



Volume 55, No.1

January, February, March 2006

California

Odd Fellow & Rebekah

GE and GLEA Sessions Held



SAN MATEO - The Grand Encampment of California and Nevada held their sessions this past October 16th - 23rd. The Encampments gathered at the San Mateo Marriott for this year's activities. Installing new officers and acting as this year's Master and Mistress of Ceremonies were Joan Meza and Marshall Hansen.



Dignitaries present included Ken Kuklish, Grand Master and Diana Caranza, President of the Rebekah Assembly. Also present were Robbie Hemphill and Mary Carvazos the Junior Grand Ruler and Theta Ro President.



The evening concluded with the installation of new Grand Patriarch and Grand Matriarch Fred Runnells and Debbie Shuler. We wish them a wonderful year filled with lots of laughter, good fellowship and fun!

Decoration of Chivalry Is Awarded

SAN MATEO - During this year's sessions, The Department of California Patriarchs Militant conducted a Decoration of Chivalry ceremony at the San Mateo Marriott. This year the Decoration of Chivalry was bestowed on Brig. Gen. Retired, John L. Roberts, a member of Canton Santa Clara #6. John is a long time member of the order, having first joined Shiller #105 in the 1950's. John is currently a member of True Fellowship Lodge #52, Barnes Encampment Lodge #77 and Josephine Rebekah Lodge #14. John had held many positions in the lodge and was also Department Commander of California, as Brig. Gen. for two years and has twice taken place in the laying of the Wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington Cemetery.

The Decoration of Chivalry which is one of the highest awards conferred by this branch of the Order and is bestowed not only for meritorious service in the Order, but the recipient must also be active in civic or benevolent activities in their community. John truly qualified to receive this award, and we congratulate him on a job well done!



PRESIDENT VISITS NAPA

NAPA — Ivy Rebekah Lodge No.23 hosted the Official District No.15 meeting of Rebekah Assembly President, Diana Carranza on July 27, 2005 in Fellowship Hall at The Meadows in Napa. Members of Myrtle Rebekah Lodge No.15 in Vallejo joined with Ivy to welcome the President to District No.15. Richard Trujillo, Noble Grand of Ivy Rebekah Lodge and Ruth Angelo, District Deputy President headed up the meeting. Other Rebekah Assembly officers present were Ruth Morgan, Warden; Lynn Delferriell, Marshall and Ursula Fink, Outside Guardian as well as Dorothy Handy, Home Director and Joyce Breland, PPRA.

The President was accompanied by her sister, Linda Rowlinson, PNG.

Special event of the afternoon was the four generation presence of the Alice Angers PNG and family.

Alice, who resides at The Meadows; Pat McLean, Noble Grand of Silver Star Rebekah Lodge No.336 in Fremont; Nancy Johnson, District Deputy President and Erin Williams, Flag Bearer of the Theta Rho Assembly. Nancy and Erin also belong to Silver Star No.336.



Four Generations, Alice Anger, Pat McLean, Nancy Johnson and Erin Williams pose for the camera!



Pictured left to right: Florence Bell, Vice Grand of Ivy; Bea Adams, Noble Grand of Myrtle; Diana Carranza; Ruth Angelo and Richard Trujillo.

Brother Bob Ward Receives 55 Year Pin!

VALLEJO — On the night of July 11, 2005, San Pablo Lodge No.43 presented a 55 year Veteran Odd Fellow lapel pin to Robert E. Ward who has been the musician for the lodge for many years.

Robert was initiated into San Pablo Lodge No.43 on May 1, 1950 along with our long time photographer, Jay Miller. Bob was Noble Grand in 1954 and served on the Cemetery Board from 1983 to 2001 and on the Board of Trustees from 1989 to 2000. He has had stints as musician dating back to 1960 and has been the regular musician from 1982 to the present.



(Picture by Jay Miller)

Pictured are Marlin Forthun who gave a summary of Bob's involvement in the order; Christ Pappakostas, District Deputy Grand Master; Ward and Jim Connet, Noble Grand.

2005 President's Award Given Out!



Pictured from left to right are Sherry Pruitt, and Rebekah Assembly President, Diana Carranza, presenting the Presidents Award to Jorge Pichado.

GILROY –The Board of Directors of the Rebekah Children's Services were pleased to announce this year's winner of the President's Award. Board President, Sherry Pruitt, and Rebekah Assembly President, Diana Carranza, were on hand to present the award to Jorge Pichado from the Salinas Valley Impala Club. Jorge was the winner of the President's Award for his custom truck at the Children's Home Fall Festival Car Show.

In addition, Rebekah President Diana Caranza was the highest bidder for the Rose Bowl Float passenger silent auction item at the Festival. This

\$3,000 bid was later split between Rebekah Children's Services and the Float Committee. Don't forget to see the parade and watch Diana on the Odd Fellow-Rebekah Float "Romantic Moment in Time" on January 1, 2006 on most major Television Networks.

Float Pins Needed

We have collectors looking for prior year float pins. If you have extra float pins that you would like to donate back to the float committee to fill these requests, it would be greatly appreciated by all!

Float pins may be sent to:

LA Past Deputies,
P.O. Box 1065
Temple City, CA
91780.

-Bob Genneria,
Float Chairman.

Special Features

January, February, March 2006

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California Odd Fellow & Rebekah

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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. It 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.

Pictures are desired of all fraternal activities about Odd Fellow and

Mail Address Changes & Subscriptions To:

IOOF
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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

Sigma Tau Installations



On Wed. October 26th the Sigma Tau #92 held a joint Installation with Kingsmen Junior Lodge # 96. We wish both groups a very successful year!

Installation of officers for the year included Cassie Rumery, InsideGuardian; Jeannette Vasquez, President; Heather Johnson, Vice President; Nancy Palma, Treasurer; Erin Williams, Secretary; Erica Marsh, Marshall; and Sue Bigley, Chaplain.

