



THE MEGAPHONE

A Vestigial Organ of the Rascals, Rogues, and Rapscallions



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December 31, 2025

MICHAEL LANDIS ELEVATED TO ROGUE Challenge Escapade Lands the RR&R Back in Print

Carnegie, Oklahoma, population 1400, was the focus of Michael Landis's Rascal Challenge and the hometown newspaper put the RR&R's newest Rogue on its front page.

On Falkland Liberation Day 2025, Landis, long-time professor of religion at Manor College in Jenkintown, Penna., made his Rascal Challenge presentation at the Doylestown Maennerchor. Landis had been given three Western Union telegrams sent in 1935 from Washington, DC, to Carnegie, home of the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma.

Landis realized two of the three telegrams had been sent by Oklahoma congressman Jed Joseph Johnson, Sr., and in time figured out that all three concerned Eldon Roberts, a young man from Carnegie who was working in Washington and suffered a ruptured appendix. Washington newspapers covered the story and reported a football team donated blood for the transfusion the patient required. Congressman Johnson also offered his blood if needed.

Congressman Johnson visited the young man in the hospital and when the family was advised the situation was grim, they borrowed a car and drove non-stop for three days to reach the lad. Two days after they arrived, on May 21, 1935, the young Eldon Roberts died. His body was returned to Oklahoma and laid to rest.

The three telegrams contained only 41 words but were clues to a poignant family tragedy. *The Carnegie Herald* reported the death of Roberts in 1935 and then 90 years later covered the RR&R's resurrection of this sad story.

Present at the June 14 meeting were: Dan Bramer, Jon Faucette, Jordan Goretti, Michael Landis, Sean McVan, Calvin Morrison, Dan Morrison, Michael Moscherosh, and Jeff Sivek.

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On the calendar

- The Cooperston Community will hold an Ice Cream Supper and meeting on Saturday, July 12, 2025, 6:30 p.m. at the Cooperston Community Center, with a theme of sandwiches and homemade ice cream for the meal. Please bring a homemade ice cream, sandwiches, side or dessert. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Did you know?

- The United States has a long history of men to serve as president. Some have had colorful and unique histories. Here are a few facts that might amaze you about our leaders.
- Abraham Lincoln was the only president to obtain a patent. In 1849, he invented a complicated device for lifting ships over dangerous shoals by means of "buoyant air chambers." Much to his disappointment, U.S. Patent No. 6,469 was never put into practical use.
- Andrew Johnson was buried with his head resting on a copy of the Constitution.
- Ulysses S. Grant was born Hiram Ulysses Grant, but changed his name because he did not like his monogram, HUG.
- Ruthford B. Hayes held the first Easter egg roll on the White House lawn.
- James Garfield was the first presidential candidate to spend more than one million dollars on his campaign.
- Chester Arthur was the first president to take the presidential Oath of Office in his own home, located in New York City.
- Grover Cleveland personally answered the White House phone.

Where in the world is the Herald?

- The Herald loves to travel - so don't forget to take a photo with The Herald when you take a trip! Send us your "Where in the World is The Carnegie Herald?" photos, and we will publish them. Email your photos to: news@carnegieherald.com.

Weather Week
July 9-15

Date	Hi	Lo	Outlook
July 9	94	72	Sunny
July 10	96	73	Sunny
July 11	94	76	Sunny
July 12	85	73	Showers
July 13	89	71	Showers
July 14	90	73	Cloudy
July 15	89	72	Sunny

COURTESY PHOTOS

Michael Landis, a Yale-trained professor of religion at Manor College, in Elkins Park, Pa., displays one of the three telegrams he was given by the Director of the Doylestown Institute. The letters had been purchased for \$1 from an antique dealer in Texas.

Carnegie telegrams studied by Pennsylvania Cigar Club

Daniel Paul Morrison, Special to The Carnegie Herald

Three telegrams from Washington, D.C. to Carnegie in May 1935 were the subject of a recent lecture at the Doylestown Institute, a cigar-smoking fraternal society outside of Philadelphia, Pa. Two were sent by Oklahoma congressman Jed Joseph Johnson, Sr. All three telegrams concerned Carnegie-native Elton Roberts who lay at death's door with a ruptured appendix in the nation's capital.

The Carnegie Herald of May 29, 1935, called Elton "one of Carnegie's most promising young men." Son of Zacharia Roberts who farmed east of Carnegie, Elton graduated from high school in Carnegie and worked his way through Cameron College - now University - in Lawton. Congressman Johnson found him a job at the Treasury Department and Elton enrolled in night classes at

'I was driven by wanting to know who this Elton was. That was a powerful motivator to explore various paths.'

