



THE IDAHO ODD FELLOW REBEKAH NEWS



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MOUNTAIN HOME, ID 83647

DECEMBER 2016

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Rebekahs Welcome the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree



Whitebird - It was a bright, sunny day on Wednesday November 9, when nearly 100 people gathered at a Highway pull-out, just outside of White Bird, Idaho, to view and welcome the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree on its showcase tour across America. More than a dozen members of the Royal Gem Rebekah Lodge hosted the 25+ Capitol Tree crew, serving lunch, which included an 'Idaho Baked Potato Bar'. The event took place at the Skookumchuck BLM Recreation Site on Hwy 95 just south of town, with the Salmon River as a backdrop. Originally, the 104' special tractor/truck - with accompanying Idaho 'Big Potato Truck' - was not planning a stop in White Bird. However, after the friendly invitation from several Rebekah sisters, the crew made this exception. The event was organized, and then promoted

via Facebook only 3 days before the event took place.

The 80' Engelmann Spruce tree was harvested in the Payette National Forest near McCall, Idaho and is spending a couple weeks touring Idaho, before making the 3,000 mile journey to the nation's capital, where it will sit on the west lawn of the U.S. Capitol Building for the 2016 Holiday Season

Turkey Dinner & Bingo!: For well over 50 years, the Royal Gem Rebekah Lodge in White Bird has been holding an important annual fund raiser in November - our home-made Turkey Dinner and Bingo event. On Sunday, November 13th, it was a record-setting day, with 225 dinners served - at least 40 more than last year! Bingo started at 11am, with great prizes and then at noon, dinner was served. From cooking 9 turkeys, mashing untold numbers of potatoes, preparing stuffing, green beans, home-made dinner rolls, umpteen pies and jellos, over 20 people volunteered to make this special community event a big success.

The White Bird Royal Gem Rebekah Lodge is extremely grateful to everyone who volunteered their time to help organize, publicize, set-up, clean-up, cook, bake and serve at both of these special events.

Submitted by Anna Ousley

Here are seven facts about Idaho's contribution to the holiday season.

1. The Capitol Christmas Tree differs from the National Christmas tree, which is planted near the White House and lit by the president and first lady. The Speaker of the House officially lights the Capitol tree, also known as "The People's Tree."

2. The U.S. Forest Service has provided the Capitol tree since 1970. The tree is required to be between 65 and 85 feet-tall, conical in shape and have full branches all around.

3. This is the second time Idaho has provided a Capitol tree. In 2003 it sent an Engelmann Spruce from the Boise National Forest.

4. Payette National Forest workers cut the 2016 tree with a cross-cut saw as a way of honoring the state's logging history.

5. The tree travels across the country in a special trailer with a Plexiglass window.

6. Along with providing a massive tree for the West Lawn, the selected state provides 70 smaller trees to be showcased throughout the Capitol.

7. In Washington, D.C., the tree will be decorated with thousands of ornaments created by Idahoans before being lit on Dec. 6.

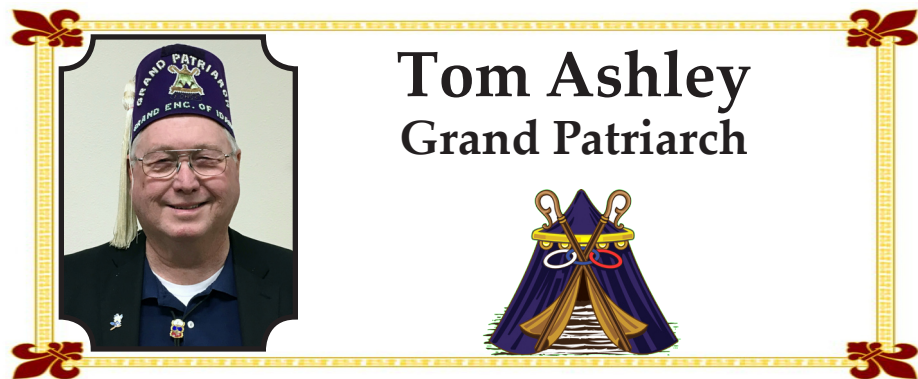
November - Just A Rambling Note From The Grand Secretary

I want to thank our past Grand Master Tom Ashley for his work he done last year. Welcome in our New Grand Master Stephen Mann he has some new ideas to share with the member's. He has only shown a few of his new ideas. Brother Danny Wood and Stephen had a lot of good conversation at session, letting Stephen know that he has to make decisions on his own with only advice from His Officers and the Grand Secretary. Danny also had good conversation with myself and clearly letting the Grand Secretary know his boundary and Danny would be checking in on Idaho.

