

# ODD FELLOW NEWS

O F T E X A S



JANUARY 2026



Promoting Odd Fellowship through Positive Communication

*Have a Safe &  
Happy New  
2026 Year!*



# FROM THE GRAND MASTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As I write this, Vivian and I are driving from one of our children to the next in our annual Christmas Pilgrimage. I pray that all of your Christmas and New Year's visits were safe and happy and full of family and fellowship.

I want to thank all the Lodges and individuals who have donated to the Home's Christmas. I want to personally thank our Assembly President Christina for shopping for the residents and wrapping all the gifts.

Thank you to Santa Claus and thank you to Levonne and her staff for preparing and serving a fine meal.

I am looking forward to Corsicana's All Degree Day on Saturday, January 17. I encourage all the members to join with Corsicana to put the degrees on in their full pageantry. Educating new members in the degree work is a duty and privilege of our membership.

By the time you read this, your officers will be duly elected and installed. I wish all the officers, both elected and appointed, both new and continuing, harmony and success in their respective Lodges. I hope to see the installation reports soon.

If any of your officers have questions as to their duties, our Warden Karen June and our Deputy Grand Master Jason and I, as well as my District Deputy Grand Masters, will find you answers.

Wishing you a prosperous and harmonious New Year full of fellowship.



**Terry McElligott**

**In Friendship, Love, & Truth**  
**Terry McElligott**  
**Grand Master**



## 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](http://water.cc). Thank you for your donations & support!



**James Curtis**

## FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY

Brothers and Sisters,

Well Brothers and Sisters, another year has come and gone. I sure hope that most of you had a better year than I had. The pinched nerve in my back has sent pain all over my body. One day it will be in my back, and the next day it will be in my legs. Last week it was in my shoulder. This week it is in my ankles and feet. But that's enough

about my problems as my dear friend and lodge Brother, Past Grand Master Frank Ford, has endured more than one person should have to go through in one year's time: open heart surgery, the loss of his daughter, and now the loss of his loving wife, Past President Rosa Ford. Frank, may the Lord be with you through these trying times.

The Office will be closed until January 5th, 2026, as Barbara and I will try to go to Rosa's funeral on the 31st and then the rest of the week for the 1st of January.

I will close for now and wish everyone a Happy New Year.

In FLT,  
**James Curtis**  
**Grand Secretary**  
**Grand Instructor**

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## Donations to Henderson County Food Pantry



Noble Grand of Athens Lodge No. 961 and Secretary of Athens Rebekah Lodge No. 23 Barbara Curtis presenting checks to Pattie Van Horne of the Henderson County Food Pantry.

**2026 Annual Communication of**

**The Sovereign Grand Lodge  
Independent Order of Odd Fellows**

**Frisco, Texas**



**Additionally meeting**

**International Association of Rebekah Assemblies  
108<sup>th</sup> Annual Session**

**General Military Council  
122<sup>nd</sup> Annual Session**

**Youth  
Youth Day - Banquet - Talent Night**

**14-20 August 2026**

*'WE COMMEND YOU TO VISIT THE SICK, BURY THE DEAD, RELIEVE THE DISTRESSED, AND EDUCATE THE ORPHAN'*





**Embassy Suites by Hilton Dallas-Frisco  
Hotel & Convention Center**

**7600 John Q. Hammons Drive, Frisco, TX 75034**

**972-712-7200**



**Group Rates - August 14-20, 2026**

**All Rooms are \$179.00 + tax**

**No Reservation Prior to: September 1, 2025**

**Link: I.O.O.F. TEXAS 2026**

**Information to have available when calling to make a reservation:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Guests:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Card No.:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Expiration Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Arrival Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Departure Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reservations must be made by: July 31, 2026**



## 2026 PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

**The Sovereign Grand Lodge**  
 International Association of Rebekah Assemblies  
 General Military Council  
 Patriarchs Militant  
 Frisco, Texas - August 14-20, 2026



**Please Note: All Attendees MUST register**  
 (One form per attendee)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Name as desired on badge) \_\_\_\_\_ Jurisdiction \_\_\_\_\_  
 Unit attending: (Please circle one) SGL IARA GMC Youth Guest  
 Title for name badge \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

- ★ Registrations on or before July 27, 2026 - \$75.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ★ Registrations after July 27, 2026 - \$100.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### HIGHLIGHT EVENTS:

