

ODD FELLOW NEWS

O F T E X A S



SEPTEMBER 2026

Promoting Odd Fellowship through Positive Communication



Please Join Us

78th Annual Pilgrimage to the
Odd Fellow and Rebekah
Retirement Center

Sunday, September 13, 2026
2302 S. Oak Grove Road
Ennis, TX 75119

Lunch served at Noon

\$25.00/plate

Menu: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy,
corn, green beans, rolls, and dessert

 **The
CreatureTeacher**

Creature Teacher program begins
at 2:30pm

RSVP: Contact Director Levonne Cannaday at 972-875-8641
For more information, please see page 11

FROM THE GRAND MASTER

A Grand Session in Frisco!

The Sovereign Grand Lodge Session brought dignitaries from across the world together right here in Frisco, Texas, and our members showed once again why Texas hospitality is second to none. From the moment our guests arrived, we made it clear this was a session to remember.

New Leadership Elected

The session also brought exciting news on the leadership front, with new dignitaries elected to guide our Sovereign Grand Lodge into the next chapter.

We congratulate the newly elected officers on their achievement and look forward to their leadership in service to our members. Ray Jackson—Sovereign Grand Warden and Davey Wiggers—Sovereign Grand Secretary.

The Hoe Down Wraps Up

And of course, no session is complete without a little Texas flair, the Hoe Down was a rip-roaring success! Boots were dusted off, and laughter carried well into the evening. Thank you to everyone who helped plan and host the festivities, and to every member and guest who came out to celebrate together. It was a perfect way to close out a memorable session.

Now, Back to Texas Grand Lodge Business

With the Sovereign Grand Lodge Session behind us, our attention turns back home to the work ahead for the Texas Grand Lodge. Mark your calendars for important upcoming dates:

Executive Meeting—September 12th our Executive Committee will convene to handle the ongoing business and planning of the Texas Grand Lodge Session.

78th Annual Home Pilgrimage—September 13th Join us at noon as we honor this cherished tradition for the 78th year running. The Home Pilgrimage remains one of our most meaningful gatherings, a time to reflect, give thanks, and reaffirm our commitment to the Home and all it represents. Members and families are encouraged to attend and take part in this special day.

24th Annual I.O.O.F. Picnic—September 26, 2026 Lunch at Noon, I.O.O.F. Park, Corsicana, TX

Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. We ask that you bring drinks and desserts, along with your own chairs, bug spray, and sunscreen. There will be games, contests, and prizes to win. This is a day of fun, with no business on the agenda!

Please RSVP so we can get a headcount for food. You may email info@iooftx.org or call the Grand Lodge Office at **903-872-7438**.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Picnic and the Home Pilgrimage.



Jason Ottwell

In Friendship, Love, & Truth
Jason Ottwell
Grand Master



James Curtis

FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY

Brothers and Sisters,

Well, the Sovereign Grand Lodge Session is finally over, and Nancy and Christy are singing with joy as this had added a lot of hard work on the two of them. They were fine troopers though and stayed with it up to the end. Talking about the end, we are not there yet as we still have work to do to tie up loose ends here in the office.

I was informed by several members that one of our members put on Facebook that the people I had picked to serve on the committee was just a “blank” committee. You can fill in the blank. This person was not part of our committee. I was very proud of our committee as we worked very hard on planning the session so we could make our Order look good to all the members from other states who would be there. Darren Findlay and Rena Healy are the two who had the hardest job and they were fantastic. The other members of the committee who showed up and worked the session until the end were Terry Adams, my Vice Chairman, Dan Reynolds, Yvonne DeLuca, Il-line Townsend, John Woolsey, Connie and Torrance Baker, and Garry Bolch. Peggy Idom and Pam Isenhower would attend our meetings when they could. P.G.M. Charlie Stephenson was also on our committee until he had an accident and could no longer participate. I hope I didn’t miss anyone; I don’t like to name people like this as I don’t want to leave anyone out.

I want to express that it was great to see my Sovereign Grand Master. I call P.S.G.M. Mike Dut-ton my Sovereign Grand Master, because he was Sovereign Grand Master when I was Grand Master of Texas. I want to thank Chuck Renninger and Terry Barrett as they worked with me to keep things running smoothly. Thanks to all of you and I hope I didn’t miss any members of my committee.

Brothers and Sisters, we have a couple of lodges that need to get their semi-annual report submitted. You are late and we will have to charge you a late fee.

Barbara and I will be going to the Retirement Center on September 13th to have lunch with the residents for the Pilgrimage. We always enjoy having lunch there. The food is always good and there’s plenty of it. We hope to see a lot of our members there for this occasion.

