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*Happy
Thanksgiving!*

NOVEMBER, 2011

Official Publication of All Units of The Order

VOLUME 120 • NUMBER 9



Olympia's big Degree Day!!

Olympia IOOF Lodge #1 bestowed Degrees on 18 new members on Saturday, October 15. The new Brothers and Sisters represent several lodges in western Washington. Fourteen of the new members are from Olympia IOOF Lodge #1. See the Olympia Lodge report on page 4 for more details.

School camp

Help us save 'Box Tops for Education' for sixth graders

To all readers of *The Washington OddFellow*, their families and friends:

First, we want to thank you for all your prayers over the past few years for our grandson, John, after he had the severe injury to his head and brain when he was 7. He is doing great. Prayers really do work! He's now 11 and in the sixth grade. He asked grandma and grandpa to ask all their club members to help with the following project, as he is worried that some of his friends will not be able to attend the following opportunity next spring.

The Highline School District in south King County, where he goes to school, sends sixth graders to Camp Waskowitz for a school week. They have their regular classes and those of a special nature relating to conservation. Until recently this was free. Now there is a cost of \$120 per child.

More than 90 per cent of children in this school need help paying for their lunch and some for their breakfast. This is a very mixed economic service area, from the very well off to those who do not have enough.

The PTA and staff at school have organized a fund-raiser for the children who cannot afford this cost by collecting the "Box Tops for Education" coupons found on General Mills and other brands including the Zip Lock Bag boxes. Each coupon is surrounded by a dotted line, with "Box Tops for Education" printed on them. Some are pink and some are yellow or other colors. Sometimes there are bonus coupons on the inside of the product. Each coupon will be valued at ten cents. All will be deducted from a child's camp fee.

We are asking for your help. We can collect these coupons until late spring. If your family or friends are not saving these coupons for your own use, please help us help the sixth graders at Hilltop Elementary School.

You may give them to us as you see us at events of our Order or send them to us at: Jean and Genie Coston, 2312 S. 128th St., Burien, WA 98168-3055.

You may see us in Des Moines at: Lorraine Rebekah Lodge # 289, Des Moines Odd Fellows Lodge #305, Kent Encampment #15, Kent LEA #15, or Mt. Si Canton #36. In Ballard, you can see us at: Salmon Bay Rebekah Lodge #217, or Ballard Encampment #76. We also attend Pine Burr Rebekah Lodge #300 in Onalaska, and the Washington Recreational Park Board Meetings on Camano Island. We also may be visiting your lodge somewhere in Washington.

Genie's cell phone is (206) 550-7818. If your service is Verizon, your call is free. It is also free after 9:05 p.m. or all day Saturday or Sunday. I have only 200 daytime minutes and they are used up very quickly. It's a good thing we answer 24/7 and we like late night calls. Our e-mail address is: 2jeangenietwo@gmail.com

Thank you for reading this far. May happiness and peace be part of your day.

— In F., L. & T., Jean and Genie Coston

Start getting your UNP delegates lined up now!

Brothers and Sisters, please contact Frank Wilson, your jurisdictional chairman of the United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth Tour, as soon as you or your lodge has selected a student or students for the 2012 tour. Upon receipt of the name and address of your candidate(s), a packet of material will be sent to the student(s) to be completed and returned. Tentative tour dates are June 23 through July 5 and June 30 through July 12.

CORRECTION

The first half fee per delegate is \$650, not \$500 as previously reported. Remember this first half must be received at the Grand Lodge Office by December 10, 2011.

— In F., L. & T., Frank Wilson UNP Program Chairman

Help raise \$\$ for Arthritis

Team Independent Order of Odd Fellows hits the pavement to walk for a cure for Arthritis on Sunday, December 11, 2011. You can join the team or donate by going to: www.seattlejinglebellrun.org. The Grand Master and the Grand Marshal have already joined the team. So come on!

Join the fun! Help find a cure for Arthritis and get the IOOF name out to the public.

— Laurel Delony, Team Captain

Degree Nights continue at Ballard Alki Lodge!!

Ballard Alki IOOF Lodge #170 continues its projects into autumn. Our lodge continues to do Degree work at the second meeting of every month. On September 22, we conferred the Third Degree on Sister Janice Rochester. We will begin the cycle again with the First Degree. Our meetings are on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, and visiting Sisters and Brothers are always welcome — especially on Degree Nights. (When there are no candidates, we practice or review the next Degree in the cycle.)

Ballard Alki continues to look for relief and assistance activities in our own local community. Members of our lodge are welcome to suggest additional opportunities of volunteer work, fund-raising, or community events. Noble Grand Rich Osborne has made Third Tuesday nights his official volunteer night. He continues to welcome everyone to come at 6 p.m. to join in. For directions, call him at (206) 713-6917 or email him at:

ecotoolsllc@comcast.net



JOE PICANCO

From your 2011-2012 Grand Master

THANKS FOR A WONDERFUL RECEPTION

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I will start this month by thanking everyone who attended my reception in September. All of you certainly made our day. Special thanks to my wife Kathi Picanco and to all who made it a special event. Because of your generosity we are well on our way in funding something exceptional for the tenants of our Odd Fellow Home. To that end you have mine and President Lena's sincere thanks.

RETENTION

Last month we briefly touched on some considerations with respect to membership. Retention is extremely important, and a piece we certainly can improve on. Retaining current members is one of the important ways to help ensure the continued success and growth of our lodges and Odd Fellowship. There are many reasons we become Odd Fellows. Many members stay, however, because of service, fellowship, and the opportunity to affect a change in our local communities. Let's make sure members feel proud to be a part of an organization that is making a difference in our local communities.

