities, or if you have news or ideas you'd like to share. Contact me at [amschmidt@msn.com](mailto:amschmidt@msn.com) or 937-938-0198.

To follow up on last issue's finish; the GOOD Buckeye team showed up, and now we're singing "we are the champions, we are the champions....."

# Cash in on our highest interest rate:

# 5.5%

 on a 9-year Deferred Annuity guaranteed for 12 months

Other great rates available now:

- 5.25% on 5-Year Annuities guaranteed for 12 months
- 5.0% on 2-Year Annuities guaranteed for 24 months

Call us at **412-231-2979**, or your local WPA sales representative, to learn about investing in a WPA Deferred Annuity Plan.

*\*Early surrender charges may apply. Annuity rates may change without notice. All annuities may be subject to IRS penalties for early withdrawals. Early withdrawals of 10% of accumulated account values are not subject to early surrender charges.*

## Branch 296 Springdale, PA

**By Mary A. Kelly-Lovasz**

Welcome to March! Do you have a favorite fish fry that you'll visit during the Lenten season? If you're of Irish ancestry or even if you're not, will you wear the color green for St. Patrick's Day? How will you welcome the first day of spring? And, will you work on your brackets for the upcoming March Madness? So much to look forward to this month, let's make it a good one!

Attention all WPFASF, Inc. scholarship applicants: our updated eligibility rules and student application are in this issue on pages 10 and 11. You can also download them from our website at [www.wpalife.org](http://www.wpalife.org). The May 30, 2025 submission deadline is approaching, so don't delay.

Happy birthday to our Branch 296 members celebrating their special days in March, especially Cassie Holmes and John Torma. Belated birthday wishes to Cathy Mager and sending upcoming good wishes to Wayne Mager and all members anticipating their birthdays in April. Lots of good health and humor, and of course, happiness.

Wishing Toni Kosheba a complete recovery from her recent hip surgery. Encouraging wishes as well to those who are in recovery mode. We hope that sunnier skies are ahead for each of you.

We are thinking of those who are experiencing the passing of a loved one. The loss of a family member, a friend or a pet is an experience that each of us handles in one's own way. God grant our dearly departed eternal rest. May their memories always be blessings for us.

As I'm writing this, our region is bracing for an ice storm, but my brain is telling me that I need to remind you that our winter break is ending. Plan to attend our next

*Representing WPA at the 2025 White Rose Ball were (l-r): Harry Nicholson, Vice Chair of the Board Joyce E. Nicholson, National Director Richard E. Sarosi, Ursula Markovits of Branch 18 Lincoln Park, MI and National Director James W. Robertson.*



branch meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the Tarentum (Pittsburgh Mills) Eat'n Park, on Thursday, March 20. Look for us in their meeting room, found in the back of the restaurant. Those branch officers who are new will get their first chance at settling into their duties, and we're excited for them! In addition to that, it'll be great seeing everyone again. If you have never attended a meeting, we welcome you. Among discussion topics will be ideas for community outreach projects, planning another September branch bacon roast, plus our Join Hands Day project. It's actually not too early to invite Santa Claus to our branch Christmas party later in the year. Santa's one busy guy and his calendar fills up fast.

Our anticipated branch meeting dates are: April 24 (one week later since the week prior is Holy Week), May 15, Sept. 18, Oct. 16, and Nov. 20 at the Tarentum (Pittsburgh Mills) Eat'n Park Restaurant. Seeing your happy faces will make my day!

Local WPA sales representative Noreen Fritz usually attends our branch meetings, and she is always willing and able to assist you with your life insurance and annuity questions. Contact her at [noreen.fritz@comcast.net](mailto:noreen.fritz@comcast.net) or by phone at 412 821-1837.

Feel free to contact me at 724-274-5318 if you have any news to share.

April, we are anticipating

lots of great stuff from you this month. You'll bring us Easter, high school musicals, prom season, the beginning of college graduations, and, dare I say, another season of Pirates baseball! Hey, did I hear a collective groan when I mentioned the Pirates? Well, we'll see what Bob Nutting and company have in store for us. Sigh....

