

# Texas Rebekah News

December 2025

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Cypress, Texas 719/775-9726

Retirement Center  
Lavonne Cannaday, Director  
2302 S. Oak Grove Road,  
Ennis, Texas 75119  
972/875-8641 or [director@ofrc.org](mailto:director@ofrc.org)

Grand Lodge Office  
James Curtis, Secretary  
3440 W. Second Avenue  
Corsicana, Texas 75110  
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**[texasrebekahnews@gmail.com](mailto:texasrebekahnews@gmail.com)**

# Autumn at the Retirement Home



Above, the Ennis Garden Club brought flowers and supplies for the residents to create their own arrangements!



Halloween at the Center was a great celebration. The wall below features art projects by the residents and, as you can see, the residents went all in when it came to dressing for the occasion. Food, friends and fun! It doesn't get better than that folks.



# Smithville Annual Turkey Dinner

Submitted by Yvonne Deluca



Layska

Smithville IOOF #393 and Smithville Rebekah #180 sponsored their annual Turkey Dinner on Sunday, November 2 at their lodge in Smithville. They were very appreciative of the members and individuals of their community supporting the event.



Yvonne



Rosemary & Jane

Special guest attending was Christina Jones Hollaway, President of the Rebekah Assembly of Texas. Accompanying Christina were Micki Jones-Hollaway, Joni Caudill and Aleigha Fouser. Participating members from Smithville were: Mari McDonald, Warden of the Rebekah Assembly of Texas, Michael Petty, Noble Grand #393, Mary Jo Creamer, Nancy Conaway, Rose Cloughly, Ruby Peeples, Cindy Keil, Calley Harris, Jane Porter, Mae Mikulec, Laysha Vargas, Dotti Marley, Novalee Wolfe, John Creamer and Eddie Oliphant. Thanks to all their members for working and preparing all the food for the dinner. Home cooked meals are always delicious and this one was no exception!



President Christina,  
Mary Jo, Joni, Aleigha



John & Eddie

**Not pictured:  
Novalee Wolfe, Mae  
Mikulec, Andrea  
Baker**



Calley & Mike

## Directory of Rebekah Lodges in Texas

### **Andrews Rebekah Lodge #148**

206 NE 5th, Andrews, TX

Pat Richards, Sec

[prichards413@yahoo.com](mailto:prichards413@yahoo.com)

### **Athens Rebekah Lodge #23**

1301 Cayuga, Athens, TX

Barbara Curtis, Sec

[jmcurtis162@gmail.com](mailto:jmcurtis162@gmail.com)

### **Balch Springs Rebekah Lodge #78**

12001 Crumpton Drive, Balch Springs, TX

Micki Jones, Sec

[godschild\\_000@yahoo.com](mailto:godschild_000@yahoo.com)

### **Casa View Rebekah Lodge**

meets @Orchard Hills Baptist Church

Peggy Smith, Sec

[peggy111749@gmail.com](mailto:peggy111749@gmail.com)

### **Cypress Rebekah Lodge #22**

meets at VFW, 21902 NW Frwy, Cypress, TX

Rena Healy-Findlay, Sec

[renahealy@outlook.com](mailto:renahealy@outlook.com)

### **Denton Rebekah Lodge #18**

1415 Eden, Denton, TX

Karen June Bays, Sec

[kalenajune@yahoo.com](mailto:kalenajune@yahoo.com)

### **Harlandale Rebekah Lodge #179**

no physical building at this time

Yvonne DeLuca, Sec.

[yvonedeluca@aol.com](mailto:yvonedeluca@aol.com)

### **Home Rebekah Lodge #128**

3440 W. Second Ave. Corsicana, TX

Nancy Chew, Sec

[nancy.chewglioofx.org](http://nancy.chewglioofx.org)

### **Loyalty Rebekah Lodge #166**

400 W. Terrell, Burleson, TX

Linda Swanson, Sec.

[lindaswanson1953@yahoo.com](mailto:lindaswanson1953@yahoo.com)

### **Palmer Rebekah Lodge #25**

no physical building at this time

Amy Cantrell, Sec.

[aboxofjoy@yahoo.com](mailto:aboxofjoy@yahoo.com)

### **River Oaks Rebekah Lodge #467**

1501 Hemphill, Fort Worth, TX

Vicky Fluty, Sec.

[mytxnanaf@yahoo.com](mailto:mytxnanaf@yahoo.com)

### **Silver Leaf Rebekah Lodge #75**

1501 Hemphill, Fort Worth, TX

Arlene Martin, Sec.

[arlenemartin1955@gmail.com](mailto:arlenemartin1955@gmail.com)

### **Smithville Rebekah Lodge #180**

406 Turney, Smithville, TX

Calley Harris, Sec.

[lilbaby233377@gmail.com](mailto:lilbaby233377@gmail.com)

### **Tyler Rebekah Lodge #142**

220 1/2 W.Erwin, Tyler, TX

Vivian McElligott, Sec.

