



Legacy of a dear friend

Walla Walla Home's Chet Steen 'makes a difference'

Chet Steen, a resident of the Odd Fellows Home in Walla Walla for 14 years, took his eternity leave on March 24, 2009. Shortly after I arrived in 1999, I became acquainted with Chet and we developed an enduring friendship, forged through the joys and sorrows that life brought our way. Chet recognized the joy of living and participating in a community where you could connect with people who cared about you. At the Home, he found meaningful relationships, support and a rich tapestry of social events to stimulate his heart and mind.

Over the years, Chet demonstrated an intense love for the Home. Spontaneous donations to the Endowment Fund brought a sense of joy to his heart. He found pleasure in sharing stories with the men over coffee and donuts. Chet wanted to "make a difference" in the quality of life at the Home. One day he arrived in my office and exclaimed that he had remembered us in his will. It was Chet's way of expressing his appreciation for the love, respect and "sense of community" that he had found at the Home.



CHET STEEN

Almost a year after Chet's passing, I received word that he had bequeathed more than \$162,500 to the Home's Endowment Fund. It is with a profound sense of gratitude that we accept this generous gift. Chet, you blessed us with your presence and taught all of us what it means to love someone "unconditionally" during times of great pain and sadness. You were "always surrounded by family" here at the Home and will always be precious to our hearts.

We all want to be remembered and everyone leaves something behind. How will you share your love, values, blessings and hopes and dreams for the future? Chet chose to provide lasting support for the Home well into the future. His gift — his legacy — provided him with a deep satisfaction that his life and work did count. I ask you to please consider the Washington Odd Fellows Home Endowment Fund in your will. Your contributions truly do make a difference! Thank you for your friendship, generosity and support over the years.

— John Paulson, Director of Development, Odd Fellows Home



— Photo by Robert Jacobson

Elective Officers from five Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges were installed in Olympia IOOF Lodge #1 on January 23.

Five lodges install officers in Olympia on January 23

What a great host lodge Olympia #1 (OL1) is! Wow, we need more lodges that live F., L. & T. like OL1.

I was invited to witness installation of offices on January 23 while attending Rebekah District #18's semi-annual meeting held at Ocean Beach #313 in Ilwaco last October. Accompanied by PDDGM Neal Emond, we left Ilwaco in plenty of time. Five lodges were installed: Olympia #1, Silvia #38, Skookumchuck #129, Ruth #17 and Bucoda #144. The photo shows the elective officers of said lodges that were installed.

The evening started with a wonderful meal prepared by Marv's Marvlus Pit Bar-B-Q. We thought it would be tough to follow that act. One hundred and twenty-one attendees were reported to have nearly filled the hall. Wouldn't it be marvelous to have in excess of 100 to every meeting? Yeah!

Grand Master Frank Wilson was proficient, as usual, as he directed the proceedings. Grand Musician Toby Hanson kept things moving with his magical fingers. Noble Grand Stuart Carlson jovially wound the evening down.

I had originally submitted a photo collage of the evening, however there wasn't room to print it as a full page in newspaper.

I crawled into bed just past midnight in Astoria, OR. Thank you Washington Odd Fellows and Rebekahs for a memorial evening.

— In F., L. & T., Robert Jacobson, PNG, Ocean Beach #313

An Encampment encounter

Everyone is invited to a picnic in Olympia Saturday, July 24!

Alpha Encampment #1 and Alpha LEA #1 of Olympia is inviting members of all Encampments and Ladies Encampment Auxiliaries to join us at our Annual Encampment Summer Picnic to be held at the IOOF Puget Beach Park in Olympia on Saturday, July 24 at 1 p.m.

There will be a main course of grilled-for-a-bun tubular roll meat and grilled-for-a-bun ground beef patties for your dining pleasure. Condiments will be provided. Please bring a dish for the picnic to share — something of your personal picnic favorite. Also, bring your favorite non-alcoholic beverage. The main course will be prepared by a surprise master culinary expert of grilling.

Olympia Lodge #1's Puget Beach Park is designed with an enclosed pavilion/kitchen. The park is large enough to wander the grounds and enjoy the view of Puget Sound. Picnic benches are available, both enclosed and outside.

Please come, meet the other members of the Encampment family and enjoy the day with us. Donations will be gladly accepted.

Please RSVP by June 15 to: Bill Snyder, Alpha Encampment #1, 405 Columbia St. SW, Olympia, WA 98501-1036.

On behalf of Chief Patriarch Brian Brewer

And Patriarchs of Alpha Encampment #1 in Olympia,

Happily submitted in Faith, Hope and Charity, Bill Snyder, Reporter



Doris' legacy still lives on!

On behalf of Past Grand Matriarch Doris Wigglesworth, a check was presented for improvements to the IOOF Park. This was Doris' project from her term as Grand Matriarch. The check was presented by Grand LEA Treasurer Karen Hoylman to Park Board President Carson Inman at the February Park Board meeting on Camano Island. Doris passed away last year.

2009-2010 Grand Master's Meanderings



FRANK WILSON

MARCHING INTO MARCH

To all my Brothers and Sisters,

February kept me busy with dental appointments, home lodge and traveling to Yakima to enjoy the All State Choir Concert in which our eighth grade granddaughter was selected to participate. This being her first year of choir, we are very proud of her!

FEBRUARY WAS A BUSY MONTH

Your Grand Lodge officers and some past grand lodge officers have been busy during the month of February with committee meetings such as the Permanent Endowment Fund for the Home, Grand Lodge Executive Board, and the Odd Fellows Recreational Park Board. Some of us attended South Tacoma's Spunky Bluebirds Theta Rho Girls' Club's Installation of Officers, as well.

SUPPORT THE ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

March brings some significant events to our Order. We, as a Fraternal Order, recognize March as a time of monetary commitment to the Arthritis Foundation "as we search for arthritis cures." Odd Fellows have been instrumental working with the Arthritis Foundation both locally and nationally. The foundation has made great strides, but is in need of our continued support of its mission to prevent, control and cure arthritis.

The Grand Lodge Planning Board meeting will be held in Yakima on Saturday, March 6.

The 2010 Paralympics Winter Games are March 12 through March 21. Daylight Savings Time begins on March 14, followed by St. Patrick's Day on March 17. Spring begins on March 20, and finally, Palm Sunday is on the 28th of March.

The Honorable Paul Cuminale, Sovereign Grand Master, has proclaimed that the month of March be "Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Arthritis Month" in cooperation of fund raising through the Arthritis Foundation in the USA and the Arthritis Society of Canada. Brother Cuminale also proclaimed the 23rd day of March 2010 as "Schuyler Colfax Day" in honor of the birthday of Brother Colfax who wrote the Rebekah Degree of Odd Fellowship which was adopted in 1851.

