



THE ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW

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Our 182nd Year*

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Eighty-sixth 1.O.O.F. Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns May 3-5 , 2019, Arlington, Virginia

Greetings to all members, families and friends of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. You are cordially invited to attend the Eighty-sixth Annual Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns. Members of all units of the Order are encouraged to participate. The Pilgrimage Committee is pleased to provide the following information about this annual event.

The 2019 Pilgrimage will take place on Sunday, May 5, 2019 at Arlington National Cemetery. The memorial services will begin at **noon** followed by the wreath laying ceremonies at the Tomb immediately after the 1:00 p.m. changing of the guard. **Please note the dates and times the program will be held this year.** The Pilgrimage address at the Tomb will be delivered by the Honorable Douglas E. Pittman, Sovereign Grand Master.

The Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, at 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22311, will be our headquarters. Room reservations are to be made directly with the hotel, at toll-free 1-800-Hiltons (1-800-445-8667) or 1-703-845-1010. You **MUST** mention "Odd Fellows Pilgrimage" when reserving your room to receive the special rate of \$119 single/double, \$129 triple, and \$139 quad. All room rates are subject to applicable hotel tax. (See attached information about hotel accommodations).

The annual Pilgrimage banquet will be held in the hotel on Saturday, May 4, 2019, at 7:00 PM. (Advance ticket purchase required - see attached pre-registration form.) A social hour will be held from 5:45 PM to 6:45 PM. After the banquet, all present will have the opportunity to meet and greet the Honorable Douglas E. Pittman, Sovereign Grand Master, Sovereign Grand Lodge from the Jurisdiction of Colorado.; Sister Patty A. Heighton, President, International Association of Rebekah Assemblies from the Jurisdiction of Atlantic Provinces; General S. Ray Johnson, General Commanding, General Military Council, Patriarchs Militant, from the Jurisdiction of Indiana; and Lady Michelle Jones, President, International Association of Ladies Auxiliaries Patriarchs Militant from the Jurisdiction of Colorado.

We recommend that you schedule flights to and from Ronald Reagan National Airport (DCA), the nearest airport to take advantage of the free shuttle service to the hotel provided by the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center. The Washington metro area is also served by Dulles International Airport (IAD), located 30 miles southwest of the Capital in Northern Virginia. (There is no free hotel shuttle from this airport).

We encourage you to publicize this special annual event in your I.O.O.F. community. The contact information for the various events is listed on the reverse of this page or on the attached forms. We look forward to seeing you May 3-5, 2019 in Alexandria, Virginia.

In Friendship, Love, and Truth,
Jennie Sue Pearson and Chuck Renninger
General Co-Chairmen

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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.



Member of
I.O.O.F. International
Press Association

*"Promoting Odd Fellowship
Through Positive Communication"*

ODD FELLOW - REBEKAH HOME

201 Lafayette Ave., Mattoon, Illinois 61938



MAY BIRTHDAYS

Evelyn Gordon	05/07/22
Elizabeth Bailey	05/07/30
Charlotte Butler	05/14/40
Catherine Gwinn	05/29/26
Joy Carlisle	05/30/26
Mary Lou Fitzgerald	05/30/27
Jeanne Martin	05/31/24
Carmen Pierce	05/31/26

PRESIDENT DEPARTMENT ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS



Ladies

I cannot believe how fast this year is going. It is already April, two more holidays have come and gone.

I hope you all enjoyed Valentines day with someone special . Saint Patricks day is always fun with the wearing of the green and the shamrocks. As I look out the windows I see it is snowing again. And the temperature is really cold. I hope everyone is staying warm. Don't forget to check in on the elderly friends and neighbors.

We have a very special trip coming up in May. The trip to Arlington Cemetary to lay the wreath for the Unknown Soldier. I have been many times and it is really something to see. Please plan to attend if you can and participate.

