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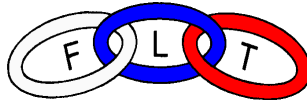
The Triple Links

Silicon Valley Odd Fellowship

November 2021
Don Lang - Editor
donlang@sbcglobal.net



Established 1987



Third Degree Nov 17

The third degree will be held on Wednesday, November 17, at True Fellowship lodge #52 at 1035 Emory St. in San Jose. There will be at least 3 people taking the degree, which are all from Cupertino Lodge #70. They are **Mark St. John**, **Marvin Carter** and **Richard Bartholomew**, who have been waiting for over a year. True Fellowship Lodge has the cut glass displays of our symbols that are included in the degree, that hang on the wall and light up, which are very attractive. Odd Fellows are invited to attend the degree, but must have 3rd degree themselves. Other lodges are invited to come and bring candidates, but should also have a letter from their lodge saying that the candidate is qualified to receive the degree. It will start at 7:30.

Hope to see some of you there.

By **Don Lang**, Editor

Veterans Day Parade Nov 11

We are trying to get as many Odd Fellows and Rebekahs from all branches of the Order, to march in this year's San Jose's Veterans Day Parade. So if you could please pass this message on to other members of your lodge so that the word will get out. It will be held on Thursday, Nov 11. The parade is only 1 mile long down Santa Clara St and turns on to Market St. We gather at True Fellowship Lodge on Emory Street and car pool to the spot where we start in the parade. We normally leave a little after 10:00 AM, from True Fellowship. The parade starts at 12, but our section will start later depending on where we are in the parade. We never know until we get our paper work around the 1st week of November. This year, **Gerald Poarch**, PGM from Costa Mesa, (near LA), is coming all the way up here with a truck, hauling a trailer with his small, one seater, Red Fire Engine. He will be leading our section of the parade. Following that will be an Odd Fellow / Rebekah banner carried by the Theta Rho Girls Club, then the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs. If you are a member of the Cantons, wear your PM Military uniform, if you belong to the Encampment or AMOS wear your Fess, if you are a Veteran, wear your uniform if it still fits, or just your hat, but anything will work. We will be carrying all our flags. We will decorate my Odyssey Honda Van, which will follow in the back of our member marchers. The van will carry the **Grand Master Michael Greenzeiger** and anyone else who needs a ride. This year we expect the Rebekah Assembly President **Mary Sellars**, the Department Commander, Brigadier General **Rodney Metoyer** and the Grand Patriarch **Mark Prescott** to also take part.

If I only could accurately describe the feeling I have when I am marching that day, I think we would have to turn away our members from joining, because there would be so many. We are honoring all our veterans who fought in our past wars and who gave up a good portion of their life in being in the service, so all can live in freedom. But it is also to show how proud I am and feel to be an Odd Fellow and to see the crowd of people lining both sides of the street, yelling and clapping as we and the flags go by. At two different places they make a short announcement of who the Odd Fellows are and what we do.

Please send me an e-mail and let me know if you plan on coming and I will send you the latest information and answer any questions you may have.

donlang@sbcglobal.net

We will normally assemble on the west side of Delmas Ave.

By **Don Lang**, editor

18TH ANNUAL | FESTIVAL OF TREES
PRESENTS
Night of Lights
NOVEMBER 29TH-DECEMBER 5TH
6PM-9:30PM
290 IOOF AVE, GILROY, CA
*Join us for a spectacular week
of Holiday Glimmer & Lights!*
Free Admission
REGISTRATION REQUIRED!

GRACIOUSLY ACCEPTED!
For more info please visit www.rcskids.org/events

Silicon Valley Odd Fellowship

Linnea's Reception

On October 24, the Cupertino Lodge #70 held a Reception honoring **Linnea Bredenberg, Grand Chaplain** and **Matthew Finkelstein, Grand Herald** of the Grand Lodge of CA. Both were Appointed Officer's of **Michael Greenzeiger, Grand Master** of CA. Linnea was a regular member of Cupertino #70 and an Associate member of Mountain View #244 Odd Fellows lodges. She is also a Rebekah member of Hermania Rebekah Lodge #49. While Matthew came from San Pablo Lodge #43 in Vallejo.

The Reception started off at 5:00 PM with a happy hour, and dinner was at 6:00. Each round table had 4 people seated at it, trying to keep with the social distancing due to the COVID 19. Everyone's temperature was taken and masks were worn as much as possible.

Don Lang, Past Grand Master was the sit in Master of Ceremony and started the program sharply at 6. After the Pledge to the American Flag, the playing of the National Anthem and the Invocation given by the Noble Grand of Cupertino lodge, **Ron Myres**, we broke to eat our delicious dinner. Of course, keeping with the Mediterranean Soiree theme, the meal was Mediterranean. There were a bottle of white and red wine on each table. After dinner, we went back and continued with the program. Finally the guests of honor were each introduced and then they gave their short talk.

I must give special thanks to **Annie Cronin, District Deputy Grand Master** and member of Cupertino Lodge for chairing the reception Committee. Other members of the committee were **Simona Benjamin, Vice Grand** of Cupertino, and **Jackie Brown, Secretary** of Hermania and member of Mountain View Lodges. Also **Tom Blackburn**, secretary, **Eddie Carmona** and **Steven Grundy** all from Cupertino Lodge. There were many others from Cupertino lodge who also helped with setup, serving and clean up. There were just under 50 attendees, which wasn't that bad for our first big wind and rain storm of the season.

