

# Mission Statement for a Lodge

Lodge No. XYZ is a determined group of men and women of various ages offering an extended family, an Order who believes in a Supreme Being, committed and enthusiastic, creative, courageous, caring and sincere, honorable and benevolent, diverse, and a caring and assisting group who would like to carry the message of Odd Fellowship to our communities.

Our goal is to promote enjoyment in our Order developing leadership and confidence; to get our community interested in educating our younger generation in the principles of Odd Fellowship and let them know us by our deeds. Inviting those who are willing to join us in family-related activities, sharing, caring and participating in community service.

We desire to work with other branches of Odd Fellowship to strengthen and motivate our members with a positive attitude to increase membership through action for today and the future.

To show others we help mankind, through our actions within our Order with a goal to have members who are friendly, helpful and enthusiastic creating awareness with an outward focus within the community.

# August 25<sup>th</sup> 2009 – 60 sec. Commercial

Are you interested in seeing the World? Could you use help in furthering your studies? Do you know someone who has an eye disease or has arthritis? Do you know an organization that is 190 years old?

Welcome to the world of Odd Fellowship an international fraternal and benevolent organization. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, 'A Family Fraternity'; 'Striving to make the world a better place in which to live'; with its Motto: 'Friendship, Love, and Truth'; its Objective: 'To Improve and Elevate the Character of Mankind'.

Through its Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges: Each year sponsors over 600 students across the U.S. and Canada on an all expense trip to the United Nations through a program called the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth, having sent over 37,000 delegates.

Through the Educational Foundation over 6 million dollars have been loaned for higher education. A research chair has been endowed at Johns Hopkins University — Wilmer Institute in the amount of 1.2 million dollars. Over 4 million has been raised for Arthritis Research. We have spent over \$465 million dollars in the relief of the distressed. We were active in the establishment of the International Peace Garden and have placed the entrance gates.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows is a Family Orientated organization who has developed homes for the aged, sponsored youth groups and work for the betterment of their communities.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows are a vibrant growing family organization open to all ages, offering something for everyone — work in your community, leadership opportunities and build lasting relationships.

We have gained many benefits by becoming involved, how about you? Odd Fellowship is the future. For more information call at: 800.235.8358

## ***Sample Radio PSAs***

### **Radio PSA (10 seconds)**

Evangeline Rebekah Lodge

Contact: **Sally Shakespeare** (919) 555-1234

FIND OUT WHAT A GROUP OF WINSTON-SALEM WOMEN IS DOING ABOUT HUNGER IN THE NORTHWEST NC AREA AND HOW YOU CAN HELP. CONTACT EVANGELINE REBEKAH LODGE AT (919) 555-1234

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### **Radio PSA (20 seconds)**

Evangeline Rebekah Lodge

Contact: **Sally Shakespeare** (919) 555-1234

ONE OUT OF EVERY EIGHT AMERICANS SUFFERS FROM ARTHRITIS. THIS CRIPPLING DISEASE CAUSES BUSINESSES TO LOSE HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS FROM ABSENTEEISM. FIND OUT WHAT THE WINSTON-SALEM REBEKAHS ARE DOING TO SUPPORT RESEARCH TO FIND A CURE AND TREATMENT FOR ARTHRITIS. CONTACT EVANGELINE REBEKAH LODGE AT (919) 555-1234

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### **Radio PSA (30 seconds)**

Evangeline Rebekah Lodge

Contact: **Sally Shakespeare** (919) 555-1234

FIGHTING GLOBAL WARMING IS THE NUMBER ONE PRIORITY FOR THE WOMEN OF EVANGELINE REBEKAH LODGE IN WINSTON-SALEM. PLANTING TREES IS MAN'S BEST ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANER AS LONG AS AIR POLLUTION CONTINUES. THE REBEKAHS ARE LOOKING FOR HELP FROM OTHER MEN IN THE COMMUNITY TO ASSIST THEM IN THEIR EFFORTS TO PROVIDE CLEAN AIR HERE IN WINSTON-SALEM. INTERESTED? CONTACT EVANGELINE REBEKAH LODGE AT (919) 555-1234.

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### **Radio PSA (60 seconds)**

Evangeline Rebekah Lodge

Contact: **Sally Shakespeare** (919) 555-1234

THE WOMEN OF EVANGELINE REBEKAH LODGE IN WINSTON-SALEM BELIEVE THAT OUR YOUTH ARE OUR MOST PRECIOUS RESOURCE. FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS THE MEMBERS HAVE BEEN AWARE, CONCERNED AND DOING SOMETHING ABOUT THE ISSUES THAT CONFRONT HIGH SCHOOL KIDS BY SPONSORSHIP OF STUDENTS ON AN EDUCATIONAL TOUR TO THE US & CANADIAN GOVERNMENTS WHICH INCLUDES A WEEK STUDYING AT THE UNITED NATIONS. YOU CAN HELP THE WOMEN OF EVANGELINE REBEKAH LODGE LIVE UP TO THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE YOUTH OF OUR COMMUNITY BY TAKING PART IN ONE OF ITS COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES. CALL THE LODGE AT (919) 555-1234 TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED. REBEKAHS. AN ORGANIZATION THAT CARES ABOUT ITS COMMUNITY.

