

THE KENTUCKY ODDFELLOW

Editor Bruce Fortin

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Editors Message:

*We wish you a very Merry Christmas
and a safe and joyous Holiday season.*

An Odd Fellows Christmas poem

A Brotherhood Christmas

In the quiet winter's eve, where snowflakes
gently fall, the spirit of the Odd Fellows Warms
the hearts of all.

With hands joined together, in friendship strong
and true, we share our bonds of kindness in all
we say and do.

This Christmas brings a promise of unity and
peace, A time to help our brothers, our giving to
increase.

In halls adorned with holly, where laughter fills
the air, we celebrate the season with love and
heartfelt care.

A brother stands beside us, no matter night or
day, we lift each other's burdens in every
possible way.

So let us light the candles, and raise our voices
high, for in this season's magic, our fellowship
will fly.

Through acts of selfless giving, And hearts so
full and bright, The Odd Fellows' spirit Shines
through the darkest night.



Ring my bell!

Aeolian Lodge #51 spent some time ringing bells.
Helping their community, wrists and arms suffered, but
worth it for a great cause.

The Salvation Army and the Odd Fellows Bowling
Green, Kentucky. Thank you to everyone who came by
and donated to the cause! We appreciate you FLT!
Mark Flener, Sam Flener, Jeff York, Kris York, Steve
Willoughby, Jim Schaeffer, Stephen D Stahl, G Clint
Young.



The I.O.O.F., Independent Order of Odd Fellows, is a benevolent and social organization that originated in England and was introduced in the United States in 1819 at Baltimore, Maryland. 501C (8) Non-Profit



Rehabilitation Programs: Assisting individuals struggling with addiction and providing resources for recovery.

Youth Programs: Offering summer camps, after-school programs, and support for at-risk youth.

Veteran Services: Providing support and resources to veterans and their families.

Job Training: Helping individuals develop skills and find employment.

The Salvation Army operates in many communities worldwide, and they rely on donations and volunteers to continue their work.



Odd Fellow Lodges doing their part by donating.

The Odd Fellows of Bowling Green, Kentucky held their Christmas party on 12/2/2022.

Aeolian Lodge #51

Downs Syndrome of Southern Kentucky made a presentation about the events they are doing and their progress with individuals with special needs. Brother Jack Donelson presented a \$1000 check from the Odd Fellows organization. We had excellent food and music when we gave special thanks to John Renfrow and Stephen Stahl, who did excellent work in regard to this event. Thank you to everyone who attended and participated. I learned from the presentation that there are only three Buddy Houses in Kentucky. Bowling Green is very fortunate to have one of those organizations. Thank you!!!

The event was attended by the Deputy Grandmaster of Kentucky, George Brady, and widows of past Odd Fellow members. We had numerous friends and family members in attendance.



Why does the Salvation Army ring a bell?

The ringing of the bell by the Salvation Army is a long-standing tradition associated with their Christmas fundraising efforts. This practice began in 1891 when Captain Joseph McFee wanted to provide a free Christmas dinner for the poor in San Francisco. To fund this initiative, he set up a kettle and rang a bell to attract attention and encourage donations.

The Salvation Army is an international Christian organization dedicated to providing various forms of assistance to those in need. Their mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and meet human needs without discrimination. They offer a wide range of services, including:

Food and Shelter: Providing meals and temporary housing for those experiencing homelessness or financial hardship.

Bill Assistance: Helping families pay for utilities, rent, and other essential bills.

Disaster Relief: Offering support and resources to communities affected by natural disasters.

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Dekalb Lodge #12

Dekalb Lodge Christmas Party was held at the Cox Building in Maysville, KY with 134 in attendance (Grand Master Craig Stanfield, Deputy Grand Master Randy Harrison, and Past Grand Master George Brady were in attendance). The meal was catered by Tumbleweed Tex-Mex Restaurant and included prime rib, large cocktail shrimp, green beans, mashed potatoes and gravy, salad, rolls, and cheesecake



IOOF Lorraine Lodge #4

Held a successful coat drive where 110 coats were collected. They donated these to Hip Hop Cares Homeless Outreach in Louisville Kentucky! It is a grassroots organization that hands out meals and essentials to those in need.

