

California

Odd Fellow and Rebekah



Celebrating Thomas Wildey Day



SAN PABLO - Sovereign Grand Master George L. Glover III issued a Proclamation requesting lodges to hold a special ceremony to Honor the birthday of Thomas Wildey, the founder of Odd Fellowship in America.

Following this request, Degree Master Marlin Forthun and this lodge took on this task and San Pablo Lodge No.43 initiated a "WILDEY CLASS" on February 7, 2011 for candidates from Vacaville and Vallejo. It was a great success and enjoyed by all in attendance.

Thomas Wildey was born in London, England, January 15, 1783. He was left an orphan five years later - and the Odd Fellow pledge to "Educate the Orphan" sprang from his personal childhood experiences. At the age of 14, Wildey went to live with an uncle. After he had 9 years of schooling, he became an apprentice to a maker of coach springs. He joined the Odd Fellows in 1804.

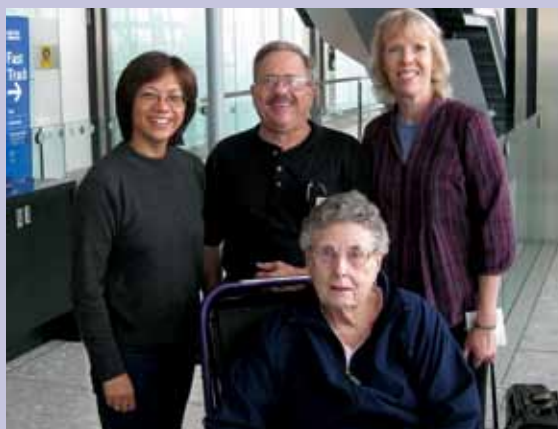
When restlessness brought Thomas Wildey to America in 1817, the British were still unpopular in the States because of the War of 1812. In that year Baltimore was suffering both a yellow fever epidemic and mass unemployment. An outgoing personality, Wildey missed companionship and advertised in the newspaper to determine if there were any other Odd Fellows in Baltimore; he requested them to meet him at the Seven Stars Inn.

On April 26, 1819, Wildey and the four men who responded to the advertisement formed the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in North America, dedicating the Order to achieve philanthropic goals. Other Englishmen who were Odd Fellows had grouped in the states along the Eastern Seaboard, and Wildey gathered them all into the newly formed fraternity. He traveled widely to set up lodges in the most recently settled parts of the country.

Doing the degrees for new members is a big task, and we congratulate and thank San Pablo Lodge in the East Bay and Apollo Lodge # 123 in San Francisco and all other degree lodges for the great work that they do in ensuring that new members in the area can receive their degrees.

Traveling In Your 90's... You Bet!

On November 22, 2010, Threne Utterberg, turned 96 years young and she doesn't even look her age.! Who would have thought that at 95 years, she would be able to take a European vacation? Well, this past October, Threne cruised along the Danube River enjoying the scenery aboard the "River Beatrice". Her companions on the trip were Jovita Thomas, Ted and Donna Rogahn.



After leaving LAX, they stopped in London Heathrow and continued on to Prague, Czech Republic for three days. Then boarded the "River Beatrice" in Passau, Germany. Threne enjoyed a concert in Vienna, Austria. She met many interesting people on the trip and had a wonderful time sharing stories with them. The staff on board were very accommodating and very pleasant. From Budapest, Hungary, it was time to return home. What an honor and surprise it was for Threne, when the members sang Happy Birthday to her in Sacramento.

Thank you, Jeanette Hughes and your Officers for sharing your day with her. What's next for Threne? Well, there's the Panama Canal. Or a train trip across Canada. And good ol' '97, just around the corner.



Learning to use that Dang Computer!

DAVIS - Ever lost a document, saw your email just disappear before your eyes....fear your computer? Well for some of us the idea of using email and turning on the computer is more stressful than a trip to the dentist!

Odd Fellows is all about finding a need and helping to fill that need in our community. Lellingby Boyce a newer member of Davis Lodge#169, saw that need in her

community and with the help of the Lodge founded "Seniors Computing" an in home computer tutoring project for seniors.

Currently, they have three (3) categories of membership in Seniors Computing. They have instructors, escorts, advisers. The time commitment is minimal, approximately one hour per tutoring session, and the commitment is only what you feel you can give per week or month. Tutor requests are posted, and each instructor or escort is encouraged to contact the client to see if their schedules might be a match.

What a wonderful opportunity for those of us that are looking to "give back" and have the skills to be able to show another person how to navigate the computer. What we might take for granted, could be a great lesson for someone else. Congratulations Lellingby for this innovative program and for your success in putting this great idea together!



Joint Installations Held in San Joaquin County

SAN JOAQUIN - Five lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs installed officers Sunday, Jan. 30, at the Lodi Lodge Hall. Installed as Noble Grands were, left to right, Rebekahs Mary Jo Gohlke of Stockton, Rainbow No. 97, Stockton; Kathleen Hobgood of Manteca, No. 332; Sally Butters of Sacramento, Flora No. 162, Lodi; Nancy Cochran of Stockton, Opal No. 73, Linden; and IOOF member Robert Gorbet of Lodi, IOOF Lodge 259.



15th Annual Officers Seminar a success

SANTA NELLA - The 15th Officer's Seminar at Santa Nella was a great success! The enthusiasm, excitement and commitment of the students were especially high again this year. Their willingness to learn and ask questions showed that they take their responsibility seriously. There were many young members there, ages ranging from 19 to 30 years with the oldest attendee being 87 years old. In all, there were 81 registered students from 25 lodges, with a few Rebekah only members.

