



THE ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW

*Serving in Illinois Since 1838
Our 183rd Year*

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November 2022

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OTTAWA LODGE #41



Ottawa 41 hosted its first outdoor initiation, using torches and candles the scenes were placed in various areas among out 5-1/2 wooded acres of total darkness. It was a first for us and it absolutely won't be our last.



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WE DO NOT HOLD OURSELVES RESPON-
SIBLE for any news or opinions expressed by
the communications of our correspondents, and
RESERVE the RIGHT to publish NEWS that WE
feel constructive to our Order.



Member of
I.O.O.F. International
Press Association

*"Promoting Odd Fellowship
Through Positive Communication"*

ODD FELLOW - REBEKAH HOME

201 Lafayette Ave., Mattoon, Illinois 61938



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Helen Johnson	12-4
Neoma Cox	12-4
Carol Smith	12-15
Cynthia Miller	12-16
Jerry Brant	12-21
Dale Sims	12-23
Sarah Maxedon	12-24
Sharon Bennett	12-31

NEWS FROM THE HOME

Greetings from the home!

Can you believe it is November
already? We have been so busy at
the home preparing for the upcoming
holidays. October was very busy with
Grand Lodge, the Mattoon Chamber
Business Expo, Lifespan Bingo,
Downtown Mattoon Trunk or Treat,
Tai Chi at the Fellowship center and
making a raffle basket for SBLHC
Holiday Festivals of Trees event. The
residents have been very busy, deco-
rating pumpkins, making masks, and
celebrating All Hallows Eve!

November will be equally as busy
with the residents working hard to
get everything ready for the Craft/
Bake Sale in December. Celebrating
Thanksgiving with a Luncheon for their
family to attend. We haven't been able
to host this due to Covid and we are
so looking forward to doing it again.
Pending of course, that we are not in an
outbreak.

Darcy Bone, Harmony Coordinator
and I will be going to Normal for
Customer Service Training. It's always
a good time learning new skills.

Odd Fellow Rebekah Home is host-
ing the Dine with a Doc in Newton
on the 8th of November. We will be
representing our facility as hosts for
the night at the Aikman's Wildlife
Christmas Walk on November 12th.
We have never participated in this
event and are really looking forward
to it.

Remember during the holidays
to help those that are less fortunate,
take time to visit with those you love,
make a special treat for someone who
needs a pick me up. Not everyone is
blessed to have loved ones around and
the Holiday's can be lonely for some.
Reach out to those and help them
through this season. Most of all count
your Blessings. We all have so much to
be Thankful for.

Until next time,

*Penny R. Shinholster, CRC
Community Relations Coordinator*

**FOUND AT GRAND
LODGE HALL
AFTER GRAND ENCAMPMENT
MEETING, P.D.D.G.P. JEWEL.
CONTACT ARCHIE BRUCE
336-253-6005**

NOVEMBER 19th, 2022

MARK YOUR CALENDERS

**DDGM & REGIONAL
DIRECTORS 10 A.M.** On Saturday
November 19th in Lincoln Illinois, we
will have a very busy day. At 10 A.M.
we will have our District Deputy Grand
Masters and Regional Directors will
meet with the Grand Lodge Officers
and PGM's for Grand Master Steve
Pigg to roll out what he is expecting
from the Officers for the year.

If you are planning to attend, please
go to the Grand Lodge Website www.ioof-il.org
and fill in the form especially
if you are staying for lunch so we know
how much food to order.

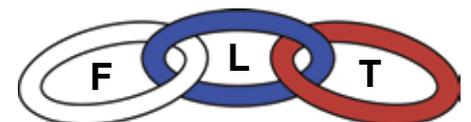
**School of Instruction is at 11
A.M.** If you are carpooling with DDGM
or Regional Director, you can visit the
Museum while you are waiting for the
School of Instruction or visit with your
brothers & sisters. Coffee Pot will be
one. Anyone can attend the school and
you don't have to be an instructor if you
just want to learn. Please if you plan-
ning to attend, please go to the website
and register.

Lunch will be served at noon for
those that register for lunch. Grand
Lodge will be providing the lunch for
those attending the meetings that day,
but please register at the website.

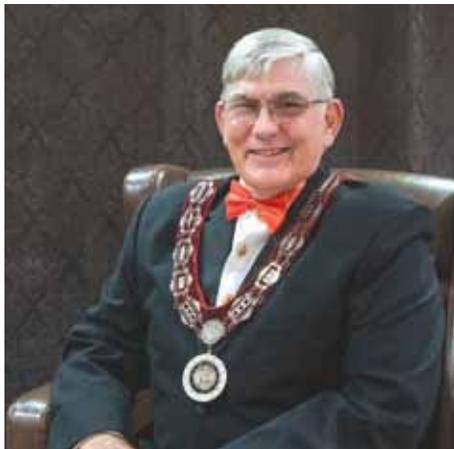
**Planning Meeting for Heads of
the Order. At 1:30** please bring
your dates and we will put a sched-
ule together for the year and hopefully
make compromises on dates that con-
flict with other units. If you will not be
attending the planning meeting, please
contact Grand Secretary Rich Herring
and provide him your dates and events
so we can include them in the planning
for the year and don't have to many
conflicting dates. Also, if you plan to
come early and join for lunch please
sign up on the website.

