



THE ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW

Serving in Illinois Since 1838

Our 183rd Year

VOL. 71, NO. 2 USPS 258240

March/April 2023

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Subscription \$5.00 per year

BRIGHTON LODGE #366 PRESENTS 75-YEAR JEWEL



Grand Master Steve Pigg had the honor and privilege of presenting Allen Jones PGM with his 75-year Jewel. Allen has served his local lodges and the Grand Lodge, SGL as Representative for many years, along with his faithful service to all Branches of the order. Well done good and faithful servant. We are all very proud of both of you. You truly lived Odd Fellowship in every possible way and what an example and legacy you both are.

PRIDE OF THE WEST REBEKAH LODGE #544 PRESENTS 50-YEAR JEWELS



Audrey and Allen were recently presented their 50-year Rebekah Jewel from Pride of the West Rebekah Lodge #544. Audrey and Allen Jones joined Brighton Rebekah Lodge #263 in March of 1973. Upon Brighton Lodge closing Allen joined Ruby Rebekah Lodge #263 in Jerseyville and Audrey joined Juanita Rebekah Lodge #477 in Granite City. Juanita Lodge later consolidated with Pride of the West. Audrey and Allen are dedicated members of all branches of the Order. Allen is PGM and Audrey is PPRA. Jim Bott was given the honor of pinning their jewels.



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pertaining to the welfare of the Independent
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This publication is mailed by the first of the
month, and contributions must reach the
editor by the 10th of the preceding month.

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.



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Press Association

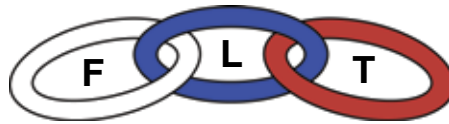
*"Promoting Odd Fellowship
Through Positive Communication"*

ODD FELLOW - REBEKAH HOME

201 Lafayette Ave., Mattoon, Illinois 61938

MAY/JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Warner, Linda, May 01, 1948; Tate, Lee
May 03, 1956; Bailey, Elizabeth, May 07,
1930; Petrovich, Stanley, May 09, 1925;
Schwarz, Martha, May 10, 1943; Carr,
Ray, May 13, 1952; Miller, Kathleen,
May 15, 1945; Helander, Dwayne,
May 17, 1950; Apgar, Earleen,
May 23, 1936; Murray, Frances, May 31,
1943; McDaniel, Nancy, Jun 01, 1952;
McLain, Eugene, Jun 04, 1924; Perez,
Alesandra, Jun 10, 1940; Powers, Eloise,
Jun 12, 1933; Wade, Mary, Jun 17, 1946;
Strong, Phyllis, Jun 22, 1934; Carroll,
Luella, Jun 24, 1930; Miller, Timothy, Jun
30, 1963



GRAND MASTER WILL HOST A FAMILY PICNIC SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2023

We will have a family picnic full of
fun and games. We will have a Corn
Hole tournament with awards for the
first 3 places. So, start now working on
your teams and names for the teams.
We are thinking about making it an
annual tournament with a traveling trophy.
We will have a bounce house for
the kids, we will have a tent with tables
and chairs so you can get out of the
sun. We will provide all you need for
a fun day, the meal will be Hot Dogs,
Hamburgers, Chips, Cole Slaw, Potato
Salad, and Drinks. Come any time
after 9 a.m. till???. The Picnic will be
held on the Children's Home Grounds
at 721 Wyatt Avenue next to the Grand
Lodge Office in Lincoln, IL 62656. I
look forward to seeing everyone at the
Picnic. I would ask that the lodge secretary see if anyone is interested in coming from their lodge and give us a rough estimate of how many are interested in coming so we can get an idea of how much food to provide.

