

The New Mexico Rebekah Reporter

Editor, Barbara Corfield PDIARA



Volume 26 Issue 4

www.nmrebekahs.org

July-August 2012

Don't forget

Annual Sessions of Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly September 27-30 in Moriarty, NM.

Thursday - Registration, Canton Meeting, and Official Opening.

Friday - GL & RA meetings. Banquet honoring GM & RAP

Saturday—GL & RA meetings, Installation of 2012-2013 Officers.

Sunday—GL & RA closing sessions.

Memorial Wall and Pavilion dedicated at IOOF Recreation Area



A beautiful New Mexico weekend with blue skies and high clouds welcomed everyone to the re-opening of the IOOF Recreation Area after being closed last year due to the forest fires in the Manzano mountains surrounding the camp. Grand Master Ernie Cloud and President Carolyn Schaffer were there to greet all campers, families and friends.

Saturday was spent with games, games and more games organized by Deputy Grand Master, Barbara Cloud, Vice President Doris Felkner and Grand Warden Fred Schneider. Dominos, various card games, egg toss, balloon toss, horse-shoes, and washer boards were among some of the games in which many participated. Pictures of some of the winners are included on other pages of the newspaper.

Saturday evening was the big Pot-Luck with lots of choices to eat. There is always too much, but no one went away hungry. Prizes were awarded and a fun evening of fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Sunday always starts with breakfast being served by the Grand Lodge Elected Officers, Rebekah Assembly Elected Officers, and the members of the Board of Governors. Eggs, bacon, pancakes, juice and coffee never tasted any better than cooked in the open and in the early morning mountain air. The raising of the flags followed by the devotion service, memorial and dedication made for a great way to celebrate the re-opening of the Recreation Area and give thanks for our area being spared the forest fires of 2011. More about the dedication on page 3.

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From the Grand Master J. Ernest Cloud



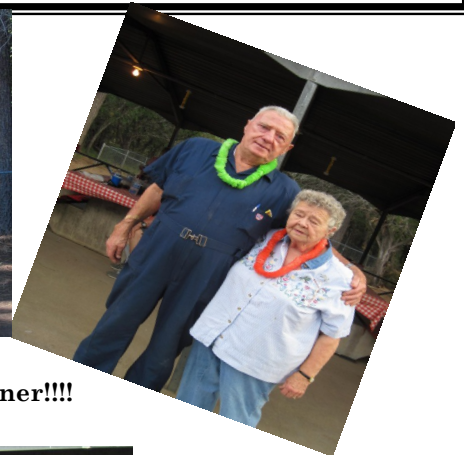
A message from your outgoing Grand Master

This has been a very interesting year, especially with my emphasis on The Good Samaritan Program. Many of the lodges have put on Good Samaritan Programs, and it has brought many more people to see our lodges. Many were family members, but many more were community people, and that is what we should be looking for. I urge you to continue the Good Samaritan Program next year, and in the years to come. With its use, you can recruit new members into your lodge. You can also upgrade your program, and have a Humanitarian Award for someone who comes from outside the lodge. If you can get city officials to your program, you can really promote your lodge. So I urge all lodges to continue this program or upgrade it.

Some of the lodges were unable or unwilling to put on the Good Samaritan Program, and don't realize the value of putting it on. I can tell you that the lodges that did put the program on were very pleased with themselves and how they turned out. And I think they will be happy to put the program on again. We are always getting new Good Samaritans to honor, and honoring them can certainly benefit our Order.

Thank you to all the lodges for welcoming me on my visits. You made my term one I will always remember.

J. Ernest Cloud-Grand Master



Fun and games, everyone is a winner!!!!



From Dee's Desk D'Elva, Emert RA Secretary



One of the benefits of being able to go to IARA is sightseeing. On the trip to Cincinnati, Leona, Doris and I were able to visit President Eisenhower's Library in Abilene, KS. We went to the top of the Arch in St. Louis and took a one hour cruise down the river. What a hoot that was. Then on to Cincinnati where I thoroughly enjoyed the IARA sessions, I always learn something. Sandi McWatters found us a dinner cruise on Tuesday night. That was wonderful! At the end of the sessions the three of us enjoyed watching the Cincinnati Reds play against the St. Louis Cardinals and to see them retire Barry Larkin's jersey. After the game there was a massive fireworks display. It

was a lot of fun. On Saturday, we went to tour Churchill Downs in Louisville, KY. Some things just aren't visible on television. It was something I had never seen before and I am glad we went. On to our sessions in just a few short weeks. I fully expect to enjoy it every bit as much as IARA. I know the committee has worked hard on making our stay comfortable. I will have Secretary packets ready as well as packets for Representatives. Please, Please, load your car and come. It is not too late. Speaking of representatives, if you have not sent in credentials for your representative, DO IT NOW. And representatives, remember to bring your copy with you. If you are on the Sales Table or Gift Table, please be there in time to make sure your table is ready for our members to visit early Friday morning.