We become not a melting pot but a beautiful mosaic. Different people, different beliefs, different yearnings, different hopes, different dreams.

- Jimmy Carter

Remember that in order to insure placement in the April Issue, all materials should be submitted by February 15, 2006. Thank You!



California Big "C"

Odd Fellows - Rebekahs

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

Grand Warden Visits

SAN FRANCISCO - IOOF Yerba Buena Lodge No. 15 of San Francisco District No. 1 hosted an Official Visit of Glenn Bailey, Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of California.

GE and GLEA Sessions Held

SAN MATEO - The Grand Encampment of California and Nevada held their sessions this past October 16th - 23rd. The Encampments gathered at the San Mateo Marriott for this wonderful weeks of sessions.

Decoration of Chivalry

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Grand Junior Lodge an Theta

Rho Assembly

The Grand Junior Lodge and Theta Rho Assembly sessions will be held February 17, 18, 19, 2006 at the Flamingo Resort Hotel and Conference Center, 2777 Fourth Street, Santa Rosa, CA, email: info@flamingoresort.com, phone (707) 545-8530 or (800) 848-8300

Aloha

Grand Master Ken Kuklish and Rebekah Assembly President Diana Carranza were pleased to have 48 Odd Fellows and Rebekahs join them on their Hawaiian Cruise last year. There were many family and friends accompanying them, bringing the total number of people attending to 59.

Cave Degree Conferred

The 59th Annual Second Degree Cave Ceremonial was held in Yreka on Saturday, August 20, 2005. A total of 20 members received the Degree, which was conferred in excellent form by a team from Garcia Lodge #240 of Point Arena, California, led by Degree Captain Brian Reihl.

Joint Third Degree

REDDING - On October 26, 2005 Redding Lodge #271 in joint celebration with Millville Lodge #141 had

the honor of receiving 11 new 3rd Degree candidates to the membership.



The candidates were Donna McKinney, Bonnie Newton, Linda Wilson, Bill Jones, Bill Palmer, Dave Bovich, Shane Fox, Lisa Podtetenieff, David Williams, Tyrone Fuller, Christian Creghino.

In attendance were Richard

Alaskin, California Grand Instructor, and his wife, Mary Alaskin, Special Deputy District #1 Rebekah Assembly. Presiding over the Degree was Acting NG, Steve Greendale, past DDGM. Tom Campbell, DDGM, Jimmy Stewart, Past Grand Chaplin (50 year member) and Bob Wooten (50 year member) were also in participation.

Holidays are...for the Kids!

FRESNO – Each of our lodges has a project that is close to their heart and for Fresno Lodge #186, this project is Toys for Tots. Each December they host a dinner and the cost for the dinner is only one new and unwrapped toy! The U.S. Marine Corps were presented with the gifts which will then be incorporated and distributed through the Marines Toys for Tots Program.

What a way to enjoy some good fellowship and true holiday spirit! Each gift given represents a smile on a child's face which they might not otherwise have had. What might be a small thing to you, might represent the world to someone else.

Thank You
Fresno #186!!!

Advancing In The Order

VALLEJO — Suisun Lodge No.78 made a Fraternal Visit to San Pablo Lodge No.43 to witness and assist in the conferring of the Second and Third Degrees this past July. David Schutjer of San Pablo Lodge received the degrees and Charles Kirkman of Pleasant Grove Lodge No.269 in East Nicolaus received his Third Degree.



Photo by Jay Miller

Pictured are Jim Connet, Noble Grand; Bob Ward, Musician; Ruth Angelo, District Deputy President; Kirkman; Schutjer and Christ Pappakostas, District Deputy Grand Master. (Back) Jim Barbour, Paul Wright, Bill Sendle and Wes Mitchell of Suisun Lodge No.78 and Jim Barker of Pleasant Grove Lodge No.269.

Going home again!

SAN FRANCISCO – This past fall, Paul and Lorraine Lichtman, Bay City Lodge #71 members, were invited to Vienna for a special dedication. The Austrian Government, in conjunction with the Jewish Welcome Committee of Vienna, including many local people invited them to be a part of this special dedication event

Unfortunately, although Lorraine was not able to attend, Paul and their son Barry did attend. They were able to go back to the 9th District of Sevetengasse #6 and to see the building and store that Paul's family had once owned. An unforgettable moment was when they unveiled the life-size portrait of Paul's parents, and then had them stand next to the portrait for a "new" family photo.

The plaque has 27 names inscribed. They are the names of those people from Sevetengasse #6 who were murdered in the Concentration Camps, or disappeared through mysterious circumstances. Of the 27 people named, only Paul and another person were alive today. It was a very emotional and dramatic time for Paul and he was proud to be able to go back and to give his son this piece of his family history.

Birthday Celebration!

CUPERTINO – This past July, over 40 people gathered at Cupertino Lodge where they hosted the Grand Masters birthday celebration. Guests feasted on a wonderful hot dog lunch, followed by games including Frisbee toss, hula-hoop and ring toss. Guests were treated to ice cream and cake while Grand Master, Ken Kuklish enjoyed his birthday gifts! One of the gifts, a tiger on a skateboard, was a big hit and will probably be seen at upcoming events!



Congratulations... We're Number One!

ONTARIO, CANADA – The Board of Directors of the Grand Lodge of California are pleased to inform you that at the Sovereign Grand Lodge Sessions in Ontario Canada this past summer the California Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine was recognized as the 1st place winner for best overall magazine/newspaper format. Your California Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine also took 1st place awards for photos, news content, layout and design.

As your editor, I thank you. I believe this to be a “community award” for without your stories and your photos this publication would not have garnered those results! Remember that **YOU** send the stories and tell the tale...I only make them look pretty! Please keep those stories coming. – *Carol Fraher, Editor*



Pictured in photo from left to right - Noble Grand Kim Lee; Secretary Bonnie Manzon; Grand Warden of California Glenn Bailey; PDDGM Lola Gianelli; Vice Grand Samuel Toole.

