



**Louie Blake S. Sarmiento, Ph.D.**

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Dear brothers and sisters,

Greetings!

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows will celebrate its 200<sup>th</sup> year anniversary this 2019. But the last book about the Odd Fellows (IOOF) was published more than 100 years ago. A lot of its history, traditions and contributions to the world at large are left inside volumes of private journals constituting tens of thousands of pages that are not easily accessible to its members and the general public. Today, many people know little about this international fraternal organization. Many don't know what the Odd Fellows is all about, what its goals and principles are, and its history.

Beginning 2012, I was given the opportunity to access hundreds of historical journals, artifacts, books and photos at the International Headquarters of The Sovereign Grand Lodge, and in various Grand Lodges. Since then, I independently worked on writing a modern concise history and illustrated book about the Odd Fellows in commemoration of its 200th year anniversary entitled: **"Odd Fellows – Rediscovering More than 200 Years of History, Traditions, and Community Service"**. This book is now 6 years in the making. Beginning this year, I am taking 8 months off from law school just to finish this project. This book will serve as a permanent repository of the rich history, traditions, principles, present condition and the future of Odd Fellowship. This covers a summarized history and updated information about the Odd Fellows from the year 1700s to the present, not just in the United States but with information about Odd Fellowship all over the world. The goal of this project is not just to educate the membership but also to let the story of Odd Fellowship reach as many people as possible, including TV networks like the History Channel or Netflix with the hope that they will eventually make a documentary film about the Odd Fellows by providing them reliable and up-to-date reference materials.

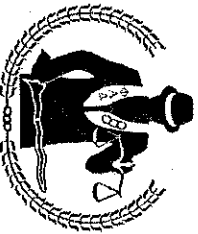
The manuscript of this book had been reviewed by several leaders of the IOOF in the United States and Europe such as Sovereign Grand Secretary Terry Barrett and Past European Grand Sire Harald Thoen. My goal is to launch the book during the 193rd Annual Communication of the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows on August 19-24 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. But publishing is costly and almost all publishers ask for counterpart from the author to cover editing, printing and distribution. Without financial support, I may not be able to publish this book within 2019. Thus, I seek help from your generous hearts to become a sponsor of this project by making a donation.

I need to raise at least \$10,000. The donations raised will be used to cover expenses for: (1) Professional editing, (2) Layout designing, (3) cover design, (4) formatting, and (5) ISBN costs. The excess will then be used to print the first copies. Based on the final net cost per book, you donations will be converted into signed copies which I will personally ship to your Grand Lodge or personal address:

- \$75 - 1 signed copy
- \$150 - 2-3 signed copies
- \$200 - 3-4 signed copies and be acknowledged in the book as minor sponsor
- \$300 - 5-6 signed copies and be acknowledged in the book as minor sponsor
- \$400 - 6-7 signed copies and be acknowledged in the book as minor sponsor
- \$500 - 8-10 signed copies and be acknowledged in the book as minor sponsor
- \$1000 - 16-20 signed copies and be acknowledged in the book as major sponsor
- \$2000 and above – 35 and more signed copies and be acknowledged in the book as major sponsor

You can donate through the following methods:

- (1) Gofundme: <https://www.gofundme.com/odd-fellows-200-years-book-publication>, OR



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(2) Check donation to:

**Louie Blake S. Sarmiento**  
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FL 32003 USA

Please include in the envelope your full name or lodge name with the shipping address. Please also write in the check memo: **"Donation for Odd Fellows 200 Years Book Project"**

**CHARITABLE CAUSE:** The funds raised will be used for costs of professional editing, layout design, printing of the first 1,000-5,000 copies, and public relations about the 200 years of Odd Fellowship through this book in online stores and various bookstores. Once the book is published, every \$1.00 from each book sold will be donated to the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Educational Foundation and another \$1.00 from each book sold goes to a project constructing an Odd Fellows Disaster and Relief Building in Quezon City, Manila, Philippines.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** Louie Blake Saile Sarmiento is a member of almost all branches of the IOOF: Encampment, Patriarchs Militant, Rebekahs and the Ancient Mystic Order of Samaritans. He is the creator of the 'Independent Order of Odd Fellows' facebook page and the 'Odd Fellows International' facebook group and youtube channel, as well as the wikipedia entry of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a contributor of many educational and promotional videos, photos, and articles about Odd Fellowship mostly found online. Through his contributions, he received international recognition within the international organization. He received Awards of Recognition from three Past Sovereign Grand Masters and several Past Grand Masters of various States. He served as Public Relations Coordinator, and both in the Communications Committee and the Revitalization Committee, of the Sovereign Grand Lodge from 2012 to 2015. He is also instrumental in re-establishing the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in the Republic Philippines and raised funds from 2012-2016 which resulted to the successful construction of the first Odd Fellows Building/Grand Lodge office in the country.

He received his Associate in Health Science Education in 2007, Bachelor of Science in Psychology with Certificate in Human Resource Management and Certificate in Women's Studies in 2010, and Master of Arts in Industrial/Organizational Psychology in 2013. He is currently a senior law student working on his Juris Doctor Degree.

Hoping for your support regarding this endeavor.

In Friendship, Love and Truth,

Louie Blake Sarmiento  
Past Grand, Watchdog Lodge No.1, Dumaguete, Philippines  
Past District Deputy Sovereign Grand Master, I.O.O.F. Philippines  
Former Public Relations Coordinator, The Sovereign Grand Lodge I.O.O.F., North Carolina, U.S.A.