Celebrating 200 Years Of Odd Fellowship in 2019!

April 26, 2019 Marks the 200th Anniversary of the Self Institution of Washington Lodge No. 1 by Thomas Wildey.

Washington Lodge, No. 1, of Baltimore, was organized 26 April 1819 under the leadership of Thomas Wildey, now recognized as the founder of American Odd Fellowship.

Thomas Wildey was born in London, England, January 15, 1782. He was left an orphan five years later – and the Odd Fellow pledge to “Educate the Orphan” sprang from his personal childhood experiences. At the age of 14, Wildey went to live with an uncle. After he had 9 years of schooling, he became an apprentice to a maker of coach springs. He was initiatd into the Odd Fellows in 1804 on reaching manhood (age of 21) in which he distinguished himself by his zeal and integrity and quickly “passed the chairs”.

When restlessness brought Thomas Wildey to America in 1817, the British were still unpopular in the States because of the War of 1812. In that year Baltimore was suffering both a yellow fever epidemic and mass unemployment. An outgoing personality, Wildey missed companionship and was determined to find if there were any other Odd Fellows in Baltimore.

It took Wildey two attempts, on 13 Feb. 1819, when he advertised in the Baltimore American; and, again, 27 March 1819, before the required “five for a quorum” had been obtained. On the 26th of April 1819 in the Seven Stars Tavern the five self-instituted Washington Lodge No. 1. Those 5 members were: Thomas Wildey, John P. Entwisle, John Welsch, James Gettys, and James L. Ridegely.

A charter was received from Duke of York Lodge in Preston, England of the Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows in 1820, a year and a half after its self-institution, giving Washington Lodge the authority to institute lodges all over the United States.

(Odd Fellows reached America before the 1800’s but most of the lodges were self-established without authorization from the Odd Fellows in England. Many lodges were formed but each was independent from each other.)

(FYI: The first Junior Lodge was authorized in 1921 and was called the Loyal Sons of the Junior Order of Odd Fellows. The first Theta Rho Girls Club was authorized in 1931.)

***For more information on the history of Odd Fellowship, please visit the web site at iof.org/history

“Pin Design”  
“Advisor of the Year”  
“Community Service Recognition”

Judging for Contests for Youth will be May 4, 2019!
The Youth Informer continues looking forward to upcoming articles from our leaders to share with the Youth!

Douglas E. Pittman
Sovereign Grand Master
I.O.O.F.

A few words shared from I.O.O.F. News...

....Many of you have questioned just how much visibility this program brings to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, so I would like to share some interesting data that was just released by members of our Communications Committee. As you all are aware, we have entered a new era of technology usage where many of the younger and older generations use the internet as their primary means of communicating and educating themselves. There is a whole world of information right at their fingertips and they are using it more and more. We have reached the halfway point since the last session of The Sovereign Grand Lodge and the launch of the newly remodeled web site, so the Communications Committee has released the latest usage statistics. Since last August there have been 80,000 visits and 265,000 pages viewed. That is 3.3 pages looked at per visitor. There has been on average of 400 visitors per day with the top day being the day of the Rose Parade with 7,949 visits. Let that soak in for a moment! With almost 10% of the visits happening on the day of the parade, I must conclude that the Rose Parade is a valuable advertising program to the I.O.O.F. I would encourage everyone to please, help support this program with your donations, so that we don’t lose our place in the parade.

....In closing I want to remind you of a very special and significant date....26 April 2019! Happy 200th Anniversary to Odd Fellowship in North America. I do hope you are planning a big celebration in your area to commemorate this occasion. I plan to be in Nashville, TN on this date, the location of the last Grand Session attended by Thomas Wildey, to take part in the celebration they have planned, I hope to see some of you there.

Fraternally Yours, In Friendship, Love and Truth,

Douglas E. Pittman
Sovereign Grand Master Independent Order of Odd Fellows

Patty A. Heighton, President
International Association
Rebekah Assemblies

Hello,

As the spring is approaching and the snow is disappearing, the spring flowers and buds are beginning to bloom. I hope that the clubs are also growing with new members.

