



California

Volume 53, No.4

October-November-December 2004

Odd Fellow & Rebekah



As The Dust Settles...

Construction on Saratoga's Retirement Community apartments and cottages nears completion! *See page 2 for details*



Renovation In Progress

FALLBROOK – The renovation of the Fallbrook Cemetery has begun and Grand Master Nathaniel Hoagland is asking for your help with this special project. The original plat of land was homesteaded and reserved for a burial ground sometime before 1881. It holds the remains of Veterans of all the wars, beginning with the Civil War and includes many early Fallbrook pioneers. In 1888, the Fallbrook I.O.O.F, Lodge #339 held its first burial ceremony at the cemetery for PG Hindorff who was an early homesteader in the Rainbow area. In 1904 the Fallbrook Lodge purchased the cemetery. Over the years, another cemetery was established on the north side of town, and thus began the decline of the Fallbrook Cemetery. Over time vandals have caused much damage to the property. Many of the grave markers are wooden and thus the painted epitaphs have long eroded away. Others are broken or are illegible and encrusted with lichen making them difficult to read.



Recently, Mike Crain, owner of the Fallbrook business World Landscape is working on making the cemetery more attractive. He has pledged \$10,000 towards this project and he and his crews have been hard at work. Grand Master, Nathaniel Hoagland firmly believes in the preservation of this Odd Fellow property and has therefore, made this one of his special projects for the year. We ask you to please encourage your Lodges to support this very worthwhile project.



Photo by Laurie Prescott, PPRA

Grand Master, Nathaniel Hoagland and Lorraine North, RA President were on hand for this dedication. They, along with Don Smith, PSGM and Project Administrator were invited to preside over the placement of the items into the capsule which would be buried for the next generation to retrieve.

Today...Tomorrow...The Future...

SARATOGA – February 21, 2003 began the construction of Phase II at the Saratoga Retirement Community. The renovation and construction of the Retirement Community's apartments and cottages is now just about complete and will be ready for occupancy in December. The scope of this project included preparing sites for the two new residential-living apartments buildings., underground utility lines, underground parking, seismic upgrading, complete renovation of the main building and finally, the construction of 39 single family cottages. The Construction Committee has met weekly during this phase of construction, and our thanks go out to everyone for keeping this project on schedule.

During part of the excavation, the original Time Capsule was found in the cornerstone of the main building. The time capsule, a copper box, containing historic documents and artifacts was from 1911. After the opening of the first time capsule last year, and having a glimpse into the past, it was decided by the Board of Directors that another time capsule should be placed in the cornerstone of the new facility. All California Lodges were asked to contribute items of interest for this historic capsule. The response was wonderful as many lodges took the chance to be a part of history!





Breakfast Served with a Song

Silver Star Rebekah Lodge #336 hosted its annual breakfast for our sponsored Thor Throats singing team in May. All enjoyed a full-featured breakfast of scrambled eggs, sausages, orange slices and all you can eat pancakes cooked by our members and served up by the boys and girls of the Mission, Irvington and San Leandro High School's.

At an open meeting of Mission Peak Odd Fellows Lodge #114

in June, we invited the folks from the Thor Throats to present their donation. With the help of ticket sales, donations by our local Albertsons and Mission Peak Odd Fellows pitching in on the cost of the food, we were able to present a check to this wonderful group of \$1,800.00.



Noble Grand Nancy Johnson with Roy & Lee Glover of the Thor Throats.

Deadline Nears for Reporting New Members

Please remember that the current Membership Program ends on December 31, 2004. All California units of the Order are encouraged to report new members obtained by initiation or reinstatement, between Jan. 1st and Dec 31st 2004 to the Grand Lodge.

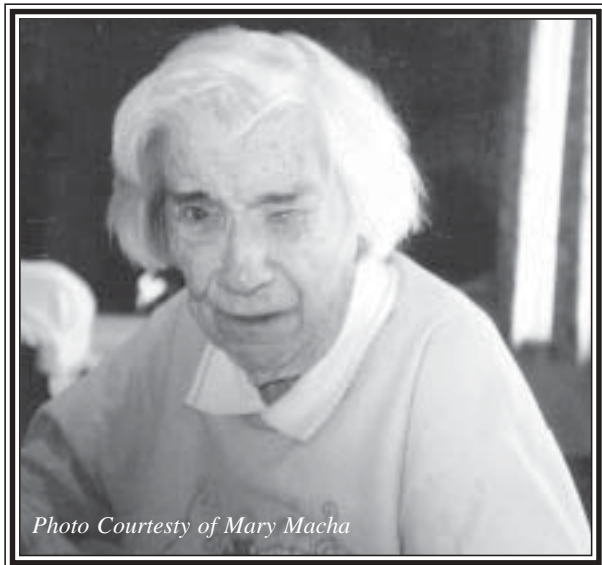


Photo Courtesy of Mary Macha

Oldest Living Rebekah Celebrates Her Birthday!

BANNING - Just imagine living to the YOUNG age of 107! Not many can visualize such a long life and live to see it come true. Grace Begley, who is most likely the oldest living Rebekah in California and possibly anywhere else, will celebrate her 107th birthday on October 29, 2004.

Due to her advanced years, Grace now resides in the Cherry Valley Convalescent Home in Banning. She is in good health, taking no medications and her eyesight and hearing are both better than many who are 30 years younger can boast. Grace was born in South Dakota in 1897, and moved to California at a young age. She joined Hawthorne Rebekah Lodge #391 in the 30's, serving as Noble Grand in 1937. She received the Rebekah Assembly Degree on March 20, 1940, from Warden Theresa Barbour (Clarke) at the

March meeting in Los Angeles, along with 70 other P.N.G.'s and P.G.'s. Grace served as Conductor of the Rebekah Assembly for Nelle Mertens in 1960-61, then, in 1963 she moved to Beaumont and joined Alphretta Rebekah Lodge #334, which consolidated with Arrowhead Rebekah Lodge #410, where she still holds her membership. Although Grace attended Rebekah Assembly for many years, due to her advanced years, she has recently not been able to attend, but is still always interested to hear all about the details. If you or your lodge would like to send a card to her on her special day, she would love it! Please send all card to her c/o Cherry Valley Convalescent Home, 3800 W. Wilson Way, Banning, CA 92220.

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California Odd Fellow & Rebekah

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Member
I.O.O.F
International
Press

The California Odd Fellow & Rebekah is the official publication of the Grand Lodge of California, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and all units of the order in California. It is published by the authority of the Grand Lodge of California, I.O.O.F.

The California Odd Fellow & Rebekah is published quarterly during the months of January, April, July and October at Burlingame, CA 94010.

Postage Paid at San Jose, California.

News and Advertising Deadline is two months prior to the month of publication. Advertising rates are available for order related activities.

Proofing Editors for this edition of the COF&R: Martin Lyon, Sandra Albers and John Fraher.

Mail Address Changes & Subscriptions To: IOOF

P.O.Box 2669 Saratoga CA 95070

Phone: (408) 947-9977 Fax: (408) 947-9988

Pictures are desired of all fraternal activities about Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges and other units of the Order. In most cases, it is not possible to return pictures. We cannot reproduce pictures from a newspaper clipping or from faxes.

Subscription Rates. Single Subscriptions are \$6.00 per year, and Club Rates are \$5.00 per year when ten (10) are ordered at the **same time**. Long term subscription rates are \$5.00 per year, same as club rate. Subscriptions to Canada and Mexico are \$12.00, and rates to Europe, Australia and New Zealand are \$20.00 per year.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS TO: Grand Lodge, P.O.BOX 2669, Saratoga, CA 95070.

Single Copies and sample copies of the California Odd Fellow & Rebekah are \$2.00 each. Ten or more copies of back issues are available at \$1.00 each.