Corn Hole Tournament will be
teams of two members. We will have
three games at one time. Standard
rules with maybe a few changes that
will be announced that day, so every-
one has equal chance of winning.
Please come up with a clever/unique
name for your team and sign up on
the website www.ioof-il.org. We will
need your team's name, the name of
your teammates, and a time slot. Each
game will be 30 minutes starting at
10:30 a.m., and at 2:00 p.m. we will
announce the winners or have a play
off for any ties. We will have six time
slots and 6 teams on each time slot. If
the time slot you pick is closed, we will
assign the next available time slot and
since I get the Forms as soon as a slot
is filled, I will post on the website that it
is full and no longer available.

10:30 a.m., 6 teams two at each board
11:00 a.m., 6 teams
11:30 a.m., 6 teams
12:30 p.m., 6 teams
1:00 p.m., 6 teams
1:30 p.m., 6 teams

NEWS FROM THE HOME

Hello from, the Home!

We have been busy here at Odd
Fellow Rebekah Home. We welcomed
Spring! Now, if we could only get some
warm weather to follow. Good thing
about Illinois is if you don't like the
weather, wait it will change!

We have been engaging in many
community events. I have been doing
Tai Chi at the Fellowship Center and
Mattoon Towers, Bingo at the Mattoon
Towers and Lifespan Center, and we
have hosted several Dine with a Docs!

We opted not to have the Easter Egg
Hunt this year and instead celebrate
our Families with a 1K fun run and
Cookout. We celebrated Easter with
an Easter Party for our Residents. We
celebrate our mother's in May with
our annual Mother's Day Tea. We will
also be Celebrating National Skilled
Nursing home week in May! This
is always a great time to get families
involved! We have Mattoon High
School JROTC coming to perform for
our residents, MMS Choir and band
coming as well as some other people
from the community.

We are also doing fundraising for
our Alzheimer's walk in September.
We have done 50/50 raffles and a Taco
bar. These were very successful! We
really have so much support from our
community.

Census continues to grow, and we
keep getting lots of referrals for Rehab
as well as the Memory Care unit and
Long Term. Odd Fellows is such an
amazing family/resident Center to be
a part of.

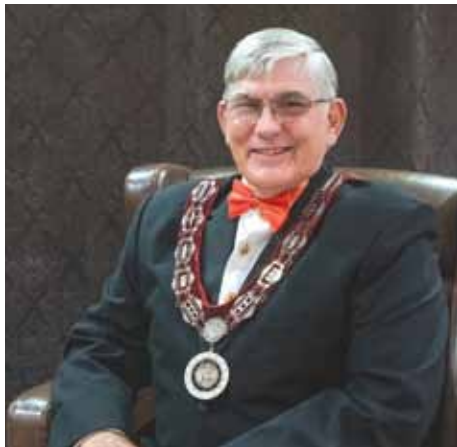
We wish each one of you a blessed
Easter and a Happy Spring.

Until Next time,

*Penny R. Shinholster, CRC
Community Relations Coordinator*

IN MEMORIUM
Lady Effie Mae Bonner,
PP-DA & PGMat
July 7, 1932 - March 2, 2023

GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As I write this letter, we have had 2 of our Regional meetings with good attendance, a large group of new initiates and something about a pie. Jr Past Grand Master Mat Yingling and I were able to raise some good funds at the Farmington Regional hosted by Momento Lodge #44. The Grand Lodge is in the process of getting your laptops distributed and hopefully the lodges will make good use of these to improve their communications and help secretaries with their job.

I am in the process of visiting lodges around the state. I recently had the honor of presenting a 75-year veterans' jewel to Brother Allen Jones of Brighton #366. Also, by the time you read this me and Grand Warden Ray Jackson will have made a visit to the Grand Lodge of Texas to gather ideas of how lodges in other jurisdictions do the good work of Odd Fellowship.

The first Sunday in May I have the honor of representing you by laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Odd Fellows are one of the few organizations to have this honor. I look forward to representing all of the lodges in Illinois in laying the wreath.

Please remember the Family Picnic scheduled for Saturday June 3. Everything is provided so just bring your lawn chairs and enjoy the day of fellowship, food and fun. A corn hole/bags tournament is being planned so get your lodge teams together to compete for a traveling trophy plus other prize. There will be a bounce house for the kids, also an ice cream vendor will be providing treats.

