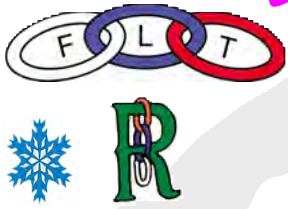


THE

A Blessed Holiday Season To All



Washington ODD FELLOW



December, 2025

Official Publication of All Units of The Order

VOLUME 134 • NUMBER 10

Twin Miracles!



Odd Fellow Kindness Strikes Twice In A Lifetime For Grateful Family!

Earlier this year, members of Buckley IOOF Lodge #75 voted to donate \$500 to a local woman who needed money to get into a new apartment. After Brother Evan Ochs brought her the check, she related the following heartwarming story to him about how Odd Fellowship had helped her mother many years ago. Evan asked me to submit it to *The Washington OddFellow* on his behalf:

In the 1950s there was a young child, about six or seven years old, named Linda. Her life had started out somewhat comfortably but eventually her world was shattered when her father abandoned the family leaving her mother alone to raise three children. The Christmas season was fast approaching and the little family had nothing: no turkey to roast, no pies to bake, no presents to give. The challenge of merely providing a roof over their heads was almost more than the young single mother could handle.

Continued on Page 7

From your 2025-26 Grand Master



Greetings One and All,

November was such a great month for all of us. We all had so much to do in our lodges, communities and with our loved ones. Hopefully you all were able to celebrate Thanksgiving with your Lodge Brothers and Sisters and, of course, with your family and friends on Thanksgiving day.

Thanks To Our New Officers

I thank all of you who have stepped up to take on the elected and appointed positions in your respective lodges for the coming year. I only hope that the younger and newer members get the opportunity to be more active in your lodges. We need to have their fresh ideas and enthusiasm carry over into all we do in our lodges and this Order.

Keep Supporting Our Food Banks

Having had the chance to visit one-half the lodges so far has been very rewarding. It is amazing how many of you have really stepped up to help out not only my and Rebekah Assembly President John “Johneo” Otterstrom’s project, Northwest Harvest, but your local food banks, too. The outpouring of support and aid to these food banks is vital in all our communities to help the less fortunate. Right now the need is so great out there. We really can’t ignore the fact that one-third of Washington’s population is in some kind of need, and a vast majority of these are the young children and elderly. So please continue your wonderful donations of food, money, and support in any way you can. And let us know what you have been doing by sending in articles and photos to your *Washington OddFellow* newspaper.

Installations Are On The Way

As you have now gotten your officers set for 2026 and installations are coming up after first of the year — let your Grand Secretary know if we can come and assist you with your lodge installations. I know that there are already dates taken to undertake some of these installations. It is always a great time to be able to see new and old faces and learn how many of you are being recycled through the offices once again. Hopefully you have newer members stepping up to take over and, if not, I thank you for once again volunteering to help out your lodge.

A Great Northwest Meeting In Oregon

We had a great time at Northwest Odd Fellow and Rebekah Association meeting in Portland. There were a little more than 40 folks in attendance. Canada, Idaho, Oregon and Washington were all represented. We had three newer members from Oregon who came for the first time. They gave us a report on what they saw and what they perceived about this meeting. They did come up with some good ideas on how to get the message from this meeting out to our members, and to let members know way in advance of future gatherings so more people could be present. Overall they were very glad they came and are excited to be at our next meeting in Hayden, Idaho on March 27-29, 2026. They also want to attend our Grand Lodge Sessions next June in Yakima.

Sharing Of Information Is Forthcoming

Our meeting for the District Deputy Grand Masters and District Deputy Presidents went very well. A lot of information and ideas were discussed. And looks like we will be doing this again on April 12, 2026 down at Olympia IOOF Lodge #1. More information will be forthcoming at that meeting and our other meetings that may be pertinent to all of us.

Continued on Page 3

From your Assembly President

Greetings All,
Sisters and Brothers,

I hope everyone is having a wonderful holiday season. Please be sure to check in with friends and family who may have lost their loved ones

This will be my first Christmas without my mom. She loved getting together with everyone and catching up on old times.

Congratulations to all the new and recycled officers for 2026. I'm looking forward to attending as many Installations as I can make.

I'm also working on my visitation schedule. I'll be starting my visitations after the first of the year. I will keep everyone posted.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year To All



— Fraternally in Friendship, Love and Truth,
John Otterstrom, AKA "Johneo"
Your 2025-2026 Rebekah Assembly
President of Washington



John 'Johneo' Otterstrom

From your 2025-26 Grand Master

Continued from Page 2

Hopefully we will be able to have all the Heads of our Order present so we can continue to discuss how we can better improve what we do in this Jurisdiction.

I wish you all the most wonderful Holiday Season ever. I pray you will be with your loved ones and friends.

I will leave you with this plagiarized message: "Life's persistent and most urgent question is. . . What are you doing for others?"

— Fraternally, Dave Delony,
Your 2025-26 Grand Master,
Grand Lodge of Washington

*Happy Holidays To All
Our Brothers & Sisters!*

See Related Photo on Page 5



Teanna Gardner

TRA Assembly President
2025-2026

From your 2025-26 Theta Rho President

Hi Everyone!!

I hope everyone is getting their list and checking it twice as Christmas is coming up soon.

I hope you prepared your Thanksgiving meals and filled your stomachs with your holiday feasts!

As for our Theta Rho Girls, I recommend doing a few community service projects with your Rebekah Sisters. It's more fun working together as it helps the ladies, and together you all can get more done!

Each year the Spunky Bluebirds do Christmas stockings for folks living on the street. Besides helping others, we get to work with our senior Sisters, as well as having fun.