Classes were fun: All students were given a 200 page manual and there were raffle drawings for prizes! The Grand Lodge Officers, Grand Master Gene Breeland and Deputy Grand Master Paul Pike joined us for breakfast on Sunday. There were several new subjects covered this year, Mary Lou Lang, Treasurer of the Rebekah Assembly, covered the Odd Fellowship story. Randy Krassow, Grand Lodge Board of Director Chairman, with the help of Conrad Seales, a CPA, covered the financial responsibilities of lodges with much detail on Internal Revenue Service requirements. Mary Lou Lang, a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians, covered Parliamentary Procedures. Ray Link, Grand Secretary, went over the Grand Lodge Per Capita Report. We broke up into two groups to cover the duties of Officers; the Noble Grand's and Vice Grand's being in one room covered by Don Lang, Seminar Chairman, with the desk officers being in the other room covered by Marshall Long, Past Grand Instructor. All presentations were given with the aid of PowerPoint presentations and wireless microphones. In the evening session, one group was shown the Sovereign Grand Lodge Membership Video of "You make a Difference". Meanwhile the other smaller group of Rebekahs met with Joyce Link, PPRA to go over their unique concerns. Many other topics were covered during the two days, ending with a general question and answer session. After the quiz was reviewed, all were given graduation certificates handed out by Grand Master Gene Breeland.

Membership Development Workshop a Success

On January 29th, a Membership Development Workshop was held at the Davis Odd Fellows Lodge #169. Over one dozen different Lodges attended from Pasadena and Visalia to the South and many from the Gold Country in the North. The workshop was very well attended and very well received. A second Workshop was scheduled on February 26th at the Cupertino Lodge for North and South Bay members.

Dave Rosenberg, DDGM organized the program and worked with ten members of the Davis Odd Fellows Lodge and the Davis Rebekah Lodge who presented the program, which featured best practices, tips and suggestions for membership development. The Davis Lodge, over the last five years, has grown from about 40 members to close to 170 members, with 15 more applicants waiting to join later this year.



The program featured suggestions for good fellowship activities and community support activities. The program also featured techniques for membership development, as well as a mentoring program for applicants, how to handle the press, and website development among many other topics. The program in Cupertino will be the identical program presented in Davis, and will again be presented by Davis Odd Fellows members. The Membership Development Workshops are sanctioned by Grand Master Gene Breeland and are programs of the Grand Lodge Membership Committee.

In This Issue
April, May, June, 2011

Officers Seminar	3
Membership Development	3
Cave Degree	4
2011 Session Information	6
Grand Master's Report	13
Past Pres. Trivia	14

SAVE THIS DATE!!!

Cave Degree will be on
August 13, 2011

The 65th Annual Second Degree Cave Ceremonial in the Yreka Cave will be held on Saturday, August 13, 2011. Moonrise will be about 8:15 PM, and we should get to watch the moon rising to the left of Mt. Shasta.

To prepare additional candidates for the Second Degree at the Cave, there will again be a special afternoon meeting of Yreka Lodge No. 19, at which the Initiatory and First Degrees will be conferred on any candidates available and qualified to receive them. These degrees will begin at 1:00 PM in the Yreka IOOF Hall and conclude in time for the catered evening dinner, prior to the 7:00 PM departure of the bus to the Cave. We will also be conferring the Third Degree on Sunday morning, after breakfast is served in the Lodge Hall by the regular and "Cave Associate" members of Yreka Lodge No. 19 and members of the Cave Degree Committee of Grand Lodge. Cost of the dinner and other details will be presented at Grand Lodge in May and printed in the next issue of this publication.

All Lodges are invited to bring their qualified candidates. A letter under the seal of the Lodge, giving the names of the candidates and the degrees for which they are qualified, should be sent to the Yreka Lodge, No. 19, P.O. Box 445, Yreka, CA 96097, or hand-delivered by a member of the Lodge before the Degrees are scheduled to be conferred. Our incoming Grand Master, Paul Pike, is arranging for the teams to confer the Degrees.

All Cave Associates of Yreka Lodge should make a special effort to attend and be prepared to assist in filling roles in some of the Degrees. For Motel reservations, call Miner's Inn (Best Western) at 1-800-444-1320, Holiday Inn Express at 1-530-842-1600, AmeriHost Inn at 1-530-841-1300, or Motel 6 at 1-800-466-8356

The date for the 66th Annual Second Degree Cave Ceremonial will be September 1, 2012. Moonrise then will be about 8:20 PM, which is OK. This will be Labor Day weekend, but no other Saturdays that summer are suitable.

Mail News-Pictures to:

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

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Lodge Brothers Presented Merit Badges

SAN FRANCISCO - John Fraher, PDDGM and Dennis Milton, PNG are long time members of California Lodge #1 in San Francisco. John joined the lodge first and then invited Dennis to become a member. This was over 20 years ago and they have both served their lodge well. John has served in every elected position in the lodge and Dennis has been a Vice Grand, Noble Grand and Treasurer. Twelve years ago, the lodge elected John as Financial Secretary and Dennis as Treasurer. Thus began a long working relationship in the lodge as these men strived to do their best work for the lodge. They worked well together and the lodge was very pleased, so they continued to keep them in office year after year.

On January 15, 2011, Ron Carrey, Past Noble Grand and Past Grand Instructor, presented John and Dennis with Merit Badges thanking them for their service to California Lodge #1. Merit Badges are given to people in the Order who have done work above and beyond what is expected of them as members. John and Dennis were very pleased to receive this award. After twelve years of service (they never requested a salary), they have respectfully left their positions, giving other members a chance to serve the lodge as officers.



Odd Fellowship brings out the best in people and creates friendships. This is definitely the case with John and Dennis. They are men of honor who know how to work hard for their lodge, have a good time and they have forged an amazingly strong friendship. Thank you to these brothers for being such dedicated members of our Order.



Breakfast With Santa

DAVIS - Davis Odd Fellows hosted our fifth annual Breakfast with Santa. Some 360 children and families enjoyed a healthy breakfast at the Odd Fellows Lodge. The children all got a chance to meet and talk to Santa (aka Odd Fellow Doug Hatton), have their photos taken with Santa, and take home a goodie bag full of treats and surprises.

