

ODD FELLOW NEWS of Texas

FEBRUARY 2026

Promoting Odd Fellowship through Positive Communication



GRAND LODGE SESSION MARCH 14-17 2026

Please join us for the annual *Grand Lodge Session* to be held at the I.O.O.F.. Event Center in Corsicana, TX!

Please pre-register and purchase tickets no later than March 6, 2026! For forms and more information, please see page 11.

If you have questions, feel free to call the Grand Lodge Office at 1-844-872-7438. We look forward to seeing everyone at Session!



FROM THE GRAND MASTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Welcome to 2026. Vivian and I spent the first two weeks in Germany visiting places linked to Martin Luther and the beginning of the Reformation. When you see what was built 500 years ago, I ask myself how much we can build working together. The point of Odd Fellowship is to bring us together in relationships, projects large and small and inspire community in and out of the Order.



Terry McElligott

With that in mind, I invite you to join Greater Houston #6 in San Antonio (yes, they're taking it on the road, and they have their dispensation) for an All Degree Day at the San Antonio Scottish Rite building January 31st. Grand Lodge has received inquiries to start a new lodge. Greater Houston has volunteered their time and effort to turn a request into a reality. Spread the word.

Session is coming. Don't just save the date. Make plans to join us.

Email me your choice for Odd Fellow of the Year. Let me hear from you.

In Friendship, Love, & Truth
Terry McElligott
Grand Master



703 million people lack access to safe water

- MORE THAN 820,000 people ARE ESTIMATED TO DIE EACH YEAR DUE TO WATER-RELATED ILLNESSES
- 1 in 5 children LACKS ACCESS TO BASIC WATER SERVICE
- 2.5 billion people LIVE IN WATER-STRESSED COUNTRIES
- WOMEN SPEND 200 million hours EACH DAY COLLECTING WATER
- \$260 billion IS LOST EACH YEAR DUE TO INADEQUATE WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION



Everything begins with water.

Join us at Living Water International in our mission to bring hope and transformation to millions around the world through access to safe water. Together, we can break the cycle of poverty, improve health and education, empower women, boost economies, and quench spiritual thirst with the life-changing message of the gospel.



Let's create a world where everyone can flourish, just as God intended.
Scan here to learn more.

Grand Master's Project— Please consider supporting the Grand Master's project, Living Water International, which provides access to clean, safe water to families & communities around the world. For more information, please visit water.cc. Thank you for your donations & support!



James Curtis

FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY

Brothers and Sisters,

Well, I'm happy that the ice and snow have finally left us. The Grand Lodge Office had to be closed for two days, and we came in late one day due to the icy road conditions. I hope all of you were safe and didn't suffer from any broken pipes or other weather related damage.

The Grand Lodge Session is fast approaching, and I hope everyone is planning to attend. Be sure to get your registration form and payment to the Grand Lodge Office no later than March 6th. The registration fee is \$30 up until March 6th, but it will increase to \$40 after that date.

The General Arrangements Committee has been working hard to get the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly Sessions all lined out. There will be a few changes this year. The Fun Night which usually happens on Friday night, will be on Saturday night this year. The Grand Master and President's Banquet which normally takes place on Saturday night, will be on Sunday night. This information has already been sent out to the lodges and is also included in this edition of the newspaper for your reference.

The December 2025 annual reports are due in the Grand Lodge Office by January 31, 2026. At this writing, we are still missing quite a few. Thank you to the Lodge Secretaries who have gotten your reports in on time!

I will close for now and hope to see you all soon.

In FLT,
James Curtis
Grand Secretary
Grand Instructor



An Italian Valentine's Dinner

Fort Worth Lodge #251

*Invites You To Join Us
For an Italian Meal
February 15th at 3 P M*

*1501 Hemphill St.
Ft. Worth, TX 76104*

All You Can Eat \$20



What's happening

@ the Retirement Center



Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest



3rd Place Winner — Betty Oates



2nd Place Winner — Ray Parrish



1st Place Winner — Ann Clagett



Ugly Sweater Contest! Pictured: Jan Wilson, Ray Parrish, Betty Oates, Donna Miller, Patsy Goss, Ann Clagett, and Martha Schlottman

A Special Thank You

From the I.O.O.F. Retirement Center, we thank everyone individually and all Odd Fellow & Rebekah Lodges for everything you have done for us. With warmest thanks, the heart remembers kind deeds and thoughtfulness. We all remember special people like all of you. Thank you so much for a wonderful holiday season.



