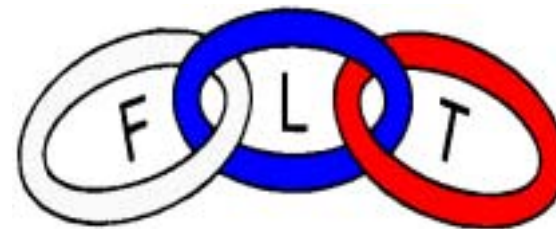




Independent Order of Odd Fellows
Kenneth Higgins, Grand Secretary
P. O. Box 336
Fulton, MO 65251

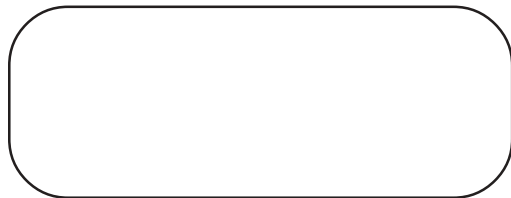
Prsrt Std
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 336
Zip Code 65251



Missouri Independent Order of Odd Fellows News

March 2008

Issue 3



GREETINGS FROM THE GRAND PATRIARCH AND GRAND MATRIARCH OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT AND LADIES ENCAMPMENT AUXILIARY OF MISSOURI

It has been an unusual winter across our great State of Missouri and we hope that everyone has survived the ice and snow and cold.

We wish to congratulate the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly of Missouri for all your efforts to build up our order. Many new things have come about since May of last year and it has been very exciting.

We wish to thank all of you for allowing us to serve together as the Grand Patriarch and Grand Matriarch. With the uncertainty of the weather all around us, we have not done any traveling, but hope to be able to try to visit as many of you as possible before October.

With the new month of March comes the promise of Spring and Spring is a time of growth. With all the growth taking place in the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges and new Youth Lodges springing up, it is time to bring life into our Encampments and Ladies Encampment Auxiliaries.

We wish all of you a Blessed Easter.

Norman Schultheis, Grand Patriarch
Carolyn Schultheis, Grand Matriarch

MESSAGE FROM DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

Greetings from the Department Council of Missouri Patriarchs Militant! I would like to express my thanks to all canton members for the honor of serving in this position. As I start my term as Commander, I would like to extend an invitation to all Brothers and Sisters to join the Patriarch Militant branch of I.O.O.F. or to form a new canton.

If I can be of assistance to you, I can be reached at the following numbers or addresses: 660-848-2740, cell 573-489-8741; home address 106 W. Market Street, New Franklin, MO 65274; e-mail address bparr5851@sbcglobal.net. If all cantons will supply the Department Adjutant with the correct address (street number and name) as well as the date and time of your meeting this will help me greatly in making visits to your canton. I will use a GPS to find your meeting headquarters and need complete address information to use this unit. I will certainly try to visit each canton in the next year.

A new canton will be instituted at Salem, Missouri for the Bell/Saint James/Rolla area on April 19th. Salem Lodge 118 has agreed to let us hold the degrees and institution in their lodge hall. We appreciate their help.

Another new canton will be instituted in Gladstone on March 29th. I am sorry to say I will be unable to attend. The date for this institution was set before I was notified and I had a prior commitment out of state on that date.

Again, if there is anything I can do to help your canton, please contact me.

William C. Parr
Department Commander



It has been an honor for me to serve as Grand Master for 2007-2008 in the jurisdiction of Missouri.

We hit the ground running after the 2007 session by creating a Membership Task Force and implementing many projects to stimulate the growth of our

Order.

The Task Force and I set a goal of five new subordinate lodges, two United Youth Lodges and 10% growth in membership while working to help strengthen our existing lodges. At this time we have instituted four new subordinate lodges with two more in the planning stages. We have also instituted three new United Youth Lodges and are working with five other lodges in the state to help them recruit youth for lodges in their communities.

I know we have gained many new members, not only in the newly instituted lodges but from our existing lodges as well. We will have to wait until the 2008 session to see how we have done on meeting the 10% membership growth. I truly feel before the Grand Lodge session we will have met or surpassed all of our goals!

I'm very proud of each and everyone who joined in to "**MAKE IT HAPPEN**" in Missouri. As I travel throughout the state, I feel a new enthusiasm among the members for our Fraternal Order.

Together we have shown the other jurisdictions that you can "**MAKE IT HAPPEN**" if you work together, move in a positive way and try new ideas to promote Odd Fellowship. Remember - *Nothing is difficult for those that have the will.*

Again thank you!

