



THE IDAHO ODD FELLOW REBEKAH NEWS



VOL. 133 No. 9

BOISE, ID 83706

SEPTEMBER 2023

Grand Lodge of Idaho
920 Grant
Caldwell, ID 83605
(208) 459-2091



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Royal Gem Rebekah Lodge #13 White Bird Days Parade 2023



We sure were proud of our Sister's efforts to put together a float for the 2023 White Bird Days parade. The theme this year was History and Heroes. Well, we certainly have a history here! Like the banner says, "Helping the community since 1904. Friendship, Love, Truth." In addition, our float won the honor of Best Organization Float. We really appreciate the support of our community.

In F,L&T, Mary Pedersen

State I.O.O.F. Annual Picnic



This picnic is for "ALL" Units and their friends & families. It is held the first Saturday of August in Boise at the Kristen Armstrong Municipal Park.

This year there was not many attended. Everyone was busy doing other summer things I guess.

But we did have three generations in attendance. Pam York; her daughter; & granddaughter.

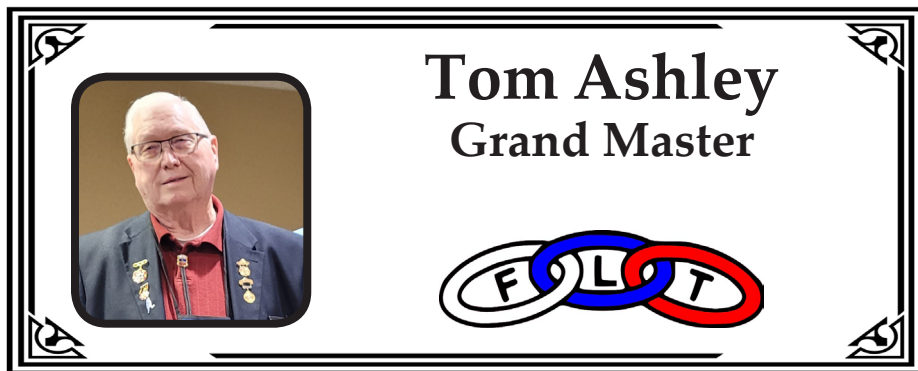
Everyone attending had a fun time playing games and eating chicken.

We hope more can come next year. It's a great time to get together and meet friends & family.

IN F.L.&T.

Pam York, Unity Rebekah # 8





Dear Lodge Members,

This seems to have been a very hot summer and I am glad it is coming to a close. Hope everyone had a good break and are ready to get back into meeting mode.

The annual IOOF picnic was held in Boise on August 5th. The weather was great, the food was great, we had several guests, but the order attendance could have been better. All in all thought it was a fun event and those of us who attended enjoyed being there. Thank you to Ada Lodge No. 3 and Joe DeChristefero efforts for sponsoring and organizing this event.

When our Lodges reconvene this month, let's make every effort to be active in our communities and be recognized for what we do. We need this recognition if we are to survive as an order. By participating in our communities, be it schools, food banks, whatever and wherever, we will establish a known presence in our communities and that recognition will help us survive as an order. We all get tired of hearing membership, membership, membership, but it's important and we all have to make every effort to bring in new members to further our work as Odd Fellows and Rebekahs. We don't need to lose any more Lodges.

I am looking forward to next month and our annual Grand Sessions in Moscow and seeing all of you there. Hope everyone is planning on attending Grand Sessions this year, it is an important event and we need all who can attend to be there.

(Con't on page 3)

Hello Sisters and Brothers,

Here it is again, summer winding down, time for school to start, and soon we will be seeing the landscape changing to fall colors. Does it seem like time truly does fly by? Are we busier these days?? (Busier than when we had kids and worked fulltime?? Can't be!!) But whatever it is, it seems like there is less time to get things done. On that note, are you ready for Assembly?? Sent in your registration, gotten your top and skirt out, or dusted off your suit and ready to go?? Don't forget to get your "hat" ready for the Amos/Amosette. I am looking forward to seeing what our creative members come up with. Should be a hoot and hopefully lots of fun. Those of you that I asked to do a skit or something at Assembly, don't forget to get your props out and have them handy. I know I am really looking forward to Assembly, even though I am not completely ready yet.

