

Wisconsin ODD FELLOW

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF WISCONSIN



TO BE READ IN ALL ODD FELLOW LODGES:

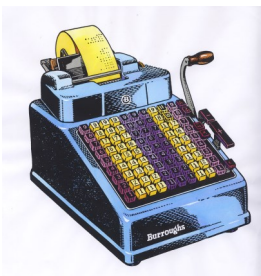
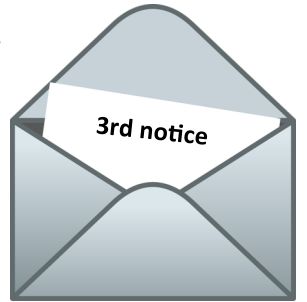


Dear Brothers and Sisters,

December, term reports will be sent out later this month.

Financial Secretaries and Secretaries, If you have not sent out letters to those that are in arrears with their dues, I suggest you do this right away, as by code you need to send 3 letters out to the members before they can be dropped for

non-payment of dues.



Treasurers, you can start getting your numbers together for the term report. This will make it easier to get the term report done, and less of a headache if you start early. Yes, you might need to add in 1 ,2 or maybe 3 checks or a deposit to your totals, but procrastinating will make it worse.

Elected officers, you need to sign the term report pages where it asks for your signature. Also lend a hand with the term reports. Make sure you know where the amounts came from and are correct on the report. This report is not just the treasurers, secretary's and financial secretary's responsibility. This is the lodges duty to see that it is turned in on time, with the District Deputy Grand Masters signature on it.



If you are unsure of who your District Deputy Grand Master is, call and find out. Then call the District Deputy Grand Master to come inspect the books and sign the term report.



Let's all make it easy on the Grand Lodge by having all reports in on time this year.

Last, but not least I wish each and every one a Happy Holiday season.

Until my next **Communication**.

**In F, L, T,
Jeffery Jones
Grand Master
Grand Lodge of WI**

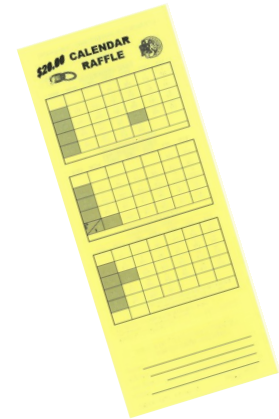


GRAND SECRETARY'S LETTER



Happy Holidays to All!

Our Calendar Raffle has started. Thanks to everyone who sold or bought a ticket. The daily winners are being put up on our website (www.ioofwi.org). Click on the raffle calendar and the results will come up and on each day the name, city and amount won are listed. We will also be putting the list of winners in the paper.



Term Report

DUE
Feb. 1, 2024

A reminder to all secretaries that the Term reports, tax forms, etc. have been mailed or will be emailed and are due in the Grand Lodge office by February 1, 2024. If you have not received your package, please call the Grand Lodge office, leave a message and another package will be sent out. Remember to list all your new members, their address and the date of initiation on the first page of the report. If you have too many to list, put the information on a separate sheet of paper and attach it to the page. We can no longer give an extension on the due date as we must have our report to Sovereign Grand Lodge on time so that our Representatives will be seated at Sovereign Grand Lodge Session in August 2024. Sovereign Grand Lodge no longer will give us an extension of time. If your report is not received on time, we will use the numbers reported on your term report ending December 31, 2022.

January 15th celebrate Thomas Wildey's birthday. At a meeting near his birthday have a party and talk about who he was and what he did for our Order. If your lodge is in recess call your members, have cake, and ice cream one afternoon and celebrate.

So far, I have not heard if we have any delegates to go on the Pilgrimage for Youth this coming year. If you have a student interested in going, please call the Grand Lodge office with their name as soon as possible so that I can contact the Executive Director and see if they can still go on the trip in 2024.

**Until next time,
In Friendship, Love and Truth,
Joyce Proulx, Grand Secretary**



Thomas Wildey was the founder of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in North America

GRAND CHAPLAIN'S LETTER

“learn to do good: seek justice, rescue the oppressed; defend the orphan; plead for the widow. Isaiah 1:17 New Revised Standard Version

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The giving season is upon us. What better time to take a look at what Isaiah has to say in Chapter 1, verse 17. This verse reminds us of some of the duties that have also been prescribed for us as members of our great Order.

God asks us to seek justice by doing the right actions. Those actions are spelled out for us by helping the oppressed, supporting the orphans and praying for the widows.

God is not asking for huge amounts of money or time from us in helping others. He is asking that we take note of those in need and for us to be creative by helping in any way that we can assist in the supplement their wellbeing.

How can I help? My funds are low, I have little time left in my day to reach out! What good can I do for others? Remember every little bit helps. “Be the kind neighbor.” Reach out and do something for others.

Hold a door for someone.

Reach something on the top shelf for a shopper that cannot reach it.

Wait your turn whether you are in a car driving, shopping, walking down a sidewalk.

Donate clothing, blankets and other items to those that are less fortunate.

Donate blood when you can.

