

# The Samaritan



Vol. 12

Issue 3 • Autumn 2020 • Free



FRIENDSHIP. LOVE. TRUTH.

LibraFire  
[www.librafire.com](http://www.librafire.com)

The Official Newsmagazine of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of New Jersey

# ODD FELLOWS FOR HIRE

## Accounting/Bookkeeping

**Marie Rogerson**

Accountant

**Rogerson's**

**Accounting & Bookkeeping**

**609-203-8638**

accountingservicesbymarie@yahoo.com

## Art/Graphic Design

**Beth Obiedzinski-Garvin**

Artist/Graphic Designer

**Active Hub Design**

Where Art and Technology Meet

**609-294-0237** (home office)

justelizabeth@aol.com

## Crochet/Jewelry

**Dot Planer**

Handmade Jewelry & Crochet Items

**Sellers of Purple**

baby gifts, ponchos, shawls, sweaters, afghans, slippers, necklaces, bracelets, earrings, and more!

**Dot 908-494-1441**

sellersofpurple1614@gmail.com

## Entertainment

**Beep Beep the Clown, LLC**

with Jeff Pennell

**Balloonist, Magician, & Clown**

**for all Occasions**

**609-893-0240**

www.beepbeepthec clown.com

## Massage Therapy

**Maritza Rodriguez**

**Licensed Massage Therapist**

NJ: 18KT01247200

Modalities Include: Swedish, Deep Tissue, Myofascial, Aroma Therapy & Custom Massage

**201-912-5424**

mmrodriguezLMT@gmail.com

## Model Building

**Jeff Pennell**

Circus Model Building Programs

**The History/Art**

**of Circus Model Building**

For your next Meeting or Special Event

**609-893-0240**

jpdoor@hotmail.com

## Moving & Delivery Services

**Mario B. Guzman, Jr.**

**R.A.B Moving & Delivery**

**Services, LLC**

**609-816-7951**

rabmovingllc@gmail.com

## Music/Music Instruction

**Humberto Sanchez**

Composer/Arranger/Teacher

**Guitar • Piano • Percussion • Voice**

**786-319-2698 • 786-362-0926**

rafastra@gmail.com

humbertosanpe.h@gmail.com

## Optometry

**Dr. Peter K. Anderson**

Eyecare, Eyeglasses, and Contact Lenses

**Advanced Eyecare Center**

**215-946-8478**

doc@drpeteranderson.com

www.drpeteranderson.com

## Pest Control

**Orlando Ricardo, Jr.**

Residential - Commercial - Industrial

**Flash Exterminating Co., Inc.**

406 36th Street Union City, NJ 07087

**201-348-1324**

Fax: 201-864-0038

## Residential/Commercial Garage Doors

**Jeff Pennell**

Installation and Repair

**Jersey Pines Overhead Doors**

**609-338-5683**

jpdoor@hotmail.com

www.jersey pinesgaragedoor.com

**Your listing  
could be included  
in the next issue of**

**The Samaritan**

**and on the**

**IOOF NJ Facebook page.**

**(and it's FREE!)**

**www.facebook.com/IOOFNJ/**

## What's so ODD about hiring an Odd Fellow?

Not a thing that we can think of, so we started a business listing featuring services, talents, and occasional hobbies for hire of our brothers and sisters. Email your listing info to IOOF\_NJ@comcast.net or mail to The Samaritan Business Listing, 209 Cedar St.



Tuckerton, NJ 08087. You will receive a confirmation call so any listing without a phone number will not be published. We publish every two months so listings must be received a month prior to publication. Questions? Call Beth at 609-294-0237.



## GOOD OF THE ORDER COVID RELIEF

**N**J Odd Fellows have been working hard since March when COVID-19 hit the US. Not every moment is caught on camera, not every helping hand is promoted. Here are a couple photos from July that we caught when the Grand Lodge and Grand Encampment generously and without hesitation graciously donated.



Photo courtesy of Guido Miranda

On July 5th, IOOF NJ GL/GE donated \$2000.00 to the St. John's Full Gospel Outreach Ministries, Inc. in Carney's Point to help out with their food bank. Pictured at left (l-r) are St. John's Elder Jeff, DGM Beth Obiedzinski-Garvin (COVID brown hair), and reliable St. John's friend, Collin. Also in July, IOOF NJ GL/GE donated \$2000.00 to Milagros Acosta for medical relief. Pictured above (l-r) are Justo Urquiza, GM Manny Sosa, PGM Guido Miranda, Milagros Acosta, and her husband Alexis Fernandez.



