## South Dakota Pasque Odd Fellow & Rebekah News

1st Quarter-2023







### Message from Grand Master Caren Howard

Hi, Hopefully everyone had a great Christmas and New Years! It's hard to believe it's already February, but we will soon be celebrating Valentine's day, don't forget your sweetheart! Are you all staying warm with this cold weather and snow?

The Executive board met in January. We had a good meeting, thank you Deputy Grand Master David for stepping in and conducting the meeting since I was on the road for most of it, joining via cell phone-long story...

#### Don't Forget Scholarship Applications and Lodge Annual Reports Are Due March 1st!

We will be meeting again on March 25th in Chamberlain/Oacoma. The Scholarship Committee will meet that morning—hint, hint to the Scholarship Committee to mark your calendar! The Executive board will meet following the Scholarship meeting.

Be sure to check out the details for the Membership Picnic in June!! Would love to see everyone in Oacoma!

I am excited to announce that plans are in the works for our Grand Lodge Session to be held in Rapid City at the Holiday Inn-Downtown, the 15th-16th of September. Mark your calendars for that one also!

When the weather is a little better, I am planning and hoping to visit our lodges across the state. I may be asking some of you to make adjustments, plan a special meeting or hold a joint meeting with a neighboring lodge to make it a little easier to get to everyone. Your willingness in accommodating this request will be greatly appreciated.



#### 2022-2023 Grand Master Program

Motto: Friendship, help others

Color/Flower: Blue, Pink/Green for my Rebekah and Sunflowers

Aim: Building Friendship

Song: Angels Among Us

Grand Masters Prayer: The Serenity Prayer

Guides: Constitution, Code, By-Laws, Bible

Emblem: Petrified Wood- What is the spiritual meaning of petrified wood? Petrified wood can assist anyone who is feeling stuck or experiencing being frozen in time. So lets get unstuck and move our order forward!

Fun Song: Kisses Are Sweeter Than Wine



Project: Help in your community in anyway. Hold a fundraiser or volunteer for your local Meals on Wheels??

My year is dedicated to my very dear friend PGM John McKnight, we did a lot of traveling together the year I was Assembly President and he was Grand Master.

#### 2022-2023 Grand Lodge Officers

Grand Master Deputy Grand Master Grand Warden Grand Secretary Grand Treasurer Jr. Past Grand Master Grand Representative Caren Howard David Chang Karen Bialas LaDonna McKnight Sean Bialas Merrill McFayden Bill Glover Grand Conductor Grand Marshal Grand Chaplain Grand Herald Grand Guardian Cody Parsons Amy Chang Shirley McKnight Paul Farr Paul Schaffer



#### Share your Lodge Happenings!

Recognize your members, Events in your Lodge, Toot your Horn!! I would love to see a page per lodge in every Pasque Issue!! I will be sending out periodic updates to lodge secretaries as/when needed. If so, please e-mail your article and photos to: LaDonna at glsdioof@gmail.com

WEBSTIE ADDRESS: southdakotaoddfellows.org is always a work in progress, it is the go to place for information concerning South Dakota Odd Fellows!

### Dear Brothers and Sisters of all units of Odd Fellowship,

In Iowa, the winter season has arrived. Snow covers the ground, ponds are frozen, and the winter winds can change our temps to -35 below one day to 43 above the next. Nature keeps us guessing at this time of year as to what will come next.

Odd Fellows and Rebekahs are also asking what's next at this time of year. We are closing out our lodge year, lodge books, and installing new officers for 2023. It is a time to reflect on how well we served others in our communities, Grand Lodges, and local lodges. What ideas worked well, and how can we reevaluate the ideas that fell short of our expectations. It is a time to open our hearts and minds to the possibilities of all we have to offer our members, and to set specific goals for our lodges. We need to listen to new ideas from our new members, (remember, you were a new member once), and make sure they are included in all decisions being made in our lodges. It is so important that you make all your members feel like they have a purpose and that their input is important to the success of your lodge goals. Meet regularly in form, energize your meetings, be an active member, and remember No one person should ever be in charge of lodge decisions, the running of a lodge is a team effort.

