

South Dakota Pasque Odd Fellow & Rebekah News

Fall/Winter 2022



Message from Grand Master Caren Howard

Holiday Greetings to All!

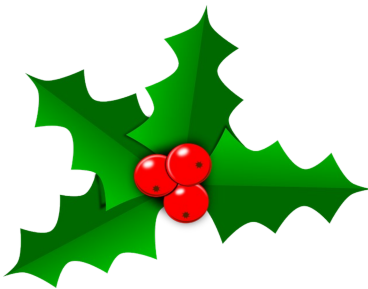
Hope this finds everyone well and ready for the Holidays!!

First of all thank you to all for such a great Grand Lodge Session in September. PGM Merrill did a great job! Thank you everyone that accepted officer and Committee Appointments. Your willingness to serve our organization on the Grand Lodge level is very commendable and appreciated.

In November I traveled with Shirley and LaDonna to Des Moines IA for the Testimony of Sovereign Grand Master Michelle Heckert, we met up with Carol Woltjer and Lori Clausen from Sioux Falls to help celebrate with Michelle. It was a great weekend.

The weekend before Thanksgiving I traveled to Pierre with GW Karen Bialas, Chuck and Jane Yarbrough of Rushmore Lodge to help decorate the Grand Lodge Christmas Tree at the Capital. We were joined by PGM Merrill and Lynn, and Alisa and Jared Schmitz from Gregory. Be sure to check out the pictures in this issue of the Pasque. Thank you to all that worked on the ornaments and decorating our tree.

Looking forward to a great 2023, and hope to see you all in the coming year.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!!
Caren Howard, Grand Master

What is Odd Fellowship

A simple explanation would be: Odd Fellowship is a Fraternal Organization, religious in principle, based on the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man and the eternal life of the soul. It does charitable work on various projects in the community. Through its teachings and ceremonies, it seeks to elevate the character of man, and thereby make this world a better place in which to live. With the Bible on the altar and the National Flag in its standard, love of God and Country emphasized by a covenant with the laws of a civil and religious society. It should be made clear that Odd Fellowship is NOT a religion. Odd Fellowship is only religious to the extent that NO MAN or WOMAN may become an Odd Fellow or Rebekah unless he or she is faithful to God in the religion of his or her choice, loyal to his or her country and agrees to obey the laws of the land.

In cleaning out some of the files in the office I found the above statement and thought it was a great summation of our founding principles and purpose.

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



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 glodioof@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!

Thinking of you

All Members and Friends battling or recovering from illness—

Bill Glover-recovering from shoulder surgery

Gladys Pullins-recovering from Covid

All members affected and/or recovering from Covid

All members affected by illnesses and storms this summer and winter

Please be sure to let me know if there are any concerns regarding our members



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

**"RIGHT NOW"
TODAY!**



I. O. O. F.

REPORT OF _____

LODGE NO _____

FOR TERM ENDING _____

RECEIVED _____

Grand Secretary



Greetings from the Grand Lodge Office!!

The **2023 Scholarship Application** will be available on the Grand Lodge Website after January 1st! They are **DUE March 1st!**

Just a quick reminder that the Annual Reports are going in the mail this week to the Lodge Secretaries! These reports are **due back to the Grand Lodge Office by March 1!!** I know this past year has been a crazy, unusual year but the reports still need to be completed and returned.

If you have trouble filling out the Annual Report, please call the office or email me and I will call you when I'm in the office-usually evenings and weekends-I will be happy to help you with your report. If you go page by page and answer each area it is not hard to fill out.

Also refer to the copy of your report from last year so you can see how you answered each section. If you would like an electronic version to fill out please let me know.

Take care and stay safe!

In Friendship, Love and Truth

LaDonna McKnight, Grand Secretary

DISPENSATION

By the power in me vested, I, Caren Howard, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota, Independent Order of Odd Fellows hereby grant this dispensation to All Lodges of the Jurisdiction of South Dakota to hold Open Installation of Officers in the Month of January 2023.

In FLT – Respectfully,

Caren Howard, Grand Master

LaDonna McKnight, Grand Secretary

Issued: December 18, 2022



MERRY CHRISTMAS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
CAREN HOWARD—GRAND MASTER
DAVID CHANG—DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
KAREN BIALAS—GRAND WARDEN
LADONNA MCKNIGHT—GRAND SECRETARY
SEAN BIALAS—GRAND TREASURER
BILL GLOVER—GRAND REPRESENTATIVE
MERRILL MCFAYDEN—JR. PAST GRAND MASTER



Our Christmas Tree at the Capital

Dear Brothers and Sisters of all units of Odd Fellowship,



In Iowa, the fall season has arrived. Crops are being harvested, preparations are being made for cold weather, and the leaves are changing into vibrant colors. Here the changes in seasons can come quickly and unexpectedly, and we are not always ready for those changes, but it's a part of life.