Grand Warden Visits

SAN FRANCISCO - IOOF Yerba Buena Lodge No. 15 of San Francisco District No. 1 hosted an Official Visit of Glenn Bailey, Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of California. The Lodge enjoyed an all-you-can-eat Chinese Dinner catered on the 6th Floor of the Historical Odd Fellows Building in San Francisco. Sixty-six Odd Fellows were present. Brother Bailey was impressed by the great turnout of members.

During the visit, Brother Bailey expressed the importance of expanding membership and how every member should bring a new member into the Lodge. When Brother

Bailey retired to be escorted into the Lodge room, he retired with other distinguished guests, which included Past Grand Master of California Don Lang; Rebekah Assembly Treasurer Mary Lou Lang; 70-year Emeritus Harry Platek and Renee Handy, 50-year member and Trustee at the Homes.

There were visitors as far south as Cupertino, to as far north as Vallejo. Five of the seven Lodges in San Francisco District No. 1 were represented. A special thank you to all those who made this a wonderful and successful event and showed their support for Brother Glenn.

Congratulations Bill!

COULTERVILLE - Coulterville Lodge #104 was please to announce that Brother Bill Shimer celebrated his 50 years as an Odd Fellow. Bill is from a pioneer family. His grandfather had a blacksmith shop in Coulterville in late 1840's. Bill's mother was a Daneri, and related to the Daneri family that lived in the Wheeler Mansion at Horseshoe Bend.

Coulterville Lodge was started in 185 by George Coulter, one of the founding members. Over the years, the Lodge has helped many individual members and families. The two story building on main street was built after the original Lodge burnt in the 1899 fire.

Bill is still very active in the Lodge and attends meetings regularly. He is the present chairman of the Adopt-A-Highway clean up and he is chairman of the Cemetery Committee. The Lodge has a two-mile section of Highway 49 south of Coulterville. He sees that the cemetery is cleaned up every year and has overseen the improvements that the Lodge has done to the Coulterville Public Cemetery. Great Job Bill!

President's Letter

As I sit down to write this letter, it is the beginning of the Holiday Season. The holidays mean so many wonderful things. It is the lights that glow from our trees. It is Holly, Mistletoe, and for some, a new blanket of fresh clean snow. It is songs that carolers sing. It is children's bright and shining faces filled with joy. It is a time for family and friends to gather. It is the wonderful Sisters and Brothers who take the time and effort to bring cheer to our HOMES.



Remember during this season and into the New Year that the greatest gifts that we can give each other are a friendly smile, a kindly thought and a helping hand. These gifts cost nothing to give but mean so much to the ones receiving them.

The California Sprites, Officers, and I wish for each of you a wonderful Holiday Season and a happy and prosperous New Year.

*-Diana Carranza
Rebekah Assembly President*

The Great Outdoors



COULTERVILLE - In July 2005 the Coulterville Independent Order Of Odd Fellows sent 17 children to one week of camp at the Three Links Camp in Miwok, California. All children had a choice of three different weeks that they could go to camp in the month of July. The children enjoyed a week of activities that included swimming, archery, crafts and reading. One day during the week the children took a nature hike to Lynnon's Dam. At Lynnon's they had a picnic lunch and they fished.

Coulterville Lodge would like to thank the individuals and other Coulterville clubs and organizations that helped to raise the funds for the week long camp trip. Coulterville Lodge #104 would like to thank the following who supported this outing: Veteran of Foreign War, Post 9454; Ladies Auxiliary, Veteran of Foreign War Post 9454; Coulterville Community Club; Shindig Committee; Coyote Howl Committee; Joaquin Murietta Committee; Bob Jobe; Doug Poulter and Deanna Guglianette.

Compadres Family Tells Their Story

GILROY - Most of us have never had to imagine what life might be like if we didn't have a mom, dad, grandparent or other family member to care for us. Those children whose "family life" can not continue the way it has been may find themselves wards of the courts, etc. The Rebekah Children's Services (RCS) has for many years tried to help fill this gap with responsible, caring families willing to extend their arms and to include these children as part of their family. They offer so much to these children, but more importantly, these children enrich their lives in way they had never imagined. The following is a letter from such a family:

It seems like so long ago since my husband and I decided to do foster care. Yet, it has not even been a year. My sister has been doing it for over two years. She has two beautiful girls, Danielle and Catherine. That is how it all began. After having such a strong bond with the girls, we just could not imagine them being raised without their brothers. So when we were able to both financially and mentally as a family, we started the process to "foster adopt" Alan and Neil. We started in the summer of 2001. Since then we were told it was possible and to keep doing what we were doing and then we were told that we were not even going to be considered. It was like a roller coaster ride for months.

It was not until October when we were notified by the kids' D.A. that there was a huge possibility that the boys will be able to be with us. We now had everyone fighting for us to keep this family together. The boys were placed in our home on November 1, 2002. I was aware from the beginning that the boys had issues. Knowing that I was their fourth placement, I was not prepared for what I was about to experience. When Neil arrived with us, he seemed to be happy that he was going to be able to be with his sisters. To my surprise, Neil immediately started to call us Mommy and Daddy. Although I was flattered, I had my concerns. Alan's behavior was concerning from the onset, and he was the first one to be referred for Compadres services.

After a couple of months with us, things seemed to be going well. Then, the weekend of Alan's fifth birthday, we saw a side of Neil that we had not seen before. I had no control over Neil at this time. I feared for his safety as well as my own and my family. Neil's behavior escalated from just punching and screaming and not listening to hitting with his full fist. He was attacking children and the teachers at school. I was getting phone calls everyday. He even started to hurt himself by scratching his face and pulling out his hair. This went on for weeks. He eventually was kicked out of his preschool. I knew then I needed help for him. He needed help, as did my husband and I. I then contacted his social worker to ask her for help. It took a while, but we eventually were able to have the same team from RCS as we did for Alan.