This is a time of new beginnings! We need to let go of disagreements between members of our lodges and disagreements between lodges and Grand Lodges. Remember TEAMWORK is a positive action taken by our members to Pull Together for the good of our Order. We need our Grand Lodges and Rebekah Assemblies to step up and take active roles in committing themselves to the success of the lodges in their jurisdictions, providing them with whatever assistance they need to stay solvent. Teamwork amongst our members is important and a necessity for the survival of our Order. We need to remember we are all Brothers and Sisters working for the good of our Order, each with different ideas, different goals, and projects that are dear to our hearts, but all worthy of recognition. As in any family there has to be give and take, compromise, and a willing to listen to others. We were given two ears and only one mouth for a reason!

This is the time of year when we are getting ready to fill out our annual reports for our lodges. Please do this in a timely manner, respecting the deadlines set by your Grand Secretaries so that they have time to fill out their reports to The SGL. It is also very important that you fill the report out completely, all the boxes checked, listing your membership with current addresses, deaths, and inventory cost, ect. If you have transferred your membership, consolidated with another lodge, or your lodge's charter has been picked up, please make sure you are listed in the appropriate lodge membership report. If you have questions, call your Grand Lodge Secretaries to help you find the answers.



January is the Anniversary of Thomas Wildey's Birthday, the founder of our Order. Plan a special event and invite prospective members to a dinner or birthday party and explain Odd Fellowship to them. Plan a degree day, the possibilities are endless.

February is Educational Foundation Month. Plan a meeting night in February to promote and review all the scholarships available to our members and their families. Do not forget about our loan program and the Peter Geolot Continuing Education Grant. We have two new nursing scholarships available this year. You can get more information by going to IOOF.org/ Educational Foundation/Scholarships. This a great program to tell prospective members about, that can benefit them and their families.

Tomorrow I will be leaving to go to California to work on the Tournament of Roses Parade Float. I am excited to have the opportunity to work along many Brothers and Sisters in completing the decorations for the Float and for the honor of being asked to ride on the float, representing our membership and our great Order.

Please take time to remember all of our Brothers and Sisters abroad who are at unrest and under the constant threat of war. We are an organization with Brothers and Sisters all over the World, and sometimes we forget that no matter where we live, we are all family. We need to support, uplift, and encourage one another always. We are still taking donations for the lodges in the Ukraine. Donations can be sent to The SGL Office.

January is the beginning of a great New Year of Odd Fellowship! I am excited about the future of our Order and I want to especially thank our Finance Committee, Communications Committee, and The SGL Office staff, for all the hard work they are doing to move us into the New Year on a positive note. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible on my journey to spring visits. I want to thank all of you for your friendship and continued support of the projects of our Order. Remember your obligations, believe in our Valedictions, be a positive Team Player. "Be a part of the solution not part of the problem." Pulling together, we will succeed and make this world a better place to live.

My Executive Team and I wish you a safe, healthy, and Blessed New Year!

In Friendship, Love, and Truth, s/ Michelle L. Heckart Sovereign Grand Master

## Thinking of you

All Members and Friends battling or recovering from illness-

All members affected and/or recovering from Covid

All members affected by illnesses and storms this winter



Please be sure to let LaDonna know of anyone we should be keeping in our thoughts and prayers.

#### Greetings from the Grand Lodge Office!

Happy February! So happy to see the days getting longer! I'm ready to be done with the short days of winter, so ready for longer days and warmer weather.

It's been busy here in Rapid City at the Grand Lodge office. By now all lodges should have their Annual Reports. As of today I've already received one-Thanks Elk Point Lodge #4 you are #1! If there was a prize for the first report turned in you would win it!! As for the rest of you, March 1st will be here before we know it, please send in your reports at your earliest convenience.

In January the Executive Board met in Rapid City, Yankton, and Lead-due to the snow in the eastern part of the state and illness up to the north we met via zoom, worked out pretty good for everyone. During our meeting we selected a new accounting firm to take care of our accounting business. Our previous accountant merged with a bigger corporation and raised their rates. In an effort to remain prudent with our task of overseeing the financial health of our organization we now have a CPA firm here in Rapid City. I think-hope they will take good care of us.

