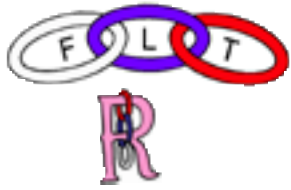


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Merry
Christmas!



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DECEMBER, 2009

Official Publication of All Units of The Order

VOLUME 118 • NUMBER 10

Sponsored Youth



Please help with your donations

Greetings to my Brothers and Sisters:

It is that time of year again when we hold our fund-raising campaign for "Sponsored Youth". As you know, we have been involved with Northwest Adaptive Sports and the Meridian Kiwanis Club to provide activities for our young people with physical challenges. In 2008, the Meridian Kiwanis Club and the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs were co-sponsors of the NWBA Varsity Nationals held at Renton High School. According to Tami English of Northwest Adaptive Sports, it was the best basketball tournament ever.



Here some of the action from last year's NWBA Varsity Nationals held at Renton High School. It is pretty obvious these young people are having the time of their lives.

The local team, the Seattle Jr. Sonics youth wheelchair basketball team, will host the West Coast Conference Regional tournament on January 23-24, 2010 at Kentwood High School. There will be eight teams with young people 13 to 18 years of age competing. The funds raised by our campaign will go to help pay for the event.

We have the endorsement and blessing of the Rebekah Assembly President and our Grand Master, so we are hoping for your help in making this event a success.

I am also pleased to acknowledge our newest board member for Northwest Adaptive Sports is Brother C. Allan Reitan. Brother Reitan is hoping that we can involve more of our Brothers and Sisters to not only support this great event with our fund raising, but to attend and participate in the event. Please consider joining Unity IOOF Lodge #18 and pick a team to sponsor. This involves attending your team's game and cheering them on. It is great fun and gives the teams a big boost. Anyone interested can contact Tami English at (253) 297-5389 or e-mail her at:

tl_english@hotmail.com

Finally, this year, thanks to Brother Edmund L. "Butch" Reitan. All funds will be mailed to the Grand Lodge of Washington in care of our Grand Secretary and he will collect the funds and deposit them into the Sponsored Youth account. Please make all checks payable to "Sponsored Youth of Washington" and send your checks directly to the Grand Lodge in Buckley, P.O. Box 377 Buckley, WA 98321-0377.

Thank you for your continued support. — In F, L. & T, Bill LeBlanc, Co-Chairman & PG, Unity #18, Puyallup

Three Installations set at the Des Moines Hall

Members of Titusville Odd Fellows Lodge #34 will have their Installation of Officers at 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 14 at the Des Moines Odd Fellows Hall.

Des Moines Odd Fellows Lodge #305 and Lorraine Rebekah Lodge #289 will have their Installation of Officers on Sunday, January 3, also at the Des Moines Odd Fellows Hall. Dinner will follow. Everyone is welcome. The hall is located at 728 South 225th Street in Des Moines.

— In F, L. & T, Barbara Reitan and Betty Young, Secretary



Getting ready for some Christmas caroling on December 23 are, from left, lodge friend Sue Perry, Brothers Katie Gray, Bob Gale, Greg Powers and Bill Branvold.

Come join the caroling fun at Ballard/Alki December 23

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Members of Ballard/Alki Odd Fellows Lodge #170 will host a caroling party on Wednesday, December 23 at 6 p.m. Weather permitting, we will head out into the community and collect funds for Northwest Harvest. If it's nasty like last year, we'll sit inside, sing and drink coco. We will be warming our feet at the lodge in between forays into the cold, so drop by anytime.

Please bring a donation for Northwest Harvest, your musical instruments, and snacks to share. We are located at 1706 NW Market in Seattle. Come raise your voice in glorious song and enjoy the fellowship of the season.

Happy holidays!

— In F, L. & T, Greg Powers, Secretary

Web site needs your photos

Do you have any photos you would like posted on the Grand Lodge of Washington's web site? We are looking for photos and a little explanation of any of your events. Please e-mail your photos to:

webmaster@ioofwa.org or mail your prints to: Laurel Delony, 8703 Dolly Madison St. SW, Lakewood WA 98498. Thanks.

In Oak Harbor



Acorn Girls are busy

Well November has come and gone and we are gearing up for our Christmas activities.

We do want to report though, that last month we made \$125 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation with our annual turkey raffle.

This month we start our activities with the Christmas Family Potluck sponsored by our Rebekah Lodge. We always have a good time at this and enjoy the fellowship with the adult members of the Order and our families.

Then we will be doing Jingle Bells for Arthritis one night at the grocery store. We have been doing this for several years. We also will be making Christmas cards for the nursing home and then one Friday night we will go deliver them and do some caroling with the residents. Afterwards we go to dinner together at Wendy's.

We continue to correspond with our pen pal in New York.

We wish you a happy holiday season and a merry Christmas. Remember the reason for the season.

In Happiness Through Service, The members of Acorn #79



2009-2010 Grand Master's Meanderings



FRANK WILSON

LET'S GIVE THANKS FOR THE CHRIST CHILD

Here's wishing you a holiday season filled with love and joy, surrounded with your home filled with peace and serenity at Christmas and a New Year full of promise. As we gather with family and friends, let us give thanks for the Christ Child who's birth that the Lord has provided and for his guidance.

BUILDING ODD FELLOWSHIP IN THE NEW YEAR

Again we are facing a new year and let each of us face it with firm determination that together, with the cooperation of all members, we can build Odd Fellowship and strengthen the ties between all branches of our Order. We all would like to see Odd Fellowship grow and prosper with new members, but at the same time we want to retain our membership in order to bind us together for a strong bond of fellowship.

