



remember a mild winter several years ago that resulted in a terrible April storm that knocked out power at our house for 5 days. My wife and her little dog Willie spent many days and nights in front of the wood stove with no other source of heat, and we opened our refrigerator to keep the food cold! This event inspired me to purchase a backup generator and carve out some time each fall to make sure that fresh fuel is available, and the generator is ready in the event the big storm comes again. So far, it hasn't. However, I will carry on my preparations as there is no way of knowing when the generator will be needed. I can say this for certain though; my family will be glad I was planning ahead when the big snowstorm comes.

Losing a loved one is like a storm. You don't know when it may happen, but you can prepare. The added expenses, potential loss of income, and the sudden and immediate need for cash can place a strain on any family. Fortunately, there are appropriate financial tools we can all use to prepare for such storms.

Our Preneed Whole Life and Annuities used by funeral homes along with our Cemetery Plans have been the core of our business in recent times, and the addition of Family Protector II Simplified Issue Whole Life means even more folks can take advantage of planning ahead and giving back with LCBA.

The Family Protector II Simplified Issue Whole Life product can offer up to a \$50,000 death benefit, and guaranteed growth of 5% of the initial face amount every fifth policy year. The electronic application process and instant decision make for an easy and convenient experience. To find out if we have an agent in your area, email sales@lcbalife.org and our friendly staff will be happy to help.

The introduction of this new product is one of the many steps we are taking to map out the future of LCBA, to expand and grow the positive impact we've carried on for 133 years. In this issue you will find our 2022 annual statement, outlining the strong financial position of our organization. Our first priority is caring for our membership, so making responsible and impactive financial decisions moving forward is at the forefront of our strategic planning and execution. This position of protection and stability is the inheritance we strive to leave for generations to come.

Proverbs 13:22- A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children,

But the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous.

Happy Spring from the home office, and may God bless you all!

Brian Young

Director of Customer Experience

HOME OFFICE CHRISTMAS PARTY

The LCBA Christmas party began by swapping presents and enjoying lunch at the Colony Pub & Grille, then later watched a Christmas movie and played some games at the Erie Movie House!

















CHRISTMAS KIDS DONATIONS

Another successful year for our annual LCBA Christmas Kids Donation. Each year we work with local organizations to find families who could use a little help putting presents under the tree.

This year we again helped 2 families, collecting about \$3,000 in generous donations from LCBA employees, our internal social committee, and LCBA National Branch 1556!

















direction

Publisher Douglas Tuttle, Erie, PA direction@lcbalife.org **Executive Editor** Michael Mursch, Erie, PA direction@lcbalife.org

Art Director Michael Mursch, Erie, PA

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814-453-4331 -or- 800-234-LCBA (5222) Telecommunications Relay Service: Dial 711

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LCBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS Chair of the Board of Directors

Matthew Dupee, Nazareth, PA

Board of Directors

Karen Balaban, Esq, Harrisburg, PA Michael Courtad, Pittsburgh, PA Pat DiCesare. Port St. Lucie. FL Paul Kenny, Bradenton, FL Karen LeVert. Durham. NC Robert Muth. Conneaut Lake. PA Richard Suchan, Buffalo, NY Anne Sweigart, Bluffton, OH Douglas Tuttle, Erie, PA

Mailing Address:

PO Box 13005 Erie. PA 16514-1305

Physical Address:

8811 Peach Street Erie, PA 16509

Phone:

800-234-5222 / 814-453-4331

business hours:

Mon-Fri: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

holiday closings:

Good Friday Fri, Apr 7

Easter (Monday) Mon, Apr 10

Memorial Day Mon, May 29

Independence Day Tues, Jul 4







1329096





SCHOLARSHIPS

POST-SECONDARY ELEMENTARY / SECONDARY

CAMPING

Have a child, grandchild, or great-grandchild going to camp this summer, attending a Christian school next year or working on their college degree?

GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION



This information below applies to ALL scholarships.

Read ahead for specific requirements and eligibility for each scholarship.



ELIGIBILITY

• Applicant must be a Benefit or Agency member or be the natural or legally adopted great-grandchild, grandchild or child of such member. Membership status must be established prior to the application deadline and remain eligible until the deadline. Should a member apply and qualify as of the application date but die subsequently, the child is still eligible.

