



Local Chef Wins Garlic Showdown

Story excerpted from Gilroy Dispatch

GILROY - Local chef Carlos Pineda won first place in this year's Garlic Showdown, an Iron Chef-style cookoff held Sunday at the 39th annual Gilroy Garlic Festival. The event, emceed this year by celebrity chef Giada De Laurentiis, first appeared in 2011 and pits four professional chefs against each other in a head-to-head culinary competition.

Pineda, 28, competed with three other chefs: Michael Fisher, 2016 reigning Garlic Showdown champion, and the Owner and Executive Chef of Fisher's Delicatessen and Catering in Hollister; Jeff Raby, owner/chef at Fire 4

Hire Catering in Gilroy; and Dave Bozzo, head chef and caterer at the Gilroy Elks Lodge on the Hill. "You had one hour to create two dishes tapas style, its entree and sides," said Pineda. "You had to use garlic and the secret ingredient, which was stone fruit—California local white peach, yellow peach and plums."

Pineda, a chef with Culinary Academy and Kneaded Bakery affiliated with Rebekah Children's Services, teamed up with sous chef Nicholaas Kobe Strayhorne to prepare the two dishes.

The pair met three years ago at Rebekah's Children's Services, where Strayhorne, 20, was a student of Pineda's. "The secret to our success was trust," said Pineda. "I trusted that Nicholaas was ready for the challenge and he was confident in his style. Knowing where he started when I met him three years ago to where he is now—it truly inspires me. I'm happy that what I do and teach him he has taken and made himself successful."

Rebekah's Culinary Academy prepares youth, ages 15-25 for a career in the hospitality industry. Starting in 2009, the Rebekah's Culinary Academy helps "complete the Loop molding at-risk youth into disciplined, responsible adults. They cook with a purpose to promote the social, emotional and physical well being of children and families. The students are trained in all aspects of culinary arts. At the conclusion of the course, high achieving students may have the opportunity for placement into an apprenticeship program in Kneaded Bakery at the Rebekah Children's Services. The bakery is staffed by graduates of the initial culinary course and proceeds from all sales help to fund the Academy.

After his win, Pineda generously donated his \$3,000 in winnings to the Gilroy Foundation's Jay Minzer and Peter Ciccarelli Memorial Fund benefitting Rebekah's Culinary Academy. Pineda's parents Lupe and Carlos Pineda were stage-side for the winning moment. "He started off at home baking cakes for weddings, baking cakes for quinceaneras, using my kitchen until I said, 'No more using my kitchen,'" said Lupe. "He's a great person," "Everybody just loves him for his personality and for what he does."



Doing Good in the Community

ONTARIO – Ontario Lodge #345 has been very involved in various programs and projects in their community in the past few years. In 2015 they first participated in the Ontario Annual July 4th Parade, and have continued to do so each year. The members of Ontario Lodge use these community events to elevate public awareness of “Who we are” and as a means to attract new members!



They are currently also working with several Ontario Civic Organizations including the Ontario Historical Society and the Ontario Museum and they are very excited to have an exhibit of some of the early lodge history including pictures and documents on display. In doing all of the research, the Ontario Historical Society was excited to learn that the Ontario Lodge’s Charter is dated three years prior to Ontario becoming a City!



A Salute to the California Cadet Corps

Van Nuys – Thanks to two of our newest members, Javier Perez and Abigail Abbott-Perez, Van Nuys Lodge #442 has recently partnered with the California Cadet Corps program at Pacoima Middle School. Abigail and Javier are the Cadet Corps sponsoring teachers for the program.



The California Cadet Corps was founded in 1911 and is sponsored by the California National Guard. The class is taken by middle school students throughout the state. Using a military format, the class teaches students how to be leaders. The students start out at the rank of Recruit and earn higher ranks by passing promotion tests and attending weekend events. Students keep records, pass out uniforms, make state reports and are members of the school Safety Committee, and the school Search and Rescue team.

The 205th Battalion at Pacoima Middle School was in need of tents, sleeping bags, and other camping equipment for their weekend trips. Van Nuys #442 was able to provide the needed camping equipment. We will be working with the Corps on future needs. The cadets and their parents will be invited to attend social events at the hall and to provide flag ceremonies for some of these events.

Education Counts!



BARSTOW – This past June, Noble Grand Mary Wood of Barstow Lodge #91 was proud to present the Emory Bishoff Memorial Scholarship award to two Central High School graduates. Mary presented the awards to Raana Young and Quintin Eaton. Funds for these scholarships are raised at the monthly cribbage tournament.

Mary, knows how much the gift of a scholarship can help, as she was the recipient of the scholarship in 2014! Mary has now graduated from the Barstow Community College with her AS Degree and has enrolled Cal State San Bernardino for the fall semester. She will be working on her Bachelor’s degree in Counseling!

Congratulations again to this year’s award winners and to the Barstow Lodge for supporting such a worthwhile program.

THANK YOU

Thanks to all who attended the reception for the Grand Master, Dave Reed and myself. Thanks for all the darling gifts as well as the love gifts. Dave you can sing " Wild Thing" to me any time - I Loved it!

Again, thanks to everyone who worked together, attended and made our reception so special.

Phoebe Astill, President
Rebekah Assembly

Davis Initiates New Members

DAVIS - This past June, Davis Lodge #169 initiated 11 new members There were over 56 members of the Lodge who were present for the conferring of the Initiatory Degree and to welcome the new brothers and sisters into the Order. Posing for a photo is Noble Grand Stewart Savage and the newest members.



Caring for the Children



SANTA CLARA - IOOF Lodge #244 hosted an event this past July to recruit volunteers to work with foster youths who have survived neglect and abuse in Santa Clara County. There are many ways for people to get involved, from providing respite care to being a foster parent to becoming a Court Appointed Special Advocate.