If we are to reach out to young people, we must have well-planned meetings with a purpose in mind. Meetings should be snappy, punctual and business like, and not drawn out with endless speeches and controversies. The individual member is what our Order stands for. His or her ideas put into our organization will provide a nucleus for the future of Odd Fellowship. It is upon them that the responsibility will fall to carry forth the work of our Order.

We must also look to our membership and to our officers we select to guide us. Odd Fellowship is here to stay. Whether or not our particular organization remains active rests upon the actions of our members. As we approach the New Year, let each of us remember the words of Sovereign Grand Master Paul Cuminale: "Together we will go forward with renewed confidence in ourselves and in our Order. The chain of Odd Fellowship is just as strong as each link and our lodges just as strong and durable as each of us as individuals will make them remember that service to others is a privilege both as an individual and as an Order."

Remember the saying, "If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, nothing shall be impossible unto you." The foundation of our Order was built upon such a pillar.

May the coming year bring each Brother and sister peace and happiness.
"Act Humbly, Love Completely and Live Differently."

— In Friendship, Love and Truth,
And Faith, Hope and Charity,
Frank L. Wilson, Grand Master



~ In Memoriam ~

- **Lorraine Dummler**, 50 year member, Narcissa Rebekah Lodge #2, Walla Walla.
- **Marie Watson**, PNG, 60 year member, Mystic Rebekah Lodge #168, Bremerton.
- **Orrie Reed**, PG, Pilgrim IOOF Lodge #187, Everett.

South Tacoma IOOF Lodge #211

Thank you to everyone who donated and supported our Second Annual Octoberfest and Silent Auction. Our lodge collected \$1,900 which will be donated to local charities.

Thank you to Toby Hanson, Grand Musician of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and Greg Powers, Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Encampment. They, along with a couple of their friends, played wonderful Octoberfest music. Everyone enjoyed it immensely.

The Spunky Bluebirds Theta Rho Girls' Club also had a sales table. For those who would like to purchase handmade scarves from the girls, please contact their Advisor Sylvia

Summers. I have several and they are nice and warm. They are perfect stocking stuffers or Christmas gifts.

Don't forget we still have Odd Fellow flags and stickers for sale. The flags are \$5 and the stickers are \$2.

Officers-elect for 2010 are: NG Bob Martin, VG Rod Wilson (we had to twist his arm), Sec. Laurel Delony, Fin. Sec. John Nelson, and Treas. Dan Marek. We will have a luncheon installation on Saturday January 16 at 1 p.m. in the South Tacoma Odd Fellows Hall. We hope to see you here.

Merry Christmas!

In F., L. & T.,
Laurel Delony, Reporter



From the desk of the Grand Secretary



EDMOND L. REITAN, JR.

CONGRATULATIONS NEW OFFICERS!

Congratulations to all of the officers-elect for accepting the reins of leadership as you prepare for the installation of officers season. In this season of caring and sharing, please consider those less fortunate in the world by supporting the projects and programs of the Order, as we seek "to improve and elevate the character of mankind."

DO YOU NEED SUPPLIES?

Do you have a Past Grand Jewel for your retiring Noble Grand? Do you have any veteran members with 25 years or more of service and jewels for presentation on the night of installation or another special night? Order soon to avoid any delay in receiving needed items in time for your special event.

REMINDERS

L.J. Jones scholarship nominations deadline for lodges is December 31, 2009. Nominations of graduating seniors are made on Form #1 or Form #2 and sent to Jody Morris, 32101 NW Eagle Crest Drive, Ridgefield, WA 98642-9156. Nominations for the adult over 21 years of age scholarship are made on Form #3 and sent to Edmond L. Reitan Jr., P.O. Box 377, Buckley, WA 98321.

United Nations Educational Pilgrimage for youth tour deposits (\$650 each) must be in the Grand Lodge Office by December 31, 2009 to reserve a seat. Contact Mary Dunivan, Chairman, at (360) 295-3681 with your lodge's or district's intention to send a student delegate(s). She is the source of all details that will have to be met.

ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE SIDE

Passwords for the year 2010 will be mailed to the Grand Lodge line officers, District Deputy Grand Masters and Lodge Secretaries for our new officers to pass on to members in good standing. Did you locate your Lodge Annual Report forms? Remember the Lodge Annual Reports are due in the Grand Lodge office on or before January 31, 2010.

I wish for each and everyone a very happy holiday season.

Fraternally,

Edmond L. "Butch" Reitan Jr., PGM, Grand Secretary

News from the Capital City

Olympia IOOF Lodge #1 Ruth Rebekah Lodge #17

Holiday greetings from Olympia.
FYI: Remember these two dates for upcoming lodge events::

- Saturday, December 5 is the date of our **big, big** Christmas party at the lodge. Bring your family. I have heard there will be a special Santa Claus, plus a silent auction. The time for the party is 2 p.m.

- Saturday, January 23 is our Installation of new Lodge Officers. I have been told that we will have a catered dinner by our new members Marv and Donna Tutter. They are the owners and operators of "Marvelous Marv BBQ." The food should be excellent. Our renowned Italian chef Roberto has gone to Italy to learn new recipes and will be in the lodge kitchen with his assistant Tomas soon. Details will be divulged when received.

Elections were held on November 2 at our lodge meeting. Our officers for 2010 are: NG Stuart Carlson, VG Peggy Ogilvie, Sec. Tom Day, Fin. Sec. Bob Brunetti, and Treas. Jennifer Snyder. Elected to serve on various boards are: Park Board Walt Cook, Cemetery Board Heather Durka, and Thurston Building Board Neil

Tombleson. Congratulations to each of you.

The Park Board is doing well. The utility shed is filling up. If you need anything from the well house, all items are now in the utility shed. Outside lights have all been repaired by Walt. Again, the park is filling up rapidly for the summer months. Place your reservation as soon as you can.

