

Message from the Department Commander and Lady President, DALAPM

To all members of the Order:

The first half of our two-year term of office comes to a close in San Mateo at the October 19 through 23, 2003, sessions of the Grand Encampment, Grand LEA, Department Council, and Department Association. We sincerely thank all who will have helped make those sessions a success. We especially want to thank all of those who attended the Tuesday evening Appreciation Banquet, Wednesday afternoon Decoration of Chivalry Ceremony, and Wednesday evening "Entertainment Military Style" program. Some of you may not be aware of this, but the annual Appreciation Banquet is the only recognition event provided for the appointed officers of the Department and Department Association. They do not have individual receptions like the appointed officers of the other branches since there are simply not enough weekends in a year.

We congratulate Grand Patriarch Ralph Stevens and Grand Matriarch Betty Stevens on their year. We believe that they did a lot to help promote our branch of this Order as well as their own and Odd Fellowship as a whole. We congratulate the new Grand Patriarch and Grand Matriarch, Gene Rasor and Ernestine Olson, on their elevation to these offices. We look forward to working with them for the rest of our term, along with Grand Master Ted Parker, Rebekah Assembly President Rowena Whitney, Grand Ruler David Henderson Jr., and Theta Rho President Liz Barnes for the rest of their terms. We always enjoy attending the receptions for these leaders and their officers to bring the Greetings from our branch of the Order.

The Holiday season will soon be here, so we hereby extend to each of you our greetings for each of the upcoming Holidays. We hope to see many of you in Pasadena between Christmas and New Year's to work with us on the 2004 Rose Parade Float. This is a very significant opportunity to bring the name of our Order in front of an audience of millions of people. It is also a lot of fun to help decorate the float, if you can put up with some glue on your hands, clothes, and (sometimes) hair. We expect to again be hosting the General Commanding of the General Military Council and the President of the International Association of Ladies Auxiliaries Patriarchs Militant throughout that week.

We will then be preparing for the installation of officers in all of our Cantons and Auxiliaries. We strongly encourage the newer members in our branch of the Order, and new members of all the branches, to welcome the challenge of taking on some of the offices. We congratulate all who take that step. We only learn and grow by trying new things.

Chivalrously,

Brig. Gen. Richard Brouse, Department Commander
Lady Dorothy Brouse, President, DALAPM

Judette Rippetoe Receives Merit Award

SACRAMENTO - Judette Rippetoe, PPIARA, member of Florin Rebekah Lodge #20, Sacramento, was honored by the



Photo by Sally Butters

Judette receiving her award

Florin Historical Society on March 8, 2003 at a luncheon. Her plaque said "Judette is truly a local girl made good, Judette (Kara) Rippetoe, 2002 Merit Award". The award was presented by John Hayse, President of the group. Members of Judette's family and her lodge were also in attendance.

RECORD CROWD AT FRATERNAL PICNIC !

SAN JOAQUIN - The annual San Joaquin County Picnic on July 13th was a great success with more than 150 members and prospective members attending. Under the chairmanship of Vince and Rose Belli, everyone enjoyed the day. Tri-tips were cooked by members of Progressive Lodge #134 of Lockeford, with chili beans and hot dogs done by members of Lodi Lodge #259, salad and dessert by Scio Lodge #102 and Opal Rebekah #73. In addition to volleyball, bocci ball and horseshoe events, there was the traditional water balloon toss contest and of course everyone tried to get all the contestants wet!



Photo (left to right): Maxine Price, PPD, Jack Nelson and Shirley Bauer of Navarro #61, Mary Prince, Chowchilla Lodge #327, Arthritis Chairman and Marie Nelson also of Navarro Lodge.

QUILT DONATED TO HELP ARTHRITIS FUND

LE GRAND - Mary Prince, the California Rebekah Assembly Arthritis Chairman was thrilled to accept the hand made quilt donated to the Rebekah Assembly by Marie and Jack Nelson of Snelling Navarro Lodge #61. The quilt, which will be raffled off at the 2004 Rebekah Assembly, will help to support the Arthritis cause.