

**Grand Lodge of California, I.O.O.F.  
Board of Directors – Meeting Minutes  
Saratoga, CA. – 12/05/2015**

**Call to Order:** 9:00AM

**Roll Call:** (14 voting members)

**Elected Board Members present (8):** John Morgan-Chairman, Paul Wright-Vice Chairman, Mel Astrahan, Rick Boyles, Rita Cooper, Paul Pike, Barry Prock, Rose Saari.

**Elected Board Members absent (0):**

**Grand Lodge Officers present (7):** Dave Rosenberg (GM), Peter Sellars (DGM), ~~Dave Reed (GW)~~, Jay Johnson (GT), Ray Link (GS), Rod Metoyer (GR), Paul Pike (GR), Tim Brown (Jr. PGM).

**Grand Lodge Officers absent (1):** Dave Reed (GW)-excused

**Others Present:** Larry Brenner (Attorney), Pete Pohlhammer (GLDE)

**Visitors:** Greg Schomaker, Glenn Lindsey, Martha Galvez, Ron Mills, TJ Walkup, Mark Wright, Matthew Finkelstein, Gretchen Zimmerman, Paul Thorn, Ed Cull,

**Rebekah Assembly:** Roberta Prosk (VP), Phoebe Astil (W), Karolinne Livingston (S),

Mary Lou Lang (T), Debbie Shuler (JrPP), Carolyn DeBoer (D), Diana Carranza (D), Jackie Brown (D)

**Executive Session:** (SMCA, TLC, Comps)

**Special Presentation:** Cindy - Project Manager discussed project and floor plans.

**Moved by Paul Wright, seconded to ratify the electronic vote (11-0-0) taken to approve the redevelopment program – PASSED (14-0).**

**Approval of Minutes:** (10/03/2015) **Moved by Ray Link, seconded to approve the minutes – PASSED (14-0).**

**Communications:** (\*indicates having been emailed or sent to ALL of the Board Members) (See New Business)

\*GLBOD Minutes: 10/03/2015

\*Youth Camp Minutes: 10/19/15, 11/7/2015

\*NEW District and District Deputy alignments proposed by GM

\*Letter re: Youth Camp Audit

\*Letter re: Youth Camp Reply

\*Letter re: Reply to Youth Camp Reply

\*Letter re: GLBOD liaison to TLC Board meetings

\*Letter re: Upper Lake construction bids

\*Letter re: Sunrise Cemetery

\*Reports: Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Property, RCS, OFRBF

\*Letter re: Adopt-a-Resident program

Letter: Race Street Project – presented by John Morgan

**Old Business:**

**Cemeteries:**

**Crescent City:** Still in process – John Morgan to handle - \$5k donation to Del Norte Veterans Cemetery.

**Vallejo:** Legal issues – Executive Session

**Halls:**

**Hemet:** SOLD

**Red Bluff:** New Roof, still listed for sale

**San Jose:** Project going forward, update presented at 12/5 meeting

**San Leandro:** Escrow issues

**Snelling:** Listed for sale (\$229k), Rebekahs have some entitlement in this property

Upper Lake: 1st construction bids too high, seeking new bids

Watsonville: Offer pending (\$647k), Contract issues, New Proposal – Paul Pike dealing with buyer

Whittier: Listed for sale (America Lodge #345 requested permission to sell)

Yosemite: Listed for sale, Offer pending (\$249k)

**Lodges:**

Four Creeks #94: STATUS, Audit needed, no verified account balances, Rod Metoyer and Paul Pike

Lemoore #280 Progressing positively, New By-Laws done

Apollo #123: Audit complete, Membership issues, Hall Association to dissolve

**General Business:**

Title Searches: Larry Brenner – Reversionary Clause/Cloud on Titles, Report forthcoming

Santa Maria Property: Paid Off - \$50k to the Hall Fund

Grand Lodge Office: Demolition done, Plans approved by Board

Youth Camp: Audit Ordered,

Valley Fire: 8 Victims, 6 Checks issued so far, Gene Breland to follow up! Thank you letters sent.

Building Grant Program: Barry Prock, (Ch)mn, Pete Sellars, Rose Saari, Glenn Lindsey,

Greg Schomacher appointed by Dave Rosenberg. **Moved by Rod Metoyer, seconded to approve the committee appointments made by Dave Rosenberg – PASSED (14-0)**

**New Business:**

Jackson #36: 90 day suspension, 7 new members

Yosemite #97: Yosemite Bank account closure, Barry Prock to handle

Youth Camp: Audit and GLBOD letter response – Executive Session

NEW District alignment: 11 New District, Letter to be sent on 12/7

Adopt-a-Resident Program: New chairperson appointed by Grand Master, progressing forward

Director Awards: **Moved by Paul Pike, seconded to table – DEFEATED (5-7-2).**

Two persons were nominated

‘Link to the Future’ Committee: support Joyce Link as President of IARA in her 2016-2017 term.