I hope everyone has had a good summer and has gotten to do something fun and/or interesting. Don't forget to get your articles and photos into the newspaper from events you had this summer. I have to say the Reporter here at Royal Gem Lodge #13 in White Bird constantly has her eyes and ears out for newspaper articles. Find someone in your Lodge that likes to write and ask them to try to send an article to the newspaper at least every other month. I am sure we all must have things going on that others would like to know about. Besides, they could be inspiration for

(Con't on page 3)

Grand Master's Letter

(Con't from Page 2)

Keep up the good work of Odd Fellowship in your lives and lodges and see you soon.

In FL&T,
Tom Ashley, Grand Master



Assembly President's Letter

(Con't from Page 2)

another Lodge to do something.

Don't forget we also need to be seen out in our Communities doing things and hopefully they will make people interested in learning about and joining our sisterhood/brotherhood. By the time you receive this month's newsletter you should have had your first Lodge meeting for September. You should be getting paperwork from the Secretary for our Representatives at Assembly – don't forget to get them mailed back.

In FL&T,
President Roberta/DeeDee

Patriot Day | Remembrance, Memorial



Patriot Day, holiday observed in the United States on September 11 to commemorate the lives of those who died in the 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Virginia and those who perished when the hijacked United Airlines Flight 93 crashed in Pennsylvania.

THE DO YOU KNOW CORNER

FROM: THE GRAND SECRETARY

Opening the Lodge at the appointed hour

Question: Who opens the Lodge

Answer: Noble Grand or Vice Grand in His or Her absence.

Procedures:

At the appointed hour Noble Grands are to open lodges promptly. The Noble Grand will assume his or her station, put on the Noble Grand Regalia, sound the gavel for silence and attention, and then in a clear, distinct voice, give to the officers and members the instructions prescribed in the Opening Ceremony, as given in the Ritual. The Noble Grand then directs the Warden, assisted by the Conductor, to examine all those present.

NEXT MONTH: Procedure for Examination.

Remember: "If a Thing is worth doing, it's worth doing well" That old adage is also true when conducting our lodge work!!

In FL&T

COMING EVENTS 2023

SEPTEMBER

8	PLANNING BOARD	CALDWELL
16	PIONEER 1/ROSE 18	IDAHO CITY

OCTOBER

15-18	GRAND SESSIONS	MOSCOW
22	PIONEER 1/ROSE 18	IDAHO CITY

NOVEMBER

4-5	NORTHWEST/PACIFIC NW	TBD
12	THANKSGIVING DINNER	WHITE BIRD
16	THANKSGIVING DINNER	MTN HOME

DECEMBER

9	CHRISTMAS PARTY	NAMPA
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Triple Links

The Final degree of Odd Fellowship

"In a little while, the ever-burning furnace of time will consume to ashes all that hath life and vigor in this terrestrial sphere." -- from the Odd Fellows funeral ceremony

Odd Fellowship, as we know, is premised on three principles - friendship, love, and truth. These are the links that bind members together in a fraternity that's lasted centuries. But these principles are hardly mentioned when we initiate new members. Instead, our first and most important lesson is that everything we are in this life is but a passing moment. We become Odd Fellows by being reminded of our end, something that is almost heretical in our culture that hides death away and does everything possible to pretend that it doesn't exist.

"Often have we been reminded in the solemn ceremonies of our order, of the great truth that all that is born must die." We don't ignore death. Awareness of our own mortality is harnessed with deliberate intent, that we maximize our time in this world, doing good that will hopefully outlast us. And when death comes, we have a degree for that.

The funeral ceremony is incredibly simple, requiring just a noble grand and a chaplain. But it is so powerful, and so beautiful. It calls back the lessons of the initiatory degree, and adds one more lesson -the hope of immortality, the faith that we shall one day see our beloved brothers and sisters again.

Euphemistically referred to as "the last degree", it was written in the style of one of our degree ceremonies. It has no sign or password, but it does have a memento, the evergreen branch, which reminds us that the virtues of our departed brother or sister will remain ever green in our memories.