Remember, simply bringing in a new member won't get the job done. They must be mentored throughout their first year and engaged in our lodge in every way possible. How about calling a Brother or Sister who has not attended lodge in sometime? Sponsors should be mentors helping the new member to immerse themselves in the Order. Get them involved in local projects or lodge work parties. Appointing or electing a new member to a committee or in chairs of the lodge is a good technique. What is not a good technique is placing someone in those positions that do not have an understanding or the knowledge of the works of the Order. Brothers and Sisters, let's improve on providing the kind of training, and coaching, that makes these new members successful in our lodges.

Another aspect less talked about is how members are valued within our lodges. Recognizing efforts through awards or special acknowledgment, such as certificates, special pins or gestures of friendship go a long way. Let's reward hard work whenever appropriate.

GRAND LODGE SECRETARY

Unfortunately our Brother Ed Reitan, Grand Lodge Secretary, submitted his letter of resignation ending his service as Secretary effective November 30, 2011. It is with deep regret, that I accepted his resignation as Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

I fully understand his reasoning and recognize the demands that the position has placed upon him and his family. I also appreciate all of his hard work and many contributions he has made as Grand Secretary these past seven years.

The Grand Lodge Officers, along with the Jurisdiction of Washington, will miss his sound advice, hard work, and the height he raised Odd Fellowship with his strong determination and support of our Order.

Effective December 1, 2011, Brother Harry Coulter, Past Grand Master, will assume the duties of Grand Lodge Secretary pro-tem till the end of the 2011-2012 term. I know that he will receive the same degree of cooperation and support from the jurisdiction.

GRAND MASTER'S VISITATION CALENDAR

- **Ilwaco IOOF Lodge #118, Ilwaco** — Wednesday, November 2, 7 p.m.
- **Silva IOOF Lodge #38, Montesano** — Tuesday, November 8, 7 p.m.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

November is election month of officers for next year. Congratulations to all elected officers for 2012.

- **Friday, Saturday & Sunday, November 4-6** — Northwest Odd Fellow and Rebekah Association Meeting, Yakima
 - **Thursday, Friday & Saturday, November 10-12** — Home Board Meeting, Walla Walla
 - **Friday & Saturday, November 18-19** — Sovereign Grand Master Delmar Burns' Testimonial, Dayton, Ohio
- Happy Thanksgiving to all.

— In Friendship, Love and Truth,
Joseph M. Picanco, Grand Master



EDMOND L. REITAN, JR.

From the desk of the Grand Secretary

A TIME FOR GIVING THANKS

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

The harvest is in and now is the time for giving thanks. When we sit down for a Thanksgiving dinner this year with family and friends, let us remember to be thankful for our many blessings. Give a thankful prayer to, and for, those who are still at extreme risk protecting us and our freedoms, as well as a prayer for those less fortunate and disadvantaged that they may also be blessed and relieved.

IN THE LODGE ROOM

November is the month when lodges elect officers for the 2012 year. Congratulations to all those officers-elect as you plan for the work in the new year ahead of you. To those lodges that may need a Dispensation to install a non-qualified member, *only* the Grand Master can grant one for the office of *Noble Grand* or *Vice Grand* previous to installation. Refer to the Washington Digest Chapter 3, Section 3.10.5 Qualifications for Noble Grand or Vice Grand by Service, found on page 43.

ANNUAL REPORTS

The Annual Report form packages were mailed to all Odd Fellow Lodges in October. If you are an officer with a part to complete, please start now gathering and compiling the necessary information needed for completing this report. When the report forms are received and you start your work, do not alter the "Cash on Hand Last Report" amount appearing on Line 1.

For reporting requirements and deadlines, refer to the Washington Digest, Chapter 3, Section 3.20.1, Section 3.20.2, Section 3.20.3 and Section 3.20.4 found on page 55. If there is anything confusing or you are in doubt as to how to complete your forms, please call the Grand Lodge office at 1-800-345-1766 for assistance.

MY LAST LETTER

This is my last to you as your Grand Secretary as I have chosen to resign from the office of Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Washington effective November 30, 2011. It has been my pleasure to serve the Grand Lodge and the Jurisdiction of Washington for the past seven years and four months. It has been a joy working with all of the Lodge Secretaries answering their questions and filling their lodge requests for supplies. It is my wish that you all give the same consideration and support that I have received to the Grand Master's "pro-tem" Grand Secretary appointee. For related information on this resignation and the Grand Master appointment please refer to the Grand Master's letter on the left side of this page.

A happy Thanksgiving to all.

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

PNG's Association

Next meeting on Nov. 17 at the Elk Plain Grange

The Past Noble Grands Association will meet on Thursday, November 17 at the Elk Plain Grange, 21817 Mountain Highway East in Spanaway. A potluck luncheon will be served at noon. The meeting starts at 1 p.m. We have lots to discuss.

President Flossie has some great ideas to do things. Come and find out what they are.

We would like to get a lot of you Past Noble Grands and Vice Grands to come and join us. Lena would like it if we start our drill again. You know we had a lot of praise when we did it. So please come and give us your input. Let's get going again. Let's surprise some of our lodges.

Let us also support our President Flossie. We hope to see a lot of you in November.

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

From the desk of the Assembly Secretary



MARCIA PRESLEY

ALL THE SIGNS OF FALL ARE HERE

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Well here we are, the fall season is in the air, the leaves are turning their beautiful hues of yellow, orange and red, and the temperatures are getting lower every day. The rainfall is getting back to normal for our Jurisdiction of Washington and my shoes are getting tighter, (my web feet are returning), the furnace kicked in and Daylight Savings Time will end on Sunday, November 6 for another year.