Ninth Annual Incoming Noble Grand & Vice Grand Seminar

It is time to start thinking about attending this years Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly's sponsored Incoming Noble Grand and Vice Grand Seminar. All members are invited and encouraged to attend. There will be a special and separate two hour session for all Odd Fellow secretaries and treasurers who attend. This year's session will again be held at Santa Nella, Ramada Inn, on December 11 and 12 and yes, it will include an overnight stay. The seminar will begin promptly at 11:00 AM on Saturday and run until about 1:30 PM on Sunday. There will be several breaks during the day and a dinner served that evening. After dinner we will reconvene for a short time. In the morning, there will be a big breakfast with a welcome from the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Warden of Grand Lodge for the Odd Fellows and the President, Vice-President and Warden of Rebekah Assembly for the Rebekahs. There also will be a guest speaker during dinner. The enrollment fee is \$150 per person if you share a room with another student or \$175 for single occupancy. This charge includes all copies of all presentation material, as well as the hotel charges, 2 meals (dinner and breakfast), snacks and coffee in the conference rooms.

The purpose of the seminar is to prepare the members for the Leadership of their Lodge. To give them the material, the knowledge, the confidence and the leadership skill that is required to lead a lodge through a year of fun, excitement and fellowship. A year to look back upon and be proud with all the lodge's accomplishments. This seminar is opened to all members of your lodge no matter what your position within the lodge, you will have the opportunity to meet with your peers, talk about common problems and come up with some new solutions. No matter who you are, you can contribute and learn from this seminar. It is a great weekend that you will not want to miss. Every lodge should send at least one person to the seminar but there is no limit.

Please fill out the form on page 13 and send with a check made out to Grand Lodge of CA or the Rebeiah Assembly of California.

Send all requests for the NG Seminar to Chairman, Peter Sellars, 23286 Clawiter Road Hayward, CA 94545, Phone: 415-861-1737, e-mail pvsvine1@mindspring.com (for the Odd Fellows).

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California Big "C"

Odd Fellows - Rebekahs

by Carol A. Fraher, Editor
carolfraher@netscape.net

As The Dust Settles

The Saratoga Retirement Community sees the construction of Phase II come to a close. The construction which begun in February of 2003 at the Saratoga Retirement Community has included the renovation and construction of the Retirement Community's apartments and cottages. It included two new residential living apartments, underground utility lines, seismic upgrading and complete renovation of the main building and construction of 39 single family units.

Ninth Annual Incoming Noble Grand & Vice Grand Seminar

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Deadline Nears for Membership Reporting

Please remember that the current Membership Program ends on December 31, 2004. All California units of the Order are encouraged to report new members obtained by initiation or reinstatement to Grand Lodge on or before 12/31/04.

Kings's Men Junior Lodge #96 Reactivated

On May 2, 2004, the lodge was reinstated by the initiation of five new Junior Members and an associate member

from Stockton. The initiation ceremony and installation of new Officers was conducted by Grand Ruler Justin Reed and his staff of officers.

October is United Nations Pilgrimage Month

For the past 55 years, the United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth has brought together groups of young men and women encouraging them to learn, exchange ideas on politics, religion, songs and life while developing lasting friendships. Opportunities are available for all lodges to participate.

Dollars For Scholars

Barstow Lodge #91 hosts a monthly cribbage tournaments fund raiser. This fund raiser supports scholarships gives to graduates from Barstow Central High to help with college expenses.



Photo submitted by Phyllis Irving

A Bit Of History...

This photo of Past Sovereign Grand Master Robert Irving was taken in 1991 during the presentation of the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns. Brother Robert was honored to be able to give a speech at the presentation ceremony for the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs. Brother Robert started as a Junior Odd Fellow at 14 years old and loved the order until his passing in 1999.

In the words of Jane Jensen, long time resident of the Saratoga Home we offer this prayer... "Lord God, thank you for "America," the land of the free. May we never forget the principle on which this country was founded. Amen."

Please see page 19 for the story of this year's visit to the Tomb of the Unknowns.

Always Wanted To Learn Another Language?

by: Robert Forthun

This might be just the adventure for you! The Odd Fellow Grand Lodge of California Host Link Committee has been in contact with a Polish Rebekah. She is 47 years old, and married and has requested that we accommodate her for a couple of months starting after September 28, 2004. The Grand Secretary forwarded an e-mail, asking if the Host Link could take care of her. Although we are looking forward to doing this, we could use some help!

The reason for her visit is to become fluent in English. She wants to talk and listen to as many Americans as she can. Bob Forthun has talked to her on the phone and her English is good and understandable but weak. She reads and writes well; but her speaking needs practice. She learns fast and is a joy to have around. She needs English for a new job she is getting and finds it difficult to find people to practice English with in Poland.

She will arrive in Los Angeles and visit with a family in the beginning. Then it makes sense to have her travel around and visit others. Then, she can return and finish her trip in the south and get to the airport for her trip home. She would love to see our great State and we are looking for some of you who have space and or time to host this lively, enthusiastic woman. If you have space but no time, and another member has time, but no space perhaps you could work out a share arrangement. Approach the brothers and sisters in your lodges and help find people who can host her for two or three days and show her the sights in your local areas. She drives and has an international license, but will not have a rental car. We would like to have about 10 or 12 homes to host her starting October 10 through November 20.

Visiting with her is the most important thing, as she hopes to hear the language from as many people as she can. If possible, she would like to attend lodge to make some more new friends. If this trip works for her, we, in California will have an opening for visits to Poland in the future; which would be fun! If you are interested in this adventure, please contact Bob Forthun or Grace Mazik at: home: 951-301-9011, work: 714-762-5059 or via e-mail: robert.forthun@boeing.com.

Message from the Department Commander and Lady President, DALAPM

To all members of the Order:

This is our final message as your Department Commander, Patriarchs Militant of California, and Lady President, Department Association Patriarchs Militant.

The Department Council and Department Association sessions in San Mateo on the 18th- 20th of October will complete our two year tour of duty. It has been a very satisfying experience. We want to believe that we have left this branch of our Order in a little better shape than when we took these offices. We pledge our support to our successors, (soon to be) Brigadier General Martin and Lady President Lela Townsend. We wish them an even more successful term than ours.

The most rewarding accomplishment of our term was the Muster of the new Canton, Mother Lode No. 4 in Sonora. As Department Commander, I met with that unit at their July 25th meeting, and I assisted them in mustering a new chevalier, Jack Robertson. He had been one of the original petitioners, but he was not available for the mustering of the unit in March. These new chevaliers are learning their work well, with guidance from Col. Oscar Delferriell, Deputy Department Commander-elect. I am proud of what they have accomplished.

We have also started the process of forming another Canton, in Point Arena California, where the new Mendocino Encampment No. 420 was instituted on July 24, 2004. We fully expect that a petition for the Muster of a new Canton in Point Arena will be brought to our Department Council session. We are very impressed with the Odd Fellows of that community.

Lady Dorothy has been very well received at Rebekah lodges around the state with her program to educate them on the existence, history, purpose, and customs of the Ladies Auxiliary Patriarchs Militant. A few of the Rebekah Sisters hearing this information have already joined an Auxiliary, and interest is growing toward forming a new LAPM in Sonora to work with Canton Mother Lode No. 4. We keep reminding our Sisters that any Rebekah, even the newest member, can become a Lady of an LAPM.

We have enjoyed bringing the greetings from our branches at the receptions for officers of the other branches during these past two years. While travelling 30 to 50 thousand miles a year for Odd Fellowship over the past several years, we have been rewarded with the privilege of getting to know some of the best people in the world—our brothers and sisters of the IOOF. We cherish all of you, and we are grateful for all of the friendship and courtesies that have been bestowed upon us.

