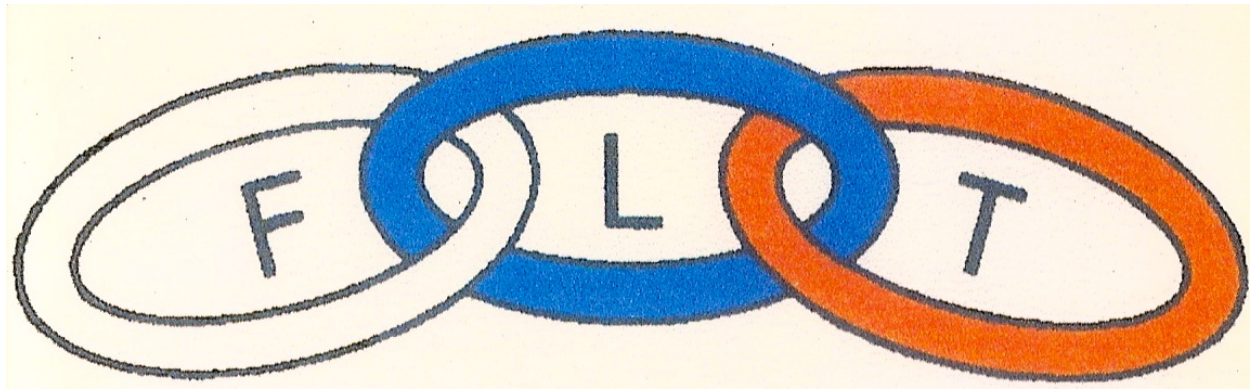


EXCELSIOR LODGE NO. 1  
UNDER THE SOVEREIGN GRAND LODGE  
INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 1846 - 2013

**The Three Links** represents a worldwide chain that binds men and women together in fraternal devotion to God and fellow men. The three links represents **Friendship. Love and Truth**, the corner stone upon which all Odd Fellows of the world built the Order. Seek to improve and elevate the character of man.



**The Society of Odd Fellows** is a fraternity of citizens who had its origin in England in the 18th century. The first authentic reference to the fellowship by name mentions King George IV of England, then Prince of Wales was initiated as a member. Various branches of the Order sprang up in that period in England and was eventually united in 1810 under the name **Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows**.

The first Odd Fellow groups were formed in England and thought to have grown out of guilds, forerunner of today's unions. It is believed that the first Odd Fellows were motivated by a concern for the members of their own groups, notably those in trouble and families who needed assistance. Since the idea of workers helping other workers rather than depending on patriarchal royal protection were those who organized to do this charitable work were looked upon as "**Odd Fellows**" and the name has remained with the Order.

**In the United States**, the Legend of Odd Fellowship carries on in the hearts of the initiates. Much the same today as it did when Thomas Wildey (founder and father of Odd Fellowship in America) and John Welch realized they missed the close friendship and social pleasures of meetings with their Brothers under the banner of Friendship, Love and Truth. They wanted an Odd Fellow Lodge. Requiring only three more brothers to form a Lodge in the United States of America, they placed an ad in the Baltimore American Newspaper in Baltimore, Maryland on March 27, 1819.

## **The first lodge in North America was established on April 26, 1819 with the institution of Washington Lodge No. 1 of Baltimore, Maryland**

The American Order not only spread to Canada, but also to other countries including Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Chile, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Mexico, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Norway, United Kingdom and Venezuela. Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges are currently in the process of being organized in additional countries.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows questions no persons religion, race or creed to join the order. It does not permit any political, sectarian or other improper debate to be injected into its fraternal deliberations. Lodge meetings are conducted for the transaction of lawful business and for the diffusion of the principles of benevolence and charity.

The Order seeks to recruit into its fraternal circle those who cherish and protect his/her fellowman. One who recognizes the obligations of the brotherhood of man/women and are willing to help each other in sickness and adversity. Individuals who are willing to perform **the commands of our Order which are to visit the sick, relief the distressed, bury the dead and educate the orphans. One who seeks to improve and elevate the character of man and teaches the principles of friendship, love and truth.**

The first tenet of the Order is purity - a purity of life and conduct. The three links; friendship, love and truth weld us together - the foundation of our Order. The three pillars of faith, hope and charity, staunchly support us through the journey of life. As a final crown, our Order teaches universal justice for one and all.

True fraternity is of the spirit. If you have true spirit of fraternity, you will live and promote the principles of Odd Fellowship.

Universal Brotherhood of Man and Woman under the Fatherhood of God is imperative to survival of the world. It can be accomplished only through the practice of fellowship and understanding among all people of the world.

## **THE FOUR DEGREES OF AN ODD FELLOWS LODGE:**

**The Initiatory Degree** is intended to make a lasting impression on the individuals receiving it. It's mission is to remind the initiates of the vanity of earthly things, the frailty and inevitable decay of human life and the fact that wealth has no power to stop the sureness of eventual death.

The new member is urged to dedicate his/her life to works of charity, good will and to govern his/her relations by the principles of Friendship, Love and Truth. They are pledged to make the obligations and duties of Odd Fellowship a part of himself/herself every day.

**The First Degree or The Degree of Friendship** recognizes that man is a part of a universal brotherhood/sisterhood. An Odd Fellow is entitled to receive the aid and council and protection of his/her fellow members, when in distress or in difficult situations. He/she is also obliged to give aid, council and protection when the situation is reversed.

