

# Texas Rebekah News



March 2026



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### **Rebekah Assembly Secretary**

Pam Isenhower

27210 Kendall Ridge Lane

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**

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3440 W. Second Avenue

Corsicana, Texas 75110

[james.curtis@gliooftx.org](mailto:james.curtis@gliooftx.org)

Rebekah Assembly of Texas

[www.texasrebekahs.org](http://www.texasrebekahs.org)

President, Christina Jones-Holloway

Vice-President, Arlene Martin

Warden, Mari McDonald

Secretary, Pam Isenhower

Treasurer, Liz Cook

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.**

## *Calendar of Events*



March:

13 Drop off Goody Bag items for Session  
14—17 Grand Lodge/Rebekah Assembly

April:

4 Garage Sale, Smithville Community Wide  
11 W & O Meeting

May:

9 W & O Meeting

June:

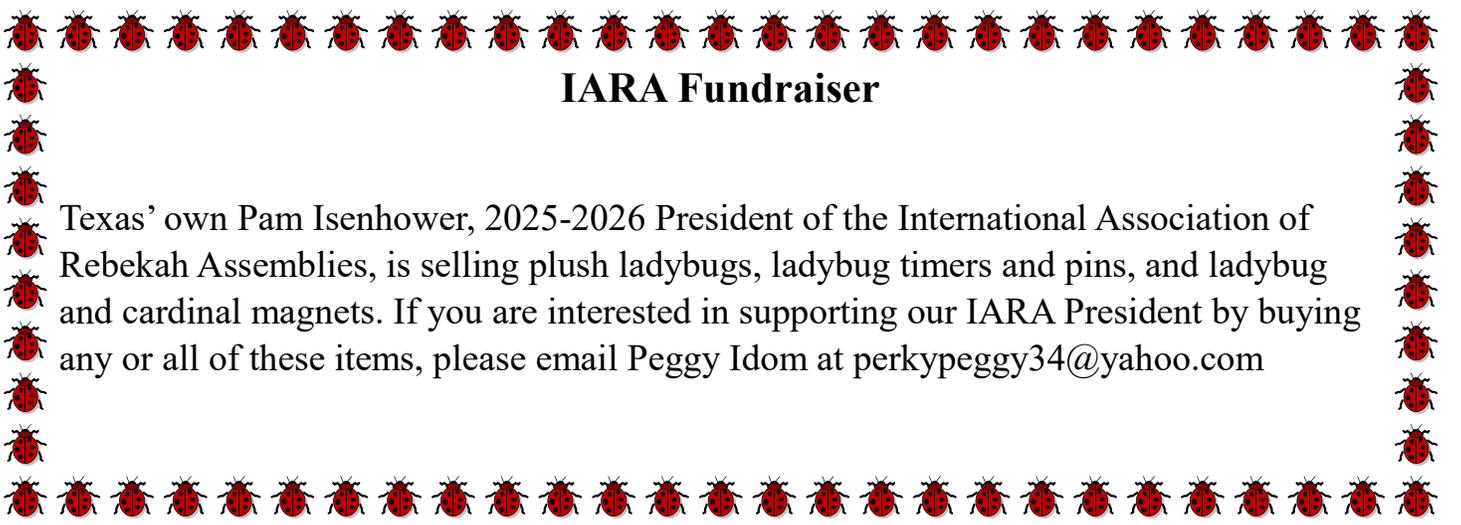
5-7 54th Annual Canadian War Memorial Weekend  
13 W & O Meeting

July:

16-29 Pilgrimage for Youth

August:

14-20 Sovereign Grand Lodge Session, Frisco, Texas



## IARA Fundraiser

Texas' own Pam Isenhower, 2025-2026 President of the International Association of Rebekah Assemblies, is selling plush ladybugs, ladybug timers and pins, and ladybug and cardinal magnets. If you are interested in supporting our IARA President by buying any or all of these items, please email Peggy Idom at [perkypeggy34@yahoo.com](mailto:perkypeggy34@yahoo.com)

### CODE TALK (repeat)

Things to know about the 2026 Session:

- EVERYONE who attends the session will have to go through the credentials committee. This means you will have to have your dues card that is properly sealed, dated and shows dues are current.
- 100% Attendance is required for ALL elected officers. This includes the Executive Meeting on Wednesday. If you do not have 100% attendance, you will not receive a per diem check.
- If you are planning to run for the office of Warden, you will be required to attend a School of Instruction before elections. Candidates, I promise you that this school will help you so much. Without it, you will be blindsided by duties you were not aware were yours.

### 2-Step Welcome Crew

Huge thanks to Gary and Angela Bolch and Connie and Torrance Baker for serving on the Two-Step Welcome Crew for Pam Isenhower's testimonial.