THURSTON BUILDING

Geo and crew are working on drains on the 5th Avenue property. We used a camera to check on the water drain system. The sump pump was replaced. They will have a handle on it soon.

CEMETERY

Things have been a little slow, but we have had several services. Bob reported that the cemetery has been winterized.

Dues are due. See Bob at lodge.

There is still time to nominate the "Odd Fellow of the year." If you feel a Brother or Sister has done an outstanding job, please write a letter nominating person and send to Joe Picanco or Geo Johnson.

In F., L. & T.,
Stuart Carlson, VG & Reporter

From your 2009 - 2010 Assembly President



PHYLLIS ROGERS

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I hope all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with your loved ones.

I am under doctor's care and have had to cancel all of my visitations until after the first of the year. I want to thank the lodges who have been so understanding when I had to cancel.

I want to wish all of you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

In F, L. & T.,
Phyllis Rodgers,

President Rebekah Assembly of Washington



In Pe Ell

Sylvan Glen Rebekah Lodge #184

Our Nominations of Officers went well. We have a full roster of officers.

Our Noble Grand was able to chair the meeting. Her "honey" is much better.

We had a Halloween party with Corky Walker winning first prize for most words. Bingo was played after the party with everyone winning two prizes.

Our luncheon was a potluck with plenty of sandwiches, Jello and pudding.

Our family Christmas party will be at 1 p.m. on Sunday, December 6. Be sure to bring a gift for your guests. The minimum cost is \$2. Secretary Leona Treznoski is cooking the turkey and dressing. The rest of the menu is potluck.

On Wednesday, December 9, we will have our Sisters' party. Please furnish a gift. This party is always fun.

Our city fall festival was held on November 7. The Rebekahs participated. Everyone had a fun time.

THOUGHT

"Three essentials for happiness:

Something to do, something to love, and something to hope for."

— Joseph Addison

"Never lose sight of the fact that the most important yardstick of your success will be how you treat other people."

— Barbara Bush

Here's wishing a merry Christmas and a prosperous and busy New Year to everyone.

Everyone is in better health.

This reporter is celebrating her 56th year as a Rebekah. I joined Queen Anne Lodge #324. We then merged with Woodland #128 and now I am a member of both Salmon Bay and Sylvan Glen. I miss being able to participate as fully as before, but everything is fine and I see much better since my surgery.

ESKIMO PROVERB

"May you have warmth in your igloo, oil in your lamp and peace in your heart."

With love and good health to all. . .

In F, L. & T.,
Luellyn Ainsworth,
PNG and Reporter

Happy & Blessed Holidays To All

From the desk of the Assembly Secretary



MARCIA PRESLEY

DECEMBER IS A VERY BUSY MONTH

Holiday greetings from the desk of the Rebekah Assembly Secretary.

The month of December has arrived and with it a very busy time for our Rebekah Lodges. With elections of the new slate of officers for 2010 done, I'm sure you are busy with getting your Installation plans underway and contacting those whom will do the installing.

THANKS FOR YOUR DUES & REPORTS

I would like to thank all the lodges that sent in their Per-Capita Dues on time. Your dues must be paid in order for your District Deputy President to communicate to the new Noble Grands, the new passwords for 2010.



Your Lodge Secretary should have received your Lodge Annual Report and end-of-the-year paperwork. Be sure to have your Finance Committee ready to audit your lodge books after December 31, 2009 and assist the Secretary, Financial Secretary and/or Treasurer to fill out the Annual Reports.

Remember any figures written in **red** are not to be changed. If any corrections need to be made, make them in appropriate entries on the forms. Just as a reminder, the Annual Report deadline is January 15, 2010. Thank you in advance for returning your End-of-the-Year Reports before the deadline. If you have any questions call me. My toll-free phone number is (877) 295-6926.

The Christmas holidays and the end of 2009 are fast approaching. This is the season to review what we as Rebekah Lodges have accomplished over the last year. It seems that the years go by much faster as I grow older and sometimes the ideas that I had early in the year to do, don't get past being just an idea.

SPREAD THE CHEER ALL YEAR AROUND

At holiday time, we think of those less fortunate and do some visiting, send cards or make a phone call, but these small things would be much more rewarding to all concerned if they were done the year round. I know that we are all very busy, but I think for myself, instead of taking the time to open and read my e-mail once a week, that time could be spent making a phone call or writing a short note to someone who is alone. The time *is* available if you think about it.

My holiday greetings go out to all my Brothers and Sisters of this great jurisdiction and the members of our entire Order worldwide. My hope for the upcoming year is that we do what we need to do to preserve this great Order and go a little further and add to our membership and make our lodges stronger. Each and every member will enjoy the fruits of their labor.

I wish you all the peace, joy and love of the season — a wish that the special joys of the holiday will last the whole year through and a happy, happy New Year.



Respectfully Submitted in F, L. & T.,
Marcia Presley, PP, Secretary,
Rebekah Assembly of Washington

Althea Rebekah Lodge #182 Kennewick IOOF Lodge #222

Elected officers for 2010 are NG Winona Slater, VG Alice Siegfried, Sec. Barbara German, Treas. June Clinebell, and Trustees Alice Siegfried and Mina Betts.

Maxine Christensen, our Musician, fell and broke her right arm and damaged her right shoulder. She is now in a healthcare center for several months. Shirley Gross is filling in for Maxine.

CHUCKLE OF THE MONTH

Obituary: It is with saddest heart we pass on the following news: The Pillsbury Doughboy passed away recently of a yeast infection and com-

plications from repeated pokes in the belly. He was 71 and buried in a lightly greased pan. His survivors are his wife, Play Dough; two children, John Dough and Jane Dough plus one in the oven. He is also survived by his father, Pop Tart. The funeral was held at 3:50 for about 20 minutes.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

"You can give without loving, but you can never love without giving."