By Don Lang, editor

What is Odd Fellows?

I have heard this question from many of our new members over the years. They say I don't know what to say when someone asks me what is an Odd Fellow. Well sure someone can tell you what to say, but how about finding out for yourself, what it is all about? Our Cupertino Lodge recently had many opportunities for you to find out, but few new members took advantage of this. There are other things besides attending regular Lodge meetings. We recently held a memorial service for a very active brother, **Wally Patapoff**, who passed away. We not only have the **Grand Master Michael Greenzeiger** in our lodge, as an associate member, but also have his **Grand Chaplain Linnea Bredenberg** as a regular member. Linnea was just honored with a reception for her and the **Grand Herald Matthew Finkelstein**. We had the honor to plan and help out putting on this reception as well as enjoying and attending it. This coming month, we will have the opportunity to take part in the Veterans Day Parade as Odd Fellows. So there are many ways, besides just going to regular lodge meetings and attending committee meetings. You can grow and become a full knowledgeable Odd Fellow yourself by attending these functions.

By Don Lang, Past Grand Master



Standing **Matthew Finkelstein, Grand Herald**, **Michael Greenzeiger, Grand Master** and **Linnea Bredenberg, Grand Chaplain**.



Linnea Bredenberg with her son **Joel Greenzeiger**

Christmas Dinner

Cupertino Lodge #70 is in the process of planning their Christmas Dinner, so save the date. It will be held on Sunday, December 19 at 6:00 PM at the lodge. We plan on carrying out all the COVID 19 protocols of testing for temperatures, wearing of masks and social distancing. Call or Email **Don Lang** if you intend to go. donlang@sbcglobal.net

By Don Lang, Editor

Hermenia Craft Show

Hermenia Rebekah Lodge #49 in Mountain View is having another Fundraiser Craft Sale November 19, 20, & 21 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Come and scout out your Christmas Presents early. Remember, we take Cash Only. Hope to see you there. Lots of choices in which to browse.

By **Jackie Brown**, Sec, Hermenia Rebekah Lodge #49

Congratulations Linnea Bredenber

The Reception for **Linnea Bredenber**, an Associate Member of Mountain View IOOF #244 was well received and fairly well attended. The food was very good and **Annie Cronin** from Cupertino #70, did a fine job pulling this event together. I was sorry to see that not one member of Mountain View IOOF #244 participated on the Committee to help organize this event. I participated as a member of Hermenia Rebekah Lodge #49, of which Linnea is a member.

By **Jackie Brown**, Sec Hermenia Rebekah Lodge #49.

Mum Flower Show at Lodge

On the last weekend of October, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the Bay Area Chrysanthemum Society rented our Cupertino Lodge Hall. This is the first time their show is being held in the San Jose area. It always takes place much closer to San Francisco. They were pleasantly surprised of the turn out. When I went by to check it out, I took the last parking space. Cars were continuously circling the building looking for parking. As you can see from the pictures the Mums were all different colors and sizes. Friday they do the judging of all the different categories, then mark them with their winning ribbons, all very beautify displayed.

We did have a problem however, there was so many people that our toilets got over used, or some one threw something down them, that they all got block. Our plumber spent 4 hours getting them back working again. But it all worked out in the end. Some may say why rent to this type of renter, but when you are lucky if you get one paying renter per month and you can rent it to one renter for 3 days, that is pretty good in my book.

If you are interested in joining the society, they meet on the third Sunday of every month. For more information check out their website at www.bayareamum.org

By **Don Lang**, Editor



IOOF Membership

For those of you who are wondering how many Odd Fellows and Rebekah's are worldwide, here's a recap from the 2020 Sovereign Grand Lodge Journal.

LODGES WORLDWIDE BY EACH BRANCH

	2018	2019	Lodges Gain/(Loss)
Odd Fellow Lodges	1940	1908	-32
Rebekah Lodges	1252	1212	-40
Encampments	394	381	-13
Ladies Encampment Aux (L.E.A.)	125	129	+4
Cantons – Patriarchs Militant (PM)	168	165	-3
Ladies Aux (PM) (L.A.P.M.)	60	49	-11
Total All Lodges =	3,939	3,844	

MEMBERS WORLDWIDE BY EACH BRANCH

2020 Totals

Odd Fellow Lodges	93,345	
Brothers	88,343	
Sisters	5,002	
Rebekah Lodges	55,850	
Sisters	52,380	
Brothers	3,470	
Encampment	30,649	
Patriarchs	30,181	
Matriarchs	468	
L.E.A.	13,281	
Junior O.F. Lodges	30	
United Youth Group	37	
Theta Rho Girls Club	142	
Patriarchs Militant	2,911	
Chevaliers	2,309	
Ladies	602	
L.A.P.M.	492	

Total All Branches = 196,737

Total Member Loss from Previous Year = 5,135 all branches

California

	2018	2019	2020
Odd Fellow Lodges	111	111	110
Odd Fellows Members			
Brothers	3,217	3,243	
Sisters	1,401	1,460	

By *Mary Lou Lang*, treasurer of RA

