



THE ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW

Serving in Illinois Since 1838

Our 183rd Year

VOL. 70, NO. 2 USPS 258240

February 2022

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ILLINOIS CENTER FOR AUTISM IN FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS

On January 4th, PGP Allen Jones & I traveled to the Illinois Center for Autism in Fairview Heights. We were there to meet with Cindy Guthrie the Donation Coordinator and Troy Metheney, their Executive Director. Cindy provided Allen and I with an amazing tour of the facilities. It was quite obvious that the work they do for those kids is so important for their lives.

I hope that all of Encampment members understand that our funding for this facility serves a valuable purpose and without our support the center would not help nearly as many children as they could otherwise. I left the Center with a renewed commitment to our Autism Fund. I hope that each Encampment & member does the same.

With F.H. & C.

*Jim Bott
Grand Senior Warden*



Photo: Cindy Guthrie, Tony Metheney, Allen Jones, Jim Bott, Presenting a check for \$10,000.00 to the Center.

ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW

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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.



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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

Miller, Edward	7-Feb-40
Arnold, Marian	15-Feb-28
Hashbarger, Shirley	17-Feb-32
Behncke, Patsy	20-Feb-36
Boyd, Viola	20-Feb-39
Smith, William	26-Feb-50
Davis, Lydia	27-Feb-24

NEWS FROM THE HOME

Greetings from the Odd Fellow Rebekah Home!

February is a month to celebrate with those you love! Here at the Odd Fellow Rebekah Home, we will be celebrating the many holiday's celebrated in this month! We will start with Groundhog Day. Will spring be arriving early, or will we get the 6 more weeks of Winter? What are you hoping for? We also will be celebrating with crowning our King and Queen at the Valentines Celebration. We will educate ourselves at all the amazing inventions and contributions made by African Americans, ending the month with a celebration of our President's.

Here are 14 fun facts about February that may interest you!

February is the shortest month of the year (even in leap years, when it has 29 days instead of 28), but there's no shortage of interesting facts about it. From weird holidays to astronomical oddities, this month has a bit of everything.

1.) February (do you see that extra "r"?) is one of the most frequently misspelled words in the English language. In 2015, even the White House press office got it wrong—several times over the course of the month.

2.) For more than 40 years, February has been Black History Month. The precursor to Black History Month, however, is a lot older. Black leaders in 1926 dedicated the second week in February to the recognizing the history of African-Americans—a week chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln (Feb. 12) and Frederick Douglass (Feb. 14).

3.) It's the month for a lot of other causes, too. February also marks American Heart Month, along with some other "months" you might not recognize: Canned Food Month, Grapefruit Month, Hot Breakfast Month, and our favorite, Return Shopping Carts to the Supermarket Month.

4.) February got its start as a spring-cleaning festival. Well, kind of. It's named after one: "Februa" was an early Roman festival and cleansing ritual held on Feb. 15.

5.) It's the only month that can pass without having a full moon. That doesn't mean February never has a full moon—it usually does, as a matter of fact. The last time it didn't was

1999. The next time it won't have a full moon? 2037!

6.) Groundhog Day—Feb. 2—is based on a German superstition. In Germany, though, it's not a groundhog that forecasts either an early spring or a longer winter: It's a badger.

7.) February is the only month that gets longer every four years. Sure, everybody knows about leap years, and most know why we have them. But did you know that every so often, we need a "leap second," too? This is typically added to Coordinated Universal Time in June or December, because of irregularities in our planet's rotation.

8.) The odds of being born on Feb. 29 are about 1 in 1,461. If you're born on a leap day, you're typically known as a "leaper" or "leapling." And depending on where you live, Feb. 28 or March 1 is considered your birthday in non-leap years.

9.) We misspelled "February" in item No. 7. Did you catch it?

10.) Valentine's Day did not start on a romantic note. According to historians, the day now synonymous with "love" probably began as a pagan fertility festival in ancient Rome. We'll leave it at that because some of the other details are disturbing.

11.) And maybe it's more commercial than romantic now, anyway. It's estimated that Americans spend more than \$18 billion on gifts, chocolate and more for Valentine's Day.

12.) Valentine's Day isn't just about humans, either. Almost 9 million people in the U.S. buy their dogs gifts or cards for Valentine's Day.

13.) The first Sunday in February is Super Bowl Sunday (at least for the foreseeable future). It wasn't always that way—until 2001, the game was played in January. But we'd say that's a pretty good way to kick off a month.