James Martin, Grand Master
Grand Lodge of Missouri

Another Assembly year is quickly approaching an end. With the help of the Grand Master, we have made great strides in Missouri this year. We have added many members and have participated in creating a Youth Lodge. As of this writing we have two Youth Lodges in Missouri and are working on two more. The Youth represent the survival of our order.

I am very pleased to see that many of you have come together and have worked at being Rebekahs. I have visited lodges that have restarted and some that are really pulling

together to live up to my motto of "Practice What We Preach". Practice, Friendship, Love and Truth."

I want to thank all of you who opened up your lodges, your hearts and even your homes to me these past three years. Being President of the Rebekah Assembly of

Missouri is a huge task with many responsibilities. It is very rewarding in that I met so many of you and it gave me a chance to begin new friendships and learn who my friends really are. It also gave Norman and me a chance to travel all over our beautiful state. We were in towns that we did not know even existed and we were very surprised to learn that many famous people came from those small towns.

As I prepare to turn the gavel over to Beverly and Melody, I hope that you will treat them with the same courtesies you afforded me.

Thank you again for this wonderful opportunity and remember to PRACTICE WHAT WE PREACH. Practice FRIENDSHIP, LOVE AND TRUTH.

Carolyn Schultheis, President
Rebekah Assembly of Missouri



Charisma, luck or just old-fashion hard work our Grand Master has managed to put together a plan that has moved Missouri into the spotlight. His belief that it could be done and his stubborn non stop approach has been contagious through out the Order and it continues to grow. We have instituted four regular lodges and three youth lodges with at least one each coming in the very near future this term.

The Task Force is currently working in the Branson area and we hope to see a lodge there very soon as well. They are also working with five other lodges to start youth lodges. All of this growth in my opinion is due to the hard work of so many members through out the state that have caught the fever and bought into the plan of Grand Master Martin. Maybe we should rename him Farmer Jim.

I think he would agree that he has planted seeds and from that we are having an abundant crop this term. My hope is to continue this plan by empowering our members to reach out to all members of our communities and let them know Odd Fellowship is alive and growing in Missouri and invite them to be part of our march to the future. I want to personally thank all who have been part of this fantastic year.

Fraternally,
Tom Lancaster, DGM

Happenings in Missouri

Pictured here are Trent and Troy Kull members of Adair Lodge 96 in Kirksville. They are the sons of Cathy and Earl Kull. They visited the Knox County R-1 school in Edina.



Edgerton Lodge 36 was instituted on March 8, 2008. A degree with 14 candidates receiving the Initiatory Degree, 19 receiving the First Degree and 20 receiving each the Second and Third Degrees was held. Congratulations to Tod Rose for all of his hard work in putting this all together. Thanks also to Oliver P. Gentry Lodge 877 for providing the meal. There were 15 different Lodges represented including: Gladstone, Butler, Missouri City, Excelsior Springs, Smithville, Trenton, Agency, Windsor, Boonville, Columbia, Blue Springs, Fulton, Warrensburg, Higginsville, Oak Grove plus Edgerton. What a wonderful display of support for a new Odd Fellow Lodge.



On Saturday, March 8, the South Central United Youth Lodge #3 was instituted in Rolla under the direction of Grand Master James Martin. The members initiated were Dakota Taylor, Tiffany Lenay, Jordan Standley, Tiffany Taylor and Chris Rathgeber. The adult advisors will be Lloyd Rathgeber and Sabrina Taylor.

Grand Warden, Larry Nelson and Past Grand Master Darrell Cope helped with the institution of the lodge and installation of the new officers. Members from Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges throughout the state were in attendance to witness this historic event. New President, Chris Rathgeber, thanked everyone for attending.

LIVING LEGACY PROGRAM

The Living Legacy Program was the idea of Sovereign Grand Master Wilson D. Berkey who in 1989 noticed many dead trees in a jurisdiction he was visiting, and decided to do something about it. The program has been an approved program of The Sovereign Grand Lodge ever since.

Arbor Day is an opportune day to plant trees, shrubs, plants, etc. Arbor Day is celebrated at different times in different States, but in Missouri it is the first Friday in April of each year. It was started in 1872 and has continued ever since.

Plant a tree for those who come after me is a good motto. Lodges/Members can plant trees or purchase the trees and many Boy Scout Troops will do the planting for you. This year has been extra hard on our trees due to the ice storms.

