Youth Days 2016 is getting closer and closer! 
This year we are in Rapid City, South Dakota!
August 12 & 13

Have you marked your calendars?
You won’t want to miss out on this year’s events at Youth Days?
Rapid City, South Dakota is where we will be.
We want to see you there!
Send in your reservation today!
We will be staying at the Best Western Hotel and Waterpark.

The 83rd Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns will take place on Sunday, May 8, 2016 at Arlington National Cemetery.

The Pilgrimage will be May 7-8, 2016 at Arlington, Virginia. We will be staying at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22311. Banquet will be Saturday evening. Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns will take place on Sunday, May 8 at Arlington National Cemetery. The memorial services will begin at 3:00 p.m. followed by the wreath laying ceremonies at the Tomb immediately after the 4:00 p.m. changing of the guard. The Pilgrimage address at the Tomb will be delivered by the Honorable Danny M. Wood, Sovereign Grand Master.

*Please note the dates and times the program will be held this year.
For reservations call: 1-703-845-1010 or 1-800-HILTONS (1-800-445-8667)

Attention!!!
Remember to submit your idea for this year’s Pin design by April 30. Look for details on page 6. We know you have awesome ideas! Share them with us. Winning design will be featured on the next year’s Youth Informer.

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Making Connections pg 11
A few words taken from the IOOF News:

...I would like to address the matter of community service, specifically about how it helps to build our Order. When our lodges are busy serving their communities, it puts our Order in the public eye. It gets people asking questions about what the Independent Order of Odd Fellows is all about. Some people will tell you that they had a grandfather or an uncle who was an Odd Fellow; while others will express that they have never heard of us. The only way to get our message out is to get out in the public, serving our communities. Who would not want to be a part of an organization that does good for others? Be sure that you are knowledgeable about the Order and what it stands for so you will be prepared to answer questions from prospective members.

In Friendship, Love, and Truth,
Danny Wood, Sovereign Grand Master

The Youth Informer will be looking forward to upcoming articles from our leaders to share with the Youth!

A few words taken from the IOOF News:

We cannot forget that our main objective must be membership. I look at my Lodge and wonder where we will be in another ten years. Will we still exist—will your Lodge still exist? In a few short years our Order will celebrate its 200th anniversary. How much we have changed and yet we have remained true to the principles of Friendship, Love and Truth. “Touch the future by extending your hand in friendship.” Together we can grow, we can increase our membership and then we can truly celebrate our history. She then goes on to say. With our wondrous past and our bright plans for what will come, we can join together and march into the future proudly proclaiming “I'M Glad That I'm A Rebekah”.

Fraternally,
Kathy Shary, President

A few words taken from the IOOF News:

Greetings to all!
It has truly been an awesome and memorable experience so far as your General Commanding. We have progressed forward with the Youth Cadet Corps which has been well received by some Junior Odd Fellows Lodges and Theta Rho Girls’ Clubs. Our hope, with the Grand Representatives’ help, is to launch the beginnings of the youth component during the 2016-2017 term.

Chivalrously,
General Emil R. Suder General Commanding

A few words taken from the IOOF News:

...I would like to remind all of the “Tomb of the Unknown” pilgrimage weekend. This year it is on May 8th, which happens to be on Mother's Day. I cannot see what better way to Honor your mother or your family than to go to the “Tomb of the Unknown”. Remember most of the people that are there is because they felt that there is no better country than the “UNITED STATES OF AMERICA”. I have never seen a detail that are more dedicated to their jobs than the men and women that stand guard at the “Tomb”.

Chivalrously,
Lady Cathy Doub President-I.A.L.A.P.M.
March 4, 1921, Congress approved a resolution providing for the burial of an unidentified American Soldier, following the custom adopted by other allied countries after World War I. The site was to be the plaza of Arlington National Cemetery's Memorial Amphitheater, which had been dedicated the previous year.

On Memorial Day, 1921, an unknown was exhumed from each of four cemeteries in France. The remains were placed in identical caskets and assembled at Chalon sur Marne.

The monument, which rests on top of the Unknown grave, is a sarcophagus, simple, but impressive in its dimensions. Its austere, flat-faced form is relieved at the corners and along the sides by neo-classic pilasters, or columns, set onto the surface.

The three figures of Valor, Victory and Peace are sculpted into the panel, which faces Washington. On the plaza face the words "Here Rests in Honored Glory An American Soldier Known But To God," are inscribed.

Originally, a civilian watchman was responsible for the security of the Tomb of the Unknowns. Then, March 24, 1926, a military guard from the Washington Provisional Brigade (forerunner of the U.S. Army Military District of Washington) was established during daylight hours. In 1948, the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, "The Old Guard," assumed the post, following the unit's reactivation in the nation's capital. Members of the regiment's Honor Guard continue to perform this duty today.

While on duty, the sentinel crosses a 63-foot rubber-surfaced walkway in exactly 21 steps. He then faces the tomb for 21 seconds, turns again, and pauses an additional 21 seconds before retracing his steps. The number 21 is symbolic of the 21-gun salute.

As a gesture against intrusion on their post, the sentinel always bears his weapon away from the tomb.