Odd Fellows and Rebekahs are not always open to new ideas. We do not change as quickly as the seasons. Change can be good as long as it does not affect the integrity of our Organization. We need to stand firm on the foundation which makes us unique as a fraternal organization, but we also need to be open to new ideas for growth in membership, opportunities for community service, and developing new ways to promote the projects of our order to meet today's needs.

It was an honor to attend Sister Ruth Earle's Testimonial weekend in Michigan. We had a relaxed weekend of Odd Fellowship and a wonderful trip to Mackinaw Island. Sister Ruth we are here for you and so happy you are a part of our team.

I have had the privilege of visiting six jurisdictional Grand Lodges since August. I am constantly amazed at the wonderful projects our Lodges are promoting in their Jurisdictions. Helping schools by providing books for underprivileged children, scholarships, hats and mittens, back pack projects for school supplies or after school meals. Taking care of our Veterans by supporting the Honor Flight Project, reading material and clothing to our Veteran's Hospitals. Supporting local food banks, women's shelters, and special needs children. These are just a few of the projects being promoted in our Jurisdictions.

We are doing a great job in our communities, but unfortunately, I have also realized that we have become very complacent in helping our lodges to succeed. We appoint District Deputy Grand Masters and District Deputy Presidents to install officers, but do not encourage them or take time to train them to fulfill the rest of their duties. They are to help instruct the lodges under their care in the proper way to hold meetings, teaching them to follow the ritual, reading the fine print, checking to make sure the lodges are in good standing with the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly, and instructing them on projects of the Order, membership, and code changes.

Our Grand Lodges, Rebekah Assemblies, Grand Encampments, and Department Councils need to Pull Together as a team to develop a membership program for their jurisdiction. Set realistic goals! Encourage your units to also set goals for membership and give them the tools and help needed to succeed. The SGL has a wonderful membership packet to help you with ideas and to give you the tools to get started. It

is not a quick fix, the program takes time and hard work, but nothing worthwhile is ever easy. Brother Robert Kowalski, our SGL membership chairman, is also available to help you promote membership in your Jurisdiction. Give him a call for new ideas!

Every lodge in your jurisdiction should have a Jurisdictional Constitution and By-laws, as well as The SGL Code of General Laws to use as guidelines for making sound decisions based on facts not hearsay. No one person can possibly remember all the changes made to our codes yearly, so it is important that they are sent all updates in a timely manner! Education and communication are the keys to our success. Keeping our members in the dark only causes frustration and confusion.

By the time you receive this my Testimonial will have taken place in Des Moines, Iowa. I want to thank the committee and the wonderful members of my Jurisdiction for making my weekend very special and memorable. A special thank you to everyone who traveled to share this weekend with me. You are all on this journey with me. Thank you for your encouragement and continued support. You are truly the "Wind Beneath My Wings".

This is the season of Thanksgiving, and though our Brothers and Sisters here and abroad, may celebrate at different times of the year, everyday should be a time to be thankful for the Blessings we have received. Be mindful of our shut ins. Send cards, make phone calls, take them gift baskets, but especially keep them informed of your lodge's activities so they can still feel connected to their lodge family.

Remember those in your communities that are less fortunate. Share Odd Fellowship, by providing warm meals, clothing, and most of all a kind word of encouragement, lets show them we really do care. Hugs go a long way in healing those in need. Remember your obligations, believe in our Valediction, be a positive team player, be part of the solution not part of the problem, and learn to compromise. We are all Brothers and Sisters, and by Pulling Together we will succeed and make this world a better place to live.

If there is anything, we can do to help you or your lodge, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Do not forget to watch for our Float in the Rose Parade! Whatever your beliefs are at this Holiday season, my Executive Team and I wish you a healthy, safe, and Blessed Christmas.

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



Thomas Wildey Day Proclamation

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

Fraternal Greetings:

Whereas, pursuant to a dream, Thomas Wildey founded an Order that in time would influence men and women of every walk of life, and

Whereas, it is appropriate to remember the founder of our Order who through his vision, determination, wisdom and talent saw the culmination of his dream, which resulted into the priceless heritage, we enjoy today.

