



THE ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW

Serving in Illinois Since 1838

Our 183rd Year

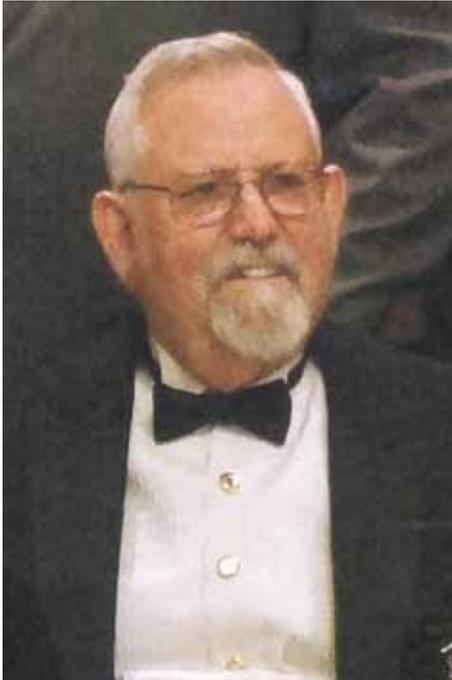
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GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE



their house. Please help the less fortunate, family, neighbors, and people with disabilities.

Using our gifts of Friendship, Love, Truth, Faith, Hope, Charity. Keep in Your prayers Judy Sarnes (health problems) and Janis Klockenga (due to death of her mother.)

Know that better days are coming.

Friendship Love and Truth
Niles Reamer
Grand Master

ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT



Greetings Brothers and Sisters:

Hope the summer has been good to each and every one of you and Your Lodge. Especially with this year being trying for all of us due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With sports being cancelled, along with schools and Colleges in question whether they will start or not?

With being no Sovereign Lodge and Illinois Grand Lodge please sent Donations to Jerald Sarnes. We have some wonderful charities including, Museum, Visual Research, Scholarships, D.A.R.E, SOS Village, Rose Parade that has been cancelled for next year. And the Disaster Relief Fund that has helped Odd Fellows and Friends. Thanks to Jim Bott for starting this fund.

I have been assisting an elder couple taking them to hospitals, dentist appointments and doing work around

form of normal!

Well, I found out the last week in July what it feels like to be without central air conditioning for about 2 ½ days, before it could be fixed. I felt like a kid again when I was growing up, we did not have air and seemed to be okay with that. I don't remember being hot as a kid, but I can't say that as an adult. As I'm writing this article, two very nice gentlemen, a father and his son are working to get me COOL again, yeah!!

I have been attending my local lodge meetings. It's been great seeing everyone again. Not too much happening locally with my lodges, just glad we can meet again. It's always great to have the fellowship of brothers and sisters.

I was halfway finished with this article and by the time I came back to finish it, all my lodge meetings for August have been cancelled due to the increase in virus cases in our area.

I participated in helping to move items from the top floor to the newly renovated bottom floor on August 22 in Lincoln at the garage at the Children's Home. Hopefully we have a great turn out of members to help. I was not able to attend the last clean up due to a prior commitment.

Everyone be careful and stay safe.

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

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

THANK YOU

I would like to thank all the brothers and sisters that sent cards, prayed, thought about me during my time of loss. It was appreciated. I was very lucky to have had my mother for as long as I did she was 98 years and 345 days just 20 days short of her 99th birthday.

In F, L, & T;
Janis Klockenga

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.



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



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Luella Garbe	10/05/1934
Robert Miller	10/12/1928
Mary Goodwin	10/15/1931
Norma Shook	10/23/1932
Dorothy Taylor	10/25/1930
Martha Thompson	10/28/1938
Lola Elliot	10/29/1924
Roberta Smith	10/30/1920

NEWS FROM THE HOME

Hello from the home,

WOW where did time go? How is it possible we are looking at FALL? However, we will embrace the time flying by due to wanting 2020 to be over. It's been a rough one for everyone. This last month has brought its own challenges to staff and residents alike. The Team is hanging tough despite the challenges.

We were able to get in some outside visits during the month of July before our outbreak. The residents and families were set up outside under the canopy out front and in the gazebo out back with social distance between them and all wearing masks. The smiles were there even if we couldn't see them. You could just feel the love in the atmosphere, and caused some to shed a few HAPPY TEARS!

Social Activities have had to be put on hold, however, we are doing things to keep our residents busy. We had a special visit from some family members who arranged to bring their kids and their 3 goats to visit on the outside. They happily walked around the entire facility going to windows sharing a smile and a wave and showing off their 2 baby goats and one larger goat. The residents absolutely loved watching the goats chase and follow the kids, as well as, seeing the kids waving and smiling at them. It truly brought joy to so many hearts. It was a true blessing.

