

ODD FELLOW NEWS OF TEXAS



OCTOBER 2025

PROMOTING ODD FELLOWSHIP THROUGH POSITIVE COMMUNICATION

Sovereign Grand Lodge Session Pictures August 15-21, 2025



PICTURES CONTINUED ON PAGE 4.

FROM THE GRAND MASTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

October we think of pumpkins. Fall has started. Our church will do Trunk or Treat mostly for the kids but the adults also have a good time. We love celebrating. Our Pilgrimage to the Home was another celebration. We get together to see friends, enjoy a meal and have pride in what our Order has provided. Levonne and her staff put out the welcome mat for a large crowd of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs and fed everyone well. Many thanks to all the Brothers and Sisters who have

generously supported our Retirement Home for many years. President Christina and I were able to return the Creature Teacher who introduced us to the coatimundi, chameleon, skunk, dragon, boa and kangaroo and personalized each of them. Please continue your support of the Home and the dedicated work of the staff.

This week Vivian and I lost a friend. I say this because many times we unconsciously take our friends, our family, our lodge brothers and sisters for granted. We're not taking advantage of them, we just know they will be there tomorrow. Take today to consider the people around you and what you put off telling them because you'll tell them next time. "The future starts today, not tomorrow." — Pope John Paul II.



Terry McElligott

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

2.3 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

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As I write this letter, it's raining cats and dogs outside. I don't recall ever getting rain like we have had this year. It has always been hot and dry with no rain at all in July and August, but not this year! I am not complaining about the rains we have had as I have enjoyed every bit of it.

I know that by now everyone knows there will be some changes at our next Grand Lodge Sessions as the Rebekahs are going to have to meet in a different place. With that in mind, there is going to be a Special Session called in November to work some things out. I would like to ask as many members as possible to be here as it will be a very important meeting that could affect the Odd Fellows as well.

I just received word that A.C. Dowell is in Hospice down in Houston at this time. His daughter called to let us know just in case any Odd Fellows would want to know. I remember having the Degree Rallies at his place where we held them outdoors in his pasture. E. Dixon Toney would always cook up some stew for the occasion. We really had some good times there.

Well, Fall is upon us now so maybe we will start having some cooler weather. I sure hope so.

I will close for now and wish everyone to stay safe and well.

In FLT,
James Curtis
 Grand Secretary
 Grand Instructor



SAVE THE DATE
GRAND ENCAMPMENT AND DEPARTMENT
COUNCIL MEETING

NOVEMBER 1, 2025

CORSICANA LODGE NO. 63

GRAND ENCAMPMENT SESSION STARTS AT 9:30AM

DEPARTMENT COUNCIL SESSION STARTS AT 1:30PM

COST: \$5.00 PER SESSION, OR \$10.00 TOTAL

UNIFORM: CLASS A OR B PREFERRED

LIGHT BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROVIDED

REQUIREMENTS: AN UP-TO-DATE DUES CARD IN GOOD STANDING FROM AN
 ENCAMPMENT IS REQUIRED FOR THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT SESSION

AN UP-TO-DATE DUES CARD IN GOOD STANDING FROM A CANTON IS REQUIRED
 FOR THE DEPARTMENT COUNCIL SESSION



Sovereign Grand Lodge Session Pictures—Continued



John Woolsey receiving his
Swordsmanship Proficiency



John Reitzer-Smith showcasing the 2026
Rebekah SGL officer's and representatives
attire



Garry Bolch & Crystal Baker (Past President of the
Rebekah Assembly of Texas)



Pam Isenhower, I.A.R.A.
President & Thomas Calabrese,
Sovereign Grand Master

Sovereign Grand Lodge Session Pictures—Continued



Charlie Stephenson (Junior PGM) & John Woolsey (PGM)



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

Thank You for Your Support

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

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



Sovereign Grand Lodge Session I.A.R.A. Pictures



Odd Fellow News of Texas Presented with Awards



Congrats!