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

That January 15, 2023 the anniversary date of the birth of our founder be celebrated as **Thomas Wildey Day** throughout the world of Odd Fellowship.

Further, please observe the birthday of Brother Wildey with special ceremony on or as near the 15th of January as is possible, and

Further, all Units of the Order are encouraged to initiate a **Wildey Class** in celebration of the occasion, and

Further, that the month of January be **Thomas Wildey Museum Month** in which members are encouraged to contribute to the museum, either monetarily or with items for display.

Contributions should be sent to The Sovereign Grand Lodge, I.O.O.F., Thomas Wildey Museum, 422 Trade Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101-2830.

Done in the City of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, this 1st day of November 2022, 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

Educational Foundation Proclamation

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

Fraternal Greetings:

Whereas, the Educational Foundation, the oldest project of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, established in 1927, has made it possible for thousands of people from all walks of life to further their education with low interest loans amounting to more than 7.4 million dollars, and

Whereas, the Educational Foundation depends upon donations from all Units and members for its continued service in this most important field, and

Whereas, the need for loans is ever increasing to meet the higher cost of helping men and women to find their place in life, working in all types of professional, business and trade fields, and

Whereas, one of our commands is: 'to educate'; what better way to achieve this command than through loans and scholarships of the Educational Foundation.

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

The month of February as **Educational Foundation Month** throughout Odd Fellowship.

Further, request all Units of the Order to support this project by: Making a special effort to sponsor a money-raising event for the benefit of the **Educational Foundation** or a treasury donation.

All monies raised and contributions made should be sent to the Jurisdictional Secretary of each Unit of the Order and the Jurisdictional Secretary will, in turn, send the total donations for the Jurisdiction to: R. Kenneth Babb, Ex. Dir., Educational Foundation I.O.O.F., P.O. Box 20455, Winston-Salem, NC 27120. This will enable each Jurisdictional Secretary to give credit for contributions made by Local Units.

When you reach out and touch people through education you provide them with the knowledge.

Done this 1st day of November 2022, in the City of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and of our Order the 204th year.

/s/ Michelle L. Heckart
Sovereign Grand Master

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



2022 Grand Lodge Session in Pictures



Sovereign Grand Warden Jerry Workman and his wife Cheryl got to visit Mt. Rushmore. They also got to see the Oahe Dam, the Memorials at the Capital and a little bit of the Badlands, including a Buffalo, while visiting SD from West Virginia,



Donation from Watertown #24 to James River #32 for Cemetery clean up after the summers wind storms



Grand Master Merrill presents BH Gold Tie tack to SGW Jerry, and receives certificate of Recognition from SGW, Grand Secretary receives the Medallion award from the SGW.



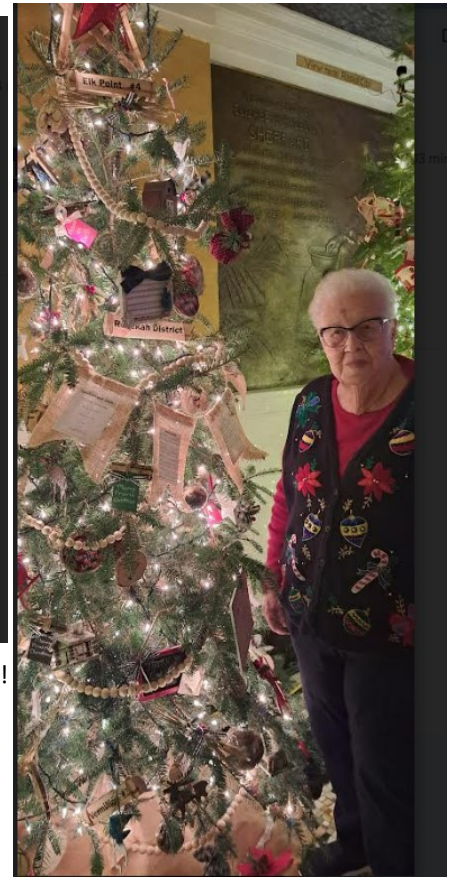
Sioux Falls Lodge #9 receives Sovereign Grand Lodge recognition certificates for the Living Legacy program, the Education program and the Community Service program.

Gregory Lodge receives SGL Certificate for ?? I will let you know in the next issue of the Pasque!! Someone forgot to write it down. I don't know who that could have been??