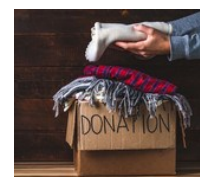
If you are going to the store or pharmacy, check with an elderly neighbor, someone without a car or a single parent, maybe you can pick something up for them, too.

Practice compassion, put yourself in other's shoes.

Pick up trash in public places even if it is not yours.

Volunteer at food pantries, soup kitchens, community meals,

Show kindness to others at all times, it rubs off!



This list could go on forever, with no money spent, just random acts of kindness. No kind deed goes unnoticed by God. Remember that **helping others connects you with other people**. It's part of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus and helps to improve other peoples' lives. And above all...

kindness — passed on and multiplied — is an awesome thing to spread.

Go out and spread kindness to all, take care of yourself and each other.

Blessing!

**Friendship, Love and Truth,
Chris Heins**





Coming events

DECEMBER

- 1 Deadline for articles for January The Wisconsin Odd Fellow
- 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 14 Christmas Open House at Odd Fellow Home, 6-8 PM
- 22 Winter Begins
- 25 Grand Lodge Office Closed
- 30 All Degree Day at Wisconsin #14, Janesville



JANUARY

- 1 Happy New Year!
Deadline for articles for February The Wisconsin Odd Fellow
- 15 Thomas Wildey’s Birthday
Martin Luther King, Jr., Day
- 16 Grand Trustees Meeting, 11 AM
- 31 Calendar Raffle Ends!



FEBRUARY

- 1 Deadline for articles for March The Wisconsin Odd Fellow
- 2 Ground Hog Day
- 12-26 Grand Secretary out of office – Vacation
- 14 Valentine’s Day
- 19 President’s Day



Sandy Wilkinson
 Crystal Rebekah Lodge #45
 30 year member
 November 8, 2023



Odd Fellow
Rebekah
 Home Association Inc
 1207 S. Jackson, Green Bay, WI 54301



Odd Fellow Home

Odd Fellow Home
 Tel. (920) 437-6523

Friendship Place

Friendship Place
 Tel. (920) 593-7015

Rebekah Haven

Rebekah Haven
 Tel. (920) 435-4810

NEWS FROM THE ACTIVITY DEPARTMENT

Seasons Greetings!

We are looking forward to a festive Holiday/Christmas Season. There have been many groups calling and scheduling time to come to our campus, to spread Christmas Cheer through music, visits, and gifts for our Residents & Tenants. Christmas Music will also be provided by our regular entertainers which include Pastor David Gallagher, Tom’s Tunes, Daniel Lovett, Fernando, and Violin music by Kimberly.



Rebekah Haven Kicks off the holiday season with a Christmas Pot Luck on Tuesday December 12 at noon for Tenants and families. The 12 Days of Christmas starts on Wednesday December 13th and runs through Sunday December 24th. Each day will have a different Christmas theme for staff & residents to dress up for, and the activities each day will be planned around the theme. It’s a fun way to celebrate the Christmas Season leading up to Christmas. On Thursday December 14 we will be having the Campus Christmas Open House from 6:00-8:00 PM. We invite all to enjoy an evening visiting the campus and experiencing the different themes at Odd Fellows, Astor Terrace, Rebekah Haven, the campus Walkway and



the campus Courtyard. And yes, we will be voting again for the best Christmas theme/experience. The winning team will win bragging rights for the year. It’s a great way to get our staff involved! If you were here last year then you will remember the Winning Team was Team Grinch. On Wednesday December 20th Odd Fellow’s will be having the Resident Christmas party from 6:30 to 7:30 PM. There will be Music by Fernando and refreshments will be provided. At the end of the month we will be celebrating at both Rebekah Haven and Odd Fellows with a New Years Eve party.

Wishing all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Cindy Czechanski,
 Activity Director



NEWS FROM THE CEO

Hello Brothers and Sisters!

The holiday season is in full swing here at the Home Association!

We do have a new administrator, Brittany Hanson, who joined our team this past month. She comes with many years of experience and a strong background in healthcare administration and human resources.

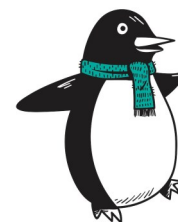


As the weather changes, I want to continue to remind all of you of the importance of winter safety. Please



be sure to wear sturdy non-skid shoes and “walk like a penguin” on areas that could be slick. Also, make sure to keep a blanket, flashlight, and extra gloves in the car in case you might have vehicle trouble or your vehicle transforms into a graceful sled into the ditch.

We have several events planned for December. We are currently collecting hats and mittens for local school children. We will begin a “12 Days of Christmas” for the residents and staff in a couple weeks. We also have a “Battle of the Buildings” decorating contest that will be voted on during our Christmas Open House.



Please join us on December 14th from 6:00-8:00pm for a Christmas Open House here at the home association. We are so excited to spread the holiday cheer with our residents, families, and staff!

May your holidays be merry and bright,

Dan-a



happy holidays!

MUSEUM MEANDERING

When wandering around the Museum, there is so much to share with our members. What should we share next? Did you know that our museum building is the home of Wisconsin's first Encampment, the Wildey Encampment #1. It was instituted in the jurisdiction of Wisconsin during the time when Thomas Wildey was here to help lay the corner stone for the new lodge hall (present day museum) back in 1838. I wonder what became of that Encampment? The last encampment in Mineral Point was Hudson Encampment which has been closed for many years.



