



THE ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW

*Serving in Illinois Since 1838
Our 181st Year*

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ALLEN H. JONES RECEIVES 70 YEAR ODD FELLOW PIN

At the Annual Oyster Stew Supper, sponsored by Brighton Odd Fellow Lodge #366, Allen Jones was presented his 70 Year Pin by his son Roger. Allen has been an active member of the Lodge all seventy years, and was stated saying, "he thought he had been Secretary of the lodge at least 50 years." After Allen served his Grand Master term in Office, he became Representative to the Sovereign, Grand Lodge, and served there for 24 years, this is true dedication to something he believed in. Grand Lodge Officers and visiting lodge members always enjoy this special evening of Oyster Soup, Vegetable Soup and Chili.

Allen's brother Bob, at his left is living in Glen Carbon, Allen's son Roger retired in May, and is enjoying his new home on the farm, and hunting as a pass time. Roger and Jim Bott, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, were in school together, and graduated together. Roger went to college and graduated with a Degree in Conservation, and worked in that field until he retired. Jim had the same talent as his father, and went into the Carpentry field, then managed at Scout park, and retired in 2016. Jim's desire was to become a Grand lodge Officer. Jim travels all over the state attending meetings and seeing what other lodges are doing, or if he feels they need help. That is his life now, where Roger's is hunting and relaxing. Both are Odd Fellows, and believe in those "teachings."



Pictured L-R: Roger Jones, Allen's son, Allen H. Jones, PGM, Bob Jones, Allen's brother and Jim Bott, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

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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



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Christine Weaver	4/01/28
Warren Moody	4/03/28
Mary Dobbs	4/04/31
Richard Kirk	4/08/28
Sharon Stretch	4/12/34
Madonna Carman	4/14/26
Norma Neese	4/26/33
Madonna Fuller	4/29/30
Mary Hardwick	4/29/27

NEWS FROM THE HOME

Hello from the Home,

We welcome March with open arms and can't wait for some warmer temperatures and beautiful weather.

Our favorite mini horses are coming for a visit this month and we couldn't be more excited. We actually have a former rehab to home resident that comes back every year so she can see them. We will also have Coles County Circuit Clerk come in to assist with voting on the 14th. We will have a St. Patrick's Day party for everyone as well. It's already time to start stuffing Easter eggs for our annual egg hunt. We are going to see if the Fellowship Center will help us out again this year since we fill about 5,000 eggs. We will be having the hunt on March 24th.

The first three Mondays of every month we have been having an inter-

generational program come in for our residents. The children come from different schools and they come do crafts and spend time with our residents. Everyone absolutely loves spending time with the children and making new friends. We are so fortunate to have groups like this that includes our home and our wonderful population.

We look forward to another busy month in April.

Until next month - take care and be well.

*Jenna Black
Community Relations Coordinator*

THANK YOU

My wife and I were very comforted by your cards, phone calls, and e-mails due to the sudden passing of my brother Larry.

Arlan N. Miller, Grand Treasurer

**AUCTION
SATURDAY
MARCH 3RD
6 pm
ODD FELLOWS LODGE
231 EAST NORTH AVE
FLORA, IL.**

**NEW ITEMS AT EACH AUCTION
THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH
MONTH
ALSO CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE
FUN-FOOD- GREAT DEALS-AND HELP YOUR
COMMUNITY-WHAT COULD BE BETTER!!!!**



**AUCTIONEER JONATHON MCCONNAUGHAY
LICENSE 441002234
ODD FELLOWS EIN—23-75985714**

ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT



Well I guess Old Man Winter wasn't done with us yet! Once again, I am hoping this letter catches you inside warm and comfy. I'm hoping that we all have gotten through these winter days on the safe side, no broken bones or anything. I keep trying to be active so that maybe some of the extra padding I gained will come off. I've gotten a couple rooms of my house finally set up the way I want them. It has only taken me moving stuff in and out of the rooms at least 3 times. The good thing about moving all the stuff so many times is I look at my fit bit and see that I can walk 5,000 steps without even going outside!!! I have 1 flight of stairs in my house and today alone I have made 10 trips up those steps. When we do make it out of our house are we spending any time with lodge members? Our Odd Fellows had their annual Pancake and Sausage day, we Rebekah's held a bake sale along with them to raise money for our district. We meet on Friday night at the lodge hall to make all the goodies to sell. We decided it was much more fun to bring the ingredients and make the stuff together. More hands the merrier! We also brought projects we are working on to the sale and spent the day crocheting and what ever, talking with everyone and selling nearly all our goodies. What a great time we had. Can you come up with something like this and invite people to join you?