Michael Landis, Carnegie College Professor

George Washington University to study law.

The Doylestown Institute is a chapter of Rascals, Rogues, and Rapscallions (RR&R), a fraternal society dedicated to research and discovery. At RR&R meetings, members give scholarly presentations on topics assigned to them by the group.

The goal, in the words of the RR&R constitution, is "to discover the extraordinary in the ordinary, the heroic in the mundane, and the historic in the forgotten."

For his assignment, Michael Landis, the Yale-trained professor of religion at Manor College, in Elkins Park, Pa., was handed the three telegrams by the Director of the Doylestown Institute. They had been purchased for \$1.00 from an antique dealer in Texas. "My job," Landis observed, "was to do some sleuth work and to get the story behind the cryptic messages."

The first telegram was sent on May 16 by a physician at George Washington Hospital to Zacharia Roberts. It said, "Elton holding his own have notified Congressman Johnson." The second was sent on May 17 by Johnson and it reads, "Visited Elton late Thursday"

See STUDY on Page 4

Annual Carnegie rodeo is scheduled for July 25-26

The Carnegie Round-Up Club will bring rodeo action back to the community on July 25-26.

The club recently announced it is looking for ambitious cowboys and cowgirls that would like to represent the Carnegie Rodeo as queen or ambassador. Individuals that are age 6 or older and can ride a horse unassisted into the arena during the rodeo, are eligible to compete for the 2025 honors. The first-place prize is awarded based only on the dollar amount collected from the sale of advanced rodeo tickets. Local businesses that would like to have their logo added to the trailer while can contact Callie or any of the Carnegie Round-Up Club's board members for

See RODEO on Page 2

PSO urges customers to be wary of utility scams

Public Service Company of Oklahoma (PSO) is reminding the public and its customers across Oklahoma to remain vigilant against ongoing scam attempts. Recent reports indicate that individuals posing as utility representatives are demanding immediate payment for services, specifically targeting residents and businesses in the PSO service areas.

PSO representatives are advising customers that the company will never call customers demanding immediate payment. If you receive a suspicious call, email, or in-person visit, please take the following actions:

- Phone: Hang up immediately.
- Email: Delete the message without responding.
- In-Person: Close the door.

PSO officials also noted one effective way to enhance a person's security and maintain a strong connection with PSO is by keeping their contact information up to date by visiting psoklahoma.com/account/settings. Please ensure that PSO has your current cell phone number, home phone number, and email address.

They are also encouraging customers to opt-in to their communication preferences to sign up for alerts. To sign up for PSO alerts and opt-in to emails, visit psoklahoma.com/account/settings/notifications. You'll need to create

See SCAMS on Page 4

Postage prices to go up on Saturday

The price of mailing items with the U.S. Postal Service will increase this weekend.

Among the changes customers will see is a hike in the cost of a first-class stamp as it will climb from 73 cents to 78 cents.

On April 9, the USPS filed a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission for the newest round of price increases. The increases kick in July 13.

GOULD CLAN FUN

COURTESY PHOTOS

Elders march into the ring during Saturday's performances at the Kiowa Gourd Clan celebration in Carnegie City Park.

GEORGE GREEN GOES ROGUE

Rascals Brave Culinary Challenge Offering



George Green in the Ungerman Barn talks about his “Most Interesting Meal” in response to his Rascal Challenge.

The Ungerman Barn at Huntingdon Valley Presbyterian Church was the scene of bachelor George Green’s foody response to his Rascal Challenge on March 8, 2025. On this occasion, one Rascal fed the entire Lair and the outcome resulted in Green’s elevation to the rank of Rogue.

Green was introduced to the RR&R by Calvin Morrison and attended his first Lair meeting in September 2022. He hails from the Poconos and is a veteran of the US Navy, having served as an Arabic translator. He was challenged to present “The Most Interesting Meal,” and he delivered to

the satisfaction of the Lair just months before his nuptials. You might say it was his culinary bachelor swan song.

The challenge seemed appropriate to the man as Green takes a special interest in things that cross the palate. He regularly issues video reviews of hard seltzers and recently received some industry credential suggesting he knows the difference between superior bourbon and run-of-the-mill rotgut.

Green’s menu consisted of Egg-Stuffed Eggs as an appetizer, Mock Mock Turtle Soup, as the second course, and Beef Wellington as the entrée. The latter dish was mushroom-free. Dessert was concocted from powdered Nutella. Each course was presented around the table – next time we might hire waitstaff – as Green discussed his ingredient choices and cooking processes. The meal was accompanied by a steady supply of Twenty-First Century cocktails, a heady mixture of tequila and crème de cacao.