The present Museum building was purchased by Grand Lodge in 1926. In search of more information, a letter was found addressed to Mr. J. M. Ostrander, Past Grand Patriarch of Wisconsin and Iowa Lodge #1 members. It is dated May 1, 1927 from J.D. James of Los Angeles, California. In his letter, he tells of being a young boy in Mineral Point in the 1850's. He attended school in the lodge hall due to an overcrowded public school. Class was held in the upstairs lodge room and was accessed through an exterior door leading to a set of stairs built on the west side of the building. Meals for the school children were served downstairs where Mrs. Weber, a widow, resided with her son. It is quite interesting when such findings are able tell the stories of the past.

In 1954, the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin purchased the piece of land to the east of the museum. The land was purchased from J. W. Skidmore, with the condition that said land be exclusively and remain forever a park for the use and enjoyment of the Grand Lodge's members and their successors. If the land were ever to be used for anything else the deed would become null and void!!

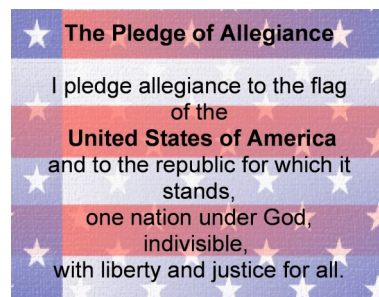
1954 was also the year for the very first "Pilgrimage" to the museum which at the time was called the **Odd Fellow Shrine**. Member of the Wisconsin Odd Fellows and Rebekah's from all over the state ventured each May to attend Shrine Day held in Mineral Point. It was a gala event. More to come next month, this museum is full of stories.

Odd Fellow & Rebekah Museum Board September 23, 2023 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Joel Gosse at the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Museum in Mineral Point, WI at 10 AM. The meeting opened with a prayer and the pledge to the flag of our country.

Roll call of board members...

- Odd Fellow Board Member-President- Joel Gosse-present
- Odd Fellow Board Member-Vice President-James Heisner-present
- Rebekah Board Member.-Sec/Treas-Chris Heins-present
- Odd Fellow Board Member -Sharon Cunningham-present
- Rebekah Board Member-Jody Tews-present
- Grand Master/Trustee-Jeff Jones-present



Minutes from July meeting -

A motion to accept the minutes as printed was made by Brother Jeff, seconded by Brother Jim, the motion carried.

Financial Report-

Bills presented-

- Iowa Lodge #1-electric use of dehumidifier in the museum- for 2023-\$123.00
- Sec./Treas. Postage-\$9.65



Balance reported -checking/CD

- Farmers Savings checking- \$2,297.81
- Farmers Savings CD- due in Dec.- \$5,000

A motion to accept the treasurer’s report and pay the bills presented, was made by Sister Sharon, 2nd by Brother Jeff, the motion passed.

Unfinished Business-

The Museum was in need of a mailbox at its physical address. A vote to proceed to take care of the matter, via text message in early Sept., was answered with a yes by all members. To make the vote more official, Brother Jeff made a motion, 2nd by Brother Jim, that we accept the text process for the placement and expense of the mailbox. The motion carried. The mailbox is up and running. Thank you, Brother Tom Heins for tending to it.



A motion was made by Brother Jeff, seconded by Sister Jody, that we add Joel Gosse and Christine Heins on our Odd Fellow and Rebekah Museum checking account and CD held by the Farmers Savings Bank, Mineral Point, WI. and remove Thomas Heins from those accounts. The motion carried

Our insurance is in place. Thank you, Town and Country Insurance.

The cottage is ready for removal. Doors and windows that are of value have been removed and will be sold. A motion was made by Sister Sharon and 2nd Sister Jody to give \$100 to Trent Heins for his time spent removing the doors and windows. The motion carried.

The Board spent much time going over the By-Laws of the WI Odd Fellow and Rebekah Museum found in the Wisconsin Code Book, dated 2006. Many changes and updates were made. It will be ready for adoption at our 2024 Grand Lodge Session.



The sliding glass doors are in place. They look amazing.

Sister Jody reported that the “Night at the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Museum” event for kids to be held on October 21st is planned and ready to happen.

A motion was made by Sister Sharon, 2nd by Brother Jeff, that the board will not renew the Dec. CD. (a recommendation from the Grand Trustees) and that the treasurer is to place the money in the Museum checking account. The motion carried



New Business-

The Board set April 20th as a meeting date to tend to any business and to plan for our 70th Museum Pilgrimage that will be held on Saturday, May 18th.

A motion by Sister Jody, 2nd by Brother Jim, giving the treasurer permission to pay all of the standard bills that will be presented during the months of October – April. The motion carried.

Being no other business, Sister Sharon made a motion, 2nd by Brother Jeff, that we adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

F,L,&T

Chris Heins- Secretary/Treasurer



**Next board meeting –April 20th-10AM @ Odd Fellow & Rebekah Museum, Mineral Point

**70th Museum Pilgrimage will be held on Saturday, May 18, 2024. Members of Wisconsin Odd Fellows, this is your museum, mark your calendars and plan to attend.

