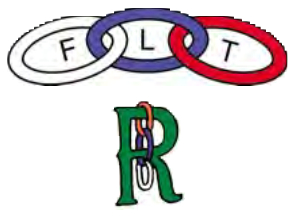


THE



*What Are PGM Michael Scheurich & Jalynn Calvani
Doing At Pike's Place Market?*

See Page 14

Washington OddFellow



November, 2026

Official Publication of All Units of The Order

VOLUME 135 • NUMBER 9



**Sovereign Grand Master
Ronald D. Hanson With
Past Sovereign Grand Master
Michelle Heckert**

More Photos On Pages 13 & 14

— Photo by Jody Jedlicka

From the Heart of the Grand Master



DDGM/DDP Meeting Was Great



Jamie Vest

Your 2026-27 Grand Master

What a great turnout we had at our District Deputy Grand Master/District Deputy President (DDGM/DDP) meeting on Sunday, October 11, at Buckley Odd Fellows Hall!

First, let me apologize for the length of the meeting. I know some of you may have wondered whether you attended a meeting or accidentally signed up for a full-day seminar! Thank you for your patience and for staying engaged throughout our discussions.

Humor aside, I left that meeting encouraged by the dedication, progress, and accomplishments taking place throughout our Jurisdiction.

We are beginning to operate like a well-oiled machine, with communication improving, responsibilities being addressed, and officers working together toward common goals. This progress does not happen by accident. It takes committed leaders willing to put in the time, effort, and work necessary to move our Order forward.

Our DDGMs and DDPs play vital rolls in connecting the Grand Lodge with our subordinate lodges. Your leadership, support, and willingness to work together are essential to our continued success.

Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed. I am proud of the progress we are making, and I look forward to building on this momentum as we continue strengthening Washington's Odd Fellowship.

And next time, we will try to make the meeting shorter — or at least make sure the coffee, goodies, and candy at the tables keep coming!

Together, we are moving forward, growing stronger, and building a Grand Lodge we can all be proud of.

— *Jamie Vest, Grand Master,*

*Right Worthy Grand Lodge of Washington,
Independent Order of Odd Fellows*

Phone: (253) 344-3936 Email:doubleoddjamie@gmail.com



Autumn hangs on for one more outing

Members of Olympia Odd Fellows Lodge #1 gathered for a bonfire on Saturday, October 3 at the at our Odd Fellow Park on Puget Sound. It was a beautiful evening with many of our beautiful Brothers and Sisters.

From your 2026-27 Assembly President,

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I chose "*Sentimental Journey*" as my fun song because we need to remember our past.

In 1850, Schuyler Colfax was tasked to write a Degree for women. Rebekah Lodges were founded on September 20, 1851. In the 175 years since, the world has seen many changes, but we have remained true the principles that our Order was built upon — Friendship, Love, and Truth. Like many other organizations, we have seen our membership dwindling, but since June I have been privileged to be on a team that initiated three new members. Thank you ladies for choosing the Rebekahs as your fraternal organization.

My Project: Education Foundation

My project is the SGL/IARA Education Foundation. This foundation was established in September, 1927. It provides low-interest student loans and scholarships based on academic achievement, leadership, and financial need. Grand Master Jamie Vest shares this project with me. Applications can be downloaded from the Sovereign Grand Lodge home page.

Yes, We Have Plenty of Projects Underway

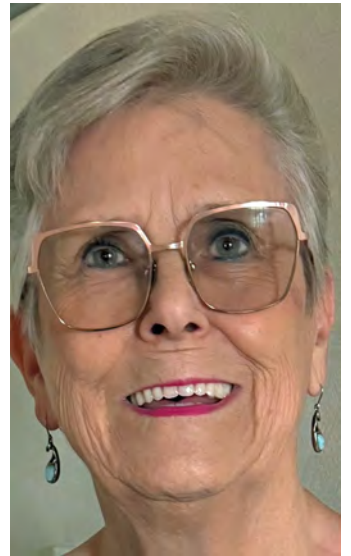
The Grand Matriarch and Grand Patriarch also have projects. We earn project money by having raffles, selling pins, pens, t-shirts, and candy bars. If you purchase any of these items you are supporting our projects. And for this we say, "thank you." I will explain more of my program in future articles.