Our Compadres Team started teaching us the tools we needed to meet Neil's needs. I can honestly say if it were not for our team, we would not be where we are today. Our team has given us the support, strength and power to succeed in our parenting.

I could probably go on forever on how much I respect and appreciate each and every one of them. They are my Angels. I thank God for them everyday.

As a follow-up, William and Sarah received a special award and were honored as "Parents of the Month." The day the certificate arrived was a particularly trying day, and Sarah said that receiving it just made everything that much more worthwhile! She stated, "Sometimes, like the mom on the Incredibles, I feel like I am being pulled and stretched in every direction, but without all the people at Compadres, we would not be the parents we are today without the help of each and everyone of you!"

God often visits us, but most of the time we're not home.

- Joseph Rous

150th Anniversary

by Marlin O. Forthun

VALLEJO — San Pablo Lodge No.43 celebrated its 150th anniversary on August 7, 2005 with a program and dinner attended by Grand Master, Ken Kuklish, Rebekah Assembly President, Diana Carranza and many of their Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly officers.

San Pablo Lodge No.43 was instituted in Vallejo on August 18, 1855, one and one half centuries ago by DDGM Paul Shirley who had been commissioned by Grand Master Edwin W. Colt, himself a member of Charity Lodge No.7 in Stockton. Shirley, a charter member of Solano Lodge No.22 in Benicia and at the time, Sheriff of Solano County, uttered the words calling San Pablo Lodge into existence. The charter members there that night were J.W. Hilsee, D.N. Darlington, Ezra Dix, Pendleton Coiston and James Brownlee.

What a flood of priceless memories could be told by those charter members present that night one-hundred and fifty years ago. Hundred of members have joined the lodge and hundreds have passed away yet the cardinal principles of Odd Fellowship, Friendship, Love and Truth continue to prevail.

One Hundred and fifty years ago, members of Solano Lodge No.22 came by horseback and by teams to support their DDGM and welcome the new lodge and members into the ranks of this great fraternity. It was only a year prior, on September 16, 1854 that the afterwards great Naval Commander, Admiral David G. Farragut, USN, then Commander of the sloop of war, Warren, had been towed on that ship up through San Pablo bay (after which the lodge was named) to take charge of Mare Island and establish a Navy Yard.

The institution took place on the second floor of the Aspenall building. A handsome, large bible published by the American Bible Society in the year 1854, arrived in San Francisco by steamer and was



Pictured are (standing) Christ Pappakostas, DDGM; Jim Kern, Executive Director of the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum and featured speaker; Jim Connet, Noble Grand of San Pablo Lodge and Ken Kuklish, Grand Master. (Seated) Bea Adams, Noble Grand of Myrtle Rebekah Lodge No.15; Joanne Schivley, Vice Mayor of the City of Vallejo and Diana Carranza, Rebekah Assembly President.

purchased by the lodge to have recorded therein, the names of departed brothers.

On the 53rd anniversary of Odd Fellowship in America, April 26, 1872, the members dedicated their new temple and bid farewell to the old lodge room, and moved into their new hall. In 1902 they expanded the building and in 1922 a 4th floor was added to provide for a much needed banquet room, kitchen, club rooms, offices and elevator.

San Pablo members are endeavoring to follow in the footsteps of those charter members and emulate their example. San Pablo Lodge continues to be busy every Monday night with regular business meetings, social nights and conferring of the four degrees for many of the surrounding lodges.

Bay City Celebrates!

SAN FRANCISCO - October 9, 2005 marked the 148th Anniversary Celebration for Bay City Lodge #71. The event was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Foster City. Special thanks to Brother Len Greendorfer and his wife Hannah who chaired the fabulous event! The group enjoyed a sumptuous buffet dinner and danced the night away to the wonderful music of the George Campi Music Makers. The event was a great success, and the members thoroughly enjoyed celebrating Bay City's special day and can't wait for her 150th celebration!

Out For A Visit



Photo by
Gundy Feil

NAPA – Company and enjoying friends is a wonderful thing that we sometimes forget about in our all to busy schedule. Recently, members of Oakleaf Rebekah #74 made a simple change in their meeting schedule which allowed them to visit long time members Bob and Birdie Steineg at the Meadows in Napa. Sixteen members made the social outing and enjoyed a lovely dinner and a tour of the grounds. It was a wonderful afternoon of visiting and catching up for all lodge members!



Fun In The Sun

SARATOGA – Each summer, the Saratoga Retirement Home hosts its Annual Barbecue. Many members of the San Francisco District #1 come to support and help at this fun event. Shown enjoying their day are The Fullmer Family - Jack, Dave, Phyllis, Sarah and Melissa, and Marlene all members of Apollo #123; Gary Silverman and Lola Gianelli, PPDGM, Yerba Buena #15 and Alan Thomas, Morse #257.

Growth of the Lodge



SAN FRANCISCO - Membership Chairman Ron Carey of California Lodge #1 takes his job seriously! He has encouraged each member of the lodge to go out and not

only tell them about their lodge, but take it one step further, and ask them to join. This past October, he planned an Initiatory Degree to be held at the lodge. Ron called many members, and gave them their part, and all was set to go. The night of the initiatory, 17 new members were installed into California Lodge #1. The lodge was pleased to welcome these new members, many who are children, friends and relatives of longtime members. This evening was a real tribute to Ron's hard work!

Tradition...



Photo, left to right: Tom Bernard, Noble Grand; John Fraher, PDDGM; Tom Manini, DDGM; Lola Gianelli, PDDGM.

SAN FRANCISCO -At DDGM Tom Manini's Official Visit to Morse Lodge #257, Tom was presented with the loan of a historical Regalia to be worn during his term. This Regalia has been worn by many DDGM's of San Francisco District #1. On the back of the Regalia is a notation with the date of July 19, 1919, Morse Lodge #257. Lola Gianelli, PDDGM made the presentation of the Regalia on behalf of Morse Lodge.

