

# ODD FELLOW NEWS

## O F T E X A S



**MAY 2026**



*Promoting Odd Fellowship through Positive Communication*

### San Antonio Lodge No. 11 — New Lodge Instituted



On April 11, 2026, San Antonio Lodge No. 11 was instituted. Congratulations to this new lodge and to all the members in attendance! Pictures continued on page 4.



# FROM THE GRAND MASTER



**Jason Ottwell**

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

There are moments in the history of our great Jurisdiction that feel less like business and more like a sacred homecoming. This past week, under the wide and watching Texas sky, we witnessed such a moment—the Institution of San Antonio Odd Fellow Lodge No 11. To stand alongside such honorable souls and breathe life back into this historic pillar of our fraternity was nothing short of a divine blessing.

## **Breathing Life into Legend**

The air was thick with reverence as we gathered to reclaim a piece of our heritage. This was not merely the opening of a new door, but the reopening of a chapter that has waited patiently to be rewritten. San Antonio No. 11 is revitalized as a lodge with roots that run deep into the soil of Texas history, now blossoming once more with the promise of a powerful, living future.

I wish to extend my deepest, most heartfelt gratitude to the distinguished officers who assisted in this historic labor: **Deputy Grand Master Karen June Bays, Grand Warden Brian Dodson, Junior Past Grand Master Terry McElligott, Past Sovereign Grand Master Danny Wood.**

Your presence and dedication ensured that the institution of this lodge was conducted with the dignity and grace it so rightly deserved. To have been a part of restoring such a legendary institution to our rolls is a memory I shall cherish until the final fall of the gavel.

## **New Leadership**

The highlight of our gathering was the installation of the newly elected officers—the guardians who will tend to this revived flame. It was a profound joy to witness these individuals take up their charges:

- Noble Grand Ron Havens
- Vice Grand Anthony Harris
- Secretary Chase Parsons
- Treasurer Cheryl Even
- Chaplain Robert Madison
- Warden Joseph Helminiak
- Conductor Greg Gillenwaters
- Inside Guardian Charlie Key
- Outside Guardian Vince Pierce

**In Friendship, Love, & Truth**  
**Jason Ottwell**  
**Grand Master**

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**James Curtis**

## FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY

Brothers and Sisters,

Our Sovereign Grand Lodge Session is going to be here before we know it. Terry Adams, Peggy Idom, Garry Bolch, Dan Reynolds, Charlie Stephenson, and I met with the Directors of the Embassy Suites in Frisco on Friday, April 24th and got a lot of our business taken care of. I think Sovereign Grand Secretary Terry Barrett should have all the information he needs to assign the meeting rooms for all committee meetings.

The annual reunion of the Hi Kids met this past weekend here at the Grand Lodge Office. I am sorry that I was not here for the picnic as I always enjoy being with them.

We were really shorthanded for our W. & O. Homes Board meeting this past month due to a lot of our members being in San Antonio getting the new lodge up and running. That was a great occasion, and we are all proud for San Antonio Lodge No.11. If your lodge has not yet made a donation to them, and if your lodge can afford to do so, then send your donation to this office and we will see that they receive it. We may get a new lodge in Georgetown later this year. We hope so.

I would like to ask our members to keep Grand Master Jason Ottwell in your prayers as he will be traveling to Washington, D.C. to lay the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns on May 3rd.

Athens Lodge will have their semiannual Fish Fry on May 3rd starting at 11:00 a.m. and lasting until 2:00 p.m. or until we run out of food. If you are in the neighborhood, please drop by and help us out with our scholarship drive. The cost is \$15.00 for a full meal, including desserts and tea.



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

## San Antonio Lodge No. 11 Institution Pictures



Pictured: Anthony Harris, Brian Dodson, Charlie Key, Cheryl Even, Vince Pierce, Ron Havens, Robert Madison, Joseph Helminiak



## A Call to “Educate the Orphan”



In the quiet corners of our hearts, we carry a sacred charge: to **“Educate the Orphan.”** While the words themselves are ancient, the ways in which we honor them are limited only by our imagination. It is with a spirit of immense joy that I share a recent endeavor by the members of Plano Lodge No. 114, who turned a creative spark into a beacon of light for local families.

### **Tending the Roots of Family**

In McKinney, Texas, exists a child sanctuary known as **Embrace Texas**.