— Robert Louis Stevenson

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

In F, L. & T.,
Valma DeVall, Reporter

 Member of I.O.O.F. International Press Association 

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Jewels were presented at Narcissa's recent Homecoming Dinner. At left, Elsie Wells presents a 25-year jewel to Barb Tvz. In the middle, Pauline Patterson pinned Rachel Harmon, a 25-year member. At right, Ron Leinbach, center, presents 25-year jewels to friend Ruby Sharp, left, and his wife Maybelle, right.



Barbara Lechner, left, presents a 25-year jewel to her daughter Karen Kelly. In the middle, Darline Kinzey presents her mother, Betty Harpe, with a 40-year jewel. At right, son Mike Dummler presents a 50-year jewel to his mother Lorraine Dummler.



Barbara Lechner, left, pins a 50-year jewel on Louella Wiebe. In the center, Charles Saranto presents his mother, Marjorie Saranto with a 75-year jewel. At right, Karen Schultz of Bee Hive Rebekah Lodge receives a 50-year jewel from her husband, Craig Schultz.

In Walla Walla

Narcissa Rebekah Lodge #2

Narcissa Lodge has engaged in a variety of activities this past month and we look forward to what the holiday season has in store for us.

Walla Walla Community College sent a note thanking Narcissa for funds which will provide two scholarships. A second-year student in the nursing program, Gretchen Linsey, was the recipient of the \$500 scholarship. We also received a thank you from the Pantry Shelf for our donations of 25 pounds of food items.

We are encouraged to learn that Pauline Patterson's great-granddaughter, who was premature at birth and was still hospitalized at the age of six weeks, has improved and is now at home. Jane Hanson reported that her grandson suffered a concussion after colliding with his older brother during a football game at recess. He also spent time in the hospital, but has been released. We were happy to see that Sister Jeannette Oswald was able to attend our last meeting, even though she showed up with a broken arm.

Our Charter was draped in memory of Doris Wigglesworth who was Past President of Rebekah Assembly of Washington.

Elsie Wells gave a report on the District Meeting and noted that there were more than 30 in attendance. Narcissa Lodge honored the Past Presidents with gifts. The Memorial Service was especially meaningful. John Paulsen's talk regarding the IOOF Home Endowment Fund was most interesting and informative. He explained how the interest from the fund had made it possible to remodel the kitchen and to purchase two wheel chair vans for the Home. Those in attendance at the meeting voted to donate the net proceeds, from the Silver Drill to the Endowment Fund.

Fifty-five members from all three lodges enjoyed a delicious meal prepared and served by the Eagles Drill Team when we joined together for our annual Homecoming Dinner. The occasion took place at the Eagles Lodge in Walla Walla and was hosted by Narcissa Lodge. Nancy Klicker served as Mistress of Ceremonies and Bob Lewis, at the piano, provided music before and during dinner. It was great to hear so many familiar songs. Ted Hanson was kept very busy as photographer for the evening.

Bee Hive member Craig Schultz was introduced and recognized as a Member of the Home Board, Lodge Representative, Grand Lodge Color Bearer and a Colonel in Canton.

A number of members were present to receive jewels and each recipient was escorted and presented by Jane Hanson and Craig Schultz to receive her jewel. Those who were honored also received a long stemmed red rose.

Narcissa Lodge presented jewels to 11 Sisters this year and all but one received their jewels at the dinner. Dorothy Gordon was unable to attend, so NG Aramae Buckingham delivered a 65-year jewel to her. Narcissa members receiving 25-year jewels were Barbara Tvz, Rachel Harmon, Maybelle Leinbach, Ruby Sharp and Karen Kelly. Betty Harpe received her 40-year jewel and 50-year jewel recipients were Louella Wiebe and Lorraine Dummler. Virginia Braden was presented a 65-year jewel and Marjorie Saranto was honored with her 75-year jewel.

Enterprise Lodge member Steve Maxson was unable to attend our Homecoming to receive his 50-year jewel. Art Schreiber of Enterprise Lodge presented the jewel to Steve at an earlier date.

Karen Schultz of Bee Hive Lodge was presented her 50-year jewel by her husband Craig. The jewel that she received had belonged to her grandmother which made it very special.

The following officers were elected to serve in 2009: NG Elsie Wells, VG Barbara Tvz, Rec. Sec. Rose Ringhoffer, Fin. Sec. Jane Hanson, Treas. Marthann Hall, and Three Year Trustee Sharon Sousa.

Once a month we have the opportunity to stay after our meeting and enjoy refreshments while we share in fellowship. We always appreciate those who serve us and thank our most recent hostesses, Barbara Tvz and Marthann Hall, for the delicious pastries and cider.

In F. L. & T., Nancy Klicker, Reporter



Virginia Braden, seated, was all smiles when her sons Jim and John presented her with a 65-year jewel.

Odd Fellowship

If someone asks, you can say. . .

The following was printed in the July, 2009 edition of the South Dakota Pasque Odd Fellow & Rebekah News. It was submitted by Bruce R. Kenyon of Bothell IOOF Lodge #124.

According to the official website of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF), "Odd Fellowship is: the strongest fraternal society on the continent." A great worldwide united brotherhood.

- Based on the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.
- Founded on the North American continent in 1819. Based upon the purest principles of equality. — Non-political — non-sectarian.
- A source of comfort in times of trouble and adversity — a worldwide force that stands for all that is noblest and highest.
- An everyday guide for conduct, a mantle that should be worn always. An organization that favors no person for their wealth and frowns on none for their poverty. An ideal that exists in the heart and mind of every genuine Odd Fellow or Rebekah.
- A vitalizing, sympathetic and actuating influence in the lives of all its real members. Ministering spirit to the needing, cheering the despondent and protecting the hopeless.
- Founded on the inspired word of God as revealed to man in the Holy Bible. The Odd Fellows was founded in England, and introduced in the United States by Thomas Wildey.

