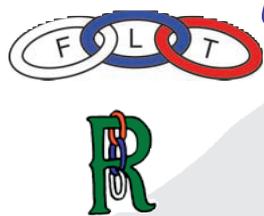


THE



Washington ODD FELLOW



JANUARY, 2016

Official Publication of All Units of The Order

VOLUME 125 • NUMBER 1



Here's what's happening

Thank you to Leah Rebekah Lodge #22 in Goldendale for donating four kiosks that show all the activities and events going on at the Odd Fellows Home in Walla Walla.

There is so much to do, you can't possibly attend everything! Pictured, from left, is the Activities Staff at the Home: Lisa, Mariah, Dee and Sonja.

Appreciation for the new Gazebo!!

In November, I was privileged to represent the Rebekah Assembly of Washington during the dedication of a new gazebo at the Odd Fellows Home in Walla Walla. It is a beautifully crafted structure, presented by Past Grand Master Ron Hanson, and is dedicated to the memory of all deceased Past Presidents of the Rebekah Assembly of Washington.

On behalf of the Rebekah Assembly, and especially the Past Presidents, I express heartfelt appreciation for this lovely gift. It is a great asset to our Home, and I know it will be enjoyed by many, now and in the years to come.

(See related photos on page 7)
— Karen Hoylman, Past President of the
Rebekah Assembly of Washington

From the desk of your Grand Master

NEW YEAR BRINGS A NEW START

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As I write this letter I pause and think over this past year. It's been a tough one personally for me as I know it has been for others.



LAUREL DELONY

But the New Year brings a new start and freshness to overcome the past. This year I would like each and every one of us to try to bring in one new member. It will be a challenge, but one new member each will double our membership and keep Odd Fellowship thriving.

CONGRATULATIONS NEW OFFICERS

With the new officers taking their respective chairs I would like to impart some housekeeping rules:

- Secretaries, make sure you have a **“Warrant Book.”** If you don't know what one is you need to contact the Grand Secretary and order a copy. You must use warrants when checks are written. All checks **must** have warrants drawn for the same. These are filled out by your Financial Secretary or Secretary, signed by same and your Noble Grand.

- Treasurers, **do not** write a check without having a warrant filled out first and signed. Big **No No!** If you are not using these your are not in compliance!

- Treasurers, be sure you are using a Treasurer's book not just your check book. It's important that when it comes time during a meeting when you are to read the receipts and disbursements that you do this. You should be reading a previous balance, receipts, disbursements and a new balance. Every one of your members is entitled to a correct accounting of the funds of your lodge. Members, be sure you ask if you don't hear it read.

My Deputy Grand Masters will be checking to make sure you are in compliance. Please make sure your books are readily available when they visit. I too will be looking over your books.

Lodges, please make sure to get your reports in to the Grand Lodge as soon as possible.

Okay, enough about housekeeping.

I wish each and every one of you a wonderful New Year and I look forward to meeting new members and reacquainting with long-time members, as well.

— *In Friendship, Love and Truth
And Fraternal Hugs,
Laurel Delony,
Your 2015-2016 Grand Master*

From the desk of the Assembly Secretary

WINTER, ALONG WITH 2016, IS HERE

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

A New Year 2016 has arrived and winter officially started on December 22, 2015.



MARCIA PRESLEY

REMEMBER JANUARY 15

In the month of January there are two things that occur on January 15: The first is the anniversary of the birthday of Thomas Wildey, the founder of our Order. The second is for those lodges sponsoring delegates to the United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth. The first half payment is due to the Sovereign Grand Lodge UNP Committee. Take a minute and celebrate Thomas Wildey's

birthday and also consider sponsoring a delegate to the UNP next year.

HERE'S TO A MILD WINTER

I hope the weather stays mild and your members will not have to fight the elements to get to your meetings. I also hope you are able to accomplish your plans for the year 2016 and meet your goals as active and prosperous Rebekah Lodges.

WE ARE “HERE” FOR YOU

I would like to make sure that each and every Rebekah

member of this Jurisdiction knows that they are all important to our Order. Your Rebekah Assembly Executive Committee members are **here** for you. If you as a member or if your Rebekah Lodge have any concerns about anything, be assured, we are **here** to answer any questions you may have. “There is no such thing as a dumb question.” Also, remember that the Past Assembly Presidents are also **here** for you. Please don't think that we don't care, because we do.

WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

We as an Assembly need to be more open in our communications — not only for our Rebekah members, but also communications between all the Units of our Order. It takes everyone to be open to questions and if we don't know the answers, we will find someone who does. Working “Together,” **we** can “Make a Difference.”

A NEW START FOR A NEW YEAR

*The best part of life is, each and every day is new.
And opens up the possibilities, designed for me and you.
A chance to right the wrong, that yesterday was done.*

To fix our broken dreams and to dream another one.

To have fun and smile, to love from your heart.

Each day we get the chance to make a brand new start.

— *With lots of Rebekah Hugs,
In Friendship, Love and Truth
Marcia Presley, Past President, Secretary*

From the desk of your Grand Secretary

A NEW YEAR, A FRESH START

Brothers and Sisters,

During the current economic hard times we may look for opportunities in our local communities to “Relieve the



**HARRY W.
“BILL” COULTER**

Distressed.” This year we may also wish to search our jurisdictional programs to support with lodge donations. Please give these programs and funds some consideration in this season as they all need continued funding to do their good work.

These programs and funds are: Arthritis Fund, L.J. Jones Scholarship Fund, Children’s Visual Aid Fund, and the Grand Master’s Project. Other funds that you may consider are the Fisher House, SOS and the VanderLinden-Sheppard Adult Visual Aid Fund.

Checks for the Arthritis Fund, L.J. Jones Scholarship Fund, Children’s Visual Aid Fund and the Grand Master’s Project should be made payable to the “Grand Lodge of Washington” with a notation at the bottom left corner showing what fund you are donating to.

VanderLinden-Sheppard Adult Visual Aid Fund checks should be made payable to the “Grand Encampment of Washington” with a notation showing “Adult Visual Aid” at the bottom left corner.

Please remember our Theta Rho Sisters with donations to their Travel and Lodging Funds, which should be sent to the Rebekah Assembly Secretary.

MEMBERSHIP

Please ask your Secretary for the lodge’s copy of the November-December, 2015 issue of the IOOF News (Also, can be found at www.ioof.org) and turn to page 22. Read the article by Jon R. Petersen, Membership Chairman. This

article has, and makes many good points for us to use when we are talking about prospective members.

While you have this issue in your hands, turn to pages 23 and 24 and check the line for Jurisdiction of Washington. We did not do as well as we did last year at this time as we reported a total of 15 new or reinstated members. Last year we reported a total of 37 new members. Odd Fellow lodges reported 12 new members, followed with three for Rebekah Lodges. The PM had one and the LEA had zero. The Encampment and Theta Rho did not report any new members. Our standing on the New Member Report dropped to 14th place.

Lodges and Encampments, please remember, when a new member is initiated, fill out a New Member card and forward it to the Grand Lodge office. Rebekah Lodges and Theta Rho Clubs, report your new members to the Rebekah Assembly Secretary. Encampments and Ladies Encampment Auxiliary, report your new members to your Scribe.

A NEW BEGINNING

We hope all of you experienced a joyous holiday season. As we enter the month of January and the Installation of Officers season, we have an opportunity for a fresh start. Let’s get behind our new officers and make them successful, as well as our lodges.

Here’s wishing everyone much success as we work together to make our Order grow and prosper.

NEWSPAPER

The returns on our *Washington OddFellow* newspaper has slowed down to two to three per month. This partly due to members not reporting changes of addresses to their Secretary. Members that returned newspapers shows “Unable to Forward,” “No Such Address” and “Temporarily Away” are deleted from the mailing list. If you find that you are not getting the newspaper, contact the Grand Lodge office with your correct mailing address to be placed back on the mailing list.

You may receive your copy of the newspaper via email by sending the Grand Secretary your request and email address to:

grandsec@qwestoffice.net

— *Fraternally,*
Harry W. “Bill” Coulter,
PGM, Grand Secretary

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

***Washington* ODDFELLOW**

Published every month except July and August at
Buckley, Washington by the Grand Lodge of Washington.
Subscriptions Available. \$20.00 Per Year.
Non-Profit Postage paid at Buckley, Washington.
Deadline for Copy:
In the Editor’s Office By the 15th of each month.
Mail Copy To: P.O. Box 377, Buckley, WA 98321-0377

Member Fax Copy To: (360) 829-1768
E-Mail To: billo@tx3.com
Web Site: www.ioofwa.org
Phone: (360) 829-1514
POSTMASTER:
Send all address changes to:
***Washington* ODDFELLOW**
P.O. Box 377, Buckley, WA 98321-0377



Devoted to the
Interest of
ODD FELLOWSHIP

Sorry. . .