Happy spring everyone!

## Branch 349 Weirton, WV

**By Joyce Nicholson**

Spring and Easter are just around the corner! Maybe finally some warmer weather, too!

The annual White Rose Ball was held Feb. 2 at Lovett Hall on the grounds of The Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, MI. It was an absolutely stunning event with beautiful debutantes and their escorts. Thank you to the Hungarian Arts Club of Detroit who continue this decades-old tradition of introducing young girls of Hungarian descent to society.

Also, I am happy to announce the return of the Festival of Nations in Weirton, WV, at Millsop Community Center. The date is Saturday, March 22 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The event is free and will include food, music and dance from many nationalities.

This edition's interesting fact: Easter Sprinklin. It is an old Hungarian tradition for men to



*The debutantes presented at the 2025 White Rose Ball, along with their escorts.*

sprinkle girls at Easter. In the countryside, young men of the village set off and honored all the single girls with a whole bucket of cold water or simply threw them into the drinking trough. Oh, my!

Watering can be identified with the Christian fertility cult: we water flowers to grow, we water girls for the same reason.

This custom has become a bit less wild nowadays. Buckets have been replaced by fragrant cologne; so much more enjoyable than cold water!

In return for watering, girls made ornately-decorated boiled Easter eggs as gifts. In modern times, this tradition is generally limited to close family and friends.

Happy birthday to members with March/April birthdays. That includes you, Alan Szabo, Harry Nicholson, Diane Torma, Dave Kozak, Cassie Holmes, Steve Charles and Adam Sedar. Another trip around the sun for you!

Best wishes to members with anniversaries.

Our prayers go out to those who may have lost loved ones recently, including the family of branch member Richard Trischler.

Get well wishes continue to go out to those under the weather. There are so many who had or now have flu, covid or RSV. This crazy weather has taken its toll on folks this winter.

Be aware of upcoming April Fools' Day. Don't get caught by someone's joke!

Our branch had elections on Dec. 29 at Eat 'N Park in Weirton. The current slate of officers was reinstated for another two years.

If you have any news you wish to share with us, please contact me. You can

call on Alan Szabo for all your insurance needs at 330-482-9994. For information about our branch activities, please call or text with details to Joyce Nicholson at 740-264-6238.

Our next branch meeting will be Sunday, March 23 at our residence, 63 Meadow Lane, Wintersville at 6:00 p.m. To all our friends, relatives and members, please continue to stay safe and healthy.

## Branch 800 Altoona, PA

**By Joan B. Ballash**

It is with great sorrow that I write of the passing of our Branch President Daniel Greiner, on Jan. 2, 2025, after a brief illness. He



was 65-years young and is survived by his brother, Branch Vice President Dennis Greiner, with whom he resided. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother David.

Dan was a rural delivery driver

for the Altoona Mirror for 42 years and also worked part-time at Dunham's Sports. He and his brother attended sports events on a regular basis at their alma mater, Bishop Guilfoyle High School.

Our branch also lost Millie Frank, wife of the late Vince Frank, a former branch president, as well as member Mary H. Eakins. We extend sympathy to family and friends of these deceased and pray angels came to greet them.

Results of our recent branch election were as follows: Dennis Greiner, president; Mary Smithmyer, vice president; Joan Ballash, secretary; Bob Jones, treasurer; and Victor Ballash and Rob Gohn, Jr., auditors.

Congratulations to Emily E. Miller of Altoona, a 2024-2025 WPA scholarship grant recipient. We wish many blessings and success in her studies. Note: the 2025-2026 scholarship application and eligibility rules can be found on pages 10 and 11 of this issue. WPA is looking to award more grants. Deadline to apply is May 30, 2025.

Happy birthday to Victor Ballash and Mary Smithmyer, both April arrivals, and to our many members who were born either in March or April.