Just For Thought From Maria Shriver

"When the world is so complicated, the simple gift of friendship is within all of our hands."



*As always in, Love and Truth, Jennie Reed, President Rebekah Assembly of Washington
P.O. Box 494, McCleary, Washington 98557 Phone: (360) 495-3573, Cell: (360) 470-0422
daveandjennie@hotmail.com*



Jennie Reed
Assembly President



A visit with Naomi Dow

Evelyn Neumann and Alberta Luurs visited Naomi Dow at Sharon Care Senior Assisted Living Center in Centralia on Saturday, September 26. Mary Smith took the photo.





Cathy 'Cat' Garcia
Assembly Secretary

From your Assembly Secretary

Happy Thanksgiving!

Cool mornings, bright colored leaves, and shorter days are here. It's a beautiful time of year, and there are still some days we can get outside to play in the yard.

You should have all received your *Fall Assessment* forms. I sent them out a little early this year — I was so far behind with everything else it just seemed appropriate.

As we are no longer being charged Per Capita by the Assembly, I hope you are finding your way clear to use these funds for the furthering of Rebekah works in your community.

Be watching for your *Annual Report* forms and Installation packets next month. The year will come to a close before we are ready for it and we will be installing new officers. The more we prepare now, the easier it is to get everything completed without stress.

The following paragraph is a repeat from last November's (2025) *Washington OddFellow* newspaper, but I felt it was worth repeating. We need to take the election of our officers seriously.

"It's election time. I was thinking that as we vote on members to run our meetings, and lead our projects, it might be encouraging and helpful to take a minute prior to the election and read through the responsibilities of each office as it is stated in your Digest. These Duties begin on page 26 of the Rebekah Lodges Constitution. Following the election, your Noble Grand-elect should read through the duties of the Appointed Officers which start on page 16 of your Ritual. This will assist him/her in choosing capable and willing officers. Our lodges need the involvement of all of us, along with our willingness to serve. Each of you are very important to the success of our Order."

Have A Wonderful Thanksgiving!

Please spend extra time this month being thankful for all the special people you have in your life. Enjoy their company and have a wonderful family Thanksgiving.

— Yours in Friendship,
Love & 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



Sammy Winner!



Michigan reader wins!

Where was our mascot Sammy hiding in the October edition of *The Washington OddFellow*? She was hiding on page 7 right where she should be: in the middle of a bunch of stuffed animals in Frisco, Texas. Ed Becstein from the Jurisdiction of Michigan found Sammy in October. We're not sure how Ed got a hold of a copy of *The Washington OddFellow*, but he was part of the International Press Association (IPA) at one time. For his efforts, Ed was sent an Odd Fellow ball cap. This month you'll find Sammy hiding in another location. If you spot our grand old girl, just call Grand Secretary Laurel Delony at (360) 829-1514 or email her at:

grandsecretarywaioof@gmail.com

You could win a nice item from the Grand Lodge of Washington. Be sure to have your guess in to Laurel by November 15. The winner will be drawn from the pool of correct guesses.

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

 **Washington ODDFELLOW** 

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Devoted to the
Interest of
ODD FELLOWSHIP

From the desk of your Grand Secretary

Don't Look Now, But The Holidays Are Here



Laurel Delony
With Asst. Sec'y Poppy

Brothers and Sisters,

Here we are with the start of the holiday season. I hope your lodges are reaching out to help others in your community whether that be with monetary donations, collecting food, warm clothing, or giving a helping hand. Reach out to those who may be shut in. Don't forget to visit those who may be in declining health. It is so important!

Annual Reports are going out on Tuesday, December 1 — the same as last year. Please, please, please get your reports filled out and mailed in before February 15, 2027. Every day the report is late, your lodge is fined \$5 per day. If your Secretaries need help, please be sure to contact me. I will walk you through the whole process, plus you can contact your District Deputy Grand Masters as they were given instructions.

If your lodge has initiated new members, please get those names into me before Tuesday, December 1. If you need the new member reporting form, please let me know. **Do not** wait until the member is conferred the Third Degree, but report them as soon as they receive the Initiatory Degree.

