Introducing the new Heads of our Order

Ruth A. Earle  
President-IARA

General Earl R. Wys  
General Commanding  
G.M.C.P.M.  
I.O.O.F.

The Honorable  
Michelle L. Heckart  
Sovereign Grand Master  
I.O.O.F.

During Youth Days we were graciously visited by the  
2021-2022 Leaders of our Order and the incoming  
2022-2023 Leaders of our Order bringing information of  
their programs and extending a warm welcome to all who attended.  
Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules.  
We appreciate your support!

In this Issue
2022 Youth Days  pg 2
Photos from Youth Days 3-4
Jurisdictional Reports Pg 5-8
Did you know?  pg 9
It’s all for Fun!  pg 10
Making Connections  pg 11
Here’s what happened at 2022 Youth Days!

Another amazing year with your Youth representing states of Michigan (7), Colorado (1), and Washington (17). 3 Jurisdictions was held in Winston-Salem, N.C. Total for our Youth Days Session to include those 25 youth present were 65 in attendance for Youth days. The Banquet brought a total of 105.

Friday:
Youth Days were held this year in Winston-Salem, NC. Friday morning brought in the Youth for Orientation. Many new friendships were made as well as many old friendships were rekindled. With most of the Youth only seeing each other at this time of year, it is always special to see everyone again.

Jami Rafter and Michelle Jones Past Presidents of International Association of Ladies Auxiliary Patriarchs Militants practiced with those that were to be carrying the flags. During the Banquet, we had skits, jokes and songs performed by the Jurisdictions present. The flags were impressive and the show was great!

General Michael Bowers, General Commanding of the General Military Council, came forward and applauded the Youth in their efforts at the Banquet with the Flags and the Talent Show. brief talk of encouragement to the Youth.

Kathy Richen Pres. I.A.R.A. brought the greetings of the I.A.R.A. She gave words of encouragement and expressed her support to the Youth and from the IARA to the Youth.

“Chuck” Lusk was introduced. He brought his excitement and support to the Youth. He expressed his appreciation to the Youth for their continued support of the Order.

Saturday’s Session began with presentation of the flags followed by greetings from Gen. Commanding Michael Bowers, of the GMCPM. He brought the greeting of I.O.O.F. Dep. General Commanding Lt. Earl Wise as he was unable to be here.

We had the Jurisdictional reports read and turned in. The Jurisdictional Reports are included in this Edition of your Youth Informer.

V.P. I.A.R.A Ruth Earl stopped in and expressed her well wished to the Youth.

PP Jamie Clark Rafter and Michelle Jones of the IALAPM also spoke and told the youth how much they enjoy spending time with them and helping with the flag ceremonies each year. Jamie, Michelle and General Bowers took time and hung out with us as for a large part of the day on Saturday. We thank them for taking the time out of their busy schedules to do this for us!

Vicky Beaver brought greetings and information from the Education Foundation. She encouraged the Youth to look into the Scholarships that are available.

We broke into 2 groups to allow the Youth and Adults to visit with the SGL JYC in different rooms. We invited all visitors as well to join in on the working discussion groups. After which we had lunch graciously presented by the Grand Encampment of New Jersey. On behalf of the Youth and their advisors, we extend our heartfelt thank you from the youth of our order.

Our “fun night” for the Youth was a Neon Party game night held in the SGL and the youth had a great time playing games and dancing the evening away. Pizza was provided by SGM Charles Lusk. Ice cream was provided by General Bowers. DSGM Michelle Heckart was a great sport and let the kids paint her face and do her hair with all the glow items they could paint on her. Some youth were able to attend the demonstration of the kick boxer in the welcome dinner. So much fun was had by all.

As always, Youth Days was very successful. The Youth expressed their appreciation for everything that was done for them.

The SGL-IARA Joint Youth Committee would also like to express special thanks to the following:

Next year Youth Days will be in Iowa!!!!
Hang on to your hats! It’s going to be a blast!!!
PHOTOS FROM YOUTH DAYS

History was made August 17, 2022 in Winston-Salem, NC as Michelle Heckart took the oath as the 1st female Sovereign Grand Master with her granddaughters Makenzie and Hailee.

Jurisdictions of Washington, Colorado, Oregon and Michigan @ Youth Days. Look hard and see if you can find the members of the SGL-JYC. Where’s Laurel, Michele, Gwen and Greta?

Great job with the Flags!

Thank you to our special guests General Commanding Michael Bowers, Pres. Kathy Richen and SGM Chuck Lusk for joining us at our Banquet and speaking to us.

What a crowd! Thank you for joining us at our Banquet!

All the Youth were seated at the Head Table!
PHOTOS FROM YOUTH DAYS

Skits from all Jurisdictions present gave us fantastic entertainment!

We had games, flying chickens, pizza, facepainting, lots of laughter and enjoyed the dancing at the “Get Your Glow On”

Awards were given out to all Youth present!