As you go about the work of your lodge, remember to extend your hand

in true friendship and love. If we "Love One Another, Respect One Another, Communicate with One Another and Cooperate with One Another" while we conduct ourselves, I believe that together as a team, we will be able to achieve great things.

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

ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

I hope you all enjoyed celebrating St Patrick's Day together. My family had corned beef and cabbage. It has become a tradition.

Spring is coming soon and with that comes planning a garden or maybe flowers. There is nothing like fresh homegrown vegetables.

Have you asked someone to join? New members are like new plants, they need tending for them to flourish. Think about being a mentor and help them learn the floor work and their part.

I hope you are working on your items for the craft tables at session this October.

By the time you read this letter the District meeting in Mattoon will be over. The next District meeting is in Sycamore on March 25th. I am looking forward to both. April 1st is Troy followed by Lewistown on April 15th and then Bushnell on the 22nd of April. The last one is in Fairbury on May 20th. Get a carload and come have a wonderful day with us.

Remember to be KIND to one another

and SMILE.

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

THE GREAT LAKES CONFERENCE

The conference will be held at The Chateau, -1621 Jumer Drive, Bloomington, Illinois - Cell 309-825-4590 or Front Desk 309-662-2020 and use group code: **GLC**.

Room rate \$99.00 /night plus 12% tax and reservation must be no later than July 1, 2023.

Conference will be held July 21 to July 23.

For Saturday only if \$95.00 which includes registration, lunch, and Saturday dinner (Banquet). **BREAKFAST NOT INCLUDED.**

Weekend meals and registration include Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner (Banquet) and Sunday Breakfast for \$125.00 per person.

Dress for the conference will be business casual and dinner will be suits and no tuxedo.

If you need further information, please call me on 309-360-0989. Thank you.

Jerald T. Sarnes, PGM, Secretary to Great Lakes Conference

CALENDER 2023

Date	Event
Apr. 1	Ottawa Degree
Apr. 1	Rebekah Dist. in Troy
Apr. 15	Rebekah Dist. 11 Lewistown
Apr. 18	Mgmt. & Housing
Apr. 22	Rebekah Dist. 12 Bushnell
Apr. 29	Flora Regional Meeting
May 6	Tomb of the Unknowns
May 13-14	GMC in Peoria
May 16	Mgmt. & Housing
May 20	Rebekah Dist. 16. Fairbury.
Jun. 3	Family Picnic Day Annual OF/ Reb Family Picnic
Jun. 4	Ottawa Tomb of the unknown
Jun. 10	Field Day Peoria
Jun. 16-17	Amos in Tuscola open to all
Jun. 20	Mgmt. & Housing
July 18	Mgmt. & Housing
July 22-24	Great Lakes Conference in Bloomington
Aug. 15	Mgmt. & Housing
Aug. 20-24	SGL in Des Moines IA
Sept. 9	Grand Master Trap Shoot
Sept. 19	Mgmt. & Housing
Oct. 8-9-10	Grand Lodge/School of Instruction on Sunday

OTTAWA LODGE #41

Saturday evening January 21st after an awesome day



at the Grand Lodge school of instruction, Ottawa Lodge opened its doors to everyone for a Social Night. Odd Fellows and community members piled it for a great night of Friendship and Fellowship . Ottawa was proud to have members of Flora Lodge and Livingston Lodge as guests. While the crowd enjoyed food, refreshments and music, the members got together for a group photo.

Pictured Left to Right: Nyles Schumm Livingston Lodge #149, Ray Jackson, Grand Warden Ottawa Lodge #41, Flora Lodge #151 Noble Grand Kelly Logan.

FRIENDSHIP LODGE #24 INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS



New officers were installed for Rushville Friendship Lodge 24 on January 24, 2023. Front row, from left: Monty Smith, Vice Grand. Allen Logan, Noble Grand. Tim Bright, Past Grand. Back row, from left: Amy Wiley, Secretary. Matt Ehrgott, Treasurer.