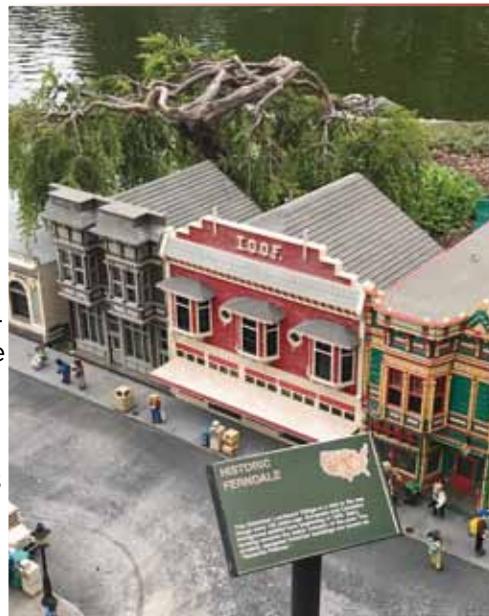
They opened their Lodge Hall, offered some delicious snacks and drinks, and tried to inform others about new ways to "educate the orphan." The event was held during Mountain View's Thursday Night Live, a summer street fair that usually draws about 4,000 people with music and activities. Supporters of the Rebekah Children's Services, Help One Child, Uplift, Seneca, Heart-2Heart Teens, Child Advocates - CASA of Silicon Valley, and the county's foster parent recruiter were all on hand to offer information.

Jessica Dickinson Goodman and Sinead Toolis Byrd of Lodge #244 chaired this event, and they would like to offer special thanks to Jackie Brown for her leadership and support in connecting them with RCS and Help One Child. If you would like to get involved in one of these projects, you can reach Jessica with any questions at 650-804-9044 or jessica.dickinson.goodman@gmail.com.

IOOF In Legoland

CARLSBAD - California is replicated in over one million pieces of interlocking plastic toys. Ferndale is the only American small town featured among Miniland exhibits of famous large cities of the United States. that have been constructed in Legoland .

The historic IOOF Hall building on Main Street in Ferndale, California. was constructed by the Ferndale F. & A.M. in 1875 at a cost of \$3800 as the first Masonic Hall. The Odd Fellows rented meeting space in this building until 1878 when they purchased half interest in the building. After that, it was known as the Masonic-Odd Fellows Hall. In 1890 when the F. & A.M. began construction of a new Masonic Temple, the I.O.O.F. bought the half remaining interest. The building is on the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing structure in the Ferndale Main Street Historic District



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Positive Communication"*

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Membership Seminar

RENO - Next January, we will hold our annual Membership Educational Seminar. Every lodge should try to send at least one member. The seminar is especially useful to new incoming lodge officers and members who would like to become lodge officers in the future. But, it is open to all interested Odd Fellows and Rebekahs.

The seminar will be held in Reno again on Saturday January 6th and Sunday January 7th. Once again, it will be held at the El Dorado Hotel and Casino. The registration fee is \$225 which includes a room at the El Dorado Friday and Saturday nights, breakfast Saturday and Sunday and program materials.

In response to input received after the last seminar, new topics will be presented that look to be both informative and fast-moving. Also, the weekend will give us all an opportunity to socialize with members from other lodges and hear about their challenges and successes. If you have a question, email janisrosenberg@outlook.com.

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Proofing Editors for this edition of the COF&R: Sandra Albers, John Fraher and Grand Lodge Officers. 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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2018
MEMBERSHIP EDUCATIONAL
SEMINAR


Odd Fellows & Rebekahs

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1ST 2017

The Annual Membership Educational Seminar is upon us again! This year's seminar shall be held at the beautiful El Dorado Hotel & Casino in Reno, Nevada. Seminar dates are Saturday, January 6 and Sunday, January 7, 2018 - plan to arrive and check in on Friday, January 5, so that we're ready to go first thing Saturday morning.

Cost is only \$225 per member!

Includes: 2 nights stay at El Dorado Hotel & Casino, breakfast on Saturday & Sunday, and seminar materials.

After reviewing your survey comments & suggestions from last year, we are confident that the 2018 seminar will be exciting and fresh with new discussion topics and materials. Here is what you can look forward to:

- Welcome - Introduction - Overview of the Seminar - Dave Rosenberg
- The Structure of the IOOF (SGL, GL, Lodge, Branches) - Joyce Link and Barry Prock
- The Role of the Grand Lodge Board and the RA Executive Committee - Jamie Jepsen and Marilyn Nichols
- Preserving the History of Your Lodge - Peter Sellars
- Duties of Lodge Officers and Trustees - Mel Astrahan and Erni Olson
- How to Be an Effective Leader in Your Lodge - Diana Schmiegel and Stewart Savage
- Communication Between Generations in Your Lodge - Michael Greenzeiger
- Running a Proper Lodge Meeting - Dave Rosenberg
- How to Deal with the Problem Member - Dave Reed and Phoebe Astill
- Conducting a Trial in the Lodge - Dave Reed
- Visiting Other Lodges - James Bledsoe
- Effective Membership Development - Dave Rosenberg
- Difficult Issues - Dave Reed and Peter Sellars
- Breakout Session for Noble Grands and Vice Grands - Rita Cooper and Rick Boyles
- Breakout Session for Treasurers, Secretaries, Financial Secretaries - Karolanne Livingston and Janis Rosenberg
- Odd Fellows Trivia with Prizes for the Winners - Dave and Lea Rosenberg
- Presentation of Certificates and Wrap-Up - Phoebe Astill and Dave Reed

PLEASE PLAN AHEAD

All registration forms and checks MUST be received by December 1, 2017. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE THIS YEAR. One registration form per person. By completing this form & sending in your \$225 you will be registered for the Seminar & your room will be reserved and materials printed. IF for some reason you will not be able to attend, you should make every effort to fill your spot as we do not issue refunds.

FORMS AND CHECK PAYABLE TO GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA, SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

MEMBERSHIP SEMINAR
c/o Janis Rosenberg
Davis Lodge #169
415 Second Street
Davis, Ca. 95616

Direct questions to: janisrosenberg@outlook.com

2018 MEMBERSHIP EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM:

Please print!