PRACTICE FRIENDSHIP, LOVE AND TRUTH

Brothers and Sisters, if we apply in our daily lives the ritualistic teachings that we have received, we cannot but have faith in ourselves and confidence in our ability to overcome the obstacles that confront our everyday lives. Let us always remember that in the practice of Friendship, Love and Truth be found the best safeguards against the ills of life.

"Act Humbly, Love Completely and Live Differently."

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

A short note from Hilda

To My Dear Friends,

Thanks to all of you for the cards and letters sent at Christmas. I did not send any.

I am in a very nice place, but it is not home. I did not want to, but I had to give up my house. My new address is: 1501 Collins Road, #412, Sedro Woolley WA 98284.

I am using a walker and enjoy going down to the dining room for meals. It is like going to a restaurant each time. I often take the long way so that I get my walk in each day. I am very hard of hearing and my eyes aren't what they used to be. It would take a week to enumerate all the things that ail me, but I don't want to bore you with all those details. After all, I will be 104 by the time you read this.

Between Wendy and Francie, all my needs are met. Wendy comes to visit every week and Francie is living on the island now. They do my shopping and take me to my doctor appointments.

I wish you all well, and have been happy to hear from you.

— Love, Hilda Sprague

From the desk of the Grand Secretary



EDMOND L. REITAN, JR.

"TAKE ME" ITEMS NEEDED VERY SOON

The Advance Reports or "Take Me" will be put together in the very near future, so all Grand Lodge Elective Officers and Grand Lodge Committee Chairman need to submit their reports and budget requests in time for the publication of this booklet. Note: To those Committee Chairmen needing yearly financial data, it will not be available until after the Grand Lodge books are closed on March 31, 2010. All text only reports could be completed now and forwarded to the Grand Lodge office.

If you or a Lodge Representative wish to submit legislation for consideration at this Grand Lodge Session, it also should be prepared and received in time for printing in the "Take Me."

I would also remind those lodges with even numbers that elected a Representative this year, you must submit a Representative's Certificate if you have not done so already. We need those certificates as soon as possible to allow the Grand Master to make appointments of Representatives to Standing Committees before the Annual Sessions convene.

The Annual Sessions of the Grand Bodies of the Order will be held at the Clarion Hotel in Yakima. Registration forms, including forms for meals, will appear in the next issue of *The Washington OddFellow*. Registrations for Sessions this year will again be handled by Alimus IOOF Lodge #15 and Leah Rebekah Lodge #22 under the Chairmanship of Ernest and Mavis House.

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

Ellensburg IOOF Lodge #20

Hello from from Ellensburg IOOF Lodge # 20.

We had a formal installation of officers on January 14, our first in about 18 years. Thank you to the Deputy Grand Master from District #21 and the installing team. We made a day of it and had some wonderful fellowship. The installing team got the tour of lodge and saw the improvements that were done by the class (new officers) of 2010. The class of 2010 has the vision to bring our lodge building and membership to the glory days of the past. It is like the rising of the Phoenix.

Ellensburg's new officers are, from left, Treas. Jim Schwing, NG Rolf Williams and VG Howard Lyman.

This is the year that I have been looking forward to for a long time. One hundred years ago we had 350 members in IOOF Lodge # 20. If we can achieve that in the next 10 years, we will be in good shape.

— In F, L. & T., Dean Duby, Reporter

PNG's Association

Next meeting on March 18

The Past Noble Grands Association will meet on Thursday, March 18 at the Elk Plain Grange Hall. Members of Eola Rebekah Lodge #63 in Buckley will serve the lunch at noon. Ruth Rebekah Lodge #17 will have the program.

There was no meeting in February and there will be no meeting in April as the Past Noble Grands voted to have meetings every other month.

President Flossie will be honoring Supporters to the President, Vice President and Chaplains.

A big "hello" to all of you shut-ins. We hope everyone is feeling okay. Come and support your President, Flossie.

In F, L. & T., Sharon Harris, Reporter

Get your pictures in for Grand Sessions program

Attention heads of all Units of our Order. If you would like your picture in the official program booklet for this year's Grand Sessions, please send it to Mike House at 786 Cedar Valley Road, Goldendale, WA 98620-2307 or deliver it to Mavis House at the next Planning Board meeting on Saturday, March 6. The meeting will be at the Clarion Hotel in Yakima.

Deadline for getting your picture to Mike is Tuesday, May 25.

From your 2009 - 2010 Assembly President



PHYLLIS RODGERS

HAPPY ST. PADDY'S DAY!

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I am still on limited activities by doctor's orders. I have been able to make a couple of visitations close by and help with a few Installations of Officers. I have enjoyed my time with these Sisters and Brothers. I want to apologize to those lodges on the "plains" side of the mountain as I said I would reschedule the visits that I had to cancel. My doctor has put restrictions on me as to how far I can drive, so I will not be able to come over that way again. I am very sorry.



The dress orders for Assembly have been mailed and are due by Monday, March 15. If you are an officer and did not get one, please let me know as soon as possible. Also, letters have been sent to lodges requesting tributes, addendas, etc for Sessions. Once again I would like a response as soon as possible in case some changes need to be made.

The Sovereign Grand Master had two proclamations in the International News for March. Once again I would like to remind you that this is Arthritis Month. Also, March 23, 2010 has been proclaimed as Schuyler Colfax Day in honor of the man who founded the Rebekah Degree. It is requested that you have a "Colfax Class" of initiates in honor of the celebrations.

*In F., L. & T., Phyllis Rodgers,
President Rebekah Assembly of Washington*

Past RA President

PP Myrtle Miller-Oestreich passes away in Moses Lake

APRIL 12, 1916 - JANUARY 1, 2010

Myrtle Susan W. Miller-Oestreich, Past President of the Rebekah Assembly of North Dakota and an honorary member of the Past Presidents' Association of Washington, passed away Friday, January 1 at Columbia Crest Care & Rehabilitation Center in Moses Lake after a courageous battle with Parkinson's disease. Funeral services were held on Saturday, January 9 in the United Methodist Church.

Myrtle was an Associate Member of Golden Links Rebekah Lodge # 328 in Moses Lake. She maintained her Rebekah membership in North Dakota.

Myrtle was born to William H. and Susan (Schultz) Wettlaufer on April 12, 1916 in Oregon City, OR where she was raised and educated. Graduating with honors in 1932 from Oregon City High School, she then attended college at Willamette University in Salem, OR, graduating in 1936 with a B.A. Degree in education. Myrtle attended the University of Washington for her Master's Degree in Secondary School.