[vnicklessmcelligott@gmail.com](mailto:vnicklessmcelligott@gmail.com)

### **Waxahachie Rebekah Lodge #381**

208 1/2 Rogers, Waxahachie, TX

Savannah Williams, Sec.

[savannah.o.williams@gmail.com](mailto:savannah.o.williams@gmail.com)

# Looking for a Project?

If your lodge is looking for a project, the Retirement Home is in need of Bingo prizes. Below is a list of items that are needed year round. Unless otherwise stated, the items can be for men or women as both are needed.

## Personal Items:

Dental Floss/ Picks	Deodorant	Razors	Shave cream
Hair Brushes	Toothbrushes	Bath Soap (travel size)	Mouthwash (small bottles)
Chapstick	Body Spray	Tooth Paste	

**Preferred bath soaps: Dove, Caress, Irish Spring, Old Spice**

## Household Items:

Single wrapped paper towels	Laundry Detergent	Dryer Sheets	Cleaning Products
Band Aids	Fabric Softener	Lysol Wipes	Regular wipes
Kleenex	Holiday Door Hangers	Small lanterns (LED w/handle; Dollar Tree has)	

**Bottled products are best if they are smaller size.**

## 2026 Rebekah Assembly Session

If your lodge is providing items for the 2026 Session's goody bags, please have your representative drop them off at the Grand Lodge offices in Corsicana on Friday, March 13, 2026 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

## Warden's Musings

I've gone into this year like a babe thrown into the deep end of the pool. I am learning so much and I am so grateful to be working alongside so many wonderful men and women. The hardest part, so far, has been listening to the different perspectives on what the position does and does not require. But listening to the different perspectives has been so good for me because it has given me the impetus to check out the rules for myself. If you have never read the constitution and by-laws, you should! It's interesting reading and a lot has changed in the last few years as we try to keep in step with the changing times.

## Meeting Protocols

As you know, the President's letter has not been mailed via postal service this year. It is being emailed. Regardless of the method used to get the letter to lodges, the letter MUST be read aloud by the Secretary of the Lodge. It has to be a part of your regular meeting and should appear in your minutes.

## Attention Executive Committee Members, Past Grand Masters and Past Presidents:

The deadline for the Executive Committee Christmas Party is December 5th. Please be sure you have notified either the Grand Warden, Karen June Bays or the RA Warden, Mari McDonald by then.

*Let's celebrate together!*  
**Christmas**

OLD MANCHESTER UNITY STYLE

**Party**

BJ MILLER ROOM

DECEMBER **13** 6 PM

**Board Members & Guests**  
**PGM & PP & Guests**

*\$25 Per Person*

**Food**

**ENGLISH BINGO**  
**Prizes**

**Fun**

**RSVP by December 5th**

**GW Karen June Bays**

**940-255-1584**

**RA Warden Mari McDonald**

**512-360-7171**

**Proceeds from the Evening will be  
going to the Retirement Home**

## CODE TALK

Code of General Laws, Article VIII Officers,  
Elective and Appointive, Section 3

"Representative and Alternate Representative to  
the Rebekah Assembly shall be nominated and  
elected at the regular election in December..".

## Service at River Oaks

Submitted by Liz Cook

River Oaks Rebekah Lodge #467 is distributing  
Thanksgiving Food Baskets to needy families in  
our area.

The members of River Oaks would like to wish  
all our sisters a very happy Thanksgiving! Good  
eating!

## Newsletter Submissions

Brothers and sisters, I am so grateful and excited to receive so much news from around the state. I'd like everyone to understand that your submissions are important to the Order. Articles/letters in PDF form and photos in JPEG form are much better and don't take as much to process to be useable in the newsletter. I hope you will understand that I cannot use all of your photos every time but the more photos you send, the more likely I am to be able to find some that are useable. You can send your articles and photos snail mail but please be advised that a lot of your actual photos may not show up clearly enough. Docx articles don't always transfer well via email, so please consider saving as a PDF before emailing.

PLEASE don't stop sending your news and events. I would rather have to process your articles than not receive them.



**Smithville #180**

**31 Shoeboxes for Samaritan's  
Purse**

**&**

**Cookies for Smithville P.D.**



# Calendar of Events

## December:

- 6 Festival of Lights Bake Sale, Smithville, TX
- 13 W & O Meeting, Grand Lodge Offices
- 13 Executive Committee Christmas Party
- 14 Retirement Home Christmas Party

## January

- 11 W & O Meeting, Grand Lodge Offices
- 11 R.A. Executive Committee Meeting

## February:

- 6-7 Testimonial Dinner for IARA President Pam Isenhower, Houston
- 8 W & O Meeting, Grand Lodge Offices

## March:

- 13 Drop off Goody Bag items for Session
- 14 W & O Meeting
- 14—17 Grand Lodge/Rebekah Assembly

Rebekahs! Let us know what is happening in your lodge. Are you having a fundraiser, are you doing a service project? If it's scheduled, we will put it on our calendar of events. These items should be sent in as soon as they are scheduled by your lodge. If they have already happened, send photos and some information so that we can share your work with other Rebekahs.