Executive Meeting will start a
2:45 or as soon as possible after the
Planning Committee Meeting. These
gentlemen will have a full day of Odd
Fellowship. Working for our order and
planning for our future.

Looking forward to seeing everyone
in Lincoln on November 19th.



GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE



I want to welcome everyone here this evening, fellow officers, family, friends and guests. I wish to introduce my family present this evening..... Linda, Jason, Erin, Mike, Anna & Nora.

I also would like to thank those from my home lodges Bushnell Odd Fellow Lodge 322 and Victor Rebekah Lodge 385.

When I joined this order over 50 years ago I had no vision of standing here before you as Grand Master. Over time I became involved in the Grand Lodge many years ago and was quite content playing a supportive role. However, a few years ago I felt a calling to run for Grand Lodge office and try to make a change. My friend and Jr. Past Grand Master Brother Mat has begun that change and I hope to continue that trend. He started us on a Journey I want to continue with you on that journey with an attitude of open mindedness I want you to reach out with a friendly handclasp. I want you reach down in your heart. I want you to ignore what someone looks like I want you to look into their heart to see if they believe in the principles of our order. I also hope instead of criticizing someone if they make a mistake to be kind and help them learn.

We have too long fought amongst ourselves, got our feelings hurt over the smallest things and driving new members away with our unwillingness to listen to their ideas or being too critical. If we are to survive and grow this order we need to work together as Brothers and Sisters and remember what we have been taught in our degrees. Remember the lessons from the initiatory degree where we are told that we meet on a common level,

the high the low the rich the poor the learned the unlearned all must meet on this common level. In the Past Grands charge it says that we meet in the lodge room with pure hearts and cleans hands for mutual counsel, the relief of distress and the elevation of human character. Strife and discord, party and sect which creates ill will and divisions among people are disallowed. Remember that when we continue on our journey of Odd Fellowship, put your pettiness aside, look for the common ground, look into your Brothers and Sisters hearts and see if they have friendship, love and truth imbedded into their being.

I would like to read a passage from 1st Corinthians 13 *If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.*

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

My symbol is the Heart in Hand, I chose this as my symbol because I want you to remember when you go out on the highways and byways of Odd Fellowship to also extend your hand with heartfelt friendship, truly believing that together as Odd Fellows and Rebekahs, we can make this order grow. As PGM Eric Smith told us during his term and using as his symbol the bundle of sticks which represents the strength of union. Again remember a charge from the Priest of the 1st degree telling us that if we separate the sticks the strength of a child may break it but united a giants power could not destroy them and as Brothers and Sisters united we bid defiance to win over the greatest difficulties.

As we depart here remember to practice and live the principles of Friendship, Love & Truth

I would like to now play a song from Amy Grant titled That's What Love is For and please listen to the words because I think it applies not only to personal relationships of love but also our order as we move forward.

Fraternally yours in F, L&T
Steve Pigg
Grand Master

ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This is my first letter as President of the Rebekah Assembly. I am really happy with how everything went leading up to the event. I am looking forward to the coming year.

Here are the dates for the District Meetings:

March 11, 2023 Mattoon District 19

March 25, 2023 Sycamore District 6

April 15, 2023 Lewistown District 11

April 22, 2023 Bushnell District 12

May 20, 2023 Fairbury District 16

June 3, 2023 Edwardsville District 26

We had a School of Instruction and qualified instructors immediately after Session closed on Monday.

There will be no Leaders Banquet. We will have a picnic at Lincoln like we did last year. Grand Master Steve Pigg and I both liked the picnic, and everyone seemed to enjoy it also. It was a beautiful day.

I want to say thank you to all of you who helped with setting up the room for the reception and getting everything ready for the Joint reception for Grand Master Steve Pigg and myself. A special thank you to Sister Clara Kay Nott for baking those delicious cookies. Also, thank you to all who donated the food and drinks as well as all the necessary items for the reception. It was well attended, and everyone seemed to enjoy being there.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Craft show. It was a success. Lewistown Rebekah Lodge donated all their proceeds to the Assembly general fund \$ 268. I am thinking of doing it again next year.

My program centers around KINDNESS. Be kind to each other and Remember the Golden Rule 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you'. I will see you down the road. Until then be KIND and smile.

In F.L. & T.
Sandra Coulter,
Assembly President

MEET YOUR GRAND LODGE OFFICERS 2022-2023

Your Grand Master Steve Pigg surrounded by the Executive Committee consisting of Arlan Miller-GT, Mat Yingling-JPGM, Steve Pigg-GM, Terry Lester-DGM, Ray Jackson-GW, Rich Herring-GS, Jim Bott-GR and Eric Smith-GR. Your appointed officers: Tom Elam-Gr. Marshal, Clinton Block-Gr. Conductor, Jody Jedlicka-Gr. Chaplain, Stan Lester-Gr. Herald, Niles Reamer-Gr. Musician, Mat Yingling-Gr. Instructor. Not pictured Greg Fayhee Gr. Guardian.