LINCOLN ODD FELLOWS LODGE #204

Lincoln Odd Fellows Lodge 204 yearly presents checks to Holy Family Food Pantry and Lincoln/Logan County Food Pantry. They have always tried to donate either food that the lodge collected every year or make a donation to both of the Food Pantries in Lincoln around the Holidays. We always receive a very heartfelt Thank you from both Food Pantries.



Nana Papesch Treasurer of Lodge presents check to Norman Newhouse and Rick Reilford at Lincoln/Logan Food Pantry.



Beth Fleshman received check for Holy Family Food Pantry.

LIVINGSTON LODGE #290 HOSTED THE GRAND LODGE OFFICERS & HELD INSTALLATION

On January 24th the District Deputy Grand Master John Stauffer and his Installation team, installed the 2023 Officers of Livingston Lodge 290. Special guests for the evening were Grand Master Steve Pigg, Deputy Grand Master Terry Lester and Grand Warden Ray Jackson. Everyone was treated to a fine meal and an abundance of Love and Brotherhood.



LIVINGSTON LODGE #290 PRESENTS JEWELS TO THE ZILLER FAMILY

Wayne Ziller received his 70-year Jewel and his two sons also received a 45-year and 50-year jewel. That is a 165-years of service from one family, what an awesome heritage to be a part of. Congratulations and thank you for your service Ziller family.



In the picture from left to right Noble Grand Nyles Schumm, Craig Ziller received his 45-year jewel, Mike Ziller received his 50-year jewel, and Wayne Ziller his 70-year jewel.

OTTAWA #41 CELEBRATES 175 YEARS IN OTTAWA

February 7, 2023 - The Ottawa City Council and Mayor Dan Aussen issued a proclamation Tuesday honoring the International Order of Odd Fellows Ottawa Lodge for its 175th Anniversary.



Ray Jackson, the Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Illinois said the Odd Fellows is one of the oldest fraternal organizations in the world, getting its start in England in the 1700's before spreading to the United States in 1819. Ottawa Lodge #41 was chartered in 1848.

“Today, we’re still going strong,” Jackson said. “We’re non-political and non-sectarian, open to all races and genders. We were the first fraternal order to all women into the ranks and I’m, proud to say that this year, we have our first female Sovereign Grand Master of the United States.”

Jackson said in modern times, the Odd Fellows operate much like a charity organization, raising money for their communities to support people with autism, raise funds for visual research and provide aid to those with arthritis.

“We feel charity starts at home so we assist the local elderly, children, sick, and anyone who needs assistance,” Jackson said. “We have the time and monies available for the community. All they need to do is ask.”

Jackson announced the Illinois Odd Fellows have funds available for several Scholarship awards for the 2023-2024 school year for students who are residents of Illinois and citizens of the United State. Jackson also said funds are available for local charities such as ball teams, playgrounds, books and education.

For more information, Jackson said the lodge meets at 1660 N. 2501st Rd, across from the Pine Hills Golf Course on the Second and Fourth Thursday of every month or he can be contacted at 630-484-0052.

The Odd Fellows have more than 600,000 members and 10,000 lodges spread throughout 26 countries.

GEM CITY LODGE #357 HELPS WITH LOCAL SOUP KITCHEN AND FOOD PANTY

Attached is a thank you from the local soup kitchen/food pantry named Horizons here in Quincy IL. Our lodge Gem City 357 have been sending brothers to aid as volunteers there.

"So we all know Horizons Social Services could not function without our volunteers! Odd Fellows is a new organization to join our huge team of volunteers! This is truly why I luv my job so much (and honestly not many ppl can say that) all of you make every day extraordinary! Onion glasses or bug goggles???"



Jake Bertram (flower apron), Mathew Roegge, and Levi Schmitt.

REBEKAH DISTRICT 11 SPRING MEETING

Will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2023. Located at Lewistown Rebekah Lodge #566 on 136 North Adams Street behind and across from the Fulton County Courthouse in Lewistown.