Photo by Steve Wooton

# Odd History & Help On The Frontlines

**H**ello everyone!  
My name is Adis Roman I have been a nurse for 36 years at New York Presbyterian. Today with the Covid-19 pandemic, we are traveling through uncharted waters, yet we continue to swim. I am a Lactation Consultant, and like many of you I have been displaced from my regular unit and sent to work someplace else, yet I continue to care for mothers and newborns and encourage them to breastfeed. Never during my career has our home environment and our professional environment been so intertwined. Let me tell you what I mean.  
I belong to a fraternity called The Independent Order of Odd Fellows. We are in over 100 countries and in every State of the Union and our mission is to help others in every way we can. We support large organizations such as the Wilmer Eye Institute, Arthritis Foundation, The Gift of Life, and Autism Speaks to name a few. We also support many other local charities and everyday people when a need for help is recognized. We fund our own scholarships, Nursing Homes and provide Grants for Heart Research. Sometimes helping others just takes the form of a phone call to an elder or a smile to a stranger. Our members come from all walks of life. We have some famous members such as: Thomas Wildey, The Founding Father of Odd fellowship in the United States; Ulysses S. Grant, 18th

Adis Roman takes time out to pose with donated lotion for hospital workers in April, a several weeks after the Covid-19 pandemic began.

Photo by Raul Rodriguez



President of the United States (1869-1877); Schuyler Colfax, US Vice President (1869-1877); Charlie Chaplain, comedian and actor; Franklin Roosevelt, US 32nd President (1933-1945); Winston Churchill, Wartime Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (1923-1929, 1935-1937); and most recently Robert C. Byrd, US Senator (1989-2010). Anna Eleanor Roo-

sevelt, First Lady of US (1933-1945) and Delegate to The United Nation General Assembly and Lucy Hubbs Taylor, first US female dentist were Rebekahs (the female branch of the Odd Fellows until 2005 when women were allowed to join the fraternity).

But what does all of this have to do with Covid-19? Well you see, the other day a co-worker mentioned that she was washing her hands so much that her hands hurt. I mentioned this to my Odd Fellow Brothers and Sisters of the Jurisdiction of New Jersey and within eight hours I had bags of hand lotions donated by The Grand Encampment of New Jersey (another branch of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows) for nursing units in New York and New Jersey; 54 bottles have already been delivered with more to come!

So, from my Odd Fellow Family, we hope this lotion gives you some comfort with Friendship, Love and Truth, Faith, Hope and Charity. And to my Professional Family — please accept this token of appreciation for all you do.

Adis Roman RN, IBCLC

Past Rebekah Assembly Left Herald

\*Editor's Note: This article is a compilation of both the note that was enclosed with the bags of lotions and a Thank You to The NJ GE from April 2020.

Great work everybody!

# Welcome to The Samaritan

*An Official Publication  
of the New Jersey Grand Lodge  
of the Independent Order  
of Odd Fellows.*

Please send any and all IOOF related  
news with any identifying info to  
[ioof\\_nj@comcast.net](mailto:ioof_nj@comcast.net)

*This is YOUR magazine so any comments or  
suggestions are always welcome, too!*

**Our success depends on YOU!**



*Promoting Odd Fellowship  
through Positive Communication*

**Beth Obiedzinski-Garvin**  
*Editor/Art Director*

**Laura Baehr-Wooton**  
*Proofreader*

**Steven Wooton**  
*Fact Checker*

**Cover Photo:**  
*We Are All The Same*  
Courtesy of  
**Goran Gornaovic**  
[www.librafire.com](http://www.librafire.com)



**Debbe McClelland**  
*Grand Secretary*

Mailing Address:  
4527 Rt. 130 South  
Burlington, NJ 08016  
United States of America

[oddfellows22@comcast.net](mailto:oddfellows22@comcast.net)