What's happening @ the Retirement Center



Christmas Morning 2025



Betty, Joan, and Iva



Cynthia and Martha



Martha, Shirley, Cynthia & Ann



Bruce, Linda, Jan and Patsy



Sylvia P., Bruce, Jan & Patsy



Betty, Joan, & Iva

What's happening @ the Retirement Center



Christmas Morning 2025



Linda & Ann



Martha, Shirley, & Linda



David, Martha, & Shirley

New Years Eve Bringing in the New Year with Sparkling Cider!



What's happening @ the Retirement Center

New Years Eve



Entertainment provided by
Dandy Don



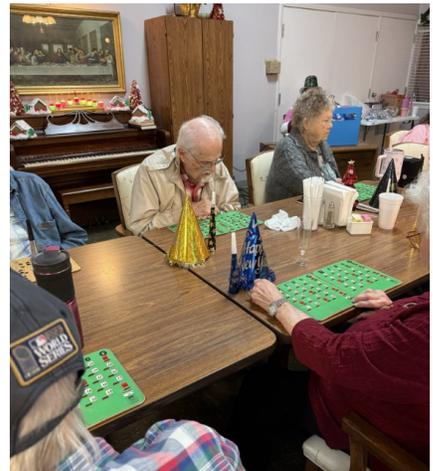
What's happening

@ the Retirement Center

New Year's Eve Bingo



Dan, Loretta, Troy & Billie were joined by Re-bekah President Christina & Micki-Jones Hollaway, the twins, Edie Daniel of William Tell Lodge No. 27 and Lou Blahuta of Balch Springs Lodge No 64. The residents were delighted with the special cash payouts for the winners to bring in the New Year in style! Christina and Micki made a delicious lime punch, brought sparkling cider & the fixings for ice cream sundaes for all.



What's happening @ the Retirement Center

New Year's Eve Bingo



☆ Happy ☆
New Year
2026
* ☆



BINGO!



BINGO!



GRAND LODGE
INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS OF TEXAS

-INSTITUTED 1841-
3440 WEST SECOND AVENUE
CORSICANA, TEXAS 75110
(903) 872-7438
(844) 872-7438
FAX (903)872-7277



January 19, 2026

TO ALL ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH LODGES

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I hope everyone is planning on attending the upcoming Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly Sessions to be held Saturday, March 14 through Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at the I.O.O.F. Event Center in Corsicana, Texas.

Ticket information for the various functions to take place during the sessions is attached. In addition to a listing of each of the events with prices and the menu selections, you will also find a registration and meal ticket order form enclosed. **A separate form will need to be completed for each person. The forms should be completed and returned along with payment to the Grand Lodge I.O.O.F. of Texas, ATTN: Nancy Chew, 3440 W. Second Avenue, Corsicana, TX 75110.** Please make copies of the forms as needed. Please order your tickets as soon as possible in order for us to provide the caterer with a count. Your tickets will be available in your pre-registration folder upon arrival at the session.

In considering the meal ticket information, I would like to encourage everyone to support these meal functions. If you plan on eating your meals on site, you will save time and energy instead of having to go out to one of the local restaurants for your meals. A larger crowd at each of these events adds to our fellowship and the overall success of our sessions.

Please pre-register and purchase your tickets no later than March 6, 2026. No tickets will be sold at the session. Debit and credit cards can be accepted to pay your registration fee while at the Session, but a \$3.00 fee will be added. Debit and credit cards will be accepted in the supply store located in the Grand Lodge Administration building. You will be given a printed receipt to present to the Registration Committee to show proof of payment. Unfortunately, debit and credit cards cannot be accepted for meals.

For your convenience, a list of the hotels located in Corsicana is also attached. Most of the local hotels no longer offer special rates, so you will need to contact them directly as their rates fluctuate throughout the year.

Donations are being accepted for the goody bags that will be distributed when you pick up your registration packet. If you or your lodge would like to donate items for the bags, please send them to the Grand Lodge Office no later than Thursday, March 12, 2026.

Some things that I would like to bring to your attention include a fun night with a Kentucky Derby theme to be held Saturday, March 14th from 6 to 8 pm at the I.O.O.F. Event Center. This should be a fun evening and food will be served. There is no charge, but we will need to know how many plan to attend. There is a space on the registration form for you to indicate if you plan to attend.