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

*Danita Starwalt
Community Relations Coordinator*

ARE YOU STILL YOUNG?

Youth is not a time of life, it is a state of mind, it is a temper of the will, a quality of the imagination; a vigor of the emotions, a predominance of courage over timidity of the appetite for adventure over love of ease. Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years. People grow old by deserting their ideals. Years wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul. Worry, doubt, self distrust, fear and despair, these are the long, long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust. Whether seventy or sixteen, there is in every being's heart a love of wonder, the sweet amazement at the stars, the starlight things and thoughts, the undaunted challenge of events the child-like appetite for what next, and the joy and the game of life.

You are as young as your self confidence, as old as your fear. As long as your heart receives messages of beauty, cheer, courage, grandeur and power from the earth, from man and from the infinite,

SO LONG ARE YOU YOUNG!

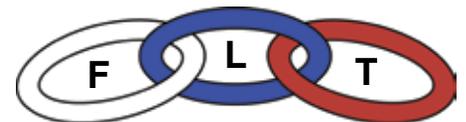
Rebekah Honored by IL Farm Bureau

This past July, Rebekah and LAPM member Sophia Reavley completed her term



as President of IL FFA Section 12. In Illinois, the state leadership consists of five major officers elected by delegates from across the state and twenty-five Section Presidents elected by the delegates from their Section. Sophia served Mason and Fulton counties as well as part of Cass and Tazewell. At the end of the year, the IL Farm Bureau and Affiliated Companies Youth Education Committee selects ten Section Presidents to recognize for outstanding leadership and service to the IL FFA Association and their Section. Sophia was selected to receive this honor.

This fall she returns to Illinois State University to continue her degree in Crop and Soil Science. Sophia is a member of Clio Rebekah Lodge #143 in Havana and Wildey LAPM #4 in Farmington.



ROBERT E. GASTON

Robert E. Gaston, 95, of Windsor, IL passed away in the comfort of his home at 11:05 p.m. on Wednesday, July 10, 2019 surrounded by his loved ones.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 13, 2019 at Lovins-Lockart Funeral Home in Windsor, IL with Reverend Rena Witcher officiating. Burial will take place in Windsor Cemetery in Windsor, IL. Visitation will be from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Friday, July 12, 2019 at Lovins-Lockart Funeral Home in Windsor, IL. Memorials may be made in Robert's name to the Windsor United Methodist Church, 1200 Ohio Street, Windsor, IL 61957 or the VFW Auxiliary #4226, 205 N. Walnut Street, Olney, IL, 62450.

Robert was born March 24, 1924, in rural Windsor, the son of Clarence and Lora (Turrentine) Gaston. He was a decorated WWII veteran of the United States Army serving from January 7, 1943 to November 4, 1945 and the recipient of the Overseas Service Bar, American Theatre Ribbon, European, African Middle Theatre Eastern Ribbon with three Bronze Battle Stars, Purple Heart and Victory Medal.

Robert and Lorene Montgomery were united in holy matrimony on October 30, 1949 in Windsor, IL and together they celebrated 56 years of marriage before her passing on May 21, 2006. He retired from truck driving after 54 years behind the wheel. Robert was a member of the Windsor United Methodist Church, lifetime member of the VFW Post #4829 in Shelbyville and lifetime member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF). He enjoyed spending time with family and his beloved best friend, Stubby.

Surviving are daughters: Elva Jean (Perry) Lawyer, Shelia Reed and Brenda (Bob) Tucker, all of Windsor, IL and Cindy (John) Watters of Claremont, IL; grandchildren: Lisa Ard of Windsor, IL, Jeremy Lawyer of Gays, IL, Robert Reed of Gays, IL, Tim Lawyer of Champaign, IL, Nic (Jenn) Tucker of Sullivan,

IN, Amber (Derrick) Voris of Windsor, IL, Ashley Tucker of Knoxville, TN, J.R. (Erica) Watters of Olney, IL, Josh Watters (John Hyndman) of Greenwood, IN and Jennifer Watters of Olney, IL; great-grandchildren: Rylan Ard, Dawson Ard, Doug Reed, Kristen Morlen, Kendra Reed, Hannah Reed, Logan Tucker, Brooklyn Tucker, Korie Tucker, Patton Voris, Emery Voris, Corbin Phillips, Connor Watters and Chase Watters; great-great grandchildren: Bradley Reed and soon to arrive, Ryder Reed.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Lora Gaston; wife, Lorene; son-in-law, Larry Reed and granddaughter, Bambi Lawyer.