If you ever wondered what it takes to greet guests with grace while flights land early (or very late), departures masquerade as arrivals, and time zones play tricks on everyone involved—now you know. Through the schedule whiplash and airport bingo, this crew kept smiling, pivoting, and making people feel genuinely welcomed.

I'm grateful for your flexibility, good humor, and willingness to roll with the madness. Pam's celebration was better because of you!

Thank you,  
Crystal Baker, Past President  
Two-Step Welcome Crew Chair

**If you would like to be added to our mailing list, send us your email address at**

**[texasrebekahnews@gmail.com](mailto:texasrebekahnews@gmail.com)**

# Ennis—On The Go



There is never a lack of activities at the Retirement Center. Clockwise, starting above: Residents watch the 2026 Milan-Cortina Winter Olympics; residents make a trip to the Russell Stover candy store; residents decorate for Valentine's Day; members of the Ennis Club distribute Valentines to the residents; residents and staff celebrate Valentine's Day with Sweetheart, Roseanne



## *Sick and Distressed*

- Grand Lodge Secretary, James Curtis, was hospitalized briefly earlier this month. He is home and back at work!
- During the weekend of the Testimonial Dinner for I.A.R.A. President, Pam Isenhower, a Rebekah sister had an accident at the hotel. Sister Nadine Dulaney, Vice-President of the Rebekah Assembly of Virginia, fell down one of the escalators and was injured badly. She has two broken ribs and a broken knee cap. We are pleased to report that Sister Nadine is back home and recovering. If anyone would like to send a card, Sister Nadine's address is: P. O. Box 153, Vinton, VA 24179

## Happy Birthday Ray!

Brother Ray Parrish, longtime Odd Fellow, celebrated his 95th birthday on February 26th. Anyone wishing to send him good wishes can send cards and letters to: Ray Parrish, C/O 2302 S Oak Grove Road, Ennis, Texas 75119

## Obituaries

- Brother James Hulen, Commerce Lodge #234, died. Services were held on February 11th in Sulphur Springs.
- The Grand Lodge received word earlier this month that Brother Crispin Green, former member of Muleshoe Lodge #58 passed away August 16, 2025. A memorial service was held in September 2025. He was 87.
- Evelyn Joyce "Oma" Smith, of Harlandale Rebekah Lodge #179 died February 16, 2026. Her funeral was held on February 24th in Castroville, Texas. Evelyn was Past President of the Rebekah Assembly Robin Cloberdants' mother. Evelyn was 93.
- David Sivernell, of Corsicana Lodge #63 passed away on February 21, 2026. Brother Sivernell had been in hospice.

## *Warden's Musings*

This will be my last contribution to this newsletter as Warden of the Texas Assembly. So, I want to share with you an opportunity that I witnessed yesterday.

We normally have enough members to fill the chairs in our lodge but, yesterday, it happened that we had our quorum and no more. After our meeting, we enjoyed lunch together and, of course, talked about all the things that need doing in our lodge and our lives. As has happened for the last thirty years, my Rebekah Sister, Mary Jo, reminded me that we needed to get into our overflowing closet to gauge our garage sale items. In doing so, we found several boxes containing items that we were saving for a project and discussed using them for a current project instead. We had specifications to meet and as Mary Jo and I worked our way into the closet to try to reach the boxes we wanted. Two of the other sisters approached and asked what we were doing. Mary Jo explained and they nodded their understanding. I was rather stuck in the closet for a bit but when I stepped out to start identifying and counting the items we needed, I found that my Sisters were huddled around a table with Mary Jo, sorting, counting, and double checking each other.

As I watched them, I realized that my Sisters had done what we should ALL do, and that is to "step in and step up". Neither sister hesitated, neither sister waited to be asked. There was a job to be done, and they just quietly took the opportunity to help. And we are all the better for it. Our task was done in twenty minutes and we achieved the fellowship that comes from working together for a common goal.

There are so many opportunities to ***Step in and Step up***. Take as many of them as you are able. It's why we are Rebekahs.

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**Christina Jones-Hollaway, President**

22243 Big Oak Drive  
Flint, TX 75762  
Cell: 214-690-7574  
godschild\_000@yahoo.com

**Arlene Martin, Vice President**

2010 Kerry Drive  
Arlington, TX 76013  
Cell: 817-308-0068  
arlenemartin1955@gmail.com

**Mari McDonald, Warden**

503 Olive Street  
Smithville, Tx 78957  
Cell: 512-360-7171  
alumcreekantiques@yahoo.com

**Pam Isenhower, Secretary**

27210 Kendal Ridge Lane  
Cypress, TX 77433  
Cell: 713-775-9726  
txassembly@yahoo.com

**Liz Cook, Treasurer**

PO Box 337  
Justin, TX 76247  
Cell: 817-846-6801  
lizftworth@gmail.com

**Crystal Baker, PP**

107 Eagle Feather Drive  
Waxahachie, TX 75165  
Cell: 512-227-6398  
crystalbake@gmail.com

**February 19, 2026**

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Happy Valentine to all. As I'm writing this things are winding up for our next session and even gearing up for Frisco. I'd like to thank my Texas Rebekah's for showing up for Pam at her Testimonial.