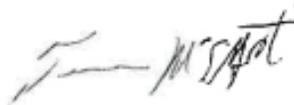
The Past District Deputy Grand Masters' Luncheon will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 15th at the Whataburger restaurant located at 1709 W. 7th Avenue in Corsicana, Texas. Everyone is responsible for paying for their own meal and no reservations are needed.

This year, the Fifty Year Girls' Luncheon and the Fifty Year Boys' Luncheon will be a combined event. The luncheon will be held at Noon on Sunday, March 15th in the I.O.O.F. Event Center. Anyone may purchase a ticket and attend.

The Grand Master and President's Banquet will be held Sunday evening, March 15th, at 6:00 p.m. in the I.O.O.F. Event Center. On Monday evening, March 16th, the Installation of Officers ceremony will be held at 6:00 p.m., followed by a banquet honoring the incoming Grand Master and Assembly President, which will start at 7:00 pm. All of these events will take place at the I.O.O.F. Event Center and the dress code is business casual to semi-formal.

If you need additional information about the sessions, please call the Grand Lodge Office at 1-844-872-7438.

Fraternally,



Attest:



James Curtis
Grand Secretary

Terry McElligott
Grand Master
810-338-7329
tmcelligott@gmail.com

TM/nc

**2026 GRAND LODGE & REBEKAH ASSEMBLY SESSIONS
I.O.O.F. EVENT CENTER
CORSICANA, TEXAS
MARCH 14-17, 2026**

****** REGISTRATION & MEAL TICKETS ORDER FORM ******

NAME: _____ HIGHEST RANK: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 LODGE: _____
 OFFICE/COMMITTEE FOR THIS SESSION: _____
 ATTENDING: _____ GRAND LODGE _____ REBEKAH ASSEMBLY *(Mark only 1 Session)*
 OUT OF JURISDICTION VISITOR? ___ YES ___ NO - JURISDICTION _____
 TELEPHONE: _____ CELL: _____
 E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

FUNCTION	PRICE	TOTAL
REGISTRATION	\$30.00	
REGISTRATION LATE FEE <i>(IF NOT PAID BEFORE 03/06/26)</i>	\$10.00	
PAST PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON - 03/14/26 - <i>Invitation Only</i> (Saturday)	20.00	
FUN NIGHT - 03/14/26 (No charge, but we need a head count) (Saturday)	N/C	Yes or No
FIFTY YEAR BOYS & GIRLS' CLUB LUNCHEON - 03/15/26 (Sunday)	24.00	
GRAND MASTER & PRESIDENT'S BANQUET - 03/15/26 (Sunday)	25.00	
S.G.L./I.A.R.A. LUNCHEON - 03/16/26 (Monday)	18.00	
DEPUTY GRAND MASTER & VICE PRESIDENT'S BANQUET - 03/16/26 (Monday)	25.00	
TOTAL ENCLOSED		\$

PLEASE ENCLOSE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO THE GRAND LODGE I.O.O.F. OF TEXAS. YOUR ORDER FORM AND PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026.

MAIL TO: GRAND LODGE I.O.O.F. OF TEXAS
 ATTN: NANCY CHEW
 3440 WEST SECOND AVENUE
 CORSICANA, TX 75110

NOTE: REGISTRATION WILL OPEN AT 9:00 A.M., SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026. YOUR TICKETS CAN BE PICKED UP WITH YOUR REGISTRATION FOLDER UPON ARRIVAL AT THE SESSION.

2026 GRAND LODGE & REBEKAH ASSEMBLY SESSION
I.O.O.F. EVENT CENTER
CORSICANA, TEXAS
MARCH 14 - 17, 2026

NOTE: All tickets can be picked up at the Event Center ticket office upon arrival. The cut-off date for ordering meal tickets is Friday, March 6, 2026. There will be open seating at all of the banquets and luncheons.

PLEASE ORDER YOUR TICKETS BEFORE MARCH 6, 2026!

PRE-REGISTRATION

Price: \$30.00 if paid by March 6th and \$40.00 if paid after March 6th. (An additional \$3 fee will be charged for debit/credit cards used as payment at the session.)