Hoping to see you there, Dee

Memorial Wall and Dedication of Pavilion

The placement of the plaques on the memorial wall was Sunday morning with the names of JL Braught, Ginny Simpson and Kathy Shanley added to the wall. Present to add the plaque of JL was his wife, Opal, son, RJ, his daughter and grand children. Ginny's plaque was placed by D'Elva Emert and Kathy's was placed by her children, Brenda Brown, Brian Shanley, and Pam Gonzales. Also present was Kathy's Sister Gerri Park, her son Cary and several of Kathy's grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Following the ceremonies at the memorial wall, everyone



moved to the Pavilion where Andy Shanley, Chairman of the Board of Governors dedicated the Pavilion as the JL Braught Memorial Pavilion in honor of his dedication and devotion to the establishment of this beautiful Recreation Area that so many Odd Fellows and Rebekahs, their families and friends have enjoyed for so many years. RJ Braught spoke of his father and how important this Camp was to him and to Opal. He told that JL was determined to finish the shade over the memorial wall and was insistent that RJ help him up to the last few months before his death. RJ extended thanks on behalf of the family to the Board of Governors for this honor.



Broken Links



Meryl "Sunny" Wilde

Meryl Louise Collins was born in Pueblo, Colorado to Duane and Alice Collins and grew up in San Jose California. When she was young she was given the name "Sunny" because of her personality and looks. A name she lived up to all of her life. She woke up the morning after her 16th birthday to hear the radio broadcasting that Pearl Harbor had been bombed.

Shortly after WWII, Sunny married Lewis Wilde – a great partnership until Lew died of lung cancer. They had one daughter, Dian, who is a member of Deming Rebekah Lodge #16. When Dian was two years old, they moved to White Sands Proving Ground (now Missile Range) so "they wouldn't have In-laws telling them how to raise their daughter." They actually lived on the base in very small trailer house as civilians. She said moving to the desert from Northern California was quite a shock, especially having to take special training for rattlesnakes in order to live on base. Sunny soon also had a job at the Proving Ground.

Sunny, Lew, and Dian moved to Houston, TX, where he was offered a job as a machinist with the fledgling space agency, NASA. Sunny was also offered a job as property officer. While there they participated in the exciting life of space missions. After several years in Houston, they were given the opportunity to transfer back to White Sands with the NASA team. This time they lived in Las Cruces like most civilians. Participating in the shuttle landing at White Sands was one of the most exciting events Sunny was involved in there.

Sunny was recruited and initiated into Miriam Rebekah Lodge #25 when they need members for their drill team to go to Sovereign Grand Lodge held in Oceanside, California. She was a backbone of that lodge for as long as she was able. After a brief hiatus while she was in Houston, she returned to lodge when she returned to Las Cruces.

Throughout their married life (and probably before), Sunny and Lew were avid drag racers. Sunny always loved cars. In addition to many other lodge and assembly offices, she was the "Official Chauffer." This was the reason she chose the Race Car as her emblem when she was Rebekah Assembly President in 1996-1997 with a Motto "Race into the future with Odd Fellowship", with the Starter Flag as her traveling emblem,. Her theme was "Increase your pit crew with new members." Her Grand Master was Fred Schneider. She passed away August 5 and memorial services are planned for October.

Peggy Paler

When Peggy joined Arkisgo Theta Rho Girls' Club at the age of 12, she became the third generation of her family to become a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. She was an active member, participating in community service, a drill team and learning about the principles of Odd Fellowship. When she was a junior in high school, she wrote an essay and won a trip on the United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth sponsored by the Odd Fellows and went on a three week tour of the United States and Canada. In New York City, the group went to the United Nations, toured the building and was able to sit in on discussions of the future of the Trust Territories, never realizing that one day she would be living there. The trip so impressed her that it influenced her entire life. She joined Triple Link Rebekah Lodge #10 at the age of 21 and was active until she moved to Guam when she took a withdrawal card. In 1980 she reinstated her membership. After the death of her husband and moving back to Albuquerque, she became an Advisor to Arkisgo Theta Rho Girls' Club #1. She spent many years devoting her time and efforts as a mentor to teenage girls; teaching them the same values that she received when she was a young lady belonging to the club. She served as Noble Grand for two years 1994 & 1995 and became active at the Rebekah Assembly by serving as a Trustee on the Bettye Miller Memorial Scholarship Board. She served as Page at the International Association of Rebekah Assemblies in Kansas City when her sister, Barbara, was International President.