This year lots of involvement with members in this session. It was great to see new faces in Grand lodge Ada #3 and Portnuef #20 it is good to see more members get involved. Marge Harlan was kept busy with four members getting the Grand lodge degree and one more on the second day. Our Sovereign Grand lodge Rep Danny Wood handed out three awards this year. We got the by-laws all worked out and passed this year, they will be sent off to SGL for final approval.

I want to thank James Weighall for all of his work due to Family health issues James did not take the Grand Treasurer position. I want to thank Donnie Marvin on taking the position. Also Welcome Glen Schultz our new Grand Warden.

In F.L&T
Jeff Mann GS



Dear Members:

As I begin this year as Grand Patriarch, it is with faith, hope and charity that I proceed in an effort to build and strengthen our Encampments here in Idaho.

I have faith that our existing members will start attending meetings to strengthen and add real purpose to our membership in each of our Encampments. It is also my hope that every eligible Odd Fellow member will join their closest Encampment to strengthen our order and further promote the ideals of odd fellowship. Charity should be our primary goal and we can and should make it the emphasis and purpose for each of our Encampments.

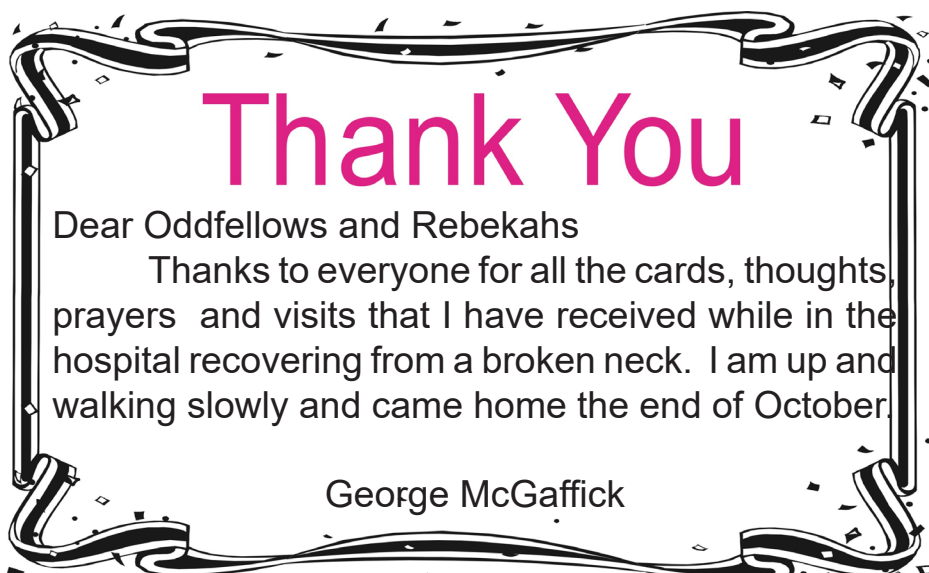
Our Grand Encampment session just concluded last month in Burley and the following were elected Grand Encampment officers for 2016/2017:

Grand Patriarch, Tom Ashley
Grand High Priest, Jerry North
Grand Senior Warden, Bob Covert
Grand Junior Warden, Jeff Mann
Grand Treasurer, Dan Sanow
Grand Scribe, Merna Deland (serving second year of two year term)

I am looking forward to visiting all the Encampments in Idaho and discuss ways to build and improve our branch of the order.

Let's all work together as members to promote the ideals of our order and make a difference in our homes, lodges, encampments, cantons, and communities. We are all the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In F, H, and C,
Tom Ashley, Grand Patriarch



COMING EVENTS 2016 ~ 2017

DECEMBER

03	#3 CHRISTMAS PARTY	BOISE 6PM
10	#40 CHRISTMAS PARTY	NAMPA 6PM

JANUARY

14	DIST 4 JOINT INSTALL	BOISE
21	DIST 3 JOINT INSTALL	MTN. HOME
28	BATTALION MEETING	BOISE 10AM

FEBRUARY

11	DIST 4 REB. MEETING	CALDWELL
17	PLANNING BOARD	CALDWELL 10AM
18	DIST 4 O.F. MEETING	CALDWELL
25	DIST 5 O.F. MEETING	PAYETTE