PAST PRESIDENTS LUNCHEON - *Invitation Only*

When: Saturday, March 14, 2026
Where: B. J. Longshore Boardroom - Administration Bldg.
Time: 12:00 Noon - 1:0 p.m.
Price: \$20.00

Menu: House Salad
King Ranch Casserole
Rolls and butter
Apple cobbler
Tea & Coffee

FIFTY YEAR BOYS & GIRLS' LUNCHEON

When: Sunday, March 15, 2026
Where: Ballroom "East" - I.O.O.F. Event Center
Time: 12:00 Noon - 1:30 pm
Price: \$24.00

Menu: Honey baked ham
Scalloped potatoes
Glazed carrots
Chocolate molten cake
Tea & Coffee

GRAND MASTER & PRESIDENT'S BANQUET

When: Sunday, March 15, 2026
Where: Ballroom "East" - I.O.O.F. Event Center
Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Price: \$25.00

Menu: House Salad
Chicken Skewers
Green beans
Baked red potatoes with onions
Rolls and butter
Cheesecake
Tea & Coffee

S.G.L./I.A.R.A. LUNCHEON

When: Monday, March 16, 2026
Where: Ballroom "East" - I.O.O.F. Event Center
Time: 12:00 Noon - 1:00 pm
Price: \$18.00

Menu: Chicken Salad
Crackers or croissants
Apple pie with vanilla ice cream
Fresh Fruit Cup
Tea & Coffee

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER & VICE PRESIDENT'S BANQUET

When: Monday, March 16, 2026
Where: Ballroom "East" - I.O.O.F. Event Center
Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Price: \$25.00

Menu: Chips & Salsa
Beef enchiladas
Mexican rice
Pinto beans
Italian cream cake
Tea & Coffee

**2026 GRAND LODGE & REBEKAH ASSEMBLY SESSIONS
MARCH 14-17, 2026
CORSICANA, TEXAS**

HOTEL INFORMATION

BEST WESTERN EXECUTIVE INN

2100 E. Hwy. 31
Corsicana, TX 75109
903-872-5300

Rates: *Please contact the hotel directly as no discount is being offered and their rates fluctuate.*

No Pets (Except service animals) & No Smoking.

COMFORT INN

1946 E. Hwy. 31
Corsicana, TX 75110
903-875-0616

Rates: Singles - \$114.99 plus tax
Doubles - \$114.99 plus tax

** These rates are for 2 people per room. Each additional guest will be a \$10 extra charge per room per night. The maximum number of guests per room is 4. **BE SURE TO MENTION THAT YOU ARE WITH THE I.O.O.F. OF GET THIS SPECIAL RATE.***

No Pets (Except service animals) & No Smoking.

LaQUINTA INN & SUITES

2020 Regal Drive (Off I-45 and Hwy 31)
Corsicana, TX 75109
903-874-6292

Rates: *Please contact the hotel directly as no discount is being offered and their rates fluctuate.*

No Smoking Facility - Pets allowed with a non-refundable deposit.

HAMPTON INN & SUITES

623 Bryant's Way (I-45 @ Exit 229) (287 South)
Corsicana, TX 75109
903-872-2238 (1-800-HILTONS)

Rates: *Please contact the hotel directly as no discount is being offered and their rates fluctuate.*

** No Smoking Facility - Pets are allowed with a non-refundable deposit*

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS

620 Bryant Way
Corsicana, TX 75109
903-874-7440

Rates: *Please contact the hotel directly as no discount is being offered and their rates fluctuate.*

** No Smoking Facility - Only Service Animals are allowed.*

Springtown Lodge No. 75 – Salvation Army Support



Since 2005, Springtown Lodge members ring the bell for the local chapter of the Salvation Army. For the past 20 years, Margaret Mottram (pictured left), now 99 years of age, hot or cold, wet or windy, has faithfully participated in that ringing. No one passes her without her wishing them a Merry Christmas and an invitation to all the children to ring her bell as she asks, "Do you want a candy cane?"



54th ANNUAL
CANADIAN WAR MEMORIAL WEEKEND
June 5,6,7 2026

To All Members and Friends of Odd Fellowship:

Greetings:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Canadian War Memorial Celebration and Wreath Laying Ceremony to be held on June 5,6,7, 2026.

