



THE ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW

Serving in Illinois Since 1838

Our 183rd Year

VOL. 68, NO. 1

USPS 258240

January 2020

50 cents per copy
Subscription \$5.00 per year

NEW "ADDITION" TO GRAND LODGE



James Bott PGM stands with a "new" addition to the Grand Lodge collection.

Made in late 40s in Jacksonville, IL carriage shop for the Illinois Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Children's Home. Never been in rain, original paint and lettering.

The chain of Odd Fellowship in action: Ray Jackson first spotted this on Facebook Marketplace? Sent it to Ainslie? Who sent it to Jim Bott and the Yinglings? Jim jumped on it? Now this piece of our history has returned right back where it belongs!

The surprising part? It was in Lincoln all along in someone's garage! I am sure Jim Bott can fill in the details of its back story.

Don Winterbauer and his wife are happy to see it returned to the original owners of the wagon. Don's wife grew up on Decatur Street and played with the kids of the home and has fond memories.



ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW
(USPS 258240) is published monthly by
the Grand Lodge of Illinois, Independent
Order of Odd Fellows, 845 Wyatt Avenue,
Lincoln, IL 62656-0248.

SEND NEWS TO:
Grand Lodge of Illinois
Editor Illinois Odd Fellow Paper
845 Wyatt Avenue, PO Box 248
Lincoln, IL 62656-0248
Phone: 217-735-2561
Fax: 217-735-2562
E-mail: grandeditor@frontier.com

Directors
Executive Committee
Grand Lodge of Illinois
P.O. Box 248
Lincoln, IL 62656-0248
Web Site: www.ioof-il.org

Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, Illinois
and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes
to the **GRAND LODGE OF ILLINOIS**
I.O.O.F., P.O. Box 248, Lincoln, Illinois
62656-0248.

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 RESPON-
SIBLE 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



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Marie Litteken	2/9/1925
Johnnie Ray	02/10/1954
Lucille Welton	02/11/1944
Leroy Wetzel	02/13/1925
Betty Harris	2/23/1937
Lydia Davis	02/27/1924

LADY SANDRA COULTER LETTER

Dear Ladies

Here it is January, I hope you all
had a wonderful Christmas and a happy
New Year.

We are going to be having a joint
Field Meet with the Patriarchs Militant
on February 22, 2020 at the Masonic
Hall 2900 West Lake Avenue, Peoria
Illinois at 10 am and another one June
6, 2020 at 124A West Pearl Street,
Jerseyville, Illinois at 10 am. Please
plan to attend one of these. You can
wear your alternate uniform.

I will give an update on how my hus-
band is doing. He was admitted to the
hospital in Peoria the 22 of November.
He is diabetic and had to have his left
leg amputated above the knee. He is
doing pretty well now. We are looking
for a skilled nursing facility for him to
go into for rehabilitating him so he can
get around on his own.

It's about time for reports, they
should be coming to you soon. Please
be sure to get them done quickly and
returned to Bonnie as quickly as poss-
ible.

Chivalrously
Lady Sandra Coulter
President Dept Association of Illinois

NEWS FROM THE HOME

Hello from the home,

Happy New Year!

What a splendid Holiday season
we had in December. We are slow-
ly recouping from the holidays and
I think it's safe to say that everyone
had a great Christmas and a Happy
New Year. We want to thank the Odd
Fellow's and Rebekah's for giving us
the opportunity to buy gifts for our res-
idents. It really does put a smile on their
faces and they are so lucky to have
such a caring and generous organiza-
tion to make this possible.

The resident Christmas Party was
a delight. It was decorated beautifully
and the food was amazing. The res-
idents so appreciated the effort and
enjoyed every minute.

On December 20st the residents
sold their goodies they had made dur-
ing activities, also some of the employ-
ees brought in baked items and crafts
to sell as well. The proceeds from the
sales went to the activity department.

Until next month- take care and be
well.

Danita Starwalt,
Community Relations Coordinator

MT OLIVE LODGE #114 SALEM IL



GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE



DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS:

I hope that each of you and your families enjoyed a good Holiday Season.

That all will have a wonderful New Year. Going to Lodge Meetings, taking a part. Having new officers also having a school of instruction.

On December 10, I attended the rabbit supper in Bushnell Lodge #322. Also attended the Odd Fellow-Rebekah Home in Mattoon on December 20th. The officers of the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Officers and others passed out Christmas gifts to the residents of the home.