The first principle of Odd Fellowship is termed Fraternity, the universal fraternity of all mankind. The teachings of this degree are founded upon the friendship of Jonathan and David, as related in the Old Testament, Book of 1st Samuel. To remind us of the use of the bow and arrow by Jonathan to warn David of great danger.

**The Second Degree is the Degree of Brotherly Love** and the second link in the chain of Odd Fellowship is Love, without which neither the first - friendship - nor the last - truth - is of real value. This degree exemplifies the story of the Good Samaritan and teaches that brotherly love extends its helping hand to those who suffer, regardless of race, creed or nationality.

**The Third Degree is the Scarlet Degree or Degree of Truth.** It represents truth as the basic principle of sentiment and action. It signifies truth as the basic foundation for all our principles. The voice of truth speaks through forms and symbols as well as words. In fact, Truth is sometimes more effectively taught by emblems than by words. Truth, the imperial virtue promotes economic stability, equality under law, freedom of enterprise, the highest of ethical standards and lasting peace, the ultimate goal of eternity.

### **ODD FELLOW VALEDICTION**

**I AM AN ODD FELLOW**

**I BELIEVE IN THE FATHERHOOD OF GOD AND THE BROTHERHOOD OF MAN.**

**I BELIEVE IN FRIENDSHIP, LOVE AND TRUTH AS BASIC GUIDES TO THE  
ULTIMATE DESTINY OF ALL MANKIND.**

**I BELIEVE MY HOME, MY CHURCH OR TEMPLE, MY LODGE AND MY  
COMMUNITY DESERVE MY BEST WORK, MY MODEST PRIDE, MY EARNEST  
FAITH AND MY DEEPEST LOYALTY, AS I PERFORM MY DUTY TO VISIT THE  
SICK, RELIEVE THE DISTRESSED, BURY THE DEAD AND EDUCATE THE  
ORPHAN, AND AS I WORK WITH OTHERS TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD,  
BECAUSE, IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH, I AM, AND MUST ALWAYS BE, GRATEFUL  
TO MY CREATOR, FAITHFUL TO MY COUNTRY AND FRATERNAL TO MY FELLOW  
MAN. I AM AN ODD FELLOW.**

## **ODD FELLOWSHIP IN HAWAII.**

Dr. Gilbert Watson, a physician, Past Grand of Massachusetts in planning a trip to Oregon learned there were five Odd Fellows in good standing in his party. He petitioned for a charter to be located in Oregon City. The Grand Sire signified his assent and requested Dr. Watson to prepare his petition in regular form for approval. However, unable to receive the charter from the Grand Sire prior to sailing, Dr. Watson hastily appealed to Deputy Grand Sire Guild of Massachusetts to give him a charter which was done. Dr. Watson was commissioned a District Deputy Grand Sire for Oregon for a year and was sent forth with the books and work of the Order.

The ship "Henry" set sail from Newburyport, Massachusetts for the Columbia River and Oregon City, There was no way to recall the commission. It would be a year before the party could be heard from and when the Grand Sire of the United States met in September 1846, the Grand Sire requested the facts. That body, because of the good faith of everyone concerned, approved the issuance of the charter Dr. Watson had in hand.

The ship Henry never reached Oregon. The ship drifted about, buffeted by head winds and delayed by storms and high rough seas on the Atlantic Coast, around the tempestuous Cape Horn and into the Pacific Ocean, all of which consumed months. Then, strange to relate, the ship Henry drifted westward rather than northward, and in October 1846, the ship Henry arrived in Honolulu. These pioneer Odd Fellows gave thanks for their safe arrival at any port. Their hearts were filled with joy over the safe termination of the wearisome voyage. They accepted the decision of faith and elected to remain in the Hawaiian Islands.

## **EXCELSIOR LODGE NO. 1**

Dr. Watson decided that the charter in his possession might as well be used in this beautiful land out in the western sea. Captain W. R. Kilburn of the Henry and the Second Officer both were Odd Fellows. As a Past Grand in his home lodge, Dr. Watson was a great believer of Odd Fellowship. He set out to find more members in Honolulu and located Anthony Ten Eyck, Charles Brewer II and Captain Kennedy of the ship W. H. Harrison.

Brother Watson was encouraged with the number of men interested in forming a lodge in Honolulu and called a meeting on December 8, 1846. Also in attendance were G. D. Gilman and Marshall Johnson, Odd Fellows who made their home in Honolulu. They met again on December 10, 1846 and at that meeting Excelsior Lodge No. 1. was instituted in Honolulu utilizing the Oregon City Charter. Excelsior Lodge was now under the Grand Lodge of the United States of America. This became the first Odd Fellows Lodge instituted west of the Rocky Mountains.



The first elected officers of Excelsior Lodge No.1: Noble Grand Anthony Ten Eyck, Vice Grand Marshall Johnson, Secretary G. D. Gilman and Treasurer Charles Brewer II.

Following installation ceremonies conducted by Brother Watson, the first regular meeting of Excelsior Lodge No. 1 was called to order. The lodge has continued to meet on Tuesday nights since the first meeting. Committees were appointed to draft by-laws, design and engrave a seal and procure regalia and furniture. The seal designed in 1846 is the same seal being used today by Excelsior Lodge.

King Kamehameha IV signed a charter in April 1859 making Excelsior Lodge No. 1, a fraternal corporation in the Kingdom of Hawaii.

## **OTHER ODD FELLOWS LODGES**

**PACIFIC LODGE NO. 2** was formed in Lahaina Maui on April 30, 1851. The lodge was later disbanded because most of the members moved back to Honolulu.