I did not get a letter out last month as my husband was in the hospital. He went in because he was having trouble breathing. He had water on his lungs so he was put on oxygen of course. Then they found his kidneys were failing and he had to have a port put in so he could have dialysis. He was in the hospital for 10 days. When he got out he had to go to dialysis in Canton three days a week. He seems to be doing much better and may not have to continue dialysis. We will find out Monday when he sees his kidney doctor. He is not supposed to be left alone so one of our daughters stays with him if I need to go somewhere.

Keep good thoughts and I will see you down the road.

*President Depart. Assoc. of Illinois
Sandra Coulter*

NEWS FROM THE HOME

Hello from the Home,

What a busy month it has been! With nice weather gracing us with its presence, it appears spring is on the way! The residents are looking forward to some fresh air and spending time outside.

April as always will be very busy as well. We will have Fit to serve come the first three Mondays this month as we have had to cancel until flu season let up. It's an intergenerational program where students come to the home and do crafts and visit with our residents. The students and residents really enjoy this time together.

We will be celebrating Easter and having our annual Easter Egg Hunt. We better get started stuffing those eggs as we have about 5000 to do. We hope you all have a blessed Easter.

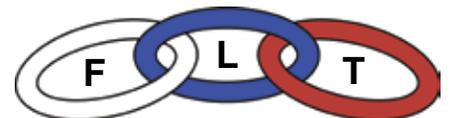
Until next month- take care and be well.

*Danita Starwalt,
Community Relations Coordinator*

EVENTS THIS MONTH

APRIL, 2019

- 6 IOOF REGION #5, SALEM
- 13 REBEKAH EXECUTIVE BOARD, CAPRENTERSVILLE
- 13 REBEKAH DISTRICT #6, CARPENTERSVILLE
- 16 IOOF MANAGEMENT CORP/ HOUSING, BUFFALO
- 21 EASTER
- 23 EXECUTIVE BOARD, LINCOLN
- 26 IOOF/REBEKAH HOME BOARD, MATTOON
- 27 REBEKAH DISTRICT #19, ARTHUR



GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE



You can always tell that Winter will soon be over once the Time Changes. That happened yesterday and today it is 50 degrees and sunny! But this is Illinois, so I won't be surprised if we get another snow storm or two.

The past month was very busy for Odd Fellows everywhere! We had another Regional meeting in Farmington, where we had a good crowd of 45 people with 4 candidates. This was followed by the Region #4 (south) meeting, hosted by Mississippi Valley # 1009 in Dupo. They had 9 Candidates and a total of 42 present. This past weekend Mt. Zion hosted the Region #3 Meeting with 46 present and added 6 new members to our Fraternity from 3 lodges.

Somewhere in between all these meetings, I found time to go to Biloxi, Mississippi. There, the Odd Fellows came together with the Patriarchs Militants and held a wreath laying ceremony to honor the Tomb of the Unknown Confederate Soldier. This was an inspiring ceremony attended by over 200 people. I want to say that Illinois was very well represented amongst the other 22 states that attended.

As a Veteran, I was proud to be a part of this and as an Odd Fellow, I was inspired.

On February 9th I was happy to be able to attend the Grand Encampment Special Session & Degree at Sycamore. We had a very good crowd, and Sycamore always does such a fine job with all their degrees. It takes a lot of time to prep for, organize, perform, and clean up afterwards. Rick Baker and his entire team deserve a big salute for putting it all together.

On February 25th, I attended the

Rebekah District meeting in Arthur. We had a great time and even took part in bringing in a new member!

It occurred to me that there are several Odd Fellow Lodges around the State that do not have a Rebekah Lodge attached to it. This would be a good opportunity to talk this program up and restart a few Lodges.

You can easily do this by calling the Assembly President, Donna Grable.

I would like to report that our Secretary, Joann Coers has announced her retirement from working at the Grand Lodge Office in Lincoln. As some of you know, she has had some health setbacks recently and is still in the Hospital in Lincoln. Joann has put in over 22 years and we wish her only the best.