The Odd Fellow News of Texas newsletter received two awards during the SGL Session: Best Overall — 1st place and News Content—1st place. Pictured here is Tamara Franks, designer, and James Curtis, editor. Congratulations to everyone involved & thank you for your submissions & support!



Gonzales Lodge No. 38



Pictured L to R: Albert Rodriguez, Nathan Neuse (Noble Grand), Liz Hernandez, William Glass, Jeremy Judd

Gonzales Lodge No 38's Annual Fundraiser was held on September 2, 2025.

Prizes were donated by Sage Capital Bank-Gonzales, South Star Bank-Gonzales, First National Bank of Shiner-Shiner, Dr. Kamala Lewis, DDS-Luling, and Capt. John C. Ashley-Shiner. Grand Prize Winners: Liz Hernandez & Ken Hedrick.

Funds raised are used for projects of Gonzales Lodge No. 38. Thank you all for the support & participation!

77th Annual Home Pilgrimage - Retirement Center

Ray Parrish pictured right at the Retirement Center in Ennis, TX.

Grand Secretary James Curtis had a nice visit with Brother Ray during the Pilgrimage on September 14, 2025.

Ray would like everyone to know how much he enjoys living at the Home with three meals furnished each day. He would love more members to join him at the Home as he is looking for people to play dominos with.





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



September 25, 2025

TO ALL ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH LODGES

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The Pilgrimage for Youth Board of Directors have announced the 2026 tour dates and cost. The tour will take place July 17 - July 30, 2026, and will begin and end in Philadelphia. The cost is \$2,100 per student, plus the cost of airfare and a baggage fee to be determined later.

Rebekah Assembly Past President Terry Adams has been named Jurisdictional Chairperson for Texas for the 2026 tour. I'm sure she will have some great ideas for your lodge on fundraising as well as finding deserving students to participate in the tour. Please contact her at terrydadams02@gmail.com for assistance.

If your lodge has never sponsored a delegate, I hope you will consider doing so. If your lodge can't afford the cost of a delegate sponsorship on your own, then please consider sponsoring a delegate in conjunction with another lodge or with all lodges within your district. If you don't personally know a young person who would be eligible for the trip, please consider speaking with the Guidance Counselor at your local High School. I'm sure they will be familiar with deserving students who will exhibit the type of conduct desirable for those chosen as delegates. Be sure to mention that the tour provides a scholarship opportunity through a speech contest.

The delegate fee of \$2,100.00 is due on **January 26, 2026**, and no refunds will be offered. The delegate application is also due on **January 26, 2026**. The fees and applications should be forwarded to the Grand Lodge I.O.O.F. of Texas, 3440 W. Second Avenue, Corsicana, TX 75110.

The tour is open to students who are 16 and 17, who are Sophomores or Juniors in High School. Students who reach the age of 18 prior to the summer program are not eligible to participate. Delegates must have at least one year remaining in High School after the Tour.

Some important highlights:

- Passports and out of country insurance will not be required for the 2025 tour.
 - All delegates are required to have a current medical examination prior to the Tour. The physical cannot be done prior to January 1, 2026.
 - All delegates must start the tour on the beginning date and stay with the tour until its end date.
-

- Deadlines are important and must be met to allow for efficient coordination of the Tour. The Sovereign Grand Lodge Office charges a late fee of \$50 per delegate for missing deadlines.
- All delegates are required to participate in the speech contest in New York.

Enclosed is the 2026 delegate application form along with general information for the delegate. Please make copies of these forms as required.

Please remember the following deadline:

January 26, 2026 - The \$2,100 non-refundable delegate fee is due along with the completed delegate application. You will be billed for the cost of airfare at a later date.

For additional information, please check out the web site at www.ioofpilgrimageforyouth.com. The deadlines shown on the web site may be different from the deadlines listed above. This is because we must have time to collect the payments and forms from the sponsors and then forward everything to the Sovereign Grand Lodge Office by the deadlines listed on the web site.