MARY E. WIELAND

Mary Elizabeth Wieland, 98, of Lincoln, IL passed away on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield IL.

Mary was born on August 16, 1921, in Pana, IL the daughter of Charles L. and Edna (Alley) Riley. She married Carl Albert Wieland on September 23, 1950 in Springfield, IL. Carl preceded her in death on November 1, 1982.

Mary is survived by her daughter; Janis Klockenga of Lincoln, IL; and her son, Charlie Wieland of Jacksonville, IL; her granddaughter, Kristin Klockenga of St. Louis, MO; and two step-granddaughters, Danielle and Kary.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; and siblings, Nell (Riley) Hawkins, Carl D. Riley, Cleona (Riley) Hurst, and Hurshel Riley.

Mary was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Lincoln, IL and was a member of multiple bridge clubs. She was a charter member of The Emblem Club, Lincoln Odd Fellows Lodge #204 and Rebekah Lodge #204.

A private family service will be held for Mary at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Lincoln, IL. Private family graveside services will be held at Camp Butler National Cemetery at a later date. Memorial donations may be made in Mary's name to the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Lincoln, IL

or the Odd Fellows in Lincoln, IL. Services have been entrusted to Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home, Lincoln, IL.

CHARLES BYERS

Charles E. Byers Charles (Chuck) E. Byers, age 73, of Collinsville, Illinois, born November 27, 1946 in East St. Louis, Illinois, passed away Friday, August 14, 2020 at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri. He is preceded in death by his parents, Charles A. and Charlotte L. (nee Woodward) Byers. Chuck graduated in 1969 from the University of Missouri at Rolla. He retired from IDOT after 35 years as a civil engineer. He was a member of Meadow Heights Baptist Church in Collinsville. Chuck had a lifelong enjoyment of the outdoors. Surviving are his wife, Gail Ann (nee Jones) Adams Byers of Collinsville, IL, who he married in January 2013, three sons, Charles R. (Gail) Byers of Belleville, IL, Mark (Rita) Byers of Fairview Heights, IL, and James Byers of Fairview Heights, IL, two step-daughters, Nannette Johnson of Collinsville, IL and Annette Bosslet of St. Louis, MO, one sister, Janice (Van) Robinson of Greenville, SC and 6 grandchildren, Matthew Byers, Garrett Byers, Jackson Byers, Bryan Adams, Sara Gossage and Jeffrey Bosslet. In lieu of flowers memorials are requested to Meadow Heights Baptist Church in Collinsville. Online condolences may be expressed at www.acfuneral.com Visitation: Friends may call from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at the Allan & Ciuferi Funeral Home, Collinsville, IL. Funeral: Services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at the Allan & Ciuferi Funeral Home with Pastor Robert Strong and Pastor Jim Robinson officiating. Burial will be in St. John's Cemetery, Collinsville, IL. Due to COVID-19, everyone is asked to be patient and abide by the number of visitors allowed inside the funeral home. Please note that all visitors are REQUIRED to wear masks.

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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ODD FELLOWSHIP - A WAY OF LIFE

The more I think upon the subject the more it seems to me that our Odd Fellow way of life demands a full and true belief in God and a willingness to support the church of our choice.

Our way of life demands that we honor and cherish our families and provide for them to the very best of our ability, knowing at the end of each day, that we have labored honestly and well to provide for shelter, clothing and food for those who rightfully look to us for these necessities of life.

Our way of life demands that we be law-abiding citizens, true to our government and willing to give of our time, our talents and our lives, if need be, to the end that our nation shall continue to grow and prosper and become a better place in which to live and rear our families in a manner acceptable to our Creator.

Our way of life demands a degree of courteous dignity developed within each man because he learns to fear no evil and extend none to his neighbor. A dignity born from knowledge that all men err, but the errors of life come, not from the heart, but from the mind.

Our way of life demands a reasonable understanding of our governmental procedures, of our school systems, of our tax structure and of the duties of our various elected representatives so that we can responsibly perform our duties to our country our state and our community.

Our way of life demands cleanliness of body, mind and soul. Our way of life demands a degree of courage which will enable us to stand up in the presence of our critics and declare our belief in the things which we hold proper and just.

Our way of life demands that we be forever humble before all men as well as before the Throne of Almighty God, showing by our action that our worldly possessions represent the bounty given us by a loving Creator and not acquired by superior intelligence or ability.

Our way of life is demanding and not always the easy way. We believe it is the right way, the way that will lead us toward, the cherished goal of true happiness and accomplishment.

Yes, Odd Fellowship IS A WAY OF LIFE!