**HARMONY LODGE NO. 3** was instituted on May 12, 1876 with Brother C. S. Barton as the first Noble Grand. Many of the brothers who belonged to Pacific Lodge No. 2 were instrumental in forming Harmony Lodge.

**PRINCE JONATHAN LODGE NO. 4** was instituted at Schofield Barracks on April 14, 1934. By 1937 this lodge was the largest on Oahu. On January 20, 1953 Prince Jonathan Lodge consolidated with Excelsior Lodge No. 1.

**REBEKAHS** the women branch of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Recognizing the need of a woman's touch and her helpfulness in carrying out the principles of Odd Fellowship that were founded on the principles of faithfulness, hospitality, unselfishness, purity and dedication of self to the principles as portrayed by women characters of the Bible. The degree of Rebekah was founded in 1851, by Brother Schuyler Colfax, the author and founder of the Rebekah Degree.

In 1853 Brother R. A. S. Wood returned from a trip to the United States where he had the Rebekah Degree conferred upon him. He was empowered to confer the Rebekah Degree on members of his home lodge and their wives, instructing them in the work of the degree.

**PACIFIC REBEKAH LODGE NO. 1** was instituted in 1851. However, it took a few years before the charter was secured. Then on **March 26, 1888, PACIFIC REBEKAH LODGE NO..1 was established.**

**OLIVE BRANCH REBEKAH LODGE NO. 2** was instituted on January 20, 1899 with the help of eight members from Pacific Rebekah Lodge No.1 and one person who had been a member on the mainland. In 1904 the Olive Branch Lodge had fifty nine members, of which thirty-four were Sisters and twenty-five were Brothers.

**SERVICE REBEKAH LODGE NO. 3** was instituted on June 19, 1937 due to the increasing number of women residing in Schofield Barracks who were interested in joining the Rebekahs. The Lodge remained active until the war hit Hawaii in 1941. The Lodge reactivated itself in 1949. The Lodge was active only a year or so. It was merged with Olive Branch Lodge No. 2 to provide a stronger Lodge.

**ENCAMPMENTS** was first chartered in Maryland in 1831. Patriarchal Odd Fellowship touches the springs of human experience and follows the stream of human life as far as the clear eyes of **faith** and the light of **hope** can see or measure. It recognizes what is good in all men everywhere. Encampments confer three degrees to its members: The **Patriarchal, Golden Rule and Royal Purple**.

**THE PATRIARCHAL DEGREE.** Faith, an ideal or a way of life, provides the motive power, the refuge in time of disappointment, the vision to carry on and the hope to achieve. Thus the first pillar of Patriarchal Odd Fellowship - **FAITH**. Odd Fellows must have **Faith**, the foundation of all principles. **Faith** in his/her lodge, fellow man, his country and in God.

**THE GOLDEN RULE DEGREE.** The second pillar **Hope** which fathers the principle of **Universal Brotherhood, Tolerance and the Golden Rule** - "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

**THE ROYAL PURPLE DEGREE.** The third pillar is **Charity** and it does not mean the extending of monetary assistance alone, but has myriad meanings: forgiveness, consideration, love and unselfishness - a **Charity** of heart as well as hand.

**POLYNESIA ENCAMPMENT NO. 3** was instituted on **February 1, 1854**. The Encampment did not flourish and on June 10, 1865 surrendered its charter. However, seven years later the Encampment applied for the return of its charter and was granted its request on **December 8, 1872**.

**PATRIARCHS MILITANTS.** It was formed to provide a uniformed element of the Order. To retain membership in a Canton, a Chevalier must also remain in good standing in an Encampment, Odd Fellows Lodge and a Rebekah Lodge.

**CANTON KING KAMEHAMEHA 1ST, NO. 1** was formed during the Sovereign Grand Lodge Session in Alberta, Canada in 1991. Members of the Edmonton, Canada Canton conducted the ceremonies. Five brothers (DDSGM George Roberts, Edward A. Berlin, Ronald Kennedy, Timothy Connors and Kenneth Heittman) formed the nucleus of Canton King Kamehameha 1st, No. 1.

On May 1992, General Commanding Eugene L. Ingraham, Jr., General Military Council, and his staff came to Honolulu and presented the Charter to King Kamehameha 1st, No. 1. General Commanding Ingraham also swore in seventeen

new Chevaliers. George Roberts was elected as the first Captain of the Canton and held the post from 1991 - 1994. Lieutenant Richard R. Heflin assumed command of the Canton after George Roberts term of office.

## UNITED YOUTH GROUP

Excelsior Lodge sponsored **Pu'ulu Hana United Youth Group** and was **instituted on November 7, 2009**. The Advisory Committee of Excelsior Lodge members Sister Cynthia Low, Brothers Al Namuo and Robert Yee and Pacific Rebekah member Sister Karro Yee were instrumental in forming the Youth Group.

The Objectives and Purpose are:

- A. Secure the future of the youth units of the Order.
- B. To work in harmony with all units of the Order.
- C. To teach citizenship and leadership skills.
- D. Encourage active parental participation.
- E. To promote the principles of Friendship, Love and Truth.
- F. Seek to improve and elevate the character of man.

## Excelsior Lodge #1 Welcomes Hawaii's First United Youth Group (Pu'ulu Hana)



Richard Kim, P.S.G.M. and Allen Perkins, N.G. welcomed the charter members of the newly formed Pu'ulu Hana "Working Together" United Youth Group. They are from L to R, first row: Sarina Nakamura, Alyssa Salazar, Kori Tersako, Sadie Tillson, Keris Hayashida and Sarah Iseri and second row: Nicholas Garrett, Justin Limasa, Jeffery Higa, Bryce Iwami, and Sean Cullen.