This remarkable organization serves as a lifeline for foster and adoptive families, at-risk children, and those navigating the journey of kinship care. Each year, Embrace hosts a cherished family campout—a time for bonding under the canopy of the great outdoors and weaving memories that will last a lifetime.

Seeking to support the mission, the members of Plano Lodge No. 114 asked themselves how we might best serve these resilient families while staying true to our fraternal calling.

### **Tool for Discovery**

The answer was found in the gift of knowledge, The Lodge partnered with **Quick Reference Publishing**, an American company dedicated to creating beautiful, scientifically accurate, and—most importantly for a campout—waterproof guides to the natural world.

Through this collaboration, the Lodge secured a treasure trove of guides so that every single family attending the Embrace Texas campout will receive two windows into the wild: **Freshwater Fishes of Texas; Birds of North Texas**. These aren’t just pamphlets; they are invitations to wonder. With stunning imagery and accessible information, they empower children and parents alike to identify the shimmering life in our lakes and the soaring wings above our North Texas plains.

### **A Vision for the Future**

We are profoundly grateful to Embrace Texas for allowing us to play a small part in the beautiful tapestry they are weaving for these children. It is our deepest hope that these guides are merely the first seeds planted in a long and flourishing partnership.

### **An Inspiration to All**

Brothers and Sisters, I share this story to ignite a fire of inspiration to all our Lodges. Our mission is a living thing. I encourage you to look into your own communities, find the creative gaps where our hands can help, and live out our values in ways that are as unique as the members of our Order. Let us continue to find beauty in service and strength in our shared purpose.

Yours in F. L. & T.,  
Jason Ottwell, Grand Master

# What's happening @ the Retirement Center

## Easter 2026



Residents enjoyed doing Easter crafts



Martha Schlottman



Iva DeSmidt



Ann Clagett



Patsy Goss



Coloring Easter eggs.  
Pictured: Martha, Patsy, & Ann



Martha Schlottman



Patsy Goss



Ann Clagett

# What's happening @ the Retirement Center

## Easter 2026



Easter Egg Hunt! Pictured:  
Iva DeSmidt, Ann Clagett,  
Betty Oates, Mack Newman,



Mack Newman



Pictured: Bruce Reiben, Bill McElroy, Martha Schlotzman, Iva DeSmidt,  
Joan Fraticelli, Bartine Dickerson, Carol Slowik, Ray Parrish, Patsy  
Goss, Ann Clagett, Jan Wilson, Mack Newman



Easter Coloring



Easter Party

# What's happening @ the Retirement Center



APRIL FOOL'S DAY! Residents add fun and laughter. Pictured: David Newman



Ann Clagett, Patsy Goss, and Martha Schlottman — Inside Out!



Pictured: Shirley Malone, Brenda Blaylock, Patsy Goss, Mack Newman, Ann Clagett

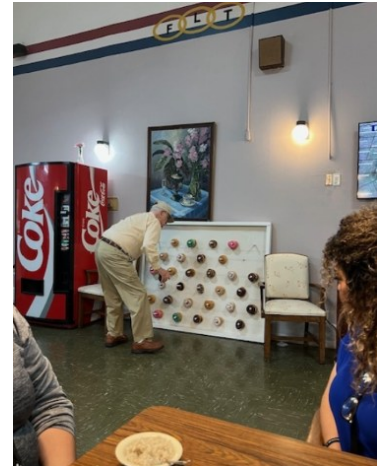


Residents enjoyed a trip to the Bluebonnet Trails!  
Pictured: Cheryl Baldrige, Martha Schlottman, Kathy Dlabaj, Iva DeSmidt

# What's happening @ the Retirement Center



Bluebonnet Trails in Ennis, TX



Mack Newman



Summit Windows treats residents and staff with a donut wall!



Betty Oates



Ray Parrish



Patsy Goss



Shirley Malone

# What's happening @ the Retirement Center

## National Banana Day! 🍌



Banana Splits on National Banana Day!



Pictured: Martha Schlottman, Jan Wilson, Ann Clagett, Donna Miller



Pictured: Kathy Dlabaj, Shirley Malone, Carol Slowik, Patsy Goss, Iva DeSmidt, Cheryl Knavel, Brook & Blair, Bartine Dickerson, Donna Miller, Ann Clagett, Martha Schlottman



Assisting Hands provides fall prevention information and an ice cream taste test!