Our headquarter's hotel will be the Best Western Plus, Ottawa Civic Centre, 1274 Carling Ave., Ottawa, Ontario. Room rates are \$189.00 per night Queen Bed(s) \$ 199.00 per night for King Bed (Canadian funds plus applicable taxes). SEE PAGE 2 FOR RESERVATION. Rooms in our block are limited and must be ordered before **May 6 , 2025**. All rooms will be released after this date. **Blocks are for Fri, Sat and Sun nights.**

Our annual banquet and entertainment will be held at the hotel 1274 dining room on Saturday, June 6st . The evening will begin at 5:00 p.m. with a time of fellowship and cash bar. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Tickets for the banquet are \$70.00 and must be ordered in advance, No later than May 15. Your choice of **Chicken, Salmon or Beef** must be shown on the **pre registration form attached**. Suggested dress code is men in tuxedo, business suit or military uniform. For the ladies is street length dress or formal gown.

Our Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony will take place on **Sunday, June 7th** at the National War Memorial commencing at 11:00 a.m. Transportation will be provided. Wreaths are made of artificial flowers and can be used for many years. Those Jurisdictions who currently have a wreath are urged to have a representative available to present their wreath. The name of the person should be sent to the Secretary no later than May 15, 2026. If no representative is available, the committee will find an able body to present your wreath. Jurisdictions that do not have a wreath and would like to order one may do so by contacting the Secretary. The cost of a new wreath is \$200.00 and must be ordered no later than March 1, 2026.

On Friday evening there will be a informal get together in the Club 1274 Lounge from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Banquet tickets** will be available for pick-up at that time.

On Saturday we have scheduled no events for group participation for Saturday morning, however last year many people who arrived Friday evening decided on exploring Ottawa. See information on page 2.

The committee is looking forward to greeting you in Ottawa June 5,6,7, 2026
If you have any questions please feel free to contact the secretary

Mathew Forgie, Secretary
519-437-9221, matthew.forgie@gmail.com

... over

To make reservations, please have call, fax or e-mail as follows:

Direct Line 613-728-1951 Ext. 0 (do not use the central booking system call the direct line)

E-mail Frontdesk@ottawabestwestern.com

When making reservations, guests should refer to **Canadian War Memorial or Block ID 2595**, in order to obtain the special group block rate. The guest must provide a credit card for the first nights room and tax. The individual room reservation cancellation policy is up to 48 Hours prior to arrival. If the reservation is cancelled less than 48 hours of arrival, a one night room and tax charge will apply as a penalty.

All reservations must be made by May 5, 2026. All rooms will be released after this date.

Schedule of events.

June 5 2026 - Meet and Great at the 1274 restaurant 7PM until 9 PM. Banquet ticket pick-up

June 6 2026 - Banquet Social at 5 PM, Dinner at 6 PM in 1274 restaurant. Banquet ticket pickup

June 7 2026 - The 1274 restaurant will be open at 7 AM for breakfast

June 7 2026. - The Bus leaves the hotel at 10 AM sharp. Wreath laying at 11 AM following the changing of the guard. The bus will arrive back at the hotel between 12.30 and 1 PM.

Hotel checkout is 11 AM. The Committee will try to make a room available for luggage storage.

There are many things to do in Ottawa.

Museums:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_museums_in_Ottawa

Shopping:

<https://www.byward-market.com/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sparks_Street

<https://ca.usembassy.gov/u-s-embassy-ottawa/>

HAPPY
VALENTINE'S
DAY ♥



share with us!

DEADLINE IS THE 25TH OF THE MONTH
FOR THE NEXT EDITION.
EMAIL TAMARA.FRANKS@GLIOOFTX.ORG OR
MAIL TO OFN OF TX, 3440 W. 2ND AVE,
CORSICANA, TX 75110

EXAMPLES/IDEAS: LODGE ACTIVITIES &
EVENTS, PHOTOS, FUNDRAISERS, SOCIAL
NIGHT, DATES TO REMEMBER OR ANYTHING
YOU WANT TO SHARE!