We Ran Out Of Space This Month For

LODGE CARDS

**Lodge Cards Will Return As Soon As Possible.
Your Lodge Card Expiration Date Will Be Extended
One Month.**

From the desk of the Assembly President

JANUARY ALREADY...

Well the holidays have come and gone and another year is upon us. I hope that the coming year brings all of us hope and prosperity.



BARBARA
NELSON

As I am recovering from foot surgery I will be working on some of the things that need to be addressed at our Sessions. I am still looking for ideas. . . What would you like to see?

There are things I would like to see as I have visited the lodges and learned a lot.

- Please learn and do the basics of our lodge at every meeting.

- Make sure everyone holding an office is comfortable performing that job.

- Encourage members to attend and be active.

- Ask the questions in advance; don't assume the answer is yes.

- Take time to learn and grow in everything you do.

Have you ever attending a lunch and learn? Any feed back on whether you would like a learning workshop at Sessions?

MANY JOBS AT SESSIONS

I will sending out letters for the various jobs that need to be done at Sessions. Please let me know if there is something you would like to do.

January also means that Annual Reports are soon due. Please return these on time to Assembly Secretary Marcia Presley.

I wish you and yours a Happy New Year!

In Friendship, Love and Truth, With Fraternal Hugs,

Barbara Nelson,

President,

Rebekah Assembly of Washington

News from the Capital City

Olympia IOOF Lodge #1 & Ruth Rebekah Lodge #17

While many of you were enjoying the early morning "Black Friday" sales the day after Thanksgiving, a faith-

ful crew of Odd Fellows spent the morning digging post holes and working at our IOOF Cemetery in Olympia.

When that project was done for the day, several of them joined another crew to do some driveway work at our Puget Beach Park. It was a very busy and very productive day. I am not listing names here, because I would most likely forget someone, but you all know who you are and we are very appreciative.

Members of Ruth #17 had a fun evening filling 46 Christmas Stockings to be handed out to local children by the Olympia Union Gospel Mission. Thank you to Olympia #1 for your help in supplying items to put in these stockings.

Our annual Christmas Party was held at the lodge on December 19. We had a wonderful time, great food, fun gifts and a special visit from Santa. Thank you to all of Santa's helpers who decorated, cooked and organized this event. Ruth #17 held a silent (and not so silent) auction during the afternoon. This is one of our best fundraisers during the year. Thank you to all who donated and purchased items. We really appreciate all of you.

We will be installing our new Officers for 2016 on Saturday, January 16. Lunch will be served at 12 noon with the installation following. Please support your Brothers and Sisters by attending this special event and take advantage of the opportunity to introduce others to a day of Odd Fellowship.

We wish you all a very blessed and happy New Year.

— Fraternaly in Friendship, Love and Truth,

Cathy Garcia, Reporter

From your Wardens

Membership: Let's talk about it now!!!

Happy New Year! How did it get to be 2016 already

This time of the year is a great time to talk about membership at your lodge meetings. Set a goal for the upcoming months. If we all commit to getting two new members before Sessions in June, think of the impact it will have on our order. We get so busy with our projects that it is easy to overlook letting our acquaintances know about this organization that we belong to and what it means to us.

We think many of us also get so busy with each other that we lose track of friends outside our Order. Give an old friend a call and meet for coffee or lunch. Share with them the excitement of what you are doing with your Odd Fellow and Rebekah Brothers and Sisters. They may just ask about becoming a part of the fun.

This is also a good time to start a Facebook page to keep everyone informed and share pictures of activities. It really isn't that difficult and I know several of us are on Facebook for personal fun, so why not add your lodge.

We hope you all have a blessed 2016.

— In F., L. & T.,

Kelly Hughes & Cathy Garcia

From your 2015-16 Theta Rho President

ON TO THE NEW YEAR

I hope everyone had a fantastic holiday season and New Year. I know I did. It was a much-needed break and a great time with friends and family.



**FAITH
GHRAMM**

Lately I've been in contact with a wrestling coach at Lindenwood University in Belleville, IL. I'm very excited because I've been offered to wrestle at their college in the upcoming school year after I graduate from high school. I couldn't be happier to be able to better my education and move farther along in the world of wrestling.