Thank You!

POINT ARENA - Garcia Lodge would like to thank Hughson Lodge #461, Yerba Buena #15, Brother and Sister Safranek, Brothers Robert Genneria, and Pete Sellars (and anyone I've forgotten) for the donation of Robes for the use in our ritualistic degrees. Receiving them has given us a window into the past and we have learned certain subtle differences between degree work of the past verses our current conferral of the rituals. Most of what was donated is for conducting the Initiatory and 1st Degrees. Many fine examples of all of the major roles for these degrees were received. Some were made right here in California (apparently in San Francisco) and of the more interesting are the "GOLIATH" (which happens to be very large 46-48 Long) and "DAVID AS KING." Apparently all Lodges did confer the Initiatory degree in ritualistic robes, but often 1st, 2nd, and 3rd would each be conferred by a different Lodge in a given county or district. Saving each Lodge hundreds even thousands of dollars, storage space, and gave yet another good excuse to visit other Lodges.

If your Lodge is still wondering if it can donate please contact us as we are now only looking for robes specific to the 3rd degree. We are also looking for unusual items such as torches, wall hung tapestries of backgrounds, mechanical goats (for side degrees of course), magic lanterns with slides, actual wooden symbols of the degrees (i.e. Hourglass, scythe, bow, arrows, quiver, even the Ark and Axe), and other ODD items.

Thank you,
Garcia Lodge #240

Building Friendships

SAN FRANCISCO - Golden West Lodge #322 works hard to strengthen the bonds of Odd Fellowship and this past year, they have had several events which have helped to forge the bond between its members. Be it enjoying a day trip together, meeting members of different lodges or working for the same cause the outcome is the same...New Friendships!



Photo 1 - Members enjoyed a trip to Point Arena with Yerba Buena Lodge #27.

Photo 2 - Hawaiian Family Dinner and dance has become an annual tradition among the members who bring their families and get to catch up with friends!



Photo 3 - Noble Grand Irene Crivello and Vice Grand Marie Leno Poon joined members who went to Reno for the weekend.

"YOUR DREAMS COULD BECOME A REALITY"

Become a lucky winner to ride the Odd Fellows/ Rebekahs Rose Float in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade on January 1, 2007. **"What a "dream"**. There will be twelve (12) riders on the Odd Fellows/Rebekahs Float. Donations of \$10.00 for a raffle ticket or three tickets for \$25.00, and have your name drawn to win a ride on the 2007 float.

The drawings will be held on March 26th, 2006, June 25th, 2006, and Sept 24th, 2006. Also two auctions, one silent auction at Sovereign Grand Lodge Session in August, 2006, and the other to be announced later. The winners will furnish their own housing accommodations and travel expenses. Winners will be notified and announced in the periodical letters mailed out to the lodges by the Float Committee. Also winners will be posted in the California Odd Fellow Rebekah Magazine, The Sovereign Grand Lodge IOOF News, the web page for California Odd Fellow website <http://www.caioof.org>, and the SGL web page <http://www.ioof.org>. All proceeds will benefit the Odd Fellows/Rebekahs float fund. Raffle tickets will be sent to the lodges, in January 2006. Additional tickets can be obtained through emailing robert.gennaria@verizon.net or mailing requests to: L.A. Past District Deputies, P.O. Box 1050, Temple City, CA 91780, or telephoning Robert Gennaria, float chairman, at 310-379-4370.

Golden Valley Day

April 1, 2006
Sacramento Red Lion Hotel
1401 Arden Way
Sacramento, CA 95825
(916) 922-8041

Single & Double Rooms \$84.00 per night
Invitation with Dinner and Corsage information
will be sent to your lodges.

Reservations to: Golden Valley Day
% Mary Carter, Treasurer
P.O. Box 143
Meridian, CA 95957-0143
(530) 696-2353

JUNIOR LODGE AND THETA RHO ASSEMBLY

The Grand Junior Lodge and Theta Rho
Assembly sessions will be held
February 17, 18, 19, 2006 at the Flamingo Resort
Hotel and Conference Center, 2777 Fourth Street, Santa
Rosa, CA, email info@flamingoresort.com,
phone (707) 545-8530 or (800) 848-8300

Grand Ruler Roby Hemphill and President Mary
Cavazos extend an invitation to all to attend and see the
youth of our order in action. Practices and meetings will be
held on Friday, February 17, 2006. Joint Formal Opening
of the Grand Junior Lodge and Theta Rho Assembly will be
held on Saturday, February 18, 2006 with the Installation on
Sunday, which will oversee the installation of
Chrystal Reed of Stockton #6 as PTRA and Kenny
Atkins from Kingsmen #96 Cupertino as GRGJL.

For more information contact Betty Stevens,
Chairman RA Youth Committee (831) 384-9550 or
Gene Williams, Chairman GL Youth Committee
(209) 634-3369. You may also email to
LORNACATT@JUNO.COM.

OKTOBERFEST

STOCKTON - This past October, Charity Odd
Fellows Lodge #6 hosted an Oktoberfest! Chefs
Bob Allen & Jim Coyle presented a fabulous
selection of four different sausages from the
Lockeford Sausage Company. This year, Opal
Rebekah Lodge #97 held the 1st Annual IOOF
Potato Salad Cook-off. What a wonderful way to
end the Harvest season with a great event that
shared in good fellowship and fun for all.

Cookin Up A Storm!

GILROY - This
year, Rebekah
Children's Services
Board Member,
Bob True, received
the highest honor a
Gilroy Garlic
Festival Gourmet
Alley volunteer can
possibly get. He



"PYRO CHEF 2006"

was named, a "pyro chef" in the Calamari cooking area!
This is not only one of the biggest Festival attractions,
but one of the biggest honors. Bob has volunteered 3
days each year for 13 years. For Bob "it was a high
honor and a huge compliment" for his hard work!