GUIDELINES

- Scholarships will be awarded by lottery from eligible applications.
- Applications will be accepted annually starting February 1.
 If February 1 falls on a weekend, then the start date will be the next business day.
- The application period closes May 1 each year. Mailed applications must be postmarked May 1 or earlier, and received by May 8. Online applications must be submitted by 11:59:59PM (ET) on May 1.
- The applicant may only apply once each year but may be awarded additional entries to the drawing.
 - ► Each applicant will get an additional entry for every current benefit member (parent, grandparent, great-grandparent) with an active LCBA certificate listed on the application.
 - ► Every member who applies for a scholarship online at www.lcbalife.org will receive one additional entry.

SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS

- Scholarships will be awarded by random drawing. Selections are final.
- LCBA will screen applications for the eligibility requirements.
- Only one scholarship may be provided per applicant per year, regardless of the number of times their name may be drawn.
- Scholarship recipients will be notified by June 1 of the year in which the scholarship is awarded. Announcements will also be made in *Direction*.
- LCBA reserves the right to modify, suspend or terminate this program without prior notice. Such action would not affect the scholarships in process.



This program provides for a maximum of five \$2,500 one-year scholarships via a lottery for students attending or entering an accredited degree or certificate granting institution and working towards their first degree/certificate.

While the scholarship is only for one year, the student can apply for a scholarship each year that he/she is in school and working towards the completion of the initial degree/ program, for the "normal" term of their program based on full-time enrollment, four years or until termination from the educational facility, whichever comes first.

This means that a traditional four year college-bound student may be awarded as much as \$10,000! Two-year program enrollees can be awarded as much as \$5,000!

GUIDELINES

- Each scholarship will provide the actual cost of tuition up to a maximum of \$2500. Payments are made directly to the postsecondary institution, unless otherwise requested with the understanding that the latter will likely incur a taxable event.
- Applicant may be eligible for additional entries based on academic performance, LCBA membership and LCBA fraternal involvement (see Bonus Entry Criteria section online).

ELIGIBILITY

- Entrant must have a minimum of a 2.5 on a 4.0 GPA scale **or equivalent** from their high school for those entering their first year and from their post-secondary institution for those beyond their first year and provide an official transcript as proof.
- Transcript deadline is May 1.
- Please send official transcripts in a sealed envelope from your school to: LCBA, Attn: Scholarships, PO Box 13005, Erie, PA 16514 or if your school uses an online system please have the link emailed directly to scholarships@lcbalife.org.
- Must be a high school graduate by July 31 of the year of **entry** (GED certificates will be accepted, both as evidence of graduation and for the 2.5 of 4.0 GPA requirement. If graduation requirement is not met, no check will be issued and the award is forfeited.)
- Must be either entering a post-secondary institution for the first time, or be attending and still working towards first degree or certificate, and attending as a full-time student.
- High school graduates (teenagers or adults) of any age can apply provided they are working towards their first degree/certificate.
- Students entering 2nd, 3rd and 4th years can also enter.



Elementary/Secondary Scholarship

OVERVIEW

Twenty scholarships of \$350 are awarded each year via a lottery. Scholarships are not automatically renewable. However, students may apply and/or reapply each year.

Student applicants may attend any accredited Christian elementary or secondary school in the United States and must be entering kindergarten to 12th grade.

GUIDELINES

• Each scholarship will provide the actual cost of tuition up to a maximum of \$350. Payments are made directly to the approved school.

ELIGIBILITY

• Student must be entering kindergarten to grade 12 and enrolled at a state accredited Christian elementary or secondary school for fall classes.



OVERVIEW

LCBA will award ten \$200 camping scholarships each year via a lottery to members to attend a camp of their choice. Camps may be recreational, nature, sports or special interest oriented. Scholarships are not automatically renewable. However, campers may apply and/or reapply each year.

GUIDELINES

• Each scholarship will provide the actual cost of registration to a maximum of \$200. Payments are made directly to the camp.

ELIGIBILITY

• Applicants must be between the ages of 5 and 17 to apply.

