



Helping the Community With Vaccination Shots

After church January 17, I spoke to "Del," my 98 year old WWII vet friend who is recently widowed and lives alone. He has two children but they live three hours away. Typical of many elderly people, he has no computer, no email, and no cell phone. I asked if he had yet received a Covid vaccine and he said "no." He had tried, but was unable to get any help or advice from his doctor about vaccine availability. I promised to help and I was able to get him an appointment at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds the following week. Note: He called and used my email address for the required confirmation notice they sent--I printed this and he used it as his admission ticket for the vaccination. I arrived at his house early on the day of his appointment, we both masked up, he sat in the backseat, and I drove him to the fairgrounds. We used the handicapped entrance but still had to wait 45 minutes before entry. I brought a folding chair from my car for him to sit in while waiting our turn to enter. One of the "yes" boxes he checked on his health form required review by a physician, but fortunately there was one on duty and she dealt with the issue quickly. After he received the vaccine we stayed in the observation area for 15 minutes. Then we were advised to make an appointment for the 2nd dose using a posted QR code linked to a scheduling website. Thank goodness I have a QR reader on my smart phone! Two hours later I delivered him back to his house and he was very grateful. We will repeat the trip later this month for dose # 2.

I believe there is a great need in the community for help with this process. Lack of internet access is common among the elderly and represents a huge handicap. By early March I will have sufficient protection from my 2 vaccine doses to feel safe helping tech-disadvantaged elderly people get vaccinated. There might be others in our Odd Fellows Lodge in a similar position to help. I'm not sure how to reach out to find people in need but we could ask others for referrals possibly through NextDoor, senior centers, churches, and clubs. There might even be members within our lodge who need our help.

Your thoughts?

By *Linda Roy*

Hermenia Rebekah Lodge #145

Hermenia Rebekah Lodge #49 is going well by meeting on Zoom once a month. Hopefully we will be able to have our three scheduled Craft Sales in Mountain View this year. We have planed for September 11 & 12, November 20 & 21 and December 18 & 19, 2021. We are all looking forward to getting back and meeting in person.

By *Jackie Brown*



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Lets celebrate St Patty's Day with a Irish Feast!

*Traditional Corned Beef, Potatoes, carrots and Cabbage.
Soda Bread and Irish cream chocolate cake!!!!*

*Lunch can be pick up from noon to 2PM.
(If it is sunny and permissible; we might even serve at
dinning area outside under tents.)*

Only members of Cupertino 70 are invited .

Please click on the link below to order your meal.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc1kFL65aA5h4iwyhQP01APuN9aEkV8T73MOsh5OjZeffRILg/viewform?usp=pp_url

Pickup Date: Saturday March 13, 2021 from 12pm to 2pm
Menu: Corned Beef w/cabbage, carrots & potatoes.
Irish Soda Bread & Irish Cream Chocolate Cake

We are so looking forward to seeing all of our members soon.

By *Annie Cronin*

Silicon Valley Odd Fellowship

Laurie Prescott

Please pray for **Sister Laurie Prescott**. She is now on hospice at the Saratoga Retirement Community. Laurie is barely eating or drinking. Her doctor would give her intravenous fluids to fight the dehydration that probably is a large part of why she is lethargic, but Laurie refuses to have any needles. Laurie also refuses to be taken to the hospital, so comfort care is all the home can give her.

Sister Laurie Prescott, Past President of the Rebekah Assembly, Past Grand Matriarch of the Grand Ladies Encampment Auxiliary, and Past Department Commander of the Patriarchs Militant of California **passed away** at 8 pm this evening, February 28. **Debra LaVergne** is going to arrange a memorial service by Zoom for **Friday, March 26 at 7:00pm**. You might want to contact her and tell her you would like to be invited.

By **Debra LaVergne**

Book of Poetry about Community Garden

I've just reached my Kickstarter goal, crowdfunding the publication of [*Poems from the Garden: A pandemic year in sonnets and sloppier forms*](#); the acknowledgements section thanks many Odd Fellows in our district for their work in the garden. The book is a collection of the poetry I've written this year -- one poem nearly every week of 2020, all originally produced for the weekly journal of the church that hosts the community garden. The campaign is continuing for another 2 weeks and then the book will go up on Amazon; there are lots of [fun photos of the garden](#) and [sample poems here](#). Here is a poem I think members of this community would like:

what, then, is the point
of writing garden
poetry during a
global pandemic

what, then, is the point
of reading it? the
sky will be blue,
the plants we water

will grow green, those we
do not will dry brown,
or sleep and dream of
rain. why not ask the
purple lupins why
they grow from wildfire?