FALL DISTRICT MEETINGS ARE NOW HISTORY

I hope that all your District Meetings were a success and you learned new things from the instructions that took place and you renewed old friendships with the other lodges in your district and your special guests. Thank you for all the invitations that were extended to me to join you at your several district meetings. I am sorry if I was unable to join you.



NORTHWEST MEETING IN YAKIMA

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 4, 5 and 6 will be the Northwest Odd Fellow/Rebekah Association Meeting in Yakima. The Jurisdiction of Washington is hosting this meeting with Oregon, Idaho and British Columbia Jurisdictions attending. This would be a great opportunity for you to attend this meeting since it is in our jurisdiction. You need not be a member of the Order to attend this meeting. It is a good introduction to our Order for potential members. I hope to see lots of Washingtonians in attendance.

NOVEMBER IS ELECTION MONTH

November brings us elections of officers for next year. Congratulations to those members who have been elected your officers for ensuing term. I hope that your Rebekah Lodges will be able to succeed in whatever you wish to do in the year to come. Remember that if you have someone that is not qualified to run for Vice Grand, you may get a dispensation from Assembly President Lena Swetz.

REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS

November brings Thanksgiving and Veterans Day. Be thankful for all that you have and honor our veterans and those fighting for our country in many places around the world. When I was in Washington, D.C. recently, I had the opportunity to visit the many monuments that have been placed in many different locations throughout the Washington, D.C. area to honor our military. I also was able to visit a number of the Civil War Battlefields located around Virginia and have a new perspective on what really happened during the Civil War and for many years after, both in the North and South. To see something in person, does make a difference.

WATCH YOUR MAILBOXES

I have mailed all the lodges copies of the 2011 Journal and the per-capita bills. I will be sending out the Annual Reports by the end of November. I hope that the spread sheets that I sent to the Rebekah Lodge Secretaries will be an aid in getting the Annual Report filled out correctly. If you have any questions about your Annual Report, please call me. It is easier to correct an error as you make them out then to wait until after they have been sent to me.

I received the Fifth Day Journal from IARA and SGL. I was going through checking on the changes in the Code of General Laws and Constitution updates that were passed at the August 2011 Session in Winston-Salem, N.C. The SGL opens and closes their meetings with the singing of the opening and closing Odes. The opening and closing Ode for the Rebekahs was used at one of their meetings during their Sessions. I was reading the Fifth Day Journal and found this wonderful devotion by the SGL Chaplain Robert A. Kane and would like to share it with you.

“WHAT IS "FRIENDSHIP, LOVE AND TRUTH?"

In the Rebekah Creed we say *Friendship* is like a golden chain that ties our hearts together. It should also bind all members of the Order to a universal goal as we seek to improve and elevate the character of mankind. The dictionary defines friendship as: the tendency to desire what is best for the other, to express sympathy and honest, mutual understanding and compassion. Let us express friendship to all our Sisters and Brothers.

Love is one of our most precious gifts, the more you give, the more you receive. In philosophical context, love is a virtue representing all of human kindness, compassion, and affection. Love may also be described as actions towards others (or oneself) based on compassion, or as actions towards others based on affection.

Truth is the standard by which we value people. It is the foundation of our society. *Truth* has a variety of meanings, such as the state of being in accord with a particular fact or reality, or being in accord with the body of real things, real events or actualities. It can also mean having fidelity to an original or to a standard or ideal. In a common archaic usage it also meant constancy or sincerity in action or character.

Let us express in our daily actions the watch words of our Order: *Friendship, Love and Truth*.

I hope to see many of you at the Northwest Odd Fellow and Rebekah Association meeting in Yakima.

With Lots of Rebekah Hugs, in F., L. & T.,
Marcia Presley, PP, Secretary,
Rebekah Assembly of Washington

From your 2011 - 2012 Assembly President



LENA SWETZ

KEEPING BUSY AS A BEE HIVE

In our Fraternal Order, under the Three Links of a Golden Chain, we keep busy as a Bee Hive, be it sunshine or be it rain. Under the Moon and Seven Stars comes courage, hope and helpful good deeds. The Dove, our emblem of Peace, brings happiness, love and charity. The lily is our emblem of Peace. It teaches us to live pure and spotless, and to do unto others as we shall have others do unto us. As Rebekahs we reap the benefits of fraternal group support, close friendships, and the good feeling that comes from cooperative work. Membership is the most important challenge in this Order.



INVOLVE YOUR NEW MEMBERS

By now most lodges have had the election of officers for 2012. I do hope that your programs for next year will include a review of officers' duties. Remember that your lodge may have new members who need this education and it won't hurt some of us "old timers" to change some bad habits. Remember the Noble Grands are in charge of the meeting. When selecting committee members, be sure to include a new member. They need to become involved or you may lose them

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE SOON

Annual reports will soon be due. Be sure your report is accurate. Remember to get your reports to our Assembly Secretary when due. She has a deadline to meet, too.

REPORT NEW MEMBERS TO SGL

Many of our Lodge Secretaries may not realize that when you get new members during the year, these names must be reported to the Sovereign Grand Lodge. Many lodges wait until the end of the year to report these names. All lodges receive a copy of the IOOF news. There are printed forms in each issue that your Secretary can fill out and send to SGL as soon as possible so our jurisdiction gets credit for new members.