Thanks to the wonderful group of volunteers from the
Odd Fellow Order who donate their time in Gourmet
Alley to cut fruit for Gourmet Alley volunteers. The
crew got creative this year, with watermelon baskets as
decorative items for the break area! Special thanks to
Ted Parker and Bob True who have volunteered in
Gourmet Alley for 13
years!



*This years crew includes Rick Miner,
Terry Chavez, PGM Ted Parker, Tony
Pruitt from Sacramento Lodge #2
and Rebekah Children's Services
Board member, Bob True.*

Cave Degree Conferred by Richard Brouse, Vice Chairman

The 59th Annual Second Degree Cave Ceremonial was held in Yreka on Saturday, August 20, 2005. A total of 20 members received the Degree, which was conferred in excellent form by a team from Garcia Lodge #240 of Point Arena, California, led by Degree Captain Brian Reihl. A total of 50 persons were present. The Degree was conferred during twilight, due to a late moonrise. The meeting was closed after the moon rose at 9:15 pm, as expected, much more to the left of Mt. Shasta than usual.

In addition to the Second Degree conferred at the Cave, the Initiatory Degree was conferred on 12 candidates and the First Degree was conferred on 17 in the Yreka Lodge Hall during the afternoon. The nucleus of the Initiatory Degree team was from Yreka Lodge #19 and that for the First Degree was from Millville Lodge #141. Both were assisted by other members from all over the state. Past Grand Master Eugene Rasor served as Noble Grand for both of these degrees.

In the evening, a catered dinner was served in the dining room. Afterwards, Dick Brouse, Vice-chairman of the Grand Lodge Cave Degree Committee, introduced the dignitaries present. These were: Deputy Grand Master Bobby Bareilles, Grand Warden Glenn Bailey, Rebekah Assembly President Diana Carranza, Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Encampment Fred Runnells, Past Grand Master/Past Grand Patriarch Eugene Rasor, Past Grand Masters Bob Hoenig and Spencer Parker, Past President DALAPM Lady Dorothy Brouse, and Brig. Gen. Richard Brouse, Past Department Commander of the Patriarchs Militant of California. None of the usual dignitaries from Oregon were present, since most had not yet returned from Sovereign Grand Lodge, which had just concluded in London Ontario Canada.

Many thanks to the Second Degree Staff (from Garcia #240, Point Arena, except where noted) were: Degree Captain & Noble Grand: Brian



Reihl, RSNG: DGM Bobby Bareilles (Stockton #11), LSNG: GSW Fred Runnells (Merced #208), Warden/Samaritan: Steve Biaggi, Conductor/Traveler: Steve Oliff, Chaplain: Michael Jeremiah, Vice Grand: Jack Dunkin (Yreka #19), RSVG: GW Glenn Bailey (Ontario #345), LSVG: Tom Campbell (Millville #141), RSS/Priest: PGM Gene Rasor (Sacramento #2), LSS/Levite: Keith McNeil (#19), PG/Host: Vernon Belanger, Robbers: Dick Brouse & Alfred Brandon (both #19); and Inside Guardian: Dan Doyle.

On Sunday morning, members of Yreka Lodge and the Cave Committee served breakfast at the Lodge Hall. The 60th Annual Cave Degree Ceremonial will be held on June 10, 2006. Deputy Grand Master Bobby Bareilles will be communicating with lodges to provide the Degree teams. The moon will again be just past full, with the expected moonrise time again a bit late at 8:40 pm, but the only better date would conflict with the reception for the Grand Ruler. We will again confer the Initiatory and First Degrees at the Lodge Hall in the afternoon to qualify candidates for the Second Degree at the Cave. Details will be announced prior to the Grand Lodge session in May, 2006.

Walking for the Cause

Sigma Tau Theta Rho girls club works hard to help the community. They are shown here walking in Shoreline for the JDRF Foundation. The girls were proud to support this very worthwhile cause, and raised over \$150 for JDRF. Way to go girls!



In Our Thoughts and Prayers...

Shirley B. Wooten

Services for Shirley B. Wooten, Past President of Rebekah Assembly 96-97, were held at the Millville IOOF and Rebekah Lodge Hall in Palo Cedro. Please remember Shirley and her family in your prayers.

Clark Utterberg III

As of this publication, Clark is doing much better. He was talking and coherent, and was conscious and cognizant of his surroundings. Please keep Clark and Threne in your prayers. She has been a real true trooper, especially for being 90 years young. She visits Clark twice a day and is making sure that she's getting lots of rest. Many thanks for the calls, cards, your concerns, your thoughts and prayers.

George Hannaford III

In October, George Hannaford, PGM, Treasurer GL, went into the doctors for an EKG and was immediately sent to the hospital, where he had 5 way bypass surgery. Please keep George and his family in your prayers.

Keith Adamson Sick

Keith Adamson had a stroke and heart attack in October. His condition was so bad that they could not do a by-pass or put in a stint to his heart. He now has a 50 / 50 chance of surviving. If his condition is much improved in 4 months, they may then go in and do a bypass. He is paralyzed on the left side and can not talk that well. But his mind is alert. He is in a nursing home, but Angie said if you send the mail to

his home address, she will see that he gets it. He remembers many of the brothers of our lodge and he wanted to let us know of his condition. Lets all pray for his recovery. His address if you would like to send a card is: Keith Adamson, PGM, 181 Placer Ave., Jackson, CA 95642.

In Our Prayers

For those who are not aware, we wanted you to know that we have received word that Immediate Past Sovereign Grand Master LaVaughn Lawson and his wife Jan lost a grandson in October to cancer. Brother Lawson was SGL Representative to New Mexico Sessions when he was SGL Warden. Your prayers and cards may be sent to the Lawson family at: 6 Terry Drive, Perry, Oklahoma 73077.