2023 Scholarship Application

▶ Only **ONE** application per recipient will be accepted. ◀

APPLICATION / TRANSCRIPT* DEADLINE IS MAY 1st



All entries must be postmarked by May	1st and received	by May	8 th . ALLOW	ENOUGH TIMI	FOR MAILIN	VG! L(בסם
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT					ООВ	Sex	□М□F
Is the recipient an insured on an LCBA cer	rtificate?	☐ YES	If yes, certif	icate #:			
First Name			Last Name				
Phone		Email					
Address	_	City			State	Zip	
WHO IS FILLING OUT THIS APPLICATION	I? ■ Parent/Guar	dian 🗖 F	Recipient <i>(Thi</i> s	s section's inforn	nation will be u	sed for comm	unication.)
First Name			Last Name				
Phone		Email					
Address		City			State	Zip	
ENTRIES FOR LCBA BENEFIT MEMBERS -	List certificate num	bers for p	parents/guardi	ians, grandpare	nts, and great-	-grandparent	S
Certificate #	Name			Relatio	n to Recipier	nt	
SCHOOL / CAMP INFORMATION - Select	scholarship(s) ap	plying fo	or. (You may aբ	oply for more t	han one on th	is applicatio	1)
ELEMENTARY / SECONDARY F	POST-SECONDARY	⚠ TRAI	NSCRIPTS FOR I	POST-SECONDA	RY SCHOLARS	HIPS ARE DUE	BY MAY 1 ST !
Name of Institution				Enrollment D			
Address		City			State	Zip	
Contact Name		Phone			Tuition		
* For POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS LCBA (address below). If your school us							
Applications without qualifying trans						, -	
CAMPING							
Name of Camp				Date Attend	ding		
Address		City			State	Zip	
Contact Name		Phone			Cost		
			1			1004	
Send completed application and/or transcripts to:	Email: scholarshi Subject: So	-	· Ui	K	N: Scholarshi _l Box 13005, Er		4-1305
I give permission to LCBA to use recipier		_				-	
will be required if not already on file.	•				siiip, a parent	./guardian S	ignature

Where are you going this year? Have you planned ahead in case the unthinkable should happen?

Many times the death of a loved one occurs while they are away from home. Families are left with the added burden of what do they do now?

Provide you and your family peace of mind by planning for the unthinkable.

The Travel Plan by Inman assists in bringing a loved one home if death occurs more than 75 miles from their legal residence.

Included in the one-time \$450 fee:

- ► Contacting a licensed funeral home or mortuary near the place of death
- ► Transporting the deceased from the place of death to the funeral home or mortuary for preparation
- ► Preparation of the deceased for transport
- ► Securing all documentation for shipping including one death certificate
- ▶ Placing the deceased in appropriate shipping container
- ► Arranging for transportation to their local funeral home

For additional support and/or questions, contact Bridget or Melissa in the home office at 800-234-5222 or visit simplehpp.com/travelplan/lcba to sign up!







For a one-time fee, the Travel Plan by Inmar provides a lifetime of travel protection.

Relieve your family of the stress and financial implications in bringing you home should death occur 75 miles or more from your legal residence. Without the Travel Plan by Inman, these costs may range from \$1,500 - \$15,000.

Average Repatriation Expenses

NORTH & CENTRAL AMERICA



Domestic, Southwest from Mexico and Central America:

Florida to Midwest and Northwest	\$1,500	-\$ 2,500
Hawaii to Midwest	\$2,500	-\$ 3,500
Arizona to Northwest	\$1,500	-\$ 2,500
West Coast to East Coast	\$2,000	-\$ 3,000
Southwest to Northeast	\$2,000	-\$ 3,000
Mexico to Southwest	\$5,000	-\$ 6,500
Central America to Southwest	\$9,000	-\$14,000
El Salvador to Southwest	\$7,500	-\$ 9,000

FLIROPE

To the USA from:

Italy	\$10,000
England	\$ 5,500
France	\$ 8,500
Germany	\$ 7,500

SOUTH AMERICA



To the USA from:

Brazil \$ 8,500

AUSTRALIA



To the USA from:

 Sydney
 \$ 7,500

 New Zealand
 \$ 6,500

MIDDLE EAST



To the USA from:

Iran \$10,000 - \$14,000

1

ASIA

To the USA from:

 China
 \$20,000

 Japan
 \$11,500

 South Korea
 \$10,000

 Philippines
 \$ 7,000

AFRICA



To the USA from:

South Africa \$10,000 Zimbabwe \$12,000

Serry Christmas!

While these may seem a little late, it's never a bad time for Christmas spirit! So enjoy a little flashback to some Branch Christmas parties that were held after the deadline for our Winter edition.