Green’s foray into the cooking arts is not the first Rascal encounter with gastronomy. In the twentieth century, Lair No. 1 conducted a series of “Courageous Cuisine” outings during which the Lair would descend upon some tavern with a kitchen and sample the menu. The choice of the tavern depended upon a single criterion: it must have a condom dispenser in the men’s room. During the run of gustatory outings, no one was injured and many men learned to freshly appreciate their wives’ cookery.

After the meal was enjoyed and the talking was done, Green was dismissed from the room and those present discussed and agreed he had met his challenge. He was thus duly elevated to the rank of Rogue.



2025 RESEARCH REPORTS

Third Quarter Meeting Spotlights Varied Interests

Lair No. 3 gathered in the Upper Room at the Doylestown Maennerchor Society for its annual Research Reports meeting on September 13. At this meeting, Jon Faucette, guest of Dan Morrison, was elected into membership.

Jim Barr talked of the exotic fish in his koi pond.

George Green discussed trying to get certification in systems administration.

Michael Landis told tales of Pennsylvania Indians.

Calvin Morrison trumpeted Utraquism, a religious movement from the Hussite Wars in Bohemia. As he writes in his newly-launched website Utraque.org, "Utraquism is a worldwide Christian movement ... advocating for communion under both kinds (bread and wine) for laity."

Dan Morrison can't remember if he talked



At the Research Reports Meeting, l. to r., Michael Moscherosch, Jim Barr, Michael Landis, Jon Faucette, and Jeff Sivek.

about anything.

Michael Moscherosch talked about his kei-class Japanese truck. For the past 65 years, Japanese law has given special consideration to small vehicles – roughly 5 feet wide and 11 feet long. While these vehicles are not produced for the American market, Michael found a specialized importer in New Jersey who sold him a 1989 Subaru Sambar.

Jeff Sivek said a few things about young William Penn and his management of his father's estates in Ireland.

At the meeting were: Jim Barr, Jon Faucette, Jordan Goretti, George Green, Michael Landis, Calvin Morrison, Daniel Morrison, Michael Moscherosch, and Jeff Sivek.



Michael Moscherosch with his 1989 Subaru Sambar.



Jim Barr won his fourth Mass Challenge in 2025, having taken the honors previously in 2005, 2006, and 2011. His primary occupation these days is helping his son, Galen, in running the Van Lieus Brewery in Perkasio, Penna.

Jim also hit the 75-meeting milestone this year.

Dan Bramer was promoted to full Professor at Holy Family College. In June he presented "Be Fruitful, and Multiply: The irony of globalization and its impact on religious dialogue" at the World Conference for Religious Dialogue and Cooperation in Krushevo, North Macedonia. Bramer also was featured as a philosopher and theologian in a documentary series titled "The Religion Business," which can be found easily on Amazon.

Jason Enelow paid a visit to Scotland over the summer. He was spotted at the Amon Carter Museum of American Art in Fort Worth, Texas, where he seems to be a docent.

Timons Esaias received more than 284 rejections in 2025. He did, however, have three poems – "Aphorism," "Progress," and "Maxim #4" –

accepted for the Winter 2026 edition of *Chiron Review*. And so he continues to reign as the RR&R's most-prolific published poet. *Chiron Review* comes out of St. John, Kansas, 140 miles due south of the geographic center of the contiguous 48 states. For this reason, it is known as an "off-center" journal.



George Green, in white, with some of his groomsmen. Calvin Morrison is on the far right.

Jon Faucette, elected as a member of Lair No. 3 in 2025, closed out the year with a trip to South Africa. His wife Ilze was born in SA. Ilze and Jon had a baby girl – Josie – on Christmas 2024.

Jordan Goretti is still married, still has two

daughters, still is secretary at Huntingdon Valley Presbyterian Church, and still is secretary of the Lair. The big news in his life is that he replaced his much-loved and long-serving 2012 Toyota with a snazzy 2025 Toyota.

George Green married Lauren Boyce at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church in Malvern, Penna., on May 24. **Calvin Morrison** was one of the groomsmen.

George Hindley is still not a member of the RR&R, but he is on his way to being an empty-nester. On Black Friday, his elder son, Jimmy, also a cigar smoker, was married at the family home in Newtown,

Penna. Bride Lucía Secaida hails from Guatemala and the couple enjoy life in Pittsburgh.