During the meeting our Grand Warden-a marketing major and Grand Treasurer a computer guru presented a marketing plan for the Grand Lodge and our local lodges. It was very impressive and there is minimal cost-most of the ideas and suggestions are social media driven and can be adopted by all of us! Changes have been made and will be coming to the Grand Lodge website-be sure to check it out often!!

On that note, I am going to ask everyone from every lodge, please be sure to read the **SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES** set forth from the Sovereign Grand Lodge Committee on Communications. The guidelines are pretty much good old common sense, but it never hurts to have a refresher. It is not only on social media that we need to be mindful of what we say in and outside of the lodge hall. Our meetings are closed for a reason and sharing lodge business at the local coffee shop or on Facebook should not happen. Please keep this in mind when sharing on "social" media. Make sure you share the positive, excellent work all of our lodges are doing in your communities and across the state-in other words-be sure to share with the Grand Lodge Office for the Pasque!

The Executive Board set June 17th as the date for our Annual Membership Picnic! Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. It really is a great time of fellowship and good food. It will be held again this year at Cedar Shores in Oacoma on the river. Load up a car or two or three from your lodge, offer a ride to a member that doesn't get out much, invite potential new members, let them see how friendly we are, and what great things we do! Please print the poster and hang/share at your meetings.

One last item, earlier this week I received an email from the SGL Office with some new Odd Fellow merchandise available for purchase by members. If you or your lodge is interested in checking out what's available email me and I will send your lodge secretary the catalog. Orders do need to be placed through the Grand Lodge Office-so let me know if you would like to order, and we'll get it ordered.

Well this was going to be just a short note-but apparently not! Thanks for reading-hope you made it through all of this and have a great week, month, year!!

In F, L, & T LaDonna McKnight Grand Secretary

PS: if anyone would like to contribute a recipe-please don't hesitate to email or mail me your favorite recipe. I would love to include it in the next Pasque!! I know we have a lot of great cooks out there!!





#### Southern Hills Lodge #112

John McKnight, Cody Parsons, Donnie Howard, LaDonna McKnight

Ronell Beers, Shirley McKnight, Caren Howard-Grand Master

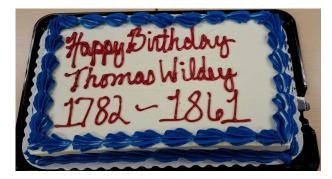
### Joint Installation for Rushmore Lodge #39 and Southern Hills Lodge #112.

Held in Rapid City on January 21st.

Southern Hills Lodge provided Pulled Pork and Smoked Brisket Sandwiches and everyone provided side dishes to share.

Birthday cake to celebrate Thomas Wildey's Birthday was served with ice cream for dessert!

A great time was had by all!!





Grand Master Caren Howard and Grand Warden Karen Bialas — Celebrating Thomas Wildey's Birthday!



#### **Rushmore Lodge #39**

Chuck Yarborough, Joe Vallette, Alicia McKnight, LaDonna McKnight, Sean Bialas, Caren Howard-Grand Master, Karen Bialas-Grand Warden



#### **Arthritis Month Proclamation**

To the Officers and Members of all Degrees of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows

Fraternal Greetings:

Odd Fellows and Rebekahs are proud to be recognized once again for their support in relieving the pain and suffering caused by arthritis. I along with the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Arthritis Advisory Board, in turn, are proud to pated time and money in supporting this cause over the pate verse.

recognize everyone who has donated time and money in supporting this cause over the past years.

At these annual meetings we meet an enlarged family and community of arthritis chapter volunteers who become our friends and covolunteers in a cause that makes you and me proud of our efforts in helping our fellow man.

Now, therefore, I, Michelle L. Heckart, by virtue of the authority in me duly vested as the Sovereign Grand Master of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, do proclaim,

That the month of March be proclaimed Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Arthritis Month in cooperation of fund raising through the Arthritis Foundation in the USA and the Arthritis Society in Canada.

All monies raised should be sent to your Jurisdictional Secretaries to be forwarded to the Arthritis Chapter in your Province or State.

Done in the City of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, this 1st day of January 2023 and of our Order the 204th year.