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Email: _____

Lodge Name: _____ No. _____ Lodge City: _____

Incoming Office (if any): _____ Highest Office Held: _____

Number of people in room: _____ Name of Roommate: _____

Special Requests: _____

All registration forms and checks MUST be received by December 1, 2017

All completed forms & checks payable to Grand Lodge of CA should be mailed to:

MEMBERSHIP SEMINAR c/o Janis Rosenberg, Davis Lodge #169, 415 Second Street, Davis, Ca. 95616

2017 Cave Degree

YREKA - The 71st Annual Second Degree Cave Ceremonial was held in Yreka on Saturday, August 5 and Sunday August 6, 2017. A total of 34 members from 20 lodges of the Order, including 2 members from Oregon, received degrees, starting with 8 for the Initiatory, 29 for the First, 34 for the Second (at the Cave), and 30 for the Third (on Sunday morning). All of the degrees were conferred in good form by teams from San Pablo Lodge #43 (Vallejo) led by Degree Captain Jack Fullmer, assisted by others of those attending. There were 102 persons present at the dinner, which had been prepared by the lodge members, and there were about 70 at the Cave.



The full moon was barely visible rising from the left flank of Mount Shasta, which was blurred by smoke from nearby forest fires as we prepared for the start of the Degree work at the cave. The evening sky illuminated the cave as we began the degree work. The moon had disappeared into the clouds, but it brightly showed through breaks later. The Degree was conferred in good form by the degree staff. The sky was still fairly light when everyone left the cave.

In the evening, at the start of the dinner, Richard Brouse, Noble Grand of Yreka Lodge and chairman of the Grand Lodge Cave Committee, introduced the dignitaries present. These were: Grand Master Dave Reed, Grand Warden Jamie Jepson, Grand Patriarch K.C. Carr of Oregon, Deputy Department Commander of California Richard Alaskin, Past Grand Patriarch Brian Rhiel, Past Grand Masters Gene Breeland, Paul Pike and Barry Prock, Past Grand Master/Past Grand Patriarch of Oregon Lloyd Steiwig, and Past President of the IALAPM Debra LaVergne. The Grand Master was invited to introduce his Appointed Officers, of which 3 were present. Many new Cave Associate memberships were received at this event.



On Sunday morning, members of Yreka Lodge served breakfast to approximately 50 members, spouses and friends at the Lodge Hall, before the start of the Third Degree.

At the conclusion of the Third Degree, Noble Grands and other representatives of the lodges that had brought candidates thanked

Yreka Lodge for providing this opportunity and congratulated the Degree teams for the impressive degree work. Others, ending with Grand Master Dave Reed, addressed the new Third Degree members and urged them to pursue the new opportunities open to them within the Order. The date for the 72nd Annual Second Degree Cave Ceremonial will be August 25, 2018. Information and other details will be announced prior to the Grand Lodge session in May of 2018.

Submitted by: Richard Brouse, Noble Grand Yreka #19,

Operation Gratitude

VAN NUYS - Van Nuys Rebekah #239 was at it again when they came out in force to support Operation Gratitude in Chatsworth, CA. This organization puts together boxes for the active military and these Rebekahs and their friends were eager to assist where needed.

Operation Gratitude annually sends 200,000+ care packages filled with food, entertainment, hygiene, and handmade items, plus personal letters of appreciation to Veterans, First Responders, New Recruits, Wounded Heroes, their Care Givers, and to individually named U.S. service members deployed overseas and their families waiting at home.

Their mission is to lift the spirits and meet the evolving needs of the Military and First Responder communities, and provide volunteer opportunities for civilians anywhere in America to express their appreciation to all who serve our nation.



Grand Master Visits

Grand Master Visits Vacaville Lodge

On June 20, 2017, Vacaville Lodge #83 was honored with a visit by Grand Master Dave Reed, along with several of his appointed officers, Past Grand Masters Dave Rosenberg and Peter Sellars, and guests from several surrounding Lodges. There were 62 Odd Fellows and Rebekahs in attendance.



Noble Grand Rob Snyder welcomed the Grand Master and thanked him for the visit. GM Reed gave an informative and enthusiastically received talk. He spoke of the need for each Lodge to take action, to do more in its community, of a desire for better connection between lodges and the Grand Lodge, and of support for the annual Cave Degree. It was an evening of good fellowship and exchange of ideas between members of diverse lodges

Grand Master Visits Apollo Lodge

SAN FRANCISCO – Following his commitment to visit the Lodges, Grand Master Dave Reed made his first official Visit to Apollo Lodge #123 in San Francisco this past June. Later in the month he will visit other city lodges.



Grand Master Visits Golden Rule

LOS ANGELES – This past July, Grand Master Dave Reed visited Golden Rule Lodge #35. Dave was happy to be in Los Angeles. He enjoyed meeting the lodge members and at the end of his talk, serenaded them with a Beatles song, “With a little help from my friends.”



Dave also took a moment to present Gary Charpentier, NG and former PDDGM a plaque of appreciation from the Lodge for “Noble Grand Extraordinaire for all of his service to the lodge. The day concluded with a lovely brunch and good fellowship!

Visiting Hesperian Lodge

CAMBRIA – This past July Grand Master Dave Reed and his lovely wife Sheryl visited Hesperian Lodge #181 in Cambria. They were treated to a wonderful blue sky day on the coast. About 25 brothers and sisters gathered together to welcome them to the lodge. The members bestowed our Grand Master with the “Honors of the Order” and then sang "We're All Odd Fellows." Dave spoke to the group, giving an inspirational presentation on his motto of "All Rise." He then played his guitar and sang a song to bolster this message. The group enjoyed a great dinner and enjoyed the camaraderie of all.



Art Outreach

SARATOGA - Saratoga Lodge #428 was given a membership grant of \$875 from Grand Lodge for an outreach event. They put the funds to good use and had a Friday evening Art Show Reception followed by an Art Show.



With the extensive advertising they provided, they had about 75 people attend the Reception and in the following days about 50 people walked through the Art Gallery that they had set up to show the works from 5 local artists. They had many positive comments from people learning more about our Lodge and its members.

