

THE

2026: A Great Year For Odd Fellowship!



Washington ODD FELLOW



January, 2026

Official Publication of All Units of The Order

VOLUME 135 • NUMBER 1



Wreath Laying In Hawaii With Bro. Hanson

*Details And Additional
Photos On Page 6*

2025-26 Deputy Sovereign Grand Master Ronald Hanson and IARA President Pamala Isenhower at Punchbowl Cemetery in Hawaii in early December.

From your 2025-26 Grand Master



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this news letter finds you well and rested from the holidays and that you were able to be with your loved ones and friends. Hopefully all those resolutions you made will come to fruition.

January Is Installation Month

Now is the time for all your newly-elected and appointed officers to be installed. My wish is to have the lodges be installed by the Grand Lodge Officers, using our installation ceremonies to make this occasion special for everyone. Your Grand Lodge team will be performing a number of Installations this month. It is always an honor to install the newly-elected and appointed officers.

My Visitations

I have been very fortunate, so far, to have visited half of our lodge before the New Year. I am looking forward to visiting the remainder of the lodges soon, weather permitting.

Speaking of visitations, it has been very apparent, when we only have two meetings a month, and when one of those meetings can be a social meeting, that we are losing that close Odd Fellowship that is so important to the Order. I have notice that we are very lax in the way we conduct our meetings and what actually takes place in those meetings.

When we, and I mean all of us, joined this Order, pledging to uphold the meaning, tenants, and work of this wonderful organization. As I have always said, we are all just volunteers who chose to do this work of Odd Fellowship. But once you join you are then tasked with the responsibility to carry on the work of Odd Fellowship just as those before us did, and hopefully those after us will do. With that being said: To do this work correctly and preserve it and pass it on, you have to understand that your meetings must be run using the RITUAL!. At times it may seem antiquated, but that is the beauty of this work. The RITUAL has persevered for more than 200 years and hopefully will continue to do so way into the future. It is now OUR responsibility to continue to do what those before us did as they conducted their meetings and community work.

Ritual Must Always Be Followed

To hold an official, legal meeting, the RITUAL must be followed, which means the lodge must use the Opening Ceremony, Order of Business, and the Closing Ceremony. You cannot leave anything out. There is no picking or choosing what you want to use. Your record of the meeting, taken by your Secretary, is a legal document. All the actions your lodge takes between the opening and closing is what makes your lodge and this Order better. If you are unsure of what is truly expected in your meetings and how they should be conducted, do not hesitate to contact your District Deputy Grand Master and/or the Grand Lodge. We will help you in any way we can with instructions be it one-on-one or with the lodge as a whole. We can even set up a Zoom meeting.

We're Tasked By SGL

Be aware that the Grand Lodge is tasked by the Sovereign Grand Lodge to keep the workings and teachings of Odd Fellowship in the Jurisdiction of Washington always growing. We are held responsible for the actions or lack thereof in our subordinate lodges.

Bring Back The True Meaning Of Odd Fellowship

So yes, we are concerned that our lodges may be slipping away from being compliant where lodge meetings are concerned. I personally am concerned that as we get away from our meetings and do social meetings, we lose that true meaning of Odd Fellowship. Yes, you might be doing work in your community, but are you actually promoting and encouraging Odd Fellowship by using the RITUAL? When we short cut our meetings we rob each other as members the camaraderie and traditions of our Order. Therefore, I encourage you to do your work in the community, but to run your meetings according to the RITUAL. We will all gain knowledge, grow, and continue the tradition as True ODD FELLOWS.

— *Fraternally In Friendship, Love, and Truth, Dave Delony,
Your 2025-26 Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Washington*

From your 2025-2026 Assembly President of Washington

Sisters and Brothers,

Greetings all. I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season.

I'm looking forward to coming to most, or hopefully all Installations of Officers, this January

I'm also hoping to do some visitations in January weather permitting. I hope everyone is doing well. Have a wonderful 2026!

Happy New Year To All My Brothers & Sisters!!



Teanna Gardner

2025-2026

TRA Assembly President

— *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 Theta Rho President

Hello everyone. I want to start off by saying Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to everyone. Thanksgiving was a blast and I hope everyone enjoyed their meals. I also hope everyone's been staying warm and cozy as it is cold and chilly out lately.