Looking to get involved?

Reference the list of Branches below and visit www.lcbalife.org or reach out to Samantha Toscano at 800-234-5222 x234 or toscanos@lcbalife.org to learn more.

		_	
Branch	City	State	Zip
49	Erie	PA	16502
654	Salem	ОН	44460
867	Dover	ОН	44622
892	New Philadelphia	ОН	44663
909	Leetonia	ОН	44431
1155	Findlay	ОН	45840
1198	Altoona	PA	16601
1290	Altoona	PA	16601
1415	Toledo	ОН	43605
1425	Ford City	PA	16226
1538	Linesville	PA	16424
1556	National Branch		
1557	Ephrata	PA	17522
2010	Laurel	MD	20724
L017	Berea	ОН	44017
V001	Buffalo	NY	14207

BRANCH 892 / New Philadelphia, OH

October Branch meeting.











BRANCH 1290 / Altoona, PA

October Branch meeting.





BRANCH 1290 / Altoona, PA

81 angels were placed on the tree with the names of local children, received from non-profit agencies, that parishioners provided gifts for.

BRANCH 1425 / Ford City, PA

January Branch meeting.

















BRANCH 1425 / Ford City, PA



Branch 1425 elected Jenny Schrecengost as the new Branch Secretary at their February Branch meeting.

BRANCH 867 / Dover, OH

October Branch meeting.













BRANCH 867 / Dover, OH

Branch members made clothes and accessories for 25 dolls donated to the Salvation Army for Christmas.









BRANCH 867 / Dover, OH

The Branch gathered hats, gloves, scarfs, and socks for T4C to distribute to those in need.



BRANCH 1557 / Ephrata, PA

Branch members meet biweekly to cut out patterns to donate to Unto®, an organization that strives to be responsive to the physical and spiritual needs of people around the world. After donation, the patterns will be constructed into sanitary pads for women in impoverished countries. Missionaries then distribute the pads and teach the gospel. | unto.com













BRANCH 1557 / Ephrata, PA

New officers were elected at the January Branch meeting. President Vivian Garman handed over the gavel to newly elected President Linda Mueller.







BRANCH 1557 / Ephrata, PA

October Branch meeting with guest speaker Republican State Rep. Keith Greiner.







BRANCH 654 Salem, OH

Two new members were welcomed at Branch 654's November meeting!

BRANCH 654 / Salem, OH

Salem LCBA Branch 654 held a "Dine to Make a Difference" benefit at Bob Evans Restaurant in Salem, with proceeds totaling \$315.00.

















BRANCH 654 / Salem, OH

Branch 654 at St. Paul Catholic Church donated \$120 worth of gas gift cards to the Sophia Women's Center. The center is a free, non-profit medical clinic serving women facing unplanned pregnancies.



LCBA Board - 2022 Fall Board Meeting

Friday, September 23, 2022 | National Headquarters

Present Were:

Chair of the Board – Matthew Dupee President/CEO – Douglas Tuttle

Directors of the Board:

Karen Balaban Pat DiCesare Robert Muth Rick Suchan

Michael Courtad

Karen LeVert Anne Sweigart

Guests:

VP Operations - Alex Miller

VP Administration/Secretary - Rebecca Black

VP Sales - Matthew Barr

Treasurer - Courtney Hagmaier

Director of Customer Experience - Brian Young

Excused:

Paul Kenny

Friday, September 23, 2022

LCBA Fall Board Meeting

Chair of the Board Matthew Dupee called the Fall Board Meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the 2022 Summer Board minutes was made and carried unanimously.

YTD Update

Financial Update

Ms. Courtney Hagmaier spoke about Q2 Operational and Balance Sheet Highlights, 08/31/2022 YTD paid premiums, and benefit expenses.

Mr. Hagmaier also spoke about Q2 Heritage Life Treaty activity.

Administration

Ms. Rebecca Black spoke about death claims processed through

08/31/2022, year-to-date death claims processed, average days from application received to policy issue, YTD applications received and issued, as well as COVID-19 stats.

Sales/Fraternal/Marketing

Mr. Matt Barr gave an update on PreNeed/GCI, CFP and the new Family Protector 2 product.

Mr. Doug Tuttle and Mr. Barr spoke about key performance indicators.