Due to the help this grant provided, Saratoga Lodge was successful in getting five people to fill out applications for membership! Social Committee Chair Caroline Cocciardi said that “the lodge is appreciative of the financial assistance from the Grand Lodge which definitely helped to make this event happen.”

Encampment Growing



DAVIS - On August 2, 2017, Davis Encampment #21, at a special meeting, conferred all Encampment Degrees on eight new Patriarchs and Matriarchs. Receiving the Patriarchal Degree, the Golden Rule Degree and the Royal Purple Degree were: Marisa Browne, Elisabeth Bogren, Brett Coder, Cecilia Escamilla-Greenwald, Kati O'Day, Kelli O'Day, Joe Otto and Charlene Sailer.

The degrees were supervised by Chief Patriarch Tony Pruitt, the Davis Encampment Degree Team was headed by Past Chief Patriarch Dave Rosenberg, who was joined by Encampment members Cathy Aubill, Dennis Corcoran, Juelie Roggli, Kurt Roggli, Arun Sen and Kevin Sitz.

With the addition of these 8 new Patriarchs and Matriarchs, Davis Encampment #21 has 49 members, making it one of the two largest Encampments in the State of California. The 49 members of the Davis Encampment comprise about 20% of the total Encampment membership in the state.

Napa Supports Local Scholarship Program

NAPA - Recently, the annual dinner to honor the new recipients of the “If Given A Chance” Award was held at the Napa Valley Marriott Hotel and Spa. The Foundation’s mission is to discover courageous youth who have overcome tremendous challenges but have demonstrated a committed determination to stay on the right path through higher education. If Given A Chance provides four-year college or trade school financial assistance, as well as mentoring in life skills

To achieve success in this endeavor, the Napa Valley community has once again proven its generosity toward its youth, and the Board of Directors expressed its gratitude. Included among the many contributors were Ivy Rebekah Lodge #23 and Napa Odd Fellows Lodge #18, both of which meet at The Meadows of Napa Valley.

These lodges have for many years been regular supporters of the “If Given A Chance Foundation”. In 2016, Ivy Rebekah Lodge hosted a Fashion Show at the Meadows which raised \$1,000 to this program.

Both lodges are committed to continuing their support of this worthwhile program.

Summer Fun

DAVIS - Continuing a community service begun over five years ago, Davis Encampment #21 announced today that it has provided \$100 scholarships to 85 children from 39 local families. These scholarships enable the children to register for classes provided by the City of Davis Parks and Recreation staff. The classes include swim lessons, dance, week-long summer camps and family summer swim passes.

The Davis Encampment has adopted as one of its missions to facilitate and fund summer programs and summer camp experiences for children.

"We are so pleased to be able to give these families and children the opportunity to enjoy a summer experience," said Sharla Cheney, a member of the Davis Encampment and coordinator of the scholarship program. "We wish to thank the wonderful City of Davis Parks and Recreation staff - and in particular, Administrative Operations Supervisor Christina Wood - for their work in helping families choose classes and register their children. We could not have done this without their cooperation and willingness to help."

Funds for the 85 scholarships were raised through a combination of donations from members, the Odd Fellows Bingo Committee, the Odd Fellows Music Committee, Santa, and a \$1,000 community donation. The Davis Encampment looks forward to having this program again in 2018.

Ready, Set... Go!

PASADENA - Did you ever wonder how all of those massive floats that we see in the Tournament of Roses Parade on New Year's Day are constructed or put together! Well...let me tell you there is a very special and dedicated group that handles this. Recently, it was time to conduct the fire testing of the Rose Float. Representatives from Van Nuys Rebekahs #239, Silver Crest Rebekahs #295, Redondo Beach Odd Fellows #195, and Mesa Rebekahs #402 were invited to attend and they were on hand to get a

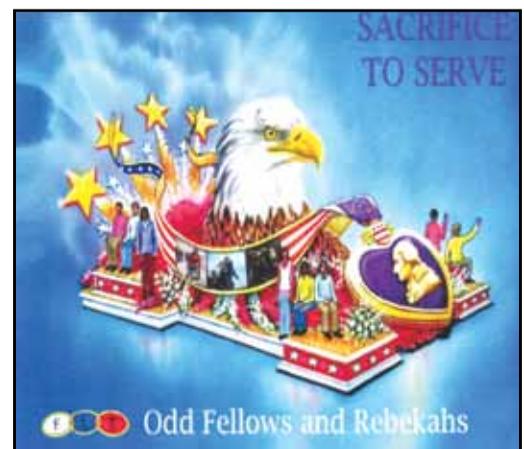
glimpse of what we will see on January 1, 2018 and to take a spin on the new float - which I am sure passed its fire test with flying colors!



Sacrifice to Serve

PASADENA - This year the float committee is proud to present the 2018 float for the Rose Parade - "Sacrifice to Serve."

This year, the group is working with the Purple Heart Society and this float will pay homage to those that have received a Purple Heart while serving in the duties of their Country. If you are a purple heart medal recipient and would like to ride our float on January 1, 2018, please download (from our website) and submit the 2018 Rider Application.



It takes over \$100,000 each year to operate and pay for the float, and this year, there is an interested Donor who is matching up to \$10,000 for the 2018 float fund. Gifts may be made online at: <http://oddfellows-rebekahfloat.org/> and your gift is tax deductible under the 501 C(3) rules. For more information please email the committee at: info@3linksfloat.org.

A Letter From the Rebekah President

To the Membership,

I want to thank the members of this jurisdiction, for electing me to be your President. I am humbled and honored to serve in this position, and will do my best to make you proud.

I would like to give you some information, so you perhaps can get to know me better. I am a fourth generation member of the Order. I learned, through genealogy research, that I had a great Uncle living at the Home in Saratoga. Many Great-Aunts, Grandparents, parents, my late husband Kenneth, as well as cousins have belonged to the Order. I think I was born into the order, as I attended my first event at the age of 3 months and have not stopped attending. Well there was a time when my mother decided I needed to stay home from the regular Rebekah meetings, as I started to walk like one of the members, and my mother decided it was time for me to retire from the meetings for a while. I joined Roseville Theta Rho #51 at the age of 12, and continued my membership in that club until I joined Minerva Rebekah Lodge #72 at the age of 18. I have loved this Order and am proud to say I am a 62 member of the Order.