MARCH

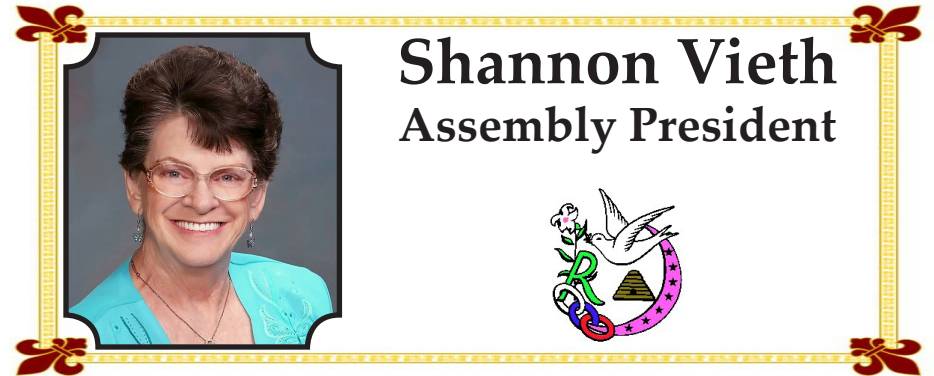
11	DIST 3 JOINT MEETING	MTN. HOME
18	DIST 1 REB MEETING	POCATELLO
25	DIST 1 O.F. MEETING	POCATELLO

APRIL

01	DIST 4 ENCAMPMENT	???
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Stephen Mann
Grand Master



Shannon Vieth
Assembly President

Dear members,

By the time you read this I will have made my first official visit as Grand Master. I hope that everyone is doing well in the jurisdiction. Everyone should be getting ready for election of Officers in their lodges and I hope that they will have some new people getting elected as officers of the lodge.

There will be upcoming Christmas parties that I will be attending at both Nampa #40 and Ada #3. These are always great events to attend with many members in attendance at both of these events. I hope to see a high attendance there.

Now on to a little more serious business that I feel that everyone should remember part of the meaning of Odd Fellowship. This is just a little bit of information from the Sovereign Grand Lodge website. It was all written in the masculine so I made a few edits that keeps the message clear.

An Odd Fellow bases his or her thoughts and actions on healthy philosophical principles. He or she believes that life is a commitment to improve and elevate the character of humanity through service and example. He or she is humble in a way that he or she never boasts about themselves. He or she knows and accepts his or her strengths and weaknesses and keeps away from badmouthing people and making unreasonable allegations. He or she understands that certain things in life are unavoidable. He or she is aware of the vanity of earthly things, the frailty and inevitable decay of human life and the fact that wealth has no power to stop the sureness of eventual death. He or she then asks the question, "How am I going to spend my life?"

I feel that this will help us to find new members that will truly help our order. I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and hope that you are having a joyous time with the entire holiday season.

Goals

To increase membership and to retain active membership in local lodges and the jurisdiction.

To increase awareness and raise the visibility of the Order. Encourage membership to look to the future of the Order.

Dear Sisters and Brothers;

Here it is, just a few short weeks from Assembly and I am already starting my travels. I went to North West Association in Portland early in November, joined LAPM and attended my first meeting, and went to the Thanksgiving Dinner in Mountain Home. I plan on attending as many of your Lodge or Districts Special Events as I can. This will all depend on the weather, of course.

I know that we are all very busy at this time of year, and we sometimes think 'It will be ok to miss a meeting'. The problem with this is that we get in the habit of "finding" some excuse to not go to our lodge meetings. I know that when my children were small, I really enjoyed the fellowship at the meetings. And now that they are grown and away from home (grandchildren too), I look forward to my meetings. Getting new ideas, planning events for our community, and I still enjoy the fellowship from all of the lodges that I belong to.

I would like to put a challenge out to all of the Rebekah Lodges and Odd Fellow Lodges to try do one project for your community this season. It could be making door decorations for those in assisted living facilities; having a food drive for your local food bank; donating personal items to the homeless shelters, or any other ideas you may have.

I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please drive safe and enjoy the holidays with your families and friends.

In F. L & T.

