



THE ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW

*Serving in Illinois Since 1838
Our 181st Year*

VOL. 66, NO. 9

USPS 258240

SEPTEMBER 2018

50 cents per copy
Subscription \$5.00 per year

GREAT LAKES CONFERENCE

I have always wondered what Great Lakes Conference was all about, and have for years thought it was just for the Heads of all Units of the Order. I found out this year that it is important for the Heads of All Units to be at, but it is open to all Odd Fellows and Rebekah's. Each unit holds their own meetings and they discuss the the bills and resolutions to be presented to the Sovereign Grand Lodge to be voted on by your representatives. However if you are interested in what goes on at Sovereign Grand Lodge you are welcome to attend this meeting. It will go into detail about the changes that are being requested at the Sovereign Grand Lodge level. I understand it is a very informative meeting if you are interested in our order.



Pictured: 1st Row: Charlene Smith, Sheila Reamer, Rebecca Maplesden, William Maplesden.
2nd Row: Larry Gean, Jim Bott, Niles Reamer, Judy Sarnes, Jerald Sarnes.

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 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

Carolyn Koon	10/07/49
Wilma Woods	10/09/38
Ellen Buege	10/15/24
Louetta Dickerson	10/18/16
Maxine Schneider	10/25/34
Dorothy Taylor	10/25/30
Lola Elliott	10/29/24
Helen Logan	10/31/23

IN MEMORIAM
ANTHONY P. VIVIRITO
1948-2018
Irving Park, IL

THE SLENKER CASE (REPRINT FROM DECEMBER 1953)

Information was given the brethren at Springfield that the Slenker Case had finally been determined in favor of the Grand Lodge, after an appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

This case arose by reason of an automobile accident which occurred in February 1945. The plaintiffs were driving a car and collided with one driven by David W. Gordon, with the collision resulting in serious injuries to the plaintiffs. Thereafter they filed suit against David W. Gordon, with the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and all of the Subordinate Lodges thereunto belonging, claiming \$65,000.00 in damages.

The local court dismissed the complaint as to all of the Subordinate Lodges, after proper pleadings, and an amended complaint was filed, leaving David W. Gordon, who had no insurance and the Grand Lodge as defendants. Gordon made a compromise settlement for \$1,000.00 which he paid, the severance was granted to him leaving the Grand lodge as the defendant.

The Grand Lodge took the position and by its pleadings claimed that at the time of the injury, David W. Gordon was not acting as its agent, and further claimed exemption from liability as a charitable organization. After a lengthy trail the jury made a finding that David W. Gordon was the agent of the Grand Lodge, on special verdict and assessed damages in behalf of the plaintiff Fred Slenker for \$8,000.00 and Elizabeth Slenker his wife for \$16,000.00.

Motions were made to set aside the verdict and the local court entered judgment against the plaintiff and in favor of the Grand Lodge, holding that the Grand Lodge was a charitable organization.

Appeal was taken to the Second District Appellate Court where they affirmed the decision. A petition for re-hearing was filed and after a rather lengthy consideration, was decided in favor of the Grand Lodge. Petition for appeal to the Supreme Court was denied, after two separate petitions for review by writ of error. Finally petition

was filed in the Supreme Court of the United States for certiorari which was denied and finally determined the matter.

It was a case of first impression, on the Grand Lodge, having ever been sued in a suit of this kind before. The opinion of the Appellate Court, after proper evidence, was that each and every of the funds of the Grand Lodge were trust funds, and were not subject to be used in the payment of any tort liability.

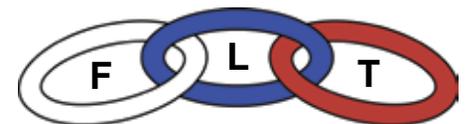
The matter involved some seven (7) years of litigation, attracted national attention, but the decision of the Second Appellate Court, a very fine opinion stands as the law with reference to the liability of our Grand Lodge in such cases.

This case is reported in 344 Ill. Appellate, Page 1.