Chivalrously,

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

FLAG DAY

VALLEJO - San Pablo Lodge #43, Myrtle Rebekah Lodge #15 and Solano Lodge #22, Benicia, presented their colors in Flag Day Ceremonies at the Elks Lodge on Sunday, June 13, 2004. Al Hieb, who is Color Bearer for both lodges in Vallejo, carried the flag and was escorted by Bea Adams, Jr. Past Musician of the Rebekah Assembly, representing Myrtle Rebekah Lodge #15 and Amie Dorer, Jr. Past Guardian of the Grand Lodge, who represented Solano Lodge #22 and San Pablo Lodge #43.



King's Men Junior Lodge #96 Reactivated

SANTA CLARA - King's Men Junior Lodge # 96 was recently reactivated in the county of Santa Clara. King's Men Junior Odd Fellow Lodge is sponsored by District #107 and receives the support of the Lodges in San Jose, Santa Clara, Cupertino and Saratoga.

The Lodge was re-instated by the initiation of 5 new Junior Members and an associate member from Stockton. The initiation ceremony and installation of new Officers was conducted by Grand Ruler Justin Reed and his staff of officers with the help of the Stockton Junior Lodge, and so, on May 2, 2004 King's Men Junior Lodge was officially reborn!

King's Men has a total of six members at present and is meeting on the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 6:30 PM at the Cupertino Lodge hall. The advisors are made up of Brother Ed Brown from Mountain View Lodge #244 as Senior Advisor and assistant advisors are Brothers Paul Kramer, Donald Lang and Robert Heslop all of Cupertino Lodge #70.

The newest Junior Lodge members are Kenneth Adkins, Chief Ruler; Justin Adkins, Deputy Chief Ruler; Joey Robertson, Recorder; Michael Robertson, Treasurer; Robert J. Heslop, Chaplain and James D. Balco, Warden. The Juniors are a wonderful organization and help our boys grow into great men and fantastic Odd Fellows. If you know of anyone interested in joining, please refer them to us at linrob@sbcglobal.net.

- Robert L. Heslop , Assistant Advisor



Congratulations Daniel!

FREMONT - On July 10, 2004, Daniel Ballard was honored at a ceremony at Holy Spirit Church in Fremont where he received the highest honor awarded in Scouting, that of Eagle Rank. Daniel, one of the newest members of California Odd Fellow Lodge #1, is the son of long time California #1 members Julie and Walt Ballard.

Daniel's achievement was many years in the making, and there were many friends, family and fellow Odd Fellows on hand to cheer his efforts on! Under the tutelage of Ranger Dave Reinsche, of Coyote Hills Regional Park in Fremont, Daniel led a dedicated group of volunteers, in planting 35 oak trees at the park. Not only that but the trees had to be watered for an entire year, with an eventual success rate of 75% or better. As there is no water nearby, Daniel and his crew had to fill water buckets up, truck them to the site, and maneuver down a steep incline to get to the trees. It was not without it's mishaps, as they encountered poison oak, sweltering days in the summer months, and lots of hard work! But he accomplished his goal.

Daniel entered the Navy on August 10, 2004. He is currently at boot camp in Great Lakes, Illinois. We know that the lessons and values learned through Scouting will help him along the way and we wish him well, as he begins this new chapter of his life!



Photos by
Scott Brown



Fireworks At The Plaza

SARATOGA – This past 4th of July the fireworks were popping from the Barbecue which was held at the Friendship Plaza. Residents and guests were treated to a delectable meal cooked by the hard working crew. Members enjoyed casual

dining on the lawn and patios and the children thoroughly enjoyed the games.

Garcia Lodge No. 240

Received Annual Director's Award

By Pete Sellars



On Saturday July 10, 2004, a few members from Yerba Buena Lodge No. 15 made a social call on Garcia Lodge No. 240, located in lovely Point Arena. Pete Sellars, a Director at Grand Lodge made a special visit to present the members of Garcia Lodge No. 240 this year's Director's Award. This annual award is usually presented to an outstanding individual or lodge in the Odd Fellows during the annual convention, but since members could not be present Brother Pete made this special trip. Accompanying him were Wendy Chao, Wayland Chin, along with Wendy's daughter, Linda, all members of Yerba Buena No. 15.

The presentation was conducted at the breathtaking Point Arena Lighthouse. After taking in all the beauty nature had to offer, a small ceremony was held in front of the lighthouse, where Brother Pete Sellars presented Garcia Lodge member Brian Riehl the 2004 Director's Award. Brother Riehl is also a docent and tour guide at the lighthouse and he is also the proud father of a fast growing 7-month old baby boy!

Yerba Buena Lodge has since donated \$100.00 toward the preservation of the lighthouse and because of the wonderful fellowship and breathtaking beauty of the area, they hope to make this an annual event.



Saying Goodby

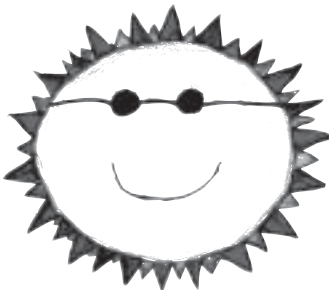
LINDEN - Prior to turning over the reins to Nathaniel Hoagland, GM in May, Ted Parker, PGM made one of his last official visits. After the visit at Scio Linden Lodge #102, he and some of his officers posed for a photo with the Noble Grand of Scio.

October Is United Nations Pilgrimage Month

Here is your chance to make a difference in the world today and for the future! For the past 55 years, the United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth has brought together groups of young men and women encouraging them to learn, exchange ideas on politics, religion, songs and life while developing lasting friendships.

We therefore ask all lodges to consider some form of sponsorship in this very worthwhile project. This is an experience of a lifetime and if not for the generosity of the various I.O.O.F Lodges, many delegates would not have had this educational opportunity.

There are many ways you can help. Opportunities are available for all lodge budgets and range from sponsoring a student, providing a meal or helping out with a night's lodging. Look for more information from SGL regarding this.



Oh... Those Summer Days!

COULTERVILLE – This year, Coulterville Lodge #104, tackled a special project. The Lodge decided that this summer they would like to sponsor children for the youth camp. Under the Chairmanship of J.D. Banning, they worked hard to gather donations from local organizations and individuals. Their tireless efforts paid off, when they saw the smiles of the 18 local youths that they were able to sponsor for a session at the Three Links Camp in Mi-Wuk Village.

Way to Go Coulterville!

EIGHT STUDENTS RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

SAN LEANDRO – Every December San Leandro Lodge # 121 begins the process of awarding scholarships. This year, eight students - ages 14 through 30 - received scholarships named in honor of Pete V. Sellars, a member of the Odd Fellows in Northern California. The scholarship was established by resolution in 1998 by San Leandro Lodge No. 231 to recognize brother Pete Sellars' dedication to his lodge and the rebuilding of its programs, making it a success story.

The awards ranged from \$500 to \$2,000 each, depending on financial need, goals, and achievements and were presented in June of 2004. In all, \$10,500 was awarded to the following students: Jing Janice Li, San Leandro High School; Gina Duel, Western University College Of Medicine (Masters Program); Kim Valencia, Keller School Of Management (Masters Program); Caitlin Manning, San Francisco State University ; Michael Manning, Expressions Center For New Media; Ashlyn Perri, The Urban School of San Francisco; Taryn Pinocci, Laguna Creek High School; Sean Sillineri, Our Lady of Grace School.



District Deputy Grand Master Lola Gianelli of Yerba Buena # 15, attended San Leandro High School on June 4, 2004, at the Senior Recognition Night to speak about the scholarship and about the recipient. Janice was one of the "Five National Merit Scholars" honored that night.