The Odd Fellows' objectives is professed to be "To improve and elevate the character of mankind" and members strive to making their community a better place in which to live.

So take that step — invite someone to join — speak to others about our wonderful Order. Share the inspiration to continue expanding our hopes and dreams of a worldwide Brotherhood. Through the years — your membership can offer you not only friendships throughout the world — but a more purposeful life.

— Thanks to the great writing of Lyndall Demers of the Great Northwood Journal

*A Blessed Christmas
To All Our Brothers & Sisters!*

From the Grand Matriarch



JOYCE MILLER

GREETING FROM THE GRAND MATRIARCH

Happy holidays! Merry Christmas to all and may you all have a great season.

Going to the Northwest Odd Fellow and Rebekah Association meeting in Yakima was a fun time. While there, I had the opportunity to sell more tickets for the "Holiday Bears" I had made. I went ahead and finalized the sale of tickets and had the drawing at the banquet on Saturday evening. I asked Jennie Reed (NW Chairperson) to draw the names. Winner of the "Christmas Bear" was Rose Ratchford of Victoria, B.C. Winner of the "Fall Bear" was Donna Tonn from Montesano. Thank you all for buying tickets on the chance to win. You know you are all winners because the money goes to my projects, the Sheppard/Vanderlinden Visual aid for Adults and the Theta Rho Travel Fund.

I will be making my visit to Alpha LEA #1 in Olympia on Thursday, December 3. I will have notices in the newspaper for January and February visitations later.

HARVESTING THE FIELDS FOR NEW MEMBERS

As we go out in the world *smile* and someone will *smile* back. That is the time to ask that someone to join your lodge. It is time to harvest the fields for new members. Just ask!

Thanksgiving was never meant to be only one day. Be thankful every day! Every morning tell Him, "Thank you for your kindness," and every evening rejoice in all his faithfulness. This is from Psalm 92:2.

Be filled with his mighty, glorious strength so that you can keep going no matter what happens. This is from Colossians 1:11.

Go out and ask someone to join!! Merry Christmas to all.

Remember, "Smile and someone will smile back."



*In Faith Hope & Charity;
Friendship Love & Truth,
Joyce Miller, Grand Matriarch*

In Spokane Valley

Ramona Rebekah Lodge #238 & Wilford Odd Fellow Lodge #269

Well there is definitely a nip in the air now.

Members of Wilford and Ramona Lodges have all 65 Halloween pumpkins purchased and delivered. The children were so excited to get their pumpkins. Even though there were several students out sick, we left enough pumpkins for them.

Nominations are over for our new officers.

Then we were busy getting turkeys for "Tom's Turkey Drive" in the mid-

dle of November.

We are also planning a Family Christmas Dinner for all the lodge members and their families. This year Santa will be arriving for all the little ones and the big ones, too. The dinner will be held Saturday, December 5 at 1 p.m.

We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. Stay safe.

*In F, L. & T,
Selma Lindor, Secretary
Wishing you a wonderful day!*

Monterose Rebekahs #46 - Toledo

Our meeting was called to order on Thursday, November 5. NG Rosalie Davis is back from her vacation. She traveled to Florida and went to Disney World. Wow! She took in the sunshine and had a wonderful time.

A certificate was filled out for our dedicated Sister Milber Ingram who lives in Oregon. She joined lodge in 1941 and has been a faithful member over the years. She deserves this 60+ year certificate that will be mailed to her right away.

We had a potluck and fellowship on November 19. President Phyllis Rodgers was scheduled to be our special guest. Invitations were extended to Rebekah Lodges in our area.

Following the meeting, members enjoyed a chili feed and Jello brought by Sandy Holderman and Alice Sanford. "Secret Sister" gifts were also distributed.

Enjoy a happy holiday season!

*In F, L. & T,
Cookie Music, PNG & Reporter*

From your 2009-2010 Grand Patriarch (Matriarch)



SHERRY POND

ANOTHER YEAR COMES TO AN END

Dear Friends,

The end of the year. . . my it just amazes me at how fast the years slip by. My grandmother told me the older you get the faster time flies. This is so true. She also told me never to get old. I am trying not to let that happen. (She said with a smile.) But the changing color of my hair is telling me differently. We won't mention the wrinkles.



A GREAT NORTHWEST MEETING

I had the opportunity to go the Northwest Odd Fellows and Rebekah Association Meeting in Yakima. Jennie Reed, I want to thank you for making the meeting so interesting. Also, the speaker on resumes and "End of Life Planning" was very informative. I was especially interested in his examples of taking care of his mother and handling of her checkbook and car. When we had to take away those things from my mother-in-law, it was a battle. Had I taken his seminar before, it might not have been so traumatic. Every time I go to Northwest I learn something helpful to use in my life. Thank you Jennie for allowing me to bring a little fun into the meeting. We can always enjoy a laugh or two.

I got to attend the JJYC meeting. I heard first hand about the trip to California SGL Youth Day from TRA President Brooklynn Davies. She gave a good report. Also, everyone was thanked all for their efforts to make this a wonderful trip. Brooklynn presented her tentative program for next June. I think she did a very nice job in presenting her wants, needs and concerns. She posed this question to those present, "What is the purpose for the Theta Rho Assembly and the meetings we hold?" Her answer to this question was, "Fellowship, not with just the youth, but with all the branches of our Order." Out of the mouth of babes. . . this is so true. All of our meetings — local, state and world wide — we should meet in fellowship. If we don't mingle with each others, we can't fellowship.