Shannon Vieth, Assembly President

Fun Projects

Community Service Projects & Working With Disabled

Awareness



December - Just A Rambling Note From The Grand Secretary

I hope the past few months have been good. The end of the year is just a month away. I hope everyone had a good thanksgiving spending time with your family. Idaho Grand Sessions are all over, we have a lot of new faces. I want to Thank James Weighall Sr for a great job he did as Grand Treasurer I was sorry to see James leave due to family Health issues. Welcome our new Grand Treasurer Donnie Marvin, he is well on his way to learning how Grand Lodge operates. His father in-law Frank Markham was grand Treasurer, things in the office have changed since Frank was here and I know Donnie will do a great job.

Lodge Secretaries if you have not seen the year-end report, please call me they were sent before Thanksgiving. There are some changes in the report this year due to Sovereign Grand Lodge needing more information for their reports. Also we will need your lodge address and contact information for the directory. This helps if a member need to get in contact with you. Please file your 990 with the state. SGL is still working on getting this resolved.

I want to thank everyone for their hard work at sessions this year. Thank You to the Registration team and Connie Evans she did a great job. There was a few bumps but overall it came off well this year. It was different having a buffet type of meals. Remember Boise and Nampa will be having their annual Christmas party's Boise Dec 3, Nampa Dec 10 anyone wishing to join please RSVP them.

In F.L&T Jeff Mann G.S.

United Nations Educational Pilgrimage for Youth

Exciting News! The Board of Directors of the UN Educational Pilgrimage for Youth Inc., has announced the dates for the 2017 United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth Tour Program, with no price increase!

Tour Dates: July 8 – 25, 2017

2017 Deadlines Idaho United Nations Educational Pilgrimage for Youth:

January 15, 2017- Declare number of delegates Payments of 50% of delegate's fee (\$800.00). Non Refundable Deposit!

Submit name of Tour Leader with application for approval by the UNEPY, Inc. Board of Directors. Declare sponsorship of Tour Leader. I will submit application to the Grand Master and Assembly President for approval.

April 1, 2017 - Final Payment of delegate fee (\$800.00). Full payment of Tour Leader fees. **Fees: Full two weeks tour \$1600.0**

Full two weeks Tour Leader \$1300.00

Lodge will also be responsible for the cost of round trip airfare from Boise to Philadelphia. We must receive your information and payments by the dates listed above in order to meet the deadlines specified by the Executive Director of the program. Fees and forms are to be mailed to:

Glen Schultz, 9539 W. Applying DR. Boise Idaho 83704 (makes checks payable to UNEP) Please send me an email or call so I know you are sponsoring a delegate.

Please include this topic at your next meeting and consider being a tour leader or sponsoring a youth from your community for this outstanding educational opportunity. Also let me know if there is some way that I can assist you and your lodge in furthering this program.

In FLT
Glen Schultz, 208-871-7893
lovbroncos@aol.com



CORRECTION!!!! CORRECTION!!!!



Rose DeHaven & George McGaffick

Caldwell - Sister Rose has been a member for 30 years, not 35 years, as stated in September's paper.

Sister Rose DeHaven, of Gem of the Mountains, received her 30 year pin from Noble Grand George McGaffick, at their meeting September 6, 2016. During the past 30 years Rose has

held the office of Noble Grand, Vice Grand, Treasurer, and Musician, Supporters, Warden and Conductor, Guardians and Chaplain. Easier to say Sister Rose has held all of the offices, except Secretary. Rose is also an Associate Member in several of the Lodges in the area.

Submitted by Sandie Chandler

District 4 Joint Installation

District 4 will have Joint Installation of officers on Saturday January 14 at the Ada Lodge #3 in Boise Idaho. The program will start at 2:00 P.M. This will include Nampa #40, Melba #105, Caldwell #10, Pansy #37, Unity #8, Ada #3, Pioneer #1 and Gem of the Mountain #5. Gem of the Mountain #5 will also have a meeting prior to the installation starting at 12:30 P.M. See you all there!

DDGM Glen Schultz

Jeff and Steven Mann Receive Award



Burley - On October 19 2016, Jeff Mann and Steven Mann receive the Medallion Award from Junior Past Sovereign Grand Master Danny Wood, at the 134th Grand Sessions of Idaho, for dedication and achievement to the Order. Congratulation to Both of you!

Submitted by Glen Schultz

Pres. Shannon & Sis. Wava Attend Northwest Odd Fellows Association



Portland - I accompanied our Rebekah Assembly President, Shannon Vieth, to the Northwest Meeting that was held in Portland, OR. The host committee had a wonderful trip to Multnomah Falls where the first picture was taken. We had a very good time, and learned a lot because there were so many dignitaries from Sovereign Grand Lodge, IARA and IALAPM.

