



THE ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW

*Serving in Illinois Since 1838
Our 183rd Year*

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GRAND LODGE 2020

Dear Brothers & Sisters;

Our Executive Board met on Saturday, June 6th at the Grand Lodge office in Lincoln. After a discussion was held it was voted by all members present that all Officers, Committees will remain the same for the year 2020 until our next election in 2021. We have cancelled the Grand Lodge Session, Rebekah Session, Grand Encampment Session and the Department Council for 2020 with Crowne Plaza. If you have any questions about committee assignments, please contact the Grand Master Niles Reamer.

We have reserved the Crowne Plaza for 2021, 2022 and 2023 for the Annual Session of the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Sessions.

The remaining part of our schedule for 2020 such as the Meeting of the Representatives, the election of the officers and installation of officers, the Hospitality Room on the 14th floor and the Leaders Banquet and Schools of Instructions for Odd Fellows and Rebekahs all has been cancelled.

MT ZION LODGE #300 PRESENTS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Mt Zion Odd Fellows have long supported our community and the youth in the community. The lodge has supported youth sports programs, educational endeavors and many other events that support our future leaders, including offering local scholarships. The lodge received 17 applications for scholarships this year from Mt Zion graduating seniors.

This is the 10th year that Mt Zion Odd Fellows have offered scholarships to Mt Zion seniors. The lodge's cash scholarship award is based on the student's service and volunteerism to their community, their church and their school. This year, the lodge selected 3 seniors as the very worthy recipients of the \$1,000 scholarships. The Mt Zion Odd Fellows Lodge proudly presents 3 Mt Zion seniors, Heather Schollmeier, Maxwell Klebe and Coalton Camden, the 2020 Mt Zion Odd Fellows scholarships.



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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 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



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Mary Weber	August 1, 1926
Janice Brand	August 3, 1922
Patricia Woodard	August 11, 1949
Michael Maulding	August 12, 1951
Julia Shasteen	August 19, 1936
Vernice Lee	August 24, 1936
Judy Mantell	August 24, 1948
Ruth Crowder	August 28, 1935

NEWS FROM THE HOME

Hello from the Home,

Hoping this finds you all well!
 Everyone here is doing well. We all
 had our COVID 19 tests and everyone
 was negative. We were all so happy to
 report no staff or resident was positive.
 Although this has been challenging,
 residents are starting to adjust some-
 what to the new way of dealing with our
 necessary guidelines.

We were just notified that we can
 begin outside visits with families and
 residents. Although, there are several
 restrictions we have to follow, we
 believe this will bring smiles to every-

one's faces. Families and residents are
 ready to see each other in person and
 not behind glass.

Like I mentioned last month, it's
 definitely a different atmosphere right
 now. However, we continue to do
 everything we can to protect our resi-
 dents and staff. Placing smiles on faces
 and showing we care deeply for them is
 our job, and pushing through this as a
 team is what we do best.

Until next month take care- stay safe
 - and be well.

Danita Starwalt
 Community Relations Coordinator

FRIENDSHIP LODGE #24

Thought I would send this to you, with a little history. Friendship Lodge 24 for the longest time had a very small member base, at one time there was 5 members with 3 of them coming from another local lodge to help keep our lodge open. Over the past few years we have added a member here and there, and there have been members that have left. Last year we added 6 new members with 1 not returning. This year we have taken on another 8 new members with 4 more apps just coming in, The Rushville lodge has also for as long as I have been a member always went to Bushnell lodge for initiatory degree work and then Farmington for the rest. With many practices and runs over the last month, Friendship lodge 24 held their first run of the initiatory degree while taking in the new 8 brothers and sister.