In addition, thanks for the \$1,000 from Rebekahs. We will be spending it on hoodies, mixing in with doing community work to gain more girls!

I appreciate everyone Happy Holidays!

— With Friendship, Love & Truth & Happiness Through Service,
Teanna Gardner, Your 2025-26 Theta Rho President



Is that the Grinch looming over the shoulders of Santa and Assembly Secretary Cathy Garcia? No, it's her hubby, Rick.

From your Assembly Secretary

I'm In Love With This Time Of The Year!

Merry Christmas, Wow! Already!! I have to say I am really enjoying all the Christmas decorations. The twinkling lights always make me smile and the bright colors make the long cold days seem bright and warm. All in all, I love this time of year.

I hope your Lodge is doing a little something special to celebrate together and also something for your community. Not only do community projects mean a lot to many families around Christmastime, it also says "We are here" to the community. We need to do all we can to make ourselves known and to show that we care.

Time For Installation Of Officers

January is right around the corner and Installation of Officers is a wonderful start to the New Year. Many of our lodges combine with neighboring lodges for a meal or snacks along with the Installation ceremony.

This is an important ceremony and needs to be conducted with reverence and a bit of formality. Please contact your Assembly Officers as they are more than happy to assist with this. I believe our members and incoming officers deserve to know that what they are doing is important to all of us and that they are worth our time, as well as yours, in accepting these leadership roles. It's always exciting to see new members become involved in leading our lodges. These ceremonies show them that they are part of an organization that works together to care for our communities.

Annual Report Time

Secretaries, as the year comes to an end, I hope you are getting your information together for your Annual Reports. If you have any questions or concerns about them, please be sure to contact me. I am always willing to help in any way I can.

Have a very Blessed Christmas and enjoy every minute with family and friends.

In Ballard Winter Solstice Feast!!

— Yours in Friendship, Love and Truth,
With Much Rebekah Love & Hugs,
Cathy Garcia, PP and Secretary
Of the Rebekah Assembly of Washington
(360) 413-7014 or (360) 701-5896
rebsecwa@gmail.com

All Odd Fellows, Rebekahs and other members of our Order are invited to the Ballard-Alki Odd Fellows Lodge #170 on Saturday, December 20 for the "Solstice Feast at IOOF." The event celebrating the beginning of longer days runs from 6 to 11 p.m.

Here is what organizers have to say: "Wear your finest finery, Bring your tastiest treats, Meet and mingle, Feast and Fiddles, Then a Ritual to Call the Sun, Drum Circle, Dance music, Wander in the Art/Tea House, Feel the Sun stand still, And Contemplate, The Journey Back."

Here's the schedule for this December 20 event:

6:00 p.m. — Hall Opens

6:30 p.m. — Dinner and music

8:15 p.m. — Ritual

9:00 p.m. — Dance music and celebrate

And Voila! The Days Are Getting Longer!

Admissions donated to Ballard Food Bank.

No one turned away for lack of funds.

If you have art to install, send pictures or descriptions to: trinadoerfler@gmail.com



From the desk of your Grand Secretary



Brothers and Sisters,

Time is flying by and here we are at Christmas time!

Your Annual Reports were mailed on December 1. If you don't receive it by the 15th of December, please let me know and I will send another packet. Be sure to **READ** the letter that is enclosed and the instructions before beginning. This is very important as instructions have not been followed in the past and there has been missing information.

All Lodge Annual Reports must be into my office no later than February 15. Each day after the 15th will cost your lodge \$5 per each day late. This is per the Washington Digest. I'm here to help so do not hesitate to contact me.

On Saturday, December 13, at 9 a.m., I will have a Zoom meeting for any Secretary, Financial Secretary, or whomever your lodge designates to handle your lodge's Annual Report. I will share my screen and show you how to fill it all in page by page. The link will be emailed to those on my Secretary Broadcast. Feel free to ask any questions. There are no dumb questions so don't be afraid to ask.

With December now here, your lodge should have elected your new officers for 2026. Please contact the Grand Lodge office if you wish to have the Grand Lodge Officers install your officers. The spreadsheet is ready to be filled in.

I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

— With Fraternal Hugs and Love, Laurel Delony, PGM, Grand Secretary
grandsecretarywaioof@gmail.com 800-345-1766 or 360-1766 or 360-829-1514

Buckley Odd Fellows 75 celebrating the holidays

Members of Buckley Odd Fellows Lodge #75 are planning a Christmas party for Wednesday, December 17. Everyone is to bring a dish to share and a gift to exchange if they choose. BYOB if you choose. Everyone is invited.

Installation On January 25

New officers were elected and the lodge will be having its Installation of Officers, probably with Eola Rebekah Lodge #63, on Sunday, January 25, 2 p.m. A late lunch will be provided. Since this is the last installation of the month, the Grand Lodge Officers will be wearing their Converse tennies. Tuxes and tennies, come have some fun!

Merry Christmas!!

At Right : Theta Rho Girls gather around Grand Master Dave Delony in anticipation of filling Christmas stockings. Starting from lower left are Amber Scheiderer, President Teanna Gardner, Andrea Gardner, GM Dave Delony, Laurel Delony, Jr. Past President Hailey Hanna, and Elizabeth Kena.





Degrees for Buckley Bro

Buckley conferred the Initiatory and 1st Degree on new member John Walston. John is standing in the middle of the picture. Members present, from left in the back row: Grand Master Dave Delony, Troy Cager, Grand Warden Tom Harper, Deputy Grand Master Jamie Vest Bey, Noble Grand Matt McCollum, Grand Musician Toby Hanson, Vice Grand-elect Evan Ochs, and guest Wayne Watson. From left in the bottom row are: Noble Grand Elect Jaime Hanson, new member John Walston, Joe Schaible on his knee, Joanne Balmert, Stuart Dye, and Curt Johnson. A nice full house for the evening.