After our Session, we had a little fun! Who’s that sitting in the chairs getting beautiful?!!!
Hello, my name is Mackenzie Smith and I am here to bring you the greetings from the great state of Michigan. I am the president of Red Rose Theta Rose #8. We currently have 10 active members. We are active in the community by helping our local Oddfellow Lodge with their monthly fish fry's and volunteering weekly at our local Foster Closet. The Foster Closet is a non profit organization that provides kids who have been removed from their homes, with clothes, toiletries, bedding, toys and anything someone in need could use.

Three of our members spent time traveling with their father on his lodge trips to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in DC and to General Bowers Testimonial.

The final important thing that was done by our group was we were able to send myself to the Pilgrimage for Youth where I experienced the best trip of a lifetime! I spent 2 weeks with some amazing people and I will treasure those memories for the rest of my life. Next year we plan to send another of our members on the same trip.

Thank you.
I am writing to you on behalf of the members of Jonquil Theta Rho Girls Club #25 of the Jurisdiction of New York, the only youth club in the jurisdiction.

In March of 2020 Jonquil went dark due to Covid-19. While we were dark for meetings and gatherings, the girls were still very active in helping the community. In 2020 the girls “fairied” 20 children across 2 counties with items they had collected. (Fairing was delivering surprises to kids to lift their spirits due to not being able to see their friends and family.) Each of the girls wrote letters to their mail carriers, cashiers and other frontline workers thanking them for their service during the pandemic. Jonquil made Christmas cards for one of the local nursing homes for Christmas 2020, inside the cards were not only Christmas wishes but heartfelt messages to the residents.

Once we were allowed to start gathering in our county, Jonquil initiated 3 new members. The girls also assisted the 2023 Convention Committee with their fundraisers. In October of 2021 the Jonquil members were installed into their 2021-2022 officers with Shannon being installed as the club’s current President. In November through December the girls made Christmas ornaments for Operation Christmas for another local nursing home. In December Jonquil accepted the challenge from Lady Margaret Gardner and did a reverse advent calendar and collected food items that were then donated to the Lackawanna Food Pantry. Some of the members did community service projects on their own.

Shannon Cutler - Shannon has joined Roswell and became a community awareness advocate. Shannon also has become an assistant in her dance group where she is volunteering 3 hours a week.

Reagan Cutler - Reagan has become an assistant in her dance group where she is volunteering 3 hours a week.

Madelyn Erckert - Madelyn has helped all events at her church from pancake breakfasts to putting on puppet shows for their shut-ins, 2 hours per each time out.

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the county restrictions Jonquil was not able to as much as we had hoped for. However, we are planning more for the upcoming year and we currently have 9 members at the time this report was written.

Happiness Through Service,

Jessica Maguder Advisor
Kathie Bays Asst. Advisor
Hello, I’m Lucy Crouch and I am the President of the Theta Rho Assembly of Washington. We have to active Theta Rho Clubs in Washington and we are working on reactivating a third. We also have one Theta Rho Club from Oregon that belongs to our Assembly. We have no Junior Odd Fellows, United youth Groups or Cadet Corps.

We have a total of 19 members in the clubs from Washington and 8 members in the Oregon Club. All of our clubs have shown an increase in membership this past years.

Some fundraisers our clubs held were gift raffles; selling gift cards.

Some examples of our club activities are: visiting other clubs, celebrating holidays, eating lunch together, pool parties, craft days, and parages.

Some Community Service our clubs did were: pinwheels for prevention of child abuse, beach clean up and Operation Christmas child boxes.

Our visitations are mainly between Washington and Oregon. The Assembly President makes visits to each of the clubs and we hold a joint retreat in the spring.

Washington does not participate in the Honors Program but Oregon had one member, Moira Struthers, complete the program this year.

Our plans for the future of our clubs are to become more involved in our communities and gain more members. Our last Assembly session was June 17-19, 2022 in Yakima. Our next session will be June 23-25 2023 in Yakima, Washington.

I’d like to thank the Grand Lodge and JYC for providing us ladies with the opportunity to attend the International Youth Days. All of us are incredibly grateful to be able to be here and we will always have these fond memories, thanks to you. Thank you!

Respectfully Submitted,
Lucy Crouch
Theta Rho Assembly President, Washington
2022 Youth Days Jurisdictional Report

Colorado

To the Sovereign Grand Lodge-International Association Rebekah Assembly, Joint Youth Committee members and those in attendance at Youth Days 2022, I am Darcy Lorimor, Theta Rho Assembly President from Colorado.

Colorado has 4 active Theta Rho Clubs; Alpha #1, NuEta #15, Irene #10 and Echo #17. As of December 31, 2021 reports Colorado Theta Rho’s had 24 regular members, 22 lifetime members and 30 senior sisters. We gained 5 new members and 2 senior sisters. 6 members and 7 senior sisters were dropped.