March brings special days such as the beginning of Lent, the start of Daylight Saving Time, St. Patrick's Day and the first day of spring, while April contains religious observances, including Passover, Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter. There are many events for participation.

If you have news to share, call 814-931-1712.

If you have questions or want information about life insurance or annuities, contact Bob Jones at 814-932-6809.

Branch 800 meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Education Center, 873-27th St., Altoona. All adults members are invited to attend.



## William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation

# Tree of Knowledge

Helping our young members meet the challenges of modern educational economics requires great effort by all our members and friends. Towards this end, the WPFA Scholarship Foundation has created the **Tree of Knowledge**. The Tree is mounted in the second floor foyer of the WPA Home Office. Those making donations through this program will be recognized with individual “leaves” on the tree, which can be used to honor and remember loved ones. Donations are being accepted at three levels: Gold (\$1,000), Silver (\$500) and Bronze (\$250). Those wishing to purchase a leaf may use the form below. Please help our tree “grow” and allow us to continue to assist young members reach their educational and professional dreams.

I want to help the Tree of Knowledge grow. Please accept my tax-deductible contribution of:

\$1,000 - Gold Level     \$500 - Silver Level     \$250 - Bronze Level

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Leaf Inscription - Maximum of 4 lines with 20 characters per line (including blank spaces):

Line 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Line 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Line 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to “William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc.” and mail to:

**William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc.**

**709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233-1821**



## Spring things

**A**s this issue was going to press, we at the Home Office in Pittsburgh were in the midst of severe cold wave, with wind chills dropping below zero. To say we were looking forward to the coming of spring and all the wonderful things that come with it, would be an understatement.

But that got us to thinking about exactly what things we associate with springtime. It should come as no surprise that nearly all of the things we relate to spring are also associated with being outdoors.

This month's puzzle include 15 things we think about when we think about spring. Good luck and Happy Spring!

### WPA PUZZLE CONTEST #213 OFFICIAL ENTRY

S D R I B Y K R Q I D X H U S  
 R E O D F Z E E S O Y A Y R F  
 B N I V X B F T I B T Y U S I  
 J P I L I N H S G V I L C C R  
 G I I R F I N A I I X W R W A  
 M A T C K R W E F L O W E R S  
 A H R I N S E C E T P Z M X N  
 W A N D M I K T K W Y P O S H  
 B G F M E E C E T K C N G R H  
 H Q Y E M N Y S X U I R O A T  
 L V S Z S G I Y I U B Q L I M  
 G N I N N U R N Q M F I F N R  
 N J S Y A D R E G N O L B Y A  
 M A R C H M A D N E S S B A W  
 L A C A X F Q A L W I I F J P

### "Spring Things" Word List

Birds	Gardening	Picnics
Butterflies	Golf	Rain
Easter	Hiking	Rebirth
Equinox	Longer Days	Running
Flowers	March Madness	Warmth

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 WPA Certificate No.: \_\_\_\_\_

### RULES

ALL **WPA members** are eligible to enter.  
 Complete the word search puzzle correctly.  
 Mail your completed puzzle, along with your name, address, phone number, email address, and WPA Certificate Number, to:

**WPA PUZZLE #213**  
 709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233

Entries must be received at the Home Office by **April 30, 2025**.  
 Four winners will be drawn from all correct entries on or about May 5, 2025, at the Home Office. Each winner will receive \$50.

### Puzzle Contest #210 WINNERS

The winners of our Puzzle Contest #210 were drawn Dec. 2, 2024 at the Home Office. Congratulations to:

- Stephen Stefan, Br. 249 Dayton, OH**
- Drew R. Glies, Br. 89 Homestead, PA**
- Michele T. Grobbel, Br. 18 Lincoln Park, MI**
- Loretta Piasecki, Br. 1 Bridgeport, CT**

Each won \$50 for their correct entry.