Pictured: Iva DeSmidt, Danika Rodgers, Donna Miller, Shirley Malone, Cheryl Baldrige, Patsy Goss, Jan Williams, Martha Schlottman, Mack Newman, Sylvia Parra, Brenda Blaylock



Capital Lodge No. 23  
 Austin, Texas  
 Independent Order of Odd Fellows  
 Capital23.org



### **Ground-Penetrating Radar at Historic Austin Cemetery**

When the current Recording Secretary of Capital Lodge No. 23 was elected to that office in 2019, one of the most interesting things he found in the files was evidence of an IOOF lot within the historic Oakwood Cemetery in Austin, Texas. But there was very little information about where in the vast Oakwood Cemetery that lot might be—or who was buried in it.

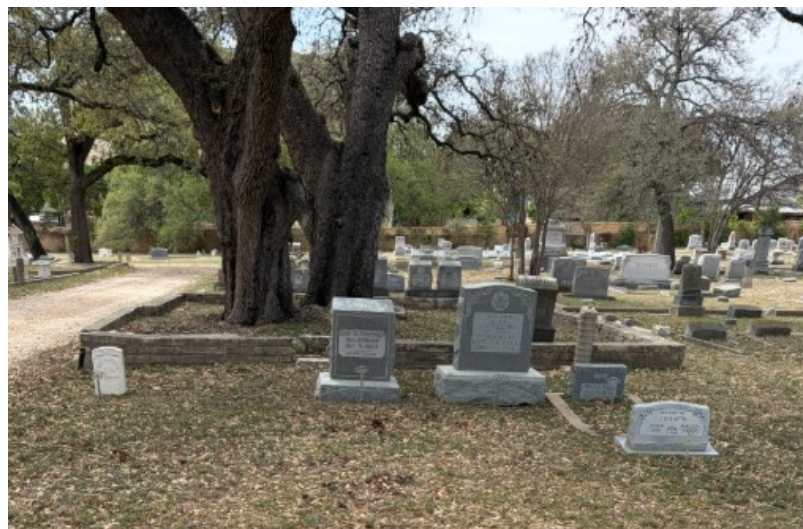
Brother Arro Smith contacted Save Austin's Cemeteries for more information. They quickly responded with a copy of the Sexton's Lot Card, including the lot number and where to find it. The hand-written Lot Card showed five marked burials from 1915, 1923, 1933, 1934, and 1978; and three unmarked burials from 1910, 1922, and 1946.

The lots in this section of Oakwood Cemetery were designed to accommodate 18 burials. With five gravestones arrayed along the back section of the lot, the placement of the unmarked graves remained a mystery.

This foray into cemetery history whetted Brother Arro's curiosity. He attended the next meetings of Save Austin's Cemeteries, and volunteered for some of their tours—and was duly elected to their Board as Secretary (as well). He and Capital No. 23 have been very involved in several historical projects with Save Austin's Cemeteries, including a years-long effort to document the approximately 2,700 unmarked graves in the Historic Colored Grounds of Oakwood.

As a final part of the Historic Colored Grounds documentation, Capital Lodge No. 23 financed a team of Texas A&M researchers to conduct a ground-penetrating radar scan of that part of the cemetery. This part of the cemetery is adjacent to the IOOF lot—so they have helped us solve the mysteries of our own dead, as well!

The City of Austin has updated the Lot Card for the Capital Lodge's plots. We now know where our brothers are—and where we can bury nine additional brothers and sisters.



**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



## Dallas Odd Fellows #44 Opens Community Free Pantry

Dallas Odd Fellows Lodge #44 is proud to announce the installation of a new Free Community Pantry, now available to serve neighbors in need. Located just outside the lodge at 1808 S. Hampton Road—conveniently across from DART’s Hampton Station—the pantry offers easy access to basic food items and essential supplies for anyone who may need a helping hand.

This project reflects the heart of Odd Fellowship: caring for our communities in practical, meaningful ways. Whether someone is facing a temporary hardship or simply needs a few items to get through the week, the pantry stands as a quiet but powerful symbol of compassion and mutual aid.

The initiative was the brainchild of Laura Neitzel, Past Grand and current District Deputy Grand Master, whose vision and dedication brought this idea to life. Through her leadership and the support of lodge members, what began as a simple concept has become a tangible resource for the surrounding neighborhood.

We invite the community to both utilize and support the pantry. Donations of non-perishable food items, hygiene products, and other essentials are always welcome. Together, we can ensure that this small structure continues to make a big difference.