On Saturday, November 14, I will hold a Lodge Secretaries' meeting. We'll go over the Annual Reports and you can ask any questions you want. I will present this by Zoom, but if you would like to attend in person, the Grand Lodge office will be open and you are more than welcome. Coffee will be ready!

I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

— With Fraternal Hugs and Love,

Laurel Delony, PGM, Grand Secretary, grandsecretarywaioof@gmail.com

800-345-1766 or 360-1766 or 360-829-1514

A message from your Sovereign Grand Master

Greetings from the office of the Sovereign Grand Master,

I wish all of the members of the Jurisdiction of Washington a very joyous holiday season. It is a time to remember those who have gone on before us and to catch up with family and friends we have not seen in some time; as well as give some thought to what we can do as Odd Fellows and Rebekahs to help those less fortunate than ourselves. As you gather around your holiday table, think about what you can contribute to your community to help those in need.

It is also a time to reflect on the past year and mend fences that need mending. As I write this I have been your Sovereign Grand Master a little over a month and a half. During that time I had to render several decisions on different things which I will not go into here. Also, in addition to the remaining trials that were ongoing from the previous Sovereign Grand Master

Brother Thomas J. Calabrese, I have dealt with assigning mediators regarding several new charges that have been sent to the Sovereign Grand Secretary's office. Some of those seem to be a difference of opinion or a perceived slight.

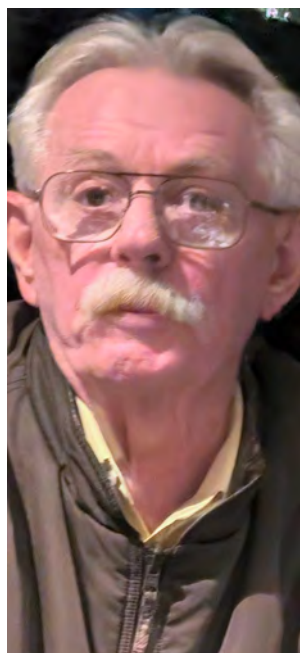
Those are not the type of things that should be sent to the Sovereign Grand Lodge filed as charges against a Brother or Sister. A better way to handle them would be to take a passage from the Patriarchal Degrees and apply it to the situation. This passage is quoted from those Degrees for you to think about when you feel you have been wronged.

To Err Is Human, To Forgive Is Devine

With your Brother or Sister, guard against jealousy and strife. Remember that he or she is your Brother or Sister. If, under the influence of imperfection, the common lot of mortals, you are wronged, go to that friend and in the language of affection explain the fault between him or her and you. If the friend repents, forgive and enter no harsh judgment. Be conscious of your own frailty and remember that to err is human, to forgive is divine.

I will leave you with that passage to think about the next time you are not addressed as you feel you should be or think you have been wronged by an e-mail that is not written or a phone answered in a manner that you feel is wrong. Remember we are all human and all Brothers and Sisters.

— Fraternally, Ronald D. Hanson, Sovereign Grand Master



Ronald D. Hanson
Sovereign Grand Master



Ballard-Alki welcomes two new members

Members of Ballard-Alki Odd Fellows Lodge #170 are delighted to welcome two new members to our Lodge: Nathaniel Belo and Kayden Cole. Their decision to join us reflects the values and commitment at the heart of our Order: Friendship, Love, and Truth. We hope to continue growing our Order and make an impact in our communities. Behind our pair of new members are, from left, Bob Duniway, Greg Powers, and Nora Carria. From left immediately behind the new members, are: Roxanne Duniway, Kathleen Walters, Lorien Gruchalla, Jerry Smith, Katie Gray.

— In F., L., & T., Freddy Castillo, Secretary, Ballard-Alki IOOF Lodge #170



From your 2026-27 Theta Rho President Ash Thomas

Hello everyone! I hope you all are doing well. Things are all going well in college. I'm enjoying my classes and hope all the girls are doing good and enjoying their classes.

I'm enjoying being back in regular meetings. I hope everyone is enjoying fall so far and I also hope you all have an amazing Thanksgiving.

I have been doing some work and I am going start reaching out to our Theta Rho Girls' Clubs to figure out visitations for my year.