She married Clifton E. Miller in 1937. They moved to Fargo, North Dakota that summer where Dr. Clifton, Sr. worked at North Dakota State University. She moved to Moses Lake in 1967 to manage the Fultz-Miller Drug for 13 years. Dr. Miller preceded Myrtle in death in 1980 and she married Richard L. Oestreich on June 5, 1982.

She joined many clubs including the Rebekahs which she joined in North Dakota. She was listed in the 1968 edition of "Outstanding Civic Leaders of America." She loved to travel around the world, visiting seven continents and more than 100 countries.

Memorials may be made to a charity of donor's choice.

Sylvan Glen will miss Ruby

Ruby Smarz was a beloved member of Sylvan Glen Rebekah Lodge #184 in Pe Ell since 1968. She passed away in late 2009.

Ruby taught school in Pe Ell for many, many years and her pupils really loved her. She held elective offices in our lodge almost every year, but didn't want to be a Noble Grand because she didn't feel she could do it as well as her other elective office. We miss you, Ruby.

— Luellyn Ainsworth, Chaplain

From the desk of the Assembly Secretary



MARCIA PRESLEY

MARCH IS ARTHRITIS MONTH

Here it is March already. Winter will soon be gone and the first signs of spring will be in the air.

March is Odd Fellow and Rebekah Arthritis Month. All donations are to be sent to my office and will be forwarded to the Arthritis Foundation of Washington. Thank you to all the lodges that have already donated to this foundation and to those lodges that will make their donations during the month of March.

LET'S HONOR OUR FOUNDER

March 23 has been proclaimed by Sovereign Grand Master Paul Cuminale as Schuyler Colfax Day throughout Odd Fellowship in honor of the birthday of Brother Colfax. The Rebekah Degree of Odd Fellowship was adopted in 1851 and the Degree was the work of the Honorable Schuyler Colfax, who later served as Speaker of the House of Representatives and went on to serve as Vice President of the United States of America. The Rebekah Degree provides woman's softening touch to Odd Fellowship as founded upon the principles of the Order — faithfulness, hospitality, purity and dedication as portrayed by women of the Bible. This Degree of Rebekah was for the wives and daughters of Odd Fellows. The world now enjoys a Sisterhood of lodges in 20 countries around the globe. Because of his efforts over a number years, the Degree of Rebekahs came to be. If you are planning an initiation in March, honor his name by celebrating a "Colfax Class" for your new members.

St. Patrick's Day will be March 17, so be sure and wear your green, unless you want to be pinched. At my age, that sounds like fun.

REMINDERS TO OUR LODGES

I would like to include a few reminders to the lodges. Make sure that the checks sent to the Assembly Secretary for your supplies, donations, etc. are made out to the Rebekah Assembly of Washington with two signatures on them. If you are making a donation to the Home in Walla Walla, please indicate in a letter or a notation on the check what fund at the Home you want your donation to go to — Activities, Sunshine Fund, Flowers, Christmas, or Home Endowment Memorial Fund. When donations are sent for the Theta Rho, again specify where you want your funds to go — Theta Rho Travel, Theta Rho Hotel, or Theta Rho President's Project.

While we are on the subject of donations. A big **thank you** to all the lodges that were able to donate to the various programs of our Order. They are greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please call me.

HERE'S OUR PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

I am including the mailing address of the Assembly President Phyllis Rodgers. I have had numerous phone calls asking for her mailing address. If you don't have a Journal or aren't able to go on our website, there is no way to get her address. Her address as is as follows: Phyllis Rodgers, President, Rebekah Assembly of Washington, 343 Whiskey Road, Port Townsend, WA 98368.

I will sign off for now: *What the world really needs is more love and less paperwork.* With Rebekah hugs. . .

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



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From your 2009-2010 Theta Rho President



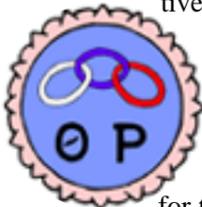
BROOKLYNN DAVIES

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

Dear Friends,

Proudly wear your green or get pinched.

Use this month's luck to your advantage and think membership. Make decorations and center pieces. Throw a "Green Party" and invite prospective members to come join the fun.



Since the weather is warming up, I'm ready to start making the trip across the mountains. You will soon be receiving notices from me to make my official visits to your clubs. I Look forward to seeing you all.

Spunky Bluebirds jumped the gun and invited me over for their Installation where I was the Installing Officer. My Sister, Destiny Davies, TRA Treasurer, accompanied me on this trip. Keep the invites coming, I always jump at the chance to see my girls.

Until next time. . . Ciao.

*In Happiness Through Service ,
Brooklynn Davies, Theta Rho Assembly President*

In Pe Ell

Sylvan Glen Rebekah Lodge #184

Hello to my home lodge — Salmon Bay. There was a misprint about the number of years I have been a member. I joined Queen Anne Rebekah Lodge on May 18, 1954 and I am still a Rebekah. I love it as always.

We draped our Charter in January for PPRA Myrtle Miller Oestreich.

Sisters Carolyn Miller and Norline Burton have been able to come to lodge. They were royally welcomed.

Our second lunch in January was served by Leona Treznoski and Minnie Epling. It was delicious! Marian Moon donated her special potato salad. Bingo was played after the meeting. Everyone won two donated prizes.

The officers presented NG Carolyn Turner with a butterfly pattern sugar and creamer set. She did such a good job that we drafted her for another year. She said, "elected."

Our February 10 meeting was enjoyable. We held "Valentine Bingo" after the meeting with members fur-

nishing the prizes.

THOUGHT

"Sympathy is never wasted except when you give it to yourself."

— From Homestead

"Old age is like everything else. To make a success of it, you've got to start young."

— Fred Astaire

Our members are all enjoying much better health. That's one of the good signs of spring.

Treas. Cora Walker's husband had back surgery. NG Carolyn Turner's husband Bill is still improving. We are happy for them both.

Chap. Luellyn Ainsworth is still bragging about her New Year's 90th birthday, although there was no big party. She celebrated for almost a week, receiving cards, presents, long distance phone calls and special days. With love to all. . .

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

Oak Leaf Rebekahs #254 - Oak Harbor

Happy St. Patrick's Day and happy spring to everyone. Spring officially starts this month, but my daffodils are already blooming as I am writing this.

At our first meeting in February, we were honored to have Sister Phyllis Rodgers, President of the Rebekah Assembly of Washington, make her official visit to our lodge. We really appreciated this as we know she is very limited right now on her traveling. We had a great dinner and visit. Some of the Theta Rho Girls joined us for dinner and we enjoyed having them.

Sister Diana, our Noble Grand, is off to a good start. On the months that there is a fifth Wednesday, she always plans a special activity. On the last Wednesday in March we will meet at the hall to make Easter cards. All we need to bring is scissors and a glue stick or double-sided tape, along with finger food. She will provide the rest.