This year for our community we stuffed stockings for the homeless with hygiene supplies. Afterwards played some games with the Rebekahs!! It was so much fun spending time with everyone and eating together, as well as seeing Laurel Delony have reindeer antlers on her head for the games.

I would also like to let the girls know that if they still have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out as always. My number is (253) 212-8733 and my email is teannanaliyah253@gmail.com.

I can't wait to see everyone very soon. I wish everyone the best of wishes and love for this upcoming year, and I hope all the girls are writing their lists and checking it twice for Christmas year! Happy Holidays everyone!!

— *With Friendship, Love & Truth & Happiness Through Service,*

Teanna Gardner, Your 2025-26 Theta Rho President

Greetings from Buckley Odd Fellows Lodge #75

Buckley IOOF Lodge #75 had a wonderful Christmas party on December 17. Toby and Jaime Hanson provided the meat dish and everyone brought dishes to share. A gift exchange was held and a lot of fun and socializing went on.

The lodge dining room was dressed in Christmas cheer with a Christmas tree, and yule log. Well, the yule log was on the big screen TV. It was very festive, and you could almost feel the warmth.

Installation On January, 25

Installation of officers will be held on the last Sunday of this month, January 25 at 2 p.m. at our hall in Buckley. This is usually the last installation and the Grand Lodge Officers don their tuxedos and Converse sneakers. A meal will be provided directly after the ceremony. Congratulations to the incoming officers.

Did You Pay Your Dues?

Just a reminder to the lodge members that if you haven't paid your dues yet, they were due the first of January.

The Best To All Our Brothers & Sisters in 2026!

*Fraternally,
The Officers and Members of Buckley Odd Fellows #75*



From your Assembly Secretary

Happy New Year!

2026 – New Officers, New Projects, and (hopefully) New Members. Some Lodges are installing new Secretaries and some of you are continuing in the familiar position of many years. Either way, I look forward to working with each of you this year.

The first project we all need to complete is our Year-End Annual Reports. I sent these to you several weeks ago, so hopefully you have started putting information together and finishing them will be an easy task. If you need any help, please give me a call. I'm happy to go over them with you.

With the Holidays behind us and Spring looming in the future, this is a great time to encourage your members to reach out to friends and neighbors with an invitation to join your lodge. See who is in need around you and ask what your lodge can do to help. With the winter storms and rain events we've had, I'm sure a smiling face and a helping hand would be welcome.

As you put your holiday decorations away, don't put the Holiday Spirit away with them. Let's hang on to that giving attitude and Christmas joy as we walk into the New Year. Share a smile and a hug and you'll feel happier too.

I am looking forward to seeing you at upcoming Installation Ceremonies.

— 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

~ Bucoda Bulletin Board #53

I'm not saying that December has been a wild month so far, but as I drove out this morning to go pick up some prescriptions I saw my neighbors loading pairs of animals on a big boat.

Santa visited the Bucoda Tree Lighting on December 6 and as Noble Grand of North Pole Lodge #1, the jolly fellow tells me he'll be back to ride around the town on

December 20. I know "Snowflake the Elf" is planning on being here as well. It's always a fun time when Santa and Snowflake make that last pre-Christmas visit.

As reported in the last article, Bucoda Rebekahs #144 adopted a family and insured they had a sumptuous Thanksgiving feast. Members of Skookumchuck #129 have planned to adopt a family, as well, for Christmas. You can bet that the little ones in the adopted family will have a very merry Christmas.

We are looking at cranking up some fund-raisers after the first of the year to assist the town in maintaining and upgrading the Community Center building. Nothing is firm yet. We're just in the brainstorming stage, but informal preliminary discussions with town administration have already been held. We'll see where that all leads.

Of course, Laura and I have been busy with our Grand Matriarch and DDGM visitations as well as local Odd Fellow and Rebekah business.

That's all for now. Here is wishing all our Brothers and Sisters the Happiest of Holidays and the Merriest of Christmases.