### Donations

#### WPFA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

#### Donations through Premium Payments

DECEMBER 2024

- Branch - Donor - Amount  
 8 - Jason A. Behory - \$11.60  
 8 - Edward T. Surkosky - \$20.00  
 26 - Elizabeth R. Pacy - \$2.87

- 28 - Elizabeth C. Spencer - \$25.00  
 28 - Kristen M. Taylor - \$20.00  
 88 - Jeanne M. Henry - \$4.57  
 88 - Joseph D. Chobody - \$100.00  
 89 - Cynthia R. DeLuca - \$3.44  
 89 - James M. Ujevich - \$4.62  
 129 - Julie Westcamp - \$5.00  
 129 - Kaarin Sheehan - \$50.00  
 132 - Matthew A. Burus - \$2.70  
 216 - David G. Mayberry - \$1.85

- 226 - Timothy R. Holtzman - \$2.80  
 226 - Caiden Biddle - \$10.00  
 226 - Arabella S. Hough - \$10.00  
 336 - Zita F. Prowse - \$7.45  
 352 - John W. Bush - \$15.00  
 383 - Julie Sterling - \$11.68  
 720 - Jeanine T. Godbout - \$1.00  
 800 - Joan B. Ballash - \$10.00  
**TOTAL for Month = \$319.58**

#### Additional Donations DECEMBER 2024

- Donor - Amount**  
**(In Memory of, if applicable)**  
 Elena Kraepel - \$10.00  
 Joseph McGrath - \$200.00  
 B. Murphy - \$50.00  
 WPA Br. 51 Passaic, NJ - \$300.00  
 WPA Cookbook Sales - \$20.00  
**TOTAL for Month = \$580.00**

Continued from Page 2

In his younger days, Charlie was a referee for high school football and basketball. At the end of the games, the players would line up to pay tribute to each other for their accomplishments. Now, we pay tribute to Charlie Johns for his years of commitment and tireless service to the Verhovay Home Association and the William Penn Association. May he rest in peace.

*Please remember in your thoughts and prayers Mr. Johns and all our recently departed members and their loved ones.*

**NOVEMBER 2024**

- 0001 BRIDGEPORT, CT  
Giuseppina Carbone  
Stephen J. Toth
- 0008 JOHNSTOWN, PA  
John J. Jubick  
Joseph Richards
- 0014 CLEVELAND, OH  
Violet M. Szabo  
Emma Jean Williamson  
Cullen F. Zond
- 0018 LINCOLN PARK, MI  
Robert R. Bradley  
Julia M. Bubenko
- 0019 NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ  
Anna Deutsch  
Lajos Kocsa  
Olga V. Radvany
- 0028 YOUNGSTOWN, OH  
Thomas J. Kutty
- 0034 PITTSBURGH, PA  
William Brierton  
Regis V. Fowler  
Eleanor Kopie  
Betty Smith
- 0048 NEW YORK, NY  
Doraine M. Cinelli
- 0089 HOMESTEAD, PA  
Edith A. Clydesdale  
Steven C. Gyure
- 0132 SOUTH BEND, IN  
Charles Poczik
- 0209 ST. LOUIS, MO  
Walter H. Westrup
- 0216 NORTHAMPTON, PA  
Paul N. Henry  
Vilma E. Koszi  
Sharon L. Szoke