I am sure each of you know someone who would be interested in joining. But the question is, have you asked?

Has your club taken the time to host an Open House? Everyone invite someone new and show them what your club does to promote the Order and the work you do in the community.

Participate in a parade, yard sales, volunteer at a community event. Hang a banner with your club on it. Let the community know who you are. Be proud of your club.

As the 200th Anniversary of the Independent Order of Oddfellows is quickly approaching, are you making plans to attend? What are you or your club going to do for the talent show?

I am looking forward to seeing each and everyone in Winston Salem, NC at the Youth Days. Attending your meetings, watching the talent show. Each of you have many great ideas and I encourage you to pursue your dreams as I have mine.

I will close with a quote from Walt Disney; "All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them."

In Friendship, Love and Truth

Patty Heighton, President
International Association of Rebekah Assemblies

Together We Can!

"We seek to improve and elevate the character of man"
Greetings to All the Youth,

Greetings from the General Military Council, this is the 200th Anniversary of Odd Fellows in North America. I am proud of each and every one of the youths I met in Baltimore as well as the ones that could not make it to SGL this year. I have known several of the youth leaders around the country that have gone on to become PGM, PPRA and IALAPM Presidents. You have a bright future ahead of you if you wish to take advantage of your opportunities. Whatever you do have fun and enjoy yourself.

The Youth must be encouraged and support by not only SGL/GMC but individuals in each branch of the order. It is been said many times that the “Youth is our future”. The Jurisdiction’s where the youth are doing well, you will find a strong adult supporter. The adult leaders that make membership fun and interesting have very large and interested youth groups. The young people must have a learning part (how to conduct a meeting) and a fun part (games) to their meeting, oh yes and some kind of meal or snacks must be included also because youth like to eat.

I would like to encourage each of you to join the Cadet Corps PM Branch. Gen ® Dan Mathews (general.dan.mathews@gmail.com Cell Phone 503 522 8730) can help with all the information to start or join a local unit. We will need members for adult supervision of the Cadet Corps. When you become eligible, we would welcome you into the Patriarchs Militant Branch. The youth must be the foundation of our order or we will not continue to survive. PM members feel free to wear your uniforms to the Cadet Corps Meeting (Please do not let the Youth play with a real sword/too much danger). Please continue to move forward.

My Team is here to support the youth in any way we can. As I have always liked to say “You only get out of any position or organization what you are willing to put into it.” Everything we do must be fun and enjoyable or we will stop doing it. Remember my Motto: E.M.T.: which stands for Educate, Motivate and Train. We must Educate/Mentor new and many of our current members on our laws, rules and regulations. Always keep all members Motivated, members having fun and enjoying what they do will bring in new members. As a Military Unit we must Train on our marching and sword proficiency constantly to remain sharp. But always “Treat others as you wish to be treated.” We must work together as a TEAM!!!!!!!!!!!

Chivalrously,

General S. Ray Johnson
General Commanding
General Military Council
Patriarchs Militant

A few words shared from I.O.O.F. News...

....As we approach the 200th anniversary, I hope that we can all find a way to celebrate our great Order. Plan a dinner for the community, invite the public into your lodge hall to meet the members and get to know about our order. If we want to be around for another 200 years, we need to find new ways of getting new members through our doors and keep them involved.

Listen to your new members. Encourage them. Make them want to come to lodge. It is getting harder to keep wanting to go to lodge if the meetings are always the same. New members may have new ideas as to how to improve meetings and keep people coming back. We need to stop saying “we’ve always done things this way, and that’s how its gonna stay.” Change is always hard, but it is an important part of life.

I am very excited to be starting visitations again soon and am looking forward to seeing people from all the jurisdictions. If anyone needs any assistance, just let me or my Representative know, and we will be happy to help.