Ray Hull and brother **Roger Hull** were AWOL in 2025. As we haven't seen either on the FBI Most Wanted List, we are hopeful all is well.

Michael Landis finished his Rascal Challenge presentation at the second quarter 2025 meeting. He continues to be the Chairman of Humanities at Manor College. His son Alex attends Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash.

Hayes Lewis has been quiet in 2025. We hope all is well in Texas.

Sean McVan visited Krakow, Heidelberg, and Prague this year.

Calvin Morrison recently traded his 1968 Saab 96 V4 for a 2004 Saab 9⁵. While the older Saab had the charm and speed of a dusty African tortoise, its newer cousin almost looks like a modern car. One result of the trade is that Calvin’s father no longer has any Saabs parked on his property.

In April, **Dan Morrison** presented a talk titled “The Beauty of a Diversified Life: when Chemists, Clergy, and Composers become Rascals, Rogues, and Rapsclions” to the University of Alabama Medical School in Tuscaloosa. On June 15, he marked his 20th anniversary at Huntingdon Valley Presbyterian Church and then on August 31 retired as a

pastor and became Associate Professor of English at Manor College in Jenkintown. Rogue **Michael Landis** is his new boss at Manor College. Morrison

prove he visited the den of iniquity. Sivek was elected Assistant Director of Lair No. 3, his first RR&R office in the 21st century. In another century he



Calvin Morrison, with son Archibald, strikes a pose with his newish Saab.

also was recently named editor of the *Old York Road Historical Society Bulletin*.

Leon Moscherosch is living in Germany these days. We haven’t seen him at an RR&R meeting in a while.

Michael Moscherosch has been seen driving the narrow streets of Doylestown, Penna., in a Japanese mini- truck.

Hugh Riches is studying the piano – who says you can’t teach an old dog new tricks?. He was spotted in Spain, but assures us his heart remains in Grimsby, Lincolnshire. He is still engaged in the work of the Hammond House.

Jeff Sivek lives next door to a low-budget Epstein Island. So far we have seen no photos to

was the Secretary of Lair No. 1. Last month he attended an interfaith Thanksgiving service at Temple Beth-Am in Abington, Penna. Special guest speaker was Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro. A reliable witness says the Governor knocked it out of the park but the Presbyterian clergy representative was an embarrassment. **Sivek** and **Dan Morrison** did a behind-the-scenes tour at Fonhill, the eccentric poured-concrete house built by Henry Mercer, Ur-Rascal from Doylestown.



The Megaphone
 “Mostly True ... Since 1994.”

Pliny Miles, editor

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Voice of the Reader

“A Wonderous Contribution”

January 17, 2025

Dear Mr. Miles, Editor

I trust that this message will find you and those you care for well and in the best of circumstances for the foreseeable future we will share. With delight and great anticipation, I received the December 31, 2024 edition of *The Megaphone*. Having enjoyed the material which was so carefully assembled to the great benefit of every reader, a certain phrase on page seven has captured my thoughts in recent days and I have been encouraged, even compelled, to transmit my reflections to you. The phrase “did raise the nettlesome questions of the standards of Rascal membership and whether or not the group can take credit for improving anyone in the past 35 years”. To this doubt I must, with the most unequivocal voice, suggest that the certain response must be, “Who can tell?”

For the observer of improvement to deliver an absolute assessment, one must first be able to know the resulting state absent the condition in question. This state may be discernible by some entity greatly elevated on the Great Chain of Being. Perhaps, as the decisive Mass Challenge process has determined, Jeroen Douglas should be consulted. As an aside, cheers to the Rascal who put forth the ICA Director General to be so recognized.

Putting aside infuriating time travel limitations and experimental alterations of life conditions allow me the latitude to advance my learned opinions on the matter. On this question it is my full endorsement that at least 75 percent or maybe even up to 90 percent of the membership have been improved by engaging the standards of Rascalness.

In defense of my bold and forthright assertion, I would request your indulgence of this argument; even though I am not one so gifted in the art. The discovery of interesting things is at the core of the human experience. In the times during which this group operates, a competitor to discovery has grown. That insidious underminer of man’s internal drive to quest is named, select. As attention is consumed with the variety of material that is pushed into awareness, the space to look beyond, behind and within becomes restricted. Unaware, the individual begins to relinquish the facility to control the direction toward which one’s attention is applied and thus, discovery is vanquished by select. The Rascal method of both exploring one’s interest and attending an assigned exploration nurtures for the participant a power endowed within their beings. Thus, all are reminded of the inner drive to seek and the freedom to discover on individual terms. Self-determination is at the core of the American experiment and a fundamental right of the human condition. On this point the Rascals made a wonderous contribution.