I want to thank my officers, for being willing to serve with me this year, and I know I have the best officers ever. Sorry Past Presidents, I know you think yours were the best.

My projects for the year are: Rebekah Children's Home building maintenance. The main building at the Home was built in 1921 and has had many years of wear and tear on it. The gym is badly in need of a new roof. They have to put out buckets and pails to catch the rain that is leaking. The cottages also need to be updated to keep up with the changing needs of the children that we serve. My other project is the Rebekah Assembly Treasury. As our membership dwindles, the revenue from per capita goes down, but the bills do not. It is getting harder and harder to keep up. Karolinne Livingston, our Secretary, is doing a great job of keeping expenses down as much as possible, but it is hard. Perhaps your lodge could have a special event, and the funds raised could go to one of these projects.

In closing, it is my wish and hope that we can remember the golden rule "DO UNTO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD HAVE THEM TO DO TO YOU, and lets work together in Friendship, Love and Truth.

In F.L.& T.

Phoebe Astill, RA President

Music For The Soul

HAYWARD - Hayward's Sycamore #129 held a lovely May Social hosting about 80 members and guests for a concert by local Hayward High School music students. The HHS Guitar Ensemble played songs including "Malaguena" and "Imagine" by John Lennon.

The String Orchestra performed a variety of tunes, including "My Funny Valentine" and music from West Side Story and Phantom of the Opera. Over 40 musicians performed and the audience filled the lodge room. Everyone enjoyed a Taco Bar and Ice Cream Sundae dinner before the show, and students enjoyed trying their hand at pool on the Lodges pool table after the performance.



Canton Burial

YOLO - This past May members of the Canton Davis #7 assisted with the burial of indigents in Yolo county, continuing the IOOF admonition to "bury the dead." Canton members participating in the ceremony included: Arun Sen, Sheryl Cambron, Dennis Corcoran, Lea Rosenberg, Janis Rosenberg, Joel Mandel and Cathy Aubill.

Meet Your Officers

Officers of the Grand Lodge of California

This year, we are proud to have **Dave Reed as Grand Master of California.** Dave was born and raised in Homewood, Illinois, a south suburb of Chicago. After graduating from the University of Illinois with a degree in Civil Engineering, he moved to Davis in 1979 and never left. He attended law school in Sacramento at University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law. Following graduation, he opened his own law office with a general practice. After 23 years in practice, he became a court referee. Two years later, the governor appointed him to a judge position.



In 2007 Dave joined the Davis Odd Fellows. He has enjoyed the camaraderie and community service opportunities in the Davis lodge. It has been a great experience to learn more and more about the Order on the local and statewide level. Along the way, he has served as Noble Grand, Vice Grand, Treasurer and Trustee and Hall Association Board member of his lodge. He is also a member of the Davis Rebekah's and Encampment too. Several years ago, he was elected to the Odd Fellows Home of California Board of Directors and served two years until he was elected Grand Warden in 2015. He continued as the Grand Lodge Board liaison to the OFHC Board. Dave is married to Sheryl, who is also an Odd Fellow, Rebekah, Encampment member and Captain of the Canton. They have been married 37 years and have three adult children and are currently awaiting the birth of their first grandchild. One of Dave's goals for the year is to inspire Odd Fellows to strive to do more and to do better. He looks forward to encourage and challenge lodges to look for ways

to keep their members engaged and to attract new members and will try to help lodges resolve their differences. He will urge members to set aside their personal disputes and look ahead for the good of their lodges and the good of the Order. Dave believes that we have an opportunity to enrich our lives, the lives of our Brothers and Sisters, and our communities through the Order and expects us all to treat one another with respect. He plans to remind us all of our commitment to elevate the character of Mankind and appreciates the opportunity to lead the Order for next year and hope that we will all join him in meeting these goals.

Acting as this year's **Grand Chaplain to the Grand Lodge is James "Jaime" A Jepsen, Jr.**



Brother James is a long time resident of Avenal, CA. He attended Sacramento College and Rio Hondo College obtaining a degree in Correctional Science. Brother James worked for the Department of Corrections for 30 years prior to his retirement.

Brother Jamie has two sons, James and Charles and a daughter Melissa who is also a member of the Order. He is the proud grandfather of three grandchildren. Brother Jamie started out as a Junior Odd Fellow in the Bell Flower Jr. Lodge #41 and he is currently a member of Bellflower #465, Norwalk Rebekah #383 and has recently joined Fresno Encampment #78.

Last year, Brother Jamie was the Grand Chaplain for the Grand Lodge, and we wish Jamie well this year as he again serves the Order.

Acting as this year's **Grand**

Herald to the Grand Lodge is Tina Phanivong. Sister Tina was born in Laos and currently lives in Daly City. Sister Tina attended University in Bangkok and after coming to the United States, she continued her education at City College of San Francisco and Skyline College.

Sister Tina who is now widowed, was married to Kenphet Meksavan and they had two children Frank and Jessica. She is also the sister of Ann Sien.



Sister Tina joined the Order in 2003 and is a member of Morse Lodge, #257, Apollo lodge #123, Golden West Lodge #332 and has served the Order in many areas.

Sister Tina has always been involved in her lodge and community and is a former Board Member of the Calgary Lao-Chinese Association and the Lao-Chinese Friendship Association of the USA. Last year she served as an appointed officer for the Grand Lodge and continues again this year as Grand Herald! We wish Sister Tina well as she travels the State with our Grand Master.

Rebekah Assembly Officers

This year we welcome both **Chris Greenwood as the Musician and his lovely wife Leah Greenwood as Conductor to the Rebekah Assembly.** Chris



and Leah are long-time members of the order and they both come from Southern California.

Chris grew up in Pomona and graduated with a Bachelor of Science from Cal Poly.