Forrest B. Gore
Attorney at Law,
Member Emeritus,
Old Folks Home Board

ODD FELLOWSHIP IT'S MISSION

Odd Fellowship is not a mere Will-o-the-wisp fantasy—a figment of the imagination. It is a practical, realistic philosophy of everyday living. Friendship, Love, and Truth are the cardinal basic principles that underlie and permeate the whole fabric of the philosophy. The three link emblem of Odd Fellowship symbolizes those principles. An analysis of those cardinal principles reveals them as the essence of all true happiness and of a full, beautiful and useful life.



ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT



Well it's 2 a.m. and I guess there is no sleep in my future!! This year has been a very busy year for me and I have neglected a few things, letter writing has been one of them. I have been very busy this summer as I'm sure most of you have been. I hope the summer has been good for all of you. Maybe you were able to take a trip or get things done about your house. However, you spent your summer I hope that you didn't neglect your lodge. Were you able to get new members? I know there have been a few new ones added to the roles. We were able to join with our lodge fellows and have a small gathering to host members of the scholarship committee as they handed out 2 scholarships to young people from Fairbury. They were so appreciative and honored to win them, and what a nice night we had.

Our lodge has been working hard in August. We had a pie and ice cream booth at the reopening of a park in town. We sold out of 112 slices in about 2 hours, people know our pies from the fair. 2 weeks later we are working from 6 to 9 at the fair stand cooking for all the fair goers. We could not run this stand without the help of many people in the community. We have such great support from lots of people. Every year we try to get them to join us at lodge, we have gotten one member from the fair. We will keep trying as always! After the fair our lodge will be resting for at least a week as we are not as young as we used to be. Please let me know what you have going on, we all love to know and maybe try some of your ideas.

As fall approaches I am looking at getting ready for our session in Springfield. I am hoping to see all of you down there. Please start making

arrangements now to join us, this is a great time to interact with everyone across the state. If you haven't met many other people in the organization this is the time to do so. There is lots to learn while session is going on, we can always use new people and new ideas. Please come and join us we would love to see you.

In F. L. & T.

Sharon

ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT



Dear Ladies and Chevaliers:

The years I have been serving as your Association President have been educational. I have learned how to run a lodge meeting and developing Friendship with members of different Lodges. The only problem with these meetings are they are getting smaller in attendance, due to our members getting older and unable to get younger ones interested in our meeting. We need to get out and tell them about what we do during our meetings.

Niles and I attended The Great Lakes Conference in Fort Wayne, Indiana and the attendance was small. The women only had 22 and the men was less than thirty. I looked around at the women in our meeting and I was the youngest one there. The next Great Lake 2019 will be in Baraboo Wisconsin, we hope to be there. During the women's meeting we were making future plans and who can tell what will happen in the future, we can still hold meetings or may be faded out. The main thing we were to learn was to inform us about our Sovereign Grand Lodge bills and resolutions.

"The Gift of Friendship"

Friendship is a Priceless Gift that cannot be bought or sold,

But its value is far greater than a mountain made of gold.

For gold is cold and Lifeless; it can not be seen nor heard,

And in the time of trouble it is powerless to cheer-

It has no ears to listen, no heart to understand,

It cannot bring you comfort or reach out a helping hand-

So when you ask God for a Gift, be thankful if He sends not diamonds, pearls or riches, but the Love of Real True Friends.

By Helen Steiner Rice

Chivalrously,

Lady Sheila Reamer

NEWS FROM THE HOME

Hello from the Home,

This summer sure did fly by. September is looking like a busy month as well. The hometown band and Prairie Land Pickers are coming to play for us. We have a Labor Day holiday BINGO planned and we will be preparing for our Halloween Extravaganza in October. We also have a Dine with a Doc in Effingham and we are really excited to see some new faces and provide them with some education about our beautiful home.

We will also be walking in the Alzheimer's walk again towards the end of September and we are working hard to raise money for our team!

Until next month- take care and be well.