I am looking forward to attending the Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in May and hope to see many of you there.

Chivalrously,

Lady Michelle Jones, President IALAPM

Theme: Lead
Outreach
Volunteer
Educate

Motto: Smile and the World Smiles with You.
Happy 200th Anniversary North American Odd Fellows

April 26th marks the date, but the celebrations have already begun. Wishing you all a festive time. Have you invited a new member to an event? Now would be a great time to spread the words and wisdom of our great order. Send your photos and a brief description to us and will publish your activities at 2019 Youth Days.

This is an exciting time for us here at the SGL/IARA Joint Youth Committee as we prepare to mark 200 years of Odd Fellowship. Make your plans now to join us August 16th -17th at the Sovereign Grand Lodge Headquarters in Winston Salem, North Carolina.

I have started to work on packets for those who want to attend this year. They will be finalized May 4-5 at the Tomb of the Unknowns. Just like last year I need your help planning and preparing. Your input makes this event a success!

Things I Know
- Youth Days will be at the SGL Headquarters on the 3rd floor. We reserved the entire 3rd floor for both days. All activities will be here!!
- The Banquet and Talent Show will be at the Marriot next door on Friday night
- Session will be August 17th. A lot of guest speakers will attend.
- Fun Night to follow.

Thing I Need
- Submittals for Pin Design, Advisor of the Year, and your Community Service Hours
  Read the guidelines in this edition of your Youth Informer
Even if you’re not attending, your Jurisdiction is still responsible for getting these turned into me on time so they can be published in the Journals of SGL/IARA.
- We wanted to do some fun games this year and could use some more input. Game lengths to run 30-45mins in length.
- Each Jurisdiction will be responsible for bringing 50 things for the “Meet & Greet Bags”. Try and make it something fun from the regions you belong.
- Advisors!!! If you have questions please don’t hesitate to email me. Last years event went so much smoother when we all communicated early and often.

Want to wish y’all a Happy Spring!! It’s time to get out and FISH. Try and Hook yourselves some new members and build your clubs. Looking forward to seeing old friends and new at Youth Days.

Steve
Chairman
SGL-IARA Joint Youth Committee
CONTESTS FOR YOUTH!

Pin Design for 2019:
Submit your design for the Youth Pin. Please remember the finished size of the pin is approximately 1” diameter. Keep the design simple. The design must include: the year of the pin, Emblems of the 4 units; Junior Odd Fellow Lodge, Theta Rho Girls Club, United Youth Group & Cadet Corp, the colors to be used. Please take the time and color your designs and make sure your name and address are on the back of the design.

SEND YOUR CONTEST ENTRIES TO:
Chairman, Steve Adams
Email: seawyo@yahoo.com

Website: www.ioof.org (Click on YOUTH)

Community Service Recognition Award
Send us a list of your community service activities in which your lodge, club, or group participated in without compensation. Provide the description of the projects, amount of money collected/donated, the number of participants and the hours of service provided.

Advisor of the Year 2019
Submit in writing why you feel your advisor should receive this award. Tell us the special things that they do to make your meetings more fun. Let us know what your advisor has taught you and how you have grown in knowledge of our Order. Although we realize that Assistant Advisors are very special too, this particular award is for the Club/Lodge/Group Advisor only.

NEW SCHOLARSHIP FOR YOUTH!!!

BETTY MOATES SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP

The Educational Foundation announces a new scholarship made possible by the Trustees of the Betty Moates Trust.

Betty Moates was one of the most respected, admired and influential members of this Order. And through her most generous and charitable gift in the amount of $700,000 from the Trust that she provided for in her Will, Betty’s Trustees have made it possible to carry on Betty’s legacy of unselfish concern for the welfare of others through an endowed Science and Technology Scholarship to be administered by the Education Foundation. Working with Sister Elizabeth Mowry Harbstreit, a Trustee of the Betty Moates Trust, the Board has instituted the Betty Moates Science and Technology $5000 Scholarship that will be available to students in 2019.