- ★ Youth Dinner, Friday, Aug. 14, 2026 - \$60.00 *(Chicken Fingers)* \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Formal Attire for Youth; Semi-formal Attire for Guests)*
- ★ Welcome Dinner - Saturday, Aug. 15, 2026 - \$70.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Merlot Chicken Breast) (Business Casual Attire)*
- ★ Officer's Banquet, Monday, Aug. 17, 2026 - \$75.00 \*\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Formal Attire)*  
*\*\*Choose Entree \_\_\_\_ Roasted Sugar Pork Loin \_\_\_\_ Pan Seared Barramundi (White Fish)*
- ★ Installation Dinner, Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2026 - \$85.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Chargrilled Sirloin Steak) (Formal Attire)*

TOTAL FEES FOR THE SESSION, IN U.S. DOLLARS: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*No refund on meals when canceled after the 1<sup>st</sup> of August, unless your reservation is picked up at registration by another attendee.*

**Please mail all Registration Forms with a check or money order to:**

2026 I.O.O.F. Session  
 3440 W. Second Avenue  
 Corsicana, TX 75110-2414

Any special requests, such as a special diet, should be indicated here. This information is needed by August 1, 2026:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



**2026 SESSION SHIRT ORDER FORM**

(Red or Blue Polo Shirts)

*All Sizes are \$25 each - Shipping included!*

Make checks payable to and mail to:

Grand Lodge I.O.O.F. of Texas

3440 W. Second Avenue

Corsicana, TX 75110-2414



Shirt Style: ☐ Men ☐ Women ☐ Youth  
 Shirt Color: ☐ Blue ☐ Red  
 Size: ☐ Medium ☐ Large ☐ XL ☐ 2XL ☐ 3XL ☐ 4XL

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL EVENT REQUEST**

Any group wishing to have a meal, meeting, or reception should return this form to the committee. It will be forwarded to the proper people at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Dallas-Frisco. They will provide menus for the type of event you wish to schedule.

Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, St./Prov.: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Type of Event: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Breakfast, lunch, dinner, cocktail reception, etc.)  
 Date and Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number expected: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special requests: (Mikes, Podium, PowerPoint, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail all requests to:  
 2026 I.O.O.F. Session Committee  
 3440 W. Second Avenue  
 Corsicana, TX 75110-2414





## Houston Heights #225 — Initiation



The most recent initiation at Houston Heights Lodge No. 225 was a wonderful evening, marked by the addition of six new members and an impressive turnout of the lodge's regular membership. The lodge was filled with energy, fellowship, and a strong sense of tradition as members came together to welcome our new brothers and sisters into the Order. Friendship, Love, and Truth were clearly on display throughout the night, especially in the lodge's active participation, reflecting the continued strength, growth, and unity of Houston Heights Lodge #225. The evening truly captured the spirit of Odd Fellowship and left everyone looking forward to what's ahead. This was our fourth initiation of the year, bringing the total number of new members for 2025 to 15.

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## Golden Rule Encampment #44 & Arlington Canton #44 — 2025 Year in Review

What a remarkable year it's been for Golden Rule Encampment No. 44 and Arlington Canton No. 44! The members truly embodied the spirit of "Friendship, Love, and Truth" through service, fellowship, and fun.

The Encampment hosted another successful Golden Rule Gala, raising over \$3,000 to support rural animal rescue organizations in need. We also organized the community-favorite Souper Bowl, the 2nd Annual Victorian Picnic, represented Texas Grand Encampment laying wreaths at the 91st Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery, and even prepared a float for the Mardi Gras Parade in Oak Cliff, spreading the Odd Fellows message with fun and smiles!



The Canton proudly presented the flags at the Grand Lodge Session, cheered on Texas canton members getting their swordsmanship test at Sovereign Grand Lodge, and even traveled to Pennsylvania to take part in a Patriarchs Militant Degree Rally, strengthening bonds with Patriarchs Militant brothers and sisters across the country as well as assist one of the few remaining groups in the USA that performs a full Muster ceremony for new Canton members. Looking toward 2026, the Canton plans to bring the full Muster ceremony back to Texas.

As 2025 comes to a close, members look forward to kicking off the New Year in fellowship and growth—

*Mark your calendars for the upcoming Degree Rally for Encampment and Canton degrees on Saturday, January 31st at 10AM at the Dallas #44 Odd Fellows Lodge Hall!*

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## Tarrant County Blessing Bag Event



On Sunday, November 30th, 2025, the members of Silverleaf Rebekah Lodge #75, River Oaks Lodge #467, and Odd Fellows Lodge #251 all gathered together to assemble blessing bags for the local homeless community.