We have asked Janis Klockenga to take over for Joann as well as keep up with her duties for the Management Corporation. To make this a practical transition, we have new office hours: Tuesday through Friday, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.

I want to thank Janis for taking on this new challenge for all of us!

"ALWAYS BE A WORK IN PROGRESS."

In F.L. & T.

Jim Bott, Grand Master

ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT



Is winter ever going to end? We had another six inches of snow the first Sunday of March along with bitter temperatures but it did not keep me from attending Lodge functions.

I attended Marrioretta Lodge in Arthur for initiation and School of Instructions. It was a day of learning along with friendship and fellowship. The lodge is happy to welcome Charlene Smith as their new member whom I am sure will be an asset

to them as she is to the Odd Fellow Lodge. It was great having Grand Master Jim Bott and Past Grand Master Larry Gean join us and of course, we put them to work. A delicious lunch was served preceding the activities of the day, District #19 has moved the meeting place for their Spring Meeting. It will be held April 27 at the United Methodist Church located at 128 East Illinois St., Arthur, IL.

Since my last message I attended the Region #4 North at Jacksonville, Region #2 at Farmington, and Region #4 South at Dupo. There were a total of seventeen candidates initiated at the meetings, one of them being the Vice President of the Rebekah Assembly, Nannette Johnson. Those taking part in the Degree did an outstanding job. Each Region was unique in it's own way. Welcome to the new members.

I attended the IOOF District #78 meeting and the Installation of Officers for Jacksonville and Winchester held at Winchester. They served corn beef and cabbage which was delicious. We had a good attendance present. I commend them on the wonderful job they have done remodeling their hall.

District Meetings started in March, the first being on March 9th for District #12 at Bushnell, and March 23rd for District #16 at Fairbury. I am looking forward to these meetings. Get a car full and come join us. I do pray that the weather cooperates.

My daughter surprised me and flew in from Florida and of course she came in shorts and wore shorts the entire time she was here. The first thing she did upon arriving was to get her hair done — I guess they don't have beauty shops in Florida —HA! HA! It was great having her. She will be back in October for the Rebekah Sessions and of course the first stop on her agenda will be the Beauty Shop.

If you have not ordered your 200th Anniversary License Plate, you need to do so by April 1. There is a limited quantity available. The cost is \$35.00. If you need information on this contact Charlene Smith at 217-552-2842.. Let's be proud of our Order and let people know it by displaying this plate from August 21, 2019 - October 19, 2019.

In closing I leave you with this message, "Two things define you. Your patience when you have nothing and your attitude when you have everything".

*Donna F Gable
President Rebekah Assembly*

PIONEER LODGE #60 HOLD INSTALLATION

DDGM Bill Smith from District #78 congratulating Chuck Frost on his Installation as Noble Grand of Pioneer Lodge 70 in Winchester, IL.



Picture: L-R: Chuck Frost Noble Grand Pioneer #70 and DDGM Bill Smith congratulating Chuck.

MARIORRAETTA REBEKAH LODGE #347

Mariorraetta Rebekah Lodge # 347 initiated a new member, Charlene Smith on February 25th, 2019. She is also a member of the Arthur IOOF Lodge. After a small lunch, Charlene was initiated into our lodge, and then we had our School of Instruction.



Pictured are: Front row, Larry Gean, Past Grand Master of the IOOF of IL; Kathy Nash, Inside Guardian; Leona Magee, Conductor; Nannette Johnson, Vice President of the Rebekah Assembly of IL; Donna Grable, President of the Rebekah Assembly of IL; Jim Bott, Grand Master of the IOOF of IL. Back Row: Howard Magee, Treasurer; Ruth Goad, Secretary; Charlene Smith, (New Member); Becky Sykes, Noble Grand; and Doris McDonald, Vice Grand.