This event increases in popularity every year. Special thanks to our community sponsors including: Hanlees Nissan of Davis, Davis Waste Removal, Tandem Properties, Law Offices of Roberta Savage, Davis Ace Hardware, Supervisor Helen Thomson, Mayor Don Saylor, District Attorney Jeff Reisig, Davis Firefighters, Dr. E. Hew, Dr. R. Mandelaris, Davis Food Co-op, Mazzetta Foods, Woodstock's Pizza, Pureroast Low-acid Coffee, Sutter Davis Hospital, California Department of Water Resources, Sacramento Metro AQMD, Yolo County Transportation District, Yolo Basin Foundation, Health Education Council, and World Centric. These sponsors contributed money, food, and donations for the goodie bags. Special thanks, also, to our photographer, Ernesto Sandoval. Thank you also to Avid Reader and Common Grounds for handling ticket sales. And extra special thanks to the Davis Enterprise for all the pre-event coverage. Financial donations will be made by Davis Odd Fellows to the Yolo County Food Bank, Progress House in Davis and to support emancipated foster youth through three programs: Homeless and Foster Youth Services of the Yolo County Office of Education, UC Davis Guardian Scholars, and Yolo County Department of Employment and Social Services.

Many thanks to the 40 Odd Fellows who donated their time and energy to make this a special event for the kids and families. In particular I'd like to recognize Barb Geisler who co-chaired this event with me, Sharla Cheney who was the volunteer coordinator, Dave Rosenberg and Dave Reed who served as the event wranglers, and Joyce Puntillo, John Geisler and Peter Pascoe who headed up the kitchen chefs and crew. - *Lea Rosenberg*

2011 Sessions Are Coming!

May 18 - May 21

Don't miss out on this once a year opportunity for your lodge to be involved in the decisions that govern each lodge.

If you have not ever attended these sessions, please think about coming this year!

The annual convention of Grand Lodge and the Rebekah Assembly will convene in Sacramento at the Doubletree Hotel on Wednesday 5/18 with a joint Formal Opening Session and ending with the Installation of the new officers on 5/21.

The convention committee has been working hard and has a great program planned. All registration forms and hotel information may be obtained through your lodge.

Any further questions may be directed to Emma Hanaford at 916.988.6555 or the Grand Lodge Office at 408.867.0231.



Photo by Bill Elliott

Pictured are Pete Olson, Vice Grand, Mathew Coats, Victoria Imrie, Bryan Imrie and Marshall Long, Noble Grand

Still Going Strong

MARIPOSA - Mariposa Lodge #39, Independent Order of Odd Fellow, initiated a class of three new members into the Lodge on February 7, 2011. Mariposa Lodge is one of the oldest Lodges in the State of California and has been a part of the Mariposa Community since 1855. Congratulations to Mathew Coats and Bryan & Victoria Imrie for receiving their Initiatory Degree.

MERIT AWARD JEWEL



Photo by: Ken Ronning and Martin Forthun

NAPA - Rebekah Assembly President Carolyn De Boer made her Official District Meeting to Ivy Rebekah Lodge No.23 on October 27, 2010. This meeting was held at The Meadows in Napa with Richard Trujillo Noble Grand and Betty Lear, District Deputy President, presiding. Acting Noble Grand Carolyn King and other members were present from Myrtle Rebekah Lodge No. 15 in Vallejo as well as Brig. General Dean Gray, Dept. Cdr, PM and Imogene Gray of Mt. Diablo Rebekah Lodge No.228 in Concord, Pat McLean of Fremont and Sally Butters who accompanied the president.

President DeBoer was proud to present Dolores McKendry with her Merit Award Jewel from Myrtle Rebekah Lodge No. 15. This was presented to Dolores for her efforts to enhance the progress of the lodge.

50 Year Veteran Receives his Jewel

VALLEJO - Fred L. Marble, Jr., was presented his 50 year Veteran Odd Fellows lapel pin on October 18, 2010 by members of San Pablo Lodge No.43. Making the presentation was Noble Grand Ken Ronning and Marlin Forthun who gave an account of Brother Marbles time in the order.



Photo by Marlin Forthun

Pictured (front row) Bea Adams, Ruth Angelo, Ruby Peters, Bro. Fred Marble, Ken Ronning and Jim Connet. (Back row) Arnie Dorer, Betty Ronning, Bill Schneider, David Schutjer and Christ Pappakostas.

Following in the footsteps of his mother and father, Fred was initiated into San Pablo Lodge No.43 on May 23, 1960 and served as Noble Grand in 1963. Fred currently resides in Lubbock, Texas and was happy to be out in California for this wonderful presentation!

Why Odd Fellowship Progresses

Richard Perri (aka Lucky) of Apollo #123 was looking through an old minutes journal from Colusia Lodge dated 1880-81. Among all the minutes written in beautiful calligraphy, there he found this handbill between the pages. These words are what Odd Fellows stand for - they are as true today as they were over 100 years ago, so as we make progressive changes to the Order we never want to forget our roots and what we stand for.

The Odd Fellows Herald recently asked this question: "Why does the independent Order of Odd Fellows increase so rapidly and prosper so well, when it is not an insurance company?" In addition to the answer given by that paper to its own question. Past Grand Master M. P. Berry fires the following reasons:

Let me say the Independent Order of Odd Fellows is an insurance company one of the greatest, if not the greatest, in existence today, and at the same time the cheapest one that I know of. It is a fire insurance company, a tornado insurance company, an accident insurance company; it insures its members against loss on account of sickness, and against "distress" of every character all in the same policy; and that is not all, it insures orphan children a home and an education. It insures every member that obeys its laws and precepts a good moral character, a sweet disposition and a happy life, it insures each member the sympathy and friendship of a million good and true men, scattered all over the world. It insures every member many opportunities of helping his fellow man. It insures old and indigent members against the cold and chilly blasts of misfortune, the pangs of hunger and the sufferings of want. It insures everyone of its policy holders a decent burial, all for a few cents per week. It pays what it agrees to, and, if that is not enough, it pays more, and you don't have "to die to beat it." Its policies are all endowment policies, payable in life, if needed; if not, it is payable to the widows and orphans. Now does it seem strange that it prospers? Do you know of any other company that gives so much insurance for the money?