609-386-0025 or 609-519-8504

**GRAND LODGE MEETINGS**

*First Saturday of  
each month at 9:00 am*

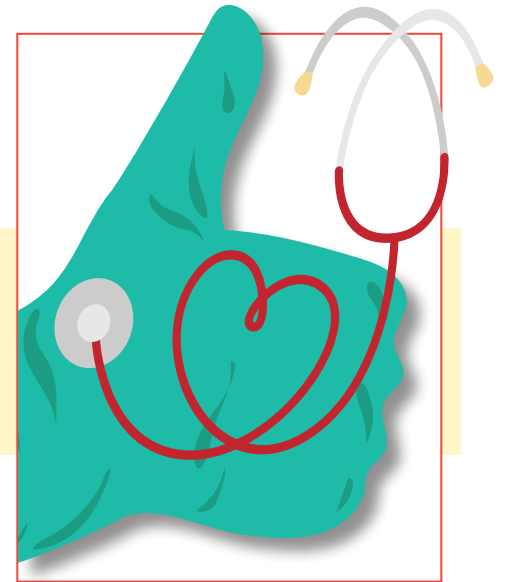


# 6

## NCK 2020 Grads

# 3

## On The Frontlines



# 7

## Welcome New Members

Grand Patriarch Message .....	5
ODD Insides .....	5
Good of The Order.....	3
Fraternal Lines.....	7
New Members.....	7
News From Our Friends .....	6
Hire An Odd Fellow .....	2



# ODD Inside

The size of The Samaritan (think page count) has been on my mind for quite awhile. Pre COVID, I'd layout this magazine to fit the ample content that our very busy state produced. Whether it was a fundraiser, an IOOF party, or one of our many partners' events, I'd have more than enough to do double digit issues. And the photos! We're not quite at Pastor Roman's level but I still receive many photos. I know that our lifeblood of activities will pick up as we get creative with our events and the pandemic subsides but with this issue, we're beginning with some changes, specifically keeping it at eight pages. Now, that's not written in stone—the session issue is always a monster—and will continue to be one, but since it's the 21st century, the plethora of photos are going to be on the IOOF NJ Facebook page as well as current and upcoming events ([www.facebook.com/IOOFNJ/](http://www.facebook.com/IOOFNJ/)). I know you'll find it hard to believe that I'm saying this but it will save money, and since my Cause as Grand Patriarch was (still is) The Pinelands Preservation Alliance, it will save trees! This decision is also based on the hope that in 2021, The Samaritan will be delivered to everyone's household. (Old issues can be found on ISSUU.com at [issuu.com/independentorderofoddfellowsfjn](http://issuu.com/independentorderofoddfellowsfjn)).

I emailed every member (who had an email) of the Hire An Odd Fellow Directory to see if anyone has had any responses. I received one reply from Jeff Pennell that he had one. Starting with the January 2020 issue, this Directory will run if there is space available.

In this issue you'll find a new column by and for members titled *Fraternat Lines*. Anyone is allowed to submit their one page typed/emailed article that promotes Odd Fellowship in a positive manner. Thanks to Brother Mario Guzman for kicking this off on page 7.

I'd also like to thank Goran Gornaovic of LibraFire for the stunning cover graphic titled *We Are All The Same*. I saw the image in an Arts magazine I receive, emailed my request, and that night was granted permission. The Cover is one of the most difficult parts of the process. They made my job very easy this quarter.

Enjoy this issue and thank you for all you do!

~Beth O.



On February 12, 2020, The NJ IOOF was invited to be honored by, and bowl with, the NJ S.T.A.R.S (Special Teens and Adults Recreation Supporters) at their Bowlathon. S.T.A.R.S Bowlers ranged in age from 13 to 21 and were very thankful because of IOOF donations they are able to continue to bowl on a regular basis. Since GM Sosa and GP Calabrese did not report the final stats, we're going to assume that the S.T.A.R.S Bowlers took home the trophy.

A MESSAGE FROM

## THE GRAND PATRIARCH

### Historic Pandemic Doesn't Stop Our Ongoing Odd Fellow Mission

Hopefully, the historic events of this year will not ever be repeated. During our different Christmas events that we normally do each year, we did not think within a couple of months we would be living in a whole new world.

All group events were canceled due to the corona virus. Grocery stores were emptied out of almost everything. A lot of things were happening that we never expected. At the same time members of the Order continue to act on the principles of Odd Fellowship. They started checking on fellow members, making sure they were safe, and they had things that they needed. Being shut in, the voice on the other side of the phone was a gift. We also had members that were on the front lines helping those sickened by the virus. The Encampment and Grand Lodge both



made donations to local food banks which helped relieve those in the community in distress.