She is very talented in scrap booking and card making, so if you come you are in for a treat.

The Rebekahs have been invited to work with the Theta Rhos on a food drive for our local food bank.

Our wonderful Musician spent time in the hospital again and we sure missed her music. It adds so much to our meeting.

Our sister Betty Haines was also in the hospital and is now in a convalescent center. We hope she will be well enough to go home soon. To Sisters Nita Sherwood and Elizabeth Steinsiek who cannot come to our meetings, we think of you ladies and miss you.

Everyone, take care and enjoy the nice spring weather and all the lovely flowers that are blooming.

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

Pasco Theta Rho Girls' Club #14

Yes, spring has poked its little head out in the open and all is green and shiny. We are getting ready to start a few community service projects for spring. We can now get out and walk the animals at the Humane Society. We will be having a fund/food drive for the animal shelter.

We are trying to do more community service work and get out into the public more. We made and took 100 Valentines to the Retirement Inn in Pasco and visited with the residents. We also have an on-going project of collecting paper projects for the Safe Harbor Crisis Nursery. We are helping our Rebekahs with their project of helping their adopted Sister in the Home in Walla Walla. Also, we are helping Sister Barbara German with her District Project of things for the new kitchen. We don't have to look too far to find things that we can help with.

We had our Installation of Officers with TRA President Brooklynn Davies as the Installing Officer. Sisters from our Golden Rule Rebekah Lodge assisted. Our newly-elected and installed officers are: Brooklynn Davies, President; Lilly Gridley, Vice President; and Magan Moore, Secretary.

We are looking forward to seeing you all soon,

*— Yours In Happiness Through Service,
Members of Pasco Theta Rho Girls Club #14*

In Oak Harbor

Acorn Theta Rho #79

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

February was a busy month for us. We started out the month with some of our members attending the dinner for Rebekah Assembly President Phyllis Rodgers when she made her official visit to our sponsoring lodge. At our first meeting we initiated Elayne Wallace and we have one more member from our open house to initiate. Several of our members attended the Installation and sleepover hosted by the Spunky Bluebirds Theta Rho Girls' Club. It was a lot of fun. Thanks Spunky for a great time.

We had our own Installation of Officers. Jane Kuja, PPTRA and Chairman of the JJYC, was the Installing Officer. Holly Houser, PPTRA and Secretary of the JJYC, was Installing Marshal. They were assisted by PNGs from our sponsoring lodge. We were so happy to have them come to help with our Installation.

Girls installed were: President Jennifer Turnek, Vice President Olivia Thraillkill, Secretary Bethany Bond, Treasurer Amanda Fry, Chaplain Allison Stewart, Warden Alexandra Petersen, Conductor Elayne Wallace, Marshal Yvonne McKie and Right Supporter to the President Zoie Overby.

This month we are having a food drive for our local food bank. We will spend the day at one of the grocery stores handing out a list of what they need, collecting those items and delivering them to Help House. We are inviting our Rebekah Sisters to join us in this project. Since Easter is so early in April, we will also be making the Easter baskets for the Assisted Living Facility in Oak Harbor.

Spring officially starts this month, so we hope everyone will enjoy the warmer weather and the flowers.

In Happiness Through Service, The members of Acorn #79

~ In Memoriam ~

• **Jean Briscoe**, member of Fern Rebekah Lodge #26, Montesano.

• **Madge Thomson**, PNG, 46 year member of Clover Leaf Rebekah Lodge #54, Bothell.

• **Bernice Riggelman**, 62 year member of Tempest Rebekah Lodge #114, Wenatchee.

• **Jacquie Crabbe**, Trinity Rebekah Lodge #179, Napavine.

• **Florence Pedersen**, PNG, 50+ year member, Trinity Rebekah Lodge #179, Napavine.

• **Ruby Smarz**, 41 year member of Sylvan Glen Rebekah Lodge #184, Pe Ell.

• **Josephine Atkinson**, 49 year member of Grandview Rebekah Lodge #246, Grand View.

• **Myrtle Miller-Oestreich**, PP Rebekah Assembly of North Dakota and honorary member of the Past Presidents' Association of Washington. Associate Member of Golden Links Rebekah Lodge #328, Moses Lake.

In Des Moines

Lorraine Rebekah Lodge #289

We are off to a good start for the year. Noble Grand Barbara Reitan has interesting programs planned.

In January we brought our baby pictures and everyone tried to guess who was who.

In February we made Valentines for a local nursing home.

In March we are looking forward to the Des Moines Odd Fellows' corned

beef and cabbage dinner on Tuesday March 16.

We have been assigned July 31 through August 4 to serve coffee at the Federal Way Rest Area. It looks like we will be having a busy and fun year.

Best wishes to all.

*In F, L. & T,
Betty Young, Reporter*

From the Grand Matriarch



JOYCE MILLER

SPRING HAS ARRIVED

Greetings from your Grand Matriarch.

By the time you receive this, spring will have started to show its colors! Yes, spring has arrived.

You should have your elections of officers finished and getting ready for installations. Those who are nominated for a office should remember that if they accept a desk office (Scribe or Treasurer), they must know these are jobs that are very important in each lodge. Keeping records is very important and a way to keep track of all the members (newer and older). When someone comes to you and asks a question, you should be able to pull up that record and answer the question. Every office is important in each lodge, so take it seriously when accepting one.

We are all buds of springtime, so uncover your faces and shine in the sun with pride in your lodge.

"The flowers are springing up, and the time of the singing of birds has come. Yes, spring is here.

—Solomon 2:12

OFFICIAL VISITS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday, February 12 — Visit to Kent LEA #15
 - Thursday, February 18 — Visit to Goldendale LEA # 99
 - Thursday, March 4 — Visit to Alpha LEA #1, Olympia
 - Saturday, March 6 — Planning Board Meeting in Yakima
 - Monday, March 8 — Visit to Mt. Angeles LEA #88, Port Hadlock
 - Tuesday, April 6 — Visit to Unique LEA #32, Spokane
 - April 9, 10, 11 — Northwest Meeting, New Westminster, B.C., Canada
- Smile and the world smiles back!

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

From your 2009-2010 Grand Patriarch (Matriarch)



SHERRY POND

YES, SPRING HAS SPRUNG

Dear Friends,

My oh my! The tulips are popping out of the ground and soon I will have beautiful red ones shining in the sun. It seems that spring has sprung and we can get out of the house and enjoy the great weather. Here in our little town we do enjoy all four seasons and I do like spring. I can open up the house and let the fresh air in. Ah, the smell of spring rain can't be beat!