CARMAN REBEKAH LODGE #525 HONORS 80 YEAR MEMBER

On April 18, 2019 Mary Thurman will have been a Rebekah for 80 years. Mary Bowlyou Clover Thurman was initiated into Carman Rebekah Lodge #525 on April 18, 1939. It was a family thing to do, so members included her husband, Mother, Father, brother, sister-in-laws, Aunts, cousins, and many friends. The hall was located over the Post Office where Mary retired as Post Mistress after serving the community for many years. No one ever gave a thought that you might have to make a trip back down the stairs to the little building. Every meeting the ladies would carry up baskets of special desserts, water, decorations for the table and hall, then they would go home and put on their formals and heels to entertain members and guests. They always had some kind of entertainment, whether it was music, readings or skits. District meeting were held all day and some times they would have to take the "doodle bug" train to the next town, because everyone didn't have an extra car. District meetings began in the morning, with a noon lunch, reopened in the afternoon sometimes with a few members who couldn't make the meeting in the morning, then the Banquet in the evening, followed by initiation with each lodge taking a part, and then closing the District and Lodge, then there was the trip home. When the cars became more plentiful they would take turns driving, in formals, heels and all the rest, what a great time they had, in all kinds of weather and no cell phone or OnStar if they had trouble. Many stories have been told of all the adventures they had with a car full of women. Mary was a Past Noble Grand and served in all the officers over the years, she was Conductor in the Degree work, and attended as long as she could until she moved into Oak Wood Assisted Living a couple years ago. Over the years, the Carman lodge consolidated with Oasis #49, Blandinsville and finally consolidated with Macomb #342, Good Hope. Mary always enjoyed meeting new people and is thankful for all the Rebekah friends she has made over the years. If you would like to send her a card, her address is: Mary Thurman, 200 S Logan St., Stronghurst IL. 61480.



Pictured with Mary at her 100th Birthday party in September 2018, is Bonnie Hensley, her chauffeur and friend of many years.

CENTURY LODGE #492 BROTHERS RECEIVE 25 YR JEWELS

During Century Lodge #492 Carpentersville's February 14th meeting Noble Grand Grant Dudar presents Brother Johnny Howard and Brother Bob Taylor with their 25 yr. Jewels.



Pictured (L to R) Brother Johnny Howard; NG Grant Dudar, Brother Bob Taylor.

REGION #4 MEETING

Mississippi Valley Lodge #1009, Dupu, IL. Hosted the Region #4 meeting on March, 2, 2019. The Host Lodge opened the meeting in form:

Regional Director, Larry Gean, PGM welcomed the 42 members present. He then turned the meeting over to Richard Herring, PGM 'Degree Captain', for conferring the four Degrees on ten new members.

Grand Lodge Officers present were: Grand Master, Jim Bott, Deputy Grand Master, Niles Reamer, Grand Warden, Mat Yingling, Grand Secretary, Jerald T. Sarnes, PGM, Grand Treasurer, Arlan Miller, Grand Representative Richard Herring, PGM. Grand Encampment Officers present: Grand Senior Warden, Richard Bright, Grand Treasurer, Allen H. Jones, PGM, Ernest Higginson Jr., Junior Warden.

Rebekah Assembly Officers present: President Donna Grable, Vice President Nannette Johnson.

The Host Lodge served a good dinner at noon. Good Odd Fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Allen H. Jones, Reporter



Pictures of New Members: Frank Masters #1009, Justin Stephens #27, Tim Beauman #27, Josh Davis #27, Jim Bott Grand Master, Barry Hoffman #27, John Williams #27. Seated Erik Peterson #1009, Nan Johnson #366, Ben Skaer #27.

MT ZION #300 HOSTED REGION #3 ON MARCH 9, 2019

Mt. Zion Lodge #300 hosted Region #3 Regional meeting on Saturday, March 9, 2019. It was a great day of Odd Fellowship, there were 50 + in attendance for lunch. As always Mt. Zion put on a great lunch for all to enjoy. We had 6 candidates for the Initiatory and 1st Degrees and we had 5 that took all four degrees that day and Charlene Smith took the Grand Lodge Degree.