Trinity Grandma *did* get run over by a reindeer!!!

Merry Christmas To One And All!!

If you made it past all the wild turkeys, watch out for the reindeer in training. Remember, Grandma got run over by a reindeer and so did I! That reindeer did a real number on my Honda Pilot.

Trinity put together three Thanksgiving baskets or banana boxes with \$15 gift cards to purchase milk, eggs, celery, and onions.

We had our Holiday Bazaar on November 14 and 15. We had a good assortment of vendors.

Our next Bingo night on November 22 is still a week away as I write this and we're working hard on it with the Lions Club from Napavine. We will have raffles as usual. The Lions have two fully decorated Christmas trees for the silent auction. We're anticipating a good crowd.

At our next meeting we will be putting our shut-in baskets together. Also, we will again be sponsoring three more family Christmas boxes. In addition, Trinity Lodge members will be picking up a tree tag for two kids for Christmas.

Our newly-elected officers for 2026 are: Noble Grand Lou Ann Hoffman, Vice Grand Scott Anderson, Secretary Alberta Luurs, and Treasurer Mary Smith. Our Installation of Officers will be on Saturday, January 10, 2026 at 12 noon. We are looking forward to a prosperous and fun-filled year.

We hope everyone has a Crazy New Year! Happy New Year!!

— Hugs to All In Friendship Love and Truth,
Alberta Luurs, Reporter



Filling the cart for Christmas!

Buckley Odd Fellows Lodge #75 recently donated a sizable check to the local Buckley Food Bank. Secretary Laurel Delony presented the check to food bank manager, Dave L. for the holidays. More details on page 5.

Odd Fellow kindness strikes after 75 years!!

Continued from Page 1



Bro. Evan Ochs

Somehow, a kindly gentleman in the community found out about the plight of the mother and her three children. He took their case to his Odd Fellows Lodge, where the lodge voted unanimously to extend the hand of charity to the family in need. One of the lodge Brothers contacted the mother and let her know that she and her children would have a Christmas celebration that year.

Odd Fellows arrived at their home and delivered a full turkey dinner and presents for each of the children and the mother, too. After the Christmas feast, the family was invited to a holiday party with a bubble gum blowing contest for the children. Little Linda won the contest and the prize was the exact same doll the lodge had given her as a gift the day before. This second doll thrilled Linda to no end because she now had twins! The acts of generosity by that lodge were remembered fondly down through the years by the entire family.

Fast Forward To 2025

In the present day, 2025, another person was in need. This time it was Nora, the eldest daughter of Linda, who had been the recipient of such kindness and generosity from the Odd Fellows as a child. Facing a crisis of her own, Nora was needing to find a new home. With the expenses of housing in this day and age, coming up with the money to move into a new rental was daunting for someone of such modest means as Nora. Again, almost like a miracle, an Odd Fellow found out about her need and brought it to his lodge. Just as before, the lodge stepped up to show compassion on those in their community and donated the necessary funds to help Nora secure a new place to live.

Nora had never heard of the Odd Fellows before, but when she called her mother Linda to share the good news, her mother told her the story of how the Odd Fellows had come to her aid nearly 75 years before as a child.

What this story tells us is that the message and mission of Odd Fellowship is enduring; those who put Odd Fellowship into action to help others will have lasting effects on those in need. Now two generations of the same family know the love and care of Odd Fellowship. To quote Nora, "God bless the mission of the Odd Fellows through generations."

— Toby Hanson, PGM, PGP



Using the letters of her first name, members of the Kent LEA presented an Addendum to our Grand Matriarch Laura Purcell. From left are Grand Senior Warden Marcia Presley, Grand Scribe Maggie Truttmann, Karman Lundell, Grand Parliamentarian Jennie Reed, and Grand High Priestess Kendra Frogge'. In the background are Jr. Past Grand Master Steve Purcell and Tom Frogge'.

Kent LEA hosts Grand Matriarch Laura Purcell

Members of Kent LEA met on November 14 for a regular meeting and for our Grand Matriarch's visitation. Lunch was a potluck. Grand Matriarch Laura Purcell was given an addendum by the Auxiliary using the letters of her first name. Thanks to Karen Hoylman for the wonderful skit.

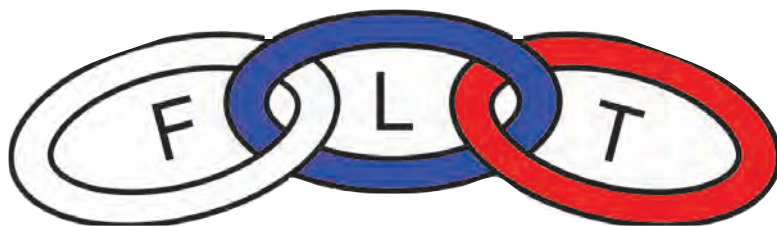
Tom and Kendra Frogge' were back at Encampment after a lengthy illness. We are so glad Tom is doing better and they were both able to attend the meeting.