Please give this some thought. Make a memorial donation by planting something that will last a long time. Once you have planted the trees, etc., please notify the Grand Lodge Office so it can be reported to The Sovereign Grand Lodge and you can get some recognition for your efforts.

**GRAND LODGE & REBEKAH ASSEMBLY INFORMATION FOR 2008 SESSIONS
SUNDAY, MAY 18 THROUGH TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2008**

Kenneth Higgins, General Chairman
PO Box 336
Fulton, MO 65251-0336
Telephone: 573-642-3573
Email: kennethhiggins77@sbcglobal.net

Lorraine Strain, Assembly Chairperson
101 Grand Ave
Gilman City, MO 64642
Telephone: 660-876-5794
Email: lmstrain@grm.net

HEADQUARTERS & MEETINGS WILL BE AT:

Capitol Plaza Hotel
415 W McCarty St
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Telephone: 573.635.1234 Fax: 573-635-9485

NOTE: Each person will make their own reservations with the Capitol Plaza Hotel.. You may call or fax your reservation. You need to furnish name, telephone number, type of room desired, and form of guarantee (Credit card with expiration date) Please tell them you are with the Odd Fellows Organization. **If you have special needs, let them know when you make your reservations. All rooms are accessible via elevator, however if you have a walking problem you may want to ask for a room close to the elevator.** Rate is \$59.00/night plus tax for one to four people per room. Room rates start on Saturday in the event you want to come a day earlier. **CUTOFF DATE IS April 17, 2008. Check-in Time is 3:00 PM.**

REGISTRATION FEE is \$15.00/person up to May 10, 2008. Those after that date and at the sessions are \$20.00. The banquet honoring the Grand Master and Assembly President will be on Sunday, May 18, 2007 at 6:30 P.M. Cost of the banquet is **\$28.00 /Person.** **CUT-OFF** date for pre-registration and banquet is **May 10, 2008. Make all checks payable to GRAND LODGE OF MISSOURI. Lunch on Monday at noon at \$12.00 all inclusive (EXCEPT TIP) and reservations must be made and paid for in advance for this.**

All banquet tickets and registration badges will be held at the Registration Desk. Registration starts on Sunday, May 18th at 1:00 P.M. in the Main Lobby. Worship & Memorial Services start at 3:00 P.M. on Sunday. Check Program upon arrival for time and place of all events. Please check carefully so you don't miss anything. There is no Hospitality Room this year, but we have other events planned.

CUT OFF HERE AND SEND THIS PORTION TO GENERAL CHAIRMAN KENNETH HIGGINS AT PO BOX 336 – FULTON, MO 65251 GIVING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO GRAND LODGE OF MISSOURI....

NAME _____ ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE AND/OR E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

REGISTRATION: Please state if you are a past or present officer, representative, delegate or a visitor or a "Rank & File" member:

NAME	LODGE NAME & NUMBER	TITLE

HOW MANY BANQUET TICKETS ARE YOU PURCHASING @ \$28.00 _____
HOW MANY REGISTRATIONS ARE YOU MAKING @ \$15.00 _____
HOW MANY LATE REGISTRATIONS ARE YOU MAKING @ \$20.00 _____
HOW MANY MONDAY LUNCHEON TICKETS @ \$12.00 _____
AMOUNT ENCLOSED FOR BANQUET & REGISTRATION _____



Past Noble Grand Pin Presented

On January 2, 2008, 98 year old Eleanore Norris was presented her PNG pin by Glenn Chandler, District Deputy for District #13 of Rebekah Lodges of Missouri I.O.O.F.

Eleanore was NG for the year of 2007 of Rebekah Lodge #15 of Trenton, MO. Others pictured are Annette Brodie, Anna Harvey, and Brenda Harvey.



Pictured above: Clifford Thurston, Lee Rauhut, Rune Rodstad, from Norway, William Carr, III, Larry Sisco

The membership of St. Louis #5 was recently honored with a visit from Rune Rodstad. He is from the country of Norway.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Missouri
James G. Martin, Grand Master
and
Carolyn Schultheis, Assembly President
cordially invite you to a Reception
on
Monday, May 19, 2008
from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
at the
Missouri Governor's Mansion
100 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri
Reception Attire

Reservations are required by April 1, 2008, and can be made by sending a check for \$35 per person, along with your name and complete address(es). Checks should be made payable to Grand Lodge of Missouri IOOF and sent to Post Office Box 336, Fulton, Missouri 65251.