SPECIAL EDITION!

Youth Days are Coming to
Des Moines, Iowa!
August 18-19

Iowa is ready for Youth Days! Come prepared for an adventure!

The Youth will be center stage this year. We expect a large crowd from the various states. We are excited to have all of the Youth, Advisors and the many chaperones come and participate in the weekend festivities.

How many will your state bring?

Colorado, Illinois, Michigan, New York, Oregon, Texas & Washington

Road trip to Iowa!!!

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Congratulations to all Theta Rho Assembly members this year. Your posts on social media have been very uplifting. The SGL/IARA Youth committee wishes all members a prosperous and productive term. Great Job girls.

Let the Good Times Roll!!! SGL/IARA Youth Days is just right around the corner. Are you ready? WE are so excited to bring you a very entertaining and informative Youth Days to date.

The Youth committee has had one of the best years for donations and support. We are ecstatic about this year’s trip to Iowa. Very special thanks to the Jurisdiction of Iowa. They are making this to be one of the best years for our sessions. So make your plans, Registration ends soon.

For those attending the session, a few things to look forward to. Fun night is a water amusement park, so pack a swimsuit. Work on your talent skits for the Youth Banquet. We are doing stuffed animals for Ronald McDonald house and will be making a stop to donate them.

Reading of reports during sessions is extremely important. Make sure you include your activities and ways you bring in new members so others can use your ideas to help their clubs when they get home.

Most important Bring a Smile. Questions and concerns, please review the rules and “Do’s and Don’ts”. Of course any questions, please reach out to me anytime between now and then.

Enjoy your summer! Make plans to join us at Sessions to end the summer vacation with a bang!

It has been an honor and a pleasure serving as your chairman. Thank you for putting your trust in me to represent you all at the Sovereign Grand Lodge level.

In FLT

Steve Adams
SGL/IARA Chairman
**Itinerary (subject to change)**

**Thursday August 17**

6pm Pizza and Games

**Friday Aug. 18th**

10am : Continental Breakfast
11am : Registration
11am : Welcome
Noon : Meet–n–Greet
Lunch
1:45 : Talent show Practice
3pm : Flag, Moderator, and Chaplain Practice
   *In banquet hall
5:15 : Line up for Banquet
6pm : Banquet and Dinner Theater

**Saturday Aug. 19th**

8am : Continental Breakfast
9am : SGL/AARA Youth Day Session *
   *Don't forget 2 copies of your report*
10am : Guest speakers and informative discussions
12pm : Lunch
1pm : Depart to Ronald McDonald House to Deliver Bears and on to Adventureland!
8pm : Return from Adventureland

Couple reminders:
*dress appropriately for all events / follow the Dos and Don’ts
*set an example for others
Most importantly have Fun

In FL & T
Steve Adams

Advisors and chaperones must email me so I can add you to my emergency contacts for informative and updates.
Have a great rest of your summer and I look forward to seeing you all there!
Information for Youth Days

Let us Entertain You! Formal Dinner/Theater!

This year’s Formal Banquet will be on Friday evening. Bring your skits and musical talent! We look forward to having this year’s talented Youth not only hosting, but will be entertaining the audience as well! During our Banquet on Friday evening (fried chicken and ice cream), we will be featuring the talents of all our Youth while we enjoy a Formal Dinner!

Come prepared with a talent.
If you need a piano player, just ask!

***Information we will need to hear from your***
****Jurisdictional Youth Reports****

*Please have your report written as it will be turned in to the SGL-IARA Joint Youth Committee
*Report information spans from the last SGL-IARA Youth Days to the present.

SGL-IARA Jurisdictional Youth Reports need to include the following information:
1. Names, titles and jurisdiction of the Youth giving the report.
2. Total number of Junior Odd Fellows, Theta Rho, United Youth Groups and Cadet Corps and total number of members.
3. Junior Odd Fellows, Theta Rho, United Youth Groups and Cadet Corps that are not meeting.
4. Comparison of membership with prior years.
5. Interesting fund raising projects.
6. Junior Lodge, Theta Rho Club, Unite Youth Group and Cadet Corps activities.
7. Significant membership drive recognition.
8. Visitation activities to other jurisdictions.
9. Recognition of completing Honors Program.
10. Future plans.
11. Grand Junior Lodge, Theta Rho Assembly and information such as numbers attending, when and where held, and significant activities.
12. What are you doing for your sponsoring Lodge? What are they doing for you?
13. Recognition of any and all other special events.
ORIENTATION RULES FOR YOUTH DAYS

Hello to all! We would like to refresh you of the Rules for Youth Days.

Those present, range in age from grade school to grandparents. We are asking to respect those around you in what you say and how you present yourself with your actions. Have a positive attitude. By joining us at Youth Days, we expect participation from everyone.