Only under exceptional circumstances may the guard speak or alter his silent, measured tour of duty. He will issue a warning if anyone attempts to enter the restricted area around the tomb, but first will halt and bring his rifle to port arms.

The guard wears the Army Dress Blue Uniform, reminiscent of the color and style worn by Soldiers during the late 1800s. Tomb guards wear the Tomb Identification Badge on the right breast pocket. The design is an inverted, open laurel wreath surrounding a representation of the front elevation of the tomb. The words "Honor Guard" are engraved at the base of the badge. A guard leaving after at least nine months of service is entitled to wear the badge as a permanent part of the uniform.

*Content in last section (History of the tomb and its sentinels) courtesy of www.army.mil/oldguard.
We had a nicely attended "Speak-Off speech competition held at the Lapeer Lodge on Saturday, January 16. There were 29 youth who submitted the preliminary essay and application, and participated by giving a speech on the ongoing relevance of the United Nations in the 21st-century.

The students were bright, focused, creative, sincere, and all were winners in my book. We still had reasonably ample funding for the nine positions which were allocated, at a 3 to 1 ratio of participants to awards. Our judges were PGM Mark Thetford, DGM Brian D Barr. PAP Phyllis Vande Moortel and Assembly President Edith Swenson.

There was a large audience consisting of parents, friends, and those interested in the program who came, including a nice contingent of past students gave personal testimonials as to how participation has affected them in the best of ways. All in all, a great day in Odd Fellowship and the United Nations Pilgrimage in Michigan.

When the nine student delegates awarded through the speak-off are combined with the other 11 positions so generously funded by our individual lodges, a total of 20 youth will participate this year in July. This represents additional and progressive growth in the stellar program.

Congratulations to our entire jurisdiction, making a difference in our schools, communities, if not the world. Enjoy these couple photos.

In FLT,
GM Bob

---

What's Happening in Your Neighborhood?

Here's what's going on in Michigan!

The great state of Michigan currently has 1 Junior Lodge and 3 Theta Rho Girls Clubs. They are:

- Shamrock Junior Lodge #4
- Flying Eagles Theta Rho #9
- Red Rose Theta Rho #8
- Irish Belles Theta Rho #16
SGL Session 2016 -- Registration
Rapid City, South Dakota, USA
***All Members Attending All Units MUST Register

The Sovereign Grand Lodge, International Association of Rebekah Assemblies,
General Military Council, International Association of Ladies Auxiliary Patriarchs Militant
and the Youth

One form per person – register by July 20, 2016 – made additional copies if necessary

Name: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________  Unit of the Order Attending ____________________________

City, State/Province: ____________________________ Zip/Postal Code: ____________________________

Phone: ____________________________ Cell Phone: ____________________________

*Arrival Date/Time: ____________________________  *Departure Date/Time: ____________________________

*Will you be flying or driving?

Pre-registration Fee (before July 20, 2016)  USA $75.00
Registration Fee (after July 20, 2016)  USA $85.00
Registration Fee for Youth  USA $0.00

No registration fee for Youth – however they MUST Register.

Special Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth Banquet for Adults</td>
<td>USA $45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Banquet-for-Youth</td>
<td>USA $35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officers’ Banquet – Monday August 15th</td>
<td>USA $60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday Inn - Formal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fun Night – Wednesday – August 17th</td>
<td>USA $60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chuck Wagon - Mt. Rushmore</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Enclosed</td>
<td>USA $</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No Meal Tickets will be sold at the Session – ALL tickets must be ordered by July 20, 2016.

Please note any special dietary needs:

Make Checks payable to **SGL 2016 Session Committee** and mail them to:
SGL 2016 Session Committee
PO Box 1213
Spearfish SD 57783

*Very important info – so that our committee will be able to make sure you have transportation*
Youth Days 2016 is fast approaching!
August 12-13

Youth Reports
Don’t forget your Youth Reports!
Be ready to give yours on Saturday.

Remember to send in your entries for contests for youth!

CONTEST ENTRIES ARE DUE BY APRIL 30, 2016
Send all entries to:
James Daniels
1826 N. Emerson
Tyler, TX 75702
Email at: jrdglyc@live.com

Youth Reports
Don’t forget your Youth Reports!
Be ready to give yours on Saturday.

REMEMBER TO SEND IN YOUR ENTRIES FOR CONTESTS FOR YOUTH!

Irene Meigs Award: COMMUNITY SERVICE
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. A cash prize is awarded to the winner.

Advisor of the Year:
Submit in writing why you feel your advisor should receive this award. Tell us the special things that he or she does 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.

Pin Design:
Submit your design for the Youth Pin. The winner receives a cash prize. The design must include the year of the pin, the Junior Odd Fellow, Theta Rho, and United Youth Group emblems, and the colors to be used. Keep the design simple, as the finished size is approximately 1” diameter. Please make sure your name and address are on the back of the design.
Where are we staying?  When do we get there?  What are we doing?