REBEKAH LODGES

- **ATHENS REBEKAH LODGE NO. 23**
Meets 2nd & 4th Monday – 7 PM
@1301 Cayuga Drive, Athens, TX 75151
MAIL: 8833 CR 1406, Athens, TX 75151
08/2025
- **DENTON REBEKAH LODGE NO. 18**
Meets 1st & 3rd Monday – 4:30 PM
@14415 Eden, Denton, TX 76209
MAIL: 1018 Manhattan Drive, Denton, TX 76209
10/2025
- **HARLANDALE REBEKAH LODGE NO. 179**
Meets 2nd & 4th Thursday – 7 PM
@8707 Laurel Canyon Drive, Universal City, TX 78247
MAIL: 14215 Cradlewood, San Antonio, TX 78233
10/2025
- **CYPRESS REBEKAH LODGE NO. 22**
Meets 1st & 3rd Thursday – 7 PM
@VFW Post 8905 21902 Northwest Fwy, Cypress, TX 77429
MAIL: 3114 Pathfinders Pass, Spring, TX 77373
05/2026

If you need information on other Rebekah Lodges,
please contact Pam Isenhower @ (713) 775.9726

Obituaries

**Aubrey Coy Dowell, Jr.
October 4, 1934–January 3, 2026**

Place of Birth: Bryan, TX. Parents: Aubrey Coy Dowell, Sr., and Minnie Lou Nash Dowell. Education: Pasadena High School, University Houston—Associate in Science in Engineering Technology. Military: United States Air Force National Guard. Marriage: Betty Powell Dowell, 43 years, 2 daughters Dena & Lisa. Hobbies: His favorite hobbies were being a chauffeur for his two girls and their many activities, hunting and fishing. He was known for his love of the open road: an avid road trip warrior. In his elder years, he discovered and fell in love with taking cruises. Organizations: Independent Order of Odd Fellows. A.C. was a family man in the truest sense of the word. His family was the center of his life, and everything he did reflected that. Whether through his actions, his time, or his quiet dedication, he made sure those he loved always felt supported and cared for. He was known for his strong work ethic and sense of responsibility. A.C. worked hard, not for praise or recognition, but because providing for his family mattered deeply to him. Through his example, he showed what it meant to be dependable, committed, and steady. Along with that strength came a great sense of humor. A.C. had a way of bringing lightness into everyday moments, often with a laugh or a simple joke. He reminded those around him to enjoy life—especially with a cup of coffee or a huge bowl of ice cream close by. As a devoted father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, brother, brother-in-law, and uncle, A.C. leaves behind a legacy of love, hard work, and devotion to family. His presence will be missed, but the values he lived by and the memories he created will continue to live on through those who he loved. Preceded in death by: Father Aubrey Coy Dowell, Sr., Mother Minnie Lou Nash Dowell, Wife Betty Powell Dowell, and beloved Grandson Garrett Ryan Wilbanks. Survived by: Daughters, Dena Renee Dowell Grady and husband John of Houston, Texas, Lisa Kay Dowell Sterling and husband Darren Slawsen of League City, Texas. Grandchildren, Kristen Pickering and husband Kyle, Arlan Catney, Mason Sterling and wife Laura, Jordan Sterling and wife Samantha. Great Grandchildren, Blake Catney, Kylie Pickering, Katherine Pickering, Kieran Pickering, and Addison Sterling. Brother John Dowell of Pasadena, Texas, Brother and Sister-in-Law Charles and Phyllis Powell of Livingston, Texas.





Obituaries



Yolande Kay Gustafson
January 13, 1944–January 10, 2026

Yolande Kay Gustafson, 81, of Waco, Texas, passed away Saturday, January 10, 2026. She was surrounded by her loving husband and family. Family and friends gathered for visitation Friday, January 23, 2026, at Wilkirson-Hatch-Bailey Funeral Home. A funeral service celebrating Yolande's loving spirit and artistic abilities was held Saturday, January 24, 2026, in the chapel at Wilkirson-Hatch-Bailey Funeral Home. Burial followed at St. Olaf Kirke Old Rock Church Cemetery in Cranfills Gap, Texas. Pallbearers were her sons Randahl Gustafson, Leo Gustafson, Lynn Gustafson, and Christopher Sproles along with her grandsons Gabriel Gustafson and Maxmilion Gustafson.

As a native Texan, Yolande was born January 13, 1944, in Huntsville to the late James Washburn Howard III and Lulu Jacqueline Remy Crook. She was a beloved mother, grandmother, sister, and friend, known for her warm hospitality and the beautiful things she made with her own two hands. Yolande learned how to sew at a young age and over the years she stitched together not just fabric, but lasting memories for her family and friends. As a seamstress, Yolande sewed her loving touch into every piece she crafted, with her most prized creation being her own wedding dress, which she wore when she married the love of her life, Wendell Joe Gustafson, on January 11, 1963. She worked for many years as a seamstress and upholsterer. Yolande continued to serve others with her artistic talent by working for Waco ISD as a Sign Language Interpreter. The communication and care she provided to students and those around her with American Sign Language will be long remembered.