In Friendship, Love, and Truth,

Dallas Odd Fellows Lodge #44



**THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION** OF THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS  
P.O. Box 20455 • Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27120 Telephone (336) 723-2404 • Fax (336) 723-2405

R. KENNETH BABB  
Executive Director



To: Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges  
From: R. Kenneth Babb, Executive Director  
The Educational Foundation, IOOF  
Date: January 7, 2026

Greetings from The Educational Foundation, IOOF. We are reaching out to your Lodge in an effort to inform you of the exciting changes made by the Educational Foundation, IOOF since we contacted you last year.

Last Year the Educational Foundation, IOOF announced increases in our Scholarship award funds

*The new increased awards are:*

**Ingstrom Regional Scholarship**

Increased from \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00 – For the top application score in the region and an added award of \$2,000.00 for the second place application score in the region. This scholarship is based on financial need, scholarship and leadership. Students in a regular college curriculum can apply in each of fifteen Odd Fellow jurisdictional regions.

**Non Traditional Scholarship**

Increased from \$3,000.00 to \$4,000.00 – This scholarship is Intended for students who do not attend college immediately after graduation from high school.

**Glen Coursey Agricultural Scholarship**

Increased from \$3,000.00 to \$4,000.00 – This scholarship is awarded to students pursuing a degree in Agriculture.

**Nursing Degree Program Scholarship**

(Endowed by the Grand Lodge of Iowa) – Increased from \$3,000.00 to \$4,000.00. This scholarship is for students pursuing an accredited nursing program in an associate, baccalaureate, masters or other degree program nursing related field.

**Vocational Technology Scholarship**

Increased from \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00 – This scholarship is for students enrolled in a Vocational or Technology Institution training for quality job skills in a particular job function or trade.

**Peter Geolot Continuing Education Grants**

Increased from \$2,500.00 to \$3,500.00. This Grant is awarded to members who wish to enroll in continuing education courses in their job related field, or for enrollment in continuing education courses in a new field to further their occupational goals.

*Scholarships & Loans offered which have not been increased are:*

**\$15,000.00 Christine Smith Graduate Scholarship**

Scholarships at the graduate level for students who address the needs of society relating to Children & Family issues for students who hold a bachelor's degree.

**\$5,000.00 Betty Moates Science and Technology Scholarship**

Awarded annually to students pursuing a college major in medical technology, chemistry, biology, mathematics or an education major to teach in one of the aforementioned majors.

**\$1,000.00 LPN & CNA Nursing Certificate Scholarship**

(Endowed by the Grand Lodge of Iowa) – For students pursuing an accredited nursing program in an LPN or CNA certificate program.

**\$2,000.00 Wirz Scholarship**

For students in a regular college curriculum who may not be an Odd Fellow or Rebekah member or related to an Odd Fellow or Rebekah member.

**\$16,000.00 Student Loans**

Loans for students in a full academic course of four or more years bearing an interest rate of 4%. Repayments begin three months after graduation or discontinuing college.

These increases will allow students, who are members or relatives of members of an Odd Fellow or Rebekah Lodge, to lessen the load of their education.

**Why a College education is more than just the academic knowledge?**

A College education acts as a catalyst for an improved quality of life, allowing graduates to explore new perspectives, and broaden their understanding of the world. This time of growth and self-discovery shapes their financial future and personal beliefs, setting them up for a well-rounded and fulfilling life.

An academic pursuit encourages them to push boundaries and develop passions, allowing them to feel more comfortable with their ambitions. The best part is they will have a support system of mentors, professors, and friends to guide them through the process.

Please share this communication with the members of your Lodge who are a living spouse, parent, grandparent, great grandparent, aunt, uncle, brother, sister, or parent of a spouse of a potential college student. This also applies to an applicant's deceased spouse, parent, grandparent or great grandparent who was a member in good standing of your Lodge at the time of their death.

Students who are a member, or related to a member, of an Odd Fellow or Rebekah Lodge, can apply for Odd Fellow scholarships after they have completed one semester in college (except for Vo-Tech students who can apply after High School for the Vo-Tech scholarship).

Eligible students can visit the website: [ioof.org](http://ioof.org), click "Our Programs", click "Educational Foundation". There they can review all of our scholarship opportunities and download all but one of the applications. Or use this link: <https://odd-fellows.org/programs/education-foundation/>

The deadline each year is May 15 for submission of scholarships.