**Your Odd Fellow Rebekah
Home Board**

Linda Jones, PPRA, Carolyn Walker, Donna Grable, PPRA, Kent Staley, Dick Jones, PGM. Charlie Campbell, PGM, and Greg Worrell, PGM.

**Your Scholarship
Committee**

Clara Kay Nott, Bonnie Hensley, PPRA, Janis Klockenga, Donna Grable, PPRA, Kent Staley, Dan Davis, PGM. Not pictured are Cynthia Elam, Darlene Wick, Fran Davis,



Your Children's Home Board

Bonnie Hensley, PPRA, Luann Fuller, Tim Bright, Melissa Richards, Geoff Engel, Janis Klockenga, and Dan Davis, PGM,

LEROY LODGE #149

On Sunday October 16th, members of LeRoy Lodge #149 planted a tree in memory of Bro. R.D. Johnson. This tree is the 46th planted by the lodge since 1992 as a part of the lodge's Living Legacy program. This maple tree was planted along Park Avenue in LeRoy.



Members who gathered to plant the tree were: Dale Baker, Merle Woods, Kenny Heavilin, Clarence Thomas, Mike Fruhling and Dennis McCormick.

OTTAWA LODGE #41

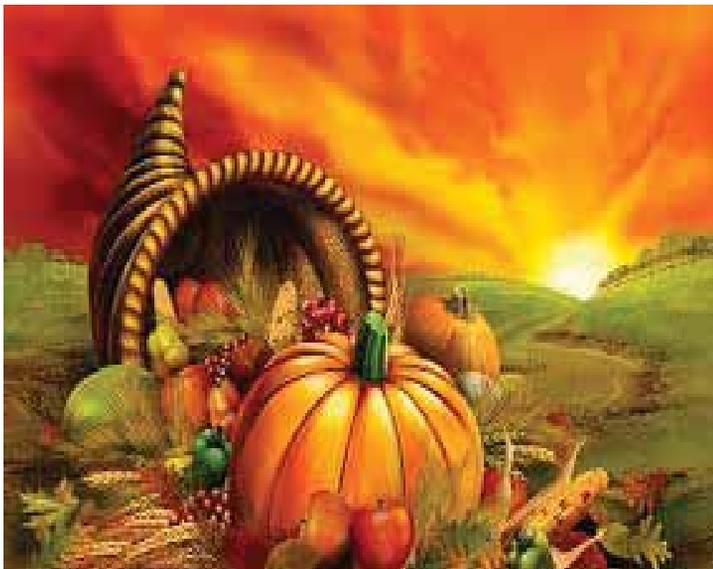


Ottawa #41 Noble Grand Rod Osborne Presents PG Brian Strong with his Past Grand Jewel.

OTTAWA LODGE #41



Ray Jackson Grand Warden , presents PG Brian Strong with his Region 1, Regional Director Jewel at Ottawa 41's regular meeting October 13th.



IPSGM HONORS NEWEST LODGE & JANIS KLOCKENGA

During our Grand Lodge Session in Springfield our Sovereign Grand Lodge Representative Immediate Past Sovereign Grand Master Chuck Lusk presented Matthew Roegge as one of our members from the Newest Lodge in Illinois GEM CITY #357. The IPSGM presented Matthew with a Certificate to take back to his home lodge. Matthew had talked about the lodge and how active they have been since they were instituted on June 25, 2022. Congratulations to Matthew Roegge and Gem City #357.



When our Sovereign Grand Lodge Representative Immediate Past Sovereign Grand Master Chuck Lusk was at the Podium he also presented Janis Klockenga Of Lincoln Odd Fellows Lodge #204, our Journal Clerk and Grand Lodge Administrative Assistant with a Medallion Award for all her hard work and dedication running around trying to make everything run smoothly.

AINSLIE HEILICH OF TUSCOLA #316 HONORED AT GRAND LODGE SESSION

Grand Master Mat Yingling had the honor of presenting Ainslie with a Meritorious Jewel at our Grand Lodge Session. Ainslie is a 9-year member of our order who purchased the old IOOF building in Tuscola and in the attic found some old robes and paraphernalia that use to belong to TUSCOLA ODD FELLOWS LODGE #316. He was very curious and did some research and wanted to reactivate the Tuscola Lodge which he did. He has been very active in the order ever since. He has created the Grand Lodge of Illinois Web site and our Facebook page and does updates to both all the time. He also reworked the SGL website. If you ask him to do anything he is always willing and eager to help. Our Grand Master felt it was time that he was recognized for all his hard work. Congratulations Ainslie you deserve it.



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

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GRAND LODGE 2022