Yolande was preceded in death by her parents and one grandson, Alexander Michael Gustafson.

Yolande leaves behind a legacy of love, creativity, and service to others, for her loved ones, especially her husband of 62 years, Wendell Gustafson. She also leaves behind her love and legacy to her brother, Brad Crook and his wife Linda; her sons, Randahl Gustafson and his wife, Tori; Leo Gustafson and his wife, Katie; Lynn Gustafson and his wife, Michelle; and Christopher Sproles and his wife, Leesha. Yolande is also survived by her adoring grandchildren, Lea Gustafson, Alyssa Gustafson, Elizabeth Gustafson, Gabriel Gustafson, Alexandra Gustafson, Magdalena Gustafson, Maxmilion Gustafson, Christopher Sproles, Jr., David Sproles, Janika Sproles, John Crawson, and James Crawson; along with other loving family members and friends.



UPCOMING *events*

DATE	EVENT	WHEN	WHERE
FEBRUARY			
02/06/26— 02/07/26	I.A.R.A. President Testimonial—Pam Isenhower		Houston Airport Marriott at George Bush Intercontinental — Houston, TX
02/07/26	Celebration of Life for Brother Dave Cothran	12pm	Houston Heights #225 Lodge Hall, Houston, TX
02/13/26	Grand Lodge Executive Committee Meeting	1pm	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
02/14/26	Grand Lodge Board of Trustees Meeting	11am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
02/15/26	An Italian Valentine’s Dinner	3pm	Fort Worth Lodge #251 1501 Hemphill St. Ft.Worth, TX 76104
02/25/26	Odd Fellow News Deadline		All submissions are welcome.
02/27/26	Grand Lodge Finance Committee Meeting	9:30am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
MARCH			
03/06/26	GL Session Registration Deadline		Send forms & payment to GL Office, 3440 W. Second Ave., Corsicana, TX
03/14-17/26	Grand Lodge Session		I.O.O.F. Event Center, Corsicana, TX
03/25/26	Odd Fellow News Deadline		All submissions are welcome.

TEXAS ODD FELLOW

LODGE DIRECTORY



GRAND LODGE OFFICE

James Curtis,
Grand Secretary & Editor
3440 W. 2nd Ave.
Corsicana, TX 75110
(903) 872-7438
(844) 872-7438
james.curtis@giooftx.org
www.iooftx.org

REBEKAH ASSEMBLY

Pamela Isenhower, Secretary
27210 Kendal Ridge Lane
Cypress, TX
(713) 775-9726
Fax: (903) 498-8363

RETIREMENT CENTER

Lovonne Cannaday, Director
2302 S. Oak Grove Rd.
Ennis, TX 75119
(972) 875-8641
Fax: (972) 875-9819
director@ofrrc.org

UPDATED 06/26/2025

Abernathy No. 809 - 728 Avenue C, Abernathy, TX 79311.

Meets: 2nd & 4th Saturday at 2:30 pm

Athens No. 961 - 1301 W. Cayuga Dr., Athens, TX 75751. Mail: 8833 CR 1406, Athens, TX 75751.

Meets: Thursday at 7:00 pm

Austin - Capital No. 23 - 6809 Guadalupe, Austin, TX 78752. Mail: PO Box 49113, Austin, TX 78765.

Meets: 1st & 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Balch Springs No. 64 - 12001 Crumpton, Balch Springs, TX 75180. Mail: PO Box 800514, Balch Springs, TX 75180.

Meets: 1st and 3rd Saturday at 2:00 pm

Bryan - Brazos Valley No. 76 - 107 A S. Main St., Bryan, TX 77803. Mail: 4798 Holm Oak Rd., College Station, TX 77845

Meets: 1st and 3rd Saturday at 10:30 am

Carthage - Gaiety No. 84 - 106 E. Sabine, Carthage, TX 75633. Mail: PO Box 616, Carthage, TX 75633.