## **A HISTORICAL OCCASION**

Odd Fellows in Hawaii welcomed Sovereign Grand Master Wayne Reynolds, President Marvis B. Ward of the International Association of Rebekah Assemblies, General Commanding James C. Cassell of the General Military Council, President Alice D. Robbins of the International Association Ladies Auxiliary Patriarchs Militant and thirty-five Odd Fellows and Rebekahs from the Continental United States and Canada on December 5, 1995.

We were also honored to have Grand Master and Senior Trustee of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society, Dereck W. Winbush and forty English Brothers and Sisters. The Manchester Unity is the original pioneers of the principles of Odd Fellowship.

When Sovereign Grand Master Reynolds and Grand Master Winbush it was the first meeting the presiding officers of the Sovereign Grand Lodge and the Manchester Unity met. A historical event indeed, and all Odd Fellows were proud to facilitate this memorable event furthering international goodwill and friendship.

## **THE GRAND DECORATION OF CHIVALRY**

At 1:00 PM, December 5, 1995, Sovereign Grand Master Reynolds and General Commanding Cassell presented the Grand Decoration of Chivalry to the Director, National Cemetery of the Pacific and also placed a beautiful floral wreath as part of a solemn and beautiful ceremony.

Approximately two hundred Odd Fellows from Hawaii, North America and England gathered at the Cannon Club, on the slopes of Diamond Head overlooking the city lights of Waikiki and Honolulu, at 6:00 PM, to commemorate the 149th Anniversary of Excelsior Lodge No. 1. It was a momentous occasion and all enjoyed an evening of fellowship, delicious food and outstanding entertainment. After dinner Dereck Winbush, Mavis Ward, General Cassel, Lady Robbins, DDSGM Roberts and Sovereign Grand Master Reynolds shared inspirational messages.

## **HOMES (LODGE HALLS) OF EXCELSIOR LODGE**

FIRST LODGE HALL was in an adobe building with a grass roof in a yard on Hotel Street. During the lodge sessions the Outside Guardian was required to keep walking around the building to prevent people from peeping into the lodge hall.

SECOND LODGE HALL was in a room of a building on Merchant Street near Fort Street occupied by the Port of Honolulu. Brother H. N. Grabbe, (Great Grandfather of John Grabbe a member of Harmony Lodge No. 3), a member of the lodge was then a United States Naval Storekeeper for the Port of Honolulu, permitted the lodge to conduct their meetings in a spare room in the two-story building.

THIRD LODGE HALL. In October 1849 the lodge acquired an adobe building on Hotel Street. On a stormy night, the outer portion of the upper wall on one side of the building collapsed.

FOURTH LODGE HALL. A two-story building, owned by Brothers R. A. S. Wood and W. C. Parker, became the lodge's next home. The lodge met there from 1850 - 1854.

FIFTTH LODGE HALL. The corner stone for the new Odd Fellows Temple ceremonies were held on October 15, 1903, led by Noble Grand Lester Petrie. During the construction of the new structure the lodge met in quarters o the corner of Beretania and Miller streets. By late 1904, the new building was completed and the dedication was conducted by Noble Grand E. A. Jacobsen and Chairman of the Board of Trustees J. J. Lecker, who turned over the keys to Noble Grand Jacobsen.

SIXTH LODGE HALL. Brother Borthwick approached William F. Dillingham (his father Ben Dillingham was an Odd Fellow) owner of the swampland, which is now the site of the Ala Moana Shopping Center. He offered to purchase the 35,000 square foot parcel on which Atkinson and Sunset Towers sits on for \$40,000.00. On Tuesday, November 9, 1971, lodge hall on the sixth floor of Sunset Towers was dedicated by Noble Grand George Loo, DDAGM Leo Golden and Master of Ceremonies DDSGM George Roberts. Distinguished guests included Mayor Frank Fasi, Sovereign Grand Master J. Ray King, IARA President Evelyn Reese and the dedication staff from the jurisdiction of California.

SEVENTH LODGE HALL, OUR PRESENT LODGE HALL. Due to the lack of parking (two parking stalls) for its members at Sunset Towers the lodge decided to look for another site. The Trustees decided to purchase the VFW Building on 1135 Kapahulu Avenue which had adequate parking. The lodge received authority from the Sovereign Grand Lodge to purchase the new lodge hall and the lodge members authorized the Trustees to purchase the property on behalf of the lodge. On February 8, 2001 the Trustees ( Chairman Board of Trustees Valdemar Myhre and Board Members Edward Clark, John Hill, Richard Heflin and Richard Kim), signed the documents to purchase the VFW Building. On May 24, 2001, Excelsior Lodge moved from Sunset Towers to its new home and the first meeting was held on June 5, 2001.





Headed by Noble Grand Patrick Uza the lodge hall was dedicated and blessed by Reverend William Kaina on September 23, 2001.