HOW TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP

by - John Fraher

I have heard over and over again that we need to increase membership in our organization but the numbers are not going up. I would like to suggest another method that has worked in California Lodge No. 1. In 1988, there were 68 members in the lodge, in 2004 there are over 265 members. What happened in the last 16 years was our lodge created a "FAMILY" community. The lodge was not just a place to go twice a month to a meeting, but a circle of new friends that shared in charity events, social events, vacations together and became more involved within the order. Relatives, Co-workers, Friends and Family were informed what the lodge was up to and they wanted to be involved with the various activities that were planned in the near future. We allowed guest to attend up to two events. After that, they had to become a member. We never stop seeking additional potential members for you never know who will not only become a member, but will get involved and also bring in others. Creating the "Positive Family Atmosphere" has been our biggest success. Recently, there are over 40 wives who have become members as well as many members' young daughters and sons. Our lodge may be the oldest in California but we are definitely planning to continue well into the future. Besides having lodge meetings twice a month, the lodge normally has a charity event and social event monthly. The thrill is seeing members on their own time going on vacations together, dinners at each other's homes, helping with repairs, etc. In other words, really extending the "Fellowship" to one another. When issues come up, as they do in any family, we don't dwell on them during the lodge meeting. If it can't be handled within a few minutes, the Noble Grand appoints a committee (normally consisting of those on both sides of the issue) and they are to attend the lodge's next "Board of Directors" quarterly meeting with their resolution. The Board of Directors will come to a consensus on the issue, then bring the results for vote at the next regular lodge meeting. This keeps our lodge meetings a place where Friendship, Love and Truth is practiced without a lot of bickering going on. Never be afraid to ask a long time friend to be a member. Recently one of our members was shocked when his good friend for many years stated how hurt he was that the member never asked him to join the lodge. He is now a member. Get your lodge active outside the meeting hall, ask non-members (friends and family) to attend events, and soon your lodge will be increasing in membership.

The Meadows of Napa Valley

News Oct - December 2004

First Hand - Why Residents

Love Living at the Meadows

Mary Alyce Webber has lived at the Meadows for 9 years now. She and her late husband Frank moved there from their home in Sonoma because they wanted to live at a retirement community that offers three levels of care on one campus. Mary Alyce and Frank loved living at the Meadows so much that they often invited their friends to visit them there. Several of those friends—both singles and couples—also moved to the Meadows, which of course delighted the Webbers. As Mary Alyce says, “It’s wonderful to have your friends of more than 50 years around you when you retire. It’s very comforting.”

Three years after the Webbers moved to the Meadows, Frank passed away. As Mary Alyce describes the experience, “Well of course it’s very hard. For awhile I just needed to spend some

time alone to adjust. But after a bit I got back into things. This is a wonderful place to be if you are alone. I’m surrounded by my friends, new and old, and everyone here is so loving and caring. Everyone—the residents *and* the staff.”

“I have to say that in the 9 years I’ve lived at the Meadows, the staff that is here now is the best it’s ever been,” she continues, “Everyone is so kind and loving. And what we all appreciate the most is that they treat residents with respect. They really do. They are so open and honest with us. They can discuss any topic with us in such a nice way. And they work so very hard.”

As Mary Alyce recited the list of employees she especially liked, she laughed and said, “Oh my, I need to make sure I don’t leave anyone out! Everyone here is great!”

Of the many staff members Mary Alyce mentioned, she particularly noted Executive Director Wayne Panchesson, Marketing Director Becky Givens, Front Desk Receptionist Carol Fernandez, and Resident Service Coordinators Mary Sheriff and Sharon Meyers. She also congratulated Mary Schramm, who has just taken on extra responsibility as the Administrator for Residential Living and Assisted

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FIDUCIARY DUTIES TO MAINTAIN FINANCIAL RECORDS

- Larry Brenner, Legal Counsel

For the past several months I have been discussing with you the benefits to Lodges of incorporating as a California corporation and the various fiduciary duties required of the Board of Directors to that corporation. This month I want to more fully discuss one of those duties, the duty to maintain accurate financial records, which is one of the most important obligations of both the Board of Directors and Officers of every corporation. This is particularly important with respect to California non-profit corporations as the violation of this duty can lead to the revocation of the corporations non-profit exemption status and in some cases criminal penalties. For organizations such as ours, non-profit mutual benefit fraternal corporations, which, as a matter of routine, maintain trust funds for the benefit of its members, the requirement that accurate records of those finances be at all times maintained and available is particularly crucial. Our lodges maintain a number of trust funds for a variety of purposes whether they are a building fund, a mutual benefit fund, or in the case of some of you a pre-need or cemetery maintenance fund. Whenever such trust funds are involved, special care must be given to the maintenance of those records in an accurate and up to date manner as this is a matter not only of compliance with the California Corporations Code but something which is frequently monitored both by the Internal Revenue Services and the California Attorney General, whose duty it is to scrutinize non-profit corporations activities on behalf of the public.

Every non-profit corporation is required to keep “adequate and correct” books and records of account and “permanent books of account or records” sufficient to establish the information required on its tax returns.” In addition, every non-profit corporation is required to keep a record of its members, including each member’s name, address and class of membership, minutes of the proceedings of its members, board of directors and committees of the board of directors, an up to date original or copy of its articles and by-laws and other books and records sufficient to provide comprehensive enough information to determine the appropriate status and allocation of its trust funds, bank accounts, deposits and expenses. These are requirements of the California Corporations Code which are also enforced by the Attorney General of California.

In addition and in order to discharge their fiduciary duties, directors have an absolute right to inspect corporate books, records, bank accounts and the physical properties owned by the corporation at any reasonable time. This includes the right to make copies of any such records or documents. Inspection may be demanded by the board acting as a group or by any director individually and may be conducted in person or by agent or attorney. In addition, organizations exempt from taxation under the Internal Revenue Code must file an annual information return on IRS Form 990 and these annual information returns must be maintained by the organization and made available for public inspection for three years. The failure to maintain such records, both Form 990 and the above-described records, has caused various non-profit corporations to have their exemption status revoked by the Internal Revenue Service. The IRS has the absolute authority to require an audit of a non-profit corporation’s books at any time. However,

cont on pg 13

Saratoga IOOF News

Oct to Dec 2004

With the Grand Opening just around the corner, and the first residents scheduled to move into their new apartments and cottages in December, the energy level is very high at Saratoga Retirement Community! Construction is progressing very rapidly and soon it will be time to put the finishing touches on.

Meanwhile, the Marketing Team is working with future residents to finalize their continuing care contracts, schedule move-in dates, and take care of all the other details that need to be looked after. The goal of course, is to ensure that every new resident has a smooth move with everything running like clockwork.

Behind the scenes, a new administrative team is in place making sure all the operational systems are in place for this extraordinary new continuing care retirement community. This eager new team consists of newly appointed Executive Administrator Jeffrey S. Krutzsch, Administrator of Health Services Hung-Chee Chan, and Director of Dining Services Fidel P. Cabuena II.

In his new role as SRC's Executive Administrator, Jeffrey Krutzsch will oversee all operational details for the community. He has over 25 years experience in systems and operations management for the healthcare and retirement service industries. Prior to joining SRC, Jeffrey was the West Coast Regional Manager for Retirement Housing Foundation in Long Beach, California, overseeing ten retirement communities. He received his degree in Business

Administration from California State University at Fullerton and is licensed as an administrator in both Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing Care. Jeffrey is currently a member of the Health Services Committee of the California Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (CAHSA).