Yours in F, L & T, /s/ Michelle L. Heckart Sovereign Grand Master

Attest: /s/ Terry L. Barrett Sovereign Grand Secretary



#### **Schuyler Colfax Day Proclamation**

To all Officers and Members of all Degrees of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows



Fraternal Greetings:

Whereas, the Rebekah Degree of Odd Fellowship was adopted in 1851, and the degree was the work of the Honorable Schuyler Colfax, later to serve as Speaker of the House of Representatives and go on to serve as Vice President of the United States of America.

Whereas, the Rebekah Degree provides woman's softening touch to Odd Fellowship, as founded upon the principles of the Order – faithfulness, hospitality, purity and dedication as portrayed by women of the Bible.

Whereas, because of the untiring efforts of Brother Colfax to provide a Degree for wives and daughters of Odd Fellows, the world now enjoys a Sisterhood of Lodges in twenty countries around the globe.

Therefore, I, Michelle L. Heckart, Sovereign Grand Master of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, by authority in me duly vested, do proclaim,

That the 23rd day of March 2023 be: Schuyler Colfax Day throughout Odd Fellowship in honor of the birthday of Brother Colfax. Further, please observe the birthday of Brother Schuyler Colfax by initiating a 'Colfax Class' in honor of the celebration.

Done in the City of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, this the 1st day of January 2023, and in the 204th year of our Order.

Yours in F, L, & T /s/ Michelle L. Heckart Sovereign Grand Master

Attest: /s/ Terry L. Barrett Sovereign Grand Secretary

#### Social Media Guidance for Odd Fellows and Rebekahs by Toby Hanson, by request of the Committee on Communications

One of the chief areas of concern for the Communications Committee of The Sovereign Grand Lodge is to set guidelines for proper conduct of members on social media. Prior to the Internet, all official communication from an organization such as ours came from a single point source, usually the Sovereign Grand Mas-ter or Sovereign Grand Secretary. Because there was only one official path for information, there was little chance the misinformation could be spread. Now, however, with the advent of nearly instantaneous worldwide communication, it's very easy for misinformation to be spread, either intentionally or accidentally. To use the quote often mis-attributed to Mark Twain, "A lie will get halfway 'round the world before the truth gets its boots on."

Since any one of us can say anything we want on social media to hundreds of thousands, if not millions of readers, we all now have a responsibility for what we say and how we say it on social media. As recent experiences have demonstrated, much damage can be done when one disgruntled person decides to tell their story before anyone else can jump in and defend the organization. To help our members know how to conduct themselves on social media, we have proposed a new set of quidelines for social media participation. They were introduced last summer at The Sovereign Grand Lodge session and will come up for discussion at this summer's session. In the meantime, the guidelines in Chapter XLVI of The Sovereign Grand Lodge Code of General Laws are in effect. Every member would be wise to review those guidelines.

The general principles that should guide members who engage in social media are to always be positive, not reveal anything secret, and not to state anything for which someone higher up in the organization may be responsible. Those seem like very easy guidelines to follow but it's easy to get tripped up. Let's take a look at each of them and see what problems could happen and how to avoid those problems.



The first general principle is to stay positive on social media. Although only five people are elected officers of The Sovereign Grand Lodge, any one of us on social media who identifies ourselves as an Odd Fellow or Rebekah could end up as a public representative of the organization. That's the nature of social media; we never know when something intended for an audience of four people ends up being seen by four million. To that end, all public interactions involving Odd Fellowship should remain positive. There should be no negativity or criticism of any member, unit, branch, or component of Odd Fellowship.

Because the general public can see what we post on social media, we have to be aware of the damage that can be caused by public disagreement and/or conflict. Anyone who has seen an argument spiral out of control online knows what that's like and realizes the damage that happens to an organization in the process. Would you invite strangers to witness a heated debate in your lodge? No. That type of experience would likely send them running for the door, eager to get away from the lodge as fast as possible. Don't bring that kind of drama and negativity to the public by engaging in negative or critical posts on social media? Don't like vour Noble Grand? Discuss it in private or keep it to yourself. Afraid of the young kids joining your lodge and taking it over? Again, don't say it on social media. Frustrated with the older members who don't want to let you do anything in lodge? Once again, don't air that frustration in public. Talk to your friends and lodge members privately, not on social media.