- 0226 MCKEESPORT, PA  
Phillip W. Lemak
  - 0278 OMAHA, NE  
Ronald A. Kliment  
Steven A. Stemper
  - 0310 LYNCH, KY  
Ellen C. Marshall
  - 0336 HARRISBURG, PA  
Paul E. Keeney
  - 0349 WEIRTON, WV  
Linda L. Gereg
  - 0352 CORAOPOLIS, PA  
Betty J. Clark  
John J. Kovach  
Nancy F. Pellew
  - 0383 BUFFALO, NY  
Elizabeth Junke
  - 0590 CAPE CORAL, FL  
Twila K. Dorsey  
Josephine C. Gemelli  
John W. Lynd, Jr.
  - 0705 MAYVILLE, WI  
Julia Schmitz
  - 0720 DEDHAM, MA  
Constance M. Benoit  
Eileen E. Dufresne  
Ramona Flynn
  - 0800 ALTOONA, PA  
Mary H. Eakins
- DECEMBER 2024**
- 0001 BRIDGEPORT, CT  
Mary Reeves
  - 0008 JOHNSTOWN, PA  
Louis J. DelGross  
Marie M. Shander
  - 0014 CLEVELAND, OH  
Charles G. Farren  
Maribeth Katona
  - 0015 CHICAGO, IL  
Richard Kardos
  - 0018 LINCOLN PARK, MI  
Joseph L. Cigut  
Carol A. Scalici  
George A. Reeves
  - 0019 NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ  
Gaile J. Boothe  
Matilda Malan  
Julius Timko
  - 0026 SHARON, PA  
Zoltan Imre
  - 0028 YOUNGSTOWN, OH  
Patricia R. Redmond
  - 0044 AKRON, OH  
Donald W. Bacso  
Mary Mariner
  - 0048 NEW YORK, NY  
Frederick Sinn  
Julia Sinn
  - 0051 PASSAIC, NJ  
Constance Hollo  
Alejandro W. Montautti
  - 0076 PHILADELPHIA, PA  
Maria Koppany  
Reggie Peterson

- 0089 HOMESTEAD, PA  
William J. Grega  
David J. Howe  
George N. Kiro
  - 0132 SOUTH BEND, IN  
Bobby R. Giolitto  
Irma Peto
  - 0216 NORTHAMPTON, PA  
Rosalie Ibach  
Mary A. Knappenberger  
Frederick G. Schmidt
  - 0226 MCKEESPORT, PA  
Helen Herkimer
  - 0278 OMAHA, NE  
Karen A. Ruby
  - 0296 SPRINGDALE, PA  
Beverly J. Louis
  - 0310 LYNCH, KY  
Donald T. Sallee
  - 0349 WEIRTON, WV  
John J. Maine
  - 0352 CORAOPOLIS, PA  
Gary S. Allie  
Diana L. Finch  
Rachel M. Heaton  
Edward Pottmeyer, Jr.
  - 0383 BUFFALO, NY  
Helen C. Matyas  
Gizella Wunt
  - 0525 LOS ANGELES, CA  
Theresa B. Kovacs  
Panhi Panhi
  - 0590 CAPE CORAL, FL  
James L. Dean  
Mary Ann Streets
  - 0720 DEDHAM, MA  
Stacey L. Badgett  
Kathleen M. Leary
  - 8340 BALTIMORE, MD  
Anthony W. Offutt
- JANUARY 2025**
- 0001 BRIDGEPORT, CT  
Raymond A. Trombley
  - 0008 JOHNSTOWN, PA  
Helen Cotchen
  - 0009 HAZLETON, PA  
Alice T. Susco
  - 0014 CLEVELAND, OH  
Gladys M. Major
  - 0015 CHICAGO, IL  
Edwin W. Drafke
  - 0018 LINCOLN PARK, MI  
Oliver Medwick  
Melvina R. Zajac
  - 0019 NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ  
Thomas E. Baczynski  
Viola Magyar  
Nancy J. Nagy  
John J. Repko
  - 0026 SHARON, PA  
Joseph H. Laslow  
Gabriel J. Wank
  - 0027 TOLEDO, OH  
Irene S. Lukac