South Dakota Grand Lodge receives a Key Club Award for Visual Research. Also, Pilgrimage for Youth, Education certificates from Sovereign Grand Lodge. We also received a thank you from the Arthritis Foundation for our contributions to the Sovereign Grand Lodge Programs





The Christmas Tree Decorating Crew, the sign on our tree and Shirley McKnight visits the tree!



Rushmore Lodge #39-Christmas party

Testimonial for Sovereign Grand Master Michelle Heckart in Des Moines



Overnight Pumpkin French Toast Casserole

Total Time Prep: 20 min. + chilling Bake: 65 min.
Make 12 servings

Ingredients

- 1 loaf (1 pound) cinnamon-raisin bread
- 1 package (8 ounces) reduced-fat cream cheese, cut into 3/4-inch cubes
- 8 large eggs
- 1 can (12 ounces) evaporated milk
- 1 cup canned pumpkin
- 2/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup fat-free milk
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- Confectioners' sugar, optional
- Maple syrup, warmed, optional



Directions

1. Cut each slice of bread into quarters. Arrange half of the bread in a greased 13x9-in. baking dish; layer with cubed cream cheese and remaining bread, pressing down slightly.
2. In a large bowl, whisk eggs, evaporated milk, pumpkin, brown sugar, fat-free milk, spices and salt. Pour over top. Refrigerate, covered, overnight.
3. Preheat oven to 350°. Remove casserole from refrigerator while oven heats. Bake, covered, 40 minutes. Uncover; sprinkle with pecans. Bake, uncovered, 25-30 minutes or until lightly browned and a knife inserted in center comes out clean.

Let stand 5-10 minutes before serving. If desired, dust with confectioners' sugar and serve with maple syrup.

Sloppy Joe Tater Tot Casserole

Total Time Prep: 20 min. Bake: 4 hours + standing
Makes 10 servings

Ingredients

- 1 bag (32 ounces) frozen Tater Tots, divided
- 2 pounds ground beef or turkey
- 1 can (15 ounces) tomato sauce
- 1 bottle (8 ounces) sweet chili sauce
- 2 tablespoons packed brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tablespoon dried minced garlic
- 1 tablespoon dried minced onion
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1-1/4 cups shredded Colby-Monterey Jack cheese
- 1/4 teaspoon paprika



Directions

Place half the Tater Tots in bottom of 5-qt. slow cooker. In a large skillet, cook beef over medium-high heat until no longer pink, 5-6 minutes, breaking into crumbles. Drain. Stir in the next 8 ingredients; reduce heat and simmer 2-3 minutes. Place beef mixture in slow cooker; top with remaining Tater Tots. Cook, covered, on low 4 hours. Top with cheese. Sprinkle with paprika. Let stand, uncovered, 15 minutes before serving.

Frozen Peppermint Delight

Ingredients

1 package (14.3 ounces) Oreo cookies, crushed
1/4 cup butter, melted
2 containers (1-1/2 quarts each) peppermint ice cream, slightly softened
1 carton (12 ounces) frozen whipped topping, thawed
Hot fudge ice cream topping, warmed
Crushed peppermint candy

Directions

In a large bowl, combine cookie crumbs and butter. Press into an ungreased 13x9-in. dish. Spread ice cream over crust; top with whipped topping. Cover and freeze until solid. May be frozen for up to 2 months. Just before serving, drizzle with hot fudge topping and sprinkle with peppermint candy.

Nutrition Facts

1 piece: 425 calories, 22g fat (11g saturated fat), 24mg cholesterol, 296mg sodium, 52g carbohydrate (35g sugars, 2g fiber), 4g protein.

Prep time: 25 minutes + Freezing, Makes 15 servings



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

Lodge of the Year

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.

Odd Fellow of the Year

Member of the Year: Each lodge has the opportunity to nominate a 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.

JANUARY 2023

1 New Year's Day—Rose Parade –
Watch for the Odd Fellow/Rebekah Float!!
**15 Anniversary of the Birth of Thomas Wildey,
Founder of our Order**
16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
**21 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

1 Annual Reports Due to Grand Lodge Office
1 Scholarship Application Deadline
12 Daylight Savings Time begins
17 St. Patrick's Day
19 Executive and Scholarship Meeting
20 First Day of Spring
23 Schyler Colfax Day

APRIL 2023

2 Palm Sunday
7 Good Friday
9 Easter Sunday
22 Earth Day
27-Founders Day Celebration for Odd Fellowship
18 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



MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

JUNE 2023

6 D-Day
14 Flag Day
18 Father's Day
19 Juneteenth
20 Frist Day of Summer
Membership picnic—to be announced

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