Recently, I had the honor and the burden to perform the funeral ceremony, together with my Aunt **Debra LaVergne**, to mourn the passing of my grandfather, **Richard Brouse**. It was a sober reminder that our Order is more than a community service organization, a social club, or secret society - though it has aspects of all of these. The people we see at lodge are a chosen family who have made a commitment to work alongside us in life, mourn us in death, and honor our memory into the years ahead.

"No more will he labor with us, yet the results of his labors will continue through years that are to come." Yes, we have fun with our "odd" little club, and that's a good thing. But let us never forget that we have a final degree ahead of us. Life and death are serious matters, so we treat them as such. And personally, I am convinced that my grandfather's life was so much fuller and more blessed for that awareness he had, that he would one day leave this "terrestrial sphere". For my part, I will honor his memory while carrying that same awareness as a motivation to do as much good as I can in the brief time that I have left.

I'll conclude by sharing a poem that recently came across my desk, through an odd turn of events that still strikes me as too strange for mere coincidence. I shared this poem at my grandfather's funeral, and before that, I read it to him a week before he passed away, the last time I saw him in life.

By *Mason Wolf, NG #52*

Odd Fellow Poem

A brother lived in an Odd Fellow Home.
He was feeble and old and gray,
With tottering limbs and low bowed head
Just at the close of the day.
And there by a row of evergreen trees,
An angel from heaven flew down,
He looked the old man direct in the eyes,
An angel with a flowing gown.
The old man peered at the heavenly form
And asked, "Are you looking for me?"
"For you, my brother," the angel replied,
"It is time for the last degree."
"You have passed through the wilderness of life,
And you've traveled its treacherous sand,
But I'll conduct you to a Lodge of Love,
And the greatest of all Noble Grand."
The old man said, "My teeth are gone.
My eyes are dim and dried.
My feeble old hand is wrinkled now,
Though still is open wide."
"And the weight of the years is on my brow, My
hearing is nearly gone.
My memory, too, is fading fast,
And the race of life is nearly run."
"But I am filled with a longing to see again My
brothers up there with the blest.
My weary old head is bowed with years
And I'm ready to go to my rest."
"Conductor, I'm ready to enter the hall
And I hope they'll not reject me.
Please carry the word to our great Noble Grand,
I'm ready for my last degree."

By *Harry Bonde Rutland, Iowa*



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GRAND SESSIONS – JURISDICTION OF IDAHO

OCTOBER 16-18, 2023

Held at University Inn Moscow, ID 1516 Pullman Road, Moscow, Idaho

Registration Information ((one form per person

Name: _____

Address" _____

City: _____

Please Check All Sessions you will be attending

Grand Lodge.....: ____ Title _____

Home Lodge _____

Rebekah Assembly.....: ____ Title _____

Home Lodge _____

Make Checks Payable to Grand Lodge Host Committee

Mail To:

Vicky Kiele, Secretary

PO Box 350

Kooskia, ID 83539

Fees:

Mark Choices

Session Fee: \$15.00 _____

(After Oct. 1st \$25.00)

President's Luncheon- \$28.00 _____

Spring Chicken Salad W/dessert

Past Grands/Presidents Banquet

Tiger Prawn Scampi w/dessert \$35.00 _____

Historical Luncheon: \$25.00 _____

Amos/Amosette Banquet w/dessert

\$35.00 _____

General Banquet – Choose One w/dessert

Chicken Cordon Blue \$40.00 _____

Bacon Wrapped Pork Loin \$40.00 _____

Baseball Cut Sirloin \$40.00 _____

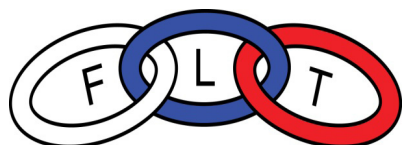
Motel Information: Prior to September 14, please visit [Reservations](#) or call 208-882-0550 x 0 and mention the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs. When using the link please confirm your arrival and departure dates at the top of the first page. If making reservations after the 14th please call the hotel directly

Room Rates: DOUBLE/QUEENS \$129.00 SINGLE KING \$119.00 PER NIGHT

Room rates listed do not include 8% Idaho state taxes or 5% surcharge

Deluxe hot breakfast is complimentary for hotel guest 6:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Monday-Friday