## **TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION.**

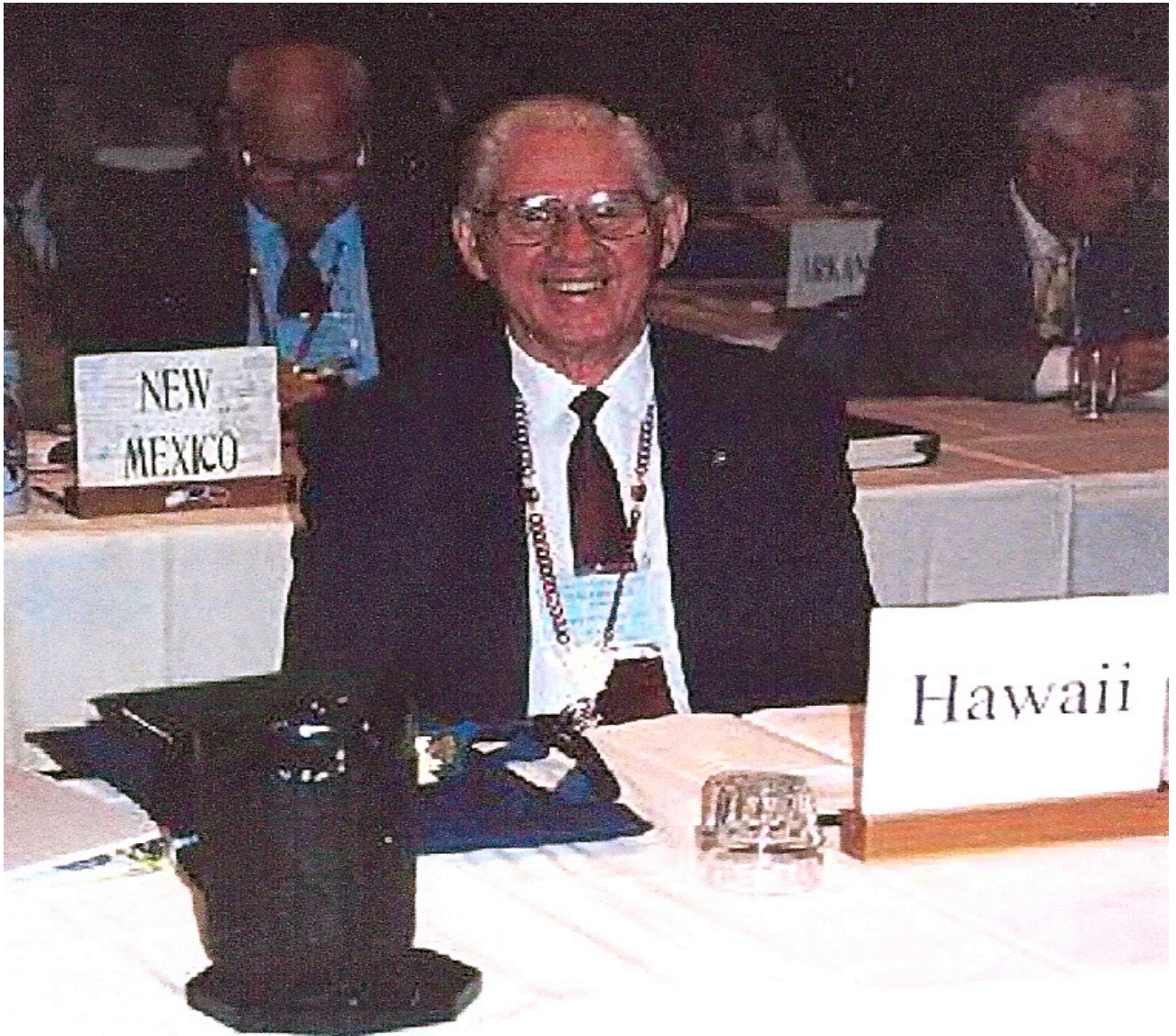
For years Hawaii Odd Fellows paid their yearly per capita taxes to the Sovereign Grand Lodge and remained without representation. At the Sovereign Grand Lodge Session in New York Brothers Edward Berlin and Richard Kim, with the assistance of PSGM Moore, from New Brunswick, Canada, submitted a bill to afford Hawaii Odd Fellows a Representative at the Sovereign Grand Lodge Sessions. At that time the lodges in Hawaii had more members than five jurisdictions. They were required to appear before the legislation, state of the order and finance committees to justify the request.

The bill required a change to the Code of General Laws and had to be laid over for a year before it could be brought up to the floor for discussion and vote. On **August 19, 1999** at Sovereign Grand Session in Seattle, Washington, **by a majority vote of 124 yes and 6 no votes, Hawaii was afforded the privilege of having a Grand Representative at the Sovereign Grand Lodge Sessions. Sovereign Grand Master Mac Riley was instrumental in getting the legislation passed.** This indeed was a gratifying and memorable victory for Hawaii Odd Fellows. SECTION 6A, CHAPTER V-B, CODE OF GENERAL LAWS.

The Grand Representative votes on every motion presented, submit bills and resolutions, debates and makes motions on all matters brought before the Sovereign Grand Lodge Session.



Past Noble Grand and Chairman Board of Trustees **Valdemar Myhre** was the **first Grand Representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge**. He was appointed by DDSGM Richard Kim to represent Hawaii at the Sovereign Grand Lodge Session in 2000 and was assigned to the judiciary committee.





## WOMEN IN ODD FELLOW LODGES

On January 16, 2001, Excelsior Lodge, for the first time in its history, three women, **Sharon Lau-Manini, Barbara Speers and Callie Young** were initiated into the lodge. This was a great victory for women in Odd Fellowship desiring admission to a Odd Fellows Lodge. In its long history, women were denied membership in a Odd Fellow Lodge until the laws on membership in the Code of General Laws were amended in 2000.

## ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS OF THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS FROM HAWAII.

The following are the first elected or appointed officers of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows outside the North American Continent.

DDSGM Richard Kim was appointed **Sovereign Grand Messenger** by Sovereign Grand Master Hank Dupree from North Carolina and served his term in 2003-2004.