The second general principle is to keep secrets within the lodge hall. This one should be obvious, as each of us took an oath "to never reveal any private business that may be transacted before us". Our work is solemn and meaningful and should be kept sacrosanct; none of us should start telling everyone on Facebook or Twitter what our degrees are like or how we do certain things. The lodge hall is our special place where we do our rituals for our own reasons. Without the context that comes from being a member, it's far too easy for the general public to draw negative conclusions about our work. As a result, sometimes members specially authorized to do so may share certain aspects of our work but that's not a decision for anyone to make on their own. In addition to the ritualistic work we do, there are also often personnel or membership decisions of a sensitive nature which should be kept secret. If you recall from the Balloting Ceremony, it is considered conduct unbecoming to reveal the final count of a ball ballot. Only the Noble Grand and Vice Grand should know the actual count and they only reveal to the lodge whether the vote was favorable or not. That kind of information is to be kept strictly secret and should never be made public knowledge.

#### Basically, if it happens during a closed lodge meeting and should be kept secret, it should stay off of social media and out of the local coffee shop!

The third general principle is to not make public statements for which others higher up in the organization will have to answer. Our own recent history has shown us the problems that can arise when others who are not in positions of responsibility speak on behalf of the Order. Unless your title is Sovereign Grand Master or Sovereign Grand Secretary you should not be making statements about Odd Fellowship, its policies, procedures, or its viewpoints. Because we are non-

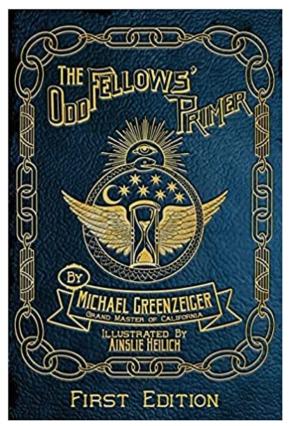
political and no-sectarian it is critical to be very careful about the messages we put out so that they are inclusive and nonconfrontational. It's all too easy for an Internet troll to take something seemingly positive and twist it around to give it a negative meaning. Avoid making any kind of statements about beliefs or policy and, if any questions come up, refer the questioner to someone higher up in the organization like a Grand Master, Grand Secretary, or someone from The Sovereign Grand Lodge.

Similarly, to the principle of not making public statements about the organization that will create problems for our leaders, when we are on social media, we should be careful to not get in disputes or disagreements that cross jurisdictional lines. Although Odd Fellowship is very uniform across jurisdictions, there are some differences from one to the next. What may be a law, custom, or tradition in one jurisdiction may be completely different in the next. The first principle of always keeping public communications positive should be enough to keep most members from commenting on or getting involved in disputes in another jurisdiction but, if something like that does come up, this should serve as a reminder to not cross jurisdictional boundaries, even on the Internet.

We want you to use social media to help promote Odd Fellowship. One of the best ways to gain new members for your Odd Fellow or Rebekah lodge is to show off how much fun you're having. Post pictures and videos of your events. Show everyone dressed up and wearing regalia after your Installation of Officers.

Use social media to the benefit of our Order and show us off at our best. If you follow the guidance set out in this article you should be able to avoid the pitfalls of social media and have a beneficial experience, both for yourself and for Odd Fellowship as a whole.





#### **Odd Fellows' Primer Now Available in Digital eBook and Audiobook Versions**

Sunnyvale, California - February 3, 2023 - The book that revived the long-dormant genre of Odd Fellows instructional manuals, Brother Michael Greenzeiger's Odd Fellows' Primer, is now available in two digital formats: as an audiobook available for download or streaming and also as an eBook suitable for Kindle and other eReaders.

The Odd Fellows' Primer is a work cut from the same cloth as the great 19th century manuals written by luminaries such as Rev. Aaron Grosh and Paschal Donaldson, designed to give the initiate everything they need to practice and live Odd Fellowship in the lodge and beyond. This comprehensive work, which explores and explains concepts of fraternalism and parliamentary procedure and the deeper spiritual and ethical facets of this ancient and venerable tradition, is now available in digital formats to ensure maximum availability for current and future Odd Fellows.