Thank you for your support of this worthwhile educational program and your willingness to make a positive difference in a young person's life!

In F. L. & T.,

Attest:



James Curtis
Grand Secretary

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

TM/nc



ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS Pilgrimage for Youth



DELEGATE 2026 APPLICATION FORM PLEASE PRINT

Application Deadline Feb. 1st

DELEGATE MUST PROVIDE:

- ☐ Two Completed Copies of Delegate Application Form
 - ☐ Two Color Copies of Current Photo
 - ☐ Two Copies of Front and Back of Medical Insurance Card
 - ☐ Two Copies of Passport and Out of Country Insurance (Canadian Students only)
 - ☐ Current Physical (Not before January 1, 2026)
- Tee-Shirt Size (Circle One) S M L XL 2XL 3XL

Attach Photo Here

☐ Male ☐ Female

Full Name (First, Middle, Last) _____ Birth Date _____
 Address _____ City _____
 State/Province/Country _____ Postal Code / Zip Code _____
 Phone: Home _____ Delegate's Cell _____
 Delegate's Email _____ Nickname _____

Sponsoring Lodge and Number _____
 Contact Person _____
 Mailing Address _____
 City _____ State/Province/Country _____
 Postal Code / Zip Code _____ Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
 Email _____

PROOF OF INSURANCE

Out of Country Insurance and Passports will not required this year (still required for Canadian students)

Two Copies of Front and Back of Medical Insurance Card required.

Name of Health Plan Provider _____
 Policy # _____ Insurance Company Phone _____
 Policy Holder Name _____ Relationship _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Person to notify in case of emergency:
 Name: _____
 Relationship _____
 Phone: Home: _____
 Cell: _____
 Work: _____
 Email: _____

Alternate Emergency Contact:
 Name: _____
 Relationship _____
 Phone: Home: _____
 Cell: _____
 Work: _____
 Email: _____

Parent/ Legal Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Rev 2018-May Board of Directors

Page 2 Delegate 2026 Application – Name of Delegate _____

MEDICAL RELEASE

Date of Examination _____ Name of Physician (please print) _____

Address: _____ Phone _____

Delegate: Height _____ Weight _____ Blood Pressure _____

General Health: _____ Childhood Diseases: _____

Previous Sickness Requiring Hospitalization: _____

Operations: _____ Injuries: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Medical conditions currently under treatment: _____

Medication(s): Name of Medication(s): _____

Type of Medication(s): (tablet, liquid, capsule or inhaler) _____

Dosage: _____ Time and Frequency: _____

Possible side effects: _____

Mental disorders or convulsions: _____

Any evidence of Rheumatic Fever _____ Diabetes _____ Fainting Spells _____

Allergies: _____

The following physical condition should be noted (if applicable)

Eyes _____ Heart _____

Lungs _____ Neurological _____

Skin _____ Musculoskeletal _____

Other _____

I certify that I have examined the delegate and find her/him medically qualified to participate in the "Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Pilgrimage for Youth Program".

Physician Signature _____ Date _____

MEDICAL WAIVER

The following medications will be in possession of the delegate (PLEASE PRINT):

I understand that it the full responsibility of the delegate to maintain and administer their own medication.

Should my son or daughter incur any injury or illness while participating in the "Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Pilgrimage for Youth Program", I authorize immediate medical attention including treatment or care beyond the terms of my insurance. Should the nature of any accident or illness prevent further participation in the Program, I understand that my son or daughter will be returned home at my expense.

Parent/ Legal Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Page 3 Delegate 2026 Application – Name of Delegate _____

PERSONAL

Method of selection for participation in the Program: _____

The delegate must be 16 – 17 years of age with at least 1 year of high school remaining at the time of the beginning of their trip.

Is the delegate willing and able to take part in considerable daily walking and stair climbing?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Does the delegate require special meals for health or religious reasons?

☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, please explain and suggest suitable foods. _____

Is the delegate a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows?

☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, name of Lodge and location. _____

As a delegate on the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Pilgrimage for Youth tour, I agree to participate fully in the Program. Upon my return, I am willing to give reports and/or speeches to explain what I experienced and learned.

A delegate requiring an assistant (Chaperone) shall inform their sponsor, the jurisdictional chair, and the Executive Director. A Chaperone must submit a Chaperone to Delegate Application and submit same with the chaperoned Delegate's Application.

PRIVACY STATEMENT

The information contained in this form is used by management of the program to select and administer the program. Except in case of medical emergency, information will not be disclosed to third parties. In the case of medical emergency, information may be released to attending medical personnel. Furnishing this information is voluntary, but failure to do so may prohibit participation in the Program.

CONSENT AND RELEASE

I hereby authorize The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage for Youth Inc. to photograph and/or videotape me or contract to do so and to publish or broadcast such photograph(s) or video(s) of me through various media, including the Internet or multimedia products.

I understand and agree that The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage for Youth Inc. or its agents are not responsible for the misuse or alteration of any such photographs and/or videotapes by third parties.

I hereby release The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage for Youth Inc. and any of its officers, agents, employees or servants from any and all actions, claims, loss or causes of action arising from the use or misuse of such images.

Parent/ Legal Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Page 4 Delegate 2023 Application – Name of Delegate _____

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage for Youth has been in existence since 1949. During this time, certain rules and regulations have been adopted to ensure the safety and enjoyment of all participants. These rules include, but are not limited to, mandatory curfew, no activities which might cause destruction of property, no alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco or offensive language/behavior.

It is important that delegates and parents/guardians understand that, while every consideration will be given, should the delegate disregard any rules or regulations **he/she will be sent home at the Parent/Guardian's expense.**

NOTARIZED STATEMENT

This is to certify that during the time of (dates) _____ – _____, _____, _____
Please Print Delegate's Name

has permission to travel with your Pilgrimage for Youth Tour and to cross the Borders of Canada and the United States unaccompanied by a parent or legal guardian but may be accompanied by a Chaperone.

This statement also certifies that as a Delegate, Parent or Legal Guardian, we have read and completed this Delegate 2026 Application in its entirety. Acknowledging the importance of the Medical Waiver and Rules and Regulations sections, especially in reference to the financial responsibility of the parent or legal guardian, should the Delegate be sent home for medical or behavioral issues.

Delegate Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Signed, Attested and Sworn to before me in the State/
Province/Country of _____

County of _____

this _____ day of _____, 20____

Notary Public Signature (seal)

Commission Expires _____



The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Pilgrimage for Youth Inc. will not discriminate against any individual on the basis of disability, ethnicity, gender, race, sexual orientation, religion or other social identity from the full and equal enjoyment of its services, unless the individual possesses a direct threat to the health and safety of others, or him/herself, that cannot be eliminated by a modification of policies, practices, or procedures by the provision of auxiliary aids or services, nor exclude any individual because of the individual's association with a person of disability, ethnicity, gender, race, sexual orientation, religion or other social identity.

Application Approval by Jurisdictional Chair Signature: _____

Age Verified by Jurisdictional Chair Signature: _____

Rev 2018-May Board of Directors



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FAX (903) 872-7277



September 23, 2025

TO ALL ODD FELLOW LODGES

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The closing of the I.O.O.F. Event Center has created a situation with the meeting location for the Rebekah Assembly Session whose Constitution mandates that they shall meet at the same place the Grand Lodge I.O.O.F. of Texas shall hold its annual session. With the Event Center being unavailable, the Rebekah Assembly of Texas has no place in which to hold their session.

To accommodate both units, the General Arrangements Committee has devised a plan whereby both units will share the B. J. and Jerry Miller Conference Room located in the Grand Lodge Administration Building in Corsicana, Texas. This will result in some changes needed for the Grand Lodge Session schedule and therefore a Special Session will be needed to address them. Please refer to the attached Resolution for more details about the proposal.