As Spring broke, we had to cancel events. Even as the summer started, we had to change the location of Session. The Session was changed from the large formal event to a business meeting at the Grand Lodge Hall which allowed us to continue to act on the principles of the Order. We passed a Resolution to help the Charities in Roebbling which helped the Food Banks in the area with much needed funds.

Once the restrictions due to the virus are lifted, events that were postponed will be rescheduled. During these events we need to get back to bolstering the membership of the Encampment by encouraging more Odd Fellows to join. Working together with the Odd Fellows, the Encampment will be able to help more individuals and charities.

It is my hope that you will join me in the Encampment and together we will see how we can grow the Order and advance the principles of Faith, Hope, and Charity.

In Faith, Hope, & Charity,  
Tom Calabrese, Grand Patriarch



Photos by Tom Calabrese and Manny Sosa





# Madjibe's Story

In 2014, when Madjibe was twelve her family moved to the United States in order to build a better life. Madjibe quickly adapted to life in the US and was accepted into County Prep High School, a very well regarded high school in Jersey City, NJ. She excelled academically and took on several leadership opportunities including founding the Debate Team. As Madjibe grew her interest in politics also blossomed. As a result, she was a very active member of Model Government, Hudson County Youth Leadership Council, and even interned for a Jersey City Councilwoman. As a sophomore, Madjibe applied for and was hired as a Teen Life Intern at New City Kids where she quickly rose up the ranks from Tutor to Assistant Team Leader. Madjibe's maturity, professionalism, and caring heart have al-



Madjibe with her mother and sister at the NCK Graduation Ceremony at Berry Lane Park in Jersey City, NJ.



I grew up in Chad, a country in North Central Africa. By the time I was eight years old, I knew the ideals of justice and democracy did not apply to me. No matter how many degrees I earned or the talents I had, I would never have the same opportunities as someone with greater wealth or who shared the same ethnicity as the President. ~Madjibe

lowed her to stand-out amongst her peers. While at New City Kids, Madjibe worked diligently to complete all of her college applications and apply for financial aid. As the spring approached the acceptance letters rolled in from top tier schools including: American, George Washington (GW), Fordham, and The College of New Jersey (TCNJ).

However, due to her immigration status, she did not qualify for any federal or state aid making all of the schools mentioned above completely out of reach. Unable to afford attending a prestigious college, Madjibe had planned to attend a local community college and then transfer later on in her college career.

On June 5th, Madjibe received news that would change her life forever. She had been accepted off of NYU's waitlist and provided with a full tuition scholarship! This Fall, Madjibe Kagne, a first generation college student will be attending the prestigious



New York University pursuing a degree in Political Science and Economics!

~Karen Dilsizian,  
College Readiness and  
Alumni Relations Coordinator

**\*Note from Karen:** As I am sure you know, our seniors have been through a lot this year! They missed out on many of the highly anticipated events associated with senior year such as prom and graduation. At New City Kids, we really wanted to make our teens feel special and celebrated so we hosted a LIVE Ceremony (photos, left) which was compliant with socially-distancing policies! It took place on June 19th at Berry Lane Park in Jersey City.

2020



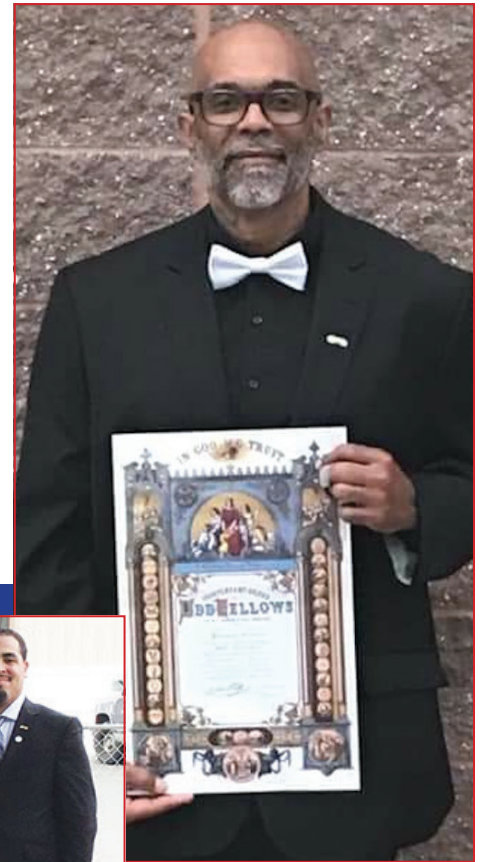




On June 19, 2020, Burlington Lodge No. 22 initiated five new members! Pictured top left (left to right) are Kyla Niewinski, Salvatore Montore, Kathy, and Brian Kleman. Photo inset is Al McLelland.