Items included snacks, dental hygiene products, wipes, hand warmers, gloves, hats, Kleenex, emergency blankets, and bottled water.

River Oaks Lodge provided the beanie hats, gloves, hand warmers, and emergency blankets.

The members all had a great time listening to Christmas music as we worked. They even had two volunteers that live in the neighborhood join in!

All together there were 126 bags created to distribute to the Salvation Army, Mission Gospel Church, the local community center, and the River Oaks Police Department.



# What's happening @ the Retirement Center



Residents decorating the tree!  
Pictured: Martha Schlottman, Shirley Wilson, &  
Patsy Goss



Family joins in on the decorating fun!  
Iva DeSmidt & Family



Patsy Goss, Ann Clagett, Cheryl  
Baldrige, Martha Schlottman, Darla  
Grissom



# What's happening @ the Retirement Center



Patsy Goss



Ann Clagett



Martha Schlottman

**Residents had a great time decorating Gingerbread houses for Christmas!**



Iva DeSmidt and great-granddaughters



*Cherry  
AND  
Bright*



# What's happening @ the Retirement Center



Christmas Coloring! Pictured Left: Donna Miller, Martha Schlottman, Patsy Goss, and Ann Clagett



## ODDFELLOWS REBEKAHS ROSE FLOAT 2026 "TOGETHER WE GROW"

Parade Theme is "THE MAGIC OF TEAMWORK"

It takes \$135,000 dollars each year to operate and pay for a Float (our size); so please donate:

The float represents the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs  
It will help our Footprint in being Recognized by the world.

Our float really needs your donations. Please help. We still owe for the 2025 float. We are behind due to the COVID years. Help us build our garden this year.

We are ALWAYS LOOKING for Riders with a good story. Send us a rider request with your story.

To Help Pay for the Float, Send your Donations to:

ODD FELLOWS REBEKAHS ROSE FLOAT, P.O. BOX 2718, REDONDO BEACH, CA 90278

Or DONATE ONLINE AT: [HTTP://ODDFELLOWS-REBEKAHS-ROSEFLOAT.ORG/paypal](http://ODDFELLOWS-REBEKAHS-ROSEFLOAT.ORG/paypal)



For additional info: Email us at: [info@3linksfloat.org](mailto:info@3linksfloat.org)

Thank You for Your Support

<http://www.oddfellows-rebekahs-rosefloat.org>

Your donations are tax deductible as we are a 501 3(C) organization



# What's happening

## @ the Retirement Center



Pictured: Martha Schlottman, Jan Wilson, Shirley Malone, Patsy Goss, Mack Newman, Ann Clagett, Donna Miller, Nan, Rocky & Zippy. Nan brought Rocky & Zippy to the retirement center for visits once a week. We all say farewell to Nan, Rocky & Zippy as they adventure to a new chapter in life. They are moving to another state and will be missed!



Residents exercise. Pictured: Martha Schlottman, Ann Clagett, and Patsy Goss

### Odd Fellows & Rebekahs Pilgrimage for Youth



**APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 26, 2026**

Please submit \$2,100 non-refundable delegate fee along with the completed application by *January 26, 2026*. For more information, please visit [ioofpilgrimageforyouth.com](http://ioofpilgrimageforyouth.com).



**YOUTH TOUR DATES: July 16—29, 2026**

Tour will begin and end in Philadelphia.

All applications and fees should be forwarded to Grand Lodge I.O.O.F. of Texas, 3440 W. Second Avenue, Corsicana, TX. 75110.

For delegate general information, please visit [ioofpilgrimageforyouth.com](http://ioofpilgrimageforyouth.com) or send an email to [pilgrimage@ioofpilgrimageforyouth.com](mailto:pilgrimage@ioofpilgrimageforyouth.com). For fundraising ideas, please email Terry Adams, Jurisdictional Chairperson for Texas, at [terrydadams02@gmail.com](mailto:terrydadams02@gmail.com) for assistance.

# What's happening @ the Retirement Center

Daughters of America delivered Christmas gifts to the residents and residents enjoy doing Christmas crafts.