**Moved by Barry Prock, seconded to donate \$3,500 to the fund – PASSED (14-0).**

Rose Parade: Mel Astrahan requested a donation in support of the Rose Float. Much discussion **Moved by Dave Rosenberg, seconded to call off the debate – PASSED (7-2-5). Moved by Barry Prock, seconded to give \$15,500 to the float – PASSED (8-6).**

**Rebekah Assembly presentation:** Roberta Prosk (P) and Debbie Shuler (JrPP)

Schedule Change for sessions to allow the Rebekahs to attend Grand Lodge sessions for voting

Joint Committees: Need better communication on Joint Committee, especially between chairpersons

Valley Fire/Disaster Funds: Much discussion about the ‘HELP’ funds that were donated to assist the Valley Fire victims. There were 6 members affected and 6 disaster fund checks dispersed. It was recommended the two still needing assistance send a letter/notice to the Grand Lodge Disaster Committee chairman. He needs to check up on the two of our members who need further assistance.

**Consent Agenda Reports:** Officers, Committees, Board Representatives

*The ‘Consent Agenda’ reports will NOT be discussed unless someone asks to have them removed from the Consent Agenda and then discussed separately. All reports that are not specifically removed from the Consent Agenda will be accepted as mailed or emailed.*

\*Grand Master: Dave Rosenberg

\*Deputy Grand Master: Peter Sellars

\*Grand Warden: Dave Reed

Grand Representatives: Paul Pike, Rod Metoyer

Audit: Jay Johnson

\*Beneficial: Neil Allen

\*Budget: John Morgan

Investment: John Morgan

Legal: Larry Brenner

Legislation: Peter Sellars

Membership: Peter Sellars

\*Property: John Morgan – See above

OFHC: Dave Reed

COFF: Ray Link – minutes available, New management company (EAH), Carlos to retire

RCS: Rick Boyles – minutes available

TLC: Glenn Lindsey – minutes available

RA: Rose Saari

**Moved by Ray Link, seconded to accept the Consent Agenda – PASSED (14-0)**

**Consent Items Removed and Discussed:** NONE

**Adjournment:** 12:55PM

**2015-2016 Regular Meeting Schedule**

\*01/30/2016, 04/02/2016

Please Note: \*Change of date – Super Bowl weekend in February



**Grand Lodge of California**  
**Independent Order of Odd Fellows**

**Dave Rosenberg, Grand Master**

1112 Westfield Terrace  
Davis, CA. 95616  
Phone: 530.756.0697  
email: daverose@jps.net

February 1, 2016

To All Lodges:

This is a second mailing, encouraging you to select one member from your district who you feel is qualified to serve as District Deputy Grand Master. This is an important position – a position of responsibility.

In a previous mailing, we presented a plan to realign the districts, which combined many lodges into various districts. This plan is tentative and shall be reviewed after May/2016.

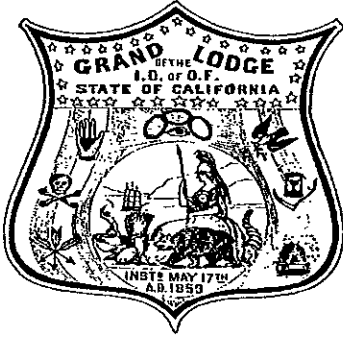
Sometime, after May, lodges will be sent a survey asking for specific suggestions of combining lodges. **For now, the districts are going to remain the same as they are this year, for the ensuing term. We are not combining or reducing districts this year.**

We encourage every district to provide a recommendation of a brother or sister to the position of District Deputy Grand Master.

Dave Rosenberg  
Grand Master

Unavailable for signature  
Peter V. Sellars  
Deputy Grand Master

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**Grand Lodge of California**  
**Independent Order of Odd Fellows**

Ray Link, Grand Secretary

14414 Oak St. #B

Saratoga, CA. 95070

Phn: 408.867.0231 – Fax: 408.867.6272

email: [gs@caioof.org](mailto:gs@caioof.org)

**RECOMMENDATION FOR DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER APPOINTMENT**  
**For District Deputy Grand Master of District Number \_\_\_\_\_**  
**For the Term from May 2016 through May 2017**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Lodge Name & Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City, State, Zip)

This Lodge recommends for appointment as District Deputy Grand Master for this District:

Past Grand \_\_\_\_\_

of \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge Number \_\_\_\_\_

The Candidates address is:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City, State, Zip)

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

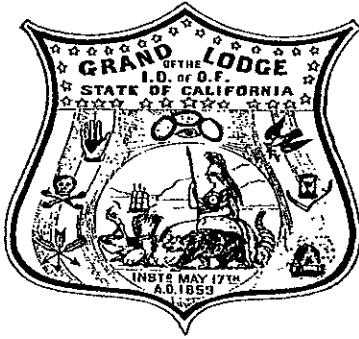
Noble Grand: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (Signature)

