



THE ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW

*Serving in Illinois Since 1838
Our 180th Year*

VOL. 65, NO. 2

USPS 258240

February 2017

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BUSHNELL #366 HOSTED ANNUAL RABBIT SUPPER DECEMBER 13, 2016



Grand Master Larry Gear at the Bushnell Rabbit Supper with his Cake.

ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW

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Contributions of current news and articles pertaining to the welfare of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows fraternity solicited.

This publication is mailed by the first of the month, publication and contributions must reach the editor by the 10th of the preceding month.

WE DO NOT HOLD OURSELVES RESPONSIBLE for any news or opinions expressed by the communications of our correspondents, and RESERVE the RIGHT to publish NEWS that WE feel constructive to our Order.



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*"Promoting Odd Fellowship
Through Positive Communication"*

ODD FELLOW - REBEKAH HOME

201 Lafayette Ave., Mattoon, Illinois 61938



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Mary Williams	3/05/22
Beverly Crary	3/07/44
Evelyn Washburn	3/09/37
Betty Eisner	3/10/28
Harriet Blakemore	3/16/30
Freda Noll	3/19/22

NEWS FROM THE HOME

Hello from the Home,

I can't believe it's already February. We're anxious to see if the Groundhog sees his shadow. Hopefully springtime will be here sooner than later.

We are going to have a Valentine's Day dinner on the 8th with the residents and their families. We are looking forward to some craved home, hash brown casserole, green beans and some yummy cheesecake. When we do these special dinners for residents and their families it requires help from many staff members from all departments and we really appreciate all the hard work everyone puts forth. It's very heartwarming to see everyone come together and make our residents feel special and loved.

We have plenty of activities for our residents this month to beat the winter blues. We are looking forward to our Fat Tuesday party, where we celebrate the taste of New Orleans and the music of the south.

Last month we worked on a new commercial for the home so we are excited to see the finished product of that and share more of our beautiful home with the community.

Until next month - take care and be well.

*Jenna Black
Community Relations Coordinator*

HOW TO SELL YOUR IDEAS

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows needs new ideas to improve our Order, so you would think new ideas would be welcomed with open arms, but often you get a cold shoulder. How come? Valuable as new ideas are, they are often a threat to someone's ego. To the person who developed the old method, a new way may be a slap in the face. And what about the people who hold elective offices? A good suggestion from members in their area, that they didn't think up, is like a put down to some people. Another reason that members give new ideas a hard time is just plain resistance to change. Most members tend to be conservative. They like things the way they are. Disturb their comfortable routine, even a little, and they get uneasy. They fear the uncertainty of having to adjust. So if you want to get your suggestions accepted, don't think the quality of your ideas is the only factor. Tact is also important. How you make your sug-

gestion is vital. Respect the feelings of others. Offer your ideas in a way that ruffles the fewest feathers. There are several ways to make suggestions tactfully. One is to hold back on suggesting anything while still relatively new member with fresh ideas, you may see all kinds of potential improvements, but keep them to yourself until you have learned basics of the lodge operation, and been accepted by the members. When you make a suggestion, don't make a big deal out of it. Present it as a minor refinement in how things are already done. That way, people aren't as like to defend themselves, by rejecting the idea. Another way of suggesting tactfully is to keep your ego out of it. Don't propose something as your idea. Get other people involved and let them share the credit. Mention your idea informally and pursue it as a group effort. And don't get upset when an idea isn't accepted. Just try to understand why. Maybe your suggestion wasn't practical; if so, admit it. Or, maybe people aren't ready for it; try to understand their feelings. There is no point in getting discouraged or resentful. And keep trying! When your idea isn't accepted, and you are convinced it is a good one, don't give up on it. Let it rest a while and find a better, more tactful way to suggest it. The more tactfully you learn to suggest things the better the chance you will be heard.

When presenting new ideas, be a diplomat! **ACTION SPEAKS LOUDER THAN WORDS!**

Carman P. Greig, Sovereign Grand Conductor, Ontario

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2017

DATE, BRANCH, MEETING

Feb 18: Grand Encampment, All Degree Day -Sycamore

Feb. 25: Grand Lodge, Region #2-Farmington, IL

March 4: Grand Lodge, Region #5-Flora, IL

March 4: Rebekah Assembly, District #16

March 11: Rebekah Assembly, District #12

March 18: Grand Lodge, Region #4-Waterloo

March 25: Grand Encampment, Round UP at Lincoln, IL Friendship Manor 10 a.m.