THAT'S A LOT OF SPUDS!

In December, our "Strong and Spunky" Bluebirds helped Grand Master Laurel Delony by loading and unloading a 1,000 pounds of potatoes and a truckload of canned goods donated by OrePac (her employer) to "My Sister's Pantry Food Bank."

In celebration of Christmas and our Lauren's 18th birthday, we were able to support another member, Julia Collier, by attending the very own Revels theater production.

Starting up in the New Year, I have plans to attend several Odd Fellows' and Rebekahs' Installations. It's always a blast seeing old and new faces.

I hope you are all as excited as I am for 2016!

*In Happiness Through Service
And in F., L. & T., Faith Ghramm,
Theta Rho Assembly President*



Spuds for the 'Pantry'

In December, members of the Spunky Bluebirds Theta Rho Girls' Club in South Tacoma as they loaded a 1,000 pounds of potatoes onto a truck to be delivered to "My Sister's Pantry." From left are: Julia Collier, Faith Ghramm and Loren Lozano.



Naughty or nice?

Santa visited Olympia #1 at their annual Christmas party on December 19. We're not sure if they were on the naughty or nice list. From left are PGM Don Hepp, Stu Carlson, Santa, Glen Kitsch and George Johnson. See story on page 4 and additional photo on back page.



Quite a load!

OrePac, Grand Master Laurel Delony's employer, donated a half ton of potatoes and a truckload of canned goods to "My Sister's Pantry" in Tacoma last month. Taking a breather after the backbreaking task are, from left, Sylvia Summers, Lauren Lozano, Julia Collier Laurel Delony.



Party Time! Soups, chips, cookies, fudge and punch made a satisfying Christmas luncheon for member of Narcissa Rebekah Lodge #2 in Walla Walla on December 15.

In Walla Walla

Narcissa Rebekahs #2

Hello from Walla Walla, the weird weather capital of the state. At least it seems like it is. One week we have ice, snow and freezing rain. The roads are bad and the parking lots are worse. We're all bundled up like Nanook of the North. The next week it's almost shirt sleeve weather. It's hard to know what to expect.

Happy Birthday to Sister Lou Wiebe who celebrated her 100th birthday this month. Lou lives at the Home and was able to celebrate the occasion with her family. Congratulations, Lou! We are pleased to have her able to attend meetings.

Joining with our LD2 group, we had a Christmas party on December 15. First was a delicious lunch of soup, corn bread, cookies and candy. After lunch we enjoyed a game of "Right — Left." It turns out that we can tell our right from our left and everyone went home with a prize. Then we had a Christmas sing-along with an impromptu demonstration of swing dancing by our Noble Grand Patty Newell and Barb Lechner. Those girls can dance! Everyone went home with hugs and "Merry Christmas, see you next year." Thanks to everyone who made our afternoon a time of real fellowship.

We wish blessings to all the lodges during the coming year. We look forward to what joys and challenges 2016 will bring.

— In F, L. & T., Barbara Tvrz, Reporter



Mrs. Claus, Beth Entze, was a charming Mrs. Santa with her new headband.

Do you remember when?



How's your memory? We ran across this photo in the archives of the Odd Fellow Museum adjacent to the Grand Lodge of Washington Office in Buckley. According to information with the photo, this is a photo of the "Traveling Gavel" from Friendship IOOF Lodge #13 in Port Gamble. Top row, from left, are: PGM Millard C. Stevens, DDGM Eugene Buswell, PGM Forrest M. Curtis, PD Com. James C. Bremner, and PGM Lawrence A. Tidswell. In the front row, from left, are: VG Richard W. Watson, NG Charles E. Poole, NG Arthur W. Bowie, and VG Donald C. Nason. We don't know the date or where the photo was taken. If you have any additional information, please drop us a line or email us at the Grand Lodge of Washington Office.

Happy New Year!

Blanket Dispensation

CHARTERS MAY BE MOVED FOR INSTALLATIONS

The Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly of Washington, Independent Order of Odd Fellows does hereby grant permission to all Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges to jointly and publicly install their officers for the 2016 year and to move their Charters when so required for the performance of said ceremony.