Shannon sold tickets for her Afghan and Quilt and her pins. The people at Northwest were very generous in their donations.

I would like to thank all of the people who attended this event, for making it so interesting and enjoyable. Looking forward to attending the next Northwest in Post Falls in April.

Wava Murphy, Noble Grand
Ivy Rebekah Lodge #23



You're Invited



Dear Friends and Family:

Nampa Lodge #40 is again having its annual Christmas party and dinner to be held Saturday, December 10, 2016 at 6:00 pm at the Nampa Lodge Hall, 204 12th Ave South, Nampa, Idaho. The Odd Fellows Lodge will serve roast turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, dressing, and gravy. We ask those attending to bring a side dish, salad or dessert.

Santa, Mrs. Santa and some elves will arrive during the evening and give all children 12 and under a present provided by Melba Rebekah Lodge #105. Please give us an idea of what your child likes. Please no request for clothes. Call 442-4413 or 465-7513 to let us know. We need this information by December 5, 2016.

We are asking all adults to bring an unwrapped child's gift to be donated to the "TOY'S-FOR-TOT'S" program. The Masons will also be sponsoring a raffle with proceeds going to a local charity.

This year we will also be having some musical entertainment for your enjoyment. We have had great times in past years, so please come and join in the festivities. We are looking forward to seeing you.

Nampa Lodge #40, I.O.O.F.



Historical Society

Caldwell - I want to thank the lodges that have donated to some of our many things we are updating in the building. Both office bathrooms we be getting new low flow toilets. The Rebekah's office will be getting some new blinds as ordered by Vicky, the downstairs bathroom toilets replaced. I want to thank Ada #3, Unity #8, Caldwell #10, Mizpah #12, Portnuef #20, Nampa #40, and Melba #105. The Museum got the new roof on the building and the broken skylight covered up.

The Historical luncheon at grand lodge was well attended. We had a nice DVD playing showing a lot of the items in the museum. We are going to get this apart of the website so anyone can view on line. We have had a few members comment that the pillars are not straight. We are working on getting them straightened up if the weather will hold. We are having a work party on the pillars. If anyone know a metal fabricator to remake the sign that hung between the pillars.

In F.L&T
Stewart Smith

Melba #105



Nampa - Melba Lodge #105 had some VERY strange people at their meeting held October 26, 2016. We had a good Clown (not the one that has been terrorizing people), Count Dracula, the good Witch and her friendly spider, Rebekah Homemaker, and Rag Time Piano Player (who once again made those ivies alive). We also had a cow girl, a confused person (didn't know if it was Christmas or Halloween), and several lovely Rebekahs.

It was also reported that Brother Tom Ashley had lost his "doggy ears" at Assembly; therefore, Sister Jelene Baird presented a new set of ears to Count Dracula for Brother Tom.

Fun was had by all and hopefully next year you can join us!

Submitted by Sandie Chandler

Grand Encampment Officers



From left to right, Guest, Junior PSG Master Danny Wood; Grand Senior Warden, Bob Covert; Guest General Commander DMC, Dan Matthews; Past Chief Patriarch, Gene Pola; Grand Patriarch Tom Ashley; Grand High Priest, Jerry North; Grand Scribe, Merna Deland and Grand Junior Warden Jeff Mann

Last issue identified Brother Jerry North as the Grand Treasurer; he is not. Brother Dan Sanow, (not pictured), is the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Encampment and Jerry North is the Grand High Priest.

Merry Christmas



Mountain Home Dishes Up Fun and Surprises at Annual Thanksgiving Dinner



Linda Hopkin & Jay Eaton



Stephen Mann & Kathryn Harlan

Mountain Home - On Thursday, November 17th, Mountain Home IOOF Lodge #19 hosted the annual Odd Fellow and Rebekah Thanksgiving Community Dinner at their hall. As is our tradition, the Grandmaster, Brother Stephen Mann, made the dinner his official visit and was joined by 10 other Idaho dignitaries representing elected offices from all Grand Bodies of the Order – what an honor! Total in attendance for the evening was 57, which also included a few families from the community who enjoyed sharing our meal with us.