(Lodge Seal)

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (Signature)

**Constitution of Odd Fellow Lodges, Chapter IV, Article VIII, Section 4**

On the first regular meeting in November of each year, this Lodge may, at its option, select one of its Past Grands in good standing, whose name shall be presented to the other Lodges of its District for endorsement as District Deputy Grand Master, after which, the name shall be placed on this form and sent to the Grand Secretary, 14414 Oak St. #B, Saratoga, CA. 95070 by **March 1, 2016.**



# **Grand Lodge of California** **Independent Order of Odd Fellows**

**Dave Rosenberg, Grand Master**

**1112 Westfield Terrace  
Davis, CA. 95616  
Phone: 530.756.0697  
email: daverose@jps.net**

Your Lodge Could Win an Award

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I originally sent this message out on October 4, 2015. I send it again as a reminder that YOUR LODGE is eligible to participate in this fun effort. Check it out. The deadline for submissions is March 30, 2016!

Even though most of our Lodges are located in the very heart of our towns, many of them are virtually invisible or are in need of a significant "pep-up". I have seen Lodges with little or no signage to identify them as a Lodge of Odd Fellowship. I have also seen Lodges that are sad and droopy on the outside. The image portrayed is one of lack of care, and of an old and tired Order. This is not the image we should portray to the public.

So, to make an effort to upgrade the image of our Lodges, I am launching, with approval of the Grand Lodge Board of Directors, a "Lodge Beautification Challenge." All Odd Fellows Lodges in California are invited to participate. Here's how it works:

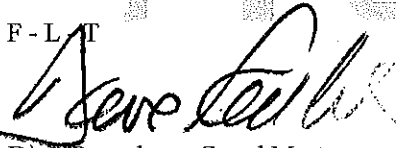
1. I ask your Lodge to work on creating higher and better visibility in your community by beautification of the exterior of your Lodge building. These efforts can include such things like clean-up, painting, new doors and windows, signage, landscaping, awnings, etc.
2. Any California Odd Fellows Lodge may participate. The time period starts now in October and runs through the end of March, 2016. Eligible work must be accomplished during the time period October 2015-March 2016. No work prior to or after those dates shall be submitted. Entries must be submitted not later than March 30, 2016. Entries should include the name of the Lodge and a very brief narrative of what the Lodge did to beautify the exterior. The entry must be accompanied by "before" and "after" photographs. All entries must be submitted to:

Grand Master  
Lodge Beautification Committee  
Grand Lodge of California  
14414 Oak Street, Suite B  
Saratoga, CA 95070

3. A Lodge Beautification Committee will evaluate all entries during the month of April. I have appointed Past Grand Master Rod Metoyer as Chair of this committee. The Committee shall choose a first place winner, a second place winner, a third place winner, and up to seven honorable mention winners. Each winner will receive a plaque, and the first place winner will also receive \$500, second place \$300, and third place \$100. All winners will be announced in April 2016, and will be further recognized at Grand Lodge Sessions in May.

There are two ways that Odd Fellows Lodges can increase visibility in their respective communities. One way is by active participation in the community. The second is by increasing the visibility of the Lodge Hall. This program addresses the latter, and I hope many Lodges accept the challenge. It's good for the Lodge, and it's good for the Order.

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Dave Rosenberg, Grand Master  
Jurisdiction of California

**HELPING OTHERS TO HELP THEMSELVES**



# *Grand Lodge of California*

## *Independent Order of Odd Fellows*

**Dave Rosenberg, Grand Master**

1112 Westfield Terrace

Davis, CA. 95616

Phone: 530.756.0697

email: [daverose@jps.net](mailto:daverose@jps.net)

### **The Top Ten Reasons that Lodges Fail**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As Grand Warden, Deputy Grand Master, and now as Grand Master, I have visited a fair number of Lodges. I've seen the good, the bad, and even the ugly. Some Lodges are thriving. Many Lodges are trying. Other Lodges are fading. In the spirit of giving Lodges the warning signs of a failing Lodge, here - based on my experience - are what I consider the "Top Ten Reasons" that Lodges fail (with apologies to David Letterman and his Top Ten Lists):

**Number 10.** Inadequate signage. Most of our Lodges have been around for over 100 years, and many are located in the heart of downtown. Yet too often I have seen Lodges that are invisible. If you are an Odd Fellows Lodge, be proud of it and make sure that there is a large, distinct and easily visible sign that proclaims the building to be a Lodge of Odd Fellows.

**Number 9.** Decrepit halls. Nothing turns potential members off faster than a shabby Lodge Hall. A building with old paint, a clear need for repairs, and a dusty and dirty interior speaks volumes to the public. Such a building says, "we are old and we don't care."