Our clubs have been active this year. NuEta Girls were able to participate in a Fire Muster. They did temporary tattoos as a fund raiser and rode on a Fire Truck in the 4th of July Parade. Girls from NuEta Were honored to give greetings from the Theta Rho Assemble President to Colorado Rebekah Assembly.

Echo Girls always have those at the Legacy Center in mind. They make cards, holiday placemats and sing carols for the residents. Selling pasta was a big fundraiser for them this year.

Alpha had their Clubs’ 90th Birthday Party in February. Old and new members, family and friends joined to gather to celebrate 90 continued years of service. Alpha members and families sold Butter Braids for the annual fundraiser. On work meetings, the girls made cards for the veterans and Operation Interdependence.

Our clubs do more than just have meetings. Clubs enjoy social activities such as holiday parties and gift exchanges, trips to the corn maze, craft nights and swimming parties.

Clubs do service to other branches of our order by helping to clean their halls, serving dinner for special visits, doing dishes and carrying anything we are asked to do.

Colorado Theta Rho Assembly was hosted by Alpha #1 in Grand Junction June 8-10. There were 14 girls and 16 adults in attendance. Our TRA President was unable to attend the session, so I, Darcy Lorimor, Theta Rho Assembly Vice President presided over the session. We started out on Friday by attending the Joint Youth Committee meeting. Then on to packing boxes for troops at Operation Interdependence for our Service Project. We ended our day with a fun night jumping at Getair and eating pizza. Saturday, we held our formal Assembly Session. We had a lot of newer members at the meeting. Our senior sisters and Rebekah in attendance were a big help-instructing and giving much needed advice. Our evening banquet theme was “Pajama Sleepover”. We ate breakfast and all dressed in PJ’s. Sunday morning brought lots of activity. Assembly officers and Rebekah sisters participated in a Devotions Service and Memorial service. NuEta and Echo Girls both presented dance and drills. Certificates were given to members who had 6 months and 1 year perfect attendance. The Honors Ceremony was performed and Level Pins were awarded. Darcy levels 4 & 5, Mallory levels 4 & 5, Alyssa levels 2 & 3, Ashlyn levels 2 & 3, Kinsley levels 2 & 3, and Sydney level 1. Queen Bee and Court crowned Layla and Queen Bee, Alyssa as Princess, Mahaya as Duchess. An open Installation of Theta Rho Assembly Officer was performed and I was installed as President, Mahaya Waggener ad Vice President for 2022-23 year. We closed out the day with cake and punch for everyone.

As Theta Rho Assembly President, I hosted our annual Youth Campout at the Colorado Grand Encampment Campground July 18-20. We had over 30 Theta Rho Girls, Rebekahs and families in attendance. We shared a weekend filled with games, crafts and fellowship. The Youth learned a lot about cooking, cleaning and how to care for our flag. A big thank you to all the Odd Fellows that take care of this wonderful campground we all enjoy.

Our Theta Rho Clubs are very spread out, even on different sides of the continental divide, but we enjoy each others fellowship as much as possible. Please come visit a club or out Assembly. You are always welcome.

In F, L & T,

Darcy Lorimor, Colorado Theta Rho Assembly President
Did you know?

Your SGL-IARA Joint Youth Committee will come to you! Youth and Advisors, please contact us either by email or letter. We must have a written invitation to get your club on our schedule. You can reach out to any of us. Our contact information is always in the Youth Informer. If you want us to come to you, all you need to do is send us an email! We are waiting!!!

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.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM FOR ADULTS

NEW □ RENEWAL □ ADDRESS CHANGE □

NAME______________________________________________________________

ADVISOR □ (NO CHARGE)

ADDRESS _____________________________ CITY ___________ STATE/PROVINCE _______ ZIP _____

FILL OUT COMPLETELY & MAIL WITH $10 (U.S. OR CANADIAN) PER YEAR TO:
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OFFICE USE: AMOUNT SUBMITTED $___________ U.S. _________ CANADIAN

You can also find us at:  ioof.org  Who are we?  Youth
IT’S ALL FOR FUN!

Fall Word Scramble

Unscramble the words and write the letters in the boxes. Use the letters in the shaded boxes to form a new word that answers the riddle.

ULQIT
LAVEES
BEEESTRMIP
SVRTAEN
TECHUNS
AUMUTN
ATOLFLOB

Q. What do you get when you drop a pumpkin?

Autumn Word Search

Can you find the Autumn words in the puzzle below?

rake  scarecrow  brown  yellow
squirrel  leaves  apple  red
bonfire  harvest  fall  pear
orange  acorn

h b x t n y e l l o w
b r o w n  s e  j j  s l s
g b h v t t p y u q i c
c q q z f x a e j u c a
m l e a v e s  c a i w r
c j s y i l g b o r k e
h a r v e s t  o d r i c
f s e u  o r a n g e n r
w a d k l a p  f q  l  r
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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.