In closing, I offer my greatest of encouragements to you, the RR&R and all who pursue the interesting thing.

Your editorships very humble and devoted reader:

Best Regards,

Robert Grace, Library Company of Philadelphia

Year-End Business Meeting

The final business meeting for 2025 was peculiar as our Director, Assistant Director, and Secretary all were absent. Treasurer Michael Moscherosch chaired the meeting and new officers were elected and a schedule for 2026 was set.

Dan Morrison, Jordan Goretti, Michael Moscherosch, and Calvin Morrison were retained in their offices as Director, Secretary, Treasurer, Keeper of the Humidor, and Archivist. The one change in leadership is **Jeff Sivek**, who was elected Assistant Director. This is his first office in Lair No. 3, though he was Secretary of Lair No. 1.

The 2026 calendar has one change. For a number of years, our meetings were on the second Saturday of the third month of the quarter, but in 2026 the fourth quarter meeting will be moved up one week. The 2026 schedule is: March 14 (Rascal Challenge); June 13 (Rascal Challenge); September 12 (Research Reports); and December 5 (Mass Challenge).



Ray Hull II Outing

On May 10, Rascals went to Bristol, Penna., for their annual Ray Hull II Memorial Outing.

The afternoon began with lunch at the King George II Inn, an eatery that claims to be the



Herman Mihalich explains how the magic happens at the Dad's Hat Distillery, Bristol, Penna. Lair No. 3 visited the site on May 10, 2025.

oldest continuously-operating inn in the United States, dating from 1681.

Following a heavy lunch, we drove a few blocks to the Dad's Hat Distillery, an outfit opened in 2010 by Herman Mihalich, Jeff Sivek's childhood friend from Monessen, Penna. Owner Mihalich gave us a tour of his factory which transmutes Pennsylvania rye into a rye whiskey in a style common in western Pennsylvania in the early days of the American republic.

After seeing how the stuff is made, the Rascals then gathered

at Mihalich's bar to sample the product.

Attending the event were Alex Aimette, Jim Barr, Jordan Goretti, Michael Landis, Sean McVan, Calvin Morrison, Dan Morrison, Michael Moscherosch, and Jeff Sivek.



MASS CHALLENGE HONORS GO TO JIM BARR

Fourth Win in Twenty Years

Having earned his first Landgraf Prize in 2005, Jim Barr racked up his fourth win on December 13. The 2025 Mass Challenge – forty-first in Rascal history – was: a rascal in your own family.

Alex Aimette offered Hugh MacGillivray, an unrepentant advocate of Roman Catholic restoration in England.

John Faucette presented his uncle Colin Brooks who attended Bob Jones University and flew bushcraft in Alaska.

Charles George submitted an entry, but apparently it was disqualified from the competition as it was received after the meeting was underway.

George Green presented his step-brother Albert Stallone, a piano tuner who joined the Navy.

Sean McVan talked about his grandfather Hugh McVan, member of the Doylestown city council and turnkey at the Bucks County Jail.

Calvin Morrison channeled his grandfather James Robert Morrison, lost-cause polemicist who advocated for many marginal issues, some related to sewage.

Michael Moscherosh proposed his great grandfather, Eugene Moscherosh, who repeatedly left home to avoid his wife. His adventures placed him in the Boxer Rebellion in China.

Jeff Schumacher told tales of an unnamed Australian housemate with massive bad judgement and poor navigation skills.

Jeff Sivek talked about Massy Harbison, a



December 13 meeting in Doylestown, l. to r., Michael Moscherosh, Sean McVan, Jim Barr, Calvin Morrison, and George Green.

relation by marriage who in 1791, with an infant in arms, escaped captivity by Native Americans. Her barbarous treatment was well publicized and her harrowing escape was repeatedly memorialized.

Hannes Viljoen offered his great grandmother-in-law, a South African ostrich farmer who struck it rich with gold.

Ryan Wolcott put forward his distant ancestor and Mayflower passenger, William Brewster.

Jim Barr's winning entry was his father-in-law, Kenneth Cree. This man built his own house and proceeded to master a number of crafts, including, but not limited to: electronics, rugmaking, photography, and leatherwork. Barr's previous Mass Challenge wins were in 2005, 2006, and 2011.

Sean McVan accepted the James Buchanan Medal on behalf of the four participants who received nary a vote. ♣ ♣ ♣