Signed:

Laurel Delony,
Grand Master

Barbara Hanson,
President

Attest:

Harry W. Coulter,
Grand Secretary

Attest:

Marcia Presley,
Rebekah Assembly Secretary

From your 2015-16 Grand Patriarch

A NEW YEAR IS A NEW BEGINNING

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May God Bless each Fraternal Brother and Sister as we begin this New Year! Let us all take the time to renew our personal commitment of the solemn obligations of Friendship, Love and Truth; Faith, Hope and Charity.



FRANK WILSON

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR FOUNDER

We would be remiss if we failed to remember January 15 as the anniversary of the birth date of our founder, Brother Thomas Wildey. Brother Danny Wood, Sovereign Master, has proclaimed January 15, 2016 as “Thomas Wildey Day” throughout the world of Odd Fellowship. Brother Danny further encourages all Units of the Order to initiate a “Wildey Class” in celebration of the occasion.

ENCAMPMENTS:

NOW IS THE TIME TO GROW

Now we begin a new 366 days of Independent Order of Odd Fellowship. Patriarchs, let's get motivated and increase our Encampment membership by asking from the pool of Third Degree Odd Fellow Brothers and Sisters to join.

UNITED NATIONS PILGRIMAGE

Friday, January 15 is the first Sovereign Grand Lodge UNP deadline. On this date, Delegate Holding Fees are due, which is one half (\$800,00) per student for the 2016 tour. At the time of this writing, it appears four students will be sent on the 2016 tour from the Jurisdiction of Washington.

In Faith, Hope & Charity,

Frank Wilson

*Grand Patriarch of the Grand Encampment of
Washington*

And UNP Director,

4701 23rd Ave. SE, Lacey, WA 98503

Happy New Year!

~ In Memoriam ~

• **Geraldine Duff Taylor**, 61 year member, Narcissa Rebekah Lodge #2, Walla Walla.



Dedicated to our Past RA Presidents

More information was provided by PGM Ron Hanson about the gazebo that was presented to the Odd Fellows Home in Walla Walla in November. (See page 1 of the December edition of *The Washington OddFellow*.) “It was a gift to the Home and

it's residents and it was being given by Custom Ornamental and the Hanson Family in memory of all deceased Past Presidents of the Rebekah Assembly of Washington,” Ron said in a letter. A bell was secured for the center of the gazebo which was engraved with the following: “In memory of all deceased Past Presidents of the Rebekah Assembly of Washington.” The top photo shows the bell. The photo below shows the gazebo during the construction process.

From your 2015-16 Grand Matriarch

LET'S BE CAREFUL

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The holidays are over and winter is here. Be so very careful driving on our wet roads.



DONNA TONN

I attended the Park Board Meeting on Camano Island in December. It is beautiful there. I had never had the chance to visit our park until this year while serving as your Grand Matriarch.

My next official visitation will be to Des Moines for the Kent LEA — my own lodge.

Everyone enjoy the New Year.

In Faith, Hope & Charity

*And lots of Friendship, Love and Truth,
Donna Tonn, Grand Matriarch*

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Santa's helpers

Members of Ruth Rebekah Lodge #17 filled 40 stockings for the Olympia Union Gospel Mission for Christmas. With donations from Odd Fellows and Rebekah alike, they were able to fill the stockings with lots of lovely goodies for the children. From left are: Cathy Garcia, Diane Devoe, Kathi Picanco, George Johnson, Frank Wilson and Earlene Carlson.

In Wenatchee

Tempest Rebekahs #114 and Prosperity IOOF Lodge #301

Following our November 12 Rebekah potluck, Conductor Wesley Beare played a tribute to veterans on a Lakota Indian flute he had been given as a young man. It was beautiful and most appreciated by our members.

At our December Christmas meeting, Odd Fellows and Rebekahs enjoyed a delicious potluck preceding the meeting. During the social hour, we exchanged unusual and beautiful Christmas ornaments.

Our Sister Patti Ellis has again crafted 40 red, white and green Christmas arrangements from tissue paper. They were delivered to the Bruce Transitional Housing facility in Wenatchee to help brighten the rooms of the residents. Toiletries and personal items collected during the year were also delivered to the residents in need.

Blankets were donated to the Humane Society to be used by pets awaiting adoption.

On Thursday, January 14 at 1 p.m., our new 2016 corps of officers for both lodges will be installed, followed by a reception as we look forward to another enjoyable year. All members in the area are invited to attend.

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