I hope everyone is enjoying the upcoming holidays. Have a great rest of your month, everyone. And if any of you need help, feel free to reach out to me.

— In Happiness Through Service, Ash Thomas, Your 2026-27 Theta Rho President



Another round of 'Dancing With the Stars'

On the far left, Cathy Garcia teaches line dancing steps. Behind our Assembly Secretary are Dave Delony, Laurel Delony, Jennie Reed, B.J. Turner (Cathy's son in ball cap,) Alex Ackert-Hall, and a town guest. In the far back are Melody Butterson, Christina Butterson, Laura Purcell, Bill Hoffman, Mashaell Patrick, and Mr. Butterson.

~ Bucoda Bulletin Board #60 ~

There are some changes being made in Bucoda. Skookumchuck IOOF Lodge #129 now meets the second and fourth **THURSDAY** of the month at 6 p.m. Dinner will now be served at 5 p.m. on the second Thursday before the Odd Fellows meeting. Bucoda Rebekah Lodge #144 continues meeting on the second and fourth **FRIDAY** of the month at 6 p.m. If you have questions just call me at (360) 259-2741 or my wife Laura at (360) 259-6144.

Our Conductor Alex Hall is talking to the Town of Bucoda about possibly re-instituting a Community Game Night. There are no details pertaining to the frequency or types of games that will be available yet, but we'll share them here if the talks bear fruit.

Country Dance Night

We held our second Country Dance Night on September 26. We had sufficient interest and turn out this time around that we are discussing doing it again at a date to be determined. Once we have some details we'll share them here. We usually have a bake sale running in conjunction with our Dance Night. So come out, eat some goodies and burn off the calories dancing. If you don't know how to shake a leg, no problem. We have someone who can teach you.

Pancake Breakfast

This article is written before, but will be published after the Grand Matriarch's Pancake Breakfast on October 10. This event was by donation and the proceeds benefited the Grand Matriarch's project, the Tenino Food Bank Plus. They've proven quite successful in the past and we'll share how it went in the next issue.

And Then There Was October

October was a busy, busy month. It seems there was a meeting of one type or another every week. All of this culminating in the Testimonial for our very own Sovereign Grand Master Ron Hanson on October 22 through 25 in SeaTac, near Seattle's airport.

I'll try and remember that my phone has a camera and actually take some pictures.

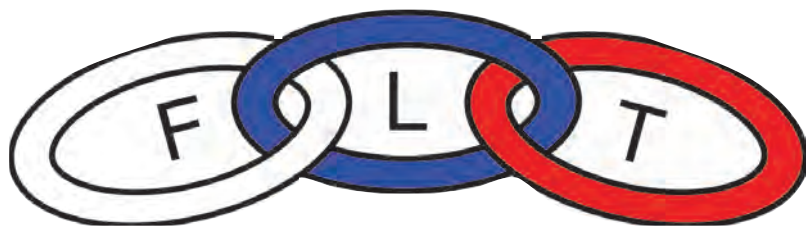
Until next time. . .

— *In Friendship, Love and Truth, Steve Purcell (The Retread formerly known as Junior)*
Domestic Reporter and Foreign Correspondent, Skookumchuck IOOF #129 and Bucoda Rebekahs #144

It's Time To Count Our Blessings



~ 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**

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:**
Jamie Hanson, 6801 150th St. SW, Lakewood, WA. 98439
Phone: (907) 355-3607. **Email:** Yellowk@gmail.com **Sec'y:**
Laurel Delony, PO Box 1206, Buckley, WA 98321-1206.
Phone: (253) 468-1949. **Email:** buckley75ioof@gmail.com
(2/28/27)

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:** Lou
Ann Hoffman, 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. (2/28/27)

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: Steve Purcell, PO Box 386, Bucoda,
98396-0386. **Email:** purcell@scattercreek.com. **Ph:**
(360) 259-2831. **Sec'y:** Laurel Delony, PO Box 4400,
Tumwater, WA 98501-4400. **Ph:**
468-1949. **Email:** laureljdelyon@gmail.com (2/28/27)