- 0028 YOUNGSTOWN, OH  
Margaret Baker  
Robert Balog  
Lucille J. Buchanan  
Leslie Polgar
- 0044 AKRON, OH  
Elizabeth Joanne Beres
- 0048 NEW YORK, NY  
Andrea McNeill  
Helen A. Simon  
Beatrice Rogers
- 0076 PHILADELPHIA, PA  
John H. Pickens
- 0089 HOMESTEAD, PA  
Julia Linn  
Stephen J. Szabo
- 0129 COLUMBUS, OH  
William R. Wood
- 0132 SOUTH BEND, IN  
Koloman K. Ludwig  
Jeanette Palla  
Kerry D. Rummel  
Mary Lou Vukovits
- 0216 NORTHAMPTON, PA  
George A. Fronheiser  
John J. Mitros  
Doris Nagy  
Janet L. Raytik-Bugar  
Anne M. Tassie
- 0226 MCKEESPORT, PA  
Cathy K. Trunzo
- 0278 OMAHA, NE  
Leland E. Swanson
- 0296 SPRINGDALE, PA  
Helen M. Ellis  
Daniel C. Heavner  
Orlando J. Presutti
- 0336 HARRISBURG, PA  
Robert R. Zeigler
- 0349 WEIRTON, WV  
Gladys K. Childers  
Joseph Rozsa
- 0352 CORAOPOLIS, PA  
Donna Angelo  
Hazel M. Haefner  
Joseph R. Stumpf  
Mary Jane Watkins
- 0383 BUFFALO, NY  
Jay Joseph Esene  
Mary E. Lane  
Lucille R. Yahn
- 0525 LOS ANGELES, CA  
Manuel J. Martinez
- 0590 CAPE CORAL, FL  
Sharon Gottlieb  
June MacDonald
- 0705 MAYVILLE, WI  
Joseph J. Kerch
- 0720 DEDHAM, MA  
Winnifred M. Keefe
- 0800 ALTOONA, PA  
Mildred C. Frank  
Daniel M. Greiner
- 8114 CLARION, PA  
William A. Reinsel

# Help us help our youth

The rewards that come with a higher education are priceless. But, that education comes at an ever-higher price. That's why since 1972, William Penn Association has helped our young members attending college achieve their goals by awarding them nearly \$3.3 million in scholarship grants. Last year alone, the William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation awarded grants to 37 students totaling \$49,500. It is only through the generosity of people like you--our members, branches and friends--that WPA can continue to offer this financial support to our children seeking to improve their lives through education.

By donating to the WPFA Scholarship Foundation, you are saying that you believe in the potential of our children and in the power of education. With your help, our children can transform the world and our communities. With your help, we can make an impact on the future.

So, why not help us help our youth? It's easy to do. Simply complete the form below and send it to us, along with your tax-deductible donation. On behalf of our youth, we thank you.

**YES! I want to help.** Here is my gift which will be appreciated by the many young people whose lives will be enriched by education. Please accept my tax-deductible contribution of:

\$1,000    \$500    \$250    \$100    \$50    \$25    \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please check this if the above address is new.)

Special instructions, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

I have included the WPFA Scholarship Foundation in my estate plans.

Please send me information on gifts of trusts, property, wills and deferred giving.  
(For wills, our legal title is William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc.)

Please make checks payable to "WPFA Scholarship Foundation, Inc." and mail to:

**WPFA Scholarship Foundation, Inc.**  
**709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233-1821**





March/April 2025

**WPL**  
WILLIAM PENN LIFE

PRSRT STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
PERMIT #12  
INDIANA, PA



# Referral Fees \$10 to \$20 WPA Recommender Program

Earn cash rewards when you refer new members to WPA. We will pay adult members age 16 and older **\$20** for each first-time applicant they recommend who is issued any WPA permanent or term life insurance plan. You can also earn rewards for recommending new life insurance plans to current members. WPA will pay you **\$12** for each current member you recommend who is issued a new permanent life insurance plan. You can also earn **\$10** for each current member you recommend who is issued a WPA term life plan. To claim your Recommender reward, send us the names and addresses of everyone you know who would enjoy the many fraternal benefits that come with membership in WPA. *\*Family of sales agents living at the same address as the agent do not qualify for a Recommender Reward.*

**Please Print** **WPA RECOMMENDER**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ WPA Representative/Agent: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Prospective Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: Recommender, William Penn Association, 709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233**