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

11/1/2023 \$50 D. Stevenson, Beloit, WI	11/16/2023 \$50 J. Prosk, Redondo Beach, CA
11/2/2023 \$50 N. Schmit, Mineral Point, WI	11/17/2023 \$50 L. Fogelsonger, Bay City, MI
11/3/2023 \$50 K. Goninen, Mineral Point, WI	11/18/2023 \$50 E. Cook, Huntley, IL
11/4/2023 \$50 S. Randall, Jefferson, WI	11/19/2023 \$100 R. Henderson, Ravenna, OH
11/5/2023 \$100 P. Mott, Lake Geneva, WI	11/20/2023 \$50 R. Stauch, Jr., Lombard, IL
11/6/2023 \$50 T. Melzl, Mukwonago, WI	11/21/2023 \$50 E. Bossert, Mineral Point, WI
11/7/2023 \$50 S. Lester, Blandinsville, IL	11/22/2023 \$50 K. Weier, Mineral Point, WI
11/8/2023 \$50 V. Werner, Ray, MI	11/23/2023 \$250 J. Hames, Marinette, WI
11/9/2023 \$50 J. Halkowski, Peosta, IA	11/24/2023 \$50 D. Brownrigg, Lapeer, MI
11/10/2023 \$50 P. Dorr, Sauk City, WI	11/25/2023 \$50 D. Anselind, Brookfield, IL
11/11/2023 \$50 S. Schroeder, Mineral Point, WI	11/26/2023 \$100 R. Stone, Dexter, MI
11/12/2023 \$100 D. Knoke, Lancaster, WI	11/27/2023 \$50 O. Heisner, Lindenwood, IL
11/13/2023 \$50 Z. Melzl, Mukwonago, WI	11/28/2023 \$50 M. Dutton, Daphne, AL
11/14/2023 \$50 B. McLaren, Brookline, MA	11/29/2023 \$50 M. Schmit, Sauk City, WI
11/15/2023 \$50 J. Cupp, Jr., Hopwood, PA	



LODGE HAPPENINGS



Green Bay Odd Fellow Lodge #19 held 3 brat fry's during this past summer with proceeds going to the Golden House. Presenting a check for \$600.00 is Teresa Froseth and Tami Adams to Golden House representative Julianna Huens.





Ninetieth I.O.O.F. Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns

May 3-5, 2024, Arlington, Virginia

November 2023

Greetings to all members, families and friends of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. You are cordially invited to attend the Ninetieth 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 2024 Pilgrimage will take place on Sunday, May 5 at Arlington National Cemetery. The memorial services will begin at noon followed by the wreath laying ceremonies at the Tomb immediately after the 1 p.m. changing of the guard. **Please note the dates and times the program will be held.** The Pilgrimage address at the Tomb will be delivered by the Honorable John S. Cupp, Jr., 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 \$ 132 single/double, \$157 triple, and \$167 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, 2024, at 7 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 John S. Cupp, Jr., Sovereign Grand Master, Sovereign Grand Lodge from the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, Sister Ellen Jean Whited, President, International Association of Rebekah Assemblies from the Jurisdiction of New York, and General Howard G. Malin, General Commanding, General Military Council, Patriarchs Militant, from the Jurisdiction of Virginia.

We recommend that you schedule flights to and from Ronald Reagan National Airport (DCA), the nearest airport to the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center. The hotel no longer offers shuttle service. However, other transportation services are available from the airport. The Washington metro area is also served by Dulles International Airport (IAD), located 30 miles southwest of the Capital in Northern Virginia. Metro subway service is now available from Dulles with several stops in Northern Virginia from which you can get transportation to the hotel. Please note the event could be cancelled at the last minute by the military; therefore, travel arrangements should be made accordingly. In addition, masks may be required for events if circumstances warrant it.

We encourage you to publicize this special annual event. Additional information is listed on the attached forms. We look forward to seeing you May 3-5, 2024, in Alexandria, Virginia.

In Friendship, Love, and Truth,
Chuck Renninger, Chairman

**Ninetieth I.O.O.F. Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns
May 3-5, 2024, 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 2024 Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns. To receive the special rates of \$132, single/double, \$157, triple, and \$167, quad, plus hotel tax, available for the nights of May 2-6, reservations must be made **no later than April 2, 2024**. 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, 2024, 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, 2024**, 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, 2024 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.***

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, May 3, 2024

3:00-5:45 PM PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATION DESK open in the upper lobby foyer of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

Saturday, May 4, 2024

8:30 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 - tux, business suit, or military uniform.; Dress code for women: - formal dress, street-length dress, dress suit, or military uniform.

Please note times for all events

Sunday, May 5, 2024

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.

**Ninetieth I.O.O.F. Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns
May 3-5, 2024, Arlington, Virginia**



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

PRE-REGISTRATION: \$7.00 per person, pre-registration deadline: April 2, 2024.

Registrations postmarked after April 2, 2024, or in-person registrations: **\$10.00 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, 3:00-5:45 PM; Saturday, May 6, 8:30 AM-4:00 PM; Sunday, May 5, 8:00-10:00 AM. Preregistered 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 transportation tickets still available may be purchased.