Their website is: <https://hiphopcares.org/about>



The overage of Lorraine Lodge holiday catered meal was donated to Arthur Street Hotel, which is a hotel for the homeless near their lodge! Arthur Street Hotel aids in helping the homeless transition from homelessness to permanent housing by helping with the basics such as medical and mental health support, help obtain documentation such as photo IDs and legal documents, and pet care for those who need it! Arthur Street Hotel's website is:

<https://careatash.org> Thank you to all who donated!

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Resting On Laurels

Meaning: Be so satisfied with what one has already achieved that one makes no further effort.

Origin: Since ancient Greece laurel branches symbolized victory and success. This plan was closely tied to Apollo, the god of music, prophecy and poetry. Laurel branches were given to victorious athletes in ancient Greece and later to generals who won important battles, thus the term 'laureates' and the phrase 'resting on laurels'. In the 19th century, the term received a negative connotation to describe those who are overly satisfied with their achievements.

Eat Humble Pie

Meaning: Make a humble apology and accept humiliation.

Origin: In the Middle Ages there would be a huge feast after a hunt. The lord of the manor would receive the finest piece of meat, and the ones with a lower status would eat a pie filled with entrails and innards, which were also known as "umbles". Those who would eat the "umple pie" were considered to be humiliated, since it symbolized their lower status.

Hands Down

Meaning: Easily and decisively; without question.

Origin: Hands down is an idiom born from the world of horse racing. Think about it. You are so far ahead of the chasing pack that you, as the jockey, can sit back, relax, and still win the race even without your hands on the reins. Winning 'at a canter' is a similar expression also from the track, but this one is better, hands down.

Take The Piss

Meaning: mock someone or something.

Origin: Back in the day, when clothes were dyed with natural dye, stale urine was used as a mordant, which stops the natural dye from leaching out of the cloth. The textile industry needed all the urine it could get, so workers would go around and collect specially designated chamber pots full of urine from people's houses. It was probably the least desirable job at the time, so people who did it would often lie about their profession. And so the question was born from those in doubt: "Really? Are you taking the piss?"

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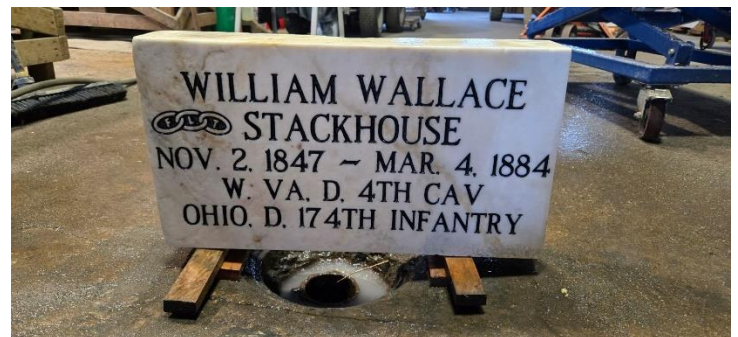


Honoring our dead.

IOOF Aaron Lodge #412 is honoring one of our own, a deceased brother Odd Fellow.

While members of the lodge were cleaning a local cemetery, they discovered that an Odd Fellow's grave had been damaged. Bruce Fortin took it upon himself to ensure that this brother was properly honored. During his research, he discovered that the deceased was also a Civil War soldier. A new engraved marker has been procured and will be dedicated in a ceremony once the weather improves. This commitment to restoring the grave and providing a proper marker exemplifies the values of brotherhood and respect for our history.

It's inspiring to see such care and attention given to preserving the memory of those who have passed, especially those who served their country. When the ceremony takes place, it will surely be a meaningful moment for everyone involved. We wish to thank Alana Insko Kelly for her generous donation.



Helping the needy!

Here we find our Brother Robert Howell out making his rounds.

Who else can put a smile on someone who wears such a hat? Maybe the gift of charity has changed his mind. There is such power in giving and caring for others.



Oh Dear! His kindness has taken this woman's heart!



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