The Auxiliary is planning on a Christmas party on Friday, December 5 at noon with a gift exchange. Mt. Angeles #88 will also be joining us. And with the new chairlift installed in the Buckley Hall, everyone will be able to participate. Karen Hoylman's granddaughter will be catering our luncheon.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

— From the Members of Kent LEA #15

~ Lodge Cards ~



**\$20
Per
Year**

LODGE CARD UPDATE

Send To:
Grand
Lodge

Include Area Code in Telephone Numbers

Lodge Name _____ Lodge # _____

Meeting Place Address _____

Lodge Mailing Address _____

Meeting Days _____

Meeting Time _____ Recess Months Of _____

Noble Grand's Name _____

His/Her Address _____ (City) _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone # _____

Secretary's Name _____

His/Her Address _____ (City) _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone # _____

**Send Your Lodge Card Updates To: Grand Lodge
Of Washington, P.O. Box 377, Buckley, WA 98321**

BALLARD ALKI I.O.O.F. LODGE #170

Meets At: Ballard IOOF Hall, 1706 NW Market St., Seattle
Mailing Address: PMB 918, Seattle, WA 98107. **Time:** 2nd & 4th Thurs., 7 pm. **Recess:** None. **NG:** Bob Duniway, 1706 NW Market St., Seattle, WA 98107. **Ph:** (206) 372-4164. **Email:** rduniway@gmail.com **Sec'y:** Michael Manning, 1706 NW Market St., Seattle, WA 98107. **Ph:** (503) 740-4190 **Email:** ioofballardalki170@gmail.com (2/28/26)

BREMERTON FRIENDSHIP IOOF LODGE #145

Meets At: DAV Hall, 4980 Auto Center Way, Bremerton 98312. **Lodge Mailing Address:** 5789 NW Anderson Hill Rd., Silverdale, WA 98383 **Time:** 1st & 3rd Tues., 7:30 pm. **Recess:** July, Aug. **NG:** Ken Roth, 5789 NW Anderson Hill Rd., Silverdale, WA 98383-9220. **Ph:** (360) 900-3054. **Sec'y:** Michael Scheurich, 5789 NW Anderson Hill Rd., Silverdale WA 9838-9220. **Ph:** (360) 731-0975. **Email:** 1odd-fellowmike@gmail.com (2/28/26)

BUCKLEY I.O.O.F. LODGE #75

Meets At: 120 So. Cedar St., Buckley, WA 98321 **Lodge Mailing Address:** PO Box 777-0777, Buckley, WA 98321 **Time:** 2nd & 4th Wed., 7 pm. **Recess:** None. **NG:** Matt McCollum, PO Box 998, Buckley, WA 98321-0998. **Phone:** (253) 222-3492. **Email:** mattmccollum@hotmail.com **Sec'y:** Laurel Delony, PO Box 1206, Buckley, WA 98321-1206. **Phone:** (253) 468-1949. **Email:** buckley75ioof@gmail.com (2/28/26)

BUCODA REBEKAH LODGE #144

Meets At: Bucoda Community Center, 101A E. 7th, (upstairs), Bucoda, WA 98530. **Lodge Mailing Address:** PO Box 131, Bucoda, WA 98530-0131 **Time:** 2nd & 4th Fridays., 6 pm. **Recess:** July, Aug. **NG:** Laura Purcell, PO Box 386, Bucoda, WA 98530-0386. **Ph:** (360) 259-6144 **Email:** laurapurcell@scattercreek.com **Sec'y:** Mashell Patrick. PO Box 131, Bucoda, WA 98530-0131. **Ph:** (360) 870-2581. (2/28/26)

CLOVER LEAF REBEKAH LODGE #54

Meets At: 10116 NE 185th St., Bothell, WA 98011. **Time:** 2nd & 4th Tues., 7 pm. **Recess:** July, Aug., **NG:** Greg Powers, 9435 39th Ave. So., Seattle, WA 98118. **Ph:** (206) 760-2287. **Email:** fattuba@gmail.com **Sec'y:** Michelle Gasperek, 10138 NE 187th, Bothell, WA 98011. **Email:** jmc_gasperek@yahoo.com **Ph:** (425) 485-0359 (2/28/26)

ELLENSBURG I.O.O.F. LODGE #20

Meets At: 309 N. Pine Street, Ellensburg, WA 98926-0154. **Time:** 1st & 3rd Thursdays 6:30 pm. **Recess:** None. **NG:** Russ Humphrey, PO Box 154, Ellensburg, WA 98926-0154. **Ph:** (206) 399-0996. **Sec'y:** Meghan Gilbert Rothwell, PO Box 154, Ellensburg, WA 98926-0154 **Ph:** (509) 306-1432 (2/28/26)

LONGVIEW REBEKAH LODGE #305

Meets At: IOOF Lodge Hall, 201 Pine St., Kelso, WA 98626. **Lodge Mailing Address:** c/o Adrienne Galvez, 1010 Oak St., Kelso, WA 98626 **Time:** 1st & 3rd Thurs., 1 pm. **Recess:** July, Aug. **NG:** Ann VanAntwerp, PO Box 363, Yacolt, WA 98675 **Ph:** (360) 409-9900. **Sec'y:** Cynthia Washington-Mattson, 825 32nd, #86, Longview, WA 98632 **Ph:** (564) 220-6922 (2/28/26)

MONROE I.O.O.F. LODGE #156

Meets At: 21714 Old Owen Rd., Monroe, WA 98272. **Lodge Mailing Address:** Same. **Time:** 3rd Thursday monthly, 1 pm. **Recess:** None. **NG:** Candice Blair, 21714 Old Owen Rd., Monroe, WA 98272. **Phone:** (425) 293-8940. **Email:** myerscandice@comcast.net. **Sec'y:** Sis Zurfluh, 21714 Old Owen Rd., Monroe, WA 98272. **Phone:** (360) 794-7174. **Email:** jbfittnesswa@yahoo.com (2/28/26)