MAKING YOUR DONATIONS

As the end of the year comes closer. I know many lodges make their annual donations to projects of their choice. Just a reminder, the Grand Master and I have chosen the support for our IOOF Home as our project this year. We need also not to forget our scholarship funds, the Theta Rho Fund, Arthritis Fund, and the Visual Aid Fund, to name a few.



ON THE ROAD

I was busy with several visitations in October. My visitations included District #3 Meeting, District #14 Meeting and Clover Leaf Rebekah Lodge #53, which included initiation.

On Tuesday, November 1, will attend the Pine Burr #300 Rebekah Meeting in Onalaska. Then on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 4, 5 and 6, I will be at the Northwest Odd Fellow and Rebekah Association Meeting in Yakima. I will be in Walla Walla on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 11, 12 and 13 for the Home Board Meeting. Finally on Saturday, November 19, I will visit Longview Rebekah Lodge #305, which includes initiation. I am looking forward to meeting old friends and making new ones along the way.

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


President Rebekah Assembly of Washington
199 Canyon Rd., Silver Creek, WA 98585-9708
Phone: (360) 983-3105, Cell: (360) 530-2436

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From your 2011-2012 Theta Rho President

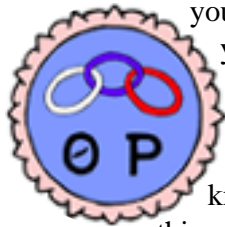


ALLISON STEWART

FALL IS A BUSY TIME OF THE YEAR

Boo! I hope you had a good Halloween. I know I did.

It looks like fall is here to stay with Veterans' Day and Thanksgiving just around the corner. Fall is a busy time for our club and I am sure it is for your club, too. We have several fund-raisers this time of year for our club charities.



It is always a good time, no matter the season, to think of new and fun ways to invite new members into our organization. Let your friends and other persons know what you enjoy about being in your club and the fun things that you do and how helpful to the community your club is. When you have a club meeting, set aside a few minutes to brainstorm ways to get new members, hold new charities and fund-raisers, and also new ways to have fun after the meetings, which can help everyone look forward to coming to each meeting and keep the attendance up.

HOLIDAY POTLUCK

In December, the first Wednesday, the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges and Theta Rho Girls' Club in Oak Harbor and our friends and families all get together for a holiday potluck and play Bingo. This year we are having a surprise guest speaker. This will be a good time to invite interested persons to join our club. The more the merrier, which includes you. Please join us for this fun time on December 7.

*In Happiness Through Service,
Ally Stewart, Theta Rho Assembly President*

Everyone enjoyed a great District #18 Meeting Oct. 1

The doors opened at 9 a.m. at the Cowlitz Prairie Grange Hall on Saturday, October 1 for the District #18 Meeting. Ladies from Monterose Rebekah Lodge #46 were on hand serving as hostesses. They gave everyone a warm welcome. Although attendance was low, it was still a good meeting.

It was a pleasure to meet our dignitaries and I enjoyed their company. They were Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington Laurel Delony, Past President of the Rebekah Assembly of Washington and IARA Guardian Jennie Reed, DDP for District #18 Alberta Luurs, and Outside Guardian of the Rebekah Assembly of Washington Mary Robinson.

President Aileen Wideman had an interesting program. Her first order of business was presenting an overdue gift to Sue Johnson. She was last year's District #18 President. Sue thanked her officers for a pretty glass dish.

A discussion was held about having our yearly meeting in April instead of October. It was tabled until our next meeting that will be held in October of 2012. Members are to take the proposal back to their home lodges for further opinion.

The Attendance Award went to Bucoda Rebekah Lodge #144. Two lodges tied for the Membership Award. The tie was between Trinity #179 and Sylvan Glen #184.

A solemn Memorial Service was staged by the Condolence Committee with Alberta Luurs in charge. In the last year, we paid our final respects to Jean Weston of Trinity #179; Alma Jacobsen, Charles Dunivan and DoRis Klotzner of Harmony #335; and Patricia Bosney of Longview #305. We will remember them always.

A new updated address book is in the making. When completed, the books will be given to the lodges.

The ladies gave the Cowlitz Grange members a big thank you for serving a delicious lunch with cake and ice cream for dessert.

A special thank to photographer Bob Jacobson of Ocean Beach #313 for taking pictures at the meeting.

The meeting closed in Faith, Love and Truth until next year. The hostess lodge for the October, 2012 meeting will be Pine Burr #300. We hope to see you all come.

— In F, L. & T., Cookie Music, District #18 Reporter

In Oak Harbor

Acorn Theta Rho #79

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!

We had a great Halloween party at our Adviser's home and did a scavenger hunt for food items for our local food bank. Then we had pizza and played some Halloween games. We invited prospective members and we hope to get some new girls to join us.

There are two special holidays this month — Veterans' Day and Thanksgiving. In honor of our veterans and what they have done for us, we made our annual donation to the Vietnam War Memorial Fund. We are also thankful for all that we have and wanted to help those less fortunate than us, so we made a donation to "Feed The Children."

We will be having our annual turkey raffle for the Make-A-Wish Foundation this month. We hope to be able to make a sizable donation to them again this year.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving and don't eat too much turkey.

*— Until Next Month In Happiness Through Service,
The members of Acorn #79*

News from the Capital City

Olympia IOOF Lodge #1 Ruth Rebekah Lodge #17

Greetings from Olympia.