April 1: Rebekah Assembly, District #26

ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT



Brothers and Sisters, with the holidays now behind us and a whole bright new year ahead of us where do we put our focus? As our lodges become smaller and smaller I believe our priority should be placed on taking care of our future. It is our task to take care of it, for if we do not it will not be here for future generations. What a sad world this would be without the Odd Fellows and Rebekah's. I have been talking to many people about our organization and hear many stories about grandparents that belonged, but they don't think it is their "thing". No matter I keep trying anyway, just like my turtle I keep struggling along knowing that my diligence and determination may still win me the race. I continue to invite them to come to any open nights that we have and just spend time with them and when I have the opportunity, to let them know something that we have done. Funny thing is they never stop listening or commenting on what good things that we are doing, they even help occasionally and come to some of the open meetings with me. I know that this year will be it I will get a least one of them in. So, I say to you keep trying, **persevere!** We can do this one member at a time. Remember it only takes one to start and others will come along.

I am finally getting to have some down time before my busy season of Spring meetings begin and my job starts running me around so I'm not sure where I am at. My calendar is filling up with dates and I'm making plans for where and when I will be on the go. I will always have some room in my car for anyone that would like to travel with me down the road. As Mom and Mona can attest I always get us where we are going, maybe a bit faster than

some and with plenty of laughs along the way!! My saying is and always will be if I can't have fun doing it I'm going home!!! So, give me a call I will be glad to have you travel down the road with me. I think I will start working on a point system and see what lodge can rack up the most points for the most members coming to different spring meetings besides their own.... Oh, now that does sound like fun I wonder what I could come up with for the winning lodge????? Start making plans get your car loads worked out and join the fun. The meeting dates have already been set with one change, District 1 will be on May 19th not April 28th.

Along with Spring meetings spring cleaning is also around the corner. Our Odd Fellows are having their annual Pancake and Sausage day on Feb 4th at Livingston 290 in Fairbury. Before that can happen, our poor lodge needs a bit of cleaning so we are jumping

and going to help our Brothers do a spring cleaning on the lodge. What a good time to do something together and accomplish something (working together for the good of our order). The Rebekah's will be having a bake sale at the same time (both of us earning money for our causes or for others that need our help). We are getting together the day before up at the lodge kitchen to make an evening out of making goodies to sell for the next day. I'm sure I will invite someone along to help and have some fun (a prospective member you never know unless you try). Look at us 3 things accomplished in just a few days!! What are you doing? What have you tried? Please let me know so we can all share ideas.

See you all down the road
In F, L & T
Sharon Landry
President Rebekah Assembly

LINCOLN LODGE #204 PRESENTS DARE T-SHIRTS TO DARE OFFICER



Lincoln Lodge #204 Associate Member Grand Secretary Jerald T. Sarnes presented this Years DARE Shirts to Lincoln City Police DARE Officer Fruge. Lincoln Lodge #204 has provided DARE T-Shirts to the City and County DARE Officers for Several years. They really appreciate Lincoln Odd Fellows Lodge support of the DARE program and it gets our name out in the community.

ANNIVERSARY PINS PRESENTED FOR VARIOUS YEARS OF SERVICE

Elgin Presents 10 years of Service



On January 4th Noble Grand Geoff Engel of Elgin Lodge #12 proudly presented a 10 year anniversary pin to brother Scott Engel. Scott currently resides in the Gulf Shores of Alabama and is still a proud member of Elgin Lodge #12. Congratulations Scott.

Elgin Presents 20 years of Service



On January 4th Noble Grand Geoff Engel of Elgin Lodge #12 presented Past DDGM Ralph Stauch with his 20 year anniversary pin. Congratulations Ralph.

J.R. SCROGGS ODD FELLOWS #372 DONATES TO ORANGEVILLE SCHOOL

Noble Grand Brad Leverton of J.R Scroggs Odd Fellows Lodge #372 presents a \$1500.00 check to Orangeville School's Principal to support the Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports program.



On January 4th past Noble Grand Matt Gallois of Elgin Lodge #12 presented Noble Grand Geoff Engel with his 10 year anniversary pin. Congratulations Matt.

Elgin Presents 15 years of Service

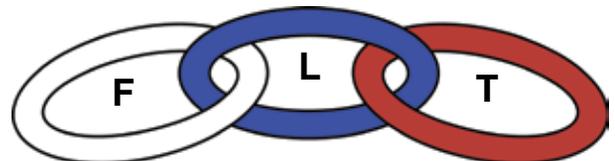


On January 4th Noble Grand Geoff Engel of Elgin Lodge #12 presented Past DDGM Ken Palikij with his 15 year anniversary pin. Congratulations Ken



Front Row Left to right Vice Grand Ken Warner, School Principal Andrew Janecke, Noble Grand Brad Leverton, School Counselor Christopher Moore

Back Row left to right Duaine Leverton, A.J. Croffoot, Curt Berndt, Harrison Dysard, Ryan Kerchner, Kurt Schilling.