OLYMPIA I.O.O.F. LODGE #1

Meets At: Olympia Hall, 405 Columbia St. SW, Olympia, WA 98501. **Mailing Address:** PO Box 4400, Tumwater, WA 98501-4400. **Time:** 1st & 3rd Monday, 7 pm. **Recess:** None. **NG:** Cathy Garcia, 5010 103rd Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98513. **Email:** Rebsecwa@gmail.com. **Ph:** (360)701-5896. **Sec'y:** Laurel Delony, PO Box 4400, Tumwater, WA 98501-4400. **Ph:** (253)468-1949. **Email:** oly1ioof@gmail.com (2/28/26)

~ Lodge Cards ~

Rate: \$20 per year from March 1 of the current year to February 28 of the following year

Submit information and payment to:

**The Grand Lodge of Washington
P.O. Box 377, Buckley, WA 98321-0377**

Information must be received by the 15th of the month for the following month's edition. No newspapers are usually published in July or August.

Lodge cards are only good for one year. If you put in a card during the middle of the year, it will only be good until the end of following February, unless, of course, your lodge has paid for more than one year. Please note that there is now a "good through" date listed at the bottom of your lodge card. No lodge card will be updated without payment received first, unless, here again, your lodge has paid in advance for more than one year.

If you have any questions please contact the Grand Secretary at grandsecretarywaioof@gmail.com or (360) 829-1514.

~ Lodge Cards ~

PROSPERITY I.O.O.F. LODGE #301

Meets At: 601 N. Chelan Ave., Wenatchee, WA 98801. **Mailing Address:** 601 N. Chelan Ave. Wenatchee, WA 98801. **Time:** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7 pm. **Recess:** None. **NG:** Joel Myrene, 1332 Seneca St. S., Wenatchee, WA 98801. **Ph:** (360) 306-0128. **Email:** jmyrene@hotmail.com. **Sec'y:** Dustin Deane, 1043 Cherry St., Wenatchee, WA 98801. **Ph:** (509) 679-0373. **Email:** prosperitylodge#301@gmail.com

PILGRIM I.O.O.F. LODGE #187

Meets At: 2431 Rucker Ave., Everett, WA 98201. **Mailing Address:** 2431 Rucker Ave., Ste 3. Everett, WA 98201 **Time:** 2nd & 4th Thurs., 1 pm. **Recess:** June, July & Aug. **NG:** John Mathers, 21729 NE 176th Pl., Woodinville, WA 98077-7102. **Ph:** Home: (425) 788-3772. **Sec'y:** Mary Mathers, 21729 NE 176th Pl., Woodinville, WA 98077. **Cell Ph:** 425-478-9129. (2/28/27)

RICHLAND I.O.O.F. LODGE #338

Meets At: 534 Boyer Ave. Walla Walla, WA 99362 **Mailing Address:** 184 Murphy St. Waitsburg, WA 99361, **Time:** 1st & 3rd Tues., 7pm. **Recess:** None. **NG:** John Otterstrom, 2719 18th St. Clarkston, WA 99403 **Ph:** (253) 740-8038 **Sec'y:** Erin Murphy, 184 Murphy St. Waitsburg, WA 99361 **Cell Ph:** (509) 730-5857. (2/28/27)

RUTH REBEKAH LODGE #17

Meets At: IOOF Hall, 405 Columbia St. SW, Olympia, WA 98501. **Lodge Mailing Address:** 5010 103rd Ave. SE, Olympia, WA 98513 **Time:** 2nd & 4th Wed., 6 pm. **Recess:** July, Aug. **NG:** Michael Scheurich, 5789 NW Anderson Hill Rd., Silverdale, WA 98383. **Ph:** (360) 731-0975. **Sec'y:** Cathy Garcia, 5010 103rd Ave. SE, Olympia, WA 98513. **Ph:** (360) 701-5896. (2/28/26)

SKOOKUMCHUCK I.O.O.F. LODGE #129

Meets At: Bucoda Community Center, 101A E. 7th St. (upstairs) Bucoda, WA. **Mailing Address:** PO Box 131, Bucoda, WA 98530-0131. **Time:** 2nd & 4th Fridays., 7 pm. **Recess:** None. **NG:** Dave Delony, PO Box 1206, Buckley, WA 98321-1206. **Email:** davidcdelony@gmail.com. **Ph:** (253) 590-6208. **Sec'y:** LouAnn Hoffman, PO Box 131, Bucoda, WA 98530-0131. **Ph:** (360) 451-2046. **Email:** lahoff@scattercreek.com (2/28/26)

SOUTH TACOMA REBEKAH LODGE #160

Meets At: 120 So. Cedar St., Buckley, WA 98321. **Mailing Address:** PO Box 1206, Buckley, WA 98321-1206. **Time:** 1st & 3rd Tues., 6:00 pm. **Recess:** July, Aug. **NG:** Joanne Balmert, PO Box 1206, Buckley, WA 98321. **Ph:** (253) 209-0167. **Email:** jobalmert@gmail.com **Sec'y:** Laurel Delony, PO Box 1206, Buckley, WA 98321-1206. **Email:** laureldelony@gmail.com **Ph:** (253) 468-1949 (2/28/26)

TITUSVILLE I.O.O.F. LODGE #34

Meets At: 728 S. 225th St., Des Moines, WA 98198. **Time:** 2nd & 4th Thurs., 7 pm. **Recess:** None. **NG:** Edmond L. Reitan, Jr., 858 Reiten Road, Kent, WA 98032. **Ph:** (253) 854-3254. **Sec'y:** Tina M. Reitan, 25915 177th Pl. SE, Covington, WA 98042. **Ph:** (253) 886-6311 (2/28/26)