Dean Hegewald Passes

A celebration of life for Dean Hegewald, Suisun Lodge #78 was held on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2005, at Old Town Suisun Plaza, Main Street, with family and friends officiating. Mr. Hegewald died Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2005, after his second battle with cancer. A native of Everett, Wash., Dean lived in Fairfield 18 years. Dean and his wife also did outreach monthly to the homeless of Fairfield for nine years at Lee Bell Park and at many churches in this community.

70 Years and Counting!

Congratulations to Hector Ogilvie, a Past Grand and member of Pacheco Lodge #117 in Concord for reaching at the milestone of 70 years in the order! Hector was initiated into Pacheco Lodge in 1935. He currently resides in the Veterans Home in Yountville

Legal Notes

by: *Larry Brenner, Grand Lodge
General Counsel*



In this month's legal corner, I want to answer a number of questions that some of you have posed to me in letters I have received. I am happy to respond to these questions and actively encourage you to send me additional questions you may have with respect to the proper functioning of individual lodges within the legal framework in which we live, and I will be happy to answer in future columns of the legal corner.

1. **One of the managers of our lodge hall uses a portion of the building as residential quarters. Is this permitted?**

No one should be allowed to live in any lodge building or on lodge property unless the area of concern has been specifically zoned for residential living, the lodge has executed an enforceable lease, and the building has been inspected by that county or city's health inspector for purposes of public safety and public health. This is a situation similar to an illegal housing unit in a converted garage without permits and without zoning, and will result in the lodge building being red-tagged by the appropriate municipal authorities, along with the imposition of serious penalties. The whole purpose of municipality zoning is to ensure that illegal housing does not occur, and protect the public for reasons of health and safety. Moreover, basic habitability issues become involved, and if violated, could result in the imposition of legal liability upon a lodge from the resident, or the neighbors, or the municipality itself. In short, if your lodge is permitting someone to live on the premises, you should immediately investigate whether this is permitted by the local regulations, and if not, take every step to have that person moved out. If it is permitted, be sure you are collecting rent under an enforceable lease.

2. **Can a lodge make a loan to a member who is in need of financial assistance?**

While circumstances can occur that may easily touch the hearts of members and create a desire to help individual members in a time of need, this should be avoided at all costs. For one thing, it violates the Rules of the Order which specifically prohibit loans to individual members and require that any loan made by a lodge must be secured by a first deed of trust on the property of the borrower. In addition, a loan to a member, however well intended, can easily be construed by the Internal Revenue Service as a violation of the exempt status of that non-profit fraternal organization and be a cause for the revocation of that non-profit status because of the insider relationship. Obviously, this is an outcome no lodge would desire. Lodges must look at

their funds as a sacred trust that the current members owe to the previous members who were primarily responsible for the accumulation of the funds. In fact, members have the highest fiduciary duty to ensure and protect that those funds are used wisely and prudently at all times.

3. **What does it mean when I was told that the Grand Lodge has a reversionary interest in all individual lodges' property?**

According to the Rules of the Order, every deed granting property to a local lodge is to contain a reversionary clause stating that in the event that lodge ceases to exist and does not merge with another lodge, then title to the property owned by that lodge reverts to grand lodge. (The lodge office has a sample deed with the appropriate language.) This is consistent with California law which directs that property must ultimately vest with some person or entity and not be left fallow. From these principles are derived a number of ramifications. First, this is why Grand Lodge approval is required for any sale or execution of an option to purchase any real property owned by an individual lodge. Not only must Grand Lodge ensure that the property is being sold and the proceeds are being used for appropriate non-profit purposes so as not to endanger a lodge's non-profit exemption, but also Grand Lodge must be sure that its reversionary interest is appropriately released or preserved as the case may be. Similarly, it is important that individual lodges be sure that Grand Lodge is added to their liability insurance policies as an additional insured. Adding an additional insured does not result in any additional premium, but protects Grand Lodge which, because of its reversionary interest is liable for the acts or omissions of an individual lodge if the individual lodge is unable to appropriately pay any court imposed amount of damages or restitution. This also protects all lodges as they are also liable to the extent Grand Lodge likewise cannot cover the said amount. Thus, the additional insurance relates back again to the reversionary and hierarchical nature of our order.

I am hopeful that the foregoing explanations appropriately answer your questions and I again encourage the membership to send me their specific questions which may have arisen in the individual operation of your lodges.

Fear

One of the great discoveries a man makes, one of his great surprises, is to find he can do what he was afraid he couldn't do.

- Henry Ford



California Lodge #1 members Walt Ballard, Patricia Fraher with Avis, her guest, Sister Rosann Fraher, Julie and Mike Ballard pose with the winning jockey!

And They're Off...

SAN FRANCISCO - California Lodge #1 enjoyed a day of good fellowship at the Bay Meadows Race Track this past October. For over 10 years, Charity Committee Chairman Ron Carey has organized this wonderful event, and this year was no different! Over 35 members gathered together in the Turf Club to place bets and enjoy a wonderful catered buffet lunch. Although the future of Bay Meadows Racetrack is uncertain, the lodge looks forward to continuing this tradition at another racetrack if needed.

Calling All Cooks!

Help us to document the International Flavor of Odd Fellowship!

This is a special request by Lady Betty Jean Reasoner, 1st Vice President of the IALAPM & Lt.Gen. Jack Reasoner, Deputy General Commanding of GMC.

Send us your Favorite recipes that reflect your regional, national or ethnic heritage for an International Cookbook. Each recipe will have the donors Name, Lodge and Town or Country. The resulting cookbook will be available for sale in August 2006 in Winston-Salem, NC and throughout our travels.

The profits from the sales of this cookbook will go toward the construction of our 2007 Rose Float. Please help us make this the most outstanding ever. The latest we will accept any recipes is March 15, 2006.

**Cookbook Recipies may be sent to:
Lady Betty Jean & Lt. Gen. Jack Reasoner
20785 Sitting Bull Road
Apple Valley, CA 92308-6851**

Scary Happenings!

Members of Rose Rebekah Lodge #24 of San Leandro enjoyed their annual Halloween Costume Party with delicious food served after their meeting.