For further information, contact Ken Babb, Director of The Educational Foundation, IOOF at 336-723-2404 or [rkbabb1@bellsouth.net](mailto:rkbabb1@bellsouth.net).

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**ATHENS  
LODGE  
#961**

# Fish Fry



**FUNDRAISER**

*Join us for a fish fry, benefiting Athens, Brownsboro, Crossroads, Eustace, La Poynor, Mabank, Malakoff, and Trinidad Scholarship Fund*

**Sunday  
MAY 3, 2026**

**11 AM - 2 PM** *(or till we run out)*

**ATHENS LODGE HALL  
1301 CAYUGA  
ATHENS, TX 75751**



**\$15** *Dinner includes: fresh fish, fries, coleslaw, hush puppies, & dessert  
Tea included for dine-in orders*

**Kids 10 & under \$7.50**

*Contact James Curtls for Info, to donate or purchase in advance: 903-872-7438*

# Houston Heights #225 Group Picnic



Houston Heights Lodge No. 225 had a group picnic at Woodland Park in Houston. The lodge had about 21 brothers and sisters show up for hamburgers, hotdogs, and Odd Fellowship.





DISCOVER ODD THINGS



# ODD FELLOWS RUMMAGE SALE

FIND GREAT DEALS!



**SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026**



**9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**115 E. 14TH ST. HOUSTON, TX**

**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT  
100F HOUSTON HEIGHTS LODGE #225  
A 501(c)8 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION**



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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**Do you have ten years  
continuous membership in  
an Odd Fellow or Rebekah  
Lodge?**

If so, you qualify for the lowest rate at the *I.O.O.F. Retirement Center* in Ennis, Texas. For details, please call Director Levonne Cannaday at 972-875-8641.

**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**

- **DENTON LODGE NO. 18**  
Meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday -- 5:30 PM  
@1415 E. Eden Lane, Denton, TX 76209  
MAIL: P.O. Box 1233, Bridgeport, TX 76426  
10/2026
- **ATHENS LODGE NO. 23**  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday -- 5:30 PM  
@1301 Cayuga Drive, Athens, TX 75151  
MAIL: 8833 CR 1406, Athens, TX 75151  
08/2026
- **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  
10/2026
- **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

# UPCOMING *events*

DATE	EVENT	WHEN	WHERE
<b>MAY</b>			
05/02/26	Houston Heights #225 Rummage Sale	9am-1pm	Houston Heights Lodge Hall, 115 E 14th St, Houston, TX 77008
05/03/26	Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown		Arlington, VA
05/03/26	Athens Fish Fry	11am	Athens Lodge Hall, 1301 Cayuga, Athens, TX 75751
05/09/26	W. & O. Homes Board of Trustees Meeting	9:30am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
05/09/26	Grand Lodge Board of Trustees Meeting	11am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
05/25/26	Odd Fellow News Deadline		All submissions are welcome.
<b>JUNE</b>			
06/5-7/26	53rd Canadian War Memorial Weekend		Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
06/13/26	Grand Lodge Executive Committee Meeting	2pm	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
06/13/26	W. & O. Homes Board of Trustees Meeting	9:30am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
06/13/26	Grand Lodge Board of Trustees Meeting	11am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
06/25/26	Odd Fellow News Deadline		All submissions are welcome.
<b>JULY</b>			
07/27/26	SGL Session Registration Deadline		Mail forms to Grand Lodge Office, 3440 W. Second Avenue Corsicana, TX 75110

# scholarships

now accepting applications for the 2026 scholarships! application deadline is may 30, 2026. visit our website at [iooftx.org](http://iooftx.org) or call the grand lodge at 903-872-7438 for more information.



# T E X A S O D D F E L L O W

## 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@iooftx.org  
www.iooftx.org

### REBEKAH ASSEMBLY

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

### RETIREMENT CENTER

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

**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: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 7:00 pm

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

Meets: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

**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

**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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday at 10:30 am, 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 6:30 pm

**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

**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

**San Antonio No. 11** - San Antonio Scottish Rite Building, 308 Ave. E, San Antonio, TX 78205. Mail: TBA

Meets: TBA

**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: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 7:30 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 04/30/2026

FOR MORE INFORMATION:



www.iooftx.org



info@iooftx.org



844-872-7438