With the newness of spring comes the joy of freedom to move about and get some much-needed visiting done. We all know someone in a retirement home or have just been closed up all winter unable to go anywhere. It is your time to go visit these Sisters and Brothers and maybe take them for a ride. How about out to McDonald's for ice cream. Their sundae is only \$1. Take a treat to them or take them to the treat. Your heart will feel better doing something for someone and yes, you can reward yourself with a sundae, too.

I am planning to visit and help with the installation of the officers of Unique Unified Encampment on April 10 in Spokane. I am looking forward to seeing all my old friends up there. I am also planning to attend the Yakima Planning Board Meeting in March. If I learn anything constructive I will keep you all informed. I will also be attending the JJYC meeting in March. It is important that we all support the youth of our Order in their endeavor to learn what Odd Fellowship is all about.

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

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

In Goldendale

Alimus IOOF Lodge #15, Leah Rebekah Lodge #22

There's not a lot to report this month, but I will try anyway. Our Odd Fellow Lodge is planning to put on the Degrees, beginning on Tuesday, March 8 with the Initiatory Degree. Then, each second Tuesday of the month thereafter, we will put on the next Degree, ie. the 1st Degree April 13, etc. We are inviting the lodges in our district to bring their members needing the Degrees to join us. We open lodge at 8 p.m.

Our two Lodges have decided to join the local Chamber of Commerce in hopes we may get more advertisement on some of our lodge doings. There are several other advantages, too, but we hope to get our name out as many people don't know who the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs are!

The Rebekahs have ordered plants for the Centerville School to plant as well as some plants for the front of our lodge hall. This is for the Living Legacy program. The plants will be delivered the middle of March.

Several of our members have had surgeries or are in the hospital. Mary Gosney had rotator cuff surgery in January. She still has her right arm in a sling as of this writing, but she is doing great. Lloyd Sweetin had surgery on his right shoulder February

22. He also is wearing a sling for at least three months. Agnes Ritzschke has been in the hospital for a couple of months as she is unable to go home and care for herself. Mike Hay is having his knees replaced — one at a time. The rest of us, so far, are doing okay!

We still hold our card parties every Saturday night at the lodge hall at 7 p.m. If you happen to be in the neighborhood, drop in and say "hi" as we'd love to see you.

There's no more news, so I'll just leave you with this: An elderly couple had not been out together in quite some time. One Saturday, as the woman was doing the dishes, her husband stepped up behind her and said, "Would you like to go out, girl?"

Not even turning around, she quickly replied, "Oh, yes, I'd love to!" They had a wonderful evening, and it wasn't until the end of it that the man confessed — his question had actually been directed to the family dog!

Have a wonderful St. Patrick's Day, first day of spring and a blessed Easter to all. See you around sometime and place.

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



Grand Matriarch Joyce Miller, center, spoke during her visit to the Kent LEA on February 12. From left are Jr. Warden Holly Houser, Joyce, Chief Matriarch Nancy Vriezema and Guide Loletta McCormick.

Kent LEA #15 elects officers

Grand Matriarch Joyce Miller made her official visit to Kent LEA #15 at our regular meeting on Friday, February 12. A potluck dinner preceded the meeting. We had good "luck" and there were lots of "pots" of delicious food which were enjoyed by our lodge members, as well as the Kent Encampment members. The tables were festooned with Teddy Bears, the symbol of the Grand Matriarch.

Joyce was welcomed prior to her address with a short addendum with bells. After her fine talk, we presented her with a check for her project, as well as one for her transportation. We were pleased to have her with us.

During the meeting, election of officers for the coming term were held. The following were elected: Chief Matriarch Karen Hoylman, Senior Warden Holly Houser, High Priestess Loletta McCormick, Scribe Betty Young, Treasurer Judy Sansom, and Junior Warden Genie Coston. Because of a conflict of dates, we will have our installation of officers on the third Friday in April rather than the second one. It will be April 16. Plans will be finalized at our March meeting.



Chewelah's new leaders

Chewelah Rebekah Lodge #162 recently held its installation of officers for 2010. Noble Grand Barbara Miller has a busy year planned with rummage sales, food fund-raiser events and traveling to other lodges. For the first time in many years, we have enough members to fill all the offices — both elected and appointed. We are continuing to seek out new people for members. New officers for 2010 are, from left, Janet Tetro, Treasurer; Barbara Miller, Noble Grand; Elaine Vetsch, Vice Grand; and Joey Locke, Secretary.

— In F., L. & T., Janet Tetro, Reporter

Eola Rebekah Lodge #63 - Buckley

Our Installation of Officers was well-attended and we enjoyed a fine dinner following the ceremony. Assembly Secretary Marcia Presley was our Installing Officer.

Two of our members have had health problems recently. We heard from Virginia Pasero that she had a stroke. She was in the hospital, then at her son's home. She has now returned to her home in Shelton and is doing well.

Dixie Friese had problems and was in the hospital, then a nursing home. She is also now home and doing better. We hope they continue to improve.

Our 2009 Noble Grand, Kathy Pierce, presented a check to the "Women's Connection" of the Cedar Church. This was her project and the money she raised during her year.

A celebration of our Secretary's birthday and 20th year in that office was held at our second meeting in January. We went "out" to a restaurant

for a dinner and had a fun time. Karen thanked everyone for being there and for the cards and gifts.

As one of the sponsoring lodges of the Spunky Bluebirds Theta Rho Girls' Club, we provided sandwiches for the lunch following their installation of officers on Sunday, February 21. Some of our members attended and acted as escorts for the officers.

For community service, 11 preemie hats were donated to a hospital and following our first meeting in February, we also signed Valentines which were taken to an assisted living facility. We are now collecting yarn for the ladies there.

Karen Hoylman has been elected as our Representative to Assembly Sessions for the next two years.

We will be hosting the meeting of District Association #26 in our hall in Buckley on April 12. Dessert will be served from noon to 1 p.m. with the meeting starting at 1 p.m. Guests are welcome.

to give. The money raised will go for her project, our adopted Sister at the Home.

We have some very good news for the friends of our Sister Wanda Boggess. She married her friend Jerry Faith on January 5. She and Jerry are living in Kennewick. They went to Las Vegas for their honeymoon. A wedding reception was hosted by their children, Wanda and Jerry. It was very nice to be invited to attend such a memorable moment. We wish Wanda and Jerry many years of happiness.

That's about it for this little group. We would like to leave you with this thought: If we could give you any gift, we'd give you love and laughter, a peaceful heart and a special dream and joy forever after.

In F., L. & T.,

Your Sisters from Golden Rule #242

In Pasco

Golden Rule Rebekahs #242

Golden Rule Rebekah Lodge had a joint Installation of Officers with our Sisters across the river. Althea Lodge in Kennewick hosted the Installation with PNG Barbara German serving as the Installing Officer. The newly-elected and installed officers for Golden Rule are: Barbara German, Noble Grand; Marge Schaaf, Vice Grand; Sherry Pond, Secretary; and Mary Weisz, Treasurer. Past Noble Grand Marge Schaaf was honored by the members.