Mr. Barr gave an update on social media stats, website statistics, and chat usage.

Mr. Barr also gave a fraternal update on Scholarship winners, Road Scholar and Bereavement Benefits.

Operations

Mr. Alex Miller gave an update on iCOVER, LifePro V20 upgrade and Agent Onboarding.

Corporate

Mr. Tuttle spoke about his goals for 2022-2023.

Strategic Plan

Mr. Tuttle gave an update on the Strategic Plan.

Mr. Brian Young spoke about Essential ERM software and the Strategic Plan. Discussion Ensued.

A motion to approve the LCBA Strategic Plan as presented was made and carried unanimously.

Medicare Supplement

Mr. Tuttle gave an update on the Medicare Supplement line of business.

Chair Report

Mr. Matt Dupee presented Ms. Karen Balaban with a recognition award for the 4 years she served as Board Chair.





Karen Balaban, Esq Harrisburg, PA



Michael Courtad
Pittsburgh, PA



Pat DiCesare Burnt Hills, NY Port St. Lucie, FL



Paul Kenny Bradenton, FL



Karen LeVert Durham, NC

Committee Reports

Audit/Finance

Investment Activity

A motion was made to approve the purchases and sales as presented.-Passed unanimously.

Review – Investment Policy
Mr. Bob Muth stated there are recommended changes, per Parkway, to the common stock section to allow up to 10% of surplus in an equity strategy.

A motion was made to accept 1-5 asset class recommendations for the investment portfolio. - Passed unanimously.

A motion was made to approve the recommended changes to the investment policy statement.-Passed unanimously.

Nominating / Fraternal

Ms. Anne Sweigart spoke about the Camping Scholarship and Road Scholar and gave stats for the last 4 years. She also spoke about a new Fraternal Benefit.

Ms. Sweigart proposed an amendment change to the Nominating Committee Charter to add a "Conflict" provision.

Mr. Rick Suchan spoke about the Board of Directors election memorandum.

A motion was made to accept the recommended candidacy slate for the 2023 election.-Passed unanimously.

All candidates who are current directors up for re-election abstained from the vote.

Governance

Board of Director Policy and Procedure Process

Mr. Courtad stated there are no recommended changes to the Board of Director Policy and Procedure Process.

Enforcing Standards of Conduct for LCBA Board Members

Mr. Courtad stated there are no recommended changes to the Enforcing Standards of Conduct for LCBA Board Members.

Standards of Conduct for LCBA Board Meetings

Mr. Courtad stated there are no recommended changes to the Standards of Conduct for LCBA Board Meetings.

Other Business

Mr. Tuttle spoke about the American Fraternal Alliance Annual Meeting he was recently at. Mr. Tuttle also spoke about the upcoming PA Fraternal Alliance and that Ms. Balaban is swearing him in as the 2023 PA Fraternal Alliance president for a one-year term.

Motion to Adjourn

Chair of the Board declared the meeting adjourned.



Conneaut Lake, PA



Richard Suchan Buffalo, NY



Anne Sweigart Bluffton, OH



Douglas Tuttle Erie, PA President/CEO



LCBA leadership, the LCBA Board of Directors, and their guests enjoyed a Christmas dinner and gift exchange.



















Financial Highlights

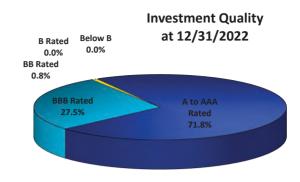
From Courtney Hagmaier, VP-Finance/Treasurer

Below you will find a quick summary of noteworthy financial highlights that may assist in understanding the detailed financial statements and supporting graphs.

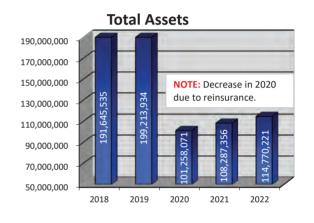


In summary, LCBA's financial outlook remains strong. Sights are set toward the future as LCBA's management focuses on the implementation of the long-term strategic plan and ways to continue to support its members for many years to come.