Brother Kim was elected **Sovereign Grand Warden** in 2005, **Deputy Sovereign Grand Master** in 2006 and **Sovereign Grand Master Independent Order of Odd Fellows of the World** in 2007.





## **OFFICERS OF THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS 2007 - 2008**

Front Row: Sovereign Grand Secretary Terry Barrett, Deputy Sovereign Grand Master Dick Proulx, Sovereign Grand Master Richard Kim, Sovereign Grand Warden Paul Cuminala and Sovereign Grand Treasurer Harless Turner.

Second Row: Sovereign Grand Messenger J. L. Braught, Aide-de-Camp Brig. Gen. Charles Thomas, Sovereign Grand Guardian Kenneth Caruthers, Immediate Past Sovereign Master Robert Robbins, Sovereign Grand Conductor Douglas Pittman, Sovereign Grand Chaplain Kenneth Higgins and Sovereign Grand Musician Michelle Heckart.

SGM Kim presided over the Sovereign Grand Lodge Session in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, August 2008. Other leaders of units of the Order were President International Association of Rebekah Assemblies Ruth M. Battaglia from New York, General Commanding, Donald McLaren, General Military Council from Massachusetts and President, International Association Ladies Auxiliary Patriarchs Militant Barbara McLaren from Massachusetts.

Brother Vernon South, Past Grand of Harmony Lodge No. 3. and Grand Representative appointed by DDSGM Richard Heflin, was appointed **Sovereign Grand Marshall** by Sovereign Grand Master Kim in August 2007.

## **MEMORIAL PLAQUE DEDICATION CEREMONY**

On June 18, 2009, Odd Fellows Hawaii dedicated a Memorial Plaque in a solemn ceremony. The plaque was dedicated in the name of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at the Memorial Walkway in the National Cemetery of the Pacific.

Noble Grand Allen Perkins welcomed and thanked all for attending. His dedication for making an idea come to reality. He spent many hours looking for the appropriate size and shape of a rock to have it cut and polished to conform with the regulations of the National Cemetery of the Pacific. Brother Leonard Kling initially was instrumental in getting the lodge started in this endeavor.

After Chaplain Callie Young's invocation, Director Gene Castegnetti of the Cemetery addressed the gathering, followed by Noble Grand Shayleen Teixeira, Harmony Lodge No. 3 and keynote speaker Past Sovereign Grand Master Hank Dupray. At the conclusion of the remarks, everyone marched down to the site of the Memorial Plaque led by color bearers Stephen Tseu, Charles Van Gieson and Roger Napoleon. A Hawaiian Tribute was presented by Past Sovereign Grand Master Richard Kim and the attendees sang "E Kolu Mea Nui", (three important things), led by Juan Tabali, Alvin Namuo, Floyd Faulkner, Herman Mole, Betty Perkins and accompanied by Norman McLove. Past Sovereign Grand Master and Noble Grand Perkins unveiled the Plaque.

The plaque was designed by PSGM Kim and manufactured in Pittsburg, PA., under the supervision of Brother David Heflin a member of the lodge and nephew of DDSGM Richard Heflin





## **SOVEREIGN GRAND LODGE PROJECTS, LOCAL COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS AND DONATIONS.**

**Educational Foundation:** Began its operation on September 20, 1927 and is the oldest project of the Order. The purpose of the Foundation is to operate a revolving loan and scholarship fund for students seeking higher education. It is supported by donations to a Trust Fund and no part of the Trust Fund can be used for operating expenses. The Trust Fund principal cannot be used for administrative expenses. Since the beginning of the Foundation, donations of approximately \$3,5000.000 have made it possible for over 3,500 young people to receive student low interest loans amounting to over \$6,800,000 and hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarship awards.

Excelsior Lodge offers twenty-five \$1000.00 scholarships a year to its members and members of their immediate family (spouse, children and grandchildren) seeking higher education at a university, college or vocational school.

### **Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia.**

Grand Master Charles Lempe of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia was instrumental in starting the annual Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns. The first pilgrimage was on June 17, 1933. The purpose was not only to honor the Unknown Soldier and the Nation's War Dead but also the members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows who made the supreme sacrifice in WWI.