Also new to SRC team is Hung-Chee Chan, who was recently appointed Administrator of Health Services. He is responsible for the daily operations of the Assisted Living program and Health Care Center. He joins SRC from the Meadows of Napa Valley (another RSLLC-managed community) where he served as Assistant Executive Administrator. Chan (as he likes to be called) holds a master's degree in business, he is licensed as an administrator in both Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing Care, and has fourteen years of management experience in the senior housing and care industry.

The third new team member is Fidel Cabuena, the new Director of Dining Services. He is responsible for planning menus, overseeing kitchen staff, and most important—making sure that the food service is outstanding. Prior to joining SRC, Fidel was the Executive Chef at the Forum San Antonio, TX. He acquired his culinary expertise over the years as chief steward at Holland America cruise lines and as a personal chef for an Archbishop. Fidel was also a food-service supervisor at San Joaquin General Hospital and has attended many classes at the Culinary Academy in Napa. He is also an active member of the Dietary Managers Association.

With experienced staff members like these three on board, the operations at Saratoga Retirement Community are off to a very promising start!

Don't Forget...“We Are Family Two” Needs Your Help!

PASADENA - The Rose Float committee is enthusiastic about the upcoming 2005 Odd Fellow and Rebekah Rose Parade Float entitled “We Are Family Two” for this year's Tournament of Roses to be held on January 1, 2005.

Please remember that it is not too late to support this wonderful endeavor. Whether by volunteering, decorating the float, raising and donating funds or just advertising the program! If you would like to help with the decorations of the float, or have any questions, please contact Robert Gennaria, Float Chairman or email at robert.gennaria@verizon.net or contact the L.A. Past District Deputies Assoc., at P.O. Box 1050, Temple City, CA 91780.



A Veteran Died Today

By: Harold A. Lanham

With Veterans Day approaching and the Holidays after that, I thought it fitting that we honor those who are fighting for the freedoms that we enjoy today. Often times, we tend to forget the sacrifices that these men and women make for us, our families and for all mankind. - C. Fraher, Editor

He was getting old and paunchy and his hair was graying, and he sat around telling stories of the past. Of a war that he had fought in and the deeds that he had done. In his exploits with his buddies, they were heroes, every one. And 'tho sometimes, to his neighbors, his tales became a joke, all his buddies listened, for they knew whereof he spoke. But we'll hear his tales no longer, for he has passed away, and the world's a little poorer for a Veteran died today.

No, he won't be mourned by many, just his children and his wife. For he lived an ordinary, very quiet sort of life. He held a job and raised a family, quietly going on his way, and the world won't note his passing though a Veteran died today.

When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state, while thousands note their passing and proclaim that they were great. Papers tell of their life stories, from the time that they were young, but the passing of a Veteran goes unnoticed and unsung.

The politician's stipend and the style in which he lives, are sometimes disproportionate, to the service that he gives. While the ordinary Veteran, who has offered up his all, is paid off with a medal and perhaps a pension, small. It was not the politicians and their compromise and ploys, who won for us our freedom, that our Country now enjoys. He was proud to be a Veteran and his ranks are growing thin, his presence should remind us, we may need his likes again. For when countries are in conflict, then we find the Military's part, is to clean up all the troubles, that others seem to start.

If we cannot do him honor, while he's here to hear the praise, then at least let's give him homage, at the ending of his days. Perhaps just a simple headline, in the paper that might say,

**OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING
FOR A VETERAN DIED TODAY.**

This piece was submitted by Merrill Lanham a member of Sacramento #2, El Dorado Hills #8 and Occidental #2. It was written by his father, Harold Lanham in the early 70's as a tribute to all branches of the service. Harold served in the US Navy on a Submarine in the First World War. Four of his five son's served in the US Navy during the Second World War the fifth, Merrill served in the Navy during the Korean War and US Coast Guard. Harold Lanham, DDGM lived in New York and he was also a member of the NY Canton. He organized and led many degree Teams traveling around his state.

Freedom isn't free... just ask any soldier

With the Holidays fast approaching, now is the time to begin to think about those who will not be home for them. Please consider having your lodge support this or another worthwhile cause that supports our soldiers. It is not about our convictions for or against the war, it is about them...the soldiers. For they are the ones ensuring that our children and grandchildren will have the chance to grow up knowing what it is to be free.

Soldiers love mail and many soldiers receive very little. Because of this, www.AnySoldier.US was born. Sgt. Brian Horn from La Plata, MD an Army Infantry Soldier with the 173rd Airborne Brigade started the ideas of AnySoldier to help care for his soldiers. He agreed to distribute packages that came to him with "ATTN: Any Soldier" in the address line. Although Sgt. Horn is no longer in Iraq, AnySoldier.US continues with your help. This website allows you to send cards, care packages, or whatever you might like to do. It could be a great family project! Please check out their website for complete information.

Home At Last - by Carol A. Goodin

Those who went to fight in the Middle East, They may be home, but where is the peace?

It has been so long, and the children are grown. But Mom or Dad don't care, they are just glad to be home.

Look, here comes Grandpa and Grandma for a visit too. My so many friends and relatives, it looks like a zoo.

Soon it will be the holidays, like Thanksgiving and Christmas. Just hope Santa this year won't miss us.

Well another year will soon be gone. But the family is all together again, to watch the new dawn.

Thanks to our military, our loved ones are home safe and sound. They have served the country well, as we all can expound.

Long time Rebekah member Carol A. Goodin has been writing poems over twenty years. She is a published poet in both America and Europe. Carol began by writing poems at Christmas, to send to family and friends. This developed into a year-round passion. This particular poem is dedicated to all her Odd Fellow Brother's serving our country, with special thoughts to LTCol J.P. Lisieck, III, USMC, Maj D.G. Bellon, USMC and Maj J.M. Mumma, USMC.

Rebekah Assembly President's Letter

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

What a wonderful installation we had at Modesto! I hope everyone enjoyed the Bagpipers and I hope it was a nice surprise. The last two months have been very busy with visits to many lodges. The Youth Camp Festival was a wonderful event, however the attendance could have been better. I would like to thank my chairperson Lorna Hemphill for all the work she and her committee did for this event.



*Lorraine North, President
Rebekah Assembly President
of California
18010 Arline Avenue
Artesia, CA 90701-4017*

I hope all of you get a chance to go to our Home at Saratoga. It is going to be very beautiful. While there, reset the time capsule and I was very impressed with all the work that is being done. It will be state of the art. The Garlic Festival was fun work for all of those who took part. I hope we were able to raise a lot of money for the Children's Home.

The BBQ at Napa was very well attended. I'd like to thank my chairperson Ruth Morgan and the Angel Babies for all the work they did. I would also like to thank the Christmas Treasures for all of their work and all the support they have given me in the last few weeks. I love you all.

On a personal note I really want to thank all of you for the beautiful cards you sent to me after I fell and broke my arm at the Youth Camp, they really helped to lift my spirits. On the weekend of the BBQ, three of my officers and I were involved in a terrible car accident while traveling to a Grand Jr. Lodge Reception in Lodi. The Blessed Lord was riding with us and the four of us walked away with only bumps and bruises. It is wonderful to belong to the Rebekah's and Odd Fellows when people from all over the state are willing to come to our aid. I love you all.

I wish you Christmas Love and Simple Treasures!

Lorraine North, President RA

NG VG Seminar cont from page 4

For Rebekahs send you application to Mary Lou Lang, 11220 Monterey Court, Cupertino, CA 95014, Phone: 408-252-3954 Email: Marlang@msn.com. If you do not know who will be the incoming Vice Grand, then you can leave the name blank and send the name to us at a later time. Money needs to be in by December 6. We will assign you a roommate if needed.