Items should be emailed to [texasrebekahnews@gmail.com](mailto:texasrebekahnews@gmail.com) no later than the 20th of each month. **Items received after the 20th, will not be included in that month's newsletter.**

# Preserving Our Past, Preparing Our Future:

## Rebekah Office Clean-Up Day

Submitted by Crystal Baker

This month, members of the Texas Rebekah Assembly gathered at the Grand Lodge office building for a major clean-up and organizational effort—one rooted not only in tidiness, but in honoring and preserving our history in Texas. Within the walls of the Rebekah office lies a remarkable archive of our journey, documenting generations of service, sisterhood, and dedication. Securing these records ensures that our story will continue to be told for years to come.

Texas Rebekah Assembly President **Christina Jones-Holloway**, Assembly Secretary **Pam Isenhower**, **Micki Jones-Holloway**, **Rena Healy**, and **Crystal Baker** rolled up their sleeves and spent the day unboxing, sorting, and alphabetizing thousands of semi-annual reports, some dating back to the very beginnings of our Assembly. Their shared commitment—and the sheer volume of documents—made it clear just how rich and expansive our legacy truly is.

Providing moral support throughout the day were **Caden and Kayley Jones-Holloway**, whose presence added an extra bit of cheer to an otherwise monumental task.

This project was a shining example of teamwork in action. “Teamwork makes the dream work” proved true as our members worked side by side, ensuring that our historical records are not only preserved, but accessible and respected. Though much was accomplished, there is still more work ahead as we continue organizing, safeguarding, and revitalizing the space that has served our Assembly.

With continued effort and shared dedication, the Rebekah office will remain a functional, meaningful home for our history—and for all who will carry our mission forward in the years to come.



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Smithville, Tx 78957  
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crystalbake@gmail.com

**November 20, 2025**

**Dear Sisters and Brothers,**

I want to start by saying I'm sorry for the late letter this month. I have had computer issues. To the point that I had to purchase a new one! Hoping you had a great September and a wonderful Grandparents Day!

I started the month in Waxahachie on the 9<sup>th</sup>. We had a wonderful social with about 25 attending.

On the 12<sup>th</sup>, the Rebekah Assembly Secretary and I attended the Grand Lodge Executive meeting about making changes to this upcoming session. They agreed to work with us.

Saturday was the W & O Homes Board meeting. Pilgrimage in Ennis at the Retirement Center was the following day, Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup>. I was thrilled by the large turnout. Thank you to all who attended!! The wonderful kitchen staff cooked a great BBQ meal. The residents seemed to enjoy the Creature Teacher again this year.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> the Rebekah Assembly VP and I attended Cypress Lodge. I was very pleased to see the 2 youngest members were the Noble Grand and the Vice Grand. They initiated a new member and did an outstanding job.

The 23<sup>rd</sup> found me in Palmer watching our newest Lodge open and close a meeting beautifully.

I want to say "Thank you!" to everyone that showed up for our Annual IOOF Picnic in Corsicana on October 4<sup>th</sup>. It was great to see so many of you wonderful Rebekahs having fun and playing games.

October 11<sup>th</sup> I attended Board. The Rebekah Assembly Executive committee went and looked at the Cottages, for possible use by the Rebekah Assembly.

October 12<sup>th</sup> I was fortunate to help with a Trunk or Treat hosted by my lodge.

October 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> I was privileged to attend the Rebekah Assembly of Oklahoma. It was interesting to learn how other jurisdictions conduct business. I met many wonderful new friends. While getting to visit with a couple old ones as well.

Mark your calendars: 11/2 Smithville's Annual Thanksgiving lunch. I will be attending if anyone would like to join us it starts at 11am.

11/2 Athens Fish Fry. Please support them, if you can.

11/9 Balch Springs Fall Fundraiser, 11am

Also, I will be calling a meeting, on 11/8, with the Rebekah Assembly Executive Officers, Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees of the Rebekah Assembly.

In Happiness Through Service,

*Christina Jones-Hollaway*  
*President, Rebekah Assembly*

*attested: Pam Isenhower*  
*Secretary*



## Retirement Home says Farewell

Nan has been bringing Rocky and Zippy to the retirement center once a week to visit with the residents. We all say farewell to Nan, Rocky & Zippy as they adventure into a new chapter in life. They are moving to another state and will be missed!

Pictured: Martha Schlottman, Jan Wilson, Shirley Malone, Patsy Goss, Mack Newman, Ann Clagett, Donna Miller, Nan, Rocky & Zippy.