On October 15, Olympia IOOF Lodge #1 hosted a District Degree Day. The lodge had 14 new Odd Fellows taking all the Degrees. Our two Degree Captains, Joe Picanco and George Johnson, conducted all the Degrees. They both did an outstanding job. Tom Day and Kathi Picanco provided a lasagna and salad luncheon with the help of John Miller, Bill and Julie Sokolik, Jim Hitchman and Carole Richards, If I forgot anyone, I'm sorry.

The newest members of our lodge are Cathy Garcia, Jen Turner, Rebecca Turner, Jennifer Spencer, Tammy and Mike Donohue, Roxane Cherry, Brian Cox, Marvin Smith and Shannon Pierce. Congratulations to you all. We hope to see you at lodge and social functions. Incidentally, the lunch, cookies and cake were well prepared and tasty.

Our lodge held nominations for 2012 officers. Results will be

announced the next newsletter.

• FYI: Dues are due by December 31. Dues this year are \$45. See Financial Secretary Kathi at lodge or mail your dues her at: P.O. Box 4400 Tumwater, WA 98501.

Our lodge Christmas party will be held on Thursday, December 17. Members and their families are invited. If you have any ideas for the party, please present them to Noble Grand Peggy.

Our Installation of new Officers will be on January 21. Details will follow.

Nominations are open for the Merit Award. PJ and Glen are the committee members for this award and will accept all nominations.

Stu and Earlene Carlson have donated a concrete picnic table to the park. It is in memory of their deceased son. It was placed next to the other table at the bulkhead.

*In F, L. & T.,
Stuart Carlson, PG & Reporter*

Clover Leaf Rebekah Lodge #54

Members of Clover Leaf Rebekah Lodge #54 are excited to welcome three more new members at the end of October! This makes eight new members this year — we're growing! Sister Jackie is creating a new member orientation, a way to learn more about us once a person becomes a member. Look for more to come in the following months.

We have new Secretaries. Betty O'Donnell has retired so she can travel. Many thanks to Christine Nagel and Lillian Lathrum for stepping up to take on this very important role in our

lodge!

We are hosting a Christmas Dinner on December 10 from 5 to 8 p.m. We'll have caroling and fun, hot chocolate and caramel apple cider, along with a catered Christmas dinner. We have about 10 spots left. All members and their families are welcome, but must RSVP to Nancy McCowan at npangel19@yahoo.com by November 20. We hope you'll be able to join us.

*In F, L. & T.,
Jackie Hallstrom,
Noble Grand*

Eola Rebekah Lodge #63 - Buckley

We have been busy getting ready for our annual bazaar which will be just a memory by the time this newspaper comes out. We hope it was a success.

As our District has decided to have only one meeting a year now in the spring, we will not have to host a meeting until April. It will be a potluck lunch followed by the meeting.

We had a guest at our meeting in

September. It was one-month-old Leela, daughter of our members Jeremy and Shantellie.

There was talk of a Christmas party, so we will probably be planning that next time.

Happy Thanksgiving to all members of our Order in Washington. Let us be thankful for our blessings.

*In F, L. & T.,
Karen Hoylman,
Secretary*

From your 2011-2012 Grand Matriarch



JUDY DIEKMAN

MY VISITS HAVE BEEN FANTASTIC

Dear Matriarchs and Patriarchs,

First I would like to thank the Encampments and Auxiliaries for the courtesies they have shown me as I made my visits. I appreciated the wonderful time of fellowship that we were able to share. I was impressed by the community service that your groups have been doing. Keep up the good work.

VETERANS DAY AND THANKSGIVING

There are two special days this month that I would like you to reflect on. The first is Veterans' Day. Let us not forget the men and women of our armed forces, past and present, for the sacrifices they have made that we might enjoy the freedoms we have today. If you see someone in uniform, thank them for what they are doing for our country.

We also have Thanksgiving. While you are enjoying your dinner with your family and friends, think about all the blessings you have had this past year in your daily life. Sometimes in our busy lives we forget to take the time to do this.



REQUESTS AND CLARIFICATIONS

I would like to see each Axillary and Unified Encampment do a food drive for their local food bank, either during the month of November or December, or maybe you could put together a Thanksgiving basket for a needy family.

I hope all of you are remembering to feed that little piggy for the Educational Foundation. Some were looking pretty hungry when I arrived.

There is one item I feel needs clarified. There seems to be some confusion on what was changed at SGL for the Auxiliaries. Someone was under the impression that the number required for a quorum had been changed to three. You still need five for a quorum. The change, as I stated in my last article, was that a jurisdiction only has to have three units rather than five to maintain their Grand Body's Charter.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Finally, I want to wish each of you a Happy Thanksgiving with your family and loved ones.

MY SCHEDULE

- **Friday, Saturday & Sunday, November 4-6** — Northwest Odd Fellow and Rebekah Association Meeting, Yakima
 - **Thursday, December 1** — Alpha #1, Olympia (pending acceptance of date by the Axillary)
 - **Friday, December 9** — Park Board Meeting, Camano Island
 - **Monday, December 12** — Mt. Angeles #88, Pt. Hadlock
- I'm hoping to see many of you in Yakima.

*In Faith Hope & Charity,
Judy Diekman, PP,
Grand Matriarch*

From your 2011-2012 Grand Patriarch



GREG POWERS

THANK YOU, VETERANS

Here's a big thank you to all the men and women who have served our country. They have devoted some of the best years of their lives to military service. We can never repay their sacrifice for keeping this country free. Some paid the ultimate price and some are still visited by the terrors. Both need our prayers. All our veterans need our continuing support, more are returning everyday. To the generals and politicians, they were tools of statecraft. To us they are human beings. Our best leaders never forgot this. they remembered that they are our fathers, mothers, sons, sisters, brothers — not cannon fodder. Now that we have new veterans rejoining civilian life, let's help them be that noble being they fought so hard to protect — citizens of a democracy. Free people living free.