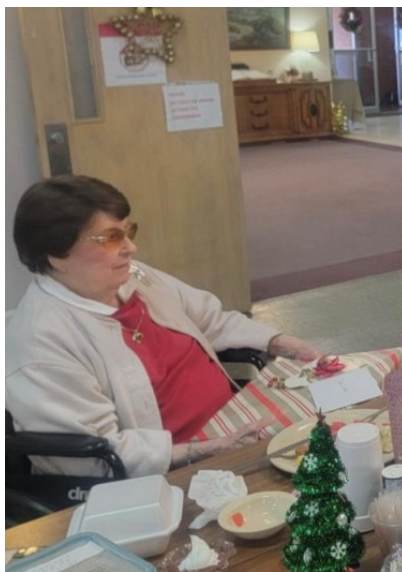
Bartine Dickerson, Ray Parrish, Kathy Dlabaj



Ray Parrish & Betty Oates



Shirley Malone



Bartine Dickerson



Kathy Dlabaj



# What's happening @ the Retirement Center



Daughters of America



Iva DeSmidt



Mack Newman



Joan Fraticelli



Bruce Reiben



Jan Wilson & Ray Parrish



Martha Schlottman

# What's happening @ the Retirement Center



Ray Parrish & Daughters of America



Patsy Goss



Donna Miller

Not Pictured: Ann Clagett, Bill McElroy, David Newman, & Carol Slowik

## Christmas Crafts



Donna Miller, Ann Clagett, Patsy Goss, Martha Schlottman, Iva DeSmidt & Family



Donna Miller, Ann Clagett, Patsy Goss, Martha Schlottman, Iva DeSmidt



# What's happening

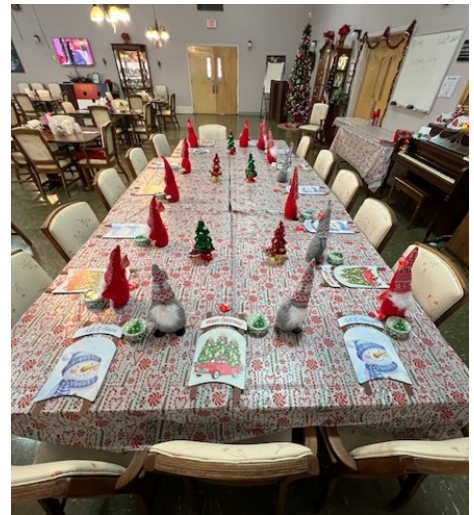
## @ the Retirement Center

### Christmas Party 2025



Residents had a fun Christmas party! Donations were from resident's daughter, Cindi. Fun, Food, Punch, & Games!

Pictured: Joan Fraticelli, Iva DeSmidt, Martha Schlottman, Patsy Goss, Jan Williams, Bartine Dickerson, Shirley Malone, Mack Newman, Ann Clagett, Donna Miller, Kathy Dlabaj, Bruce Reiben, Ray Parrish. Not Pictured: Carol Slowik, Bill McElroy, Betty Oates



The Three Musketeers! Patsy, Jan, and Shirley



Yosemite Sam?....David Newman!



Ennis High School Choir sang Christmas Carols to the residents. Note that one song was in Latin!



# What's happening @ the Retirement Center

## Rebekah Assembly President's and Grand Master's Christmas Party for the Residents



Martha Schlottman and Ann Clagett



Gifts for the Residents from  
Rebekah Assembly President  
Christina Jones-Hollaway



Christina Jones-Hollaway, Santa  
(Dan Reynolds), and Grand Master  
Terry McElligott





# What's happening @ the Retirement Center

## Rebekah Assembly President's and Grand Master's Christmas Party for the Residents





# What's happening @ the Retirement Center

## Rebekah Assembly President's and Grand Master's Christmas Party for the Residents



Santa Claus (Grand Treasurer Dan Reynolds) making his appearance!



Rebekah Assembly President finds Santa wandering the hallways!



# What's happening @ the Retirement Center

## Rebekah Assembly President's and Grand Master's Christmas Party for the Residents



Terry McElligott and  
Christina Jones-Hollaway



Terry, Vivian, Micki &  
Christina with Santa!



Patsy



Donna



Arlene & Dorothy S.



Gifts from Rebekah Assembly President Christina Jones-Hollaway and Grand Master, Terry McElligott for the kitchen staff. Pictured: Sylvia K, Cheryl, Linda, Santa, Monica, Christina Jones-Hollaway, and Terry McElligott



# What's happening @ the Retirement Center

## Rebekah Assembly President's and Grand Master's Christmas Party for the Residents



Monica

Linda

Cheryl



Mari & Mack



Thomas



Betty



Darla & Dolly



Ann



Martha



Iva



Ray



# What's happening

## @ the Retirement Center

### Rebekah Assembly President's and Grand Master's Christmas Party for the Residents



Pot & Pan



James



Connie & Torrance Baker



Grand Warden Karen June  
Bays



Levonne & O.J. Cannaday



Rick Eldridge, pianist,  
played Christmas music for  
the residents



Pictured Left: piano  
featuring ginger-  
bread houses the  
residents made  
during crafts —  
everyone loved the  
music & enjoyed  
the party!