By **Jessica Dickinson Goodman**

Best,
Jessica

Last Month's Social

The weather did not cooperate for outside seating for Cupertino Lodge's First Social on February 13th, but it turned out to be a successful turnout.

It was really nice socializing with brothers and sisters at the lodge, even though the gathering had to be restricted to the county Covid19 guidelines. Hopefully in the future the weather and restrictions will be in our favor. There were 35 orders and left-overs handed out in the 3 hours scheduled time.

We are hoping that at next month's social, that the members will be able to stay and eat at the lodge, even if it is outside, if they so choose.

By **Ted Wong**

First Degree

Cupertino 70 will be conferring the 1st degree at the lodge, using masks and social distancing on Monday, March 29 at 8:00 PM. We will use the Degree Disc, which means we will all be seated on chairs, which are spread out at least 10 feet apart, watching the degree on our big screen in the dining room. **Annie Cronin** will contact the Cupertino members eligible to receive the degree, to inform them when the training session will be held, to help the candidates prepare for the degree. We also need qualified members to open the lodge on March 29th. Due to the COVID 19 Virus, only Cupertino members will be eligible to receive the degree.

Drive-In Degrees

On March 7th, 2021, Mountain View Odd Fellows Lodge #244 will be hosting a drive-in degree ceremony for 4-6 members who have completed our lodge's degree requirements. We'll all be meeting at the Tamien Station Caltrain parking lot, which is walking-distance to a non-driving member's house, from 5-6pm. **Jessica** will lead the short form of the 3 degrees with support from **Debra LaVergne**, **Vanessa O'Conner**, **David O'Conner**, and **Mason Wolf** (all of whom have achieved the 3rd degree in their home lodges). Everyone will stay inside of their cars. If you have any members who need to attain these degrees, we may have room for a few more, so please email jessica.dickinson.goodman@gmail.com.

By **Jessica Dickinson Goodman**



A Blessing For All

In 2021 I have taken up the role of chaplain and am taking the opportunity to share some of my favorite blessings and prayers with my lodge. I kicked off the year with "May You Have," which is a sung blessing from a Dutch band called Trinity, a song that's popular enough to have been translated into half a dozen other European languages by this point. If you wish to listen along as you read it, it's available on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5HG7JB8Z0g4>

May you have a roof above your head
May your house be home to you, your table
filled with bread
May you have a soft and silent sleep, all
through the night
May your lover in your arms be your delight

May you have enough to go around
May you have the wealth to know what you
can live without
May you have a full days work to do, and
time to spend
With all your children's kin 'till your life's end

A wall for the wind
And a fire for the cold
A coat for the rain
And a friend for the road

May you be at peace with who you are
And may you laugh and cry with those around
you near and far
May your heart be found by love that will
survive
In all the changing seasons of your life

I'll protect you from the wind
and I will find a shelter
In the night I'll light a fire
so you won't get cold
In the dark I'll be around you
like a guardian angel
I'll be there, cause together
we will walk the road

By *Arike van de Water*



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Philotesian

Philotesian dues and meetings for the next 3 months will start at 8:00 PM instead at 7:30. This is because **Debra LaVergne** has a class every Wednesday until 8:00. It is a good thing that both the class and the meeting is on zoom.

The members are also asked to check their dues cards to make sure they have paid this years dues of \$65. If not, please make checks payable to Philotesian Lodge 145 and send it to:
Philotesian Lodge 145
PO Box 76
Cupertino, CA 95015

Thank you,

By *Don Lang*

December 18, 2020

I was thinking about arching limestone nave of Winchester Cathedral, the English church that the National Cathedral is modeled after.

I've visited there three times: once, when I was 14 and loved the garden; once, on my way home from Sierra Leone; and once, just after Christmas.

I was thinking about aggregate holiness, about how a thousand years of hymns can seep into rock, the unheated air seeming to echo without voices.

I was thinking about how new California is, how new our churches, our gardens, are. No old stones here; our churches are cored in wood.

But the thing is, all stones are old, most older than the oldest churches, no matter the build. The rocks we lined Wanda's rose-bed with, from Myra Gilmont, the quartz

and petrified wood, bright aggregate and curved limestone that she collected with her own two hands for decades before her passing reminded me — they're all old stones.

- Jessica Dickinson Goodman