Name of Delegate _____
Age _____
Members Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Member's Telephone No. (____) _____
Incoming Office in Lodge _____
Lodge Name _____ No. _____
Odd Fellow Seminar: ____ Rebekah Seminar: ____
Double Occupancy (\$150) ____
Single Occupancy (\$175) ____
Room Mate Needed? _____
Special Needs? _____

Fudiciary Duties from page 10

the occurrence of an internal audit by the organization itself is sometimes sufficient to minimize any IRS audit.

Finally, the State imposes sanctions on individuals and corporations for failing to keep records. Corporations Code Section 6812, for example, provides that "a director or officer who refuses to make or direct to be made any book entry...in the manner required by law is guilty of a crime." If a director officer or agent of a non-profit corporation knowingly receives corporate property and, with the intent to defraud, fails to make a "full and true entry in the books or accounts of the corporation" that failure is a crime. It is also a crime for a director, officer, agent or member with intent to defraud to 1) destroy or falsify documents or securities belonging to the corporation, or 2) make or omit a material entry in a corporate record or document kept by the corporation. This is a very serious matter, of course, as the violation is punishable by imprisonment in state prison or by a fine, or both. Clearly, therefore, because the Internal Revenue Service believes the maintenance of accurate financial records to be essential to maintaining a non-profit corporation's exemption status, and because the State requires accurate records and has imposed severe civil and criminal penalties for the failure to do so maintain them, it is extremely important for our lodges to, at all times, assure themselves that their financial records are accurate and up to date. If for any reason your are unsure of the efficacy, efficiency or accuracy of your own records, contact Grand Secretary, Gerald Poarch, who has available to him a number of tools which will provide assistance.

Introducing Officers *Grand Lodge & Rebekah Assembly* *2004-2005*

COTTONWOOD - Steve Greendale is proud to have been chosen to act as



this year's Grand Conductor. Brother Steve was born on February 1, 1943 in Albany, California to Keith and Dorothy Greendale.

In the early 50's, the Greendale family moved to a small farm south of Red Bluff. Steve attended Tehama Elementary School, and Los Molinos High School. He was a member of the 4H and FFA. After graduation from High School in 1960, Steve joined the Navy. After completion of his Navel duties, Steve went to work for Pacific Telephone and Telegraph, spending most of his time working in Tehama, Shasta and Siskiyou Counties. During this time he also attended Shasta Community College, earning an Associate of Arts Degree.

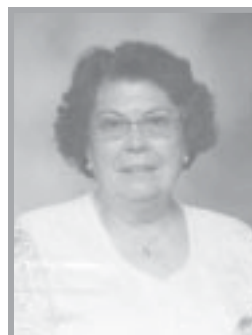
While working in Mt. Shasta, Steve met Jeanne Flowers. They were married on July 1, 1972. Steve is a member of the Redding Odd Fellow Lodge #271, Redding Encampment #14, Millville Rebekah Lodge #3, and an Associate Member of French Gulch Lodge #75. Brother Steve has also served two terms as District Deputy Grand Master for District 22. The Greendale family is all involved in the Order, with wife Jeanne and stepson Frank Flowers, daughter Carla and son-in-law Matt Jones all active members of the Redding Lodge.

TWENTYNINE PALMS – Serving, as the Rebekah Assembly Conductor is Renne Recker. Renee was born in Hemet, California on September 29, 1966 to parents Gene and Margo Recker. Renee attended Rubidoux High School and now continues her education at Cooper Mountain College in Joshua



Tree. Sister Renee works as a Librarian for the Joshua Tree Elementary School. She has been a member of Ramona Lodge #156 since 1995. Sister Renee has also served two terms as District Deputy President for District #86. She is looking forward to the duties and responsibilities that she will have as this year's Conductor.

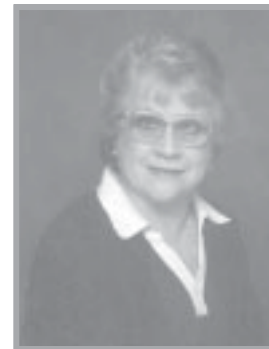
LATROBE – This year's Rebekah Assembly Musician is Helen Cort. She is a third generation Rebekah whose grandmother was a charter



member of Eldo #282. Helen was born on June 15, 1928 to Frank and Mary Lasswell. She attended El Dorado County High

School in Placerville. On January 14, 1947 she married G. Arthur Cort. They have five children, Cynthia Kingsland, Susan Johnson, Jennifer Hinrichsen, Anita Gonzales and David Cort. They have also been blessed with seven grandchildren who they adore! Sister Helen has been involved with the Rebekah's since becoming a member of Eldo #282 in 1956. She is also involved with the LEA as a member of Placer #30 in Auburn. Sister Helen has held many positions over the years, including District Deputy President, District 15, Inside Guardian for the California Rebekah Assembly, Musician to the Grand LEA and now as Musician for the Rebekah Assembly. As busy as she is with all her Rebekah activities, Helen is also an active volunteer, working for the Snowline Hospice Thrift Store in Cameron Park.

SACRAMENTO – Sherry Pruitt a member of Capital City #160, is honored to be serving as the Marshal for the Rebekah Assembly. Sister Sherry was born in Yuba City, California on February 25, 1944 to the parents of Cloy and Sylvia Crews. She



attended Highlands High School and continued her education at American River Junior College in Sacramento. On September 29, 1963,

she married the love of her life, Anthony (Tony) Pruitt. They had met while in Junior High School and now, 41 years later they are as happy as they were then! They have two children, Tasha Pruitt and Cyrilla Martinez. Tasha, Cyrilla and her husband, Jose, all live in the Sacramento Area. They have three grandchildren, and are currently awaiting the birth of their fourth!

Sister Sherry retired from Federal Service after 40 year. She was the Program Manager for electronic equipment for all branches of the Military and traveled all over the United States and Foreign Countries installing this equipment. The Pruitt family is very active in the Order. Husband Tony is past Color Bearer and Grand Instructor for the Grand Lodge. Their daughter Tasha, is a Past President of the Theta Rho. Sister Sherry is currently serving on the Board of Directors for the Children's Home. Although she is very busy, she still finds the time to volunteer at the school where her grandchildren attend.

SACRAMENTO – Serving as this year's Outside Guardian for the Rebekah Assembly is Terri Lamphere. Sister Terri is

a very active Rebekah, and has many family members who are involved in the Order. Terri is the daughter of Gerald and Judy Poarch.



She was born on January 23, 1964 in Santa Ana, California. She grew up in Costa Mesa, and went to the Costa Mesa High School, graduating in 1982. On November 22, 1997, she married Ted Lamphere in South Lake Tahoe. The Lamphere's are currently living in the Sacramento area. They have two children; Andrew "Drew" age 5 and Zachary "Zach" age 3 and are kept very busy with their activities! Sister Terri is currently working as a Pre-School Teacher at the Phoenix School in Folsom. Terri has a long history with the organization. She originally joined Mesa Rebekah Lodge #402 and Alpha Chi #25. After moving out of the area, she transferred her membership to Florin #20 and Florin #68. Sister Terri has held many positions for

the Order. She has served as Secretary to the TRA, District Deputy President #6, and has served the Youth Committee for several years in the South, then moving to the North, and Press Committee for BJ. Although Sister Terri is an extremely busy woman, she is proud to serve as this year's Outside Guardian to the Rebekah Assembly.

Garden Party for Renee Recker, DDP

RIVERSIDE – Twenty-four brothers and sisters from District 86 attended the Appreciation Garden Party for Renee Recker, District 86, Ramona Rebekah Lodge #156 and newly installed Rebekah Assembly Conductor. The party was held at the home of Tammy Jardine, PNG. Members in attendance included Starlight #231, Corona; Sunnymead #349, Moreno Valley; Comfort #293, Hemet and Ramona #156, Riverside. Renee pinned the PDDP Jewel on Betty Jean Reasoner, PPRA, Odessa #338, Victorville, and Special DDP, District #86. Sister Reasoner introduced her DM, Sister Tammy Jardine. Special thanks to Sister Agnes Reed and her committee who worked hard on the potluck dinner, decorations and special cake.