Registration begins at 11:00 a.m. The meal begins at 12:00 noon

Cost is \$10.00. Send lunch reservations by April 1, 2023 to: Clara Kay Nott, 216 North Madison, Lewistown, IL 61542 Meeting begins at 1:00 p.m.

Per Capita tax is .10 cents per member. Payable to District #11.

Please mail to: Julie Edwards, 35193 North Marshall Ave, Farmington, IL 61531

Donations to President's Fund can be sent to Rebekah Assembly Secretary, Janet Bruce. She will send back a voucher for your lodge to present during the meeting.

Memorial Service will be held by Lewistown # 566. Please send a list of members, and someone you want to remember to: Clara Kay Nott, 216 N. Madison, Lewistown, IL 61542

Tribute to the American Flag will be held by Memento Branch #155.

Tribute to the Rebekah Flag will be held by Clio #143.

Courtesy Greeters and Registration Committee: Jeff Laswell, Juanita Laswell

Lodges in District #11 are: Lewistown #566, Memento Branch #155, Kewanee #512, & Clio #143

President's colors are, green and pink.

Flowers are African Violet and Easter Lily.

Please plan to attend. Visit with everyone, see you then.

SCHOLARSHIPS PRESENTED



Hayden Gawel, Frankfort is pictured with his Grandmother Linda Kuczera, and his Mom Lori Gawel with his certificate. Hayden will be attending school in Florida to achieve a Degree in Ocean Engineering, building oil rigs or marine vessels for research; finding easier, less expensive and more efficient ways to explore and discover while preserving the marine environment.



Here is Kailey Iwaniec, Brookfield sharing her plans to become a Middle School or High School History Teacher. She will continue her studies at Triton College and then transfer to a 4-year College.

Thanks to Palacky Lodge for hosting the Scholarship winners with a nice meal, and special thanks to Noble Grand Jeff for the entertainment.

FRIENDSHIP LODGE #24 SUPPORTS RUSHVILLE LITTLE LEAGUE

Rushville Little League received a donation from the Friendship Lodge #24. The funds will go toward the purchase of new scoreboards for the softball and baseball fields at Scripps Park.

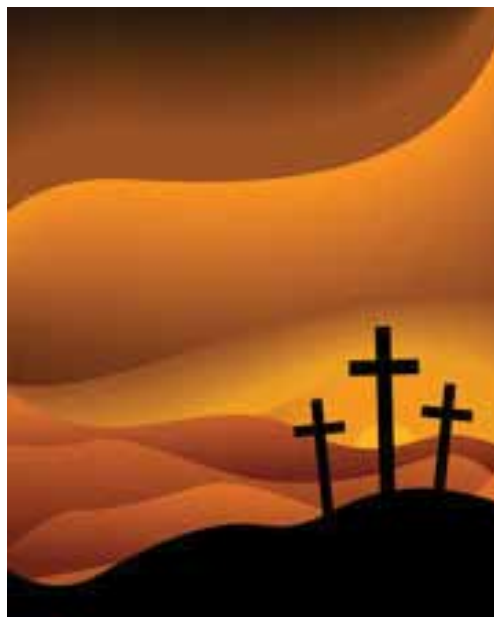


Pictured: Tim Bright, Rushville Odd Fellows Past Grand and Rushville Little League President presents the check to Amy Wiley, Rushville Odd Fellows Secretary and Rushville Little League Vice President.

FLORA LODGE #151 PRESENTS DONATION TO CLAY COUNTY HEAD START



Noble Grand of Flora Lodge #151 Kelly Logan presents a check to Clay County Head Start at the end of a spaghetti benefit lunch fundraiser.



Have a Blessed Easter

BONNIE HENSLEY A MEMBER OF THE ILLINOIS ODD FELLOW REBEKAH SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE PRESENTED SCHOLARSHIPS



Grace Pollitt, Rushville received one of the Agriculture scholarships. She will be attending Iowa State University to Major in Animal Science and Minor in Agribusiness. She plans to get her Dr of Veterinary Medicine.