LET'S PROMOTE FELLOWSHIP

This got me to thinking. What can I do to promote fellowship? Maybe you should ask this of yourself and your Encampment. This being the end of the year, maybe you should look back and reflect on what you did to promote "fellowship." If it wasn't enough, we are starting a new year soon, so work on it.

My friends, I want to wish you a *merry Christmas* and a *happy New Year!* May you never forget the reason for the season. May God bless all of you, our nation and our servicemen and women and their families.

Keep smilin', dancin' and singin'. I love you all,



*Yours In Faith, Hope & Charity,
And Friendship, Love & Truth,
Sherry Pond, Grand Patriarch (Matriarch)*

Trinity Rebekahs #179 - Napavine

It is hard to believe that the holidays are upon us. We have a lot to do.

On October 8, we took in a new member. She is Jody Jones. We are proud to have her in our group. So far she fits right in.

We took in a good profit at our Rest Area Coffee Stop October 13-16. It was the good team work that made it a success. Candy Koons thanks everyone who helped with a shift and made cookies.

We sold tickets for a beautiful quilt handmade by Carol Heaton and her helpers. It was raffled off at our Holiday Bazaar on November 20-21. Lunch was served and there was a bake sale table.

We had a flea market sale on November 6-7. There were all sorts of

odds and ends thrown together for an interesting sale. Someone's junk is just what someone else is looking for at a low cost.

In January, Trinity will hold a joint Installation of Officers and a potluck. Gerald and Louann Hoffman will be presiding. It will be easier for all our local lodges to get together and have our Installations at the same place and time.

We are looking forward to this. Delia McNelly is going in as our new Noble Grand and Jackie Crabbe is our Vice Grand They will have a good year in 2010 — and that is just around the corner.

*In F, L. & T,
Cookie Music,
Reporter*



Oktoberfest fun!

There was plenty of good eats, great entertainment and general fun at the South Tacoma Odd Fellows Lodge #211 Oktoberfest and auction on Saturday, October 31. Grand Musician Toby Hanson was on hand to provide traditional German music and there were plenty of brats, sauerkraut and German potato salad to go around. Gathered around the Theta Rho sales table are past Theta Rho Girls, including four Past Presidents of the Theta Rho Assembly. From left are Elyse "Balmert" May, PPTRA; Holly Houser, PPTRA; Sylvia "Johnson" Summers, PPTRA; Patricia Smith; and Laurel "Balmert" Delony, PPTRA. Sylvia is Advisor of the Spunky Bluebirds Theta Rho Girls' Club.

Waterville Rebekah Lodge #77

Seasons greetings from Waterville Rebekah Lodge #77. Where has 2009 gone?

We are having short meetings followed by work sessions where we go over everything and decide what or where things go. We know what goes to the Assembly. Then we have to figure out what goes to the IOOF Museum and what we might be able to sell. We are looking toward a spring sale and the eventual surrender of our Charter. There are a lot of decisions to make after 114 years of existence.

Officers for 2010 were nominated and elected. We chose to hold everyone over in their offices. Officers are: NG Nadra Rivers, VG Irene Kossow,

Sec. Fay Bowers-Holland, and Treas. Shirley Daling.

To all Waterville Rebekahs, here's a reminder that dues for 2010 are due and payable. Send them to Sec. Fay Bowers-Holland, 455 - 9th St. NE, #22, East Wenatchee, WA 98802. If you have any questions, call me at (509) 884-4163 or drop me a line. I will keep you informed.

This is the month for Christmas celebrations and time with families. *Merry Christmas* to all. Enjoy your time with family and friends. Then have a *happy New Year 2010*.

Until then. . .

In F, L. & T,

PP Fay Bowers-Holland, Reporter

Salmon Bay Rebekahs #217 - Ballard

Salmon Bay had its Conferring of the Rebekah Degree Ceremony for new member Regina Thomas on November 5. It was "dog paddling" weather, but that did not hinder the pre-meeting pot luck lunch preparations.

The tables, as usual, were lovely with pink place mats and vases of pink roses (thanks to Norine Lucas and Francis Zimmerman who came early to spruce up the place and start the coffee).

The Degree Team was organized by Sister Judy Sansom and our lodge was beautifully represented by its members in flowing white gowns.

Our new member Sister Regina reacted like the rest of us had when experiencing initiation. "How am I

going to remember all this?" she asked.

The final vote on our 2010 slate of officers was held and the new Noble Grand will be Susan Dare with Brother Jean Coston elected Vice Grand. The remainder of the slate will be filled with Norine Lucas as Secretary, Rayanne Marrelli as Financial Secretary, June Robinson as Treasurer and Brother Greg Powers as a three-year Board of Trustees member.

Salmon Bay's membership is widespread, with some traveling as many as 25 miles to attend meetings. Now that is real Sister and Brotherhood!

In F, L. & T,

Donna Flatt, Reporter

In Roy

Warren Rebekah Lodge #308

Hello from Warren #308.

Back in September, we initiated Linda Finch. The Drill Team did an awesome job. We were very happy to receive Linda as our new Sister.

As always, we shared a great potluck and it was nice to be back together again. Sister Elizabeth was absent due to hip surgery. We sure missed our Musician!

At the last meeting in September, we had a cold luncheon with fall colors on the tables. Yea! Our Musician is back. Sister Elizabeth is doing well. We missed her very much.

Our Charter was draped for PPRA Doris Wigglesworth. Several members of Warren attended the services for Geraldine Fordice. Both these Sisters will be missed by many.

PNG DoRis Klotzner attended Rebekah Assembly in Yakima. DoRis had a "Murphy's Law" adventure! Things didn't go as smoothly as she would have liked. We all had a big laugh. DoRis may be tiny, but she's tough!