Our new Noble Grand Barbara has some fun ideas she wants to try this year. One she is doing is "Fun Pennies." Each meeting we are to pay pennies for something she has decided to charge us for. This month it was two cents for every letter in our name. It was fun counting our fingers and toes to come up with the right amount

Corned beef & cabbage in Des Moines soon

Join us for dinner as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day at Des Moines IOOF Lodge #305. Our annual dinner will be in the lodge hall, 728 S. 225th in Des Moines, at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 16. Please RSVP ahead of time so we can be sure to cook enough corned beef. Call us at (206) 870-6333, write us at P.O. Box 98651, Des Moines, WA 98198 or e-mail us at: desmoines305ioof@hotmail.com

— In F., L. & T., John Otterstrom

In Walla Walla

Bee Hive Rebekah Lodge #70

Our Noble Grand Joy Selby is busy planning her year ahead. May we all get out and support her with these plans.

Sister Karen Schultz, DDP, installed the officers of Schuyler Rebekah Lodge in Dayton. Those accompanying her from Bee Hive were Jeannette Oswald, Craig Schultz and Jean Lucke.

Then again we visited Narcissa Rebekah Lodge when Karen made an official visit with them. Those at Narcissa were Susan Akers, Dorothy Van Stone and Jean Lucke. We always enjoy visiting our Sisters.

Sister Myrtle Milliman spent sever-

al weeks in the hospital. She is now home, but is quite weak. Brother Craig Schultz had nose surgery in January and as of this writing is planning on having knee replacement surgery in February. Following her two falls which resulted in broken or fractured bones, Sister Jeannette Oswald is out and about again. May all of them have good recoveries.

If you write to Bee Hive Rebekah Lodge, I am still Secretary. I have moved to a different apartment. It is the same street address, but now Apt. #6107.

In F., L. & T.,

Jean Lucke, Secretary & Reporter

Salmon Bay Rebekahs #217 - Ballard

Noble Grand Susan Dare, completed her slate of officers at her first meeting by having her Inside and Outside Guardians installed.

The joint installation with Ballard-Alki #17 was very successful with a polished installing team, good audience and excellent food.

Salmon Bay's new slate of officers are: NG Susan Dare, VG Jean Coston, Rec. Sec. Noreen Lucas, Fin. Sec. RaeAnn Marrelli, Treas. June Robinson, PNG Francis Zimmerman, RSNB Olive Cella, Ward. Judy Sansom, Cond. Genie Coston, Chap. Betty Young, IG Regina Thomas, OG Donna Flatt, RSVG Katie Grey, and Mus. Greg Powers.

Speaking of Greg and Katie, they were off to Mexico on February 5 for 12 days of "fun in the sun." Brother Greg is also organizing a musical benefit for Haitian relief in March.

Longtime Sister Betty Visser has moved to Bellingham to be closer to her family.

Thanks to Sisters Noreen and Francis, the tables are always set (this month, red placemats and napkins) and the coffee is ready when the rest of us show up.

Sister Regina Thomas researched a fund request from the Children's Home Society of Washington and reported that Salmon Bay is a regular contributor to the Rebekah Children Services in California. Members voted to continue that and also send a like amount to our own state's over 100-years old children's service.

Sister Genie Coston will be Salmon Bay's Representative to the Assembly. Hold on to your hats — here she comes!

In F., L. & T.,

Donna Flatt, Reporter

In Long Beach

Ocean Beach Rebekah Lodge #313

OFFICERS INSTALLED ON JANUARY 5

Finally the holidays are over and we've started to install 2010 officers all around the Jurisdiction of Washington.

First up on my schedule was Ocean Beach #313 on January 5. We enjoyed a dinner installation. Outgoing Noble Grand Linda Zuern had just completed a very fine year. And incoming NG Marla Johnson picked her supporting officers, set up standing committees, her program, and schedule for the year — much like all other lodges in the state.

Then we got down to the business of installing our officers by District President Donna Merrill, followed by a scrumptious meal prepared by Sandy Thissell, one of many PNGs



PNG Sue Johnson and NG Marla Johnson of Ocean Beach #313.



Jr. PNG Linda Zuern and District Deputy President Donna Merrill.

of this lodge. Sister Marla has dedicated her year to her grandmothers PNG Oresta Cole and Ethelyn Freese.

We had a very nice evening with serious and laughter moments. Our longtime musician Vivian Currie has been fighting cancer for some time now and was unable to attend. I'm dedicating my year to her. May God bless you, Viv, and may He bring relief to you, my friend. Vivian's physical problems reminds us all of how short and fragile our lives are. Are you prepared to meet your maker? Don't neglect your opportunity for salvation. John 3:16.

— In F., L. & T., Story & Photos by Robert Jacobson, PNG



Everyone was having a good time at the joint installation at Trinity Rebekah Lodge #179 in Napavine on January 9. From left are Grand Secretary Edmond L. Reitan, Jr., Grand Master Frank Wilson, Deputy Treasurer Mary Dunivan, and Assembly Warden Lena Swetz.

Trinity Rebekahs #179 - Napavine

February may be a month to commemorate love, but on Monday February 1, the Sisters of Trinity Rebekah Lodge had hearts that were breaking wide open. They were mourning the loss of their dear Sister Jacquie Crabbe. The number of people who gathered at the lodge was evidence of how much Jacquie was loved, what a wonderful impact she made on the lives of those around her, and how much she will be missed.

Along with Jacquie's family and numerous sisters from Trinity, those in attendance included several members of the Red Hat Society, Rosalie Davis from Monterose and Sandy Holderman from Maple Leaf. Thank you to all who came to pay respects to Jacquie and express condolences to the family.

On February 12, the Sisters gathered for the noble cause of holding a bake sale.

Then on Thursday, March 25, the Sisters will host the Annual Friendship Night. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. at the Rebekah Lodge in Napavine. Please feel free to join us for a night of food and fellowship to warm your heart.

Great food and fellowship were all of that on Saturday January 9. Representatives from some eight lodges gathered at the Trinity Rebekah Hall for a joint installation of officers. Lodges represented included Cowlitz Odd Fellows Lodge #66 from Kelso, Golden Rule Odd Fellows Lodge #207 from Napavine, Monterose Rebekah Lodge #46 from Toledo, Trinity Rebekah Lodge #179 also from Napavine, Sylvan Glen Rebekah Lodge #184 from Pe Ell, Pine Burr Rebekah Lodge #300 from Onalaska, Maple Leaf Rebekah Lodge #326 from Winlock and Harmony Little Falls Rebekah Lodge #335 from Vader.