With March just 2 short weeks away I hope you're getting your plans finalized for Assembly. If your Lodge can help we are asking for items for the Goody bags, 110 items if possible. Attached you will find the registration and menus. On Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> there will be a meeting for anyone that is going to run for an elected office of the Rebekah Assembly. The meeting will be in the room across the hall from the Event Center office from 11-12. Also new this year everyone will need to not only register but also check in with Credentials. A sticker will be attached to your badge. Without the sticker you will not be allowed in. Credentials will be open 9am-4pm both Saturday and Sunday for your convenience. Attached will be the list of committees. Please check if you are a Chairman, if so pick up your packets and have your meeting before Session Monday morning so that all reports will be ready. If you are a Flag bearer Rena will be meeting with you after the Memorial Service.

*Christina Jones-Hollaway  
President, Rebekah Assembly*

*attested: Pam Isenhower  
Secretary*



## An Odd Fellow Life

One of the sweetest moments to come out of the IARA President's Testimonial weekend was gathering the members who are former Theta Rhos and Junior Odd Fellows. These members have grown up in the Order and have devoted their lives to service through Odd Fellowship.

Pictured Front Row: Pam Isenhower, President I.A.R.A.; Dorothy Dare, Past President RA of TX; Terry Adams, Past President RA of TX – Back row: Yvonne DeLuca; John Cook; Johnny Cantrell, Past Grand Master of TX; Amy Box Cantrell, Past President RA of TX; Christina Jones-Hollaway,



## Mardi Gras

*Laissez les bon temps rouler!*

Baby King Cake winners were Ann Clagett (left) and Martha Schlottman. Far right is Bristol who came to celebrate Fat Tuesday I.O.O.F. style!

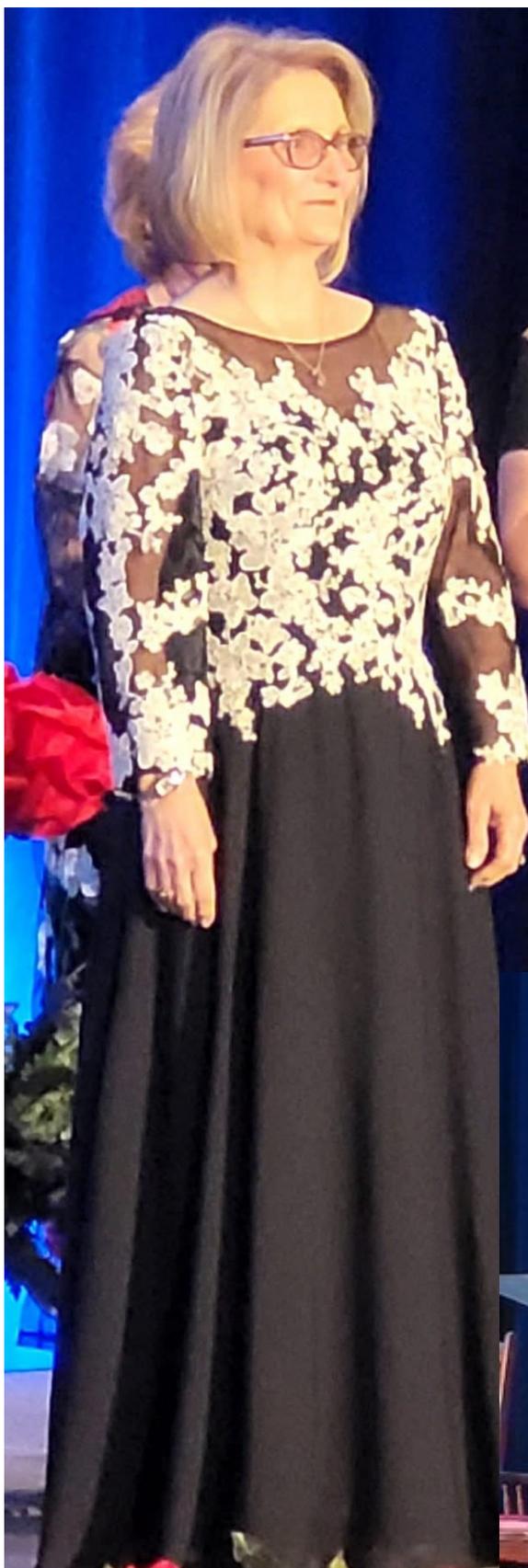


# Pam Isenhower

The lady of the hour, Pam Isenhower, President of the International Rebekah Assemblies of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and former Theta Ro, Past President of the Rebekah Assembly of Texas, and current Secretary of the Rebekah Assembly of Texas!