In accordance with Chapter II, Article IV. Sec. 4, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge I.O.O.F. of Texas, the Grand Lodge Executive Committee has authorized a special session of the Grand Lodge I.O.O.F. of Texas to be held Saturday, November 15, 2025. The session will begin at 10:00 A.M. in the B. J. and Jerry Miller Conference Room located in the Grand Lodge Administration Building in Corsicana, Texas.

Outlined below is the purpose of the Special Session and the only matter of business to be conducted:

- Consider and vote on the enclosed Resolution No. 1 regarding the 2026 Sessions of the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly of Texas.

Everyone attending will need to check in with the Credentials Committee beginning at 9:00 A.M. The Grand Lodge Degree will be conferred at 9:30 A.M. If you would like to receive the Grand Lodge Degree, be sure to bring a Past Grand or Past Noble Grand Certificate from your lodge indicating your eligibility.

Only Past Grands and Past Noble Grands, who have attained the Third Degree, have membership in an Odd Fellow Lodge in good standing, and have received the Grand Lodge Degree, will be allowed to vote in the session. Third Degree members of an Odd Fellow Lodge who have not received a Past Grand or Past Noble Grand ranking will be allowed to enter the session, but are not eligible to vote.

I encourage everyone to attend the Special Session on November 15, 2025 in order for us to move forward in planning for the March 2026 Sessions.

In F. L. & T.,

Attest:



James Curtis
Grand Secretary

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

TM/nc

RESOLUTION NO. 1

TO THE GRAND LODGE I.O.O.F. OF TEXAS:

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Rebekah Assembly I.O.O.f. of Texas states that they shall meet at the same place the Grand Lodge I.O.O.F. of Texas shall hold its annual session, and

WHEREAS, the Rebekah Assembly of Texas normally meets at the I.O.O.F. Event Center in Corsicana Texas, but its closing on May 31, 2025 leaves the Rebekah Assembly without a meeting place for their annual session, and

WHEREAS, the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly General Arrangements Committee has devised a plan whereby the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly will each utilize on a shared schedule, the B. J. and Jerry Miller Conference Room located in the Grand Lodge Administration Building in Corsicana Texas with the following proposed meeting schedule:

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026		
TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON	Registration	Grand Lodge Conference Room A
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Registration	Grand Lodge Conference Room A
9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON	Rebekah Assembly Credentials and Mileage Committees	Grand Lodge Conference Room A
1:30 PM - 4:00 PM	Rebekah Assembly Credentials and Mileage Committees	Grand Lodge Conference Room A
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Fun Night	B. J. & Jerry Miller Conference Room
SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026		
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Memorial Service and Church Service	B. J. & Jerry Miller Conference Room
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Registration for Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly	Grand Lodge Conference Room A
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Grand Master and President's Banquet	Fannie Mae Vernon Room (Navarro County Expo Center) 4021 W. Texas-22, Corsicana, Texas

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026		
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Registration and Credentials - Grand Lodge	Grand Lodge Conference Room A
8:00 AM - 12:00 NOON	Grand Lodge Session NOTE: Election of Officers will be held at 10 AM	B. J. & Jerry Miller Conference Room Grand Lodge Administration Bldg.
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Rebekah Assembly Session	B. J. & Jerry Miller Conference Room Grand Lodge Administration Bldg.
6:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Joint Installation of Officers followed by Installation Banquet	Fannie Mae Vernon Room (Navarro County Expo Center) 4021 W. Texas-22, Corsicana, Texas
TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026		
8:00 AM - 12:00 NOON	Grand Lodge Session	B. J. & Jerry Miller Conference Room Grand Lodge Administration Bldg.
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Rebekah Assembly Session	B. J. & Jerry Miller Conference Room Grand Lodge Administration Bldg.
Note: Meeting Rooms for all Grand Lodge & Rebekah Assembly Committees will be set up in the following rooms: Grand Lodge Basement Room BE1; Rebekah Assembly Office (Basement); and the B. J. Longshore Boardroom on the main floor of the Grand Lodge Administration Building.		