14.) Speaking of that, February is National Snack Food Month as well. Way before the Super Bowl took over the first weekend of February, the month was slow for snack sales—and National Snack Food Month was born. We're guessing sales are up a little bit now.

So, from our home to yours, have a safe and wonderful February. Until Next time.

*Penny R. Shinholster
Community Relations Coordinator
Activity Director*

GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE



Hello all,

Another month has passed. As we have bundled up against the winter elements we need to also keep the fraternal aspect warm. Reach out to members that perhaps you haven't heard from. Reach out to potential members and see if they'd like to come and check out the lodge.

January and February is the time of year that we typically see our new officers take their respective positions in the lodge for the new term. We wish nothing but the best for our officers and our lodges. I would encourage lodges to take advantage of Schools of Instruction in your home lodges or piebald as a District, we have many Deputy Instructors out there that are willing to travel and work with you.

I have been receiving calls from all over the Jurisdiction indicating that we are going to see large numbers of members getting degree work at regional meetings this year. That is very encouraging. Keep up the good work of growing our order. I am excited to start traveling to all the meetings and hopefully meeting several new members as well as seeing many old friends!

As the end of the month approaches so does the January board meeting that we are very excited to meet with Todd Anderson and hopefully we will be setting a path to financial prosperity for all of our lodges! We look forward to working with all of you and implementing positive change.

Until next time.

*Fraternally yours in F,L&T,
Bro. Mathew R Yingling
Grand Master*

ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In the past couple of months I have been watching my grandson he's three years old. I have learned several life lessons from him that we need to try

First off when I ask him how was school he said I saw my teachers and friends. He has been around when I'm getting ready to go to meetings and he asks if I'm going to see friends. **FRIENDSHIP!**

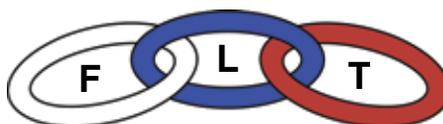
Nap time is very important. When you get out of bed if you have slept or not things look different. Even if you were not happy you had to go to bed you are glad you got up to play again. Take the time between meetings to recharge and come back ready to try again. **ATTITUDE!**

Dog toys sometimes are more fun to play with then the cars, but you must share with the puppy. Squeaking the ball or the stuffed toys is fun and you can make roads around them. But when the puppy takes one you must share. A good tug of war is fun but playing together is lots of laughs. **SHARING and RESECT.**

Yes I know this is a different letter then normal but seeing life according to Henry is refreshing. We all need to get out of our way to see someone else's life.

Honor, Respect, Promote

*In F.L. & T.
Susan Schove,
Assembly President*



APPRENTICE BELL RINGER



My name is Henry Schove and I got to help Grandma Sue ring the bell for the Salvation Army. I had lots of fun while Grandma talked to people I got to put money in the kettle. I even had to put my cars up as they got in my way. Grandma only had to remind me a couple of times to say Thank You. I had fun and can't wait till next time I get to help. I think bake sale at pancake and sausage.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPROVED THE FOLLOWING DATES

- 2/26/2022 Regional Meeting Farmington
- 3/3/2022 Rebekah District 16 Fairbury
- 3/12/2022 Rebekah District 6 Sycamore
- 3/19/2022 Regional Meeting Mt. Zion
- 4/2/2022 Rebekah District 12 Bushnell
- 4/9/2022 Rebekah District 11 Lewistown
- 4/9/2022 Regional Meeting Jerseyville
- 4/30/2022 Regional Meeting Flora
- 4/30/2022 Rebekah District #19 Mattoon
- 5/14/2022 Rebekah District 26 Granite City
- 5/21/2022 Rebekah District 20 Havana
- 6/11/2022 PM Peoria 1 P.M. Decoration of Chivalry
- 10/10-11/2022 Grand Lodge Session Springfield IL
- 10/10-11/2022 Rebekah Assembly Session Springfield IL
- 10/12-13/2022 Lincoln Department Council

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

The Mt Zion Odd Fellows Lodge held their annual 12 Days of Christmas raffle again and they made some people very happy. Lodge member, and raffle manager, Kevin Johnson gets to make the calls notifying the winners. Kevin says it is very rewarding to hear people express their happiness and some their need. We have had winners that talk about how they need the money, that they had been out of work, or had a sick family member. Some are not even aware they had a ticket in the raffle, as the ticket was purchased by a friend, or family member for them. We have had people donate tickets and some winnings to local charities. We have employers who purchase the tickets for their employees and we had two of them as winners this year.