Posing for a photo were (L to R) Lola Gianelli, PDDGm , Wilma Karre, Jinni Nixon, Faye Kaufman, June Ferreria, Mimi Cano, Marge Thomas and Alice Doolittle.

Aloha

Grand Master Ken Kuklish and Rebekah Assembly President Diana Carranza were pleased to have 48 Odd Fellows and Rebekahs join them on their Hawaiian Cruise last year. There were many family and friends accompanying them, bringing the total number of people attending to 59. Grand Lodge Officers attending included Grand Master Ken Kuklish and wife Shirley, Glenn Bailey, Grand Warden and wife Renee, Don Lang, Grand Representative to Sovereign Grand Lodge and Paul Pike, Grand Marshal and his wife Joan. Officers from the Rebekah Assembly were Diana Carranza, President, Ruth Morgan, Warden and husband John, Mary Lou Lang, Treasurer, Nora Maxwell, Past President Ernestine Kimple, Past President, Helen Sue Sternberg, Color Bearer and Mary Jo Wong, Conductor. The weather was great and the group had a wonderful time cruising the Islands.



Odd Fellows In Cuba



Celebrate!

Many of you know Editor Emeritus, Don Smith. He has many friends all over the world, and recently, this article was sent to him by a friend from Cuba!

HAVANA, CUBA - In March of each year, Cuban Odd Fellows celebrate the

Acercamiento Fraternal. This is a fraternal movement established in their Jurisdiction in 1968 by the Honorable Olando Gutiérrez Quesada of the Great Lodge of Cuba. Each October, all of the Lodges try to increase their work visiting those brothers that by their advanced age cannot attend the sessions. They also enlarge the visits to the sick brothers and Lodge sisters, thus carrying out a public act of Odd Fellowship. The purpose of this activity is to identify the men and women of the different Lodges who have in their past worked to ensure a better world.

We commend them and those brothers and sisters currently carrying on the tradition of the United Code of Odd Fellowship!

Save the Date...

*The Grand Lodge
and
Rebekah Assembly
Sessions will be here
before you know it!*

*This year's Sessions
will again be held in
Modesto, from
May 14 - 21, 2006.*

*Please look for more
information in
upcoming issues!*

Fall Festival Awards

GILROY - At this year's Rebekah Children's Service (RCS) Fall Festival, the Board of Directors of the Rebekah Children's Home was pleased to present the Odd Fellow and Rebekah of the Year Award.

Past RA President, Lorraine North, was presented with the Rebekah of the Year Award and Tony Pruitt was named Odd Fellow of the Year. Lorraine and Tony received their prestigious award for their dedicated service to the Festival and to the Children's Home.

Sacramento IOOF Lodge #2 was named Lodge of the Year at the Rebekah Children's Service Fall Festival. Sacramento #2 were selected because of their continued generosity of RCS projects such as "Lion of A Day", the children's Holiday Celebration, Spring Festival, Fall Festival and the purchase of 10 Food booth tents for the Festival.

The Sacramento #2 Lodge has for many years been a very generous donator to many charitable organizations. Sacramento #2 has participated in a program sending children from the area Children's homes to the River Cats Ball games for over 4 years. Giving Scholarships to the local colleges and helping to send young adults on the United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth are some of the other causes that they support.

When one of their members realized that they could do some work within the order and help their own Children's home with many of the things that so many people take for granted, they responded with an enthusiastic "YES"!

When they heard from RCS that many children had no place to go and eat for the holidays and that RCS was developing a program called "Lion of the Day", which gave these children special memories of having a wonderful holiday. They then begin looking into other ways of helping RCS.

They discovered that RCS had to always rent the tents required for their annual Festival. Sacramento #2 rose to the occasion and purchased 10 beautiful tents for use during the Festival, thereby saving lots of money for the home. We thank Sacramento #2 for their continued commitment and support as they have truly shown what a big heart they have for the Children and their needs!



Tony is pictured here with PGM Gene Rasor and Sacramento Odd Fellow Lodge #2 member, Gene Breeland, at the Fall Festival breakfast.



Lorraine North, PPRA pictured with RCS Board member, Bertha Parker.



Sacramento Lodge #2 members are pictured in front of one of the booths at the Fall Festival. They are Oscar DelFerriell, Gene Rasor, Tony Pruitt, John Tomasello, Gene Breeland, Leon Soto and Jack Vinsant.

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

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And The Band Played On!

POINT ARENA - Independence Day in Point Arena as in many other places is a very important day. The city gathers together to participate in this great event, and the Odd Fellows take great pride in participating in this wonderful community effort by entering a float each year.

This year's float was ridden by two Sister Odd Fellows on opposite sides of our three links emblem. The Sisters were Blake More and Caiti Case (pictured) members of Garcia Lodge #240. The links have been entered for the past three consecutive years, and each year they have been completely redecorated!

All gold in 2003, electric lights in 2004, and white, blue, and red silk flowers in 2005. Special thanks to the Mendocino Encampment #420 (Instituted in July 2004) also of Point Arena who decorated this years float.



They're Playing Our Song!

SAN FRANCISCO – Be it dressed to the nines in his tuxedo or dressed in jeans and a tee shirt, Past Grand Musician and Brother Alan Thomas is always ready to play for the crowd! If you have been to an event, and there was a pianist, there is a good chance that it was Alan!

Alan, a talented and accomplished musician, is most at home on a keyboard. If you can name the song, Alan can probably play it! Over the years, he has serenaded many of us with his beautiful playing ability.



For the last few years, Alan and his lovely wife Barbara have hosted an end of the year Barbecue for Morse Lodge #257 and this year was no exception. Alan, on his baby grand piano got the crowd singing one more time! Our sincere thanks for all that Alan brings to the lodges with his phenomenal playing. Music is truly the heart and soul of what we feel; and Alan, with his playing talent helps us all to remember that!