DEMOCRACY

When I tell people that I'm an Odd Fellow, the conversation usually gets around to the Masonic conspiracy in the founding of the United States. I will now reveal what this nefarious influence was — democracy. Our fraternal orders share the same structure of one man one vote, with all being equal in the lodge hall regardless of status or creed. One reason that our brothers met in secret was that this was the ultimate threat to Regal Europe. Nobles ruled by fiat. Commoners were property of the state as was all land.

In 17th Century Europe, you could be tried, convicted and sentenced without being allowed to put on a defense, many times without your knowledge. Imagine being sent to the gallows never knowing the charges against you. The legal system of trial by jury came from fraternalism. No other country in the world has this. We can also thank our Masonic Brother, George Washington, that there are no wigs in American court rooms.

Our country is now being rocked by the "Occupy Wall Street" protests — freedom of speech in action. As much fun as protesting is, it's no good unless you exercise your voice at the ballot box. Here's hoping that the energy of a frustrated populous can be turned into a positive force for good in America.

WANDERING GRAND PATRIARCH

Any one who has read my articles will agree with that statement. My work is taking me out of state for a number of months, I'll be pitching my tent in New Haven, Connecticut and Berkley, California. I'm looking forward to meeting with our Brothers and Sisters while traveling. I have never felt like a stranger in an Odd Fellow Lodge. After all, there are no strangers. . .

Happy Thanksgiving!

*Yours In Faith, Hope & Charity;
Greg C. Powers,*

Grand Patriarch of the Grand Encampment of Washington

Kent LEA #15

There was plenty of activity at Kent's October meeting!

A potluck dinner was enjoyed by Kent LEA #15 members with the Encampment and our special guest, Grand Matriarch Judy Diekman at our October meeting. Following the dinner, our meeting was held.

We had the sad duty of draping our Charter for our deceased member, Ethel Swanson.

An application from Florence Frogge' was read and we look forward to initiating her.

Items were donated for the Odd Fellows Home in Walla Walla and the backpack program, which are projects of our Chief Matriarch Holly Houser.

A nice addendum was presented for Judy, led by Marcia Presley. It was a Friendship Garden which included a donation for her project. We then enjoyed hearing from the Grand Matriarch.

Next on our agenda will be discussion and a decision on what to have as a fund-raiser for our treasury.

— Karen Hoylman, Reporter



The mom and son team!!!

Grand Junior Wardens-elect for the Grand LEA and Grand Encampment at the Yakima Sessions in June are Kendra Frogge' and her son, Jeremy Edwards, of Kent LEA and Encampment #15. They are looking forward to working together for their respective groups.



Enjoying Ocean Beach Rebekah Lodge's Halloween party on October 18 are, from left, NG Helen O'Neal, Conductor Olney Patch, Warden Sandy Thissell, Secretary Betty Pierce, RSNL Linda Zuern, Treasurer Cathy Kary, Chaplain Marla Johnson, Link Bearer Polly Reed, Outside Guardian Donna Merrill, RSVG Sue Johnson, and LSNG Opal Eaton, with Bob Jacobson holding the camera.

Ocean Beach Rebekahs enjoy a great Halloween celebration

Twelve members of Ocean Beach Rebekah Lodge #313 met in regular session on October 18 with Noble Grand Helen O'Neal presiding. After a routine meeting we broke for a Halloween party. Gifts were awarded during a game. While having refreshments, more gifts were exchanged. Everyone had a good time.

It was agreed that after our first meeting of 2012, that we would initiate two new members into Ramona Rebekah Lodge #222 of Oregon at our lodge. The Degree work will be preceded by a dinner at a local restaurant funded by Ramona Lodge.

Trinity Rebekahs #179 - Napavine

Our September 22 meeting was called to order by Noble Grand Delia McNelly. It was a time to honor our Past Noble Grands. While Kira Veull read a sentimental poem, very pretty purple and gold mums were given to each PNG. I was touched. The PNG's who attended were Delia McNelly, Alberta Luurs, Cookie Music, Pat Harader and Evelyn Neumann.

We had two Sisters who attended the District #18 Meeting. Cookie served as Conductor, while Alberta was Advisor to the Condolence Committee. Alberta, along with her committee members, put together a very touching and warm memorial service for our dearly loved Sisters and Brother we have lost during the

last year. It was nice.

There was a wedding within our lodge. Albertina Luurs was the beautiful bride who said "I do" on September 24. She is the daughter of Vice Grand Alberta Luurs. Pictures will be shown at our next meeting.

Our Fall Bazaar is just around the corner and you are all invited. It will be on Friday and Saturday, November 18-19. There will be holiday crafts and a bake sale table. Lunch and homemade pies will be served. Raffle tickets for a beautiful quilt are on sale for three for \$1. Take a chance. You might be the lucky winner.

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

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

Greetings to our Sisters and Brothers as we start enjoying our fall weather.

Tempest and Prosperity Lodges both meet at 1:30 p.m. We hope this makes scheduling more convenient for our members. Prosperity Odd Fellows meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays. Tempest Rebekahs meet on Thursdays, except for holidays.

Our members are thinking ahead to winter projects and the holidays.

Pop can pull tabs are collected and brought to Tempest meetings. On

September 18 our collection was delivered to the Ronald McDonald House in Spokane. They were appreciative of our efforts.