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: 184 Murphy St., Waitsburg, WA 99361 **Mailing Address:**
184 Murphy St. Waitsburg, WA 99361, **Time:** 1st & 3rd Tues., 7pm.
Recess: None. **NG:** Nathaniel Murphy, 184 Murphy St. Waitsburg,
WA 99361 **Ph:** (509) 386-7207 **Email:** nmurphyav@gmail.com
Sec'y: Angela Beesen, 509 E. Lee St., Dayton, WA 99328. **Ph:** (509)
360-4715 **Email:** secretarysewaioof338.org (2/28/27)

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

Meets At: Bucoda Community Center, 101 E. 7th St. (upstairs)
Bucoda, WA. **Mailing Address:** PO Box 131, Bucoda, WA
98530-0131. **Time:** 2nd & 4th Fridays, 7 pm. **Recess:** None. **NG:**
Laurel Delony, PO Box 1206, Buckley, WA 98321-1206. **Email:**
Laureljdelyon@gmail.com. **Ph:** (253) 468-1949. **Sec'y:** LouAnn
Hoffman, PO Box 131, Bucoda, WA 98530-0131. **Ph:** (360)
451-2046. **Email:** lahoff@scattercreek.com (2/28/27)

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
pm. **Recess:** July, Aug. **NG:** Tom Harper, 917 212th Ave
NE, Sammamish, WA 98074-6719. **Ph:** (425) 836-4871.
Email: mtharper@comcast.net **Sec'y:** Laurel Delony, PO Box
1206, Buckley, WA 98321-1206. **Email:** laureljdelyon@gmail.com
Ph: (253) 468-1949 (2/28/27)

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. **Email:** **Ph:** (253)
886-6311. **Email:** cougwoman@gmail.com. (2/28/27)

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

Meets At: Ballard IOOF Hall, 1706 NW Market St., Seattle. **Mailing**
Address: POB 17940, Seattle, WA 98107. **Time:** 2nd & 4th Thurs.
7 pm. **Recess:** None. **NG:** Ivan Kotcher, 2233 NW 58th St., Apt
544, Seattle, WA 98107. **Ph:** (817) 917-3003. **Sec'y:** Freddy Castillo
606 W. Howe, Seattle, WA 98119. (2/28/27)

~ 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.



Laura Purcell

2026-27 Grand Matriarch

From your '26-27 Grand Matriarch

Brothers and Sisters,

Here we go again; boy last month sure flew by fast. I would like to thank Cathy Garcia for the thank you she gave me for helping her. By the way, Cathy, I'll be happy to help you anytime.

So since the last newsletter, I attended the Degree Day at Olympia IOOF Lodge #1. Olympia initiated four new members. Welcome to all the new Brothers and Sisters.

I had my fundraising pancake breakfast on October 10 for the Tenino Food Bank Plus. I received \$245 in donations. I also attended the Food Bank's Charity Dinner and Auction this month and presented them with a check from last year for \$2,500.

I also took part in the Line Dancing Night in Bucoda put on by the Skookumchuck IOOF Lodge #129 and Bucoda Rebekah Lodge #144. There was a good turnout and we had lots of fun, and learned some new dance steps. Thanks to Cathy Garcia and her son B.J. for teaching us the dance steps.

I have either given my visitation letters to the Scribes or they are in the mail. My visitations will be:

- Kent LEA on Friday, November 13. • Mt. Angeles LEA on Monday, November 9.
- Unified LEA on Monday, November 23.

This month I will be going to Brother Ron Hanson's Testimonial weekend at the Double Tree Inn in SeaTac. I can't wait to see everyone. The dates to honor our new Sovereign Grand Master are October 23 through 25.

In November we will be going to the Northwest Odd Fellow and Rebekah Association meeting in Yakima Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 6 through 8. The theme this year is "Retro-TV Characters."