# NEWS RELEASE ENDINGS

Use one of the following paragraphs near the end of your news release or follow the sample news release.

1. A Rebekah Lodge is the female branch of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows that is an international fraternal organization whose members are joined in a network of Lodges, with 15 Rebekah Lodges in North Carolina. Founded in 1819, the organization's programs have touched the lives of millions of members and people in their community.

2. A Rebekah Lodge is the female branch of The Independent Order of Odd Fellows that is an international fraternal organization emphasizing leadership development and service to the community including projects in physical & mental health, aging, education, the environment & opportunities for youth.

3. A Rebekah Lodge is the female branch of The Independent Order of Odd Fellows that is an international fraternal organization whose members – both male and female – develop as leaders and become involved in their community. Service to the community includes Lodge projects in physical & mental health, aging, education, the environment & opportunities for youth.

Evangeline Rebekah Lodge No. 27  
The Rebekah Assembly of North Carolina Winston-Salem,  
North Carolina

## news release

# FUNDRAISER PRESS RELEASE MODEL

For Immediate Release

Sally Shakespeare  
123 Any Street  
Winston-Salem, NC 12345 (919) 555-1234

### **Rebekahs to Host Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser**

Winston-Salem, NC - October 5, 2009

The Winston-Salem Rebekahs will host a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday October 20 from 8 a.m. to noon at their Lodge Hall, 12345 Elm Street. Proceeds will go to the Northwest North Carolina Food Bank.

Mayor Martha Wood will flip flapjacks from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. The R.J. Reynolds High School marching band will entertain from 11 a.m. to noon.

The cost is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children.

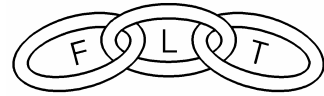
To make a donation to the Food Bank or for tickets, call Curly Craft at 555-4321.

Founded in 1937, Evangeline Rebekah Lodge in Winston-Salem is part of The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, an international fraternal organization of Odd Fellow (male) and Rebekah (male and female) Lodges emphasizing leadership development and service to the community including projects in physical & mental health, aging, education, the environment & opportunities for youth.

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# Fact Sheet

THE EMBLEM OF THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS IS THE 'THREE LINKS' WITH THE LETTERS F, L & T



The three links symbolize the chain that binds members together and illustrates that a fraternity is only as strong as its weakest member. The “F” means *friendship*. The “L” means *love*, the basis of service to others and family. The “T” represents *truth*, the standard by which we value people and our society.

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The Independent Order of Odd Fellows is an international fraternal organization whose members are joined in a network of Odd Fellows (male and female) and Rebekah (female and male) Lodges, with 15 Rebekah Lodges in NC organized as the Rebekah Assembly of NC. Founded in 1819, the organization’s programs have touched the lives of millions of members and people in their community emphasizing leadership development and service to the community, including projects in physical & mental health, aging, education, the environment & opportunities for youth. Its national charitable programs include an Educational Foundation for student loans and scholarships, an endowment that funds a chair of visual research at Johns Hopkins University Medical School, an educational tour for High School students to the US and Canadian capitols and the United Nations, resources for research programs of the Arthritis Foundation, a program for planting trees to improve air quality, over 80 housing facilities for orphans and the elderly and an international student youth exchange in many foreign countries.

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The Rebekah Assembly of North Carolina I.O.O.F.  
*OFFICE of the Secretary:*  
108 E. Cypress Street Elizabeth City, NC 27909  
(919) 7335-4626  
Virginia Warren, Secretary

*NORTH CAROLINA LODGES:*  
WILKESBORO – BEAUFORT  
CORAPEAKE – RODANTHE  
ELIZABETH CITY  
GOLDSBORO – STATESVILLE  
GREENSBORO – WILMINGTON  
WINSTON-SALEM – MANTEO  
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## Membership

The I.O.O.F. is one of the largest and oldest fraternal orders in North America. In the Americas the I.O.O.F. has approximately 250,000 members and world wide there are approximately 450,000 members. The international headquarters are located in

Winston-Salem, NC.

## History

The Odd Fellows began in England in the 18th century. It seems to have been an outgrowth of the “friendly societies”, mutual benefit associations that provided life insurance, old age assistance and funeral expenses for members. The first recorded mention of “Odd Fellows” was soon after 1780, when the Prince of Wales (later George IV) was admitted into a lodge under this name. The Order was born in America in 1819 in Baltimore by Thomas Wildey, an Englishman, who had been a member of the Order in England.

## Origin of the Name

Unrecorded legend and myth has it that the name Odd Fellows was first established by

the Roman soldiers, in camp during the reign of Nero, the emperor, in the year 55, who were called *Fellow Citizens*, and that Titus Caesar gave them the name of *Odd Fellows* in the year 79. Whatever the source of the name Odd Fellows, they have always been men who attended to the needs of widows, orphans, those in affliction and their fellow workers; and in the desperate times of the day, it was “Odd” that these “Fellows” should so do.

Rebekahs were founded in 1851 by former US Vice President, Schuyler Colfax. The name for the Rebekah Lodges, which have Odd Fellow Lodge members, but are chiefly for women, comes from Rebekah who was the wife of Isaac from the Bible.