Another one of our projects is saving and recycling plastic grocery bags which are then delivered to the local food bank twice a month. They are used there to bag the groceries given out.

We are planning our next initiation in the near future and look forward to our new member joining our lodge.

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

In Long Beach

Ocean Beach Rebekah Lodge #313

It looks like fall is in the air. We are starting to get a little rain and it is decidedly cooler. The leaves will turn color soon and we will know that we must once again wait for warmer days and sunny times.

Members of District #18 held their meeting on October 1 and Ocean Beach had seven members attending the event in Toledo. They were: Cathy Kary, Betty Pierce, Donna Merrill, Opal Eaton, Marla Johnson, Bob Jacobson and Sue Johnson. Donna Merrill did the Unwritten Work and did it letter perfect. She's a keeper. Lunch was very good. Rosalie Davis had the tables decorated in a fall theme and they were beautiful.

At our first meeting in October, we discussed the possibility of having our rent reduced. Lodges are being taxed right out of existence and we, like others, are trying to keep money in the bank so we can pay our bills and continue to function as a Rebekah Lodge.

We also had the first nominations for officers for next year. Those nominated were: NG Cathy Kary, VG Aletha Miller, Secretary Betty Pierce, and Treasurer Sandy Thissell. Sandy Thissell was also nominated for Three-Year Trustee. Our lodge has more than a few who help keep our offices occupied. We are very grateful to them.

Betty Pierce served mini-pies, along with cheese, crackers and sausage after

the meeting. She had many Halloween decorations on the table, which she gave away to all of us.

We held our second October meeting on the 18th and some of us dressed up for Halloween. Marla Johnson was our hostess serving after the meeting. We had a gift exchange and also played a game and several prizes were given away.

Sister Olney Patch has been having some health issues and we ask you to keep her in your prayers along with us. Judy Williams has had her sister visiting so she hasn't been at a couple meetings. Bessie Braschuk spent a couple days in the hospital, but she is now back at her assisted living residence and doing okay. Her daughter Donna Merrill says she is busy knitting away. This is the lady who turned 100-years-old in July.

Gobble, gobble! We hope you all have a festive Thanksgiving and give thanks for the bountiful food we always have before us. Some are not so lucky and we always try to give where and when we can so that others will have food on their tables. We have food banks in our area, as most areas do, and we donate food and paper items this time of year.

Bless you all. Stay healthy, happy and warm.

*In F., L. & T., Sue Johnson,
PNG and Reporter*



Vanya Thomas checked out the books at Salmon Bay's "Book, Bake and Bling" sale. He is the son of Sister Regina Thomas.

Salmon Bay Rebekahs #217 - Ballard

To quote the A-Team, "I love it when a plan comes together!" Noble Grand Jean Coston's Fifth Thursday Book, Bake and Bling Sale "came together" quite nicely with \$260 raised for the Northwest Harvest Food Bank. In addition to all the "Books, Bake and Bling" provided by the Salmon Bay Rebekahs, we also received donations of books, goodies and videotapes from some members of Ballard/Alki Odd Fellows Lodge #170. Sister June Robinson's daughter, Angel, along with Brother Greg Powers, contributed "The Sound of Music" with guitar, harp and voice in the entryway to lure potential shoppers in.

Vice Grand Donna Flatt conducted our last meeting of September. She was a little rusty in the Noble Grand's role, but she kept her place in the ritual!

Under "Good of the Order," District Deputy Genie Coston gave the members an update on her grandson Jonathan's recovery from brain injury. He recently had the highest math test score in Hilltop School's sixth grade.

First nominations were opened for 2012 officers. Two of Salmon Bay's long-time officers are retiring from the "game." Financial Secretary June Robinson and Secretary Noreen Lucas are ready and willing to coach replacements and act as standbys.

Sister Genie also asked for support to help fund an educational week in the woods for kids at Camp Waskowitz. The experience used to be free, but increased expenses must be covered. You can help by collecting **Labels for Education** found on products from Betty Crocker, General Mills and Campbells. Give them to Genie or send them to: Des Moines IOOF Hall, 728 S. 225th, Des Moines, WA 98198.

In F., L. & T., Donna Flatt, Reporter



Harry's gift to horses!!

Past Grand Master Harry Coulter presented a check for \$500 to Steve Harris, owner of Friendly Horse Acres in Buckley. This was part of the donations Harry received for his project when he was Grand Master. The presentation was made at the District Deputy Grand Masters' Meeting in Buckley on Saturday, October 22.



Photos by John B Bonsey, PDDSGM (Hawaii)

62 years of service

Charles Musolf, PG, of Cowlitz IOOF Lodge #66 in Kelso was presented with a certificate in recognition of more than 62 years of continuous membership in Odd Fellows by Grand Master Joe Picanco at a meeting on September 22. In the inset photo, members of Cowlitz Lodge enjoy dinner.

In Walla Walla

Narcissa Rebekah Lodge #2

At our last meeting in September Cora Davis, District Deputy President of District #8, was introduced and given the Honors. We were glad to see Neita Stearns who also visited our lodge meeting.

Following the meeting, during a time of fellowship, everyone enjoyed refreshments served by Rose Ringhoffer and Rosemary Hicks.

At the end of September, Jane Hanson underwent surgery in Seattle. We have missed her at our meetings and look forward to seeing her again, once she has experienced recovery. Jeannine Griffin is slowly making progress, but has not gained full strength nor returned to work. We pray for both of these special ladies and hope to see them soon.