TRINITY REBEKAH LODGE #179

Meets At: 111 W. Washington St., Napavine. **Time:** 2nd & 4th Thurs., 1 pm. **Mailing Address:** PO Box 612, Napavine, WA 98570. **Recess:** July, Aug. **NG:** Melody Butterton, 446 View Ridge Rd., Onalaska, WA 98570. **Ph:** (360) 985-7283. **Sec'y:** Alberta Luurs, 497 State Hwy. 505, Winlock, WA 98596. **Ph:** (360) 219-7629 (2/28/26)

WASHOUGAL I.O.O.F. LODGE #194

Meets At: 573 - 30th St, Washougal. **Mailing Address:** PO Box 448, Washougal, WA 98671. **Meeting Time:** 2nd & 4th Tues., 7:30 pm. **Recess:** July, Aug. **NG:** Hope (Joyce) Gilson, 527 NE 6th Ave., Camas, WA 98607 **Ph:** (360) 823-8187. **Sec'y:** Jeanette Jester, 4211 Franklin St., Camas, WA 98607. **Ph:** (360) 834-2354 (2/28/26)

YAKIMA I.O.O.F. LODGE #22

Meets At: 206 W. Walnut St., Yakima. **Time:** 2nd & 4th Tues., 8 pm. **Recess:** July, Aug. **NG:** Jim Boyd, 206 W. Walnut St., Yakima. WA 98902. **Ph:** (509) 823-4123. **Sec'y:** NG: Tom Cox, 610 Pleasant Ave., Yakima, WA 98902-4341. **Ph:** (509) 452-0910. (2/28/26)

Bucoda Bulletin Board #52

Yes, it's beginning to look like Christmas!

Can you believe it's December already? Daylight Saving Time is over, the clocks fell back an hour and now it's dark at noon. At this writing the change was just a week ago and the body still hasn't adjusted. Who goes to bed at 8 p.m.?

The Northwest Odd Fellow and Rebekah Association Meeting was in Portland, Oregon. The theme was "Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes." Wee Willie Winky (from Washington) took first place, Miss Muffet and her Spider (also from Washington) took second. Although Washington missed out on a clean sweep there were many who believe that Jack and Jill from Washington should have had third place. I'm quite sure photos will be in the offing in other articles.

Members of Bucoda Rebekah Lodge #144 assembled a Thanksgiving basket for a local family. We have limited storage space for perishable items but the family received it with sufficient time for preparation.

Can you believe that Santa has already been in contact about his visits? He's currently scheduled to visit some local day care facilities on December 3, 4 and 5; the Town Tree Lighting ceremony on December 6; and a family event at the park on December 13. We've received no word from the Town of Bucoda yet about Santa's traditional ride around town, however. It usually occurs the last Saturday before Christmas. Stay tuned for that.

Interspersed with these aforementioned events are various DDGM visits, the Grand Matriarch's visits, and the Pacific Northwest Department Council meeting in Hillsboro, OR, on November 16. This is going to be a busy holiday season.

— Until next time, in Friendship, Love and Truth,
Steven Purcell (AKA Junior)
Domestic Reporter and Foreign Correspondent
Skookumchuck IOOF #129
Bucoda Rebekahs #144



Happy New Year 2026



Acorn Theta Rho Girls' Club #79 members filled 12 boxes for Operation Christmas Child. From left are: Shauna Schultz, Willow Miller, Bella Gleghorn Quinley Spydell and Avi Moore.

Acorn Girls very busy with holiday events!

Happy Holidays

Since our article for last month ghosted us all, we will catch you up on our activities for last month first. November was a busy month for us. In honor of Veteran's Day we made our annual donation to "Help Heal Vets" for their craft kit program. We thank all our Veterans for their service.

We held our annual turkey raffle for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and raised \$182 for them.

During the last weekend in November we joined with the local Lions club in a fundraiser for Toys for Tots.

Our activities for December will include the initiation of a new member, Khloe Kaser.

We will also have our Christmas party at our Advisor's home with a spaghetti dinner, craft time and Christmas movie.

Our community service for December will be Christmas treat cards for the residents of Welcome Home Assisted Living Facility.

We hope everyone enjoys some time during the holidays to celebrate with family and friends. Remember the reason for the season.

Until next year. . .

— *In Happiness Through Service*
The members of Acorn Theta Rho Club #79



Raffle for a gobbler

Members of Acorn Theta Rho Girls' Club #79 raised \$182 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation during their annual Turkey Raffle at an Oak Harbor grocery store. From left are: Advisor Judy Diekman, Joella Lynch, Shauna Schultz, Bella Gleghorn, and Ava Gleghorn, our guest and future member.

From your 2025-26 Grand Patriarch

Emulating The Patriarchs



The Encampment Rituals take place in an ahistorical land dominated by warrior pastoralists. What are the virtues that we project on this strange land, so completely unlike our own in so many ways? And how do we see ourselves in this distant mirror?

For one thing, the Rituals evoke a nostalgia for a simpler life of authenticity and sincerity. The Patriarchy presents as a model of self-sufficient society based on humaneness and consensual custom. None of us are old enough to have grown up without the overriding presence of mass media. It is even more difficult to imagine a time before photography or audio recording, when our only collective memory was built from direct personal experience or someone else's account of their experience.

These days, the context of our lives seems less determined by local mores or the network of our personal relationships than imposed from above by some distant collective authority. The Rituals, on the other hand, posit a world where individuals and their decisions have meaning. They take the stand that we can remake the world we live in to reflect universal values of humanity.

