



Eighty-ninth I.O.O.F. Pilgrimage to the
Tomb of the Unknowns
May 5-7, 2023, Arlington, Virginia



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January 2023

Greetings to all members, families and friends of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. You are cordially invited to attend the Eighty-ninth Annual Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns. Members of all units of the Order are encouraged to participate. The Pilgrimage Committee is pleased to provide the following information about this annual event.

The 2023 Pilgrimage will take place on Sunday, May 7 at Arlington National Cemetery. The memorial services will begin at **noon** followed by the wreath laying ceremonies at the Tomb immediately after the 1:00 p.m. changing of the guard. ***Please note the dates and times the program will be held this year.*** The Pilgrimage address at the Tomb will be delivered by the Honorable Michelle L. Heckart, Sovereign Grand Master.

The Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, at 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia, 22311, will be our headquarters. Room reservations are to be made directly with the hotel, at toll-free 1-800-Hiltons (1-800-445-8667) or 1-703-845-1010. You **MUST** mention “Odd Fellows Pilgrimage” when reserving your room to receive the special rate of \$127 single/double, \$142 triple, and \$152 quad. All room rates are subject to applicable hotel tax. (See attached information about hotel accommodations).

The annual Pilgrimage banquet will be held in the hotel on Saturday, May 6, 2023, at 7:00 PM. (Advance ticket purchase required - see attached pre-registration form.) A social hour will be held from 5:45 PM to 6:45 PM. After the banquet, all present will have the opportunity to meet and greet the Honorable Michelle L. Heckart, Sovereign Grand Master, Independent Order of Odd Fellows from the Jurisdiction of Iowa, Sister Ruth A. Earle, President, International Association of Rebekah Assemblies from the Jurisdiction of Michigan, and General Earl F. Wys, General Commanding, General Military Council, Patriarchs Militant, from the Jurisdiction of Illinois.

We recommend that you schedule flights to and from Ronald Reagan National Airport (DCA), the nearest airport to the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center. Taxi service is available. The Washington metro area is also served by Dulles International Airport (IAD), located 30 miles southwest of the Capital in Northern Virginia. Metro now serves Dulles. Please note the event could be cancelled at the last minute by the military; therefore, travel arrangements should be made accordingly.

We encourage you to publicize this special annual event in your I.O.O.F. community. The contact information for the various events is listed on the reverse of this page or on the attached forms. We look forward to seeing you May 5-7, 2023, in Alexandria, Virginia.

In Friendship, Love, and Truth,

s/ Chuck Renninger, Chairman

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HOTEL INFORMATION

Hilton Alexandria Mark Center
5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22311
1-703-845-1010 or 1-800-HILTONS (1-800-445-8667)

Reservations are now being accepted and should be made as soon as possible.

The **Hilton Alexandria Mark Center** is the headquarters hotel for the 2023 Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns. To receive the special rates of \$127, single/double, \$142, triple, and \$152, quad, plus hotel tax, available for the nights of May 4-8, reservations must be made **no later than April 6, 2023**. You must mention the **“ODD FELLOWS PILGRIMAGE”** when making your reservation in order to receive these rates and to obtain the specially reduced parking rate. The hotel will accept reservations **on a space available basis after April 6, 2023, but not at this reduced price**. Telephone reservations are accepted at 1-703-845-1010 or 1-800-HILTONS (1-800-445-8667); or <https://book.passkey.com/go/ODDFELLOW2023>

It is imperative that reservations are made as early as possible. Although the deadline to place a reservation is **April 6, 2023**, occasionally in past years the hotel has sold all the rooms set aside for the IOOF Pilgrimage at the reduced rate **BEFORE** the deadline. So, although a person may call to place a reservation before April 6, 2023, if there are no more rooms available **AT THAT RATE**, the person will be faced with a choice of **reserving a room at a higher rate**, if any are available, or seeking a room at another hotel. *If you have any problems with hotel reservations, please call Chuck Renninger at 1-301-350-4495.*

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**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**Friday, May 5, 2023**

**3:00-6:00 PM PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATION DESK** open in the upper lobby foyer of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

**Saturday, May 6, 2023**

**8:00 AM-4:00 PM PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATION DESK** open in the upper lobby foyer of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

**5:45-6:45 PM CASH-BAR SOCIAL HOUR**, hotel lower level

**7:00 PM PILGRIMAGE BANQUET**, hotel lower level. **Prepaid reservations required.** (See attached pre-registration form) Open seating.