Leah also grew up in the Southern California area and graduated from Nursing School and is still working in her profession as a Registered Nurse. They have two children and two grandchildren to help fill their days! Chris and Leah are both members of America #385 and El Dorado #401. Chris has served terms as Musician for the SGL and in the position of DDGM for District #91. Leah has served as DDP. They are avid rose growers and are members of both the American Rose Society and Pacific Rose Society where each of them has served as President. Chris is also a member of the International Rose Society, and served a term as President there too! They are involved in their community, and their lodges, and look forward to serving the Rebekah Assembly this year!

Though they are gone,...They are not Forgotten

Past Grand Ruler Wade Dale Marshall called home

Wade passed away on June 11, 2017. During Wade's younger years, he was a member of Antioch Junior Lodge. Wade worked himself through the order to become the 17th Grand Ruler of the Grand Junior Lodge of California from 1969-1970.

On January 8, 1972, Wade married Cheryl Balsley and moved to Rainer Oregon. While in Oregon, Wade worked as a Carpenter laying the footing and forms for many of the buildings in Portland Oregon. Wade with his father, built their own home that the family has lived in for approximately forty-five years. We offer our sympathy to Wade's wife and family.

Hal Winton Bids Farewell

Hal Winton, "Uncle Hal," of Redondo Beach, was an American original and icon in the Southern California ultra running world died May 24th 2017. He recently ran his 35th annual Avalon 50 Mile Benefit race at age 85. It wasn't just finishing a race that mattered to Hal it was how one ran their race.

His family, and good friends will remember him for his passion, love, perseverance, good humor, wisdom, and dedication. Hal was buried with Military Honors this past June. We extend our sincere sympathy to Hal's family.

Robyn Hughes ...Gone Too Soon...

Robyn Hughes, daughter of John and Jeanette Hughes passed away suddenly on August 9, 2017. She was a member of Capital City Rebekah Lodge No. 160 and Past Secretary of Theta Rho Assembly. She is survived by her brothers, Kevin and Brian and a daughter Regina. Jeanette Hughes

GIFTS of HOPE

VAN NUYS - Springtime is a time of renewal and hope so it was fitting that members of the Van Nuys Odd Fellows #442 donated 35 homemade Easter baskets to the children of the residents of Haven Hills. The director of the program said the children were thrilled with the games, toys and personal items included in the baskets. They also donated Mother's Day gift bags to the twenty mothers who reside at Haven Hills. The gift bags included personal items such as scarves, cosmetics, scented soaps and candles and other grooming items.

Haven Hills is a residential program for battered women and children. They have partnered with the program over the last four years, donating gifts on Easter, Mother's Day, July 4th, Halloween and gift cards for each of the mothers and children for Christmas. These gifts allowed the families residing at the home to celebrate the holidays without needing to leave the safety of the apartments.

Van Nuys Odd Fellows is proud of their support to such a wonderful program. The families at Haven Hills are finding hope for better futures and friendship with the support of the Odd Fellows #442.



Franco American Hosts Grand Master

SAN FRANCISCO - This past August, Grand Master Dave Reed visited Franco American Lodge #207. Franco American was pleased to have members from other Bay Area lodges in attendance to honor our Grand Master. Everyone shared a great evening of good fellowship and enjoyed visiting with each other.



Photo: Dennis Carrey California Lodge No. 1, Norman Sheehan Noble Grand Santa Rosa Lodge No. 53, Lisa Pena F.S. Windsor Lodge No. 215, Jill Daniels Visitation Chairman Windsor Lodge No. 215. Dave Reed, Grand Master of California Davis Lodge No. 169 Ben Barker, District Deputy Grand Master District No. 11 Nancy Carrey, Windsor Lodge No. 215 P.G. Carmen Barker Windsor Lodge No 215 Sue Elicetche Noble Grand Franco American Lodge No. 207

Three links Camp Update



MIWUK VILLAGE - This year started out looking bleak with all the storm damage that occurred last winter but with a plan in place and the generosity of Lodges and individuals who heard of our needs some of the tasks have been addressed. Our road into the camp was severely damaged and has now been improved. Thanks to America Lodge who donated funds for this project, to Fred Dolling, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Encampment who provided arrangement with the gravel company and to Les Weir and his tractor who prepared the roadway prior to the road base application.

Part of the disc golf course had tree branches down and they were cut up, providing campfire wood for the fire pits and campers to enjoy. A volunteer Odd Fellow saw the need for this task and has donated to have three trees removed. Those with mechanical skills replaced a vital part on one of the golf carts making it more reliable for use. All of the dorm windows were cleaned and new curtains replaced thanks to Debra Lavergn and Theta Rho member Honor! Needless to say our kitchen staff managed to clean as well as make delicious meals for all workers. Hanging the sunshade over the outside common area is always a task that requires many hands. Seeing the need for additional carabineer clips, Jamie Jepson, Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge later donated 200 additional clips to make the task easier for next year.

Friday evening everyone enjoyed a Tri-Tip Dinner and honored Henry Rosenthal and Tom Kopping, appointed Officers of the Grand Encampment. Saturday's Festival occurred with everyone enjoying good eats, fellowship and many table games. Grand Master Dave Reed was invited to learn how to make jewelry by Roberta Prosk, Past President RA and he auctioned his finished product at the Evening Dinner generating \$500.00. Karolinne Livingston, Secretary RA outbid all others and Dave Reed, GM donated the money to the camp. There was also another substantial donation from the Oakdale Lodge presented by Wendell Watson, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Encampment.

This year the youth camp had 37 campers plus counselors. Campers enjoyed painting and learning how best to do it under the guidance of Carol Earl, an accomplished artist, from the Knights Ferry Lodge. Three campership awards were given by the Rebekah Assembly to children who otherwise would not be able to attend camp. Other camperships were sponsored by Lodges or individual members of the Order. We look forward to plan for a full 2 week camping experience to be offered at the Three Links Camp in 2018.

In closing we are reminded that this camp functions year round and has many needs to keep it in good working order therefore your monetary and/or labor support of our projects is sincerely appreciated.