Then, again, it has the largest capital of any company in existence, and its funds are more safely invested. Its capital consists of one million human friendships, the value of which is so great that it cannot be computed in dollars and cents; it is beyond the comprehension of the mind. The capital is all in-posted in the bonds of Love, and they are deposited in the Bank of Truth, of which Friendship is the President, and sweet, tender-hearted Charity the Cashier. A great many "runs" have been made upon the bank, but it never has been "wrecked"; indeed, if, has been discovered that the more of its capital that is paid out, the more there is left!

The interest of these "bonds" has never been in default; our income is assured by a law of God that "bread cast upon the waters will return again." Ask the membership that lived in Chicago at the time of the great fire, if it is not an insurance company; ask the policy holders in East St. Louis and New Baden what they think of Odd Fellowship as protection against

cyclones and tornadoes; ask the Odd Fellows and their families that live, or did live, in Johnstown, PA or Galveston, Texas, what Odd Fellowship was worth to them in the days of their trouble; ask the widows and orphans of yellow fever districts what they think of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows as a life insurance company; ask the 2,356,700 members of our order who have been relieved in times of distress what protection Odd Fellowship has been to them; then ask the 215,720 widows of our deceased brothers that have been assisted in times of need how they regard our order as an insurance company; visit our Orphans' home in Gilroy and other places and count the children that we are feeding, clothing and educating, and then tell me what you think of the Insurance.

And then go to the many other Odd Fellows' Homes and see what we are doing for our aged brothers and sisters, and you will no longer wonder why we prosper. Examine the statement of the "losses" paid by our company since 1830 of \$54,549,551.87 and then remember that we are paying out for the "relief of distress" more than \$1,000,000 every year, more than \$9.00 of every minute of time and surely you will agree with me that we are a great "insurance company" one that insures against all the "storms of life." Not a cold-blooded corporation, but a warm-hearted confederation. We live in an age of insurance and insurance companies are a blessing to the world; but in no company that I know of can a man get as much insurance for the same money as he can in becoming a true Odd Fellow.

People soon learn to know a good thing when they see it, and that is the reason Odd Fellowship grows and prospers. They find in our order what they want and what they need for their own protection and the protection of their loved ones, and its cost brings it within the reach of us all.

Odd Fellowship grows and prospers because the world needs it, and will need it as long as men get sick, and die and as long as there is a human heart to comfort and a tear to dry. When all these things disappear and vanish, Odd Fellowship will have no mission to perform, and will surrender its charter and go out of business. Till then, it will continue to prosper and accomplish its mission.

THETA RHO ASSEMBLY 2009

FRESNO - The Joint formal Opening was held with the Past President Julie Skiba and Jr. Past Grand Ruler Michael Robertson as Mistress and Master of Ceremonies. The sessions were dedicated to the memory of Andrew Lamphere Chief Ruler Mt Pine Junior Lodge #112 and Robert Bareilles PGM and Chairman of the Youth Committee. The Grand Master Gene Breeland and President Carolyn DeBoer attended and helped with the sessions. Representatives of all Grand Bodies were asked to speak and present the flowers. The Youth did a great job in performing their duties as all officers were pro-tem.



Theta Rho Assembly was presented over by Past President Julie Skiba who served as President 40 years ago. The girls did their work well, and everyone was very proud of them! There were 18 Theta Rho Girls, 25 Rebekahs, 8 Jr. Odd Fel-

lows, and 11 Odd Fellows present at sessions. Total registration was 62. Representatives were present from the three Theta Rho Girls' Clubs. Chelsey Vinsant #68 was elected President. Other elected with her was Vanessa Biel #67- Vice President, Elys Soto #67-Secretary and Jackie Heslop #92- Treasurer. The Grand Master suspended the Grand Junior lodge Charter but Brent Hemphill was made the Acting Grand Ruler. He has a big job ahead to get the Junior Lodges functioning again. Michael Robertson gave two years of help and did an excellent job in representing the Junior Odd Fellows. Everyone that can needs to step forward and assist the Junior Lodges.

Saturday evening was the Good Fellowship Program. Chelsey Vinsant again did a nice job. This year the Overall winner was Sigma Tau Theta Rho #92. They will represent this Jurisdiction at SGL/IARA Youth Day in Winston Salem, North Carolina. On Sunday a lovely Memorial Service was conducted by Chaplain Jackie Heslop #92 assisted by Heralds Arielle Green #68, Kayla Appling #68, Juliana Porter #68 and Lauren West #68 for Andrew Lamphere and Robert Bareilles and all members of the Order. Michael Robertson PGR GJL and other Past officers of the Grand Junior Lodge conferred the Graduate Degree on Roby Hemphill Past Grand Ruler.

The Advisors and Joint Youth Committee had a meeting. The Theta Rho Advisors were thank and congratulated for having all their reports in on time. Theta Rho Advisors present were Sally



Butters #68, Lorna Hemphill #68, Debra LaVergne #92, Dena Riskus #23, Dian Ingram #23 and Jan Hall #23. Youth Committee members present were Diana Carranza, chairman, Joan Pike, Betty Stevens and Marcy Harper. Carolyn DeBoer President of the Rebekah Assembly and Grand Master Eugene Breeland were there to address the group. It was moved, seconded and carried to give \$400.00 from the membership fund to Rhododendron Theta Rho to plan a Beach Sleepover. Everyone was asked to help the Junior Lodges so that they could have a Grand Junior Lodge. In the afternoon Alejandrina Banda #67 and Michael Robertson #96 gave their UN speeches. Both will be going on the tour.

Installation of Officers was held following the meal. Installing Officers were Lorna Hemphill PPTRA and Jack Vinsant PGR who did a nice installation. The following were installed for the Theta Rho Assembly: President Chelsey Vinsant #68; Vice President Vanessa Biel #67; Secretary Elys Soto #67; Treasurer Jacklyn Heslop #92; Chaplain Karen Pacheco #67; Marshal Juliana Porter #68; Warden Gillian Moss #92; Conductor Katia Lopez #67; Banner Bearer Kristina Vasquez #92; Inside Guardian Lilliana Soto #67; Outside Guardian Anastasia Vasquez #92; LSP Lauren West #68; RSVP Alejandrina Banda #67; LSVP Kayla Fields #68; Second Herald Kayla Appling #68 and Third Herald Arielle Green #68.