Friendship Poem

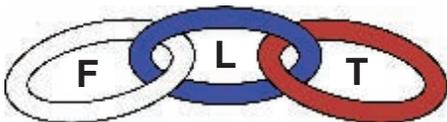
"Friendship, Love and Truth
This links the lodge as one.
Working as a union
The job will be well done.
It is a job for all.
And not a numbered few."

*Lets us work together, In Friendship,
Love and Truth.*

Niles Reamer, Grand Master

IN MEMORIUM

Robert L. Williamson
Illini #4 - 68 year member



ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT



I hope everyone had a great Christmas! I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year!!

I attended several Christmas parties in the month of December. I also attended my first District Meeting as an Odd Fellow in District #78. We had a great meal provided by Brighton Odd Fellow Lodge #366. Donna Grable, PP, President of that district, held a very nice meeting.

I attended Christmas parties at Six Mile Odd Fellow Lodge #87, my own lodge, Juanita Rebekah Lodge #477, where we went out to eat and came back to the lodge hall for our meeting and playing bingo. It was a great time. I attended Jerseyville #53 Christmas party and was invited to attend the Encampment Christmas Party held in Dupo. I had a great time at all those parties.

I helped pass out gifts to the residents of the Odd Fellow Rebekah Home in Mattoon on December 20. That is always a very special activity that we do as Rebekah's and Odd Fellows. Thank you to all that attended that celebration.

In December my lodge visited with one our members, Irene Wilkinson, who is 103 years old. Several of our member's went to the assisted living facility where Irene lives and celebrated her birthday.

District Deputy President's please remember to turn your reports in to me after you have completed the Installation of Officers for all the lodges

in your Districts.

Please continue to support all the worthy causes in our order. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

REMEMBER - RESPECTING,
BELIEVING, AND LOVING

In F.L. & T.,

Nann Johnson, Assembly President

MT ZION LODGE #300 CHRISTMAS FLOAT



The Mt Zion Odd Fellows have a long tradition of providing a float for the Mt Zion Lions Club Christmas Parade. Once again, the Mt Zion Brothers came through. The Odd Fellows built a float to the parade theme, Christmas memories. The float features video clips played on a large screen, children sitting around a Christmas Tree and a camp fire, all on the float. The float was accompanied by pieces of past Christmas Floats, such as bucket drum lines, Cousin Eddie from the movie Christmas Vacation and the Grinch.

The Mt Zion residents turn out each year to see what the Odd fellows will bring to the parade this year and they do not leave disappointed. The Mt Zion Odd Fellows parade floats have won the 1st place recognition for many consecutive years and they won it again. Aside from providing the entertainment for the community, we also have great fellowship while we dream up the float and prepare it.

FL & T

Jon Thomas, Secretary



Mt ZION LODGE #300



The Mt Zion Odd Fellows lodge is proud to continue supporting the local organizations that provide assistance to those in our community who need some assistance. The Odd Fellows, Kerry Toothman, presented a donation of \$2,000 to the Mt Zion Children's Fund. Kim Carlson received the donation on behalf of the fund. The Mt Zion Children's Fund provides clothing, shoes, hats, gloves and school supplies for children in the community in need of assistance.

The Mt Zion Odd Fellows Lodge also donated \$750 to the Mt Zion Methodist Church Food Pantry to assist the pantry in providing food for the families during the holidays. The Odd Fellows hope everyone safely enjoys the holiday season and has a Merry Christmas!



The Mt Zion Odd Fellows is very fortunate to have great support from many of our area businesses, organizations and individuals. That support is important to the community's success and to the Odd Fellows success in serving and supporting the community as a whole as well as the various families and causes we regularly support. The Mt Zion Odd Fellows recognizes area businesses that support the Mt Zion Community and the Mt Zion Odd Fellows events by awarding a "Sponsor of the Year".

The Mt Zion Odd Fellows are proud to recognize El Corral, Silvia Alvarez and Miguel Hernandez, as of 2019 Sponsors of the Year. El Corral has supported various community efforts and supported the annual Odd Fellows Mud Volleyball event at Pony Express which raised \$6,100 for the Jackson Scharf family. The El Corral also agreed to donate 10% of the food sales during the Mt Zion Odd Fellows Night, held on December 3rd, to the Odd Fellows Lodge to help support the community.