54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
CANADIAN WAR MEMORIAL WEEKEND  
June 5,6,7 2026

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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 6<sup>st</sup> . 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 7<sup>th</sup>** 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

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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](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_museums_in_Ottawa)

Shopping:

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

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sparks\\_Street](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sparks_Street)

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

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**53<sup>rd</sup> Canadian War Memorial Weekend**  
**Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.**  
**June 5,6,7, 2026**

**PRE-REGISTRATION FORM**

**Registration Fee MUST be paid by all attendees** and will reserve a seat on the bus

All registrations **MUST** be received no later than May 15, 2026 (If mailing from the United States, please allow a minimum of 2 weeks for delivery). After May 15 2026 the fee is \$ 15.00

**Note:** There is no shuttle service between Airport and the Hotel.

**Annual Banquet** is \$ 70.00 Canadian Funds

(Please **advise in advance** if you have any dietary restrictions and what they are so that we can arrange for an alternative. Place information on back of this form.

**NOTE:** Tickets will not be mailed. They can be picked up Friday, June 5, in Café 1274 between 7-9 p.m. or Saturday prior to banquet.

**Registration form contact information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
Prov/State \_\_\_\_\_ Postal/zip code \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
My Title on June 1/2026 \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: **Mrs. Sue Geurts**  
**2 Algonquin Trail**  
**Newcastle, Ontario, Canada**  
**L1B 1A1** Ph. 905-743-0838, suegeurts@gmail.com

**Make all Cheques/Money Orders payable to "Canadian War Memorial Committee" in Canadian Funds**

First Name	Last Name	Title	Chicken	Salmon	beef	amount

Total banquet \_\_\_\_\_

Number of registrations \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10.00 CDN, ea, Total registrations \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount on check/cheque

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## 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*

## **Dave Cothran December 14, 1962 – October 13, 2025**

Dave Cothran, Past Grand of Houston Heights Lodge No. 225, passed away on October 13, 2025. He was born on December 14, 1962, in Columbia, South Carolina.

In his early years, Dave lived in South Carolina, Florida, Puerto Rico, and Switzerland. He attended high school in West Palm Beach, Florida, and St. Moritz, Switzerland.

Dave moved to Houston in the early 1980s, where he studied computer science and became a talented graphic artist. He worked for several graphic design and printing companies throughout his career.


He was a member of the street skating group Urban Animals and a devoted fan of the Houston Oilers and Houston Texans. Dave was also very involved in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo BBQ Cook-Off as a member of the Holy Cow Cookers, where his graphic design skills helped the team win Best Graphics Tent for many years.

Dave Contributed to the Orange Show Art Car Parade, working on many award-winning entries. He also designed numerous Houston Heights #225 T-shirts and event ads.


Dave will be greatly missed. He was a true character with a big heart and a dry sense of humor, often shared through his social media posts.







# Obituaries



**Jessie Evans Arnold**  
**October 15, 1924 – November 30, 2025**

*“With great sadness, I am informing you of the passing of our dear, sweet and caring Jessie Arnold at 101. She was organizer of Homecoming Reunion Banquets and caterer of the Friday Night Meet and Greet. Jessie touched many of our lives. What wonderful memories she leaves for us to enjoy. Will miss your smiles and hugs. – Becca Hagli, President of the I.O.O.F. Ex-Students Association “Hi Kids”*

Jessie was born on October 15, 1924, in Farmersville, Texas, to John Hillary Evans and Edith Caroline Holder Evans. Jessie was the sixth of twelve children and is survived by only one sibling, Joanne Gardner of West Virginia. Her upbringing instilled in her a love of family, friends, and belonging. She was instrumental in keeping the family gatherings going through the years.

Jessie was a proud graduate of Floyd High School. She then established a long and fruitful career as an accountant at Texas Power and Light where she spent 43 years. Jessie had many notable accomplishments including the following: the first woman in the company to take maternity leave, the first woman to participate in the employee profit sharing program, and the first person to have a desktop computer.