Following the installation Ice Cream sundaes were enjoyed by all! It was decided that Sessions will be held again in Fresno next year. The Rebekah's were thanked for preparing all of the wonderful meals!

*Diana Carranza PP #100
Chairman, RA Youth Committee*

Napa IOOF Newsletter

April to June 2010

Watch the Meadows New DVD!

The Meadows of Napa Valley has just completed production of a brand-new digital video disk (DVD) that provides viewers with a detailed overview of the community. The purpose of the video is to introduce viewers to everything the Meadows offers. The DVD is about 10 minutes long, and it takes the viewer on a tour of the entire campus.

Those who watch the DVD will see the newly remodeled the main Lobby, Dining Room, Club Lounge, and Atrium Lounge, which now offers comfortable seating areas, a gorgeous fireplace, a Bar and Hostess Station, and more. They are also shown the Fitness Center with state-of-the-art exercise equipment specially designed for seniors, and the on-campus Beauty Salon.

Viewers also get a look inside the beautifully appointed Residential Living Apartments and a brand-new Assisted Living and Memory Care building. In addition, they are shown the Meadows many outdoor living spaces: the beautiful Heated Outdoor Pool, the Bocce Ball Court, and the two Outdoor Dining Venues.

The DVD also features testimonials from residents who live at the Meadows, so viewers can hear what real residents have to say about the remarkable Meadows lifestyle.

IOOF members will have a chance to watch the DVD for themselves, because a copy of the DVD will be going out to each Lodge, promoting the Meadows.

Special Discounts for Members

Because the Meadows is an IOOF community, there are special Discounted Rates for IOOF members. The Meadows provides great value because it offers affordability along with four levels of health care on campus:

- Residential Living for people who don't need assistance
- Assisted Living
- Memory Care
- Skilled Nursing Care

Call the Meadows today to find out about the special Discounted Rates for IOOF members. Call 707-307-5215 today!

Lend A Helping Hand

SONORA - In January 2011, our IOOF Sonora Cemetery was brutally vandalized. The damages have been estimated to be over \$80,000. One of the monuments is made of Italian Marble from the 1850's which is no longer available, which we hope is repairable.



Currently, our Cemetery bank balance is \$57.00. The good news is the person responsible was caught and is going to prison. We are thankful for the support of the community. We have had articles in the local newspaper, and coverage on the Sacramento TV Stations.

Our Lodge is small and the eight members of the lodge were overwhelmed when over 150 people from the community of Sonora came out to clean up our Cemetery on Feb 12th. The Sonora Rotary made a great hot dog lunch for the workers. That day, we had over 100 kids from the Police Explorers, Sonora High leadership and football players, Summerville High Leadership and girls soccer team. The Sonora Police Dept. and Clampers, and many individuals also helped. Starbucks donated coffee and Safeway donated donuts. We also had rock and dirt donated. Sierra Memorial has offered to try to repair the broken Monuments and Sierra Pest sprayed for weeds.

We greatly appreciate the help of the community and our Junior Grand Ruler, Michael Robertson, and his grandmother, Marlene Bois, who came from Santa Cruz to help. We now have four new members and another three are pending and hopefully more of the community will come out and join our wonderful Order. There is still much work to be done, and all of this will take money to pay for the materials not donated. Therefore, we are asking everyone to help. Donations of any size and amount will be greatly appreciated! This is an opportunity to show what Odd Fellowship stands for. So please, consider helping out this very worthwhile cause.



- Judy Jackson, Noble Grand, Sonora #10

Costa Mesa Installed



COSTA MESA – This past January, Costa Mesa #29 held their Installation. Brother Bob Keller was the Installing Officer for this Lodge. The installation was well received by the members of the Order. We wish the new officers of Costa Mesa well this year!

Photo: Front row (left) Roberto Vernice, VG; Ruth Keller, Marshall; Bobby Keller, DDGM; George Singly, Chaplain; and Sam Aruzza, Guardian. Back row Tim Krohnfeldt, Treasure; Gerald Porche, NG; John Harris, Warden, and Howell Alshuler, Secretary.

Bocce Anyone?

Los Gatos - This past March California Lodge #1 of San Francisco invited their Past Nobel Grands to enjoy an



afternoon of bocce ball at Campo di Bocce in Los Gatos. Organized by Mike James, the group of 16 met, broke into teams and began the competition! There was lots of laughter, joking and good fellowship enjoyed by all! This great group of men helped to spearhead California Lodge #1 into the strong lodge it is today; and they look forward to having Julie Ballard, their first woman NG join this group next year!

You Make a Difference

I can say today in all honesty
As Time Slips by so fast
That you've helped someone in need
Of the many I have passed.

You did not waste the day or lose it
It was well spent
You left a trail of kindness
And moments of content.

As you close your eyes to slumber
I hope that God will say
"You make a difference
By the way you lived today"



These are the bracelets put out by Sovereign Grand Loge to help remind us that each day, we all Make a Difference!

A Tea By The Sea

HALF MOON BAY - On Sunday, February 13th, members of Half Moon Bay Pilarcitos Rebekah Lodge #286 served a traditional afternoon tea. The tea was an effort to raise funds for the Rebekah Assembly Heart Association. They were quite successful and, following tradition, served a selection of teas, savorys, scones, sweets and desserts. This was a first time venture for them, that they hope to make a tradition because everyone had such a wonderful time while raising money for such a great cause, the Heart Fund!



Pictured, left to right: Angela Banister, Anne Grannis (NG), Clara Alves (PNG), Jill Thompson, Judi Engel (PNG), Betty Fahy (DDP), Dorene Pecoraro (PNG). Not pictured: Barbra Mathewson, Jo McMullen (PNG)

GOING NOWHERE SLOWLY,

An opinion - *By Pete Sellars, PGP*

Without a defined purpose any structured organization will lose its identity and eventually fade into oblivion.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was once a great organization. In the mid-1920's, it flourished with a seemingly never ending expansion of membership. In California alone, 60,000 members represented the Order!