— Until next time, in Friendship, Love and Truth,
Steven Purcell (AKA Junior)

Domestic Reporter and Foreign Correspondent
Skookumchuck IOOF Lodge #129
Bucoda Rebekah Lodge #144

**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: bill@linxure.net

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

From the desk of your Grand Secretary



Laurel Delony

With Assistant Secretary Poppy

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Now it's time to get busy.

Year-End Reports Due Soon

Your lodges should be working on your Year-End Reports. The packet was sent out on December 1. If you did not receive it please contact me. Remember, the report needs to be in my office by February 15, so plan accordingly to make sure you have it mailed early enough to make that happen. For every day the report is late your lodge is charged a late fee of \$5 per day. Please don't make me do this as that money can be used to help others in your community. If you need any assistance, no matter how small, please contact me. I am here to help!

To All Lodge Secretaries

I want to thank you for stepping up and taking the secretarial office. I know how much work it entails and I appreciate each and everyone of you. Thank you! Lodges, please be sure to thank your Secretaries! If you haven't done that particular position, it's a lot of work.

January Is Installation Month

Installation of officers is happening this month. On the agenda for the Grand Lodge to install is the following:

- **Golden Rule #207**, Saturday, January 10 at Noon. Joint Dinner Installation
- **Titusville #34** and **Des Moines #305** Sunday, January 11 at 2 p.m.
- **Olympia #1**, **Skookumchuck #129**, **Bremerton-Friendship #145**, (Joint Installation with Rebekahs) Saturday, January 17. Lunch at noon with installation to follow.
- **Pilgrim #187**, Thursday January 22 at 1 p.m.
- Then we're off to **Ballard-Alki #170** at 7 p.m.
- **Buckley Odd Fellows #75** Sunday, January 25 at 2 p.m.

2026 Passwords

The passwords for 2026 have been mailed out to the District Deputy Grand Masters and Past Grand Masters. No, they were not sent to Lodge Secretaries. The DDGM's will make sure the passwords are given to the Noble Grand and Vice Grand of your lodge once the new officers have officially been installed, all monies due to Grand Lodge are paid, and the Annual Report is submitted or in transit.

Representative Certificates

I will be sending out the Representative Certificates this month. Your lodge is to elect a Lodge representative for a two-year term, who must be a Past Grand, at the first meeting in February if your lodge is an even numbered lodge: Ellensburg #20, Yakima #22, Titusville #34, Samaritan #52, Mt. Constitution #88, Rosalia #110, Bothell #124, Monroe #156, Ballard-Alki #170, Goodwill #188, Washougal #194, Hunters #216, and Richland #338. I will be expecting the top portion into my office no later than March 6. For the odd numbered lodges, you will be getting the letter and certificates as well in the case that you have to replace your Representative before their term was up. If you have any questions please contact me.

New Member Form

Don't forget that if your lodge gets new members, Secretaries need to make sure and send me the new member form as soon as possible after the member has received the Initiatory Degree. Do not wait until all the Degrees have been conferred. If you need the form, which is fillable, please let me know. — *With Fraternal Hugs and Love, Laurel Delony, PGM, Grand Secretary*
grandsecretarywaioof@gmail.com 800-345-1766 or 360-1766 or 360-829-1514

Happy New Year from Trinity Rebekah Lodge #179

Greetings from Napavine. Congratulations to all the 2026 officers from all of our different branches of Odd Fellowship. Trinity gave three Thanksgiving baskets to families in need.

We had our Turkey BINGO on November 22, 2025. It was great! There was a very nice turn out. Our dessert auction table went very well.

On December 11 we put together 30 baskets for our local shut-ins.

On December 12, Mary and Alberta went to Child Time Daycare in Centralia with Santa to deliver coloring books, Crayons and stuffed animals to the preschoolers and littles. It was so much fun!

Our Installation of Officers will be on Saturday, January 10, 2026 at noon. We will be serving meatloaf, cheesy potatoes, green beans, rolls, and cake for dessert. — *Hugs to All In Friendship Love and Truth, Alberta Luurs, Reporter*

Hey, how about a nice Hawaiian Punch??

No, make that a Punchbowl for DSGM Ron!

