

ODD FELLOW NEWS OF TEXAS



SEPTEMBER 2025

PROMOTING ODD FELLOWSHIP THROUGH POSITIVE COMMUNICATION

Please Join Us

77th Annual Pilgrimage to the
Odd Fellow and Rebekah
Retirement Center

Sunday, September 14, 2025
2302 S. Oak Grove Road
Ennis, TX 75119

Lunch served at Noon

\$25.00/plate

Menu: barbecue brisket, potato salad, baked beans, cole slaw, dessert

 **The
reatureTeacher**

Creature Teacher program begins
at 2:30pm

RSVP: Contact Director Levonne Cannaday at 972-875-8641 by September 8
Please bring exact change for payment

FROM THE GRAND MASTER

September will be here by the time you see this. I want to personally invite everyone to the 77th Annual Home Pilgrimage September 14th. Levonne and her staff will be serving a fine meal of brisket, potato salad, baked beans, cole slaw and dessert at noon. This is a great day of fellowship for all. Come out and help celebrate the fine work being done in the spirit of Friendship, Love & Truth.



Terry McElligott

A new school year begins. The B.J. Longshore Fund provides scholarships each year. The fund was able to grant two \$1,000 scholarships this year. My congratulations to this year's recipients, Colten Smith and Nicholas Baker.

The Executive Committee will be meeting September 12th. This is not a closed meeting. Your officers want to hear from you because we are all in this together.

Are you all ready to picnic? October 4th at 10AM we will be gathering for the 23rd I.O.O.F. picnic in the (of course) I.O.O.F. park. We are bringing the hot dogs and hamburgers. You need to bring your drinks and sunscreen. We need to get a head count before we head to the grocery store so please let us hear from you.

August has been a pause for me. Upkeep on the house, yard work and connecting with family and friends. I hope everyone gets to enjoy Labor Day.

Vivian has to be in class next week. Books are expensive. Are any of the lodges donating school supplies?

I have a desire to resurrect the Competitive Degree Work at next year's session. Can I get some volunteers? We practice at every meeting. I feel we can enjoy our ritual.

As I visit lodges I see splendid people doing the work of Odd Fellowship. What I would like to see is more connection between lodges. You don't have to point out the distance involved, I see it. I don't know how yet, but I would like us to know all of our Brothers and Sisters.



In Friendship, Love, & Truth
Terry McElligott
Grand Master



James Curtis

FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY

Well, the month of August has just about passed us by already. The Sovereign Grand Lodge and I.A.R.A. Sessions were held in West Virginia last week. Congratulations to Sister Pam Isenhower from Texas for being elevated to the position of I.A.R.A. President! The Grand Secretary of Florida, Kelly Hughes, is our new Sovereign Grand Warden and I would also like to congratulate him. Congratulations and best wishes to all of the newly installed officers.

I was unable to attend the Sovereign Grand Lodge Session this year as the doctors haven't helped me any at this time. The doctor gave me three shots in the nerve that goes down to my left foot, but I need one in my back to block the nerve that controls both legs. I hope when I go back for the follow-up, he will see that needs to happen.

I want to congratulate the members of Waxahachie Lodge No. 80 as they brought in 8 new members recently. Keep up the good work Brothers!

I also want to thank Brother Arro Smith of Capital Lodge No. 23 for his work with the flood disaster that was down in his part of the world. Our Order needs more members like him. A big thanks goes out to all the lodges and jurisdictions who donated money to the Flood Relief Fund. To date, the Grand Lodge has received a total of \$18,050 in donations. Those contributing include: Grand Lodge Disaster Relief, Corsicana Lodge No. 63, Grand Lodge I.O.O.F. of Illinois, White Settlement Lodge No. 52, Waxahachie Lodge No. 80, Commerce Lodge No. 234, Athens Lodge No. 961, Denton Lodge No. 82, William Tell Lodge No. 27, and Garland Lodge No. 304. Some of our fellow Jurisdictions sent their donations directly to Brother Smith. Everyone's help in providing relief to the flood victims is greatly appreciated!

On August 22nd, I took the ladies here in the office out to lunch and gave them the rest of the day off as they are deserving for being such great employees. Thank you Nancy, Christy, and Tamara for doing us a great job. I don't know what I would do without you. (Probably pull my hair out.)

I would like to send birthday greetings to my lodge Brother, Bill Guy, as his birthday is September 8th. Happy Birthday Brother Bill!

Athens Lodge No. 961 will host an Open House on September 20th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. We will be serving hotdogs, chips, and cold drinks. We're hoping to attract new members to our lodge.