On June 25, 2020, Union Lodge No. 213 initiated new brother Ronald Pender, Jr. (top right)! Brothers on hand to celebrate (at right) are Wilbert Lemuel (French Lodge No.89), Ronald Pender (Union), Will Torres (Union), and Mario Guzman (Union).

*Are you next?*



## ODD OPINIONS FRATERNAL LINES

# Membership Through Ceremonial Initiation Practice

**J**ust what is initiation? A distinction must be made between its procedure, that is, its functional operation, and its purpose. This purpose is a state or condition of preparation. The preparation consists of a series of tests and trials of the initiate to determine worthiness of elevation to a higher status or degree of understanding within Odd Fellowship. This preparation is likewise a form of instruction — a teaching, usually in symbolic form — of a specialized knowledge or principle.

The functional aspect of initiation is its ritualistic structure. The importance of the testing of the initiate is impressed upon the individual in a dra-



matic form. In other words, the purpose and what is expected of the initiate are enacted. This form of initiation has an emotional impact upon the individual, which a dialectical or rhetorical discourse alone would not have.

The dramatic incidents of the initiation are intended to play upon the whole emotional gamut of the individual. They may arouse, for example, fear, anxiety, sense of fun or humor, and ultimate, pleasure to the extent of solidarity.

True Odd Fellow initiation, as performed today by the Order, has the element of metaphysical, and philosophical nature, implementing those valuable principles of Friendship, Love, and Truth incorporating those fundamentals from the initiation to the initiate, which can be traced to initiations conducted further than our birth in the great State of Maryland in 1819.

Induction into the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was always in a form of initiation. The

gnosis, the special knowledge that was to be imparted to the candidate, was considered to be of a sacred nature. It was thought that the knowledge was of divine origin revealed through time, companionship, instruction, community work, and fun. Thus, initiation in its ancient character was a synchronism of bonded membership, connection to good work for others through service of self, and what we may term moral philosophy.

Membership within the Odd Fellows should be understood as more than just Fraternal in nature. The core of the Order has laid a solemn foundation for over 200 years. Membership within the Order has changed my life in a positive way and the friendships I have established and built are lifelong. Contact your local Lodge, attend some events, JOIN ODD FELLOWSHIP!!!

I am proud to be an ODD FELLOW!!

*In Friendship, Love, & Truth,*  
**Mario Guzman, VG Union Lodge No. 213**



Independent Order of Odd Fellows  
Grand Lodge of New Jersey  
4527 Route 130 South  
Burlington, NJ 08016

Autumn 2020



YOU'RE INVITED!  
Please LIKE our page.



ESTÁS INVITADO!  
Por favor, al igual que nuestros página.

## What's so ODD about helping others?

### Want to know what makes us so ODD in New Jersey?

*Check us out at:*

[www.IOOFNJ.org](http://www.IOOFNJ.org) • [www.facebook.com/IOOFNJ](http://www.facebook.com/IOOFNJ)

### NJ GL Scholarships are due April 15th!!!

If you haven't submitted your application, please do so now. Late entries will not be accepted.

#### I AM AN ODD FELLOW!

I believe in the  
Fatherhood of God, and  
the Brotherhood of man.  
I believe in Friendship, Love and  
Truth as basic guides to the  
ultimate destiny of all mankind.  
I believe my home, my church or  
temple, my lodge, and my  
community deserve  
my best work, my modest pride,  
my earnest faith, and my  
deepest loyalty, as I perform  
my duty, to visit the sick,  
relieve the distressed,  
bury the dead and  
educate the orphan,  
and as I work with others  
to build a better world, because,  
in spirit and in truth, I am and must  
always be, grateful to my Creator,  
faithful to my country  
and fraternal to my fellow-man;

**I AM AN ODD FELLOW!**

what is an  
odd fellow?

family, youth, men, women, pro active, creative, education, conscientious, development, universal, fraternity, faith, research, community, fun, volunteer, justice, universal, respect, harmony, charity, visit the sick, bury the dead, educate the orphan, relieve the distressed, help, reliable, humanity, hope, friendship, love, truth, unity, faith, leadership, fellowship, honorable, universal, justice, relief.