**Grand Encampment
Ladies Encampment Auxiliaries**

**Round - Up
for
Autism**

March 25, 2017

at Friendship Manor in Lincoln

10:00am until ??? Lunch served, cost \$10.00

**Come Out, Have some Fun, Share a day of Fellowship
Everyone Welcome**

Donations go to Autism



**Rushville Odd Fellows Friendship Lodge # 24
Rushville, Illinois 62681**

Noble Grand Anne Bader, Vice Grand Tim Bright,
Secretary Don Schieferdecker, Treasurer H.O. Bader

150 Year Celebration

We invite you to the Rushville Friendship Lodge #24 on Sunday
February 26, 2017 from 2 to 4 p.m. to help us celebrate
our 150th year Celebration of the Rushville Lodge.

We will be serving cake, coffee and punch,
and our friendship.

Please plan to attend and take a tour of our beautiful lodge building.
We are located next to US Route 24 on the north side of the Rushville business square
near the east end of the block.



DEPARTMENT COMMANDER



With the installation of new officers has your Canton scheduled an inspection? Contact the Department Commander Jeff Lasswell if you have not had your inspection.

It is not too soon to consider attending the Tomb of the Unknowns May 5-7, 2017 in Arlington, Virginia. If you have never been, it is a humbling experience as wreaths from the many jurisdictions which participate are placed by the various jurisdictional leaders. Information is in the IOOF News or I have the information if you are interested.

Practice a sword movement at each meeting, be it the opening, closing, or inspection. Make it a 15 minutes practice. Reminding yourself of the sword commands will make for a smoother inspection and our troops will work together better at the Department Council session in October.

Department Association President Lady Sheila Reamer and I are planning a field day June 10, 2017. The site will be announced shortly. Bring your questions on various movements to this field meet.

GRAND PATRIARCH



Winter seems to have a grip on our state and with traveling sometimes being difficult some installations were postponed. I urge each of you to be safe and complete your installation of officers as soon as possible if you already have not done so.

Is your encampment planning on bringing a candidate to the all degree day February 18 in Sycamore? Degrees start at 10:00 am and lunch is being served by the Rebekah's for a small fee. I know of at least 4 candidates, do you have any? If you would contact me by email at: gemsbyjob@gmail.com, so I will have a lunch count I would appreciate it.

Mark your calendars down for the annual Round Up to be held March 25 at Friendship Manor in Lincoln starting at 10:00 am. This event is a great fund raiser for autism and is loads of fun. Games are held by the various encampments and ladies encampment auxiliaries and a delicious lunch is served at a cost of \$10.00.

Do you have cabin fever? Do not miss out on attending this fantastic event, visit with others from around the state and help to support the Grand Encampment's designed charity, autism.

ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT



Dear Sisters and Brothers:

I hope everyone had a safe and wonderful New Year. I can not believe that we are now in 2017, where did last year go?

Did anyone see our Float in the New Years Parade? It was beautiful, we did not win any awards.

In the month of February we will celebrate Valentines Day. A day to send cards out to those you Love and shut-ins who may not have anyone sending them cards, extend your hand of friendship.

When the time comes, please let me know when you would like me to come for a visitations.

Please try to get members for our meetings and Order, as we are getting smaller in attendance. Help our Order grow in numbers and in caring for others.

Remember my Motto: Live each Day as if Comes

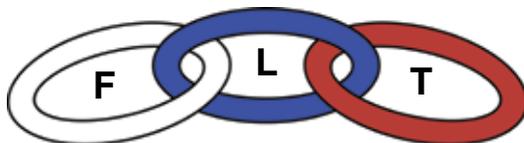
Remember my Emblems: Lighthouse and Angels- they will both guide you along the right path.

Remember my Aim: Together we can Achieve our goals in Life.

Happy Valentines Day!

*Chivalrously,
Lady Sheila Reamer
Association President.*

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CHANGES OF ADDRESS

As the mailing list for the ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW is published and corrected by the Grand Lodge Office, please send all changes of address and names of deceased members to the Grand Lodge Office.

Write to: GRAND LODGE OF ILLINOIS, IOOF, P.O. Box 248, LINCOLN, IL 62656-0248.

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The Illinois Odd Fellow

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LEGEND LODGE #212 HOSTED INITIATORY AND 1ST DEGREE



On 1/14/17 Legend Lodge 212 hosted Initiatory and 1st degree. 3 were initiated and 9 received their 1st degree.

Jessica Yingling

Secretary Legend Lodge 212

Senior Adviser IOOF Generosity United Youth Group No. 1