The new members are Adam Sanders #300, Christopher Rohman #300, Josh Davis #316, Katy Czerwonka #316, Payton Fizer #316, and Bonnie Farmer #204.



Pictured L-R: Bonnie Farmer #204, Katy Czerwonka #316, Josh Davis #316, Pay Fizer #316, Christopher Rohman #300, and Adam Sanders #300.



Picture L-R: Christopher Rohman #300, Josh Davis #316, Katy Czerwonka #316, Grand Master Jim Bott, Payton Fizer #316, and Bonner Farmer #204. Absent was Adams Sanders #300 he had a previous commitment for that day and could only be with us in the morning.

LEWISTOWN LODGE #566

On Monday, January 14, 2019, Ken Laswell received his PNG Pen from his wife Juanita Laswell at the installation of Officers for the coming Year.



Pictured L-R: Ken Laswell and Juanita Laswell.

Eighty-sixth 1.O.O.F. Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns May 3-5, 2019, Arlington, Virginia



HOTEL INFORMATION
Hilton Alexandria Mark Center
5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22311
1-703-845-1010 or 1-800-HILTONS (1-800-445-8667)

Reservations are now being accepted and should be made as soon as possible.

The Hilton Alexandria Mark Center is the headquarters hotel for the 2019 Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns. To receive the special rates of \$119, single/double, \$129, triple, and \$139, quad, plus hotel tax, available for the nights of May 3-5, reservations must be made no later than April 2, 2019. You **must** mention the "ODD FELLOWS PILGRIMAGE" when making your reservation in order to receive these rates and to obtain the specially reduced parking rate. The hotel will accept reservations **on a space available basis after April 2, 2019, but not at this reduced price.** Only telephone reservations are accepted 1-703-845-1010 or 1-800-HILTONS (1-800-445-8667).

It is imperative that reservations are made as early as possible. Although the deadline to place a reservation is **April 2, 2019**, occasionally in past years the hotel has sold all the rooms set aside for the IOOF Pilgrimage at the reduced rate **BEFORE** the deadline. So, although a person may call to place a reservation before April 2, 2019, if there are no more rooms available **AT THAT RATE**, the person will be faced with a choice of **reserving a room at a higher rate**, if any are available, or seeking a room at another hotel. **If you have any problems with hotel reservations, please call Chuck Renninger at 1-301-350-4495 or Jennie Sue Pearson at 1-301-662-0749.**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, May 3, 2019

3:00-7:00 PM PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATION DESK open in the upper lobby foyer of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

Saturday, May 4, 2019

8:00 AM-4:00 PM PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATION DESK open in the upper lobby foyer of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

5:45-6:45 PM CASH-BAR SOCIAL HOUR, hotel lower level

7:00 PM PILGRIMAGE BANQUET, hotel lower level. Prepaid reservations required. (See attached pre-registration form) Open seating. Dress code for men - black tie, business suit, or military uniform.; Dress code for women: - formal dress, street-length dress, dress suit, or military uniform.

Sunday, May 5, 2019 **Please note times for all events**

8:00-10:00 AM PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATION DESK open in the upper lobby foyer of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

10:30 AM BUSES LOAD-DEPART 10:45 AM promptly from the hotel lobby entrance.

No cars or buses will be allowed in the cemetery. Commercial parking lot available.
No exceptions

Noon Memorial Service followed by wreath laying after 1:00 PM changing of the guard

NO FORMAL ATTIRE FOR MEN OR WOMEN IS PERMITTED FOR WREATH LAYING .

Dress code for men: business suit or military uniform
Dress code for women: street-length dress, dress suit or Lady's military uniform.

No sandals, flip-flops, sneakers, open-toe shoes, etc.