Jenna Black

Community Relations Coordinator

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2018

Leaders Banquet

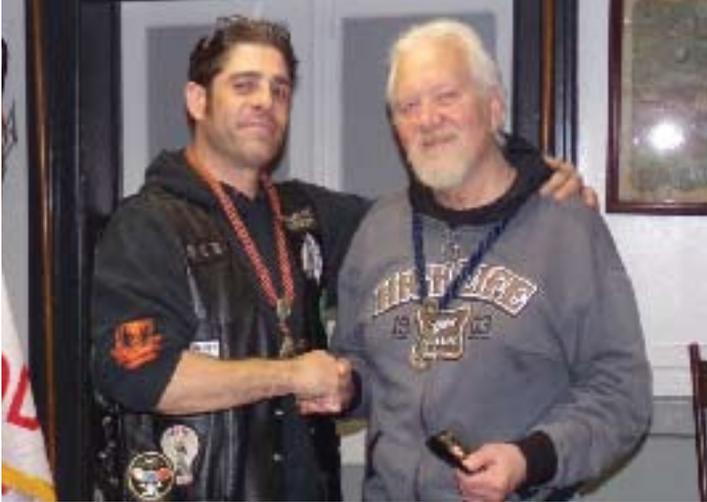
The Annual Leaders Banquet will be held on November 3, 2018 and Planning Session will be on November 4, 2018. Place will be determined at a later date.

School of Instructions

Grand Lodge will be held on November 17, 2018 at the Grand Lodge Office in Lincoln at 10 a.m.

Grand Encampment will be held on November 17, 2018 at the Grand Lodge Office at 1 p.m.

CENTURY LODGE #492 BROTHER RECEIVES 25 YEAR JEWEL



During the regular Thursday night meeting of Century Lodge #492 Carpentersville, (L-R) Noble Grand Nick Caruso presented Past Grand Tony Anthony with a 25 yr. jewel.

CENTURY LODGE #492 BROTHERS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAY



At the Century Lodge #492 Carpentersville, Thursday, July 26th meeting Brothers (L-R) Casey Fernandez and Grant Dudar celebrated their birthdays.

MEANING BEHIND THE FOLDS OF OUR FLAG

- The first fold of the flag is the symbol of life.
- The second fold is a symbol of belief in eternal life.
- The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing our ranks. We pay tribute to veterans who gave a portion of their life for the defense of their country, in the hopes of attaining peace throughout the world. A fold symbolizing their sacrifice has not been in vain, and shall never be forgotten.
- The fourth fold represents our true faith; for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn for His divine guidance in times of peace, as well as in times of war.
- The fifth fold is a tribute to our country; for in the words of the immortal Steven Decatur, "Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right, but right or wrong she is still our country."
- The sixth fold is where our hearts lie, because it is with our hearts that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.
- The seventh fold is to our armed forces; for through these same armed forces we protect our country and our flag against all enemies, foreign or domestic.
- The eighth fold is a tribute to those who have entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that they may see the light of day.
- The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood; for through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion, characters of the men and women that have made this country great have been molded. This fold is made in honor of our mothers, for whom the flag flies on Mother's Day.
- The tenth fold is a tribute to the fathers, for they too have given sons and daughters in the defense of our country, ever since the first struggle for independence.
- The eleventh fold, in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen, represents the lower portion of the seal of David and King Solomon, and glorifies in their eyes the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.
- The twelfth fold, in the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity, and glorifies in their eyes God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.
- The thirteenth fold symbolizes the original colonies. We fold from the stripes toward the stars; for the stripes represent the thirteen original colonies that founded our republic, they are now embodied in the fifty sovereign states represented by the stars.
- When folded, the stars are uppermost, which reminds us of our national motto, "In God We Trust".
- After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a three-cornered hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington and the sailors who served under Captain John Paul Jones.
- They who have followed their comrades and shipmates in the armed forces of the United States have preserved for us the rights, privileges, and freedoms which we still enjoy today. May God continue to bless the United States of America!

IRENE WILKINSON 102 YEARS YOUNG



Noble Grand, Nann Johnson of Juanita Rebekah Lodge #477, Surprised Irene Wilkerson with a party celebrating her 102nd birthday.

Irene is a Cardinal baseball fan, so all was red, and everything was baseball, that night at the lodge meeting.

