



Eighty-third I.O.O.F. Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns May 6-8, 2016, Arlington, Virginia

January 2016

Greetings to all members, families and friends of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. You are cordially invited to attend the Eighty-third 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 2016 Pilgrimage will take place on Sunday, May 8 at Arlington National Cemetery. The memorial services will begin at **3:00 p.m.** followed by the wreath laying ceremonies at the Tomb immediately after the 4:00 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 Danny M. Wood, Sovereign Grand Master.

The Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, at 5000 Seminary Rd, Alexandria, VA 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 \$115.00 plus hotel tax. (See attached information about hotel accommodations).

The annual Pilgrimage banquet will be held in the hotel on Saturday, May 7, 2016, 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 Danny M. Wood, Sovereign Grand Master, Sovereign Grand Lodge from the Jurisdiction of Texas; Sister Kathy Shary, President, International Association of Rebekah Assemblies from the Jurisdiction of Michigan; General Emil R. Suder, General Commanding, General Military Council, Patriarchs Militant, from the Jurisdiction of West Virginia/Virginia; and Lady Cathy Doub, President, International Association of Ladies Auxiliaries Patriarchs Militant from the Jurisdiction of California/Nevada.

We recommend that you schedule flights to and from Ronald Reagan National Airport (DCA), the nearest airport to take advantage of the free shuttle service to the hotel provided by the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center. The Washington metro area is also served by Dulles International Airport (IAD), located 30 miles southwest of the Capital in Northern Virginia. (There is no free hotel shuttle from this airport).

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 6-8, 2016 in Alexandria, Virginia.

In Friendship, Love, and Truth,
Jennie Sue Pearson and Chuck Renninger
General Co-Chairmen

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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 2016 Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns. To receive the special rate of \$115.00 plus hotel tax, available for the nights of May 6-8, reservations must be made **no later than March 27, 2016**. You must mention the “**ODD FELLOWS PILGRIMAGE**” when making your reservation in order to receive this rate and to obtain the specially reduced parking rate. The hotel will accept reservations **on a space available basis after March 27, 2016, but not at this reduced price**. Only telephone reservations are accepted 1-703-845-1010 or 1-800-HILTONS (1-800-445-8667).

It is imperative that reservations are made as early as possible. Although the deadline to place a reservation is **March 27, 2016**, 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 March 27, 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 or Jennie Sue Pearson at 1-301-662-0749.*

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, May 6, 2016

3:00-8:00 PM PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATION DESK open in the upper lobby foyer of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

Saturday, May 7, 2016

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

8:00-8:45 AM Check in with Pilgrimage Committee Tour Guide for Mount Vernon Tour (Hotel Front Lobby)

9:00-3:00 MOUNT VERNON TOUR, includes round trip charter bus transportation from the hotel lobby and self-guided tour of the Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens and Ford Orientation Center and the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center; lunch will be on your own at the Mount Vernon Inn or the Mount Vernon Food Court.

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

Sunday, May 8, 2016 **** Please note later times for all events ****

8:30-10:30 AM PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATION DESK open in the upper lobby foyer of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

2:00 PM BUSES LOAD-DEPART

2:15 PM promptly from the hotel lobby entrance.

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

No exceptions

3:00 PM Memorial Service followed by wreath laying after 4:00 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, etc.****

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

PRE-REGISTRATION: \$5.00 per person, pre-registration deadline: **March 27, 2016**.

Registrations postmarked after March 27, 2016 or in-person registrations: **\$8.00 per person**. *Any questions about registration?* Contact **Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage Committee, Treasurer Wanda Smith – Phone: 1-703-590-1267 – E-mail: 0302wsmith@gmail.com**

PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATION DESK (upper lobby foyer of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center)
Open Friday, May 6, 3:00-8:00 PM; Saturday, May 7, 8:00 AM-4:00 PM; Sunday, May 8, 8:30-11:00 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 tickets still available may be purchased.

**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE – ONE FORM PER PERSON - (Please copy this form as needed)
PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE March 27, 2016**

Name _____ Phone # _____ Email: _____

Address _____

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.

() \$ **5.00 PRE-REGISTRATION FEE** available until March 27, 2016, after **March 27, 2016**, fee is \$8.00)

() \$ **50.00 SATURDAY PILGRIMAGE BANQUET – MUST** be reserved and prepaid by **March 27**. Unless there are canceled reservations, **no additional banquet tickets** will be available.

() \$ **40.00 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 8, 2016 only.

****** 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
PO Box 7165, Woodbridge, VA 22195**

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



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Saturday Morning Mount Vernon Tour

Registration Form

This tour to the Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens, the home of President George Washington, will leave from and return to the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center by Deluxe Motor Coach. The tour departs from the Hotel at **9:00 AM** (check in with Pilgrimage Committee Tour Guide in Hotel Front Lobby **8:00-8:45 AM**). The bus returns to the Hotel at **3:00 PM**. You will have a self-guided tour of the Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens and Ford Orientation Center and the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center, which contain 25 theaters and galleries that detail the story of George Washington and his times. Lunch on your own at the Mount Vernon Inn or Mount Vernon Food Court. Shop at the famous Mount Vernon Gift Store. Return trip to hotel via the beautiful George Washington Memorial Parkway with views of the Potomac River and historic Alexandria, Virginia. **No tickets will be issued or mailed; a reservation list will be maintained by the tour coordinator.**

Reservation Deadline: **March 27, 2016**

Questions: **Wanda Smith 1-703-590-1267**
or email: **0302wsmith@gmail.com**

Name of ticket purchaser _____

Phone # _____

Address: _____

Names of each person going on the tour _____

Number of reservations @ **\$40.00** each _____ Total amount enclosed: _____ Check # _____

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

NO REFUNDS

Make a **separate check** payable to:

Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage Committee and mail to:

**Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage Committee,
PO Box 7165, Woodbridge, VA 22195**

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