California's population in the mid-1920's was approximately five million people, which one-half were males. That meant about 1 in 40 men in the state were members of the I.O.O.F. Think of that staggering statistic – 1 in 40! That is an amazing figure.

You asked what happened? There are no clear answers. Members have debated the causes for years. One reason, which is the most logical, was that stipulated and required benefits for membership was removed in the 1920's. Keep in mind, the first major decline in California began in the late 20's.

Combine the effects of the Great Depression, The New Deal and Social Security, advances in technology (transportation, radio, etc.). In general terms, men no longer had a need for fraternalism, the added protection of a close-knit brotherhood where the unemployed might find a job or a traveler need a place to stay or money to continue a journey. The Order had been compelled to bury its dead and assist when members were ill too.

The defined purpose was removed. The glamour of belonging to an established and once-great fraternal organization, whose membership included judges, mayors, politicians, powerful figures, even presidents, still kept the Order afloat. But, that could only last so long.

Today, we can no longer afford to bury the dead; nor do we educate the orphans because local laws prevent such direct interaction by our membership. And, how do we relieve the distressed? We are no longer a "beneficial society," as we cannot give money to our members. However, we can visit the sick. Is this what it comes down to for us – to visit the sick?

Still, we have our wonderful principles we teach: Friendship, Love, Truth, Faith, Hope, Charity, and Universal Justice, thus Improving the Character of Mankind. Is this enough of an attraction to bring in new members?

Over the cited period since the 1920's, we have created functions to support and to return to greatness: Visual Research Foundation, Arthritis Foundation, a float in the Rose Parade, an S.O.S. Children's Village, and more. Unfortunately, these are

not the kinds of activities that will attract new members as they are not part of the original foundation of this organization. We remain undefined without a purpose.

Ideally, we can regain an identity by giving our Order a purpose worthy of awing an entire populace. Ah, what purpose may that be my brothers and sisters? You need to find what it is your community would appreciate the most. Then, we need to inform our parent corporation what it is our communities desire the most, and then the Sovereign Grand Lodge.

There are many good ideas. There are several lodges succeeding because of their community involvement and local projects. We need to share our good ideas without fear of criticism, which is the whole point of this opinion piece.

If we do not share our ideas soon, we will continue our decline until there is nothing left.

Looking Good!

SEBASTOPOL - The members of Evergreen Lodge #161 were very pleased to hear that they received a special recognition by the community for the past several years of renovations and repair that they have made to their Lodge Hall, when they were recently honored by the Western Sonoma County Historical Society with a Preservation Award.

This was one of only three awards presented for 2010. Congratulations on a job well done!



Much of the work was done by the Lodge brothers during the voluntary work days. Some of the work done included the updating of the bathrooms, painting, replacing the water heater and HVAC system, and repaired the roof. On the exterior we removed a large dilapidated wooden awning structure from the front and replaced it with the new green canvas awnings in the photo. We also painted the entire exterior with the three color scheme (it had been all one color).

Mariposa Installation



Photo by Bill Elliott

Enjoying the Installation are Ron Wilson, Tom Phillips, Stan Boyer, Marshall Long, Pete Olsen, Judy Boyer, Jim Baker, Bill Elliott, George Carpenter and Mark Jones. Member Frank Long is seated in front

On January 29, Mariposa Lodge #39, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, installed its new officers for 2011. Officers for this year are Marshall Long, NG; Pete Olsen, VG; Stan Boyer, Secretary and Judy Boyer, Treasurer. These officers are looking forward to a fun filled year and are eager to serve the Order in whatever way they can.

Morse Installation

On January 5, 2011, San Francisco Morse Lodge 257, welcomed the installation of their new officers for 2011. The installation was well attended by many Morse Lodge members. We were honored with Al Raffo, DDGM, and his team who performed the installation of officers.

Congratulations to the following 2011 officers of Morse Lodge 257 who are Tom Barton, NG; Joe Stark, VG; Alan Thomas, Secretary, Musician; Tom Bernard, Financial Secretary; Brian Schlessinger Treasure and their appointed officers including Tammy Ton Barton, Barbara Thomas, Lane Copley, Phyllis Fullmer, Chuck Morse, Clayton Westbay, Tina Phannivon and Nancy Wong



Initiatory Degree Conferred



VALLEJO - Continuing their tradition of doing the Degree work for the East Bay, San Pablo Lodge No.43 conferred the Initiatory Degree on six (6) candidates on November 22, 2010, The newest members of the order are Joey Estrada of Petaluma Lodge No.30, Scott Hold-erby and Paul Thorn of San Pablo Lodge No.43, Omar Esparza of Santa Rosa Lodge No.53 and Donny Frates and Eric Payan of St.Helena Lodge No. 167. May our newest members enjoy the friendship, love and truth that we have known!

front row with white collars. Joey's dad, Joe of Petaluma attended as well as Dave Arnold, Sonny Arroyo and Denise Miral of Santa Rosa, Clark Harding and Jason Kelperis of St.Helena and Brig.

Gen. Dean Gray of Pacheco Lodge No. 117, Dept. Cdr, PM of California and Nevada. From San Pablo Lodge were Ken Ronning NG, Ruby Peters VG, Imogene Gray, Bill Schneider, Richard Trujillo, Mark Wright, Jim Connet, Betty Roning, David Schutjer, Christ Pappakostas, Dorothy Handy Director, Don Lear DDGM, John Nelson, Andrew Nelson and Marlin Forthun.

(Picture by Marlin Forthun)

California Odd Fellow and Rebekah -12- April, May, June 2011

GRAND MASTER'S REPORT

Greetings to All,

As my term is drawing to a close, and as I travel around the state on my visits, I have observed the various attitudes of the lodges and the members as to their relationship with the Grand Lodge and the officers thereof.