Richly and beautifully illustrated by Ainslie Heilich and written by Michael Greenzeiger, The Odd Fellows' Primer is designed to both inform and inspire. With over two

thousand print copies sold since its release in 2021, The Odd Fellows' Primer has become a valuable resource for newly-chartered lodges beginning their journey in Odd Fellowship as well as established lodges working on increasing their knowledge of ritual and lodge procedure.

The eBook edition of the Primer was adapted from the same files used to produce the print edition so readers that purchase the eBook will experience the fully illustrated version with artwork by Ainslie Heilich, just like in print editions. The audiobook version was narrated by a voice familiar to listeners of The Three Links Odd Cast, Past Sovereign Grand Musician Toby Hanson. Together, these two new versions of the Primer will allow more Odd Fellows than ever before to



#### Amish Breakfast Casserole

Total Time: Prep: 15 min. Bake: 35 min. + standing Makes: 12 servings

#### Ingredients

- 1 pound sliced bacon, diced
- 1 medium sweet onion, chopped
- 6 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 4 cups frozen shredded hash brown potatoes, thawed
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 1-1/2 cups 4% cottage cheese
- 1-1/4 cups shredded Swiss cheese

#### Directions

- 1. Preheat oven to 350°. In a large skillet, cook bacon and onion over medium heat until bacon is crisp; drain. In a large bowl, combine remaining ingredients; stir in bacon mixture. Transfer to a greased 13x9-in. baking dish.
- 2. Bake, uncovered, until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean, 35-40 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes before cutting.

#### **Test Kitchen tips**

- Create a pretty burst of color and fresh flavor by adding a pinch of minced herbs to the egg mixture. Thyme and parsley are perfect candidates; try 1 teaspoon fresh or 1/4 teaspoon dried.
- Cottage cheese is surprisingly versatile and almost disappears into this dish when baked.
- Assemble a day in advance, and bake just before serving.

#### **Stuffed Pizza Bites**

Total Time: Takes: 30 min. Makes 1 dozen

#### Ingredients

- 1 tube (13.80 ounces) refrigerated pizza crust
- 1/4 cup prepared ranch salad dressing
- 6 ounces pepperoni, finely chopped
- 1 cup shredded pepper jack cheese
- 1/4 cup shredded Romano cheese
- 1/4 cup thinly sliced green onions
- 1/4 cup chopped green pepper
- 4 cooked bacon strips, chopped
- 2 teaspoons Italian seasoning
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- Optional: Marinara sauce or Alfredo sauce, warmed

#### Directions

- 1. Preheat oven to 350°. Grease 12 muffin cups; set aside.
- 2. On a lightly floured surface, unroll pizza crust.
- 3. Spread ranch to within 1/2-in. of edges.
- 4. Sprinkle with pepperoni, cheeses, green onions, green pepper, bacon and seasonings.
- 5. Roll up jelly-roll style; pinch the edge closed.
- 6. Cut crosswise into 12 slices.
- 7. Place each slice into prepared muffin cups.
- 8. Bake until lightly browned, 20-25 minutes. Serve warm with marinara or Alfredo, if desired.





#### Million Dollar Cake

Total Time: Prep: 15 min. + chilling Bake: 30 min. + cooling Makes: 16 servings

#### Ingredients

- 1 can (11 ounces) mandarin oranges, undrained
- 1 package yellow cake mix (regular size)
- 1-1/4 cups cold 2% milk
- 1 package (3.4 ounces) instant vanilla pudding mix
- 1 can (20 ounces) crushed pineapple, well drained
- 2 cups whipped topping
- 8 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

#### Directions

- 1. Drain mandarin oranges and reserve liquid.
- 2. Add reserved liquid to a liquid measuring cup (there should be about 1/2 cup) and fill with water to measure 1 cup.
- 3. Prepare cake mix according to package directions, using the juice and water mixture in place of the water called for on the package.
- 4. Bake in two greased 9-in. round baking pans according to package directions.
- 5. Cool for 10 minutes before removing from pans to wire racks to cool completely.
- 6. In a large bowl, whisk milk and pudding mix for 2 minutes.
- 7. Stir in pineapple. Spread 1 cup between cake layers.
- In a small bowl, beat cream cheese, sugar and vanilla until smooth.
- Beat in 1 cup whipped topping.
- 10. Fold in remaining topping. Spread on top and sides of cake. 11. Cover and refrigerate for 3 hours or overnight.
- 12. Decorate with mandarin oranges prior to serving.