November has been set aside for

our members to contribute to the "Pantry Shelf" through our food donations. We have the opportunity to support hungry families by supplying canned goods and other foods that are common for most Thanksgiving dinners.

Narcissa Lodge is again providing two scholarships to be awarded to Walla Walla Community College students for the current year.

Recently, Aramae Buckingham won the door prize drawing.

There are several coming events scheduled, including our Homecoming Dinner and District Association #5 Meeting, so I will be reporting on those next month.

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

In Pe Ell

Sylvan Glen Rebekah Lodge #184

We initiated another new member — Alice Silbernagle. She is a retired school teacher.

Our beloved sister, PNG Nina McCalden passed away. She had a heart attack and was staying at her daughter's home when she had a fatal stroke.

We received a thank you note from Kiara Pierce for her scholarship.

At our meeting on Wednesday, November 9, we will have our Thanksgiving potluck. Plan to be here.

Bring a gift for our Christmas parties. Sunday, December 4 is the date for our Family Christmas Potluck Be here between 1 and 1:30 p.m. On

Wednesday, December 14, we will have our Sisters' Potluck Christmas Party. See you here.

"May God grant you always a sunbeam to warm you, a moonbeam to charm you, a sheltering angel so nothing can harm you., laughter to cheer you, faithful friends near you, and whenever you pray, Heaven to hear you."

— Irish Blessing

THOUGHT

"The glory of each morning is that it offers us a chance to begin again."

With love and good health to all. . .

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

Monterose Rebekahs #46 - Toledo

We were the hostess lodge for the District #18 Meeting on Saturday, October 1. The meeting went very well and lunch was great. Only a few members attended. The number was below our estimate. We were hoping for a few more.

It was still a learning meeting. Monterose did a fine job of showing the proper ways to introduce dignitaries.

Sylvan Glen showed us the correct way of working yourself into a meeting if it has already started.

Cookie Music gave us a warm welcoming address, putting everyone at ease.

President Aileen Wideman had a good program put together. She was pleased that the seating of the officers

went off like a charm.

We have a Sister, Milber Ingram, who will be 100 years old. Wow, that is a century! She joined lodge in 1941. That is still before my time by a few years. If we can't make it to her birthday party — as she lives in Oregon — flowers will be sent to her.

Following our meeting on October 6, refreshments were served by Rosalie and Bonnie Hadaller. We enjoyed vegetable stew and homemade biscuits, with pie for dessert.

Our meetings are on the first and third Thursdays of the month. Visitors are always welcome. Come and join us!

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

South Tacoma Rebekahs #160

We gave honors to our District Deputy President Carol Robertson and Deputy Grand Master Laurel Delony.

Sister Barb Nelson presented a beautiful program for our Memorial Service. We are continuing our community service to donate to the food bank.

CHARITY

Do something today to bring gladness

To someone whose pleasures are few,

Do something to drive off sadness — or cause someone's dream come true.

Find time for a neighborly greeting and time to delight an old friend:

Remember, the years are fleeting and life's latest day will soon end!

Do something today that tomorrow will prove to be really worthwhile;

Help someone to conquer sorrow and greet the new dawn with a smile.

For only through kindness and giving of service and friendship and cheer.

We learn the pure joy of living and find heaven's happiness here.

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

In Walla Walla

Bee Hive Rebekah Lodge #70

District Association #5 held its fall meeting at the Odd Fellow Home in Walla Walla. Bee Hive Lodge seated the District Officers and gave the Tribute to the American flag.

We will hold our Homecoming Dinner at Sterlings on Thursday, November 17. We will present 25 year Rebekah Jewels to Patricia Wilson and Lisa McDonald.

We have a candidate for the Rebekah Degree and will confer the Degree in the near future.

Our prayers and sympathies are with Sister Naomi Bruce. She was recovering from surgery, then her hus-

band passed away. As if this wasn't enough, she ended up in the hospital again. She's home now, but will need to be on oxygen in the future days. This was all in just the last few months.

Our prayers also go out to the family of Sister Rosemary Anderson who passed away.

We will hold our election of officers at the Tuesday, November 8 meeting. Installation of officers will be in January.

*In F, L. & T.,
Jean Lucke,
Reporter*

Oak Leaf Rebekahs #254 - Oak Harbor

Fall is definitely here. We are busy getting ready for our Christmas Tree Silent Auction on Saturday, November 19. We are also planning on having a food basket and a Christmas tree with \$25 for raffle items. This project proved to be very successful last year.

We are in the process of planning a "No-Bake Bake Sale." We are reminding our members to send in their donations as soon as possible if you have not already done this.

Since our last article, our Noble Grand's husband had a severe heart attack and had heart surgery. We hope you will keep Diana and her husband in your thoughts as he recovers.

Sister Rhonda Meeks is doing bet-

ter following her lung surgery. We also hope you will keep her in your thoughts.

Just a little early heads up, we will be having our Christmas Family Potluck and White Elephant Bingo Night on Wednesday, December 7. Anyone who is in our area is invited to join us for this evening of fun, food and fellowship.

Veterans' Day is this month. Let us not forget those who have served or are currently serving our county.

We hope all of you have a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. Don't forget to give thanks.

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

~ In Memoriam ~

• **Vada Heimbegner**, Narcissa Rebekah Lodge #2, Walla Walla.

• **Virginia Thomas**, Narcissa Rebekah Lodge #2, Walla Walla.

• **Rosemary Anderson**, Bee Hive Rebekah Lodge #70, Walla Walla.

• **Nina McCalden**, PNG, Sylvan Glen Rebekah Lodge #184, Pe Ell.