~ Lodge Cards ~

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:** Lou Ann Hoffman, PO Box 131, Bucoda, WA 98530. **Ph:** (360) 451-2046. **Sec'y:** Alberta Luurs, 497 State Hwy. 505, Winlock, WA 98596. **Ph:** (360) 219-7629 (2/28/27)

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 NW 146th St, Vancouver WA 98685. **Ph:** (360) 921-4208 (2/28/27)

BREMERTON FRIENDSHOP I.O.O.F 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:** Larry Seward, Jr, 5789 NW Anderson Hill Rd., Silverdale, WA 98383-9220. **Ph:** (360) 710-2924. **Sec'y:** Michael Scheurich, 5789 NW Anderson Hill Rd., Silverdale WA 9838-9220. **Ph:** (360) 731-0975. **Email:** 1oddfellowmike@gmailcom (2/28/26)

HOPE REBEKAH LODGE #38

Meeting Address: 1420 N. Washington St., Spokane WA 99201 **Mailing Address:** Same **Meeting Days:** 1st & 3rd Wednesday **Time:** 1 pm **NG:** Johnson (no phone #) **Address:** 1420 N. Washington St., Spokane WA 992017 (2/28/2027)

WASHOUGAL I.O.O.F. LODGE #19

Mailing Address: PO Box 448, Washougal, WA 98671. **Meeting Time:** 2nd & 4th Tues., 6 pm. **Recess:** July, Aug. **NG:** Kathryn Jester, 3904 NE 122nd Ave, Vancouver, WA 98662 **Ph:** (360) 980-7948. **Sec'y:** Jeanette Jester, 4211 Franklin St., Camas, WA 98607. **Ph:** (360) 901-9378 (2/28/27)

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

Meets At: 206 W. Walnut St., Yakima WA 98902. **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:** Tom Cox, 610 Pleasant Ave., Yakima, WA 98902-4341 **Ph:** (509) 452-0910. (2/28/27)

It's that time of year again when we should start to look at some of our elderly neighbors as they may have no family. Perhaps you can invite them to Thanksgiving dinner or take them a plate — or just plain visiting with them. It might mean the world to them.

Also that time of year for trick or treating is here. Please watch out for the kids as they don't always wear something that we can see.

Well, until next issue. . .

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

Scribbles from your Grand Scribe. . .

Hello All You Fez Heads!

Annual Reports will be mailed out on Tuesday, December 1. Your Encampment per capita invoice will be inside. Don't wait to look at the packet. Make sure your Scribe opens this correspondence, reads the letter, and your Encampment makes arrangements to pay the per capita invoice.

Annual Reports are due into my office no later than February 15, 2027. Be sure to mail accordingly. Make sure all documents are filled out, signed, and sealed. If you need assistance be sure to contact me. I'm here to help.

— *In F., H. & C.,*
Laurel Delony, Grand Scribe

Trinity Rebekah
Lodge #79

Christmas Bazaar
Friday and Saturday
November 13 & 14

Doors Open 9 a.m. • Close 4:30 p.m.

111 West Washington St. • Napavine, WA 98565

Wide Variety of Vendors!!

Bake Sale • Jewelry • Misc. Crafts
Scentsy • Spinners • Ornaments
Author Debbie Lee • Books

Friday. . .

Complete Turkey Dinner

Served 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for \$15.00



Saturday Lunch. . .



**Turkey Noodle Soup or
Hamburger
Or
Cheesburger**

\$10.00



Happy pumpkin hunters in Napavine

The Child Time Early Learning Center in Centralia once again became the beneficiary of dozens of Halloween pumpkins donated by members of Trinity Rebekah Lodge #79 and Napavine Ace Hardware!! This has become an annual event for Trinity Sisters.

Trinity Rebekah Lodge #79, Napavine

We Have Pumpkins On Our Minds

Fall has arrived! The frost is on the pumpkins this morning. Thinking ahead about pumpkins, Trinity #79 Sisters will have their Pumpkin Bake Sale on Friday and Saturday, October 30-31. We also will participate in the Trunk or Treat at our fire department this year. We will have a booth inside the department instead of being outside in our trunk. Theme is "Toy Story."

Turkey Bingo On The Horizon

On Saturday, November 7 our Lion's Club will have a Turkey Bingo night with a potato bar available during half time. This will be hosted at our hall starting at 5:30 p.m.

Don't Miss Our Christmas Bazaar

Our Christmas Bazaar is coming up and will be on November 13-14 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. On Friday we will have our usual full turkey dinner for \$15 and on Saturday we will have turkey noodle soup or cheeseburger/hamburger for \$10.