**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE - ONE FORM PER PERSON - (Please copy this form as needed)
PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE March 31, 2024**

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.

() **\$7.00 PRE-REGISTRATION FEE** available until **April 2, 2024**, after **April 2, 2024**, fee is **\$10.00**

() **\$65.00 SATURDAY PILGRIMAGE BANQUET** -- **MUST** be reserved and prepaid by **April 2**. Unless there are canceled reservations, **no additional banquet tickets** will be available.

() **\$65.00 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 5, 2024 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**



**Office of the
Sovereign Grand Master
The Sovereign Grand Lodge
Independent Order of Odd Fellows**



November 2023

To All My Fraternal Brothers and Sisters
of All Units of Odd Fellowship,

Welcome to fall. My first column was the vision I proposed when installed. This column will be after almost two months of experience in office. I must write this column by October 15, so my testimonial has not yet happened nor have several fall visitations to Grand Lodges. Please keep this in mind, in case I seem to contradict or ignore something that happened in between my writing and your reading.

I hope you haven't received a snowfall yet. I have never been a fan of winter, and the older I get, the more I dislike winter. Try to look in on the sick and distressed when the weather turns cold and snowy. We are our brothers' keeper and should remember our obligation. If weather is going to shut you down, try to meet by ZOOM or some other internet communication.

As time passes, I will speak about different parts of my program. I am going to digress a moment and touch upon something else. While I was visiting the Grand Lodge of West Virginia, I was interviewed for an Odd Fellows podcast. I was asked a simple, but deep, question. That question was, "If you could do just one thing during your year as Sovereign Grand Master, what would it be?" I thought about the question for a minute and considered all the things I planned on doing and all the situations I had encountered in the 48 years I have been a member. I replied that it would be a mentoring program, where each new Odd Fellow would be paired with an experienced member who would guide the new member and assist in developing him or her as an Odd Fellow.

We should take a look at the world we live in. Even after a lengthy education, we don't allow a new graduate to practice medicine without an internship. There is a gap between the time one takes the bar exam and a license to practice law is granted; that interim is often filled with a period working with another lawyer (this used to be mandatory in Pennsylvania). You are not allowed to enter a skilled trade without an apprenticeship. We are missing a critical step.

We have a number of books for new members and the ritual and other publications of The Sovereign Grand Lodge are quite useful. Most people will not look into books and do any kind of research. The new member needs a skillful brother or sister to take him or her to meetings, explain what is going on and show them the true meaning of "Friendship, Love and Truth." I sit in sessions in many jurisdictions and the Grand Lodges are all closed "*Sine Die*." Do we ever explain any of this? *Sine Die* is a two-word phrase in Latin. It has several acceptable pronunciations, /, sinə 'dēə, sēnā 'dēā/ quoted here from Google. It means without a time set for resumption. This is one phrase we should explain to the members, perhaps at the close of each Grand Lodge. There are a few secrets in our Order, but too many things have been kept secret from our members.

We see two different approaches to degree work. Some lodges confer the degrees in a lodge meeting, on one or two candidates. More often, all the degrees are conferred in the same day at a degree rally. It is when the latter form is employed that we need to be vigilant and explain things in

Cont. on pg. 16

greater detail. Few people retain more than 20% of what they have been taught for any length of time. The reinforcement of meetings and observation of conferrals is the best way to educate the new member through repetition. When I was young, we were taught multiplication tables. We memorized that 7 times 7 equals 49. Memorization is an old tool that works wonders. Watching and listening make better teaching tools than reading a book. Books can't stop and answer questions.

You notice I used the term "conferral" when referring to degrees. We confer degrees, we do not "put them on." I have the eyes of age and the words on the pages of the ritual sometimes seem a bit hard to read, this is why we need to read them and hear them over and over. We open and close our lodge each meeting night. New members should attend with a mentor who can explain the degree work to him or her.

The story of the good Samaritan is found in Luke 10: 29–37. "To explain the origins of the Samaritans, we must go back to the days of the kings. After King Solomon ruled over the Israelites – God's people – the unwise actions of his son Rehoboam in the tenth century BC led to a schism in which the kingdom was split into the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah, each with its own king."

"Both kingdoms devolved into corruption and sin, despite repeated warnings from prophets sent by God. Thus, God warned, they would be overtaken by conquerors. The northern kingdom fared worse than the southern kingdom, with a long line of wicked rulers. It didn't help that the temple, where God's people were to worship, was located in the southern kingdom."

"In 721 B.C., the northern kingdom of Israel fell to the Assyrians. Many of the people of Israel were led off to Assyria as captives, but some remained in the land and intermarried with foreigners planted there by the Assyrians. These half-Jewish, half-Gentile people became known as the Samaritans." (Quoted from Bible Study Tools, 10/18/23, URL: <https://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-study/topical-studies/the-samaritans-hope-from-the-history-of-a-hated-people.html>.)

As I go through my term, I will provide background for much of our customs and usages and try to enrich your knowledge of our Order. Getting back to my original

point, we need to foster a scholarship of our Order through mentoring new members. Take the hand of a new member, be a friend and teach him or her about our wonderful Order.