Kendal Bennison, Kewanee will be attending the University of Iowa, majoring in Biochemistry, and a Minor in Business, with plans to become a Dentist and have her own practice.



Monmouth Lodge #61 held a social night and hosted a scholarship presentation and presented 2 Life Membership cards to long time members, with a pizza, pop and cookie supper. Bonnie Hensley is shown presenting Sheridan Hank an Agriculture scholarship. Sheridan is from Aledo, and has been attending Lake Land College, and will be transferring to Iowa State University this fall. She is majoring in Agriculture and Rural Policy and Minorng in Ag Business. SHE then plans to go to Law School and open a her own, rural farm- focused office in Western Illinois. We were pleased that her mother, Trisha could also be with us.

Terry Lester our Noble Grand and Deputy Grand Warden, then presented Life Member cards to C. William Olson and John Foster. Bill joined the Cameron lodge on October 5, 1953 and then transferred to Monmouth lodge so will be a 70 year member in October 2023. John joined Monmouth Lodge on April 5 1965, so was a 55 year member in 2021.

We were pleased to also have their wives with us also.

Pictured left to right, front row: William Olson, Janet Foster, Bonnie, Sheridan Hanks. back row: Gladys Olson, John Foster, Terry Lester, Rod Lester.



LIVINGSTON LODGE #290 ANNUAL PANCAKE AND SAUSAGE DINNER ON FEBRUARY 4, 2023



Members of Ottawa Lodge #41 and Flora Lodge #151, these members showed up to help and support Livingston Lodge #290. Way to go Brothers and Sisters this is what Odd Fellowship is all about.



Nyles Schumm presenting Ray Jackson with a certificate of appreciation.



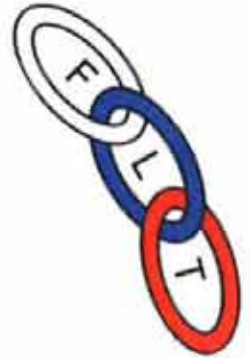
ODD FELLOW ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC

WHEN: JUNE 3, 2023

TIME: 9 a.m. –3 p.m.

WHERE: CHILDREN’S HOME GROUNDS

EVERYONE IS INVITED



GAMES CORN HOLES

TOURNAMENT

Starts at 10:30 a.m.

PRIZES

BOUNCE HOUSE FOR KIDS

Family Friendly Fun



LUNCH IS SERVED

AT 12:00 P.M.

HOT DOG/

HAMBURGER

CHIPS/COLE SLAW/

POTATO SALAD

DESSERT/DRINKS



2023 Annual Communication of:
The Sovereign Grand Lodge
Independent Order of Odd Fellows
Des Moines, Iowa



*'WE COMMEND YOU TO: VISIT THE SICK, BURY THE DEAD, RELIEVE THE DISTRESSED,
AND EDUCATE THE ORPHAN'*



THE SOVEREIGN GRAND LODGE
INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS
OFFICE OF THE SOVEREIGN GRAND SECRETARY
422 N. TRADE ST. NW, WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27101-2830



Terry L. Barrett
W 336 725-5955
F 336 722-7317
ioofthesgl@ioof.org

January 2023

To the Officers and Grand Representatives of
The Sovereign Grand Lodge, and Officers and Members
of all Units of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows

Fraternal Greetings:

The next communication of The Sovereign Grand Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, will be held in Des Moines, Iowa, beginning Monday morning, 21st August 2023, and ending Thursday afternoon, 24th August 2023.