Deputy Sovereign Grand Master Ronald D. Hanson, a resident of the Tri-Cities and pretty much Past everything in the Jurisdiction of Washington, addressed the crowd at the first-ever Wreath Laying Ceremony at Punchbowl Cemetery in Hawaii December 4-7. Here are Brother Ron's remarks:



Good morning. I am honored and humbled to be asked to speak at the First Annual Wreath Laying by the Odd Fellows of Hawaii. We are here today to honor those brave men and women who gave their last full measure of devotion in the defense of their country. Buried here are service members from World War II, Korea and Vietnam, as well as other notable persons. The first internment was made on January 4, 1949.

The cemetery opened to the public on July 19, 1949 with services for five war dead: an unknown serviceman, two Marines, an Army Lieutenant, and one civilian. That civilian was War Correspondent Ernie Pyle. Eventually over 13,000 soldiers and sailors who died during World War II were laid to rest in Punchbowl Cemetery. On either side of the grand stairs leading to the memorial are inscribed the names of 18,095 missing from the World War II Pacific Theater, 8,210 missing from the Korean War, and 2,504 missing from the Vietnam War.

There are a large number of service members buried here who were awarded the Medal of Honor. Among those are Danial K. Inouye, Captain in the United States Army, for actions in Italy during World War II while serving with Company E. 442 Infantry Regiment, Private Bruno Raymond Orig, he received the Medal of Honor for actions in the Korean War while serving with company G 2nd Battalion 23rd Infantry Regiment 2nd Infantry Division, and Staff Sergeant Edward N. Kaneshiro received the Medal of Honor posthumously for actions in Vietnam while serving with C Troop 1st Squadron 9th Cavalry 1st Air Cavalry.

All are native sons of Hawaii serving in different times and wars, all answering the call of duty.

Among those other notables buried here are Ellison Onizuka U.S. Air Force Lt. Colonel and astronaut born in Hawaii, and Patsy Mink, Congresswomen.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you here today.

— Ronald D. Hanson, Deputy Sovereign Grand Master



Above Left: 2025-26 IARA President Pamala Isenhower holds the IARA wreath with Brother Ron.

Below Left: Ron, you keep setting up yourself for the line we have used several times before, "Beauty and the Beast!" And she ain't the beast. She's "Mrs. Elite Hawaii 2025." **Below Right:** Brother Ron with the wreath from the Sovereign Grand Lodge.





Above, Chief Patriarch Stu Carlson conducts the Alpha #1 meeting. Next is Tom Harper, then Chaplain Jennie Reed, Dave Delony and Joanne Balmert as Sentinels; Laura Purcell (with her back to camera) is Jr. Warden; and Michael Schuerich is 1st Watch. Steve Purcell is Sr. Warden, and Scribe Laurel Delony took the picture. There were 10 members in attendance.



*Alpha's always enjoy
their time together!!*

Left: Members of Alpha Encampment #1 and Canton Olympia #20 have dinner before every meeting at a little cafe across the street from the Olympia IOOF Hall. The Cascadia Grill has excellent food, so we head across the street fully satisfied and ready to have our meetings. In attendance at a recent dinner are, from lower left: Tom Harper, Michael Schuerich, Dave Reed, and Stu Carlson. On the right is Joanne Balmert, Laurel Delony, Jennie Reed, and Frank Wilson. Dave Delony was the photographer.

Spokane's Hope #38 keeping very busy

Members of Hope Rebekah Lodge #38 in Spokane met in due form on Wednesday afternoon, November 19. We were honored to have President John "Johneo" Otterstrom and Warden Joey Locke of the Rebekah Assembly present. It was a busy and informative meeting.

Pat Nave, our lodge Treasurer, was absent. She was in Arizona with her sister doing the craft fair circuit. Past President Cynthia "Dusti" Trebe also was absent.

We were notified by Sherron Park-Schultz that her husband had another heart attack. They are not going to be "Snow Birds" this winter.

Noble Grand Elizabeth Winship-Moon opened a discussion about having craft tables at various locations. She will inquire with various sites and what the cost will be to rent space.