Sandie Chandler
Deputy Grand Master
Grand Lodge of Idaho

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

1316 E Desert View Way, Nampa, ID 83686
Phone: (208) 442-4413 (Home) (702) 286-3779 (Cell)
Email: sandiejocxx@aol.com

Dear Members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Idaho:

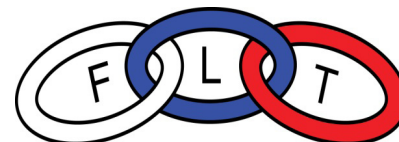
If I am elected as Grand Master of our great order at our Sessions in October, I am looking for members who would like to hold an appointed office. I am also looking for members to serve on the different committees, such as Eye Bank, Youth/Pilgrimage, Historical, Surplus are just a few of the committees. Please let me know if you are interested, as you are needed!

If you would like to be an officer and/or on a committee, my thanks to you and I will be getting in touch with you in the very near future. If you have questions about what offices and committees you might like to do, please check the directory that was published in the Odd Fellow/Rebekah Newspaper.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Moscow, Idaho. Our Sessions will begin October 17, 2023. Memorial service will be held October 15, 2023.

The more participation of our members, the stronger our order will be.

In FL&T,
Sandie Chandler, Deputy Grand Master



Sandie Chandler
Deputy Grand Master
Grand Lodge of Idaho

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

1316 E Desert View Way, Nampa, ID 83686
Phone: (208) 442-4413 (Home) (702) 286-3779 (Cell)
Email: sandiejocxx@aol.com

Dear Lodge Secretary:

In preparation for our upcoming Grand Sessions in October, please send me the names of all your members who have passed away since our last Grand Session in October of 2022.

These members will be honored in our Memorial service to be held at our October 2023 session. Please forward this information to me by September 30 so your deceased members can be included in the ceremony.

Thank You, in FL&T,
Sandie Chandler, DGM of Idaho
August 22, 2023



IN LOVING MEMORY

In loving memory of Mary Bishop, a matriarch and pillar of strength.

1923 ~ 2023



Mary, whose life journey was nothing short of extraordinary, peacefully passed on Aug. 9, 2023, at the age of 100. Her legacy is one of resilience, strength and unwavering love, as she navigated through some of the most challenging times in history.

Born on Jan. 25, 1923, in Quinter, Kan., Mary grew up during the Great Depression and Dust Bowl. When she was 10 years old, seven members of her family (in a Model A pulling a three-wheeled trailer with all the family possessions) moved to Emmett, Idaho to “start over.” She experienced the hardships of World War II. She was a war bride and cared for two infant children while her beloved husband, Harold, served as a Marine in the South Pacific.

Mary’s life was one of tenacity and adaptability. She raised five children while ranching the beautiful land she called home for 68 years. She had a deep connection to nature and an unyielding work ethic.

Mary leaves behind a legacy that will continue to inspire and uplift. Though she may no longer walk among us, her spirit will forever remain alive in the hearts of those she touched.

A celebration of Mary’s life was held on Aug. 19 at Trenary Funeral Home, Kooskia.



Sun, Sep 10, 2023

Grandparents Day is always celebrated on the first Sunday after Labor Day.

Grandparents Day is a day dedicated to acknowledging and celebrating the important contribution made by grandparents to the wellbeing and education of children within their family. It is an opportunity for family to show their gratitude and respect for the older generation and to honour grandparents.



Sun, Sep 17, 2023

Constitution Day and Citizenship Day is observed each year on September 17 to commemorate the signing of the Constitution on September 17, 1787, and “recognize all who, by coming of age or by naturalization, have become citizens.”



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Independent Order of Odd Fellows
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THE IDAHO ODD FELLOW REBEKAH NEWS PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

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2023 Issues:
October, November & December

NOTICE:

Articles and pictures must be received by the Editor no later than the 18th in order to be published in the next month's issue. The Editor and Editorial Board reserve the right to edit all articles submitted for publication and do not hold ourselves responsible for views or opinions expressed by our correspondents.

Just The Facts

THE IDAHO ODD FELLOW REBEKAH NEWS
Promoting Odd Fellowship through Positive Communication

The Idaho Odd Fellow Rebekah News is published twelve times a year by the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly of Idaho, I.O.O.F.

Tom Ashley ~ Grand Master
DeeDee Hallquist ~ Assembly President

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