Applications are currently available at the SGL Website-IOOF.ORG. This is the Educational Foundations' largest undergraduate Scholarship. The applicant must be pursuing a Major in Medical Technology, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics or an Education Major to teach Medical Technology, Chemistry, Biology or Mathematics.

Applicants must be, or have a relative who is a member of an Odd Fellows or Rebekah Lodge.

2019 Pre-Registration Form

The Sovereign Grand Lodge
International Association of Rebekah Assemblies
General Military Council, Patriarchs Militant
International Association
Ladies Auxiliaries Patriarchs Militant

Winston-Salem, North Carolina
August 16 to 23, 2019

Please Note:
All Attendees MUST register

Name ________________________________

(as desired on badge)

Unit attending: SGL IARA GMC IALAPM Youth Guest (please circle one)

Title for name badge ________________________________

Mailing Address ______________________________________

City, St./Prv, Postal Code ________________________________

Telephone ________________________________ Email ________________________________

Registration Information

Registrations on or before July 26, 2019, $75.00 $ __________________

Registrations after July 26, 2019, $80.00 $ __________________

Highlight Events

Youth Dinner, Friday Aug. 16, $40.00 $ __________________

Welcome Dinner, Saturday Aug. 17, $40.00 $ __________________

Officer’s Banquet, Monday Aug. 19, $60.00 $ __________________

Installation Dinner, Wednesday Aug. 21, $50.00 $ __________________

Total Fees for the session, in US dollars $ __________________

Please mail all Registration Forms with a check or money order to:
2019 I.O.O.F. Session Committee
422 N. Trade St.
Winston-Salem, NC 27101-2830

Any special requests, such as: special diet, should be indicated here: ________________________________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Marriott</th>
<th>Embassy Suites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I have a reservation at the</td>
<td>I have a reservation at the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Winston-Salem Marriott</td>
<td>Embassy Suites Winston-Salem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>425 N Cherry St.</td>
<td>460 N Cherry St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Winston-Salem, NC 27101</td>
<td>Winston-Salem, NC 27101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1-800-320-0934</td>
<td>1-800-696-6107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>14-23 August 2019</td>
<td>14-23 August 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single/Double Rate</td>
<td>$159.00</td>
<td>One-Bedroom Suite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple/Quad Rate</td>
<td>$159.00</td>
<td>Single/Double Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$179.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Triple/Quad Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$189.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Information to have available when calling to make a reservation:

Name: ___________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________

City/State/Postal Code: ___________________________________________

Additional Guests: ___________________________________________

Phone Number: _______________________ Email: ________________________

Card Number: ___________________ Exp. Date: _________________________

Arrival Date: ___________________ Departure Date: ___________________
April Foolery!

Unscramble the letters below to make 5 words related to April Fool’s Day. Then unscramble the letters in the red squares to answer the question at left.

AKPRN
KEJSO
NUF
KITCR
EJERTS

In which country did April Fool’s Day originate?

April Fools’ Word Search

Spot 5 differences!

Easter Sudoku

DIRECTIONS: Fill in the grids so that each horizontal row contains each letter exactly once, each vertical column contains each letter exactly once, and each subgrid contains each letter exactly once.

SPROUT
SOS
TRP
PUS

BASKET
BTA
KATE

SPRING
INS

Ducklings

CUIKLS

TULIPS

© 2016 puzzle-to-print.com
**Founders’ Day Proclamation**

To the Officers and Members of all Degrees of the Independent order of Odd Fellowship

Fraterna[...](second line continues)

As we continue to enjoy one hundred and ninety – nine years of fraternity let us not become complacent but strive toward setting goals to make a difference in our communities and share more creative ways of offering the hand of friendship of our fraternity to those we meet.

Therefore, I, Douglas E. Pittman, Sovereign Grand Master of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, by authority in me duly vested, do proclaim:

That the month of April be declared **Odd Fellows Anniversary Month** throughout Odd Fellowship.