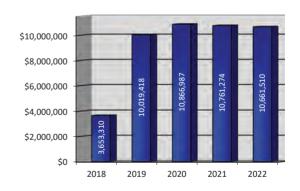
- LCBA's surplus decreased by \$100k in 2022, while recognizing a net income of \$163k and improving its Risk-Based Capital ratio to 913% from 903% in 2021. The overall financial results reflect LCBA's internal projections and support the plan for the future of the Association. In 2021 and 2022, significant investments were made in the launch of the new Family Protector II Simplified Issue Whole Life product in addition to formulating a long-term strategic plan to support LCBA's continued efforts toward growth.
- Overall portfolio investment quality remains high, with an average rating of "A" and 99% of bonds are investment grade. LCBA's bond portfolio grew by \$5.45 million from 2021. LCBA also invested in two direct mortgage loans totaling \$500k in 2022. The ending book yield for 2022 remains consistent with 2021 as LCBA continues to improve diversification and uphold book yield as much as possible without assuming unnecessary risk.
- General expenses, budgeted to be up 10% in 2022 due to LCBA's growth strategy, ended 10% under budget. Much of this variance is due to the timing of incurred expenses, as there were unexpected delays in the launch of the new product. Overall, expenses are expected to increase in the coming year as LCBA continues to make strategic investments in the future.



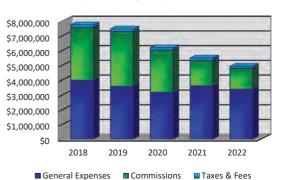
99% of Bonds are Investment Quality



Total Surplus Trend



Operating Expenses



Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31,

Summary of Operations

Through December 31,

Assets	2022	2021
Bonds	106,244,024	100,793,451
Mortgage loans	500,000	-
Real estate	1,468,675	1,501,760
Certificate loans	946,842	998,779
Cash & cash equivalents	3,280,212	2,276,788
EDP equipment	18,883	14,669
Income due & accrued	2,311,585	2,701,909

Total Assets	114,770,221	108,287,356
		,,

Liabilities & Surplus

Total Liabilities & Surplus	114,770,221	108,287,356
Unassigned funds	10,661,510	10,761,274
Other liabilities	695,653	988,375
Accrued general expenses	264,444	188,997
Investment reserves	6,907,493	7,435,988
Advance premiums	199,741	183,609
Provision for dividends	369,951	201,684
Certificate claims	488,547	674,770
Deposit-type contracts	5,910,361	5,887,320
Certificate reserves	89,272,521	81,965,339

Income	2022	2021
Life insurance premiums	10,010,410	11,493,201
Annuity premiums	5,566,999	4,720,071
Accident & health premiums	112,095	125,742
Net investment income	4,831,754	4,723,103
Other income	1,498,301	1,711,259
Total Income	22,019,559	22,773,376

Member Benefits

Total Member Benefits	16,495,324	17,239,337
Reserve changes	7,307,186	7,263,522
Life & annuity benefits	5,264,985	5,358,153
Death benefits	3,923,153	4,617,662

Operating Expenses

Total Benefits & Expenses	21,504,365	22,398,493
Total Operating Expenses	5,009,041	5,159,156
Taxes & other	154,752	123,822
General expenses	3,445,283	3,472,623
Commissions	1,409,006	1,562,711

Net Gain from Operations	515,194	374,883
Dividends incurred	(352,301)	(312,403)
Net Income	162,893	62,480
Other Changes in Surplus	(262,657)	(168,193)



There's still time to get in your Elementary/Secondary, Post-Secondary, & Camping SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS! SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE DETAILS



Orthodox Members Call for Content!

We are looking for content submissions from our Orthodox members.

Please contact us if you are interested in writing an article, highlighting an event/achievement or any other content that would be relevant to our Orthodox members.

Send content via email with the subject line "Orthodox" to outreach@lcbalife.org

or by mail to ATTN: Orthodox, LCBA, PO Box 13005, Erie, PA 16514.

Note: Submission of material or suggestions does not guarantee publication.



Order to the state of the state

The Orthodox Society of America (OSA) was organized on July 18th, 1915 by Slavic immigrants of the Orthodox faith and chartered in Monessen, PA. Its founders sought to create a fraternal benefit society to celebrate their Russian and Slavic roots. The society absorbed the Greek Catholic Carpatho-Russian Benevolent Association Liberty of Perth Amboy, NJ in 1993 and St. Nicholas Brotherhood of Homestead, PA around the same time. Both organizations consisted of persons of Carpatho-Russian heritage. The Orthodox Society of America merged into LCBA in 2003 and the Orthodox Division was established.