There was cake, sandwiches and everything else to celebrate the occasion. Irene has served as Chaplain of the lodge so many years, she can't remember how many.

Nann had a Cardinal hat and shirt for Irene, and many more items in red. We all played games with Cardinal related prizes, there was candy and nuts for all, and just 'a lot of fun'. Many times at a meeting, Irene has said, "girls it's getting late, and you know the Cardinals are playing, so lets closeup.

Irene is our inspiration at lodge, she is beautiful, full of wit, smart, well dressed, and a 'true Rebekah'.

Nann, the Noble Grand, makes each and every lodge meeting a special occasion. Very seldom do we not have something special. She taught school for so long, and kept her students happy, that she must feel we are the students also.

We all wish Irene 'a happy healthful life', and will continue to be 'our special lady'.



JUANITA REBEKAH LODGE #477 INITIATION

On Saturday, July 14th, Juanita Rebekah Lodge held an Initiation of 4 new members. Nann Johnson is Noble Grand of the Lodge and Warden of the Rebekah Assembly.

Nann is not just Noble Grand of the lodge, but the 'true leader' of everything she plans. Nann suggested, and organized a 'Garage Sale', then that not being enough she took it upon herself, with the help of two others, to enter a local monthly program that Granite City has. Juanita Lodge was the main sponsor that week, and she raised more money.

Nann is a retired School Teacher, we at Juanita often wonder how the children kept up with her energy, and planning for the students.

Beware Illinois, there will be planning and work for all. Also, those who helped with the Initiation, are Vice President of the Assembly, Donna Grable, Deputy Grand Master of the I.O.O.F., Jim Bott, and Dick and Linda Jones of Jerseyville, both past officers of the Units of the Order.



Pictured: L-R Back Row: Jim Bott, Deputy Grand Master; Donna Grable, Vice President Rebekah Assembly.

L-R Front Row: Jazzmine Williams, Brittany Hopkins, their mother Lavonda Hopkins, Nann Johnson, and Jennifer Hopkins, were initiated on July 14th.



September 3, 2018



The following two designs are on the back of black T-shirts that we are offering for sale. The front of each shirt has the 3 links logo over the left breast. No Pocket.



DESIGN #1



DESIGN #2



200th anniversary shirt, FLT on the front of both designs
OFFERED BY ELGIN LODGE #12

Med - LG - XLG = \$25
2XLG - 3XLG - 4XLG = \$30
Plus shipping if not picked up at lodge.
To order call: 847-971-5223
Or email Larry at jeepparts@att.net

Elgin Lodge #12.
7N280 IL Rt. 31
South Elgin IL 60177

Save the Date

June 23, 2019

From: Noon to 3 P.M.

Where:

**Odd Fellow's Children's Home
721 Wyatt Ave,
Lincoln Illinois**

Invited:

All Odd Fellow's & Rebekah's

**Come help us Celebrate
Odd Fellow's 200th Anniversary
1819-2019**

**Prize for the most members
from one lodge.**

Lunch will be served.

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

RUSHVILLE ODD FELLOWS FRIENDSHIP LODGE #24 BIG BUDDY YOUTH DAY



Fifty eight were in attendance at the Big Buddy Youth Day on August 9, 2018. A trip to the Knights Action Park in Springfield was held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch and soft drinks were served at the park. The kids had access to all water activities, go karts, all carnival rides, the batting cages and hitting a bucket of balls at the golf driving range. Chaperones for the event were Director Don Schieferdecker, Assistant Director Thursa Edwards, Loni Lytaker, Darwin Utter, Susie Jones, Mike Root, Allen and Angela Smith, Brittany Kokas, Sherry Parrish, Carol Stone, Lori Knous, Jennifer Johnson, LeAnne Vincent, Mary Ingles, Josh Hare and Christina Majthorch. Transportation was provided through volunteers and Becky Pruden donating the use of the Two Rivers Regional Council youth van. This trip was made possible through a grant from the Rushville United Way. Schieferdecker advised plans are being made for the September Big Buddy Day and details will be later announced. The Big Buddy Youth Program is sponsored by the I.O.O.F. Rushville Odd Fellows Friendship Lodge #24.