The Patriarchs are exemplars of strength, wisdom, and generosity. Their strength comes from their integrity; their wisdom comes from their submission to God (or Reality, if you like); and their generosity comes from their understanding of our fraternal connection with all beings.

While each individual's conscience is respected, this model of building a healthy, sustainable world is not centered on individual survival but on the tribe. The tribe is the functional unit that must be served and protected. The tribe, like the lodge, has an inside and an outside. This distinction has meaning because of the commitment of those on the inside to work together to build a better world on the foundation of shared belief. The commitment to those within the group is primary and necessary, but it fails utterly if the relationship with those outside the tribe is not one of respect and hospitality. Then it becomes simply another version of selfishness. There may be guards at the door, but it is always open.

Revelation And Inspiration

The Patriarchs also represent a direct embodiment of revelation and inspiration. We see in the example of Abraham when he is tested by God, or of Aram when God comes to him in a dream after he ejects the fire-worshiper from his tent, that the voice of wisdom speaks directly to the individual conscience. This is a prophetic model, where no one stands between the Absolute and the human heart.

But even here, in some sense, the community trumps the individual. Since everyone has to work out their own negotiation with Reality, and we are enjoined to respect this process in others (the whole point of the Golden Rule Degree), the prophetic function becomes democratized. We have to struggle to find harmony as we work together, understanding that the voice of Truth is coming through everyone at once, no matter how distorted it may seem to us at the time. Our individual journey towards clarity only becomes genuinely meaningful in the action of service to a greater cause.

The Patriarchs of our Rituals, while serving as projections of our own ideals, are at the same time the reflections of the actual men and women throughout history who have embodied a spirit of sacrifice, tolerance, and assistance. They are our ancestors, and we inherit both the fruit of their efforts and their responsibilities.

Grand Scribe's scribbles. . .

— *In Faith, Hope & Charity,*
Michael Douglas, Your Grand Patriarch

Patriarchs and Matriarchs,

Annual Reports went out on December 1. Be sure your Encampment's Scribe opens the packet. Your Encampment per capita invoice will be inside and will need to be paid. If there are any questions about the report, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will help you as much as you need.

The new officer report will not need to be turned in until after your Installation of Officers in April. However all the membership, relief, and financials will have to be into my office no later than February 15. So, please plan accordingly when mailing. Don't forget to have the forms signed and sealed. Double check before mailing.

Here's wishing all you Fez Heads a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

— *In Faith, Hope, and Charity,* Laurel Delony, Grand Scribe



Cynthia McCluer and Curt Dooley.



Sunshine Rebekahs #147

Happy holidays from Sunbeam Rebekah Lodge #147.

For Halloween, we again participated in the "Trunk or Treat" in Elma with donations of 18 blankets, 21 coats, jackets, and vests to offer winter warmth.

In Ocean Shores we participated in the annual Halloween Trick or Treat event in the Convention Center. We gave out pencils from the Odd Fellows (thanks to Grand Secretary Laurel Delony). The Rebekahs continued with quarters. We had about 300 visitors to our booth. The banner on the wall with our emblems and motto were noted by several people.

Unexpected Helper

One gentleman named Curt Dooley who said he had found a record of his great-great grandfather having been a member. He sat down and said he was glad that we still existed. We then talked about the goal and current activities. When we were talking the door opened and the characters came for the treats. Curt nicely was drafted to represent the Odd Fellows and handed out the pencils. Near the end of the evening Curt said he had forgotten how much fun he had giving out treats and interacting with the visitors.

— In F., L. & T., Cynthia McCluer

From your 2025-26 Grand Matriarch

Brothers and Sisters,

Since my last newsletter I have attended the Northwest Odd Fellow and Rebekah Association meeting in Portland Oregon. All four Jurisdictions were represented, which was a first for me since attending the Northwest meeting, I met lots of friends I haven't seen in awhile and had a grand time visiting.



I had to cancel my visitation to Unique Encampment #32 as the weather on the mountain passes didn't cooperate with me. I look forward to hopefully seeing you in March.

I made my visitation to Mt. Angeles LEA #88. We had a potluck dinner and a very nice visitation. They made a donation to my project and had a couple of gifts for me. I enjoyed the visit very much. Thank you all. I also hung the Grand Matriarch banner in the hall as this is my home lodge.

I made a visitation to Kent LEA #15 on November 14. Because of deadlines, I will comment on this visitation in the next newspaper.

My hummingbird pins finally came in. I am selling them for \$5 each, so if you would like one and see me, please grab me.

I have been volunteering at the Food Bank and have seen a big demand.

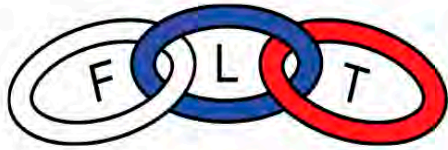
We just celebrated Thanksgiving and we had so much to be thankful for. This holiday season, please watch out for those in need and lend a helping hand. Also, please check on your elderly neighbors and see if they need anything. Even a visit helps this time of year. Happy Holiday Season to all.

Thank you again for the honor of being Grand Matriarch. Until next time. . .

— In Faith, Hope and Charity, Laura Purcell, Grand Matriarch



Membership Application



Independent Order of Odd Fellows

Date:

I, Apply to the members of Lodge, No.

of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of for membership by:

and agree to abide by the rules, regulations and teachings of the Order. I understand my rights as a member are protected by the laws of the Order and I agree not to resort to the civil courts for their enforcement. I believe in a Supreme Being and am loyal to my Country.