Have a joyous holiday season. There are several holidays in the offing, and we should be aware of all of them. Email me if you have a question at jcupp275@gmail.com. I will tell you what I see needs changing and you tell me what I overlooked.

Fraternally,

s/ John S. Cupp Jr.

Sovereign Grand Master





Office of the President International Association of Rebekah Assemblies I.O.O.F.



November 2023

Love + Unity = Peace

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On behalf of the I.A.R.A., thank you for all the hospitality and friendship you have given us. It has been a wonderful beginning for our visitation schedule. We have all been busy representing the I.A.R.A. in your sessions and have enjoyed being with you.

When returning from visits to West Virginia and Maine I was treated to wonderful scenery of colorful foliage and mountain roads. Reds interspersed with deep green pines, yellows, oranges, and browns; what a sight! Different species, different colors, different topography.

In a very short time, the scenery changes. Winter arrives on our doorstep. It is a cozy season with many of us staying inside. This is a time for reflection and contemplation on what matters most in today's world. We, as Rebekahs and Odd Fellows are doing the same. The busyness slows a bit, and we can spend time researching the way we would like our lodge to grow. We can discuss ways to help our lodges to choose outreach programs or projects that might work in our communities and how to implement them. Winter gives us this time to recharge our batteries, so to speak.

If your weather permits some traveling or visiting plan a meeting where you invite a lodge to come to a program or a fact-finding or learning experience. Maybe by joining together both lodges will reap the

benefits. Remember when lodges or districts held schools of instruction on various ceremonies. Sometimes we need a "refresher course" on things that we don't do often such as balloting, voting or draping the charter. Invitations to your lodge doesn't have to be lodge work. Make it fun. Some ideas may be a "backwards" meeting or a cookie exchange especially if it is near a holiday. Come together to discuss a fund raiser to benefit the lodge and to support a special project for the Order. Have a picnic in the winter, watermelon is available all year.

Are you ready for the holidays? I probably won't be ready until February. The holidays will arrive ready or not. It is only three weeks until Thanksgiving USA; trust that our Canadian sisters and brothers enjoyed their Thanksgiving on the 9th of October. May all your preparations be delicious. I can smell the turkey and pies now. As we gather with family and friends may our thanksgiving be one for happy memories and lasting blessings. The most anticipated holidays of the year will soon be here also. Again, a time for the most wonderful gatherings. Please remember your lodge members at this time as well. My family and I wish for all to have a joyous celebration as to your beliefs. This is

truly the most wonderful time of the year.

Enjoy the Peace of the Season.

s/ EllenJean and Ed



PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE AND RETURN THIS FORM AS SOON AS NEW MEMBERS ARE INITIATED

**The SGL - IARA Membership Program
Sponsor of New Member**

Sponsor Name _____
New Member's Lodge _____
Lodge Secretary Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State/Province _____
Postal/Zip Code _____



NEW MEMBER

Date Admitted _____ Bro ___ Sis ___
Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State/Province _____
Postal/Zip Code _____
Date of Birth: M/D/Y _____
E-Mail: _____
Phone: _____

**The SGL - IARA Membership Program
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New Member's Lodge _____
Lodge Secretary Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State/Province _____
Postal/Zip Code _____



NEW MEMBER

Date Admitted _____ Bro ___ Sis ___
Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State/Province _____
Postal/Zip Code _____
Date of Birth: M/D/Y _____
E-Mail: _____
Phone: _____

**The SGL - IARA Membership Program
Sponsor of New Member**

Sponsor Name _____
New Member's Lodge _____
Lodge Secretary Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State/Province _____
Postal/Zip Code _____



NEW MEMBER

Date Admitted _____ Bro ___ Sis ___
Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State/Province _____
Postal/Zip Code _____
Date of Birth: M/D/Y _____
E-Mail: _____
Phone: _____

MAIL TO: GRAND LODGE OF WISCONSIN
1304 S. Webster Ave.
Green Bay, WI 54301-2502

E-MAIL TO: grandlodge@ioofwi.org or
grandsecretary@ioofwi.org





MISTY'S Recipe Exchange



No Bake Pumpkin Lush

This Pumpkin Lush is going to be your new go to Fall dessert. A cinnamon graham cracker crust is topped with a creamy layer before a luscious pumpkin layer and topped with whipped cream. This is a no bake dessert and perfect for all the holidays.

PREP TIME

30 minutes

CHILL TIME

4 hours

TOTAL TIME

4 hours 30 minutes

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups crushed cinnamon graham crackers
- 6 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 (8 ounce) block cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 (8 ounce) containers whipped topping
- 12 ounces evaporated milk
- 15 ounce pumpkin puree
- 1 (5.1 ounce) instant vanilla pudding
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice



1. In a bowl combine the crushed graham crackers and melted butter.
2. Press the graham crackers into the bottom of a 9x9 pan.
3. In a medium mixing bowl combine the softened cream cheese and powdered sugar with an electric mixer.
4. Fold in one container of whipped topping.
5. Spread the cream cheese mixture onto the crust carefully.
6. Next in a medium mixing bowl using an electric mixer combine the evaporated milk, pumpkin puree, instant pudding and pumpkin pie spice.
7. Spread the pumpkin mixture over the cream cheese mixture.
8. Top with the remaining whipped topping.
9. Refrigerate for 4 hours before serving. You can also freeze this, just let it thaw for 30 minutes before serving.
10. Garnish with some crushed graham crackers and cinnamon.