AN ODD FELLOW POEM

There is the strangest bunch of men living in this town.
That ere I cast my eyes upon in all my rambling around.
They call themselves 3-Link Guys and Patriarchs and such.
They have a lot of secret signs I can't seem to catch on too much.
But I sure do like to watch these guys in every part of town.
Walking up and down the street spreading happiness all around.
They always appear so kindly like it drives the blues away.
It's brother this and brother that and how's your health today.
There are many kinds of them there's poor old Ezra Hanks
and Julius Pratt, Plutocrat who owns a dozen banks.
 There's poor old man Good,
 my neighbor who never to school was sent,
 then there's Dr. Shangway who is the College President.
There are engineers and lawyers and those who carry the hod.
All shaking hands as brothers and folks, things like this is what
 makes them seem odd.
They are the strangest bunch of men the way they stick together.
 You'd think they were kinfolk the way they lend a hand.
 I remember back last Fall when all folks had the flu.
 There was sick ones to be waited on and sitting up to do.

But no family was so needy and none of those so poor. But one of
 these Samaritans came knocking at their door.
 But the strangest sight I ever did see was when death
 took away poor Old Tom McGee.
 It left his orphan children four without a crust of bread.
 Many an eye was filled with tears when poor Tom was dead.
 They gave him a decent burial and paid his funeral bills.
Then came and took his babes away to Litchburg Home among the
 hills.
Here they taught them to be useful and true to men and God.
And Folks, it's things like this that makes Odd Fellows odd.
 I have watched them so long I've seen what they do.
 I kinda' had a feeling I'd like to be one too.
The other day, someone came to me. He said "now look here, Joe
 How would you like to make a trip to Jerico?"
 He handed an application blank all filled out for me to sign.
 And so, I put my John Henry upon the dotted line.
 Now, soon to Jerico I'll go and when this road I've trod,
 I'll know exactly what it is that makes Odd Fellows seem odd.

Written by John Schafer an Odd Fellow in 1960

THE ELVES OF ELGIN LODGE #12 HELP SANTA OUT



ELGIN LODGE #12 PRESENTS PINS AND JEWELS



At the November 20th meeting at Elgin #12, Noble Grand Chris Robinson (Rt) presented a 10 year anniversary pin to brother Mike Schultz. Congratulations Mike.



At the December 4th meeting at Elgin #12, Noble Grand Chris Robinson presented a 5 year anniversary pin to brother Justin Koop. Congratulations Justin.



At the regular meeting of Elgin #12 on October 2nd, Noble Grand Chris Robinson (Rt) presented a well earned 5 year anniversary pin to a very excited Alex Peterson. Congratulations Alex.



At the Elgin #12 regular meeting on December 4th, Past NG Ken Palikij on right, presented Noble Grand Chris Robinson with his well earned 10 year anniversary pin. Congratulations Chris.



Dave Martin on left, was awarded his 10 year anniversary pin by Noble Grand Chris Robinson at the Oct 2nd meeting at Elgin #12. Dave has been an outstanding and active member here in our lodge.

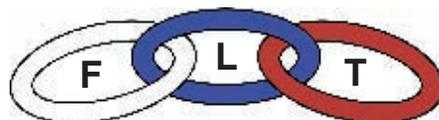


On October 2nd, at the regular meeting night at Elgin #12, Noble Grand Chris Robinson(Rt.) presented a much deserved and earned 10 year anniversary pin to fellow brother Larry Sitkiewicz.

LEGEND LODGE #212 HAVE THEIR OWN SANTA & MRS CLAUS



DGM Mathew Yingling and his wife PG Jessica Yingling represent Legend Lodge 212 in the local Christmas parade by playing Mr and Mrs Claus. The lodge also decorated a tree for the Community lot.



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.

The Illinois Odd Fellow

The Illinois Odd Fellow (USPS 258-240).

Published by the Grand Lodge Office of Illinois, P.O. Box 248, Lincoln, IL 62656.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Illinois Odd Fellow, P.O. Box 248, Lincoln, IL 62656.

Periodical
Postage Paid at
Lincoln, IL 62656
And At Additional
Mailing Offices
USPS 258240

**ODD FELLOW
WOODSTOCK
LODGE
#60**

WIN

**70" SAMSUNG
4K UHD
FLAT SCREEN**
(JUST IN TIME FOR "THE BIG GAME")

**DRAWING TO
BE HELD 1-27-20**

**CONTACT:
MIKE (CHICO) CICHONSKI
630-688-8853 (TEXT ONLY)**

**\$10
EA. TICKET**

PROCEEDS TO GO TO ODD FELLOW CHARITIES