

## Wagons Ho!

SONORA - Sonora Lodge #10 is very active in their community. Currently, they sponsor a Boy Scout troop, give scholarships at the local high school, and are involved in many other activities. This past May, they hosted the Past Grand Master Don Lang, the Grand Patriarch Ralph Stevens and the Department Commander Richard Brouse as they were invited to ride in wagons for the annual Mother Lodge Roundup Parade. Sonora Lodge #10 was instituted on June 7, 1853 and is proud to have been an active lodge ever since then. Therefore, it was an honor this year, when the parade advertised and celebrated the 150th anniversary of Odd Fellowship to the community!

Grand Matriarch Betty Stevens, Lady Dorothy Brouse, President of the Department Association of California, and Past Grand Matriarch Joan Mezawere also were in attendance. A luncheon was prepared for those present and enjoyed by 25 members and their guests.

## HAPPY 128<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY SAN LEANDRO #231!

SAN LEANDRO – On June 2, 2003, Mayor Sheila Young of San Leandro issued a Proclamation to San Leandro Lodge #231. The proclamation, proclaiming the week of June 8<sup>th</sup> – June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2003 as San Leandro Odd Fellows Week was presented to Pete Sellars, Grand Lodge Director and Noble Grand Lola Gianelli.



It was a fitting occasion, as San Leandro has just celebrated its 128 Anniversary! The lodge received its charter on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 1875, three years after the City of San Leandro was incorporated, and making it the third oldest corporation in San Leandro. The celebration of the 128<sup>th</sup> Anniversary culminated with an Anniversary Dinner and Dance on Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>.



Front Row: Barbara Franke, Ursula Finck, Gundy Feil, Marge Montgomery, Millie Meilicke & Linda Trione.  
Back Row: Oscar Montgomery, Jack Trione, and Hal Meilicke.

## VACATION BOUND...

SANTA ROSA – This past year, several members and friends of Santa Rosa Lodge #53 and Oakleaf Rebekah #74 enjoyed a 12-day cruise through the Panama Canal. The group had so much fun that they are already planning another trip for next year!



## 100 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP!

SNELLING – Donald and Annis Stout displayed their 50 year jewels, emblematic of 50 years of membership in, respectively, IOOF Willow Lodge 121, and Novara Rebekah Lodge #63 both of Snelling. The jewels were awarded in a ceremony in March upon the official visit of Donald Lang, PGM. In a fitting tribute to this wonderful couple, Laura von Merveldt pinned the jewel on her grandfather, while her mother, Linda von Merveldt pinned the jewel on her mother.

## International Odd Fellows Monthly Meet Up Day

MARIN - Stan Bransgrove of Marin Lodge #200 stated that over twenty-one years ago, long before he joined this fraternity, a good Odd Fellow said to him that fraternal organizations needed to adapt new technologies to their use in order to maintain their position in our communities: This idea stuck in his mind for all these years.

Just a couple of months ago, he ran across a new, free internet service that is adaptable to fraternal use: It is called MeetUp.com. On discovering there was not a MeetUp date for Odd Fellows, he suggested that it be added. The Odd Fellows MeetUp has been added and is fully operational (See: <http://oddfellows.meetup.com> to sign up.) The concept behind MeetUp, is to facilitate local, public, face-to-face meetings between people with similar interests.

Think of the possibilities of meeting with local Odd Fellows, Rebekahs, Patriarchs, Samaritans, Junior Odd Fellows, Theta Rho members at your favorite local café in over 568 cities worldwide...pretty awesome! These groups meet at the same time to enjoy brotherhood and share ideas about the fraternity and life. This is a place for anyone interested in Friendship, Love, and Truth. If interested, check it out !