Thanksgiving Baskets For Three Families

We at Trinity also will be doing Thanksgiving baskets or food boxes for three families in our community. It's really nice to be able to help when there is a need. Times are not getting any easier with the cost of living. I know there are days that I feel the pinch.

Remembering Sandy Beene

On October 11 we attended an 80th birthday party/memorial for our Sister Sandy Beene held at her house. There were lots of stories told and we had a very nice time. Sandy was a 46-year member. She joined in Kent and transferred to Trinity when she moved to Napavine.

Welcome Aboard Sara West

Trinity initiated a new member, Sara West, at our meeting on October 8. She told us that her grandmother used to belong to Trinity. **Welcome, Sara!** Thank you to Jennie Reed, Maggie Truttmann, and Steve Purcell for their help.

I do wish and pray that all my Odd Fellow families have a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving.

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

2026-27 Grand Warden's Musings # 4



Steve Purcell
Grand Warden

In Musings #2 last month, I discussed recruiting and interviewing potential new members. In that article I gave a few examples of questions one might ask a prospective candidate. In the interest of transparency and giving credit where it is due, I did not come up with the list of questions I referenced.

That list was put together by our Grand Secretary Laurel Delony. It's a great list and makes interviewing candidates much simpler.

Okay. The Sponsor has talked with the new candidate, helped them complete and has signed the application. Wait, who? Oh, the **SPONSOR**. The Sponsor is, of course, the candidate's first point of contact and play an important role in welcoming new members into the lodge. Ideally, the Sponsor accompanies the candidate to Initiation and Degree work, and is available to answer any questions they may have. Of course, all members of the lodge should be available to help and answer questions, but the candidate is likely to be more comfortable with their Sponsor, especially in the beginning. Make sure they get introduced to those they have not yet met; allow them to get and feel comfortable in the lodge.

Now, We Must Work On Retention

We work on recruiting and sponsoring new members, but how do you go about retaining them once they have become part of our family? There are many techniques but I have discovered that they all tend to revolve around INVOLVEMENT. Most new members joined

in order to be involved and participate in something bigger than themselves. Do you need someone on a committee? See if they would like to participate and suggest to the Noble Grand they be appointed. Nothing wrong with asking them to be Pro tem for an absent Scene Supporter. Yes, you are likely to get a "deer in the headlights" look to start; just assure them that there is a lodge room full of Brothers and Sisters to prompt them as needed.

I always like to remember the John Wayne movie "Hondo." There is one part where the boy mentions that he doesn't know how to swim. What does Hondo do? He picks the boy up and throws him in the water. The boy's mother is aghast and also happens to mention that SHE can't swim, either. Realizing what she had just said, she beats a hasty retreat to the cabin. During all this, the boy is splashing and floundering in the water and by the end can swim well enough to get out on his own. The point? He was never in any danger of failing. Yes, he was splashing and floundering, but Hondo was there and would never let anything bad happen.

There Is No Danger Of Failure

So, there is no danger of failure for our newest members when you have a lodge room full of Hondos!

I'm interested in your thoughts on recruiting and retention of members. Drop a line to: purcell@scattercreek.com with your thoughts and we'll see about discussing some of them in future articles.

Until next time, it's a great day to be a Washington Odd Fellow! — *Steve Purcell, PGM, Your 2026-27 Grand Warden*

~ From your 2026-27 Grand Patriarch ~



Dear Patriarchs,

I hope your year is going well and that you are doing the extraordinary things that Patriarchs do.

If your Encampment is small and it's difficult for said Encampment to work on projects, get matched up with your Odd Fellows. And since Encampments are made up of members from many different Odd Fellow lodges, you should have at least couple of lodges to work with.

Talking about Odd Fellows and membership, are you asking the members of your Odd Fellow lodge to join your Encampment? If not, why? "No" is an acceptable answer, but you'll never know if you don't **ASK**.

Don't be afraid to ask! Let your fellow Odd Fellows know about the sublime teachings of our Encampments. How, since the Encampments are made up from members of different Odd Fellow lodges, can work together and come up with some great ideas and learn more about our Order?

This is the task I'm placing on all members. **ASK!**

Here's wishing you all a wonderful November.