*Dress code for men - tux, business suit, or military uniform;*

*Dress code for women: - formal dress, street-length dress, dress suit, or military uniform.*

*Please note times for all events*

**Sunday, May 7, 2023**

**8:00-10:00 AM PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATION DESK** open in the upper lobby foyer of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

**10:30 AM BUSES LOAD-DEPART 10:45 AM promptly** from the hotel lobby entrance.

*No cars or buses will be allowed in the cemetery. Commercial parking lot available.*

**No exceptions**

**Noon Memorial Service followed by wreath laying after 1:00 PM changing of the guard**

**NO FORMAL ATTIRE FOR MEN OR WOMEN IS PERMITTED FOR WREATH LAYING.**

*Dress code for men: business suit or military uniform.*

*Dress code for women: street-length dress, dress suit or Lady's military uniform.*

**No sandals, flip-flops, sneakers, open-toe shoes, etc.**

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**PRE-REGISTRATION AND PURCHASE OF TICKETS FORM  
ONE FORM PER PERSON**

**PRE-REGISTRATION: 6.00 per person**, pre-registration deadline: **March 31, 2023**.

Registrations postmarked after March 31, 2023, or in-person registrations: **\$10.00 per person**. *Any questions about registration? Contact Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage Committee, Treasurer Wanda Smith – Phone: 1-703-590-1267 or E-mail: 0302wsmith@gmail.com*

**PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATION DESK** (upper lobby foyer of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center)

**Open Friday, May 5, 3:00-7:00 PM; Saturday, May 6, 8:00 AM-4:00 PM; Sunday, May 7, 8:00-10:00 AM.** Pre-registered participants must pick up their registration envelopes which include the Pilgrimage badge and certificate of attendance and any pre-paid tickets as requested on **this form**. In-person registrations are accepted. Any transportation tickets still available may be purchased.

**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE – ONE FORM PER PERSON - (Please copy this form as needed)  
PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE March 31, 2023**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Lodge Membership Jurisdiction \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Title you want printed on the certificate \_\_\_\_\_

**All funds are stated in U.S. dollars and must be paid in U.S. dollars. NO REFUNDS.**

( ) \$ **6.00 PRE-REGISTRATION FEE** available until **March 31, 2023**,  
after **March 31, 2023**, fee is \$10.00

( ) \$ **65.00 SATURDAY PILGRIMAGE BANQUET – MUST** be reserved and prepaid by **March 31**.  
Unless there are canceled reservations, **no additional banquet tickets** will be available.

( ) \$ **60.00 ARLINGTON CEMETERY TRANSPORTATION TICKETS** – round-trip bus from the Hilton to the Visitor Center; round-trip shuttle from the visitor center to the tomb for Sunday, May 7, 2023 only. **Space is limited**. Unless there are cancellations, last minute transportation tickets may not be available.

**NO PRIVATE VEHICLES or BUSES WILL BE PERMITTED TO ENTER THE CEMETERY AND PARK. PRIVATE VEHICLE AND BUS PARKING IS AVAILABLE FOR A FEE AT THE COMMERCIAL PARKING GARAGE AT ARLINGTON CEMETERY. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of check \_\_\_\_\_

**All funds are stated in U.S. dollars and must be paid in U.S. dollars.**

**Make checks payable to:**

**Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage Committee**

**and send with this form to:**

**Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage Committee**

**P. O. Box 7165, Woodbridge, VA 22195**

**Phone: 1-703-590-1267 E-mail: 0302wsmith@gmail.com**