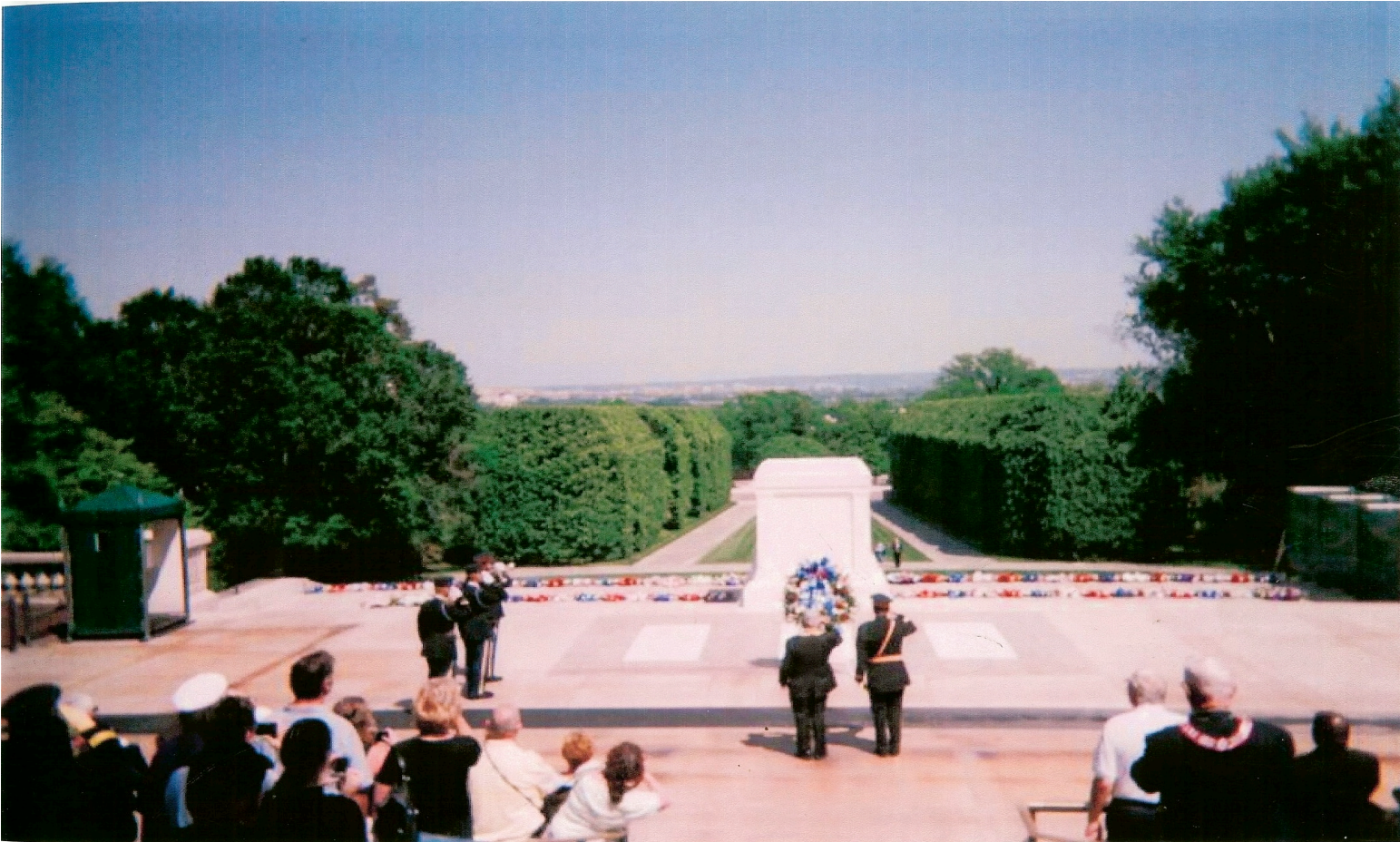
The first Sunday in May was designated for the annual Odd Fellows Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns. Permission for this date was granted by the Department of the Army.







The Independent Order of the Odd Fellows presented the Unknown Soldier the Grand Decoration of Chivalry. The jewel, received by the Department of the Army, is displayed in the Hall of Trophies. Two more Grand Decoration of Chivalry was presented for the Unknowns of WWII and the Korean Conflict. Both jewels are also displayed in the Hall of Trophies.



**ODD FELOWS WORLD EYE BANK VISUAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION.** The Foundation was established and chartered through legislation enacted by the Sovereign Grand Lodge at their Annual Session in 1956. It was decided that the Independent Order of Odd Fellows establish an endowment in **ocular research** at the Wilmer Institute of John Hopkins University Medical School in Baltimore, Maryland.

**When the Endowment was established** it was expected the earnings from the grant would carry the full monetary responsibility of supporting the program. Due to the inflationary trend of the market, it was learned that the endowment was not earning sufficient funds to be self supporting. In April 1993, the endowment reached \$1,000,000. As of August 2010 the sum in the endowment was \$2,500,000.

### **The organization of eye related programs in Jurisdictions.**

The first such program was the Connecticut Eye Bank & Visual Research Foundation, Inc., established on June 26, 1991.

Eye Bank Programs were also sponsored in Kansas and New Hampshire. Many states and provinces sponsor amblyopia screening clinics, provide eye glasses, purchase special equipment for Medical Schools and General Hospitals, provide funds for research projects and have set up cooperative programs with existing eye banks.

A Mobile Eye Examination unit was furnished in Arizona and is manned by the Ophthalmology Department of the University of Arizona at Tucson. It brings eye examination to area where none are available.

In cooperation with the Canadian Institute for the blind, the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs of Nova Scotia have produced the Odd Fellows and Rebekah Rituals in Braille. A tremendous service to our visually handicapped.

### **United Nations Educational Pilgrimage for Youth.**

The purpose is to bring young people together in groups to study and observe the United Nations; to allow young people the opportunity to exchange views on education, politics, religion and world relationships; and to enable young people to gain an education about historical sights as well as the opportunity to build lasting friendships.

There were 50 participants on Bus No. 5: 5 from Alberta, Canada, 3 from California, 3 from Connecticut, 2 from Hawaii, 2 Idaho, 6 Kansas, 3 from Minnesota, 3 from Montana, 1 from Nevada, 3 from North Carolina, 2 from Saskatchewan, Canada, 10 from Sweden and 5 from West Virginia. There were also 3 tour leaders: 1 from Sweden and 2 from Hawaii.





This is a two week educational journey that takes you to visit the Independence National Historical Park, Liberty Bell, Independence and Congress Halls and other historical sites in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Ground Zero, United Nations, Ellis Island, Statue of Liberty in New York City, New York; Parliament Hill in Ottawa, Canada; Niagara Falls, Canada; the battlefields in Pennsylvania and Maryland; Fort McHenry, Maryland and Washington, DC.