1 1. Slice and serve!

DIRECTORY

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS FOR 2023-2024

Jeffery M. Jones	Grand Master
181 Sunset Ave., PO Box 427, Footville, WI 53537, 608-931-7335, wioddfellowjeff@gmail.com	
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Loren Cunningham, 2028	Grand Treasurer
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Jonathan Buck	Grand Marshal
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Thomas C. Heins	Immediate Past Grand Master
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Loren M. Cunningham, 2024	Grand Representative
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Richard Smith	2024
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Joyce Proulx	Grand Secretary
1304 S. Webster Ave., Green Bay, WI 54301-2502, 920-406-9860, grandsecretary@ioofwi.org	

**The next Grand Lodge Session will be held June 9-12, 2024
at the Comfort Suites, Green Bay, WI**

ODD FELLOW LODGE DIRECTORY

BARABOO—BARABOO LODGE #51, Meets the 2nd & 4th Mon. (except Jan. & Feb.) at 7 PM., 1210 9th St. Steve Niles, N.G.; Sharon Cunningham, Sec’y, N554 Schoepp Rd., Lot 13, Sauk City, WI 53583, 920-264-2145

COLUMBUS—TRI-COUNTY LODGE #40, Meets the 1st Wed. for business and 3rd Wed. for social (except July & Aug.) at 7 PM., 131 W. James St., Lukes Denny, N.G.; Casey Hoeft, Sec’y, 426 S. Main St., Columbus, WI 53925
wioddfellows40@yahoo.com

GREEN BAY—GREEN BAY LODGE #19, Meets the 2nd & 4th Tues. at 6:30 PM., 1144 Radisson St., Rick Jerry, N.G.; Tami Adams, Sec’y, 1144 Radisson St., Green Bay, WI 54302., 920-495-2801

HAYWARD—HAYWOOD LODGE #333, Meets the 3rd Wed. at 6 pm (except June & July), IOOF Hall, the corner of 2nd and Main, Steve Longtine, N.G.; Ward Winton, Sec’y, PO Box 425, Hayward, WI 54843, 715-558-3235, 715-634-3763,
wardo45@yahoo.com

JANESVILLE—WISCONSIN LODGE #14, Meets the 1st Sat. at 11 AM & 3rd Mon. at 7 PM (year round) & 3rd Sat. at 11 AM (except May—Sept.), 22 N. Main St., Michael McIntyre, N.G.; Toni Jeske, Sec’y, 22 N. Main St., Janesville, WI 53545

LANCASTER—MISSISSIPPI VALLEY LODGE #86, Meets the 2nd & 4th Tues. at 7 PM (April-Oct., except July & Aug.) and 2nd & 4th Tues. at 1:30 PM (Nov.-March), 155 E. Main St., Platteville, WI , Lee Jerrett, N.G.; Steve Staskal, Sec’y, 11270 Rock Church Rd. Livingston, WI 53554,
608-943-6797,staskalsteve@gmail.com

MERRILL—JENNY LODGE #32, Meets the 3rd Thurs. at 7 PM., 820 1/2 E. First St. For information contact Richard Proulx 920-217-7210

MILWAUKEE—BADGER STATE LODGE #11, Meets the 1st Thurs, at 7 PM & the 3rd Sat. at 9 AM (except July and Aug.), 4729 W. National Ave., Jon Buck, N.G.; Walter Kennison, Sec’y, 2863 N 56th, Milwaukee, WI 53210, walterkennison@yahoo.com

MINERAL POINT—IOWA LODGE #1, Meets the 2nd Sat. at 11 AM (except June, July & Aug.) and the 2nd Wed. at 7:30 PM (June, July & Aug.), 112 Front St., Joel Gosse, N.G.; Mary Joestgen, Sec’y, 608-341-6721

PORTAGE—WAUONA LODGE #132, Meets the 1st Tues. at 6:30 PM & the 3rd Tues. social meeting, 306 E. Carroll St., , N.G.; Arely Arias, Sec’y, 306 E. Carroll St., Portage, WI 53901

SHULLSBURG—JUSTITIA LODGE #12, Meets the 1st & 3rd Thurs. (except July & Aug.) at 7:30 PM, 130 W. Water St., Michael Ubersox, N.G.; Charles N. Searles, Sec’y, 233 S. Kennedy St., Shullsburg, WI 53586., 563-663-1954

WISCONSIN RAPIDS—ENGEL FELLOWSHIP LODGE #91, Meets the 3rd Tues. at 6 PM, 1930 7th St. So., Robert Liska N.G.; Amanda Kyle-Quaschnick, Sec’y, PO Box 41, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

REBEKAH LODGE DIRECTORY

JOYCE PROULX.....
SPECIAL DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, 1304 S. Webster Ave., Green Bay, WI 54301-2502, 920-406-9860,
grandsecretary@ioofwi.org