The guidelines for dress: There are many different events scheduled throughout the weekend. When attending Banquet, we ask that you dress in formal or dress attire. Girls should be in dresses and boys are to be in shirt and tie with dress slacks. When attending Session, Business attire or formal, please. No shorts, jeans or sloppy clothes. **There is exception given if you have a costume that you will be wearing at the Banquet during the Dinner Theater/Talent Show. If you are to wear a costume, we ask that it is modest and respectful.** When we are outside of the hotel, jeans are acceptable. Wear clothes that you would wear to school. Chaperones are otherwise responsible for their groups. If in doubt, you probably shouldn’t wear it.

Language: Please think before you speak. With TV, movies, video games and song lyrics, we are all aware of some of the graphic and harsh language that is used. Not here. The younger members do look up to the older members. We don’t want to have our Youth going home and telling their parents about the new words they learned at Youth Days. Chaperones and leaders are not exception to this rule. Keep it clean.

Smoking: We don’t want to see anyone puffing on cancer sticks or E-Cigarettes. We are not saying you can’t smoke, unless you are old enough, we are asking you to be discreet. There are no ash trays here. Again, the younger ones look up to the older ones as roll models. This is a bad habit to start and a great one to break.

Cell Phones: We would ask for you to please turn off your ringer. No texting during the session. For those of you who are into the game of finding the images in various places, please do this during your free time. While we are out as a group, we expect participation from everyone as we have fun during our “off site” activities.

Next, we would like to address the adults: Advisers must be present at all times. We are not chaperones, you are. Please be aware of how your group is acting. Are they being respectful and following the rules? For the adults who have the need to keep your cell phone with you, we ask for you to please turn the ringers off. If you need to take a call, please excuse yourself and take it out of the room.

Photos: Pictures of you might be published in the Youth Informer and posted on our website and therefore we must have your permission to do so. By your attendance at the events here at Youth Days, you are granting permission.

Safety: We ask that you stay with your group at all times. Do not go wandering off alone when we are away from the hotel. Use the buddy system. Chaperones, when we are outside of the hotel, have a system ready and use it to assure your group is accounted for at all times.

Finally, enjoy the weekend. We have a lot of things going on for you! We hope you have a blast, learn a lot and go home with many wonderful memories from this year’s Youth Days in Winston-Salem, North Carolina!
2023 Annual Communication of:

The Sovereign Grand Lodge
Independent Order of Odd Fellows

Des Moines, Iowa

‘WE COMMEND YOU TO: VISIT THE SICK, BURY THE DEAD, RELIEVE THE DISTRESSED, AND EDUCATE THE ORPHAN’
January 2023

To the Officers and Grand Representatives of The Sovereign Grand Lodge, and Officers and Members of all Units of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows

Fraternal Greetings:

The next communication of The Sovereign Grand Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, will be held in Des Moines, Iowa, beginning Monday morning, 21st August 2023, and ending Thursday afternoon, 24th August 2023.

Headquarters and Sessions
Des Moines Marriott Downtown

The Sovereign Grand Lodge
196th Annual Communication

International Association of Rebekah Assemblies
105th Annual Session

General Military Council
119th Annual Session

Youth Days

"WE SEEK TO IMPROVE AND ELEVATE THE CHARACTER OF MAN."
Des Moines Marriott Downtown
700 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309
Phone: 515/245-5500

Group Rates—August 17-26, 2023
All Rates are $175.00—Single-Double-Triple-Quad
Tax Rate Presently 12%

Reference Session of The Sovereign Grand Lodge 2023

Information to have available when calling to make a reservation:
Name: __________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________
City/State/Postal Code: ______________________________
Additional Guests: _________________________________
Phone Number: ___________________________ Email: __________________
Card Number: __________________________ Exp. Date: ________________
Arrival Date: __________________________ Departure Date: ____________

Reservations must be made by: July 26, 2023
2023 Pre-Registration Form

The Sovereign Grand Lodge
International Association of Rebekah Assemblies
General Military Council, Patriarchs Militant

Des Moines, Iowa
August 21 to 24, 2023

Please Note:
All Attendees MUST register
(One form per attendee)

Name ____________________________

(Name as desired on badge) ____________________________ Jurisdiction ____________________________

Unit attending: SGL IARA GMC Youth Guest (please circle one)

Title for name badge ____________________________

Mailing Address ____________________________

City, St/Prv, Postal Code ____________________________

Telephone ____________________________ Email ____________________________

Registration Information

Registrations on or before July 27, 2023, $75.00
Registrations after July 27, 2023, $100.00

Highlight Events

Youth Dinner, Friday Aug. 18 — $60.00 (Fried Chicken) (Formal Attire - Youth; Semi-formal Attire - Guests)

Welcome Dinner, Saturday Aug. 19 — $65.00 (Sliced Ham/Seared Chicken Breast) (Business Casual Attire)

Officer's Banquet, Monday Aug. 21 — $75.00 (Grilled Pork Chop) (Western/Casual)

Installation Dinner, Wednesday Aug. 23 — $80.00 (Beef Brisket) (Formal Attire — Installation to follow dinner)

Total Fees for the session, in US dollars $ ____________

No refund on meals if not attending when canceled after the 27th of July, unless your reservation is picked up at registration by another attendee.