Meets: 1st Monday at 6:30 pm

Commerce No. 234 - 1210 1/2 Alamo Street, Commerce, TX 75428. Mail: PO Box 323, Commerce, TX 75429.

Meets: Thursday at 7:30 pm

Conroe No. 67 - 1018 N. Roberson, Conroe, TX 77301. Mail: PO Box 1332, Conroe, TX 77301.

Meets: 2nd & 4th Monday at 7:30 pm

Corsicana No. 63 - 3330 W. 2nd Ave., Corsicana, TX 75110. Mail: 7361 SE CR 3060, Corsicana, TX 75109.

Meets: 2nd & 4th Thursday at 6:30 pm

Dallas No. 44 - 1808 S. Hampton, Dallas, TX 75208.

Meets: 1st & 3rd Tuesday at 7:30 pm

Denton No. 82 - 1415 Eden, Denton, TX 76209. Mail: PO Box 1233, Bridgeport, TX 76426.

Meets: 1st & 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm

Ennis No. 227 - 2309 S. Kaufman, Ennis, TX 75119. Mail: PO Box 283, Ennis, TX 75120.

Meets: Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Farmersville - Pride No. 228 - 803 Windom Street, Farmersville, TX 75442. Mail: PO Box 263, Farmersville, TX 75442.

Meets: 1st & 3rd Monday at 6:30 pm

Ft. Worth - White Settlement No. 52 - 550 NW Summercrest Blvd. Burleson, TX 76028. Mail: 324 S. Fox Ln., Burleson, TX 76028.

Meets: 2nd & 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm

Fort Worth No. 251 - 1501 Hemphill St., Ft. Worth, TX 76104.

Meets: 1st & 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm

Garland No. 304 - 125 E. State Street, Garland, TX 75040. Mail: 118 Sleepy Hollow Drive, Fate, TX 75189.

Meets: 2nd Monday, 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Gonzales No. 38 - 1405 Conway Street, Gonzales, TX 78629. Mail: 562 CR 238, Gonzales, TX 78629.

Meets: 1st & 3rd Tuesday at 5:30 pm

Grapevine No. 402 - 330 S. Main St., Grapevine, TX 76051. Mail: PO Box 385, Grapevine, TX 76099.

Meets: 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Greenville - Fred Ende No. 87 - 3013 Washington Street, Greenville, TX 75401. Mail: PO Box 33, Greenville, TX 75403.

Meets: 1st & 3rd Thursday at 7:30 pm

Houston - Greater Houston No. 6 - 2401 W. Bellfort Houston, TX 77054. Mail: 217 Williamsburg Ave., Clute, TX 77531.

Meets: 1st Thursday & 3rd Saturday at 10:30 am

Houston - Houston Heights No. 225 - 115 E. 14th Street, Houston, TX 77008.

Meets: 1st, 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 7:30 pm; Meet & Greet Social Meeting 1st Tuesday at 7:30 pm

Mineral Wells No. 440 - 1234 E. Lake Dr., Weatherford, TX 76087. Mail: Same.

Meets: 1st & 3rd Thursday at 7:30 pm

New Boston No. 110 - E. Hoskins Street, New Boston, TX 75570. Mail: 713 Anderson Street, New Boston, TX 75570.

Meets: 1st & 3rd Thursday at 7:30 pm

Plano No. 114 - 1111 Jupiter Road, #105b, Plano, TX 75074. Mail: PO Box 860643, Plano, TX 75086.

Meets: 2nd & 4th Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Smithville No. 393 - 406 Turney, Smithville, TX 78957.

Meets: 1st & 3rd Monday at 6:00 pm

Springtown No. 75 - 112 S. Main Street, Springtown, TX 76082. Mail: PO Box 924, Springtown, TX 76082.

Meets: 1st & 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 pm

Tyler - William Tell No. 27 - 1617 Golden Road, Tyler, TX 75701. Mail: 1107 Gardenia Drive, Longview, TX 75601

Meets: 2nd & 4th Thursday at 7:30 pm

Waco No. 137 - 3135 Franklin Ave., Waco, TX 76710. Mail: Same.

Meets: 1st & 3rd Thursday at 5:30 pm

Waxahachie No. 80 - 208 1/2 S. Rodgers, Waxahachie, TX 75165. Mail: PO Box 324, Waxahachie, TX 75165.

Meets: Monday at 6:30 pm dinner; 7:30 pm meeting.