Jessie was married to Seth Smith Arnold, Jr. on November 1, 1946, in Dallas, Texas. Their love story began as the “girl next door”. Jessie was living with her aunt and uncle, next to the home that Seth had bought for his mother in the Fruitdale neighborhood of Dallas. Jessie and Seth were a devoted couple whose only sadness was the loss of their beloved son, Stephen Seth Arnold on February 16, 1964. Seth was a former resident of the I.O.O.F. Children’s Home in Corsicana, Texas, and the couple was very involved in the I.O.O.F. Ex-Students’ Association for many years. Jessie and Seth were happily married for 59 years until Seth’s passing on November 28, 2005.

Their daughter, June Arnold Ebert, and her husband Ronald Wayne Ebert, has three precious daughters and a wonderful son, Tracey Lynn Strange, Didi Elise Ebert, Stevi Alice Ebert and Christopher Douglas Ebert. Jessie lived long enough to know and love all four of her beloved great-grandchildren, Augustus Seth Strange-Turner, Beckett Cecilie May Frijs, Benjamin Arnold Blackburn, and Rosa Poppy Larijani.

Jessie was a cherished member of Lamar Baptist Church since its inception. She especially loved parties, and started her own wedding and party catering service, seeing hundreds of brides, retirees, and others through the most important moments of their lives. She loved to travel and made her last trip at age 100 to visit Didi and husband Beau at their new home in Yakima, Washington.

Jessie is survived by her daughter, son-in-law, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and many beloved nieces and nephews and friends.

Visitation was held on December 10, 2025, at Moore Funeral Home in Arlington, Texas, followed by a Celebration of Life service held the next day at Lamar Baptist Church.

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# *Obituaries*



**Rosa P. Ford**  
**July 3, 1937 – December 28, 2025**

Funeral services for Rosa P. Ford were held at 2:00pm, Wednesday, December 31, 2025, at Rosewood Baptist Church with Brother Michael Pool, Brother Steve Dugger, and Brother Charles Johnson officiating. Internment followed the funeral services at Rosewood Cemetery.

Rosa was born on July 3, 1937, in Rosewood, Texas, to George Clifton Pool and Cicely Bivens Pool and passed from this life on December 28, 2025, in Winnsboro, Texas.

Rosa married Frank Ford on April 8, 1956. She was the owner of Ford's Grocery for many years before retirement. Rosa served as president of the Rebekahs, and she also laid the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. She was a proud Avon saleswoman, and Possum Queen in Rhonesboro, Texas. She helped several children get scholarships, one of which was her great-grandchild. Out of all the things she did, her favorite job was being a wife, mother, and grandmother. She was a proud member of Antioch Baptist Church.

Those left to cherish her memories are her husband, Frank Ford; son, Larry Frank Ford; sister, Juanita Tyra; grandchildren, Crystal, Patricia, Jamie, Susan, Holly and Megan; 17 great-grandchildren, and 8 great-great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Vicki Ford, in September 2025; siblings, Bernie, Johnny, Leona, and Joanna; great-grandson, Chase Gilliam; and great-great-grandchild, Zoe Hartfield.

Pallbearers will be Landon Gilliam, Blake Gilliam, Shane Gilliam, Gorden Litchfield, Joe Rodriguez, and Don Cox.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Antioch Baptist Church, 7391 Giraffe Rd., Gilmer, Texas, 75644, or to a charity of your choice.





# UPCOMING *events*

DATE	EVENT	WHEN	WHERE
<b>JANUARY</b>			
01/01/26	Happy New Year!		
01/10/26	W. & O. Homes Board of Trustees Meeting	9:30am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
01/10/26	Grand Lodge Board of Trustees Meeting	11am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
01/15/26	Proposed Legislation Due to Grand Lodge Office		
01/17/26	23rd Annual Thomas Wildey Memorial Degree Rally		Corsicana #63 Lodge Hall
01/25/26	Odd Fellow News Deadline		All submissions are welcome.
01/26/26	Pilgrimage for Youth Tour Application Deadline		
01/31/26	Greater Houston #6 Degree Rally		San Antonio Scottish Rite Building
01/31/26	Encampment and Canton Degree Rally	10am	Dallas #44 Lodge Hall
01/31/26	Annual Lodge Reports Deadline		Grand Lodge Office
<b>FEBRUARY</b>			
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.
02/25/26	Odd Fellow News Deadline		All submissions are welcome.
02/27/26	Grand Lodge Finance Committee Meeting	9:30am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.



# TEXAS ODD FELLOW

## LODGE DIRECTORY

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**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.

UPDATED 06/26/2025

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  [www.iooftx.org](http://www.iooftx.org)  [info@iooftx.org](mailto:info@iooftx.org)  844-872-7438