I was born at On

My occupation is: My Employer is:

My mailing address is:

email: Phone No.:

Applicant's Signature: _____

Sponsor: Branch Name & No.:

We certify that the applicant meets the qualifications for membership in this Lodge.

Interviewing Committee:

I certify that _____

is a member of _____ Degree

in good standing in _____ No. _____

ATTEST: _____

(Secretary / Scribe)

(SEAL)

Print Form



Steve and Laura Purcell seemed to be looking a lot like Mr. and Mrs. Sandman at the Northwest costume contest. Steve captured first place despite not ironing his night shirt.

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 2026 year and to move their Charters when so required for the performance of said ceremony.

Signed:
Dave Delony,
Grand Master
Attest:
Laurel Delony,
Grand Secretary
Attest:

Signed:
John Ottersstrom,
Rebekah Assembly President
Attest:
Cathy Gadrcia,
Rebekah Assembly Secretary
Attest:

Renewed energy at Northwest meeting

Members and friends of the Northwest Odd Fellows and Rebekah Association came together October 31 through November 2 in Portland, Oregon.

Northwest History

For those members who may not be familiar with this association, a brief history is in order. The Association was established with the purpose of uniting the Northwest Jurisdictions — Washington, British Columbia, Oregon, and Idaho — to facilitate the sharing of information and ideas focused on improving our Order. Additionally, it serves to educate members regarding the needs and requirements of individual lodges.

The Association convenes twice each year, with hosting and chairing responsibilities rotating among the participating Jurisdictions. All active Branches of our Order are asked to send a representative and contribute annual dues to support the Association's activities. While the meetings maintain an informal atmosphere, they provide an opportunity for both Brothers and Sisters to come together.

Meetings open with formalities such as the presentation of colors, the singing of national anthems, and prayers offered by a Chaplain at both the beginning and end of sessions. Officers are selected through a combination of elections and appointments.

Northwest's Goals

The primary goal of these meetings is to share information, foster connections among members from different Jurisdictions, and enjoy one another's company. While the atmosphere remains relaxed and social, members also can learn and exchange valuable insights that benefit the Association and its lodges.

During this meeting, a primary objective was to encourage greater attendance at our bi-annual gatherings. Members discussed various strategies and ideas aimed at increasing participation, emphasizing the importance of engaging more individuals in the association's activities.

We were pleased to welcome three new members from our lodges who attended the meeting. These individuals actively took part in our conversations, offering their perspectives and contributing to the exchange of suggestions. Their involvement brought fresh insights and added value to our ongoing efforts to strengthen the association.

— Continued on Page 15



NW Association begins a new era!

Continued from Page 14

We also have some younger members from Theta Rho Girls' Clubs who participated in our meetings. These individuals have contributed valuable insights and shared effective ideas for attracting new members to our lodges. Their input has been particularly helpful as we focus on increasing engagement and ensuring the continued growth of our association.

One suggestion was articles in the IOOF newspapers. So here I am. Feel free to contact me at 541-521-5673 if you have questions. All members are welcome to this gathering.

— Respectively Submitted,
Sande Maxwell, Junior Past President
Rebekah Assembly of Oregon



Upper Left: Dave and Jennie Reed as "Jack and Jill."

Lower Left: Grand Warden Tom Harper as Little Bo Peep's Sheep.

Upper Right: Laurel and Dave Delony as "Little Miss Muffet." They took second place in the costume contest.

Pictured On Previous Page: Steve Purcell as "Wee Willie Winkie" along with his wife Laura. Steve earned first place in the costume contest.

Third Place (Not Pictured): Carol Briggs of British Columbia as Little Bo Peep

The Northwest Banquet theme was Mother Goose Rhymes.

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THROUGH POSITIVE
COMMUNICATION”*

 *Happy Holidays Brothers & Sisters* 

Olympia IOOF Lodge #1 & Ruth Rebekahs #17

Happy Holidays Brothers & Sisters!

It's Christmas time and our lodges are gearing up for the holidays. Olympia IOOF Brothers are helping Ruth Rebekahs with their stocking stuffer program. Ruth Sisters are purchasing stocking stuffers with money donated from Olympia #1, Alpha #1, Canton Olympia #20, and by passing the hat. They will be stuffing 100 stockings to give to the Union Gospel Mission for disbursements to kids in need.

Our Christmas party is set for Monday, December 16 at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited. Instead of a gift exchange, members are asked to bring gifts to give to children.

New officers will be installed Saturday, January 17, 2026. There will be a luncheon at noon with the Installation of Officers to follow. Here's a reminder to lodges that are participating with Olympia: please remember to bring your regalia.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year To All

— *Fraternally, The Members of Olympia #1 and Ruth Rebekahs #17*

South Tacoma Rebekah Lodge #160

In November, members of South Tacoma Rebekah Lodge #160 met for a social evening, or rather our annual Thanksgiving dinner social. It was held at the Rose Cafe in Spanaway. Member's enjoyed whatever meal they chose and we had great conversations.

Next up is our annual stocking stuffing for adults. This event is being held on Tuesday, December 2 at 6 p.m. in the United Methodist Church in downtown Tacoma. We'll be working with the Theta Rho Girls and will be having a Christmas party, as well. We always look forward to working with the Theta Rho Girls.

Congratulations to our incoming officers: Tom Harper, Noble Grand; Peg Ogilvie, Vice Grand; Laurel Delony, Secretary; Jamie Vest Bey, Financial Secretary; and Dave Delony, Treasurer.

We are planning our Installation of Officers with Ruth Rebekah Lodge #17 in Olympia on Saturday, January 17. This is always a fun time.

— *With Rebekah Hugs, Laurel Delony, Secretary*