**Number 8.** Failure to let go. In some Lodges, the same one or two people run everything, and have done so for 10 years, 20 years, or even longer. It's time to let go. A new generation of leaders needs to be given their turn to be in charge of the Lodge. If you continue to do everything in the Lodge, you may think you are helping. But what you are doing is restricting newer members from enjoying the full IOOF experience. Don't hold a position beyond your time. Better to train the newer members so they can flourish and continue the Order into the next generation.

**Number 7.** No, no, no. I have experienced the dreaded "no" in too many Lodges. Newer members are stifled, disappointed, frustrated, and even angered when the "long-time" members always say "no" to every new idea. Don't always say "no", or "we tried that a few years ago, and it doesn't work", or "that's a stupid idea." Learn to say "yes". Let the newer members try.

**Number 6.** Constant comment. Nothing is more restricting and embarrassing for newer members than to always hear comments from the sidelines during a meeting such as: "You are standing in the wrong place" or "that word is pronounced 'sectarian'" or "wait, it's not your turn". Don't become the Lodge bully. Of course, you want to help the new members, but do it discretely, and perhaps following the meeting. Everyone makes mistakes in the beginning.

**Number 5.** Booooooring. Nothing says "this is a Lodge of grandfathers and grandmothers" louder than holding a boring meeting. Unfortunately, I have attended too many meetings where the meeting consisted of little more than reading of the minutes, sick and in distress, paying a couple of bills, and that's it. Without committee reports, old business and new business, the message conveyed is that this is a moribund Lodge.

**Number 4.** Bicker, bicker, bicker. Many times I have heard from newer members who tell me that they attended a few meetings and then stopped because they couldn't stand the bickering and sniping amongst the members. We are Odd Fellows. We are supposed to practice friendship, love, and truth. No one wants to hear about your petty complaints about other members. Get over it, shake hands and move on.

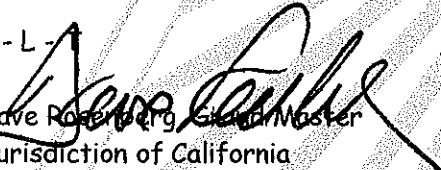
**Number 3.** Failure to have fun. The surest way to send a Lodge into its death spiral is to forget that we are a fraternal order and it's OK to have fun. Lodges must plan social events that the members enjoy. Without such social events, the Lodge loses an entire dimension of its value to members.

**Number 2.** Failure to reach out. It is important to the work of this Order and the image of IOOF for Lodges to reach out into their communities to do good works. It's also important to the new young members of the next generation who we wish to attract. These young men and women want to help out in community and want to foster charitable causes. And it's not just writing a check here and there. That's too easy. Members want to engage hands-on in good charitable and community works.

**Number 1.** Failure to bring in new members. The #1 reason the Lodges fail is self-evident. I visited a Lodge recently that had not brought in a new member in over 5 years. The remaining members had dropped to less than 20 and virtually everyone was in his/her 70's and 80's. What do you think the future of that Lodge might be? That Lodge had skipped an entire generation (perhaps two) of new members. Obviously, the Lodge is heading down the path of demise. Without new members, a fraternal order ultimately perishes.

Do you recognize any of these "Top Ten Reasons" in your own Lodge?

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Dave Rosenberg, Grand Master  
Jurisdiction of California

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# Tacos, Tunes, and Tales

*Come One, Come all! This year's DMC event hosted by Grand Master Dave Rosenberg and the Dedicated Members for Change Committee begins at 5pm Thursday Night on May 12, at Grand Lodge Sessions. Please join us for a fun-filled evening featuring a taco bar buffet along with music, jokes and general merriment.*

*Because of the popularity of this event (last year 2/3 of all Grand Lodge attendees attended) you may buy your ticket either at the door of the event, or by sending \$10.00 to Jay Johnson, Grand Lodge Office, 14414 Oak Street, Suite B, Saratoga, CA 95070-6186*

*We will hear from our Grand Master Dave Rosenberg and our Deputy Grand Master Peter Sellars. Also, if your lodge has done fun, interesting, or innovative things, please feel free to share it with us. Then we will be entertained by the musical group, Cold Shot, while we dine.*

*Please make out your check to: Grand Lodge and send to:*

*Jay Johnson, Grand Treasurer, 14414 Oak Street, Suite B, Saratoga, CA 95070-6186*

*Please sign the following people up for Tacos, Tunes, and Tales Thursday, May 12, 5 pm*

*Names \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge # \_\_\_\_\_*

*\_\_\_\_\_ Lodge # \_\_\_\_\_*

*\_\_\_\_\_ Lodge # \_\_\_\_\_*



*Or you may pay at the door. See you there!*

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