— *In F., H. & C., Dave Delony, Your Grand Patriarch*



Above: Washington's Grand Master Jamie Vest, right, presents a \$25,000 check from the Grand Lodge of Washington to SGM Ronald D. Hanson's project. **Bottom Left:** IARA President Sandra Nickerson, takes in the sights of Seattle. **Bottom Right:** Grand Secretary Laurel Delony claims she found her twin at Pike's Place Market.





You can get a caricature of yourself made by an artist at Pike's Place Market. In the drawing at right is PGM's Michael Scheurich and Jalynn Calvani.



Grace Kelly, Ron Hanson and Sean Kelly. The Kelly's are members of Buckley IOOF Lodge #75



PGM Joe Picanco, Sovereign Grand Warden Paul Jackson and SGM Ron Hanson enjoy the evening on Puget Sound.

— Photos by Jody Jedlicka,
Laurel Delony & Dusti Trebe



Wow! Washington's contingent was very, very impressive.



Jr. Past Grand Master Dave Delony, left, and Grand Warden Steve Purcell, right, hobnob with the hotel hostess.



Members of Acorn Theta Rho Girls' Club #79 in Oak Harbor engage a thrilling game of Halloween Bingo during their annual costume gathering on Friday, October 23. Around the table, starting with the little redhead with her back to us, are: Evie Voljtecky, Aviana Moore, Quinley Spydell, Kiara Moore, Ava Kaser, Khloe Kaser, and Willow Miller. They were being assisted by Ms. Mary and Ms. Judy.

Acorn #79 Theta Rho Girls busy with autumn activities

Enjoy These Colorful Days Of Fall

Fall has definitely arrived and we hope you are enjoying the beautiful Autumn colors.

There are two special days in November. The first is Veterans Day on Wednesday, November 11. We voted to make our annual donation to the "Help Heal Vets Craft Kit" program. If you know a veteran of the armed services, take time to thank them for their service.

The second is Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 26. We will be doing our annual Turkey Raffle for the Make-A-Wish Foundation as one of our community service projects. We also will be helping the local Lions Club with its "Toys-For-Tots" drive on Thanksgiving weekend.

Remember to take time to count your own blessings. Enjoy your time with family and friends — just don't eat too much turkey!

Until next month. . .

— *With Theta Rho Hugs and Happiness Through Service*
The members of Acorn Theta Rho Club #79

Middle Right: Ava Kaser and Khloe Kaser decorating their Halloween cookies.

Lower Right: Playing "Get the Oreo Into Your Mouth" are Kiara Moore, Quinley Spydell, and Aviana Moore.



More Acorn Halloween Photos Next Month

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Happy 90th, Frank!

Past Grand Master Frank Wilson celebrated his 90th birthday on Saturday, October 24 while attending Brother Ronald D. Hanson's Testimonial weekend in Seattle.



A note from Ballard-Alki's Noble Grand

My week has been stupid busy and I've been feeling pulled in a million directions and stretched way to thin — but knowing there's a meeting happening tonight was one of the highlights of the week. I really look forward to our gatherings because it's one of the places where I feel like I can just be.

Work wants my output. My inbox wants my attention. Everything seems to need to be prioritized and optimized and rushed... but not here. Yeah, there's a whole heck of a lot of stuff to do here, but it doesn't feel like a chore. We're here because we like each other, we like the Order, and because somewhere along the way we decided that gathering — just showing up and being together — is worth doing.

I know we've been a little worn down lately. A little quiet. Even the Discord has gone low-key. And that's okay, no guilt there. But it's a good reminder that this place only stays alive when we show up for it, even in small ways. A quick hello, a meme, an “anyone around this weekend?” is all it takes to keep the momentum up.

It's easy to look at a shared project and see one more thing to do, one more drain on a tank that's already low. But here's what I keep noticing — the energy we put into this isn't energy spent, it's energy shared. When we build something together, it comes back to us. The laughter, the help, the feeling of belonging to something bigger than our own to-do list. You walk in tired and you leave lighter. Like the sign on the physical therapy place down the street, “Limp In, Leap Out.”

So let's not treat this as an obligation. Let's treat it as a thing we get to do. One place where we're not pushing, just building, together, with people we actually enjoy. Thanks for being here!

— Lorien Gruchalla, Noble Grand, Ballard-Alki #170