This year we will be in Rapid City, South Dakota and the Youth will be treated to staying at a hotel that is also a Water Park.  We will be showcasing our Talent Night with a Dinner Theater. We will not be judging the Talent Show. Everyone is awesome and a winner to us! The Youth Banquet is open to everyone. However, you must have a ticket for the Dinner Theater to see the Entertainment. Space will be limited, so be sure to tell everyone to sign up early!

These will be on the schedule of events for Youth Days:

*Youth Days begins Friday @ 1:00
*Orientation will be at 1:00 Friday Afternoon Sharp!
*Friday Night is Fun Night!
*Youth Reports will be heard by you on Saturday. Come prepared!
*Incoming Officers Visit
*Youth will have an opportunity with the JYC for a group Rap Session without the Advisors.
*Advisors will have an opportunity with the JYC for a group Rap Session without the Youth. (We are encouraging all Advisors and Youth to bring thoughts, issues and feedback to the Rap Sessions with the JYC.)
*Dinner Theater on Saturday night. Talent can be skits, music, a short story you have written or something else that you can share with us.
*You are the entertainment!

Remember: Bring your Youth Reports!

We will be at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel & Waterpark!
2111 North LaCrosse Street, Rapid City, SD
*Be sure to mention the SGL-2016 for the special rate!
Phone (605) 343-8550
IT’S ALL FOR FUN!

RIDDLE ME THIS!
1. What do you call a fish with no eyes?
2. How many times can you subtract the number 2 from the number 32?
3. What has a foot but no legs?
4. Poor people have it. Rich people need it. If you eat it you die. What is it?
5. What comes down but never goes up?
6. I’m tall when I’m young and I’m short when I’m old. What am I?

Teacher: Did your father help your with your homework?
Student: No, he did it all by himself.

Question: There is a room with no windows, doors, or any sort of opening, the walls are solid steel 10 feet thick, and you are trapped inside, left only with a saw and a table. How do you escape?

Answer: You saw the table in half; but the two halves together; two halves make a whole (hole) and you crawl out through the hole.

Did you know...the ice cream cone was originally a way to hold flowers, not ice cream? True!

Did you know...There is no word that rhymes with orange.
Here's an idea for a little extra fun!

“Always remember you're unique, just like everyone else.”

Tornado in a Bottle

What you’ll need:
- Tape (Duct Tape works best)
- 2 2 Liter Bottles
- Water
- Food Coloring

Instructions:
1. Fill one of the bottles about 3/4 full of water. Add a drop or 2 of food coloring.
2. Put the empty bottle upside down on top of the bottle filled with water.
3. Tape the mouthpieces together.
4. Flip the bottle over so the one filled with water is on top. Rotate the bottle on top in a circular motion until a tornado starts to form.
5. Set the bottles on the table and watch the tornado in action!
6. Have fun!

Can you spot 20 differences between these pictures?
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: Mary Houle’ - 27997 C. G. Lorane Road, Cottage Grove, OR 97424

**SPONSOR OF A NEW MEMBER**

**NEW MEMBER**

SPONSER NAME ____________________________ DATE ADMITTED ____________ BRO. _____ SIS. _____

NEW MEMBER’S LODGE_________________________ NAME ____________________________

LODGE SECRETARY’S NAME____________________ ADDRESS ____________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________ CITY ____________________________

CITY ____________________________ STATE/PROVINCE ____________________________

STATE/PROVINCE ____________________________ POSTAL/ZIP CODE ____________________________

POSTAL/ZIP CODE ____________________________ DATE OF BIRTH (M/D/Y) ____________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

**SUBSCRIPTION FORM FOR ADULTS**

NEW □ RENEWAL □ ADDRESS CHANGE □

NAME__________________________________________________________________________________________

ADVISOR□ (NO CHARGE) YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIR □ (NO CHARGE)

ADDRESS OR EMAIL ____________________________ CITY ____________ STATE/PROVINCE _______ ZIP _____

FILL OUT COMPLETELY NO CHARGE FOR EMAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS OR MAIL WITH $10 (U.S. OR CANADIAN) PER YEAR TO:
SGL-IARA JYC YOUTH INFORMER, Gwen Wixom - 2816 IRISH RIDGE RD., BURLINGTON, IA 52601

OFFICE USE: AMOUNT SUBMITTED $___________ U.S. ________ CANADIAN

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 at 2816 Irish Ridge Road, Burlington, IA 52601. Or E-mail to gwen.wixom@century21.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.

Did you know: you can find us at these places?
Website: ioofyouth.ca

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.

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**NEW MEMBER**

SPONSER NAME ____________________________ DATE ADMITTED ____________ BRO. _____ SIS. _____

NEW MEMBER’S LODGE_________________________ NAME ____________________________

LODGE SECRETARY’S NAME____________________ ADDRESS ____________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________ CITY ____________________________

CITY ____________________________ STATE/PROVINCE ____________________________

STATE/PROVINCE ____________________________ POSTAL/ZIP CODE ____________________________

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_______________________________________________________________________________________

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YOUTH COMMITTEE DIRECTORY

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Email: jrdqlyc@live.com

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Email: gwen.wixom@century21.com

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*Share your organization’s website with others.

Do you need us? Do you need help? Advice? Or just an ear to listen? Request a visit by contacting Youth Committee Chairman James Daniels 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.