I received a message from a fellow in Corpus Christi wanting to know if there was a lodge there as he wanted to join. I told him we have someone who is interested in starting a lodge in that area and for him to send me his phone number and I would pass it on to her. Here's hoping that we get a lodge started there as Corpus would be an ideal place to have a new lodge.

I will close for now and wish all of you a Happy Labor Day!

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

B.J. Longshore Memorial Scholarship Recipient Visits Grand Lodge



Pictured: Grand Treasurer Dan Reynolds, Nicholas Baker, and Rebekah Assembly Past President Crystal Baker (Mom)

Nicholas Baker, who was awarded the B.J. Longshore Memorial Scholarship, paid a visit to the W. & O. Homes Board meeting to offer his thanks for being selected by the Grand Lodge Executive Committee to receive the \$1,000 award. He will be attending Nelson University in Waxahachie pursuing a Bachelor of Music in Music Education. Congratulations and best wishes Nicholas!

Athens Lodge No. 961 – Installation of Officers



Pictured here is Rebekah Assembly Past President Barbara Curtis (front right), installed as Noble Grand; Rebekah Assembly Past President Loretta Vernon (front middle), installed as Right Support to Noble Grand; Billie Pennington (back middle), installed as Warden; Past Grand Master Troy Pennington (back right), installed as Conductor; Dan Reynolds (front left), installed as Inside Guardian, along with Grand Secretary James Curtis (back left)



GRAND LODGE
INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS OF TEXAS

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



August 4, 2025

77th Annual Home Pilgrimage
September 14, 2025 - Ennis, Texas

TO ALL ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH LODGES

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The 77th Annual Home Pilgrimage will be held at the I.O.O.F. Retirement Center in Ennis, Texas on Sunday, September 14, 2025.

Everyone is invited to have lunch with the residents at noon that day. The meal will consist of barbecue brisket, potato salad, baked beans, cole slaw, and dessert, all prepared by the Home's kitchen staff. The cost is \$25 per person. Accommodations are limited, so only those with reservations will be served. To make a reservation, please contact Director Levonne Cannaday at 972-875-8641 no later than September 8, 2025. Everyone will pay for their meal as they go through the line, so there is no need to send in advance payment. However, it is important to bring exact change or a check as the staff will not be able to make change.

Following lunch, we will be entertained by *The Creature Teacher* which advertises wildly educational animal programs. This group came out last year for the Pilgrimage and the residents loved it. This part of the program will begin at 2:30 p.m.

I hope everyone will make plans to be in attendance. We currently have 19 residents in the Home who would love to meet you. Please mark your calendars for September 14th and join us for the fun and fellowship!

Faternally,

Attest:

James Curtis
Grand Secretary

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

TM/nc

2026 Annual Communication of

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

Frisco, Texas



Additionally meeting

**International Association of Rebekah Assemblies
108th Annual Session**

**General Military Council
122nd 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 1st 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



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



Nan, Cindy, and Patsy



Mack, Rocky, and Jan



Martha, Ann, Zippy, and Mack



Donna, Shirley, and Cindy



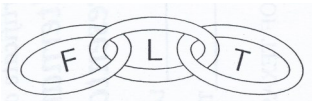
The residents
enjoyed a visit
from Rocky & Zip-
py!



First Saturday at Dry Creek donated food to the retirement center. Thanks to everyone involved!

ATTENTION

**STAY TUNED FOR THE
OCTOBER ISSUE FOR
SGL 2025 CONTENT!**



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

UPCOMING *events*

DATE	EVENT	WHEN	WHERE
SEPTEMBER			
09/01/25	Labor Day	1:00pm	Grand Lodge Office Closed
09/12/25	Grand Lodge Executive Committee Meeting	1:00pm	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
09/13/25	W. & O. Homes Board of Trustees Meeting	9:30am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
09/13/25	Grand Lodge Board of Trustees Meeting	11am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
09/14/25	77th Annual Homes Pilgrimage	12pm	I.O.O.F. Retirement Center, Ennis, TX
09/25/25	Odd Fellow News Deadline		All submissions are welcome.
09/26/25	Grand Lodge Finance Committee Meeting	9:30am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
09/27/25	Sausage Fest	12-4pm	Houston Heights #225 Lodge Hall—115 E. 14th St, Houston
OCTOBER			
10/04/25	I.O.O.F. Annual Picnic	12pm	I.O.O.F. Park, Corsicana, TX
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	Halloween		



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

— — — —

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

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

Levonnie 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: 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