Beyond the wonderful fellowship we all shared, the evening was marked by speeches from the Grandmaster, who encouraged members to continue to find ways to grow in their communities and build membership. After the Grandmaster's speech, Noble Grand Linda Hopkins presented him with a card and check from the lodge, as well as her traditional crocheted bookmark bearing the 3 links and Mountain Home Lodge #19's name. Honors and awards then were presented to two of Mountain Home #19's surprised members. Brother Jay Eaton was presented with a Good Samaritan Award for all his hard work and dedication to visiting the sick and helping the distressed within our community and Sister Kathryn Harlan was presented with the Odd Fellows Merit Jewel for her work running the IPLAY instrument program since 2013. Lastly, some attendees left the dinner with door-prizes of hand-made centerpiece mats, also crocheted by Noble Grand Linda Hopkins.

A big Thank You goes out to all members who joined us and brought not only their delicious dishes, but more importantly their warm fellowship and caring hearts. We always love seeing our Brothers and Sisters from around the state, and appreciate so very much the long travels that are made to share these evenings with us!

In FL&T,
Kathryn Harlan, Lodge Reporter



Idaho Members Attend Testimonial in Portland



Donnie Marvin, Marge Harlan, & Lt. Gen. Ken Lasswell, DGC

SGL Secretary Executive Adjutant General, Terry Barrett. Interesting messages were given by all of these dignitaries either at the dinner or during the meetings that they also attended, all of them focusing on our problem of membership growth and a few ideas to help us attract new members. A very beautiful ceremony was presented by six members from the Royal Rosarian Association, "Official Greeters and Ambassadors of Goodwill for the City of Portland" who brought an official welcome to General Dan from the Mayor of Portland. They were dressed in white with capes of white and gold with beautiful Roses applied on them and white straw hats.

The winner of the raffle to win a red, white, and blue afghan was announced, proceeds going to raise money for Dan's travel expenses. The Idaho Battalion also presented Gen. Dan with some travel money as did others, the biggest being a whopping \$5000.00 given to him by the Grand Lodge of Oregon. During the message from Lt. General Ken Lasswell, Deputy General Commanding of the GMC, Special Recognition Awards were handed out to some of the members from the Department Council Meeting which included our Idaho members Donnie Marvin and Marge Harlan. It isn't often an opportunity to attend one of the various Testimonials of our International Officers held every year comes up so close that we can attend. This was a beautiful event that our Idaho members enjoyed being at.

Submitted by Pat Marvin

Pacific North West Fall Meeting

Portland - Idaho Canton and LAPM members attended the Pacific North West Department Council and Department Association meetings November 4th in Portland, Oregon. The Department Council meeting was attended by 14 members and 17 visitors; those visitors being officers from the General Military Council in attendance for Gen. Dan Mathews Testimonial the next day. Newly elected officers were Department Council Commander, Brig. Gen, Greig Simpson from British Columbia, Canada, Col. Donnie Marvin, Vice Commander from Idaho and Gen. Dan Mathews, Clerk of Oregon. The Department Association meeting also had extra visitors due to the Testimonial, one being Lady Tracy Boyer, IALAPM President. New officers elected were Lady Georgia Wickham, President, Lady Pat Marvin, Vice President both from Idaho and Lady Susan Jackson, Treasurer. Lady Georgia was awarded the medallion award from the IARA representative. The Joint Installation of officers was held and officiated by officers from the GMC and the IALAPM and then later the Department Council and Department Association performed the Decoration of Chivalry Ceremony. The next meeting of the Department Council will be held in April in Post Falls, ID.



Brig.Gen, Greig Simpson. Col. Donnie Marvin, Gen. Dan Mathews Pres. Georgia Wickham, V.Pres. Pat Marvin & Tres. Susan Jackson

Submitted by Pat Marvin

The SGL - IARA Membership Program
SPONSOR of NEW MEMBER

Sponsor Name _____
 New Member's Lodge _____
 Lodge Secretary Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State/Province _____
 Postal/Zip Code _____



NEW MEMBER

Date Admitted _____ Bro. ___ Sis. ___
 Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State/Province _____
 Postal/Zip Code _____
 Date of Birth: M/D/Y _____
 E-mail: _____
 Phone: _____

THE IDAHO ODD FELLOW
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Articles and pictures must be received by the Editor no later than the 18th in order to be published in the next month's issue. The Editor and Editorial Board reserve the right to edit all articles submitted for publication and do not hold ourselves responsible for views or opinions expressed by our correspondents.



Just The Facts

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The Idaho Odd Fellow Rebekah News is published twelve times a year by the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly of Idaho, I.O.O.F.

Stephen Mann ~ Grand Master
 Shannon Vieth ~ Assembly President

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