The month of October was like a beautiful landscape of fall colors. God gives us such awesome blessings! We had a fun potluck at our October 14 meeting. There was plenty of good fun and good fun.

NG Marlene Lenz informed us that VG Carol Moline and her husband Ray had a fire that destroyed their garage and car. Because of water and smoke damage, it seems the house will have to be rebuilt. Sister Carol has a good outlook on things. She's thankful no one got hurt and their pets were fine.

Sister Patty Johnson was absent following back surgery. Sister Aloris Schley also was absent with heart issues. We really do miss our Sisters. It is comforting when we all can be together.

We had a lively discussion during our meeting on ways to increase our membership and keep our Rebekah Lodge open. It was said that we have five lodges left in our district. How can we entice younger ladies such as the Theta Rho Girls to join? They would be a great asset to our lodges. Hopefully, we could share ideas and learn a lot from each other!

We put together our Christmas baskets in mid-November. We brought sack lunches and worked as a team. Most importantly, we had *fun!*

Linda Finch won a Halloween basket made by NG Marlene. Sister Carol brought back our "Traveling Angel" and shared some wonderful quotes by Andy Rooney.

The "Traveling Angel" was passed on to Jeanne Akirs and she will bring her back at the next meeting.

As I write this letter, we are having a rain and wind storm. Our power is out and we have oil lamps lit. How many remember those good 'ol days? The warm glow from the lamps and wood stove have a calming effect. The quiet is very nice for a change.

Time has a way of sneaking up on us. We had a Halloween luncheon at our last meeting in October. It was hosted by Patty Johnson and myself. We decided to serve a hot meal as the weather was turning cool. Patty was back after having her successful surgery. She's another tiny, but tough gal.

We missed VG Carol Moline. She took a nasty fall and was pretty sore and bruised. We hope she has better days ahead. Sister Janelle also was absent due to health issues. We missed her sweet smile. Janelle is our youngest member and brings a lot of energy to us when she is feeling well.

Sister Linda Finch was absent due to her husband returning from Iraq. Praise the Lord for his safe return.

For some time I have been wanting to mention Sister Lynn Burnside. She is a longtime member and often cannot attend our meetings because of work. Lynn always "steps up to the plate" to help in any way possible. We need to let her know that we appreciate her. Same with Sister Aloris Schley. Thank you, Sisters!

PNG DoRis received her Commission from the District Deputy President. The Honors were given to her.

By the time you folks read this letter, we will have had our November Thanksgiving meeting and luncheon. We plan to have a full traditional meal.

We plan to take this opportunity to honor our three elder Sisters — DoRis Klotzner, Elizabeth Wallace and Mary Robinson. How fortunate we are to have these ladies mentor us and share their love and history of the Rebekahs with us. Each Sister brings a special grace into our lodge.

Last month's *Washington OddFellow* was very up-lifting with lots of activities and upbeat attitudes. It was fun to read! Thank you to Bob Jacobson of Ocean Beach #313 for such an inspiring letter! It really touched my heart. Everything that we have on earth can be taken away in an instant. Build your life for your "Heavenly" home.

I apologize for any mistakes on dates, times or places. The older I get, the harder it is to keep abreast of things.



In F, L. & T,
Deb Gulley, Reporter

South Tacoma Rebekahs #160

We've had our nominations and elections of officers. Our Installation of Officers will be held on Sunday, January 31 at 2 p.m. in the South Tacoma Odd Fellows Hall.

Our elected officers for 2010 are: NG Holly Houser, VG Nadine Whitlock, Sec. Carol Robertson, Fin. Sec. Sharon Harris, and Treas. Clarice Roberts. We wish all of these ladies the best for a great year.

Our lodge also thanks Noble Grand Joanne Balmert for a great year.

The lodge had a social evening

/Thanksgiving dinner to thank all the non-members who helped us with our money-maker which was picking up ballots for the year. To those people we thank you.

Please put Flossie Morey in your prayers. Flossie has been very ill. We hope she is better soon and able to come back to lodge. She and her jokes are missed terribly.

Merry Christmas.

In F, L. & T,
Laurel Delony, Reporter

In Goldendale

Alimus IOOF Lodge #15, Leah Rebekah Lodge #22

We hope you had a happy Thanksgiving and we wish a merry Christmas to everyone. It has been a while since we put a letter into the newspaper. To much is going on in Goldendale! We do hope everyone had a wonderful and filling Thanksgiving dinner.

Our lodge dinner will be held on Saturday, December 12 at the lodge hall at noon. If you happen to be in the vicinity, you are more than welcome to join us.

Our election of officers is over for the year. Our new Noble Grands who will lead us into 2010 are Lucky McGaughy for Alimus #15 and Chris Sweetin for Leah #22. We wish them both well in this undertaking. Both are past Noble Grands, so they have a good idea of what they are doing — at least we hope so!

The Secretaries remain the same persons. It seems once you get this job, it is hard to get out of it as no one else wants it! (All Secretaries will now say “*amen*”!)

The Rebekahs celebrated their Past Noble Grands in October. There were eight PNG's in attendance at that meeting. Our Secretary and her husband were vacationing in Washington, D.C. at the time, so they missed out on the fun as they are both PNG's. Ray and Mary Gosney said they had a great time, but they were very tired when they arrived home. By the way, they really don't like the airports. They had a miserable time at them, but had a good time otherwise.

The Odd Fellows held the Initiatory Degree on October 27. We initiated one member for

Goldendale and three members for White Salmon. Two of the White Salmon members who came along to help in the Initiation took an office that night as a couple of our members were unable to attend. We welcome all four of these members and hope they will become active in their lodges. The other degrees will be held after the first of the year.