The funds raised from the raffle will be used by the Mt Zion Odd Fellows and Mt Zion Lions Club to support the Mt Zion Community and families in the community.



Steve Simmons



Jon Thomas



Mason Adams



Floyd Bolt



Doug Davidson

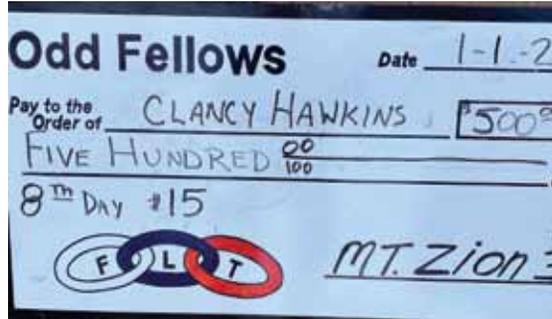


Jason Vest

MT ZION #300 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS



Debbie Hilligoss



Clancy Hawkins



Barb & Allan Jackson



Kara Flannery

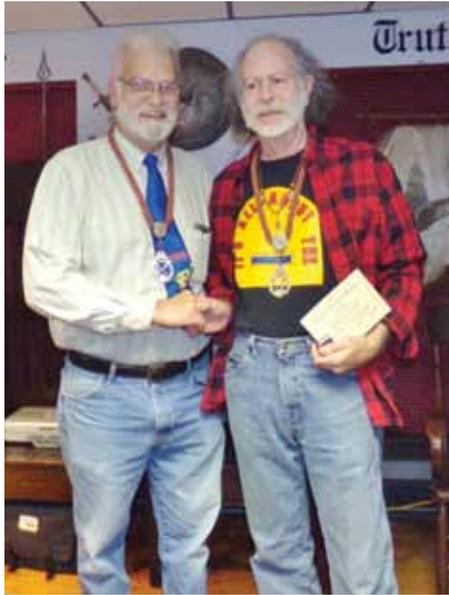


Jim Dodson



Sandy Norris

**CENTURY LODGE #492
BROTHER
RECEIVES 15 YEAR PIN**



Century Lodge #492 Carpentersville, at our Thursday November 11th Meeting pictured (L to R) Noble Grand Mark Colliander presented Brother Jim Gaylord with a 15 year pin.

**PLAQUE ON
MULTIPURPOSE ROOM
DEDICATED BY OUR
GRAND ENCAMPMENT**



I did not see any other rooms dedicated by any other donors in the entire facility.



February 14, 2022

CENTURY LODGE #492 CARPENTERSVILLE

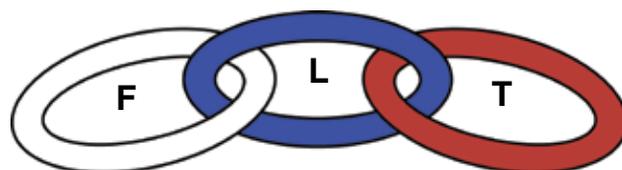


At our past meeting DDGM Ed Cook installed Brother Mark Colliander as Noble Grand to finish 2021 term.

**CENTURY LODGE #492 BROTHER
RECEIVES 25 YEAR JEWEL**



Century Lodge #492 Carpentersville, at our Thursday December 2nd meeting pictured (L to R) Noble Grand Mark Colliander presented Brother Ted Schalk with a 25 year jewel.



CENTURY LODGE #492 BROTHER RECEIVES 25 YEAR JEWEL



Century Lodge #492 Carpentersville, at our Thursday December 2nd meeting pictured (L to R) Noble Grand Mark Colliander presented Brother Steve Garstki with a 25 year jewel.

CENTURY LODGE #492 BROTHER RECEIVES 25 YEAR JEWEL



Century Lodge #492 Carpentersville, at our Thursday November 11th meeting pictured (L to R) Noble Grand Mark Colliander presented Past Grand Deane Bosco with a 25 year jewel.

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.

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DONATION TO MATTOON COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

Geneva Rebekah Lodge 274 donated \$200.00 to the Mattoon Community Food Bank.



Pictured presenting the check to Manager Mary Russell is Anita Jones Secretary and Shirley Wilkey Vice Grand and Pictured is Lucy Perkins employee of Food Bank.