GREEN BAY—GREEN BAY REBEKAH LODGE #185, Meets the 2nd & 4th Thurs. at 6:30 PM (except Jan., Feb. & the 4th Thurs. in Nov.), Odd Fellow Hall 1144 Radisson St., Roberta Bierhals, N.G.; Denise Olsen, Sec’y, 2635 Bell Ct., Green Bay, WI 54301., 920-432-0500

MILWAUKEE—CRYSTAL REBEKAH LODGE #45, Meets the 1st & 3rd Tues. at noon (one meeting Feb., March, July & Aug.), Odd Fellow Hall, 4729 W. National Ave., W. Milwaukee, Patricia Mott, N.G.; Doris Potratz, PNG, Sec’y, 5421 Amberwood Ln., Greenfield, WI 53221-3203., 414-281-3762

MINERAL POINT—MINERAL POINT REBEKAH LODGE #147, Meets the 1st Wed. at 11 AM at the Pointer Café & the 3rd Wed. at 7 PM, 112 Front St. (except Jan. & Feb.), Mary Curtis, N.G.; Tom Heins, Sec’y, 309 Harris St., Mineral Point, WI 53565., 608-987-3011

NEENAH-MENASHA—BETTY REBEKAH LODGE #212, Meets the 2nd & 4th Tues. (except Jan. & Feb.) at 7 PM in member’s home (call lodge Sec’y), Nicole I. Hanson, N.G.; Jody L. Tews, Sec’y, 1340 Geneva Rd. #14, Menasha, WI 54952-3589., 920-740-5470



MEMBERS OF THE HOME ASSOCIATION BOARD**1207 S. Jackson St., Green Bay, WI 54301****920-437-6523** Term Exp.**Richard "Dick" Proulx, President**.....2025

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Tom Heins.....2024

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kbetzgosse1@mac.com

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Jeffery Jones.....**Grand Master**
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Jeffery Jones.....**Grand Junior Warden**
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grandsecretary@ioofwi.org

Sharon Cunningham.....**Grand Marshal**
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Loren Cunningham.....**Grand Outside Sentinel**
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GRAND TRUSTEES

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**The next Session will be held on June 12, 2024, at
the Comfort Suites, Green Bay, WI**

BARABOO—Northwestern Encampment #20
Meets the 2nd & 4th Fri. at 8 PM, IOOF Hall,
1210 9th St., Loren Cunningham, Scribe, N554
Schoepp Rd., Lot 13, Sauk City, WI 53583
608-448-9262

GREEN BAY—Green Bay Encampment #17
Meets 3rd Tues., at 7 PM, 1144 Radisson St.
Rick Jerry, Scribe, 1144 Radisson St., Green Bay,
WI 54302, 920-621-5188

JANESVILLE—Rock River Encampment #3
Meets the 1st Sat. at 10 AM, IOOF Hall, 22 N. Main
St., Dale Stevenson, Scribe, 5807 S. County Rd. D,
Beloit, WI 53511, 608-931-2586

MILWAUKEE—Wisconsin Encampment #1
Meets the 3rd Sat. at 10 AM, 4729 W. National
Ave., Richard Smith, Scribe, 109 Dean Rd., Bel-
gium, WI 53004-9523, 262-476-5085

Grand Lodge Office Hours:
8:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
To all Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges
Please send your lodge items of interest, a list of
your new members with their addresses and
coming events to the:
Editor of The Wisconsin Odd Fellow
1304 S. Webster Ave.
Green Bay, WI 54301-2502
Telephone (920) 406-9860
or e-mail: grandlodge@ioofwi.org
The items must be in by the first of the preceding
month of issue. Thank you.
PLEASE SEND CHANGE OF ADDRESS TO:
grandsecretary@ioofwi.org

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CANTONS

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GREEN BAY—Canton Bay Verte #11

Meets 3rd Sat. at 1:30 PM (except July & Aug.)

1144 Radisson St., Contact: Capt. Joyce Proulx,

Clerk, 490 Tyrolian Dr., Green Bay, WI 54302-5143

JANESVILLE—Canton Black Rock #6

Meets the 3rd Sat. at 10 AM, 22 N. Main St.,

Contact: Lt. Col. Dale Stevenson, Clerk,

5807 S. County Rd. D, Beloit, WI 53511

608-931-2586

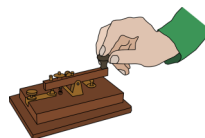
MILWAUKEE—Canton Milwaukee #1

Meets the 3rd Sat. at 11 AM, 4729 W. National

Ave., Contact: Lt. Col. Richard Smith, Clerk,

109 Dean Rd., Belgium, WI 53004-9523

262-476-5085



THE WISCONSIN ODD FELLOW

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Member



"Devoted to the Interest of ODD FELLOWSHIP"

"Promoting Odd Fellowship Through positive communication."

Grand Lodge Office Hours:

8:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

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Please leave a message so we can
Return your phone call.***

JOYCE PROULX, Editor

E-mail: grandlodge@ioofwi.org Phone: (920) 406-9860

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