Photo by Ruby Gregory



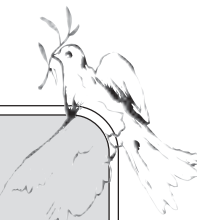
Dollars For Scholars!

BARSTOW – The third Saturday of each month, Barstow Lodge #91 hosts a cribbage tournament fund raiser. This fund raiser supports scholarships given to graduates from Barstow Central High to help defray college expenses.

This year, Barstow member Joe Vail reported that they were able to provide two scholarships. Each scholarship is worth \$600.00 and is given to the students over a two year period. Zephyr Riley, VG filled in for Taylor Ray, NG (who was recovering from knee surgery) and presented the awards to Jennifer Robles and April Simmons. Along with these awards, Barstow Lodge also presented a \$200 college scholarship to the winner of the Miss Barstow contest.

Broken Links

*You can shed a tear because they are gone,
or you can smile because they lived.*



Passing of Richard Lowery

We are saddened by the passing of Richard Lowery this past July. Services were held at St. Gabriel's Church with interment at Holy Cross Cemetery. Our prayers and thoughts go out to his family.

In Our Thoughts

Recently, Sunnyvale Rebekah Lodge #363 lost longtime member Sister Eloise (Jo) Mason. Services were held at the Oak Hill Memorial Park in San Jose. Our prayers go with Gordon and the family.

Passing of Lula Mae Shearer

It is with regret that we announce the passing of Lula Mae Shearer, 81, the mother of Jacquita (Jackie) Meierdierks.

Mae, as she was known to most of her friends and acquaintances, left us Saturday, July 10 at about 10:05 PM, after an extended hospitalization. She was known by many for her support of Theta Rho Girls Club #92 in San Jose, and for her many years of baking deep-dish apple-rhubarb pies for the District #24 booth at

the Odd Fellow-Rebekah Children's Home spring festivals at Gilroy.

Please keep the Meierdierks family in your prayers during this difficult time.

Broken Links... Sovereign Grand Master of the World Passes

Arthur A. Craig, a lifelong resident of Buckley, Washington, passed away May 5 in St. Joseph Hospital in Tacoma, Washington. Art, 68, was born on June 25, 1935. He was a long time Odd Fellow and worked his way up through the chairs, eventually attaining the premiere position in Odd Fellowship, that of Sovereign Grand Master of the World in 2000. A celebration of his life was held on Sunday, June 6th.

Edith Dawson Passes

We were saddened to hear that Edith Dawson, mother of Betty Dawson Moates passed away recently. Services were held on June 27th in Saratoga. Our sympathies are extended to Betty and her entire family.

Lt. Col. W.N. Thurwell Passes

Lt. Col. W. N. Thurlwell, brother of long time member Laurie Prescott, PPRA passed on recently. Lt. Col. Thurlwell served as the Commander of the Joint Medical Forms of Canada and was retired from the Royal Canadian Army. Col. Thurlwell is survived by his daughter, Iris.



I'm Spending Christmas With Jesus This Year!

I see the countless Christmas trees,
Around the world below,

With tiny lights,
like heaven's stars, reflecting on the snow.

The sight is so spectacular, please wipe
away that tear.

For I'm spending Christmas with Jesus
this year.

I hear the many Christmas songs
that people hold so dear.

But the sounds of music can't compare
with the Christmas Choir up here.

For I have no words to tell you,
the joy their voices bring.

For it is beyond description to hear an
angel sing.

I can't tell you of the splendor,
or the peace here in this place.

Can you just imagine Christmas with our
Savior, face to face?

I'll ask him to light your spirit, as I tell
Him of your love, so pray for one another
as you lift your eyes above.

Please let your hearts be joyful, and let
your spirits sing.

For I'm spending Christmas in heaven,
and I'm walking with the King!

-Author Unknown

In Our Thoughts

Richard Farris III

Nora Maxwell's daughter Marilyn Farris' (Past Color Bearer RA for Margaret Olsen) husband Richard has been diagnosed with cancer. The family is strong and holding on as best as they can and I am sure they would appreciate your prayers and uplifting notes during this difficult time.

Thank You's

Many Thanks

To all the sisters and brothers who sent cards, phone calls and support during my husband's illness and passing. He was so proud to be an Odd Fellow and Rebekah.

*Joann Burke Warden,
California Rebekah
Assembly*

Our Sincere Thanks

To all the many members of our Fraternal Family, we can't thank you enough for the many cards and calls for the recent passing of my daughter, Anne Marie. We will miss her.

*Walter Johnson, Past
Grand Master and Family*

With Sincere Thanks

Dear Sisters, Brothers & Friends,

Many thanks for your calls, cards and words of sympathy on the passing of my mother, Edith R. Dawson, PDDP. She was a gracious lady, a loving mother and a wonderful Rebekah of 48 years. Your kind thoughts and kind words have helped us in the painful time.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Betty C. Moates, PPRRA



Remember, Noah's Ark was built by amateurs and the Titanic was built by professionals.

It takes 43 muscles to frown but only 17 muscles to smile!

Tolerance is letting people find happiness in their own way instead of your way.

You can tell your age by the amount of pain you feel when you come in contact with a new idea!

Do You Just Belong?

*Submitted by Nora Rose and reprinted from the Fresno #186
Newsletter, Vol. 9 Issue 3*

Are you an active member.
The kind that would be missed?

Or are you just contented
That your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings
And mingle with the flock?

Or do you stay at home
To criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part
To help the work along?

Or are you satisfied
To only belong?

Do you work with your committee
And get right in and mix?

Or leave the work to just a few
And talk about the "Cliques"

Think it over, member –
You know the right from wrong!

Are you an active member
Or do you just belong?

*Recall it as often as you wish
for a happy memory never
wears out!*

- Libbie Fudim

Greetings ... from the Czech Republic

Recently, I was forwarded a letter from Brother Oldrich Chodera, NG from Bohemia Lodge No. 1 from the Czech Republic. Due to the length, I include only parts of his letter asking to reestablish contact with Lodges in the USA – C.Fraher, Editor

Dear Brothers,

I would like to inform you, that the activity of I.O.O.F. in the Czech Republic was reestablished after the year 1989. Although the first lodges in what is today known as the Czech Republic were established at the beginning of the 20th century, due to the difficult situations in the first and second war, especially after the arrival of communist movement, the activity of the lodges were forced to cease.

Exactly 90 years after the establishment of the first Odd Fellow Lodge, the activity of the I.O.O.F in the Czech Republic was reestablished. Due to the friendly relationships of some of our members with Bavarian International Odd Fellows Lodge in Dachau, five Czech Brothers were accepted to this lodge. Nowadays, three Lodges are active in the Czech Republic, two of them in

*The Meadows - cont.
from pg 10*

Residential living and assisted living, as well as now assisting Wayne Panchesson in managing the following departments: Marketing, Facility Services, Environmental Services, and Dining Services. Everyone is very proud of her for taking on these added responsibilities.

Another staff member that Mary Alyce was very impressed with is Mark Dagostino, who just joined the Meadows as the new Director of Dining Services. Mark came to the Meadows via the Rogue Valley Manor in Medford, Oregon. Mark began his career at the Manor in 1999, working his way up to being a Lead Charge Cook for dinners in just 5 years. While at the Manor, he learned all aspects of creating and maintaining an excellent Dining Services program. He's thrilled with his promotion and loves being at the Meadows. He says, "When I arrived here at the end of May, I received a warm welcome from the staff and the residents. I'm really enjoying being here at the Meadows."