Eighty-sixth 1.O.O.F. Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns May 3-5, 2019, Arlington, Virginia



PRE-REGISTRATION AND PURCHASE OF TICKETS FORM ONE FORM PER PERSON

PRE-REGISTRATION: \$5.00 per person, pre-registration deadline: April 2, 2019.

Registrations postmarked after April 2, 2019 or in-person registrations: **\$8.00 per person.**
Any questions about registration? Contact Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage Committee, Treasurer Wanda Smith Phone: 1-703-590-1267 E-mail: 0302wsmith@gmail.com

PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATION DESK (upper lobby foyer of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center)

Open Friday, May 3, 3:00-7:00 PM; Saturday, May 4, 8:00 AM-4:00 PM; Sunday, May 5, 8:00-10:00 AM. Pre-registered participants must pick up their registration envelopes which include the Pilgrimage badge and certificate of attendance and any pre-paid tickets as requested on **this form**. In-person registrations are accepted. Any tickets still available may be purchased.

**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE - ONE FORM PER PERSON - (Please copy this form as needed)
PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE April 2, 2019**

Name _____ Phone # _____ Email _____

Address _____

Jurisdiction _____

Highest Title you want printed on the certificate _____

All funds are stated in U.S. dollars and must be paid in U.S. dollars. NO REFUNDS.

() \$ 5.00 PRE-REGISTRATION FEE available until **April 2, 2019**, after April 2, 2019, fee is \$8.00

() \$ **55.00 SATURDAY PILGRIMAGE BANQUET** -- **MUST** be reserved and prepaid by **April 2**. Unless there are canceled reservations, **no additional banquet tickets** will be available.

() \$ **45.00 ARLINGTON CEMETERY TRANSPORTATION TICKETS** - round-trip bus from the Hilton to the Visitor Center; round-trip shuttle from the visitor center to the tomb for Sunday, May 6, 2018 only. **Space is limited**. Unless there are cancellations, last minute transportation tickets may not be available.

*****NO PRIVATE VEHICLES or BUSES WILL BE PERMITTED TO ENTER THE CEMETERY AND PARK. PRIVATE VEHICLE AND BUS PARKING IS AVAILABLE FOR A FEE AT THE COMMERCIAL PARKING GARAGE AT ARLINGTON CEMETERY. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Check # _____ Amount of check _____

All funds are stated in U.S. dollars and must be paid in U.S. dollars.
Make checks payable to: Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage Committee
and send with this form to:

Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage Committee
P. O. Box 7165, Woodbridge, VA 22195
Phone: 1-703-590-1267 E-mail: 0302wsmith@gmail.com

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.

Send "In Memoriam" to P.O. Box 248, Lincoln, IL 62656-0248.

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WILDEY #4 LAPM

Sofia Reavley the daughter of Kathy Reavley and the granddaughter of Charles Prince was initiated into Wildey #4 LAPM.



Pictured L-R: Kathy Reavley and her daughter Sofia Reavley.

FOR SALE



The Odd Fellow Rebekah Nursing Home received these two Pictures from a family. The home donated them to the Museum Committee. The Museum Committee had them Appraised. The Woman and Child is a 30 x 40 Original Oil Painting by A. Mackey and was Appraised at \$1749. The Man on Horse and Two Ladies is a 30 x 40 Original Oil Painting by Galligo and is appraised at \$4,179. The Museum Committee is trying to sell these two painting however they have put a reserve on both painting. The Woman and Child they want at least \$1000 for and the Man on Horse and Two Ladies they want at least \$2000. We are giving the order first shot at purchasing the paintings. If we can't sell them here we will put them on E-Bay. The money that is collected will be split between the OFR Nursing Home and the Museum Committee. Your investment will be well spent on both entities.

They were both appraised by Joan Bailot located at 12685 Dorsett Road Suite 301 Maryland Heights, Mo 63043. Appraisals will be provided with the purchase of the picture. Thank you.