Our Grand Master, Jason Ottwell, and our President, Arlene Martin, are doing a great job as they work together to fulfill their obligations. Congratulations to the two of you. Also, thanks Jason for all you did at the Sovereign Grand Lodge Session. You pulled my rear end out of the fire when you picked up the risers for me and returned them to the Grand Lodge Office. I owe you Brother!

In FLT,
James Curtis
Grand Secretary
Grand Instructor

What's happening @ the Retirement Center



Diamond Dotting Craft with Bristol Hospice. Pictured: Rosanna, Ann, Patsy, Martha, Shirley, Iva



Pictured: Martha, Shirley, Iva, Rosanna, Ann, Patsy



Rosanna & Ann



Shirley & Iva



Patsy & Martha



Bristol Hospice (Rosanna) brought flavored lemonade for residents to enjoy!



Pictured: Donna Miller, Shirley Malone, Patsy Goss, Ann Clagett, Betty Oates, Bartine Dickerson.
Not Pictured: Kathy Dlabaj



TIE DYE DAY
Pictured Left: Patsy Goss, Shirley Malone, Betty Oates, Martha Schlottman, Ann Clagett, Donna Miller and Levonne Cannaday

What's happening @ the Retirement Center



Residents enjoyed ice cream at Braums. Pictured: Mack Newman, Jan Wilson, Iva DeSmidt, Donna Miller, Darla Grissom, Shirley Malone, Kathy Dlabaj, Bartine Dickerson, Ann Clagett



Sovereign Grand Lodge Session Photos 2026



Installation Dinner



Installation Dinner



Pam Isenhower, I.A.R.A. President,
presenting Secretary of the Year award



Installation of Officers



Gift from NH to Pam Isenhowas presented by
Sandra Nickerson



Before Monday night banquet. Pictured:
John Elkinton, Yvonne DeLuca, Rena
Healy, Darren Findlay, Iline Townsend,
James Curtis (Grand Secretary)

Cypress Rebekah Lodge No. 22 Awards



Cypress Rebekah Lodge No. 22 was honored to have four members receive awards from Christina Jones-Hollaway in March. Pictured Above (L to R): Julie Perry, Terry Adams, Sabrina Knight, and Peggy Idom received recognition.



DOUBLEGOOD POPCORN

STARTING AT \$11

SECURE ONLINE CHECKOUT

SHIPS DIRECTLY TO YOUR DOOR

ORDER ONLINE:

<https://s.dgpopup.com/529o3y/g>

**SHARE THE LINK WITH
FRIENDS AND FAMILY**



SEPTEMBER 10-14, 2026

Cypress Rebekah Lodge 22

Orders placed online and delivered to your doorstep!
Direct Fundraiser Link. <https://s.dgpopup.com/529o3y/g>

Peggy Smith Honored with Department Commander's Award



Pictured: Peggy Smith (Chaplain),
and Crystal Baker (Captain)



Pictured: Eric McCrory (Lieutenant), Renaud Cager (Accountant), Lowell Handschke (Ensign), Peggy Smith (Chaplain), Crystal Baker (Captain), and Garry Bolch (Clerk)

Congratulations are in order for Peggy Smith, who was presented with the Department Commander's Award on July 24, 2026, by the P. Hershall Black Canton.

This special recognition honors Peggy's service and dedication to the Patriarchs Militant and the principles of Odd Fellowship. Those who know Peggy know that her commitment to our Order is demonstrated not simply through the titles she has held or the honors she has received, but through her continued willingness to serve and support her fellow members.

The Department Commander's Award is a fitting recognition of that commitment and an accomplishment worthy of celebration by her Brothers and Sisters throughout the jurisdiction.

Please join us in congratulating Peggy Smith on this well-deserved honor. We are proud to recognize her service and celebrate this achievement with her. Congratulations, Peggy, and thank you for your continued service to Odd Fellowship!

In Friendship, Love, and Truth,
P. Hershall Black Canton No. 1



ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS ROSE FLOAT—2027 ROSE PARADE

Our float is titled "Liberty Flies High"
Matching Challenge: A donor will match up to \$10,000 for the 2027 float fund. Please send donations to:
Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Rose Float
P.O. Box 2718
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

For more information, please visit <http://www.3linksfloat.org> or <http://oddfellows-rebekahs-rosefloat.org>
DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

ioof

PICNIC

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026
LUNCH AT NOON**



**FAMILY
FOOD
FUN
FELLOWSHIP**

Join us for our
24th Annual IOOF Picnic

Let us all get together and enjoy great fellowship, fun, family, and food!

We will be having hamburgers and hot dogs including toppings.

We do ask that you bring drinks, desserts, and sides. Also don't forget chairs, bug spray, and sunscreen!

Lunch will be at noon.