Spring meetings are now here. Please let's try to get involved and go to a few of these besides our own. I'm going to preach on my car loads. All our lodges are getting smaller which in turn is making our districts smaller also. I don't feel like going - is no longer an option, we don't have enough for any of us to not come to the meetings. Please make plans in your lodge

meetings to join in on at least 2 other meetings everyone needs the help. Just think how many people you could get to come to these meetings if you make plans and make a day of it. If just 2 of you brought 3 people each to a meeting that will almost double the number that is at some of these meetings. Come on out you might just have a good time. As the weather gets nicer we need to get out and about what a better way to do than with some members.

What are your lodges plans for the coming year? Have you got any projects planed or maybe a trip somewhere? I hope that you are planning now for this year, new members are waiting we just have to find them and who knows what you have been planning may finally be what draws them in. Never stop trying because the day we do will be the day that lodge may not be there for us anymore. Let me know what you have in the works, so I can help you spread the word.

Don't forget the Round Up in Lincoln, Saturday March 31, supporting Autism. I have been attending this now for a few years and don't want to miss it. This is a great time and supports a wonderful cause. There are games to play and raffles to win, cost is usually one lonely dollar each. There is a lunch served for a cost. Also an auction with lots of neat things to buy. It starts at 10 a.m. and only runs a couple of hours but the money raised in this short time is amazing. You need to make it to this event!! What a fun time!

See you on down the road
In F. L. & T.
Sharon
President Rebekah Assembly

*Happy
St. Patrick's
Day*

MARCH 17



ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT



To All Ladies and Chevaliers

The month of March is filled with several holidays. Mr Groundhog saw his shadow, 6 more weeks of winter, though the only one who can predict the weather is God, not a rodent! No matter, we just received up to 7 inches of snow recently!

Then there is Lent - a very important day for Christians and Easter.

The last holiday is St Patrick's Day-where who ever you are we act and dress Irish and wear green!

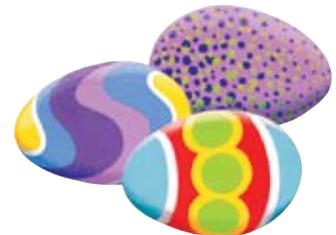
Here is a prayer Jeanette Dajc wrote:

Irish Prayer

*May God give you,
For every storm, a rainbow,
For every tear, a smile,
For every care, a promise.
And a blessing in each trial,
For every problem Life sends,
A faithful friend to share,
For every sigh, a sweet song,
And an answer for each prayer.*

During all these holidays remember those who can't get out with cards, care packages or just go visit them, letting them know you care about them.

Remember My Motto -
"Live Each Day As it Comes"
Enjoy your Holidays!
Chivalrously,
Lady Sheila Reamer
Association President



BEN HUR LODGE #870 - COAT DRIVE FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

In December, the Brothers of Ben Hur Lodge #870 in Richmond collected and donated over 100 winter coats along with other winter apparel to TLS Veterans in McHenry. TLS Veterans is a non-profit organization with many programs in place to support local homeless veterans and their families.



Pictured from L to R are Adam Metz, Steve Weber and Gregg Bowen.

CHARITY HOME REBEKAH LODGE

Charity home Rebekah Lodge #112 to host bake sale in coordination with Livingston Lodge IOOF #290. Several members of Charity home met on Friday night to make pies and items for the bake sale at the lodge hall. The next morning we were open at 6 a.m. along with Livingston #290 for their pancake and sausage day. Some of the Rebekah sat out and had a fun time doing craft projects and interacting with the community during the day.



Pictured is President Sharon Laundry with her afghan as she speaks with her customer.

ROCKFORD PRESENTS 15 YEAR PINS



On January 22, 2018 following the joint installation of officers, Rockford Lodge #140 presented 15 year pins to, left to right: DDGM Peter Cortilet and Grand Master Bill Maplesden. Brothers Peter and Bill were initiated together at Galena in January, 2003.

MACOMB REBEKAH LODGE #342



District Deputy Cynthia Elam, presenting Annie Bader her PNG pin during installation ceremonies for Macomb Rebekah Lodge #342, Good Hope. It has been sometime since we have had a NEW Past Noble Grand, and are very proud of her.

FLORA LODGE #151



Happy New Year and Greetings from Flora Lodge #151.

We are excited about the upcoming year. It has been 123 years since our lodge was chartered. In 1987 we moved into our current building. This year, our goals will include not only focus on benevolence and charity but in addition work on sprucing up our building as well as growing our member base. Noble Grand Matthew Diefenbach says this is "our year".