Please mail all Registration Forms with a check or money order to:
2023 I.O.O.F. Session Committee
Marty and Sue Zylstra, Co-Chairs
211 Thornton Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50315

Any special requests, such as: special diet, should be indicated here: ____________________________
HOTEL SHUTTLE INFORMATION
The Sovereign Grand Lodge
International Association of Rebekah Assemblies
General Military Council

Name ____________________________________________
Address __________________________________________
Email ____________________________________________
Phone ____________________________________________

Note: The Des Moines Marriott Downtown located at 700 Grand Avenue in Des Moines will provide shuttle service from the airport to the hotel and return. Please provide us with your flight information and we will make arrangements to have you transported to the hotel and return to the airport.

Flight Information:
Arrival Date ____________ Arrival Time ________ Airline ________ Flight # ____________
Departure Date ____________ Departure Time ________ Airline ________ Flight # ____________
☐ I WILL need hotel shuttle transportation — ☐ I will NOT need hotel shuttle transportation

Return this form to: 2023 I.O.O.F. Session Committee
Marty and Sue Zylstra, Co-chairs
211 Thornton Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50315-3179

Questions: 515/244-7618 (Zylstra Home Phone) or 515/360-4589 (Sue’s Cell Phone)

Shirt Order Form

Make checks payable to and mail to:
2023 I.O.O.F. Session Committee
Attn: Marty and Sue Zylstra
211 Thornton Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50315-3179

Men

Size: ___ Small ___ Medium ___ Large ___ XL ___ 2XL ___ 3XL ___ 4XL
Color: ___ Red ___ White ___ Blue
Price: $25.00 S-XL — $27.00 2XL-4XL

Women

Size: ___ Small ___ Medium ___ Large ___ XL ___ 2XL ___ 3XL ___ 4XL
Color: ___ Red ___ White ___ Blue
Price: $20.00 S-XL — $22.00 2XL-4XL

Name: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
City, State, Zip Code __________________________________________
Phone Number: __________________________________________
Email: __________________________________________

Paid: $_______ — Cash $_______ Check #__________
Thank you to Colorado for inviting the SGL-IARA Joint Youth Committee to their Theta Rho Assembly in June. What a wonderful things this busy state is doing to help in Happiness through Service. Friday was a buzz of activity in working to make tied blankets for the Childrens Hospital in Colorado Springs. We delivered them that afternoon and that evening enjoyed a Carnival by our host lodge Monta Rosa #4. Saturday was back to work with reports and regular session. Later that evening we enjoyed a Disney Theme dinner. From what I hear, Colorado will be bringing several from their state to Iowa this year. Awesome news! Thank you for the invitation Colorado. It was a pleasure to visit your beautiful state!

What’s happening in your Lodge???
What’s happening in your Lodge???

**Jonquil Theta Rho #25 New York**
couldn’t decide for Spaghetti or Tacos, so they had both and brought in 2 new members in February!

They celebrated their 68th Birthday in March. Members made Jonquil flowers out of Lego’s. Cool idea! Congratulations!

**Acorn Theta Rho #79** has an ongoing project for helping at a food bank called the Help House. They also bring some happy cheer to the Assisted Living at Easter, Mothers Day and at other times. Wonderful to see active lodges doing great things!
IT’S ALL FOR FUN!

4th of July Word Search

- CONGRESS
- CONNECTICUT
- DELAWARE
- ENGLAND
- FIREWORKS
- FLAG
- FREEDOM
- GEORGIA
- JULY
- KING
- LIBERTY
- MARYLAND
- MASSACHUSETTS BAY
- NEW HAMPSHIRE
- NEW JERSEY
- NEW YORK
- NORTH CAROLINA
- PARADE
- PENNSYLVANIA
- RHODE ISLAND
- SOUTH CAROLINA
- STATES
- TAXES
- UNITED
- VIRGINIA

FIND THE HIDDEN OBJECTS

- Elephant
- United States Capitol
- American Flag
- Fireworks
- Ice cream
- Hot dog
- Stars
- Stripes
- Flag
- Fireworks
- Kebab
- Ice cream icon
YOUTH COMMITTEE DIRECTORY

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Email: gwen.century21@aol.com

We’re here for you!
Do you need us? Do you need help? Advice? Or just an ear to listen? Request a visit by contacting Youth Committee Chairman Steve Adams 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.

Did you know: you can find us at these places?
Website: www.ioof.org (Click on YOUTH)

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.