Headquarters and Sessions
Des Moines Marriott Downtown

The Sovereign Grand Lodge
196th Annual Communication

International Association of Rebekah Assemblies
105th Annual Session

General Military Council
119th Annual Session

Youth Days
~~~~~

"WE SEEK TO IMPROVE AND ELEVATE THE CHARACTER OF MAN."

**Des Moines Marriott Downtown**  
**700 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309**  
**Phone: 515/245-5500**



**Group Rates—August 17-26, 2023**  
**All Rates are \$175.00—Single-Double-Triple-Quad**  
**Tax Rate Presently 12%**

**Reference Session of The Sovereign Grand Lodge 2023**

Information to have available when calling to make a reservation:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Guests: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reservations must be made by: July 26, 2023**



# 2023 Pre-Registration Form

The Sovereign Grand Lodge  
International Association of Rebekah Assemblies  
General Military Council, Patriarchs Militant

Des Moines, Iowa  
August 21 to 24, 2023



**Please Note:**  
**All Attendees MUST register**  
*(One form per attendee)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name as desired on badge) \_\_\_\_\_ Jurisdiction \_\_\_\_\_  
Unit attending: SGL IARA GMC Youth Guest *(please circle one)*  
Title for name badge \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, St/Prv, Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Registration Information

Registrations on or before July 27, 2023, \$75.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Registrations after July 27, 2023, \$100.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Highlight Events

Youth Dinner, Friday Aug. 18 — \$60.00 (Fried Chicken) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Formal Attire - Youth; Semi-formal Attire - Guests)  
Welcome Dinner, Saturday Aug. 19 — \$65.00 (Sliced Ham/Seared Chicken Breast) (Business Casual Attire) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Officer's Banquet, Monday Aug. 21 — \$75.00 (Grilled Pork Chop) (Western/Casual) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Installation Dinner, Wednesday Aug. 23 — \$80.00 (Beef Brisket) (Formal Attire — Installation to follow dinner) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total Fees for the session, in US dollars** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*No refund on meals if not attending when canceled after the 27<sup>th</sup> of July, unless your reservation is picked up at registration by another attendee.*

Please mail all Registration Forms with a check or money order to:  
2023 I.O.O.F. Session Committee  
Marty and Sue Zylstra, Co-Chairs  
211 Thornton Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50315-3179

Any special requests, such as: special diet, should be indicated here: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Special Event Request

Any group wishing to have a meal, meeting, or reception should return this form to the committee. It will be forwarded to the proper people at the Marriott Des Moines. They will provide menus for the type of event you wish to schedule—also see the menus on line.

Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, St./Prov., Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Event: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Breakfast, lunch, dinner, cocktail reception, etc.)*

Date and Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Number expected: \_\_\_\_\_

Special requests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*(Mics, Podium, PowerPoint, etc.)*

Mail all requests to:  
2023 I.O.O.F. Session Committee  
Marty and Sue Zylstra, Co-Chairs  
211 Thornton Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50315-3179

**QUESTIONS: 515/244-7618 (Home Phone) 515/360-4589 (Sue's Cellular)**

## Need Mobility Assistance? Reach Our Office

Do you have any questions about Central States Mobility or about our services? If so, contact Nigel Chapman at 515/528-2013. We are located in Johnston, IA. Or, if you prefer send an email to:

[nigel@centralstatesmobility.com](mailto:nigel@centralstatesmobility.com).

Phone: 515/528-2013

<https://centralstatesmobility.com>



**We Make Independent Living Easier**







**Testimonial Honoring General Earl F. Wys**  
**General Commanding - General Military Council, P.M. I.O.O.F.**  
**Testimonial Weekend May 12-13, 2023**

**SpringHill Suites by Marriott - 2701 West Lake Ave, Peoria, IL**

**Hotel Rate \$115 per night plus applicable taxes**

**Free... Parking / Hot Breakfast / Fitness Center / Airport Shuttle**

Hotel reservations may be made by calling the Hotel:

at: **(309) 681-2700** ... ask for "Odd Fellows"

**Registration Deadline Hotel and Meals: Wednesday, April 12, 2023**

Friday Evening Chuck Wagon BBQ 6:00 P.M.                      \$30.00                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