We gathered February 6-7, 2026 to honor this lovely, dedicated and hard working lady. We kicked off the festivities on Friday night with a Western Night banquet and dance and enjoyed a lovely demonstration of square dancing. We started Saturday with a Mardi Gras themed Bingo session (complete with Jester calling) in the morning and a formal “Puttin’ on the Ritz” banquet and dance.

There were so many accolades and gifts and we were proud to see members of the Sovereign Grand Lodge in attendance along with so many folks from out of state as well as a nice contingent from Texas. Pictured below is Sovereign Grand Master, Thomas Calabrese acknowledging his work partner



# Makin' Texans!



Pictured above are all the out of state attendees of Pam Isenhower's testimonial weekend. In true Texas fashion, President Pam gave them certificates making them honorary Texans on Western Night.

At left is President Isenhower handing out "official" honorary Texan certificates to all our guests.

Afterward, guests were treated to a square dancing demonstration and some, including President Pam, got some lessons in the art of square dancing.

Later in the evening, we were treated to some live country music and a little two steppin'.

# The Texans!



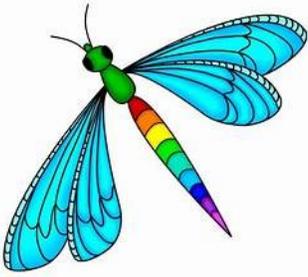
I.A.R.A. President Pam Isenhower's testimonial weekend was wonderful. We were fortunate enough to get most of the Texas contingent together for a photo (above) on Saturday night. The smiles you see are genuine! We were all so happy to be there together to celebrate Pam and our Order.



Two lodges were able to gather their home lodge members for a photo. Pictured at left are the members of Balch Springs Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges; pictured on the right are members of Denton Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges.



# Texas Stars



There were many past presidents at the weekend event and regretfully we didn't get photos of them all but, we did get some truly nice photos of Texas members who were, or are, presidents.

Pictured on the right are 2025-2026 IARA President, Pam Isenhower and President of the Rebekah Assembly of Texas, Christina Jones-Hollaway. How exciting to see Texas represented on both the state and national stages.

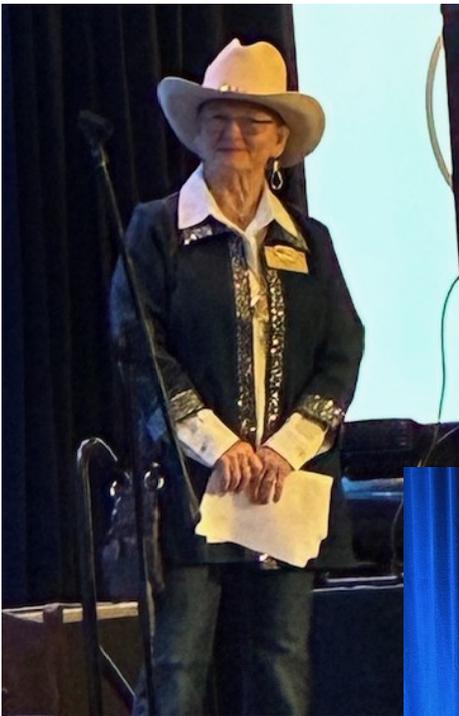


Pictured at left are the Texas members and Past Presidents of the Rebekah Assembly who were in attendance at the testimonial banquet on February 7th.

Seated, left to right: Dorothy Dare, Marie Mason, Loretta Vernon

Standing, left to right: Terry Adams, Sharon Burt, Amy Box Cantrell, Peggy Idom, Pam Isenhower, and Karen June Bays

# Fellowship at the Testimonial



Above: Terry Adams, PP RA, our Western Night emcee.

Pictured at right: Pam Isenhower, Dorothy Dare and Terry Adams

Every event takes a lot of hard work, planning, patience and, hopefully, fun. Seeing the work that went into this event was awe inspiring. Pam's entire family showed up en masse to make this event a success. Along the way, we caught a few smiles.



Above: the Rowdy Girls. seated left to right: Amy Box Cantrell and Mari McDonald; standing left to right: Mary Jo Creamer and Yvonne DeLuca

Below: Ms. Peggy Idom, banquet night emcee, PP of RA of TX and proud mother of the IARA President, Pam Isenhower.



Pictured at left: Christina Jones-Hollaway, President RA of TX (seated), Mari McDonald, Warden RA TX; Pam Isenhower, IARA President; Karen June Bays, Grand Warden of TX



# 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 @Cotton Patch Restaurantl, Rockwall, TX  
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)