It was sometime in the past the term "Subordinate Lodge" was dropped and the term was just that of an Odd Fellow Lodge. However the relationship to the Grand Lodge never changed. Every lodge within the Jurisdiction of California reports to the Grand Lodge as does the Grand Lodge to the Sovereign Grand Lodge. Now with the filing requirements of the IRS, and the IRS view of the Grand Lodge of California and the lodges within the jurisdiction, the term "Subordinate Lodge" may not be too far from correct.

The IRS has tied everything an Odd Fellow Lodge does to the Grand Lodge, and if it is not done according to the IRS code, not only is that lodge held accountable, but the Grand Lodge is also. That is why the presentations made at the Noble Grand / Vice Grand Seminar and the one to be made at Grand Lodge Sessions are so important. Of equal importance is the six page questionnaire that was mailed from the Grand Lodge with your annual report, because it is used by the Grand Lodge to make their reports.

To that result, I want to address the next point. We are known as the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. There are some lodges and members within our jurisdiction who seem to think that "Independent" is the operative word. Nothing is further from the truth. We are uniquely tied together as an organization with no lodge being totally independent of any

other lodge, no lodge being totally independent of the Grand Lodge. Otherwise, how could a member in good standing freely visit any other lodge in the jurisdiction? When the term "Independent" was coined, it meant that we were independent of the Manchester Unity. That the lodges in America were a separate and independent organization, and as the authority for the Grand Lodge of California is granted by charter from the Sovereign Grand Lodge; the authority for any lodge operating in the Jurisdiction of California is the charter granted by that body. As a result, the charter granted to any lodge or grand lodge can be revoked at any time by the granting body if it is determined that lodge or grand lodge is in violation of the Ritual, SGL Code, or Robert's Code of California. Thus the structure is there and will always be so regardless of terminology used. The reversionary clause is applicable throughout the system. I know that the lodges in the jurisdiction regard their funds as their money and they can do as they wish. That is true to the extent that they must be used within the regulations stated, and violation will be dealt with by the IRS and/or the governing authority. Brothers and sisters, we are being watched.

After those uplifting thoughts, I want to remind you that Grand Lodge Sessions are coming up in Sacramento starting Wednesday, May 18, 2011. If you have not already registered, do so immediately. To those lodges that have yet to elect their representatives, please do so immediately. The only way we can get a full consensus of the membership is to have each and every lodge represented. I will see you around the state and at the Grand Lodge Session.

In F.L.&T.

C. Eugene Breeland, Grand Master

Lady Nora Rose PRESIDENT DALAPM 2010-2012



Nora was born in Eldorado and raised in Harrisburg, Illinois. Her mother Marie Endicott was very ill and they lost her when she and her siblings were in their teens. Nora then went to her aunt and uncle's until she was finished with high school. They lived 9 miles out of town on a farm, and Nora thought they were rich, because she was never hungry. Of course she soon found out it was because their food was grown on the farm, so their riches came from the land and animals instead of money. By the way, she now owns that farm.

In 1962 she joined the USAF and was on the go for the next sixteen years. She has been in Fresno since 1978. There she met Norman Rose at Offutt AFB, while they were serving there and they were married on May 5th, 1964 right after her 21st birthday, and they have been life-mates since. They have one daughter, Gina Maxine, born in England on September 5th, 1968.

Nora is a member of Fresno Rebekah Lodge 158, Fresno LEA 78 and Fresno LAPM 30 and has held most offices in all units and never says no when asked to stand in for a member.

As President, it is her desire to see the Order grow and she pledges to do her best to achieve this and looks forward to working with the other units in Friendship, Love, Truth, Faith, Hope, Charity and Universal Justice.

Past President Trivia – Article 9

By the time you read this, several events will have passed. TRA was held in Fresno on Feb. 19-20 with several Past Presidents attending. March meeting on the 5th was held in Pasadena and Golden Valley Day on April 9th.

Many of us are traveling to Portland for the Testimonial for IARA President Vickie Beaver on April 2nd.

District 6 in Sacramento held a Dinner Installation with DDP Joyce Link presiding. The hall was transformed into a Winter Wonderland complete with snowmen, snowflakes and twinkling lights. Mother nature provided a cold blustery day outside, but that did not keep away the 80 in attendance, who came to be installed into their offices and enjoy the afternoon.

By now most of you have received your first mailing regarding GL/RA sessions in Sacramento. Diana Carranza, Karolinne Livingston and Emma Hannaford have been busy with the necessary planning for us. Get your reservations in early to ease their jobs some.

Judette Rippetoe spent more than her share of time at or in the hospital in January. She is back to work, feeling better but still on medication for a bacterial infection.

Joyce Link has been of great assistance to the Don Smith family. Don became hospitalized on Christmas Day and was just released Feb. 7th. She has been a companion for Darlene at his bedside and drives to Linden to drive them to therapy and Doc. Appts.

Carolyn DeBoer has only a few visits left this year and will be going to Wash. DC the end of April for the wreath laying ceremony. She will relinquish her reign for the 2nd time at RA Session beginning May 17th.

Mother's Day is May 8th. Please take the time to send a card, make a call or visit a mother. For some, it is a joyous occasion surrounded by family. To others it is a day of reflection on childhood memories with our mothers, while making cookies, polishing the silver, or digging in the garden. For some it is a day of sadness with tears for a loved ones gone too soon.

Happy Mothers Day to all.

Don Smith Update

We are happy to report that Don Smith, PGM and Editor Emeritus of this paper is finally at home after a serious illness. Don is doing well and striving for a full recovery. We wish him the best and hope to see him at Sessions this year!

***Thou They Are Gone,
They are Not Forgotten***



Walter Strickland Passes

It is with a sad heart that we let you know that Walter Strickland, Sr passed away on 1/5/11. He battled Hutchinson disease for more than 10 years. Walter was a PG, first from Florin IOOF, the El Dorado #8 and a member of Florin Rebekah Lodge #20. Services were held in Sacramento. Please keep the families in your prayers during this time of loss. Cards may be sent to Diana Strickland at 7224 Kara Drive, Sacramento CA, 95828.