Vice President Beverly Johnson discussed ideas for her program as incoming Noble Grand being this will be her first time as Noble Grand. And this comes after 60 years of membership. She will soon receive her 60 Year Veteran Jewel. Sister Beverly was initiated in 1965 as a member of the Medical Lake Rebekah Lodge. She transferred her membership to Georgia where she lived with her husband for 50 years. She moved back to Washington and transferred her membership to Narcissa Rebekah lodge in Walla Walla where she was very active.

Continued on Page 12

~ Lodge Cards ~



\$20
Per
Year

LODGE CARD UPDATE

Include Area Code in Telephone Numbers

Send To:
Grand
Lodge

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

~ 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.

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 Gasparek, 10138 NE 187th, Bothell, WA 98011. **Email:** jmc_gasparek@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)

*Jurisdiction of Washington***~ 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:** laureljdellony@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 Butterson, 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. (360) 834-2354 (2/28/26)

VANCOUVER I.O.O.F. LODGE #3

Meet At: 9400 NE 72nd Ave., Vancouver WA 98665. **Mailing Address:** PO Box 2746 Vancouver, WA 98668. **Meeting Time:** 1st & 3rd Tues, 6 pm. **Recess:** July, Aug. **NG:** Pat Hill, 207 NE 99th CIR, Vancouver WA 98662. **Ph:** (360) 713-3348. **Sec'y:** Trisha Pyles, 417 NWV146th St, Vancouver WA 98685. **Ph:** (360) 921-4208 (2/28/27)

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)

**From your 2025-26
Grand Matriarch**

Brothers and Sisters,

I made my official visit to Kent LEA #15 and had a wonderful time. We had lunch and they presented me with an addendum using the letters of my first name. They did a wonderful job. Well done ladies! Thank you for a wonderful visit.

The weather here is a little wetter than usual. To everyone, please stay safe during this time of year. Please remember to check on your neighbors and the elderly as they really enjoy the visitations this time of year.

We had a wonderful Christmas party which was catered by Karen Hoylman's granddaughter. The food was very good. Thank you, thank you! We all had a wonderful time.

Remember, the holidays are times to enjoy the blessings you have received during the year. Here's wishing everyone the Merriest of Christmases and the Happiest of Holidays.

— In F., H. & C., Laura Purcell, Grand Matriarch

**Lunch & Learn is Back**

Brothers and Sisters,

For those who would like to do a little learning about the proper way to run a meeting, and be able to ask any and all questions, the Grand Master has authorized a "Lunch and Learn" session for Sunday, February 15, 9 a.m. at the Olympia Odd Fellows Hall located at 405 Columbia Street SW, Olympia.

Parking can be a challenge, but the bank at the end of the block lets the lodge members park in their lot. Parking on the street is free on Sunday if you can find a space. Lunch will be provided.

If you plan to attend please send an RSVP to Grand Secretary Laurel Delony at:

gransecretarywaioof@gmail.com

or 800-345-1766

Be sure to bring your Ritual or Charge Book (Red), Washington Digest (Black Book), and SGL Code (Green Book)



Acorn #79 initiates 3 new members in Dec.

Happy New Year Everyone!

We hope your holidays were as much fun as ours. We stayed really busy.

We said we were initiating a new member last month, but we actually initiated three girls. Welcome Emma Lynch and Joella Lynch, along with Khloe Kaser.

We were so excited to have our member Desiree Gardiner visiting in Oak Harbor. She was able to help with our initiation and attend our Christmas party.

We each received a nice snowman goodie bag filled with cool things from our Rebekah Sisters. We really appreciate their support.

We will be electing our new officers this month, and we are looking forward to an exciting 2026. We will report on our new officers in our next article.

We hope all of our members were safe during the December flooding.

Take care of yourselves during the winter months and don't forget to check on others.

Until next time. . .