WHEREAS, without the space afforded by the I.O.O.F. Event Center, all luncheons that normally take place during the time of the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly Sessions will be handled at the discretion of those in charge of said luncheons, and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Texas specifies that the nomination and election of Grand Lodge Officers shall be held at 2:00 P.M. on Monday of the annual session,

BE IT RESOLVED that the election of Grand Lodge Officers for the Grand Lodge I.O.O.F. of Texas be changed for the 2026 Session to Monday, March 16, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. to accommodate the new meeting arrangement.

Fraternally submitted,
Terry McElligott, No. 27
Jason Ottwell, No. 114
Karen June Bays, No. 82
Charles Stephenson, No. 114

Fall Dinner



November 9, 2025

11:00a.m.-2:30p.m.

Ham

Pork Chops

Chicken

Vegetables

Dessert

Rolls

Tea and Coffee

\$10.00 adults to 11 years

\$5.00 2 till 10

Under 2 free

Balch Springs Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodge

120001 Crumpton

Balch Springs, Texas

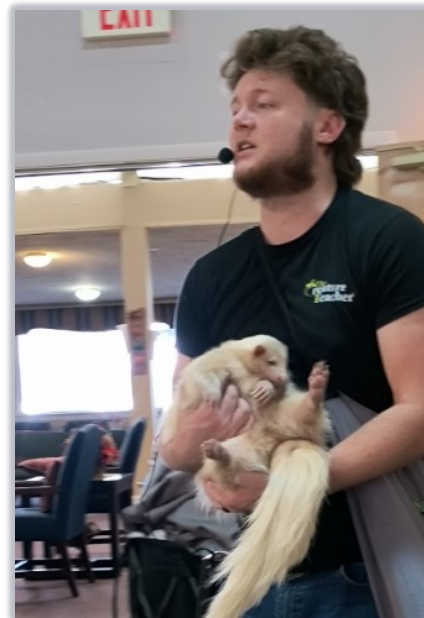


What's happening @ the Retirement Center



Relaxing with colors.

Pictured: Ann Clagett, Patsy Goss, Martha Schlottman, and Monica Russell.



 **The
creatureTeacher**

Residents enjoyed a presentation from The Creature Teacher during the 77th Annual Home Pilgrimage on September 14, 2025.



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
@14115 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



Frances Virginia Ryals
April 30, 1929—August 28, 2025

Frances Virginia Ryals, 96, of Coppell, Texas, passed away on August 28, 2025. She was born in Nocona, Texas, on April 30, 1929, to James Arby and Revell Sikes McNatt. She was known as Frances or Fran to her friends and siblings, Mom to her sons, Grandma to her grandchildren and Nanny to her nieces and nephews and many grand and great-grand nieces and nephews. She is survived by her sister, Sissy Hamlin and her husband Harold from Flower Mound; sons, Joe Sallee and his wife Cecelia of Krum, Jerry Sallee and his wife Charlotte of Flower Mound, David Sallee and his wife Kris of Euless, Jamie Sallee of Brownwood and Jeff Sallee and his wife Jacque of Irving; twelve grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by her husband, Don Ryals; her parents; and brothers Buster, Mark, and Bill. Frances was a member & Past Grand of Denton Lodge No. 82, and member & Past Noble Grand of Denton Rebekah Lodge No. 18. A visitation and viewing was held on September 2, 2025, at Mulkey-Mason Funeral Home in Lewisville, Texas. Graveside service was held at Belew Cemetery in Pilot Point, Texas, at 10:00am on September 3, 2025.