High school sophomores and juniors, ages 16 and 17, are eligible to participate in this program by submitting an essay on the United Nations to the lodge.



2010 Delegates Ashley Lukashevsky and Kyle Wilson from Hawaii in Philadelphia, PA.

### **Odd Fellows SOS Village, Battambang, Cambodia.**

In 2003, Past Sovereign Grand Master Hank Dupray (2003-2004) submitted a resolution to have the Independent Order of Odd Fellows build the Odd Fellows SOS Children's Village in Battambang, Cambodia. Brother Hank Dupray desired to build the Odd Fellows SOS Children's Village and have the Brothers and Sisters commit to perform their duties of the Order **"to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead and educate the orphans"**. At the Sovereign Grand Lodge Session in 2004, the Sovereign Grand Lodge unanimously voted to build the village.

Today, the building of the Village has been completed. However, the Sovereign Grand Lodge still owes approximately \$41,418.16 (as of August 2011). The Village has 15 homes, the Director's home, the Social Center and a Medical Center. Each home houses 15 children and have 149 children (81 boys and 68 girls) residing in the homes.

Hawaii Odd Fellows donated \$50,000.00 towards purchasing one of the homes. Harmony Lodge donated \$20,000.00 and Excelsior Lodge \$30,000.00. Excelsior Lodge and Pacific Rebekah Lodge continue to support the Village financially.



### First Group of Children Arrive in SOS Children's Village Battambang



View of the village, children playing outside - CV Battambang



## CANADIAN WAR MEMORIAL

The National War Memorial and the Tomb of the Canadian Unknown is located in Ottawa, the capital City of Canada. The Pilgrimage to the Canadian War Memorial is held yearly on the first weekend in June. Excelsior Lodge bought a floral wreath, which is laid in front of the sarcophagus of the Tomb of the Unknown, each year.

The purpose of the Memorial is to remind all of the human cost of Canada's commitment to the cause of peace and freedom.





In June 2008, the Grand Decoration of Chivalry was presented to the Canadian War Museum by the General Military Council.



**COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS OF EXCELSIOR LODGE WITH VOLUNTEERS FROM ALL THE LODGES PARTICIPATING.**

**LIVING LEGACY PROGRAM:** In continuing this program to “Plant a tree for one who comes after me”, we are helping our earth to have less pollution. Thus a better environment and the hope for a cleaner earth.

Odd Fellows and Rebekahs plant thousands of trees in the Continental United States and Canada yearly. One member, in one Lodge, one community by planting a tree can make a difference.

Rebekah Lodge sponsors this tree and shrubbery planting by members of Excelsior Lodge and Pacific Rebekah Lodge at the Royal Elementary School, Honolulu.





**Hawaii Food Bank.** Volunteers from all Lodges in coordination with the food bank participate yearly in Kaneohe collecting money and non-perishable goods for the food bank.









Preparing emergency food boxes at the Kapalama warehouse.



**Hawaii Public Radio.** Through the efforts of Brother Pat Uza, Excelsior Lodge supplies the volunteer man hours, semi-annually, to man the telephone banks at the Hawaii Public Radio station located on Kaheka Street to raise funds for the station.

Volunteers Shirley Streck, Francis Robinson, Gail Uza, Pat Uza, Roderick Schultz, Melvina Nakao, Lloyd Nakao, Donna, John Schelski and Newton Wong





**Bus Stop Painting.** Graffiti on bus stops are cleaned and painted over four times a year to get rid of the graffiti. Locations and designated area of the effected bus stops are determined by the bus company.



**Adopt the Highway.** A two mile stretch of Kamehameha Highway, adjacent to the Lodge beach cottages in Laie, are cleaned quarterly. In addition, the beach area parallel to Kamehameha Highway is also cleaned. There are about thirty or more bags of trash collected from the highway and numerous bags from the beach.







**Association of Retarded Citizens of Hawaii.** In April 1995 the lodge provided the materials and manpower to clean and repair the interior of a care home for adult retarded citizens with mental problems on Dominis Street. Rich Heflin supervised the replacement of the damaged walls and completely repainted the interior of the house. In addition, the lodge also constructed, at the Association of Retarded Citizens administrative building in Diamond Head, a roof over the open lanai to protect the retarded citizens attending classes from inclement weather and the hot sun.





**Pacific Rebekah Lodge Weinberg Foundation Volunteer Program:** Annually the Rebekahs along with members of the other lodges perform a charity project with a minimum of twenty five Odd Fellow members and four hours of labor. In turn the Weinberg Foundation donates \$10,000.00 to the Rebekahs to award to a charity of the Lodges choosing, i.e., Make a Wish Foundation, Arthritis Foundation, Special Olympics, etc. The last few years have been on the USS Missouri docked in Pearl Harbor.





**Odd Fellows Memorial Day.** On a date designated by the Sovereign Grand Lodge Hawaii Odd Fellows place floral leis or potted plants at fallen Odd Fellow graves at he Oahu Cemetery.



Canton King Kamehameha 1st, No. 1, Color Guards James Stepaneck, Walter Mc Goldrick, Jack Hirai, Tharan Cook, Francis Robinson and Brig. Gen. Richard Heflin.





Following are additional community service projects Excelsior Lodge sponsors and supports.

- a. Clean up of Waimea Park on the North Shore.
- b. Hawaii State Higher Courts program to prevent drug abuse.
- c. Foster Families
- d. Donates over \$20,000.00 to local charities annually.
- e. Special Olympics.