Bobby Bareilles Called Home

It is with deepest regrets that we report that Bobby Bareilles has passed. Bobby was the Grand Representative of the Grand Encampment of California (2007-present), Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge California (2006-2007), and Past Grand Treasurer of the Grand Encampment of California (1999-2005).

He was a member of Stockton Odd Fellows Lodge #11, Parker Encampment #3, Stockton Canton #1, and Rainbow Rebekah Lodge #97. Bobby was also the Department Quartermaster of the California Patriarchs Militant for 2008-2010.

Bobby succumbed to heart failure after undergoing heart surgery in late December. Cards may be sent to his sister, Karla Bareilles, at 190 West Essex Street, Stockton, CA 95204-1947. Our prayers go out to Karla and all those that were close to him. He was a fantastic member of our Odd Fellow Fraternity, and we will miss his presence.

Lillian Richmond Passes

It is with sad tidings that we report that Lillian Richmond who was a member of the Davis lodge for 50 plus years passed away on March 3rd 2011 with her daughter Lynn Marie by her side. Lynn Marie's Husband Ed and Lillian's Great niece Kathleen Hackley member of the Auburn Rebekah lodge was also there to say good bye.

Lillian was 96 years old and still living on her own. Lillian's husband was also an Odd Fellow in the Davis lodge until his passing 10 years earlier. They both thought a lot of their lodges and the business going on. Donation be sent in memory of Lillian Richmond name to Davis / Yolo Hospice in Davis California. She will be missed by all.

Davis Continues To Grow!

DAVIS - This past February, Davis #169 initiated 16 new candidates for membership. These 16 new members bring new energy to our Davis Lodge and bring our total membership to 169," said Dave Reed, Noble Grand (President) of the Davis Odd Fellows. "We are delighted to welcome this diverse group of women and men. This Lodge continues to be a fast-growing, active, and dynamic fraternity, dedicated



to doing good works in the community."

Added David Rosenberg, Chair of the Membership & Initiation Committee, "Equally gratifying is the fact that the day after we initiated these

16 new members, we started our next class of potential members. We have 21 applicants rarin' to go to join this Lodge."

The Davis Odd Fellows, officially known as Davis Lodge Number 169, Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F), was chartered in 1870 (five years after the end of the Civil War). Over 570 local residents have been members of the Lodge since its inception.

Located in a newly remodeled and refurbished Lodge Hall at 415 Second Street in Downtown Davis, the Odd Fellows is a fraternal order with historical ties to 18th Century England. Known as "the 3-links fraternity" because of the 3-link symbol of the order, the three links stand for the Odd Fellows principles of friendship, love and truth.

The Davis Odd Fellows provides funds and other community support to numerous charitable organizations including Communicare, Community Employment Services, Yolo Hospice, Yolo Suicide Prevention, the Mexican-American Concilio, Martin Luther King Jr. Day organizing committee, Pine Tree Gardens, and many others. The Davis Odd Fellows host the popular "Breakfast with Santa" and the Picnic Day Pancake Breakfast. The City Council has authorized the Odd Fellows to run Bingo Games, the first such organization to be authorized to do so in Davis; all proceeds from the games go to charity. The Lodge organized the record-setting "World's Greatest Bicycle Parade" and the "Hope for Haiti" fundraiser. Numerous music venues take place at the Lodge Hall.

Gift for Three Links

FRESNO - At Fresno on November 6, 2010, on behalf of Mountain View Odd Fellows Lodge #244, John Meierdierks, Treasurer, presented a check for \$3000.00 to Three Links Board of Director President Betty Stevens towards the erection of the camp workshop. Previously, #244 had contributed \$2000.00 towards the shop floor/foundation. Hopefully, we will see the shop up

and running by Summer 2011. The Three Links Camp is a great place for individuals and groups to enjoy the beautiful Sierra forest in scenic Tuolumne County!

Since 1958, when it was established by the California Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Fraternal Order, the Three Links Camp has provided a welcome retreat from the pressures of everyday life. Open year around to members, the public and "children of all ages", the Camp is located in the Stanislaus National Forest. Each year prior to campers arriving, the camp has a Work Weekend. Check with your lodge for details on this year's Work Weekend, and take the opportunity to come up and visit the camp, while doing some good work for the Order!



Camp Officers and Directors pose for a picture. (l-r): Brother John Meierdierks #244, Directors of the Youth Camp Eugene Rasor, Glenn Powell, Del Jackson, John King (Camp Manager), Allen Merriman, Richard Alaskin, Betty Stevens (President-YC), and Lorna Hemphill.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows
Grand Lodge of California, I.O.O.F.
P.O. Box 2669
Saratoga, CA 95070



Lodge Number or Expiration Date After Name



PASADENA - The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs float called “Underwater Fantasy” participated in the 122nd Tournament of Roses Parade on January 1, 2011 in Pasadena, California. The annual procession began at 8:00 AM and included a fantastic lineup of colorful floats, top-notch marching bands and majestic equestrian units from across the country and around the world. The Odd Fellow and Rebekah float was built by the Phoenix Decorating company,

and was honored by the Tournament of Roses with over nine awards for their excellence in several categories including the Princesses’ Award (the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Float) for Most Beautiful Float (35’ and under).



After enjoying “the moment”, it is hard to believe that within two weeks after the Rose parade is over, the LA Past District Deputies Association Float Committee are in contact with our float builder to set up an appointment, to review renderings of ideas for our float for the next year. The Committee selects at least three renderings to bring back to the full float committee, to vote and select our Odd Fellows/Rebekah float for the coming year. The full committee selects our theme name of the float along with the float rendering, a discussion is held to determine if there will be float riders and who may be considered for the honor of riding the float.



It is the aim of the LA Past District Deputies Association Float Committee to present to the public and our members, the very best and most beautiful float that is in our power to achieve and they depend on the donations to the float program. Every dollar is important and the Committee appreciates the continued support that the Order has given it. The 2012 Tournament of Roses 123rd Rose Parade theme will be “Just Imagine”...and we can’t wait to see what our next float will be!