The Odd Fellow Member of the Year and Odd Fellow Lodge of the Year Programs will continue with the following guidelines:



Member of the Year: Each lodge shall nominate 1 member that they feel embodies the principles of Odd Fellowship. A form will be sent out in July that will need to be completed and submitted by August 15th. Each nominee will be a guest of the Grand Lodge-room and per deim provided. So all nominees are encouraged to attend Grand Lodge. The Odd Fellow of The Year will receive a plaque and a \$250.00 donation to the charity of their choice. So be thinking about who from your lodge deserves to be recognized for their good work in promoting the principles of Odd Fellowship.



Lodge of the Year: Each year before Grand Lodge, Lodges are "required" to submit a report of what they have done in their lodge and community. Once these reports are turned in they are included in the Advanced Reports that are used at Grand Lodge as lodge reports. The Lodge will receive a plaque and a \$500.00 donation from the Grand Lodge. Be sure to work on your lodge reports and get them turned in on time to be considered for this honor. More information will be sent to lodge secretaries in the following months.

Nominations for both programs will be due August 15th 2023.



#### JANUARY 2023

 New Year's Day—Rose Parade – Watch for the Odd Fellow/Rebekah Float!!
Anniversary of the Birth of Thomas Wildey, Founder of our Order
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Executive Committee Meeting, Grand Lodge Office-Rapid City

#### **FEBRUARY 2023**

2 Groundhog Day 12 Lincoln's Birthday 14 Valentine's Day 20 Presidents' Day 22 Washington's Birthday/Ash Wednesday

#### **MARCH 2023**

Annual Reports Due to Grand Lodge Office
Scholarship Application Deadline
Daylight Savings Time begins
St. Patrick's Day
First Day of Spring
Schyler Colfax Day
Executive and Scholarship Meeting
Chamberlain-Baymont Inn

#### **APRIL 2023**

Palm Sunday
Good Friday
Easter Sunday
Earth Day
Earth Day
Founders Day Celebration for Odd Fellowship
Holocaust Remembrance Day

#### MAY 2023

1 May Day 4 National Day of Prayer 14 Mothers Day 20 Armed Forces Day 22 Victoria Day (Canada) 29 Memorial Day





#### **JUNE 2023**

6 D-Day 14 Flag Day **17 Membership Picnic/Executive Board** Chamberlain-Cedar Shores 18 Father's Day 19 Juneteenth Holiday 20 Frist Day of Summer

#### **JULY 2023**

1 Canada Day 4 Independence Day

#### AUGUST 2023

#### **15 ADVANCEDED REPORTS DUE TO GL OFFICE**

21-24-Sovereign Grand Lodge-Des Moines IA

#### **SEPTEMBER 2023**

4 Labor Day 11 Patriot Day 10 Grand Parent Day **14-16 GRAND LODGE—Rapid City** 23 Autumn Begins

#### **OCTOBER 2023**

9 Columbus Day/Native American Day 9 Thanksgiving (Canada)

31 Halloween

#### **NOVEMBER 2023**

1 All Saints Day 5 Daylight Savings Time Ends 11 Veterans Day 23 Thanksgiving Day

#### **DECEMBER 2023**

21 Winter Begins

- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 Christmas Day
- 31 New Year's Eve

# Announcement!! Annual Membership Picnic

## June 17, 2023

Arrowwood/Cedar Shores Resort at Oacoma



Picnic lunch served at

## 12:00 NOON Central Time

All members and guests welcome!

## Please RSVP to the Grand Lodge Office by June 9th

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Come join us for this great opportunity to see



old friends, make new friends and have a great meal provided by the Grand Lodge!