Rosie the Riveter

SACRAMENTO - Tonight these Sisters had the refreshments for Capital City Rebekah Lodge #160. They celebrated as "National Rosie the Riveter Day" is finally a reality. More than 70 years after the end of WWII, the war effort's working women finally have a National Day of recognition! The State Resolution passed on March 21, 2017 was designated, a "collective national effort to raise awareness of the 16,000,000 women who worked during WWII". Longtime member Sally Butters, stated that her mom, Betty DeAngeles was a "Rosie" and worked at the bomb plant near Hilmar CA. during the war!



Goals and Plans

I remember when I was Noble Grand of my lodge. At first, I was overwhelmed with the responsibility. When things went wrong, the buck stopped with me.

After a while, I became more and more comfortable working with people, making decisions, delegating tasks to others, being a leader.

I suspect a variation of this experience happens every year in nearly every lodge. But it is a bit different in every lodge since every lodge has their own personality. Every lodge has their own challenges. As we get comfortable in our lodges, we have an opportunity to take a step back and look at who we are and what we do and what are we capable of doing. I have yet to see a lodge that is not capable of doing more; of being better Odd Fellows.

Doing more or doing better does not happen by itself. It takes effort and a willingness to act. I like to think in terms of setting goals and making plans. All of us, as individuals and as lodges, should set goals for ourselves from time to time. There are certain goals that nearly everyone and every lodge could set. How about getting members to participate more; getting members to serve in officer's positions; doing more for our communities; attracting new members? How about doing one more event or activity this year? Try setting a one-year goal or a five-year goal. Think about where you would like your lodge to be in five years.

If you thought about it for a while, I am sure you could think of a variety of goals that would improve your Odd Fellows experience or your lodge. Ideally, lodges would invite input from their members to set goals for the lodge. One lodge held a strategic planning meeting. Another lodge had a visioning meeting. The members talked about what they wanted to get out of their lodge and Odd Fellowship and what they can do for the lodge. Of course, the goals of every lodge would be unique to them. The goals would reflect the personality and interests and skills of their members. Goals that are right for one lodge may not work in another lodge.

Regardless of what goals you set, the next step is to think about what you can do to accomplish your goals. Make plans to accomplish your goals. This planning can be individual or it can be the work of your lodge. Planning and accomplishing your goals requires action. It requires doing things. It requires doing things that will interest your members in participating. It requires doing things that will make others want to be a part of your lodge.

We are part of an Order of good people seeking to go good things. But, except writing an occasional check, we do surprisingly little for our communities. One of the best feelings I have felt as an Odd Fellow is helping others in my community, whether it be doing chores for senior citizens or planting trees or working at the Food Bank or Christmas caroling.

How many of us have a lodge where just a fraction of our members participate in lodge events and activities? Think about what your lodge could do if every member participated in one more event or activity every year. Think about what satisfaction your members could receive if your lodge did one (more) activity or event for your community this year. There is a passage in our Valediction that our community deserves our best work. It doesn't seem like such a big goal! The possibilities are only limited by the imaginations and interests and energy of your members.

Try this. Make a few goals that you and your lodge can achieve. Make plans together or individually to accomplish your goals. It doesn't have to happen fast or be a huge step. Make it an opportunity to work together; to do good things together. Isn't that what we are supposed to do? Do it! And we will All Rise!

In Friendship, Love and Truth,

Dave Reed, Grand Master

Filling A Need

SAN FRANCISCO - This past August, California Lodge #1 held a charity fund raiser for The Guide Dogs for the Blind (GDB). With over 64 people in attendance and a lively raffle and donations from non-attendees, this fundraiser raised over \$1,675.00.



Special thanks to all the members who worked, cooked and cleaned up for this worthwhile cause, and especially to JoEllen & Tom Elliott and Erin Kelly who chaired this event.

Erin is also a GDB Training manager and she spoke to the group regarding the intensive training program each dog goes through before they are placed in service as well as the costs involved.

Initiatory Degree Conferred

San Francisco - This past August, Golden West Lodge # 322 conferred the Initiatory degree on 10 new sisters and brothers and welcomed them as members of the Order.



HARMONY

As I have the privilege to serve our Fellowship as Grand Musician, a role that draws upon my years of musical pleasure and performance and immerses me in the joys and disciplines, the rules and conventions of harmony, I am struck by how the concept of how harmony applies to the Odd Fellows. Musical harmony is the result of several notes coming together to make an effective much greater than that which a single note can create. There is the obvious similarity between the three notes of a basic chord and our three revered watchwords: Friendship, Love and Truth. These three words and concepts together evoke a feeling of collective warmth and integrity. However, I believe that harmony has even more profound meanings for the Odd Fellows, both externally and internally. It is clear to me that achieving and maintaining some important harmonies is vital for the very survival of our order.

Harmony among the Odd Fellows Musical harmonies bring together a variety of notes that complement one another. A vital, effective Lodge will have a variety of voices, ideas and personalities that work together to create a satisfying, effective, harmonious environment. Just as new notes added to an existing cord to create a new, richer one, new members, with the new voices and ideas can make a Lodge more interesting and more able to survive in a rapidly changing world. Such new faces, ideas and abilities should be sought, welcomed and integrated into the life of the Lodge. Our world's tastes in rhythm, melody and harmony changes with the generations. The same happens with institutions. Our Lodges must embrace new people, hear their voices and warmly include them in our Fellowship's song to the world if we are to prevail.

Harmony in the Hall
The impression given by some of

our facilities to a person coming into them for the first time, is that of a tired, out-of-date, run-down set of rooms, out of harmony with the Odd Fellows' desire and claim of lively relevance. Although recognition and relevance for our traditions and rituals should be expressed, the mood created by our interiors should not feel like a dirge to bygone times, but rather an anthem to enduring greatness, quite in touch with today's world. Some tune-ups and even some serious "make-overs" are in order.

Harmony on the Street

To a large extent, the face we show to the world is the exterior of all buildings. And how they look on the outside provides cues to what and who is inside. It is vital that the façades of our facilities, the envelopes if you will, are in harmony with the streetscape, the community and the times. The local IOOF hall, inside and out, should look like something where local community members want to belong, a place that is harmonious with their lifestyles and aspirations.