The honored Odd Fellows in attendance included Grand Master Frank Wilson, Grand Warden Joe Picanco, Grand Secretary Ed Reitan, Jr., Grand Marshall Don Hepp, Acting Installing Past Grand George Johnson and Grand Chaplain Gerald Hoffman.

The honored Rebekah Sisters who were present included District Deputy President Alberta Luurs, Assembly Warden Lena Swetz, Deputy Secretary Barbara Reitan, Deputy Treasurer Mary Dunivan, Assembly Marshal Holly Houser, Acting Installing Past Noble Grand Lou Ann Hoffman and Deputy Chaplain Margaret Truttman.

What a privilege and absolute joy it was to have so many wonderful people at such a memorable gathering. The Sisters of Trinity extend a special thank you to Jerry Owens and family for a warm and charming musical performance. Thank you to all who helped make this event a success from the set up to clean up and everything in between.

At the close of this article as February fades and March moves upon us, I've just been informed of the passing of PNG Florence Pedersen. She was a dear woman who dedicated more than 50 years of her life to the Rebekahs. So, let us remember that Valentine's Day isn't the only time of year to tell others how much you care. Let today be the day to express love and gratitude to those around you. In loving memory of Florence and Jacquie.

In F., L. & T., Debby Lee, Reporter

District #18 meeting on April 3

The District #18 Meeting will take place on Saturday April 3 at the Cowlitz Prairie Grange in Toledo. Coffee and doughnuts will be served at 9 a.m. and the meeting begins at 10 a.m.



Cherrienne Shepardson and Alberta Luurs share a moment at Trinity's installation of officers on January 9.

Mystic Rebekah Lodge #168 and Bremerton Friendship Lodge #145

Sorry for the missing reports.

Our Temple Corporation's Revised By-Laws sent in October were approved on December 28, 2009.

Our Rebekah election of officers were held in January. New officers are: NG Ettamay Strang, VG Helen Walsh, Sec. Florence Cowdery, Treas. Betty Gaiski, Chap. Linda Dodge, Ward. and Jr. PNG Beverly Pry, and Cond. Monica Cowdery. We were installed on January 19 by President Phyllis Rodgers, Marshall Judy Inman and Chaplain Carson Inman. Thank you.

The Odd Fellows were installed in Port Townsend on January 12. New officers are: NG Don Cowdery, VG John Gaiski, Sec. Gordon Cooper, Ward. Larry Norman and Chap. Walt Dodge.

Our Odd Fellow and Rebekah District Meetings will be in Port Townsend on Saturday, March 27. District Officers are: Pres. Beverly

Pry, VP Phyllis Rodgers, Sec. Florence Cowdery, and Treas Betty Gaiski. (Sorry, Don is not home, so I can't give you the Brothers' names.)

Our officers on the sick list have been slow to mend. Gordon has breathing problems, Larry has infections after many surgeries, Iris Hansen has balance and pain problems, Beverly's hip is bothering her, and now yours truly has bone spurs. A December MRI showed severe achilles tendon damage. My gorgeous holiday boot will be present for months.

To all our home-bound or out-of-town members, we miss you. We hope you will have better days. Happy Birthday February 14 Ina Mathews and February 15 Elsie Burgett. She turned 92.

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all.

*Fraternally,
Don & Florence Cowdery,
Reporters*

Waterville Rebekah Lodge #77

Here it is March already and everyone should be getting into the 2010 programs. The weather has permitted us to have enough attendance to hold two meetings in a row.

On January 18 we were able to hold Installation of Officers (really re-installation of all holdover officers). On February 1 we had weather allowing all active members to attend.

Election of Representative and Alternate went well. Fay Bowers-Holland, PP, was elected Representative and Irene Kossow, PP, was re-elected Alternate Representative.

Members are encouraged to pay 2010 dues as we will be holding meetings for most of the year. The date-

line for Charter surrender is tentatively toward the end of 2010.

We will again be awarding a scholarship to a graduating senior of Waterville High School as we have been notified that we have a credit with the "Dollars-for-Scholars" committee of an unused payment.

On January 18 we draped our Charter in memory of PP Myrtle Miller-Oestreich.

Everyone here is enjoying good health. Noble Grand Nadra is going through chemotherapy treatments and she is doing well. She has lots of prayer support.

Until next month, enjoy life.

*In F., L. & T. and Fraternal Love,
PP Fay Bowers-Holland, Reporter*

Tempest Rebekahs #114 - Wenatchee And Prosperity IOOF Lodge #301

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all.

We're having such dreary weather for this time of year. There is very little snow in our valley, but lots more rain than ever before.

We made our final collection of food for the food bank the end of February and the good amount our members donated will be delivered on March 4. They always appreciate it.

Members have been adding items to the basket we are giving for the silent auction at Assembly this summer. It is mostly red, white and blue and our final collection should be interesting.

Our Lodge donated to the American Red Cross. Our donation will be used to help with the Haitian disaster. Every little bit helps with the need being so great.

We have been saddened by the passing of our Sister Bernice Riggelman. She was a 62-year member of our lodge and a gracious and kind lady. She will be missed.

Our lodge meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. All Rebekahs in the area are invited to visit.

*In F., L. & T.,
Barbara Pittman, Reporter*

Kapowsin Rebekah Lodge #241

We are off with a bang in 2010. Our new officers are: NG Dorothy Ray, VG Evelyn Alexander, Sec. Lena Swetz, Fin. Sec. Alberta Hagen, and Treas. Francis Tobia. They have plans for 2010.

Our lodge will host the District #3 Meeting at Collins Grange on April 17. (Our hall is not available on Saturdays.) The time 9:30 a.m. We hope to see you there.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Francis Tobia who has been in the hospital for a month! She is now able to start a little rehab.

I hope all of you have checked your dues card to make sure it is up to date.

We recently had a work day at Dorothy Ray's home. (Guyida

White's family brought craft items, copies of programs, keepsakes, pictures, etc. Guyida was a Rebekah for 57 years, so she had a huge collection!! We all really miss her.

Our joint Installation of Officers with Yelm #296 was a great success. Brother Toby Hansen, Grand lodge Musician, provided entertainment and music for our installation. Everyone had a great "toe tapping" time.

Don't forget, if you are not able to get to lodge, drop us a line and keep in touch.

TODAY'S MODERN WOMAN

I serve three meals — frozen, microwave and take-out.