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



Top: Khloe Kaser, Willow Miller, and Quinley Spydell with the Toys for Tots van. **Above Right:** Acorn members sharing their Christmas goodie bags from their Oak Leaf Rebekah Sisters. From left are Emma Lynch, Joella Lynch, Willow Miller, Bella Gleghorn, Desiree Gardiner, Ava Kaser, Shauna Schultz, and Khloe Kaser. **Below Left:** Desiree Gardiner, Ava Kaser, Quinley Spydell, and Khloe Kaser working on their ornaments at Acorn's Christmas party. **Below Right:** Quinley Spydell, Willow Miller and Khloe Kaser helping with Toys for Tots



From your 2025-26 Grand Patriarch

Patriarchal Traditions



It has been said that though teaching peaceful lessons, the Encampment assumes military forms. Indeed, though the overriding metaphor is an ancient pastoralist society living in camps, the depictions in 19th century posters look more like a medieval military expedition. Even closer to home, many of those who laid the foundations of our Order would have been familiar with the Military Encampments of the American Civil War. This bloody adventure cast a long shadow over 19th Century culture, just as World War II did over events of the late 20th century. The virtues of honor, loyalty, and sacrifice come into sharp relief when they are tested in battle. The hierarchical discipline of military life is a stark image of how institutions operate, both rewarding and setting limits on individual initiative.

Fraternal Orders have often been built along military lines; the fact that they were typically males-only contributed to this. This sort of organization has a long history. During the Crusades, some Europeans formed military units based on the Catholic mendicant orders, which often conceived of themselves as soldiers of God. The Knights Templar, the Hospitaliers, and others were voluntary institutions fundamentally independent of secular authority, unidentified with any nation-state.

For generations they interacted in the Holy Land with other voluntary associations dedicated to a purpose, such as the “futtuwa” and the “Sufi” orders. The “futtuwa” were young men’s associations dedicated to chivalric ideas such as courage, personal integrity, and defending the weaker elements of the community. They began in Persia in the 12th Century and spread west into present day Turkiye and the Middle East. The Sufi orders began in Central Asia around the same time and spread throughout the Islamic world. They were organized much like contemporary martial arts schools, such

as Aikido. Authorized teachers established centers for training new recruits in the ideals and techniques of the lineage. All these groups interacted for generations in the Eastern Mediterranean, and this practical knowledge flowed back to Europe, where the fraternal ideal influenced craft guilds, troubadour culture, and various other bodies formed for mutual aid. This mixed inheritance was the foundation of the modern fraternal organization, which played a key role in the birth of representative government, democratic ideals, and the overthrow of centuries of autocratic tradition.

Lodges still can, and often do, serve as breeding grounds for democracy. Ideally, leadership roles circulate through the membership, which encourages fresh viewpoints. Our governance structure, when correctly implemented, gives a hearing to all voices in an atmosphere of respect and thoughtfulness.

This freedom works because we hold to a transparent working structure and a rule of law. Our opening ceremonies focus on the duties of each role, not the individual filling that chair. In theory, anyone could hold any chair, according to their capacity. This creative balance of lodge and individual member supports the peaceful lessons that are protected by the military form.

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

Scribbles from your 2025-26 Grand Scribe

Hey All You Fez Heads,

Time has flown and here we are with Christmas having passed by and New Years as well.

Scribes, you were sent packets containing the Annual Reports and the per capita invoices. Be sure you get those out and your checks mailed in. Don’t forget, two signatures are required.

Your Annual Report is due into my office by February 15, minus the new officers and PCP certificate, which are not to be mailed in until after your Installation of Officers in April. Which reminds me that January marks the time when you should be having your first nomination of officers.

I will be sending out, when we get closer to April, the information for electing two-year Representatives. Be aware and on the lookout. This is to be done at the first meeting after installation

If your Encampment has any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the office at grandscribeofgeow@gmail.com or 800-345-1766. *Happy New Year!*

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



Vancouver #3 members prove Odd Fellowship is still alive and well here in Washington!!

Members of Vancouver Odd Fellows Lodge #3 recently helped move a family into an apartment after being homeless. The Mom and her three Kiddos were so appreciative, especially since the holiday season was approaching.

Helping with the move were Lodge Secretary Dianne Cossette, Harp Hill, Jordan Vernon, Pat Hill, and Sandy Hill.

We've said it before, but isn't this what Odd Fellowship is all about!