Over the years, Peggy had acquired an extensive collection of dolls and among the collection was an assortment of the Madame Alexander 8" Dolls of the World, concentrating on the dolls from the countries in which there are Rebekahs. In 2011, she donated this collection of 26 dolls to the Schulyer Colfax Museum of the International Association of Rebekah Assemblies in Winston-Salem, NC where it is on permanent display.

She is survived by her sisters Sandi McWatters and Barbara Corfield of Albuquerque, Niece Sherri Villegas, Nephews Doug McWatters, Ken Corfield, Bob Corfield, and their families; a host of worldwide friends and many fraternal brothers and sisters. She passed away August 4 and memorial services were held in Albuquerque on August 10.



What's Happening at Lodge.....

New Members

Alamogordo IOOF #25

Harmony IOOF #1

Julene Fernold
 Donald S. Fernold
 Anna M Acosta
 Evangeline Shelland
 Stacy L McDonald
 Naomi Pino
 Shirley Hutchcraft
 Nora Foltz
 Adelina Pino
 Ann Kychinsky
 Lois S. Hutchens
 Helena Trent

Tony Schwartz

**All New Members will
 receive a one year free
 subscription to the New
 Mexico Rebekah Reporter**

*Where are your
 New Members ?*

Crescent Rebekah Lodge #3..... from the Hobbs News-Sun: American Legion Auxiliary Seeks Donations for Care Packages: “...the soldiers like to receive school supplies in order to give to children in countries in which they are serving. **Crescent Rebekah Lodge #3** has donated three big boxes of various supplies for the care packets.”

Triple Link #10 and Mountain View #36 entertained RA President Carolyn Schaffer on Tuesday, Sept 4 and Wednesday Sept 5. Dinners were held at the Golden Corral Buffet on the 4th and Little Anita’s on the 5th. Both meetings were well attended by members, Past Presidents and Past Grand Masters.

Happenings from your lodge could be here!

Card of thanks:

Thanks to all the Lodges, brothers, sisters and friends who visited, called, sent cards, emails and remembrances during the recent hospitalization and passing of our sister Peggy Paler. It is not possible to convey our appreciation for the love and concern expressed by everyone. You are all our family and we love you.

Sandi McWatters, Barbara Corfield and the family of Peggy Paler

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Editorial notes from Barb:..... Congratulations to Alamogordo Odd Fellow for their new members and thanks to GM Ernie Cloud for getting this information. This lodge is doing great things but no one knows about it. The NMRR is the perfect vehicle to let everyone know what it going on in your community and Lodge. These new members will get a free subscription to the NMRR for one year. Thanks, again, GM Cloud for following through with this information.

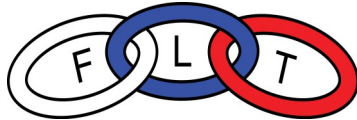
Our Fraternal year is ending and congratulations to our outgoing officers . Now is the time to celebrate their accomplishments and successes by attending and participating in the activities at the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly sessions Sept 27-30 in Moriarty. Come have a great time of fun, fellowship and friendship. The Albuquerque lodges have been working hard to make this a special time to be enjoyed by all. Looking forward to seeing everyone in Moriarty.

Thanks to all who submitted articles and information for this issue. Remember to Share the Good News about Odd Fellowship! **Barb**

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New Mexico Rebekah Reporter
Independent Order of Odd Fellows
PO Box 9365
Albuquerque, NM 87119-9365

Phone: 505- 877-1520
Cell: 505-3562-1873
email: barbc1408@msn.com



Friendship, Love & Truth

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The New Mexico Rebekah Reporter is published 6 times a year. Jan/Feb; Mar/Apr; May/Jun; July/Aug; Sept/Oct; and Nov /Dec.; under the authority of the Rebekah Assembly of New Mexico, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The New Mexico Rebekah Reporter is a member of the International Press Association of the Sovereign Grand Lodge. Subscriptions are \$5.00 yearly. All subscriptions, news, questions, and information are to be sent to Barbara Corfield, Editor at the addresses listed.. Electronic copies of the NMRR are now available in a PDF format beginning with this issue. If you wish to receive your future copy via your email, let the Editor know.

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Rebekah Assembly of NM Website: www.nmrebekahs.org

Grand Lodge of NM Website:

www.ioofnm.org

Sovereign Grand Lodge Website:

www.ioof.org

Webmaster of NM websites: Nita Jmel

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