On Halloween, our lodge participated in the Goldendale “Trunk or Treat” downtown. This is a fun event that began in town about three or four years ago. You park your vehicle on Main Street and serve the “Trick or Treaters” the candy (or whatever) from the trunk of your car. There are usually at least 20 to 25 cars lined up and the kids have a blast going from one to the other! Lloyd and Chris Sweetin served the candy this year. Chris dressed up in her witch's costume — green face and all! She said she was photographed at least six times — one we hope will end up in the local newspaper. If it does, we will send it on to the *Washington Odd Fellow* so you can see it.

Ernie and Mavis House attended Northwest in Yakima November 6-8. They were trying to get some of the other members of the lodge to commit to attending, but they weren't having much luck! Those who do not attend this gathering and meeting really don't know how much fun they are missing. It is great to meet Odd Fellows and Rebekahs from British Columbia, Idaho and Oregon.

I have rambled on long enough. Hopefully, there will be a letter from us in the next newspaper. Until then, we hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and we wish a blessed Christmas to all.

I leave you with this thought: “There are two days in every week about which we should not worry — one of these days is Yesterday with its mistakes and cares, its faults and blunders, its aches and pains. Yesterday has passed forever beyond our control. Tomorrow's sun will rise, whether in splendor or behind a mask of clouds. Until it does, we have no stake in tomorrow, for it is yet unborn. This leaves only one day — Today. Anyone can fight the battles of just one day — it is only when you and I add the burdens of these two awful days — Yesterday and Tomorrow — that we break down. *Let us therefore live but one day at a time!*”



— In F. L. & T.,
Mavis House,
Reporter



Lloyd and Chris Sweetin were on the streets of downtown Goldendale for this year's “Trunk or Treat” event. The Goldendale Lodges have been participating in this event for four years.

Mystic Rebekah Lodge #168 and Bremerton Friendship Lodge #145

Oops I missed last month. I must have hit the overload.

Our Brothers who have not been on the recurring sick list have been making visitations.

Sister Elsie Burgett does not get to every meeting either.

We are sorry to report the passing of another Sister. PNG Marie Watson was a 60-year member initiated into Jewel Rebekah Lodge #227 in Port Orchard. She was a member there until consolidation and then she transferred to Aurilla to be with family. Then she came back to us following consolidation in 2005. She was 97 and was survived by four generations of family numbering a total of 96. At family gatherings her hearing loss may have been a blessing.

We were sorry to have President Phyllis grounded and not able to make her visitations. Do get well soon.

During this season of blessings and sharing, we are closing out our giving with donations to the following: President's Projects, Education Fund, Theta Rho, Home flowers, Rose Parade, Visual Aid, UN Pilgrimage, L.J. Jones Scholarship Fund, Home Christmas and Sunshine, and Rebekah Assembly postage. Locally we donate monthly to two food banks, the Mason County Senior Center, Kitsap Meals on Wheels, Northwest Kidney Center, and the Bellringer Christmas food banks. We donated 18 stuffed animals and a decorated tree to our Harrison Hospital Festival of Trees. And the year is not done.

Merry Christmas to all. You are remembered and we wish you good health and cheer.

Fraternally, Don & Florence Cowdery, Reporters

Oak Leaf Rebekahs #254 - Oak Harbor

Happy holiday season to each of you however you choose to celebrate. We hope each of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with your friends and loved ones.

Last month we initiated two more new members. We welcome Teri Caporgno and Sharilyn Nelson to our lodge. We hope they will enjoy meeting with us.

We will be having our Christmas Family Potluck with the Odd Fellows and Theta Rho's and their families on Wednesday, December 2. This is always a time of good fellowship with lots of good food. Then we play white

elephant Bingo.

We have been invited by our Theta Rho's to go caroling with them to the nursing home.

I missed our last meeting so I don't know who is on the sick list, but I hope all of our members are feeling well and can enjoy the holidays with their families. I will be spending mine in Italy with my daughter Carrie and her husband David.

We wish for all of you a merry Christmas

*In Rebekah Love,
Judy Diekman,
PPRA & Reporter*

Virginia twin girls need your cards and prayers

(This is an e-mail that was sent to The Washington OddFellow by The Sovereign Grand Lodge. The family writing this e-mail are IOOF members.)

Hi All,
We wouldn't normally ask for a favor like this, but this situation seems to warrant it. I am looking to the kindness of those who we know to help make a couple of young girls feel more hopeful during a very bad situation. This e-mail is not forwarded, but a direct request from us.

A co-worker's daughter has two friends who are twins. Unfortunately, one of the twins (who is age 16) has been given two to four weeks to live. She has a rare genetic disease and has been sick for some time. The original prognosis was a couple of months ago would be that she had six months to two years to live. This has drastically changed in the past week. These two girls have been through a lot in their 16 years of life and now this.

What I am asking is for anyone who feels so inclined to drop these girls a card — just something that lets them know that others are thinking of them in their time of need. Receiving mail makes most people happy and I think this would brighten these girls' days.

Kristina, the twin who is dying, is somewhat limited in her mental capacity. She knows what is happening, but no one knows if she fully understands. So “happy” cards would be perfect. Kaitlin, the healthy twin, is just trying to cope. Something that tells her to hang in there might brighten her days. She is spending a lot of time asking, “Why is this happening.” Kaitlin knows I am requesting you all send cards to Kristina and has indicated, “Kristina would love that!!” She doesn't know we are asking for cards for her too! The goal is to have 1,000 cards sent to these twins before anything happens to Kristina.

So, if anyone feels so inclined, the address is: Kristina Thomas (Happy Cards), 9320 Cedar Hollow Road, Unionville, VA 22567. And Kaitlin Thomas (Words of Encouragement,), 9320 Cedar Hollow Road, Unionville, VA 22567

God will carry us through the hard times as promised. We simply must believe and pray. Thank you.

— *The Kepples*

Happy Holidays!

