

IOOF
ODD FELLOWS/REBEKAHS OF MAINE

DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR

**JANUARY 15 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOVEREIGN
GRAND LODGE, I.O.O.F.**

**JANUARY 15 ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTHDAY OF THOMAS
WILDEY, FOUNDER OF OUR ORDER.**

**ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO THE TOMB 2 TO 5 MAY 2025. DE-
TAILS ABOUT THE BUS TRIP WILL BE IN THE FEBRUARY NEWS-
LETTER. SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE INFORMATION. FORMS FOR
THE EVENT ARE ON THE "IOOF.ORG" WEBSITE UNDER UP-
COMING EVENTS.**

LODGE OF SORROW

**SABATTUS RIVER #26 PG NELSON WENTWORTH PASSED
AWAY 11/30/2024.**

**BROOKLIN #133 GUILFORD W. FULL PASSED AWAY
07/06/2024**

BROOKLIN #133 RONALD FOWLE PASSED AWAY 10/30/2024

**JOSHUA DAVIS #145 RONALD DAHLEN PASSED AWAY
11/10/2024.**

BLUE HILL #79 PETER C. O'BRIEN PASSED AWAY 11/26/2024

**FORMALLY OF BANNER REBEKAH LODGE #22 GLORIA JONES
HARRIMAN PASSED AWAY 11/26/2024.**

**Traditional Duties of
an Odd Fellow Are:**

- To visit the sick
- To relieve the distressed
- To bury the dead
- To Educate the Orphan
Helping others to
build a better World

**THERE IS A PROJECT
YOUR LODGE CAN DO
OVER THE NEXT FOUR
MONTHS. THE IARA
PRESIDENT IS ASKING
FOR KNITTED HATS.
PREME HATS FOR BA-
BIES AND PEOPLE IN
HOSPITALS ALL THE
WAY UP TO AGE 102. IF
YOU WOULD LIKE TO
DONATE SOME HATS**

**JANUARY
2025**



GRAND MASTER'S LETTER JANUARY 2025

Greetings.

I trust everyone has had a great Holiday season!

As we jump into 2025, I would like everyone to be aware of the many exciting things that are taking place throughout ODD FELLOWSHIP in Maine and beyond, I am announcing my Calendar raffle for March to benefit my project Camp NEOFA. Tickets are on sale starting 1 January and will run through the end of February,

Also, a heads up for plans to do a bike-a-thon later in the spring, Information will be coming as soon as the planning is done,

If your lodge is having an event please contact us so that we can promote it! That is what Odd Fellowship is all about!

Looking forward to a great 2025,

Truly and Sincerely Submitted.

Richard A. McLaughlin

Grand Master Maine IOOF

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Ninety First I.O.O.F. Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns

May 2-4, 2025, Arlington, Virginia

Greetings to all members, families and friends of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. You are cordially invited to attend the Ninety First Annual Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns. Members of all units of the Order are encouraged to participate. The Pilgrimage Committee is pleased to provide the following information about this annual event.

The 2025 Pilgrimage will take place on Sunday, May 4 at Arlington National Cemetery. The memorial services will begin at noon followed by the wreath laying ceremonies at the Tomb immediately after the 1:00 p.m. changing of the guard. Please note the dates and times the program will be held. The Pilgrimage address at the Tomb will be delivered by the Honorable Gerald V. Workman, Sovereign Grand Master.

The Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, at 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22311, will be our headquarters. Room reservations are to be made directly with the hotel, at toll-free 1-800-Hiltons (1-800-445-8667) or 1-703-845-1010. You MUST mention "Odd Fellows Pilgrimage" when reserving your room to receive the special rate of \$136 for up to four (4) in a room. All room rates are subject to applicable hotel tax. (See attached information about hotel accommodations).

The annual Pilgrimage banquet will be held in the hotel on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at 7:00 PM. (Advance ticket purchase required - see attached pre-registration form.) A social hour will be held from 5:45 PM to 6:45 PM. After the banquet, all present will have the opportunity to meet and greet the Honorable Gerald V. Workman, Sovereign Grand Master, Sovereign Grand Lodge from the Jurisdiction of West Virginia, Sister C. A. 'Mira' Pittman, President, International Association of Rebekah Assemblies from the Jurisdiction of Colorado, and General G. L. 'Jeff' Lasswell, General Commanding, General Military Council, Patriarchs Militant, from the Jurisdiction of Illinois.

We recommend that you schedule flights to and from Ronald Reagan National Airport (DCA), the nearest airport to the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center. The hotel no longer offers shuttle service. However, other transportation services are available from the airport. The Washington metro area is also served by Dulles International Airport (IAD), located 30 miles southwest of the Capital in Northern Virginia. Metro subway service is now available from Dulles with several stops in Northern Virginia from which you can get transportation to the hotel. Please note the event could be cancelled at the last minute by the military; therefore, travel arrangements should be made accordingly. In addition, masks may be required for events if circumstances warrant it.



Grand Master Richard and Grand Warden Michele at the Home XMAS party.



**CHERYL HOLT, NANCY ANDERSON, VERNA JONES, MARILEE PERKINS,
AND DEBRA HARNEY.**

**THE GRAND MASTER'S ELVES FOR THE HOME CHRISTMAS PARTY
WHO SPENT SEVERAL DAYS SHOPPING AND WRAPPING PRESENTS.**



Wreaths across America, Grand Warden Michele center next to Asst. Assembly Secretary Deb Harney.

NOTES

Grand Master Richard has two problems with his right eye, he has a cataract and a detached retina. On 12/19/2024 he had cataract surgery which went well, and he is scheduled for a 3 hour surgery on 01/08/2025 to reattach the retina. Prayers would be appreciated.



**8 new candidates from Gov. Brooks Lodge #142
take their Initiatory Degree at Blue Hill Lodge #79**

ODD FELLOWS OF MAINE

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