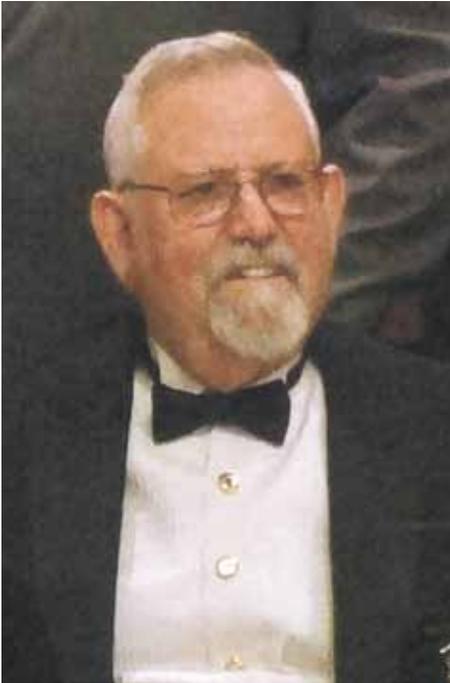


New Members



Lodge Members

GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE



Brothers and Sisters,

This has been a trying year. With all the Homes and Hospitals closed for visitors we can't go visit the sick. I have had two class mates that have Died. They had private funerals for only family members. I also have friends that had died with memorial services at a later date.

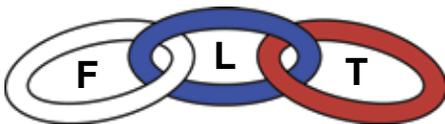
The only things my wife and I did this summer was putting flags on Kewanee IOOF and Rebekah graves for Memorial Day. With all the July 4th activities being called off, I hope we can visit Family members for a cook out.

Odd Fellows don't for get the Living Legacy Project – plant a tree.

On life's busy thorough fares
We meet with angels unawares-
So, Father, make us kind and wise
So, we may always recognize
The blessings that are ours to take,
If we but open our heart's door wide
To let the sunshine of love inside.

By Helen Steiner Rice.

Grand Master Niles Reamer



ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I hope you all know by now that Sovereign Grand Lodge and International Association of Rebekah Assemblies has been canceled for this year due to the restrictions related to the COVID-19 virus. This is sad news but is for the health and wellness of everyone!

I received a call from Niles Reamer, Grand Master that the 2020 Sessions of Illinois Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly in October have been cancelled as well. Although I know this was a difficult decision, I support it to make sure we all stay safe and healthy at this time.

I am asking that all my Appointed Officers, Regional Directors, District Deputy Presidents, Board of Examiners and all Committee Members remain in place for the coming year of 2021. I'm looking at 2020 as a forgotten year and look forward to another term as President of the Rebekah Assembly of Illinois. I will be contacting District Presidents to set up Spring Meetings for 2021. Please let me know after your Fall District Meetings if there is a change in the President position, otherwise I will assume that the current District President will remain in office.

I have advised Rebekah Lodges in the jurisdiction that if they have 10 or fewer members and everyone feels safe attending a meeting, that it would be

okay to meet. You can still continue as you have been since March when the COVID-19 virus appeared. I want all members to know that they have to do what's best for them!

I'm looking forward to getting back to some form of normal, whatever that's going to be!

In this time of turmoil that we are experiencing, I hope we remember that we are all GODS children and only has the right to judge!

Please be safe and healthy.

Please remember to Respect each other – Believe in the good work we do – Love each other.

*In F.L. & T.,
Nann Johnson
Assembly President*

OUR BASIC CREED

Genuine Friendship, which hears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things, is the first step toward progress and personal enrichment, and the teachings of Temperance, Prudence and Justice.

Love, is the basis for all life's ambitions, service to humanity, and more family oriented.

Truth, the imperial virtue, promotes economic stability, equality under law, freedom of enterprise, the highest of ethical standards, and lasting peace, the ultimate goal of fraternity.

Universal Brotherhood of Man under the **Fatherhood of God** is imperative to the survival of the world, and can be accomplished only through the practice of fellowship and understanding among all peoples and nations.

ED MULLARD REACHES MILESTONE BIRTHDAY

Brother Ed Mullard will be turning 95 on July 15, 2020. He is living in a retirement community and has been unable to see even his family. He misses his lodge Brothers & Sisters. If any of you would feel so inclined to send him birthday greetings his address is: Friendship Village, 350 W. Schaumburg Road Apt C362, Schaumburg, IL 60194.

Thank you,
Dawn Witek, Ed's daughter

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.

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GRAND LODGE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SET UP WORK DAY AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME

The Grand Lodge Executive Committee and the Odd Fellow Children's Home Board are working on the Garage to Clean things up and install Electricity to the garage and some other updates so we can use the building better for storing some files and supplies.