Harmony in our Hearts

In these discordant times in the world I want our facilities, both inside and out, and our members both long term and new, to represent and to work and play in harmony, and that our doors open to reveal a Fellowship of Brothers and Sisters that bring together the sacred music of America's glorious call for Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness with the Odd Fellows' glorious refrain of Friendship, Love and Truth.

Fraternally,

Rita Cooper
Grand Musician

Director, Grand Lodge of California

We are Turning the Corner

In 2010, some seven years ago, PSGM and PGM Don Smith (now deceased), PGM Rick Boyles, and I launched "Dedicated Members for Change" (DMC) with about 30 charter members - all progressive leaders in their Lodges. I am very pleased to say that DMC has grown and prospered over the years, and now boasts an e-mail list of hundreds all across North America and even some in Europe.

We formed DMC in 2010 with one overriding purpose in mind: To focus on the need for Lodges to add members so that our Order can survive and grow. And in the seven years since it's formation, DMC has had a laser-like focus on this subject. We have made numerous, positive and proven suggestions over the years on how Lodges can increase their membership. But ultimately, it's not that complicated. I have often spoken about the subject and used the analogy of the three-legged stool. If all three legs are sturdy, the stool will be strong. If one leg is weak, the stool will be unsteady and will eventually topple. The three legs represent (1) the great history and ritual of IOOF; (2) good fellowship and fun activities for the members, family and potential members; (3) active outreach into the community, doing good local works. I have used my own Lodge - Davis #169 - as the "laboratory" for this concept. And it has worked. In the last ten years - while most other Lodges have declined in membership - my Lodge has grown 1,000%. From less than 30 members, my Lodge now has 275 members, with 22 pending applications for membership. And the age range covers everything from members in their 20's to members in their 90's, all ethnic groups, and about half our membership is female.

Significantly, it appears that our membership efforts are now beginning to bear some fruit in California. Preliminary figures show that in 2016 (the year in which I served as Grand Master for the first half of the year and Peter Sellars served as Grand Master in the second half) our Order in California - for the first time in a long time - will show a net GAIN of members - led primarily by our largest Lodges. The most significant growth has been in the number of female members of the Odd Fellows. This net gain is a good omen, and we hope a harbinger for the future. Perhaps we have bottomed out after decades of net losses, and are showing the very glimmering of net gains for years to come.

That said, we need to see growth in most (if not all) Lodges, not just some Lodges. In many ways, Odd Fellowship in California is a mile wide and an inch deep. We have 116 Odd Fellows Lodges in this State. Yet the largest 4 Lodges encompass almost 25% of the total membership, and the largest 10 Lodges comprise close to 40% of the membership.

Unfortunately, many Lodges have not followed our suggestions. They have become complacent, and are "satisfied" with the status quo, or they are rent by internal bickering and dissension. The sad truth is that most Lodges in our jurisdiction and around the country are continuing to diminish in membership. We see many Lodges where the member-

ship has grown old, and they have not added a new member for five, or ten, or even more years. These Lodges are Zombie Lodges, just going through the motions of life. There is no long-range view for these Lodges. The members only focus on continuing to operate in their personal comfort zones, without regard to the future of their Lodge or the future of the Order. This is both selfish and fatal to their Lodge. They barely can muster a quorum, and often do so only with associate members from other Lodges. They do very little, if anything, other than hold a 20-minute monthly meeting to read the minutes, report on who is sick or distressed, and pay the bills - with no committee reports and no new business. A Lodge which is composed of members of just one generation cannot survive in the long run. A Lodge must encompass and include two or three generations to survive. There must always be a new generation of members and leaders who can continue the Order. That's certainly the way it was in the 1700's, 1800's and early 1900's. And it can be that way again.

There are those who point to societal changes which have changed the way the public views fraternal orders. They point to radio, television, movies, automobiles, airplanes, computers, cell phones, and lots of other innovations that have changed society. They point to social security, insurance, employment counseling and assistance, and other innovations which have stepped in areas where fraternities once functioned. This is all true. But, fraternal orders are still relevant today and can still grow and prosper, and be venues where the members feel welcomed, appreciated and engaged. I know this is true because I have seen it in my own Lodge. Burying the dead and visiting orphans may have little meaning to young men and women in 2017. But organizing a local music event to raise money to assist foster families, or adopting a highway to clean up, or organizing a community chocolate festival to benefit a local sexual assault center may have significant meaning for the current generation of members and potential members.

There is good news and there are success stories, and those success stories inspire us and give us hope for the future. In the coming weeks, we will detail a few of those success stories in this newsletter, and we welcome your input to spread this good news and show what Odd Fellowship can be in the 21st Century.

F - L - T

Dave Rosenberg
Past Grand Master

Independent Order of Odd Fellows
Grand Lodge of California, I.O.O.F.
122 Race Street
San Jose, CA 95126



Lodge Number or Expiration Date After Name

Supporting the USO and Our Troops

ONTARIO - The Ontario USO is the second largest USO in the United States. Although the USO attempts to anticipate and plan for needed inventory to serve the military service members, the facility is in constant need of donations. However, one of the most unusual items assumed to be available are paper plates. The USO feeds every service member that comes into their facility. They can feed from 3 to as many as 3,000 in a single day.

In 2016 Ontario Lodge #345 began its sponsorship and support to the Ontario USO and they were able to donate 2,000 plates. However, we found out that 2,000 plates represented only 10% of their annual need to serve the thousands of troops that pass-through the Ontario USO facility.

In 2017, the lodge members, some who are veterans, voted to enhance the sponsorship commitment for not just 10,000 plates, but instead voted to double that target and to donate 20,000 plates. Additionally, the lodge voted to continue their commitment again next year!

This project goal was accomplished when we presented the 20,000 plate donation to the USO staff (and a platoon of U.S. Marines) on June 29, 2017 at the Ontario USO Center. Special thanks to all who help out, and especially to members, Dr. James Hammond and Sarah Galvez whose commitment and support helped to see this project to fruition.