This is a day of fun and no business.

Relax and unwind, bring your family and friends. 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 @ 903-872-7438.

**IOOF PARK - 45TH STREET
CORSICANA, TX**



HOUSTON HEIGHTS
ODDFELLOWS LODGE #225

F L T

SAUSAGE *Fest* 2026

 **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026**
NOON – 4 PM

 **IOOF #225 • 115 E 14th St**
Houston, TX 77008

Good food. Great company. Live music. Family fun.



**GREAT
SAUSAGE**

On a stick,
plates & more!



**DELICIOUS
FOOD**

Traditional
fixings & more



**REFRESHING
DRINKS**

Beverages,
sodas & more



**LIVE MUSIC
& ENTERTAINMENT**

DJ + live
entertainment



**FUN FOR
THE KIDS**

Bounce
house



**RAFFLE &
SILENT AUCTION**

Great items,
great cause



BREAK OUT YOUR LEDERHOSEN & DIRNDLS!

THE EVENT WILL GO ON RAIN OR SHINE!



*All proceeds
benefit Lodge #225
scholarship
recipients.*

**EVERYONE IS
INVITED TO JOIN US!**

MORE INFO





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



August 14, 2026

78th Annual Home Pilgrimage
September 13, 2026 - Ennis, Texas

TO ALL ODD FELLOW AND REBEKAH LODGES

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The 78th Annual Home Pilgrimage will be held at the I.O.O.F. Retirement Center in Ennis, Texas on Sunday, September 13, 2026.

Everyone is invited to have lunch with the residents at noon that day. The meal will consist of fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, green beans, rolls, 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 10, 2026. 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 16 residents in the Home who would love to meet you. Please mark your calendars for September 13th and join us for the fun and fellowship!

Fraternally yours,

Attest:

James Curtis
Gran Secretary

Jason Ottwell
Grand Master
972.841.0667
jason@ottwell.com

JO/nc

Obituaries

Henry Ray Blahuta
July 29, 1935 — August 18, 2026

Henry Ray Blahuta passed on August 18, 2026, at the age of 91, in Dallas, Texas. He was born on July 29, 1935, to Louise Hrabal and Frank Blahuta in West, Texas.

Henry was a beloved member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the SPJST Lodge, and the Master Gardeners. He was a kind, generous man with a wonderful sense of humor. He will be missed greatly by all who knew and loved him.

He is survived by his brother, Norman Blahuta (Barbara); two nieces, Tracey and Donelle Blahuta; and two great-nieces, Hailey and Kiri Holch.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Louise Hrabal Blahuta; his father, Frank Blahuta; his wife, Lula "Lou" Plummer Blahuta. A memorial service will be held on September 12, 2026, at the Balch Springs Lodge No. 64 Lodge Hall at 12001 Crumpton Road, Balch Springs, Texas. A meal will be served at 5:00pm followed by a Celebration of Life service.

REBEKAH LODGES

- **DENTON LODGE NO. 18**

Meets 1st and 3rd Thursday -- 5:30 PM
@1415 E. Eden Lane, Denton, TX 76209
MAIL: P.O. Box 1233, Bridgeport, TX 76426
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
05/2027

- **ATHENS LODGE NO. 23**

Meets 2nd & 4th 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

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

UPCOMING *events*

DATE	EVENT	WHEN	WHERE
SEPTEMBER			
09/12/26	W. & O. Homes Board of Trustees Meeting	9:30am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
09/12/26	Grand Lodge Board of Trustees Meeting	11am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
09/13/26	78th Annual Homes Pilgrimage	12pm	I.O.O.F. Retirement Center, Ennis, TX
09/25/26	Grand Lodge Finance Committee Meeting	9:30am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
09/25/26	Odd Fellow News Deadline		All submissions are welcome.
09/26/26	I.O.O.F. Annual Picnic	12pm	I.O.O.F. Park, Corsicana, TX
09/26/26	Houston Heights #225 Sausage Fest	12pm-4pm	Houston Heights #225 Lodge Hall 115 E. 14th St., Houston TX 77008
OCTOBER			
10/10/26	W. & O. Homes Board of Trustees Meeting	9:30am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
10/10/26	Grand Lodge Board of Trustees Meeting	11am	Grand Lodge Admin. Bldg.
10/25/26	Odd Fellow News Deadline		All submissions are welcome.



**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!





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

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: 2nd & 4th Monday 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

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, 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 Saturday at 10:30 am, 3rd 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: P.O. Box 8051, San Antonio, TX 78208

Meets: 1st Monday at 8:30 pm; 3rd Saturday at 1:00 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

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 05/12/2026

FOR MORE INFORMATION:



www.iooftx.org



info@iooftx.org



844-872-7438