



Rebekah Assembly of California  
President 2024-2025  
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Wednesday, November 6, 2024

To all Rebekah Lodges,

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On Saturday, January 4, we will have a Membership Seminar at the Rebekah Lodge Hall in Chowchilla. The title is "Past, Present and Future of Rebekah Odd Fellowship". The committee for this seminar is Sister Karolinne Livingston, Sister Linda Hoelscher, and Sister Donna Miller. The President of IARA, Sister Mira Pittman from Colorado, will be our special guest. The day will start at 10am, have a lunch break and finish by dinnertime. There will be an exemplification of the tableaus for the initiation (some lodges still bring the costumed women out of the Bible during the Chaplains charge). There will be instructions for the annual report forms. There will be a discussion/brainstorming session on how to keep Rebekah lodges relevant now that women can join Odd Fellows lodges.

December is Float decorating month. All Saturdays in December are decorating days at the barn in Irwindale. The final push starts on the day after Christmas. There are jobs for all levels of agility and skill. Lots of petals need to be cut away from the rest of the flowers. Once the petals are loose, they will be glued onto the body of the float, along with seeds and leaves. Most parts of the float can be reached without climbing scaffolding. Roses need to be cut and put in vials in preparation for the final step where everyone stabs flower vials into the base of the float. While all the work happens, we get to visit with Odd Fellows and Rebekahs who come to float decorating from all over. It is lots more fun to decorate the float than to ride it! The lodge received the hotel information from the float committee, and I also link to it from my page.

The Memorial Garden on the float is a way to honor and remember members and friends. In the afternoon on December 31, we have a little memorial ceremony at our float and read all the names of honorees. (After the ceremony, we can go look at all the other floats in the barn.)

Please remember that I have created a web site at <http://www.burwur.net/IOOF/> to help with communications. You can also reach that page by clicking on the "President's Letters" button on the California Grand Lodge home page, [www.caioof.org](http://www.caioof.org). I keep updating the page, adding visit information and reception invitations as I get them. I also have links to the Rose Parade Float information for housing, schedule and memorial garden. My flyer for helping lodges take advantage of the public attention around our Rose Parade Float on my page both as a PDF file and as a Word document so lodges can add more local information is also there.

In Friendship, Love and Truth,

Debra LaVergne, PRA