*In F., L. & T.,
Lena Swetz Secretary*

Spring 2010 Northwest ODD FELLOW/REBEKAH ASSOCIATION MEETING ~ April 9, 10 & 11, 2010 ~

Inn At Westminster Quay

900 Quayside Dr. New Westminster
British Columbia, Canada V3M 6G1
Ph: 604-520-1776 • 1-800-663-2201 •
• Fax: 604-520-5645 •

Make Room Reservations Directly With The Hotel.
Specify That It Is For The Northwest Odd Fellow/Rebekah Association
Room Rates:

Single \$109⁰⁰ Double \$109⁰⁰ Twin \$119⁰⁰

Cut Off Date is March 12, 2010. Rates are set,
But do not reflect taxes and surcharges per room per night.
PARKING: \$6⁰⁰ per day for guests

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

(Please Copy If Additional Forms Are Needed)

Name _____ Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Prov. _____ Zip _____

Pre-Registration _____ @ \$15 each US/Can. \$ _____

Buffet _____ @ \$45 each US/Can. Funds \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED (US/Can. Funds) \$ _____

Banquet Is Formal or Semi-Formal Wear

NOTE: Please list any dietary restrictions

All funds U.S. or Canadian Dollars. Payable to:
2010 Northwest Association Committee

Send to:

1316 Esquimalt Rd., Esquimalt, BC, Canada V9A 3P6

Please remember the deadline for registration is:
March 12, 2010

In Walla Walla

Narcissa Rebekah Lodge #2

There have been more than 20 members in attendance at each of our first two meetings in 2010 with Noble Grand Elsie Wells presiding. We usually have several Sisters who live at the Home in attendance and we are thankful to be able to meet there and see them often. We were pleased to have five members of Bee Hive Lodge #70 present at our last meeting.

At our most recent meeting, Karen Schultz, District Deputy President of District #8, was introduced and given the Honors.

Sister Arline Maxson gave an excellent presentation and tribute to Thomas Wildey who, along with four other men on April 26, 1819, founded the IOOF in North America. The founders dedicated the Order to achieve philanthropic goals, one of which was a pledge to "educate the orphan." The origin of this pledge can be attributed to Thomas Wildey as it resulted from his childhood experiences after becoming an orphan at age five. At the time of Thomas Wildey's death in 1861, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows had 200,000 members in 42 states.

Reports on visitation were given by

Rose Ringhoffer and Barbara Lechner who had a delightful visit with Ruth Phillips. Barbara also visited Alice Swafford and Alice Davidson. Aramae Buckingham has been in touch with Katherine Hargett who lives in Vancouver, WA and has held membership in Narcissa Rebekah Lodge for 81 years. Alice Davidson and Jeanine Griffin have been ill and we pray that good health will be restored to both of our Sisters.

During the month of February, we collected food and other items for the local "Pantry Shelf." Narcissa members were very generous with their donations. Also, the "Silver Drill" proceeds in February were designated for the Arthritis Fund.

Our Charter was draped in memory of Myrtle Miller Oestreich, Past President of Rebekah Assembly of North Dakota and an honorary member of the Past Presidents' Association of Washington.

All committees have been actively planning the Valentine's Party for the Home residents. We entertained them on Saturday, February 13.

In F., L. & T.,

Nancy Klicker, Reporter

News from the Capital City

Olympia IOOF Lodge #1 Ruth Rebekah Lodge #17

Greetings from the Capital City.

The Thurston Building Committee reported that our downstairs tenant, the comic book store, is celebrating its 15th anniversary at this location. The building's new furnace is working well after the initial break-in (dusty) period thanks to the Building Committee.

Our lodge is doing well with its new cleaning service provided by the Morningside Company.

The Park Board cleaned up after the wind storms, and the painting project for the kitchen was completed expeditiously. Glen reported that the park was busy during the holidays. VG Stu and NG PJ got some bi-fold screens to curtain off the kitchen during events.

In the spring we are planning to clear some downed and leaning trees from the park fence lines and plant wild flowers to create a walking border. We plan to do some maintenance with the tractor and trailer, as well. The date will be set later. Contact a Park Board member to participate and enjoy some fresh air and the gorgeous view. Please be sure to log your visit in the guest book whenever you visit the park.

Grand Master Frank Wilson brought in five applications from students for the United Nations Pilgrimage. Don Vest reported for the committee that they reviewed the applications and selected one for Lodge #1 and Rebekah Lodge #17 voted unanimously to support a second participant.

VG Stu Carlton presented NG Paul (PJ) Fluetsch with an engraved gavel

for his 2007-2009 terms. Joe Picanco commended NG PJ for his efforts for Lodge #1 over the past two years and the improvements he has been able to foster. NG PJ thanked all of his officers for their activities.

The Building and Finance Committees discussed the year's financial progress and the annual audit. The Finance Committee presented the proposed 2010 budget. The 2010 amount for contributions to charities was increased by \$600 over 2009. The gifts and donations budget was also increased by \$1,500 for 2010.

We celebrated our officer installations with a full house. Special thanks to all the officers from the other Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges who participated to make this possible. And special thanks to Marv and Donna of Marv's Marvelous Barbeque and their crew who efficiently served a great dinner of barbecue chicken and beef with salads and condiments. And thanks to Luanne who coordinated the event.

Lodge dues are now due. If you can't make it to lodge to pay them, please send your dues check to Financial Secretary Bob Burnett at IOOF Olympia Lodge #1, 405 Columbia Street NW, Olympia, WA 98501.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the Seafood Extravaganza at the Olympia Lodge #1 Puget Beach Park on August 28 this year for a variety of seafood with potluck salads and desserts.

In F., L. & T.,
Jennifer Snyder, Reporter

In Spokane Valley

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

Here it is almost the middle of February and we are all looking forward to spring. Flowers are beginning to pop through the ground and show there faces.

Sister Shirley Gardner has moved to an assisted living place on the Southhill and is now getting settled in.

She is in a very nice place. As for the rest of Ramona and Wilford members, we are all doing just fine.

Until next month, we hope you had a nice Valentine's Day and didn't eat too many chocolates.

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

Monterose Rebekahs #46 - Toledo

We just finished February, the time when you buy candy or flowers for that special person you adore.

Although it is early, a vacation is at hand. Go while you have the chance. Rosalie is at the beach for a much-needed time of leisure. Cookie and Jim just returned from an overnight camping trip to Mayfield Lake State Park. The weather was nice and the trip was very relaxing.

A card is on its way to Alice Sandford. She had female surgery and is in recuperation. She expects to make a full recovery.

We are glad to hear that Betty Allen is doing much better. She thanks her Sisters for the cards she received. At the moment, she is at Liberty Country in Centralia until she is well enough to come home.

Our sincere condolences go to members of Trinity Rebekah Lodge following the loss of their Sister Jackie Crabbe. Even though she was a fairly new member, she touched all our hearts.

Until next time. . .

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

Lodge Cards will return

Because of the large volume of material this month for *The Washington OddFellow*, the Lodge Cards usually printed on page 8 have been left out. They will return as soon as possible. Your Lodge Card will be extended for the time it was left out.