Be it further proclaimed:

That **April 26, 2019** be known as **Founder’s Day** throughout Odd Fellowship commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the founding of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Baltimore, Maryland.

Further, all units of the Order are encouraged to hold special festivities in celebration of the day: **Degree Day (name the class for someone in your jurisdiction), Anniversary Ball, Community Work Project, et cetera.**

Done in the City of Winston-Salem, the State of North Carolina the 1st day of February 2019 and of our Order the 200th year.

Yours in F, L & T,

/s/ Douglas E. Pittman
Sovereign Grand Master

/s/ Terry L. Barrett
Sovereign Grand Secretary

**Make a Difference Day Proclamation**

To the Officers and Members of all Degrees of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows

Fraterna[...](second line continues)

As we continue to enjoy one hundred and ninety – nine years of fraternity let us not become complacent but strive toward setting goals to Make a Difference in our communities and share more creative ways of offering the hand of friendship of our fraternity to those we meet.

I, Douglas E. Pittman, Sovereign Grand Master of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, by authority in me duly vested, do proclaim:

That the Saturday the 20th day of April be declared **Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Make a Difference Day**.

Further, all units of the Order are encouraged to hold special festivities in celebration of the day: **Community Work Project; Hands Across Your: city, town, village, community followed by an open house in the lodge hall; et cetera.**

Done in the City of Winston-Salem, the State of North Carolina the 1st day of March 2019 and of our Order the 200th year.

Yours in F, L & T,

/s/ Douglas E. Pittman
Sovereign Grand Master

/s/ Terry L. Barrett
Sovereign Grand Secretary
Anyone graduate from your lodge, club or group?
Is your jurisdiction working on the Youth Honors Program?
We would like to add any of this information to our Newsletter for mailing and recognition purposes:

Graduate Members: Jurisdiction: ____________________________ Graduate Name: ____________________________

Youth Honors Program: Level ______ Name ____________________________

Please send this form to the SGL-IARA JYC Committee Secretary:
Darrelene Schlim

FACEBOOK PAGE: SGL-IARA Youth
*Use Facebook to share your activities with others.
*Use Facebook as a question and answer page.
*Keep in touch with everyone that attended Youth Days in the past or just this year.
*Share your organization’s website with others.

We want to include you in The Youth Informer!
The Youth Informer would like to publish your article in our next publishing. Please submit your articles to:
Gwen Wixom, Editor
E-mail: gwen.century21@aol.com
Remember, this is your paper. Take an interest in being a writer for your community and let us know what your club has been up to. Send me your pictures and articles and we will try our best to get all entries in your Youth Informer.
YOUTH COMMITTEE DIRECTORY

CHAIRMAN: Steve E. Adams
(307) 256-4518
Email: seawyo@yahoo.com

MEMBER: Michele Trynor
(207) 423-1551
Email: micheletrynor@hotmail.com

YOUTH DAYS COORDINATOR: Laurel Delony
(253) 468-1949
Email: laureljdelony@gmail.com

PIN COORDINATOR/WEB SITE: Greta Bowers
(267) 620-5477
Email: gretabowers@gmail.com

EDITOR YOUTH INFORMER: Gwen Wixom
(319) 754-5532 or (319) 750-1179
Email: gwen.century21@aol.com

Did you know: you can find us at these places?
Website: www.ioof.org (Click on YOUTH)

FACEBOOK PAGE: SGL-IARA Youth
*Use Facebook to share your activities with others.
*Use Facebook as a question and answer page.
*Keep in touch with everyone that attended Youth Days in the past or just this year.
*Share your organization’s website with others.

We’re here for you!
Do you need us? Do you need help? Advice? Or just an ear to listen? Request a visit by contacting Youth Committee Chairman Steve Adams directly by phone, email or letter and we will be there. We only ask that you contact us as soon as possible to enable us time to make arrangements to get to you as quick as we can.