Hope Rebekahs #38 in Spokane Continued From Page 7

Noble Grand Elizabeth discussed how we can start a Theta Rho Girls' Club and how to attract the younger girls. Brother Tedd Swanson spoke about the feasibility of starting a United Youth Group and how we can promote, advertise, and inform the public of our young people. President "Johneo" spoke about the units of our Order working together to start a United Youth Group.

On Wednesday, December 3, we met for our social meeting. Snow was on the ground but we had a quorum. Sister Beverly discussed her plans which include bringing Bingo games in for our local senior center and churches once every quarter to raise money for our lodge. Tedd and Brother George Chinn will talk to the directors at South Side Senior Center and Corbin Senior Center to find out what they would charge for space.

Sister Beverly would like us to visit other lodges and she would like to have an ice cream social in May. Brother Tedd brought up an idea of going to church on Sunday with the Rebekahs and Odd Fellows donning our regalia. The church to be chosen by Noble Grand. The meeting adjourned after a lively discussion.

— With Rebekah Hugs In Friendship, Love, and Truth, Tedd Swanson, PNG and Reporter

Old fashioned LEA lunch has some modern touches

On December 5, a joint Christmas lunch with Mt. Angeles LEA #88 and Kent LEA #15 was held at the Buckley IOOF Hall. Karen Hoylman's granddaughter, Crystal Smith, catered the event. It was a delicious chicken breast with vegetables and a wonderful cherry truffle for dessert.

We played several word games. We also played a ring toss game. Dave Reed and Steve Purcell wore reindeer antlers and we broke into two teams and tossed rings at their antlers. We then exchanged gifts. It was a wonderful day.

Laurel Delony had the dining room decorated with a modern touch — a festive Yule Log on the TV. It almost felt warm and cozy.



Steve Purcell and Dave Reed look a little skeptical as Judy Diekman, left, takes aim at their big horns during the ring toss game. Dave said they were wearing their "Happy Faces." It looked more like sheer fright to everyone else.



LEA fun in Buckley

Above: Margaret Truttmann, Alberta Luurs and Judy Diekman. **Below Left:** Tom and Kendra Frogge'. **Below Right:** Marcia Presley and her daughter, Karman Lundel.





Odd Fellow Brothers from Olympia Lodge #1 and Rebekah Sisters from Ruth Lodge #17 met for Christmas Stocking stuffing on Wednesday, December 10 at the Olympia Odd Fellow Hall. As you can see there was quite a group. 100 stockings were stuffed and given to the Union Gospel Mission in Olympia for distribution to children. Members of Ruth Rebekahs #17, Olympia #1, Bremerton #145, and Sunbeam #147, along with one visitor, were all part of the crew. From left are: Earlene Carlson, Frank Wilson, Micky Turner, Lela Wimer (visiting sister of Micky), Diane Devoe, Michael Scheurich, Jalynn Calvani, Jennie Reed, Dave Reed, Kristine Samuelson, Gail Johnson, Joe Mooney, Lorrie Bonnell, Colleen Mooney, Rick Bonnell, and Stuart Carlson. Thank you to all the volunteers. We had a great time!

Olympia, Ruth celebrate the holidays, plan Installation

Olympia Odd Fellows along with Ruth Rebekahs held a Christmas party on Monday, December 15. Members met for a meal first. Olympia No. 1 provided the ham, and everyone brought dishes to share. Santa and his Elf were present for photo ops.

It was decided that instead of a gift exchange everyone brought an unwrapped gift for a child. When the members sat on Santa's lap they filled his gift bag with the toys. The toys were donated to the Union Gospel Mission for distribution.

Both lodges are planning a Joint Installation for Saturday, January 17. Luncheon will be at noon with the Installation

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:

Ceremony to follow.

Odd Fellows and Rebekahs from South Tacoma #160, Bucoda #144, Skookumchuck #129 and Bremerton-Friendship #145 will be joining us. This should be a fun time with a packed house. South Tacoma is on the hook for clean-up.

Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly Officers will be installing the new officers.

The Grand Lodge will be holding a "Lunch and Learn" session in our hall on Sunday, February 15 at 9 a.m. See article in this newspaper on Page 9.