Prague, one in Dobrus. They are, Bohemia Lodge No.1, Concordia Lodge No. 3 and Mala Stepanska No. 8.

Czech Brothers from I.O.O.F. are very thankful for the help which was given to them from brothers in foreign countries, notably from Denmark and Germany. Although the Czech Lodges are relatively young, they are developing successfully and these Brothers believe that they will be useful members of the Independent Order of I.O.O.F all over the world.

They would like to reestablish their contact with other lodges all over America and the World. Any Lodge wishing to contact them may do so through Brother Oldrich Chodera's email which is ochodera@telecom.cz.

Rebekah's Host New Website

Don't Forget to Check It Out!!

The California Rebekah's have published a web site on Membership on the web. It can be found at www.ioofmembership.org. It contains information that can be downloaded by any Odd Fellow or Rebekah. The Membership Manual; Up-coming workshops, Schools of Instruction and Seminars; An orientation Flip Chart, Several Power point presentations, a Banner, ode card and copies of publications available from the Grand Lodge of California and the Sovereign Grand Lodge Public Relations Chairman Mavis Paul. Please visit this site for aids, ideas and help with Membership.

*Mary Lou Lang- Membership
Chairman, Rebekah Assembly of California.
e-mail: Marlang@msn.com*

Christmas In July

CUPERTINO - July 21, 2004 marked the 6th Annual Christmas in July held by the Philotesian Rebekah Lodge #145. For the past six years, members have donated non perishable food items as well as baby diapers, money and paper bags. These items are then given to the local Cupertino Community Services for distribution to those in need.

New Life For An Old Lodge!

SAN FRANCISCO – Last year, it was debatable if Odin Lodge #393 would be able to remain a lodge or if they would merge with another lodge. Marty Benson, Noble Grand was one of the main forces keeping Odin alive, and this year, we was proud to welcome Lola Gianelli, DDGM. He stated how happy his father, the late Arthur Benson was upon learning of the decision that the lodge would retain its Charter.



Like many lodges, the past few

years, this Swedish Lodge in San Francisco had suffered a decrease in membership. Through the efforts of those members who wanted to have the lodge retain its Charter, along with special effort from John Fraher, PDDGM, this lodge has gained a new life and looks forward to a renewed future in Odd Fellowship!

The San Francisco Hall that Odin meets in is also used as a lounge for the entertainers performing in the adjoining club. Continuing in the tradition of brotherhood, members of Odin were recently able to meet the Irish singer “Donovan,” who was in town promoting his new album. After talking with Donovan for five minutes, he invited the members to sit in on this performance. Those that went enjoyed great music and a wonderful show!



Photos by Lloyd Carlson

Seventy-first IOOF Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns

Excerpted from IOOF News and IPA Release

ARLINGTON - This past May, members of the Grand Lodges, Rebekah Assemblies, Grand Encampments, Grand Ladies Encampment Auxiliaries, Department Councils, P.M.; Department Associations, L.A.P.M.; Grand Junior Lodges and Theta Rho Assemblies made the pilgrimage to place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns to honor those men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

The Pilgrimage took place at Arlington National Cemetery and began with a Parade from the USS Marine Mast staging area and was followed immediately by the Memorial Service and Wreath Laying Ceremonies at the Tomb. Rowena Whitney, PRA was proud to be able to present one of this year’s wreaths at the ceremony. This year’s Pilgrimage Address was delivered by the Honorable Henry L. “Hank” Dupray, Sovereign Grand Master. Brother Hank stated that this ritual, honoring the soldiers, active and inactive, known and unknown, living and dead, who have given us the gift of freedom is one of the most important rituals that we as Odd Fellows and Rebekahs can be a part of. He concluded his address with these significant words “May God Bless us all, especially our soldiers, and may we always live in peace.”



Photo by Jack Reasoner

Grand Lodge of California, I.O.O.F.
P.O. Box 2669
Saratoga, CA 95070

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Lodge Number or Expiration Date After Name

Campfire Hospitality At Its Best

MARIPOSA – Each year for many years the tradition of welcoming the Pioneer Wagon Train has been carried on by the Mariposa Odd Fellow Lodge #39. On June 10th, the wagons rolled into Summit Camp for their morning rest stop as the smell of freshly brewed coffee greeted them! The group was treated to a breakfast of coffee, juice, donuts and hot chocolate. This wonderful treat was provided by the members of the Mariposa Lodge. The wagon train is a part of the Mariposa County Pioneer Wagon Train which makes its historic three day trek yearly.

Wagon Master Don Weston (left) takes a well earned break as he is served coffee by Odd Fellow Bob Boyer at the Summit Camp

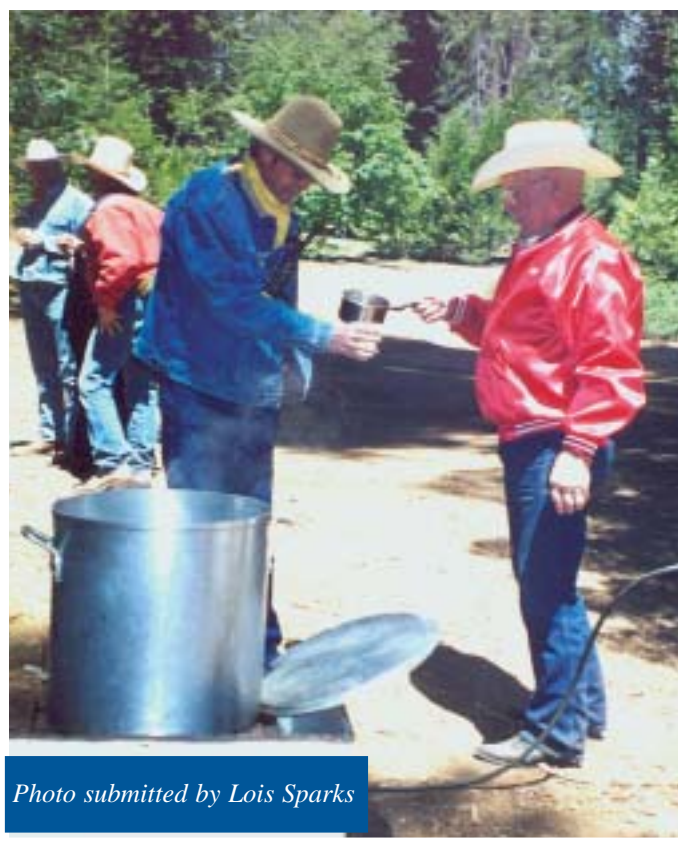


Photo submitted by Lois Sparks

Meet The Webmaster!

SANTA CLARA - Scott Brown has served as the Grand Lodge of California Webmaster since 2002. He took over the site from Brother Mel Astrahan and Sister Debra La Vergne and revamped the site and moved it to a commercial web hosting service in 2003 if you have not had a chance to look over our website, please go to <http://www.caioof.org> to see what is available there!

Scott is a member of Cupertino Lodge #70 and both he and his wife Dorothy are members of Stella Rebekah Lodge #22. Brother Scott served as DDGM for District #107 for the 2002-2003. Brother Brown has led a very interesting life, having been a pilot for both military and commercial airlines. In 1982, he returned to school to specialize in computers and worked for

the NASA Ames Research Center. While there, he was awarded a grant to complete his Master of Science degree in Computer Science. In 1995, prior to his retirement from NASA, he was named Contractor of the Year. Scott has previously offered to setup and develop a site for any Lodge in the State of California. This service would be free except for the site costs at the web host site which currently run \$15.00/month or \$108.99/year. If your lodge is interested in this service, please contact Scott via the website as he would be happy to help you out!