In Friendship, Love and Truth

Flora Lodge #151, Noble Grand Matthew Diefenbach

JOINT INSTALLATION IN ROCKFORD

On January 22, Rockford Lodge #140, JR Scroggs Lodge #372 and Temple Rebekah Lodge #789 held a joint installation of officers. DDGM Peter Cortilet and DDP April Smith and staffs installed all officers. A sack lunch snack was held after the meeting.



Pictured from left to right is: DDGM Peter Cortilet, NG Bill Maplesden #140, NG Rebekah Maplesden #789, NP Ryan Krshner #372 and DDP April Smith.

CORTILET RECEIVES ODD FELLOW MERIT AWARD



Rockford Lodge #140 honored member Peter Cortilet with the Odd Fellow Merit Award on December 11, 2017. A Resolution was presented to the Lodge, approved unanimously and signed by all members in attendance.

Resolution:

WHEREAS: the members of Rockford Odd Fellows Lodge No. 140 have determined that Brother Peter Cortilet has been an associate member of this lodge since March 10, 2003, and

WHEREAS: it has been determined that Brother Pete has unselfishly given his loyalty and devotion to this Lodge through his acts of Odd Fellowship, providing an excellent role model to guide the members in this fraternity tirelessly, and

WHEREAS: Brother Pete has always been there when needed to help maintain the hall of Rockford Lodge No. 140, it's upkeep and repairs, donating his time and assisting to oversee the rentals and organizations using the hall, and

WHEREAS: Brother Pete has mentored the members and prospective members of Rockford Lodge No. 140, assisting in the organization of many of the fundraising ventures of the lodge, and

WHEREAS: Brother Pete has presented himself to other Lodges, Districts, and the State Officers so that other Odd Fellow members have always had a good impression of the town of Rockford and its Lodge, and

WHEREAS: the members of Rockford Odd Fellow Lodge No. 140 would like to recognize Brother Pete's devotion for this Lodge,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the members of Rockford Odd Fellow Lodge No. 140 by unanimous vote have declared that Brother Peter Cortilet shall be awarded the highest honor our Lodge can bestow, the Odd Fellow Merit Award, to be presented this 11th Day of December 2017.

We are Odd Fellows & Rebekahs.

To Improve and Elevate the Character of Humanity...

Like all countries, we are full of good people, organized for the purpose of doing what is fine, in and out of public view, for the benefit of all mankind. Those who believe in such an organization are called "Odd Fellows".



Odd Fellows are very involved in supporting their communities.

Those who believe in such an organization are called "Rebekahs". We are also known as "The Three Unit Fraternity" which stands for "Morality, Love and Truth".

Being the Odd Fellows is a worldwide, fraternal order having over 4,000 lodges in 25 countries.

We are actively involved in a number of community and social welfare activities, and we are involved in a number of social and educational level, dignified, of love activities.

The Order of Work

- The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs spend over five million dollars in relief projects annually.
- The Rebekahs and Fraternal Order provide educational loans and grants to members.
- 80% of Mason's College provides a college loan for students who attend in California.
- Being a Rebekah allows you planning, financing and maintaining your own business.
- Fraternal Rebekahs and Fraternal Order Rebekahs provide support for their members and their families.
- Fraternal Rebekahs provide support for their members and their families.
- Fraternal Rebekahs provide support for their members and their families.



The International Order of Odd Fellows is proud to provide many educational programs throughout the United States.

Consider Joining the Odd Fellows

A year's experience of your character, who is loyal to their country and beliefs, and is proud of being the Odd Fellows, serves as the measure of their character. Our lodges are actively involved in a number of social and educational activities. We are actively involved in a number of social and educational level, dignified, of love activities.

How to Join

If you are interested in working toward a worthy cause, being a part of the Odd Fellows is a noble goal. For an unobscured view of our activities and working class in the United States, link to find contact information for your State or Fraternal Order. When contacting us, please provide us with your name, address and phone number. We will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Should you decide to join, an application and fee will be provided. Simply contact us on the web, phone or mail. We look forward to hearing from you!

408.61.0972



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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REGION #4 NORTH CANDIDATES RECEIVING DEGREES



Shown are 6 of the 7 degree candidates at Jacksonville. Left to right: Larry Johnisee, Philip Springer, Scott D. Rodgers, Chuck Norris, Alex Kruckeberg and George Michael Taylor. Not pictured is Noah Coker.