Willie Lowell Cantrell
November 2, 1937—August 30, 2025

Willie was born November 2, 1937, in the rural area of Checotah, Oklahoma, to Willie and Lessie Cantrell. He passed away on August 30, 2025, after a long illness. He was the 5th of 10 children. The family moved from Oklahoma to Orange, Texas, in the 1940s for his dad to work in the shipyards. After the war, they moved to the Rowlett, Texas, area. Willie learned hard work from an early age working as a sharecropper's son. He kept that work ethic up to the time of his death. He met Carolyn Kay Cass in Garland in 1958, and they were married that year. They had two sons, Steve and Johnny. Carolyn and Willie were married 47 years until her death in 2005. He later married Rebeca Ridgeway who later died in 2020. In his later years, he became a very loving owner to many stray dogs and cats that wandered up to his house. In the last year, the birds and ducks have been added to the feeding regiment. Willie was preceded in death by his parents and both of his wives and all but one of his siblings. He is survived by his sons; Steve (Debbie) and Johnny, PGM (Amy), sister; Helen Trujillo, bonus Granddaughter; Kaitlyn Thomas, bonus Grandson; Elijah Thomas and many nieces and nephews and friends as well as his companion Bleu. A graveside service was held September 4, 2025, at 10am, at Grove Hill Memorial Park.

Vicki Rose Ford
September 5, 1957—September 4, 2025

Vicki Rose Ford was called to her heavenly home on September 4th, surrounded by her daughter, Holly and her husband Gorden, from her earthly home in Grice, Texas, after a lengthy illness. Vicki was born to Frank Ford and Rosa Pool Ford on September 5, 1957, in the Florence Nightingale Wing of the Baylor Hospital in Dallas, Texas. Vicki went to school in Mesquite and Dallas until moving to Rhonesboro and graduating from Harmony High School. She worked for her parents in their grocery store, Ford's Grocery, for many years. She also worked at Harmony Schools until she became ill. Vicki was a member of the Antioch Baptist Church in Grice, a member of the Rebekah and Odd Fellows Lodges of Athens. Vicki is survived by her parents, Frank and Rosa Ford of Grice; brother, Larry of Grice; daughters, Holly Litchfield and husband Gorden, Patricia Rodriguez and husband Joe; 11 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by one great-grandchild.



UPCOMING *events*

DATE	EVENT	WHEN	WHERE
OCTOBER			
10/04/25	I.O.O.F. Annual Picnic	12pm	I.O.O.F. Park, Corsicana, TX
10/10/25	Grand Lodge Executive Committee Meeting	1pm	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
10/11/25	W. & O. Homes Board of Trustees Meeting	9:30am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
10/11/25	Grand Lodge Board of Trustees Meeting	11am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
10/25/25	Odd Fellow News Deadline		All submissions are welcome.
10/31/25	Happy Halloween		
NOVEMBER			
11/01/25	Grand Encampment & Dept Council of TX Annual Session	9am	Corsicana #63 Lodge Hall, Corsicana, TX
11/07/25	Grand Lodge Executive Committee Meeting	1pm	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
11/08/25	W. & O. Homes Board of Trustees Meeting	9:30am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
11/08/25	Grand Lodge Board of Trustees Meeting	11am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
11/09/25	Fall Dinner	11am	Balch Springs Lodge, Balch Springs, TX
11/15/25	Grand Lodge Special Session		Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
11/27/25	Happy Thanksgiving		



Please join us for our **23rd Annual I.O.O.F. Picnic!**

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We will be providing lunch, but please remember to bring drinks & desserts, and don't forget the chairs, bug spray, and sunscreen! Lunch will be at noon.

This is a day of fun and no business. There will be games, contests, and prizes to win.

Please RSVP if you plan to attend: we will need a headcount for food. You may email info@iooftx.org or call the Grand Lodge Office @ 844-872-7438. We hope to see you all there!





TEXAS ODD FELLOW

LODGE DIRECTORY

GRAND LODGE OFFICE

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2302 S. Oak Grove Rd.
Ennis, TX 75119
(972) 875-8641
Fax: (972) 875-9819
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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



info@iooftx.org



844-872-7438