

YELL! Newsletter

Summer 2014 Volume 2, Issue 1

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Branding and *Fraternal Herald* reminder

We are planning a Special Edition of the *Fraternal Herald* in October. It will explain our current member benefits, share stories of how they have helped our members, and announce an exciting NEW member benefit. This issue will also review our current life insurance and annuity products. We will also be launching our new look in that issue so look out for hints of what is to come! *Before we make any changes, we want input for our members, including you! visit the link below to preview our changes and give us your feedback. Survey is open June 15th* <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TKBBSF6>

The Special Edition in October will not have lodge articles, YELL! articles, Obituaries, Spotlight, or Calendar of Events. Instead, we will print a condensed version of the articles in November. Obituaries and Spotlights from October and November will both run in the November issue. If you have calendar events that will occur between September 15th and November 15th, please submit them by August 15th for the September issue. This will ensure your members are informed of upcoming events and will not miss the opportunity to participate.

Events count only once on Award form

Please remember for the lodge awards (Outstanding Leadership Award included) that each event can only be counted once. For example: the JOIN HANDS DAY event can only count as JHD and not a YELL! event and JHD.

A lodge project with the YELL! group can count as EITHER a YELL! group project OR a lodge project but not both. If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to call Kelsey Logan.

Contact me: Kelsey Logan
klogan@wflains.org or toll free: 1-877-935-2467

PLEASE READ: Active YELL! projects required this year

Thank you to all those who are committed to the YELL! groups again this year. Because the YELL! groups are very important for the continuation of not only the lodges, but also the Association as a whole, we hold them to a very high standard. We ask that you continue to do two events/ projects that are meaningful to the community.

Events like helping at a nursing home, cleaning parks, participating in walks/runs for charity, as well as joint events with the lodge. This year, we ask that the YELL! groups do collections and donations (such as pop tabs, soup labels, candy wrappers, etc.) only as an additional activity and not as the two main events/projects. Because it was the first year, those judging the awards were more lenient with a few of the projects. We hope to see a continuation of the very good projects we saw last year.



YELL! Group 141 helping out at Bingo.

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YELL! Activities

YELL! groups in each District have been doing all kinds of fun and helpful activities so far this year.

In the interest of sharing ideas, here are a few that we have heard of at the Home Office.

YELL! group 108 helped out at a dinner dance with the basket raffle and participated in Bowling for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

YELL! group 389 made May Day baskets for the Wilber Care Center Assisted Living.

YELL! group 141 helped at Bingo held at the Bohemian Hall.

YELL! group 7 volunteered at the Cystic Fibrosis Walk with other lodge 7 members.

YELL! group 127 cleaned the Bohemian National Cemetery with the help of the lodge.

YELL! group 426 worked with the Boy Scouts for JHD to plant flowers at Mahoney Manor.

Keep Up the Great Work!

The Convention

We are still planning to involve youth in the 2015 Convention. All YELL! group members will be invited, as well as other young members and non-delegate guests. So far, we have a plan that includes:

1. Creating a game plan to help the lodges become "younger." Brainstorming at the Convention and announced on Friday.
2. Doing some hands-on service projects in the community.
3. Enjoying some hang-out time in Cedar Rapids.
4. Helping to setup the Convention-wide service project on Friday afternoon.



YELL! group 108 helping with the raffle.

Inspirations

“I’m not saying it’s going to be easy, I’m saying it’s going to be worth it.”

I have a sign that says that quote right above my desk. It reminds me that no matter how challenging the task of bringing in younger members is, it’s worth it. It brings me so much joy to hear and read about these YELL! groups- created out of a few passionate folks here and there-making their communities better.

What these groups are doing is so important for the Association, the community, and also for the members. The YELL! group members are able to carry these experiences with them and keep great memories of their time with Western Fraternal Life. Thank you for understanding that this task, no matter how difficult, is worth it.

~Kelsey Logan
Youth Activities Director