A reminder to Olympia Odd Fellows: If you haven't paid your dues by the first of January, you are now late. Please get your dues paid. If you have any questions, contact Olympia's Secretary.

We are looking forward to a great New Year.

The Officers and Members of Ruth #17 and Olympia #1





Sipping from their candy-filled tea cups are, from left: Sylvia Summers, Alister Jennings, Jamie Keena, Adrielle Keena, Elizabeth Keena, Andrea Gardner, and Teanna Gardner. Oops, did Teanna spill some of her "tea?"

So. Tacoma Rebekahs team up with Spunky Girls

Members of South Tacoma Rebekah Lodge #160 met at The First Methodist Church in downtown Tacoma. This was our annual stocking stuffing party with Spunky Bluebirds Theta Rho Club #93.

The Theta Rho Girls vs the Rebekahs played reindeer games. The girls were much better than the Rebekahs and won with six antler ringers while the Rebekahs only had three.

Rewards were given from Grand Master Dave Delony and Grand Secretary Laurel Delony. Each girl and Advisor received a tea cup and saucer filled with candy.

Dinner was provided by the Rebekahs and everyone tucked into KFC. Dessert was mini-cupcakes. We had a great time with the girls and look forward to this next Christmas.

Officers were elected and they will be installed along with Ruth Rebekah Lodge #17 and Bucoda Rebekah Lodge #144 at the Olympia Odd Fellows Hall on Saturday, January 17. Tom Harper will be going in as South Tacoma's Noble Grand. This is Tom's first time going through the chairs. We are looking forward to a great year.

We hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and happy New Year. — With Rebekah Hugs, Laurel Delony, Secretary



Santa empties a full bag in Olympia.

Santa made a stop in Olympia during the lodge's annual Christmas Party on December 15. And yes, there were plenty of smiles to go around. From left are: Carla Umbecker and Chris Hansen, Lorrie and Rick Bonnell, Dave Kitsch and Megan Gleason See story on page 14.

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**"PROMOTING
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Washougal #194 had a very fruitful 2025!!

Members of Washougal IOOF Lodge #194 had a busy year supporting our community. We partnered with the local Kiwanis Club to support Camp WaRiKi — the Washougal River Kiwanis Camp — with three events, including an Easter Egg Hunt where kids hunted for eggs, some containing “Golden Tickets” for special prizes.

The second event in June was “Nature Days” with all kinds of outdoor activities including an obstacle course with plantings, and all events included lunch. The kids had the most fun when the fire truck sprayed water and they got to splash, run and play in it.

And lastly, there were “Harvest Days” where there were 12 activities to rotate through. Hundreds of kids participated.

We awarded two \$1,000 “Lonnie Betz Memorial Scholarships” to graduating Washougal High School students.

We also partnered with the General Federation of Women’s Clubs (GFWC), Washougal-Camas Chapter, to support Holly House, the domestic violence shelter in Stevenson. We donated \$300 to purchase cleaning supplies throughout the year.

We assembled four baskets for “Festival of the Trees” silent auction to raise funds for Washougal Schools. They included a Grinch-themed basket, a beauty basket to pamper yourself, and two kitchen/baking themed baskets. These items raised \$365.

We donated a flower basket for downtown Camas in the spring. It’s always fun to watch them grow all spring and summer and make the downtown area more colorful.

We also donated \$300 to the Camas-Washougal Christmas Activities Relief Organization Limited (CAROL) for local Christmas baskets.

At our November meeting, we hosted Grand Master Dave Delony for his official visit. While here, we donated toward his project, Northwest Harvest. The Grand Master presented Service Jewels to a pair of members. Harry Jester received his 25 Year Jewel and Jeanette Jester received her Jewel marking 60 years of membership. She joined To-We-Ha Theta Rho Girls’ Club on her 12th birthday in 1963, the first day she was eligible to join.

We ended our IOOF year on December 14 with a holiday dinner at Applebee’s Restaurant in Vancouver. And, as a bonus, we had two potential members turn in applications.



Jeanette Jester and her brother Harry flank Grand Master Dave Delony during his visit to Washougal.

— In F., L. & T., Jeanette Jester, Secretary