1409 S Crest DR, Peoria, IL 61605

Saturday Formal Night Testimonial Dinner 6:00 P.M.                      \$40.00                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Fried Chicken and Roast Beef

2900 West Lake Ave, Peoria, IL 61615

Total Enclosed . . . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate any special dietary needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Transportation:     Plane    /     Train    /     Automobile

**One Registration Per Person**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title/Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City / State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Checks Payable to: **Earl Wys**    and mail to: 2625 N Woodhaven DR, Peoria, IL 61604

# Ancient Mystic Order of Samaritans

## Central Division

Greetings Sheiks and Samaritans,

We're excited to invite you to attend the Annual Gathering of the Central Division from Friday, June 16-Saturday, June 17, 2023 in Tuscola, Illinois. Tuscola is known for its nearby Amish communities featuring unique shopping and dining experiences. We invite your spouses to travel with you and spend Saturday meandering through Amish Country. A volunteer has been confirmed to drive a carpool and be the trip guide.



As a special treat, we have confirmed that several of our International Officers will be able to attend!

### Friday, June 16

The festivities will begin with a Dutch treat dinner on Friday at 6:00pm CT at the Ta'Carbon Steakhouse & Bar (1003 E. Southline Road Tuscola, IL 61953). At 7:30pm CT, we will begin sign in, give a Lodge tour, and hold the annual action at the host I.O.O.F Lodge #316 (110 West Sale Street Tuscola, IL 61953), which is located approximately one and a half miles from Ta'Carbon. Don't forget your trinkets and treasures for the auction! Spouses are welcome to attend the events on Friday.

### Saturday, June 17

The Lodge doors will open at 8:00am CT on Saturday and the meeting will begin at 9:00am CT. Please note that the Lodge has limited kitchen facilities, so while only light refreshments will be served onsite, the hotel will provide a complimentary continental breakfast.

A Dutch treat Lunch will be held at Joe's Pizza (102 West Sale Street, Tuscola, IL 61953) at 11:00am ET. Joe's Pizza is a one-minute walk from the Lodge.

The Divisional Supreme meeting will begin at the Lodge after lunch and will end by approximately 3:00pm CT.

### Hotel Information

A hotel block has been reserved at the Holiday Inn Express (1201 Tuscola Blvd, Tuscola, IL 61953), which is located just two miles from the Lodge. In order to receive the special group rate of \$105.95/night, be sure to make reservations by Monday, May 1 before rates go up. Reference "A.M.O.S." when making your reservation in order to secure the discounted rate. You may make your hotel reservations by calling (217) 253-6363.

Hotel check-in begins at 3:00pm CT. Check-out is at 11:00am CT. The Holiday Inn Express offers a complimentary continental breakfast from 6:30am-9:30am CT.



### Registration Information

The registration fee for the Annual Gathering is \$10.00 per member and may be paid onsite via cash or a check. Checks may be made out to *Cahokia Sanctorum 262*.

We look forward to gathering this summer. If you have any questions about the Annual Gathering, please reach out to me at (618) 920-5134 or [Jabaa73@gmail.com](mailto:Jabaa73@gmail.com).

With a mile of smiles,

Jim Bott



**Ancient Mystic Order of Samaritans**  
**Central Division**

**Holiday Inn Express**  
**1201 Tuscola Blvd, Tuscola, IL 61953**  
**Phone: (217) 253-6363**



Special Group Rates are \$105.95 per night + tax.  
Reference "A.M.O.S." when making your reservation in order to secure the discounted rate.

Information to have available when calling to make a reservation:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Guests Per Room: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**To receive the special group rate, reservations must be made by May 1.**

## 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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## GENERAL COMMANDING VISITS CANTON ROCKFORD



On March 8, 2023, General Commanding of the GMC General Earl Wys visited Canton Rockford #83. General Wys presented Colonel Janet Bruce with her new commission as a Major General of the GMC. Also in attendance were Lt. General Fred Barlow, Gen. (R) Ken Lasswell, and Maj. General Twila Barlow. Canton Rockford performed the Inspection of the Canton.

Those in attendance were left to right, Fran Davis, Janet Bruce, Mike Turner, Fred Barlow, Ken Lasswell, Steve Adams, Jim Turner, Gen. Earl Wys, Archie Bruce, Dan Davis, Rick Baker, Jeff Lasswell and Twila Barlow.