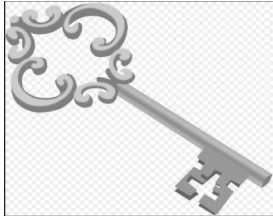


South Dakota Pasque Odd Fellow & Rebekah News

2025 3rd Quarter Pasque



Greetings Brothers and Sisters from the Grand Lodge of South Dakota,

Thank you to everyone who attended the annual picnic in Chamberlain. Thank you to the chefs for cooking our delicious brats and burgers, and thank you to everyone who brought delicious desserts, fruit, and salads. We played fun games and won prizes. The great activities and games planned by David and Amy Chang, well done you all! Congrats to the prize winners. The weather was hot, but we had awnings and stayed cool enough with the

breeze that was blowing down by the river. Two of our scholarship winners were able to attend, we were happy to get to know them and hear about their college plans. Congratulations to all our scholarship winners, we are so proud of you!

The executive board had a productive meeting before the picnic. In the last Pasque Newsletter, we rolled out two incentive plans for current and new members. Current members who bring in new qualified members (turned in completed application and completed the initiatory degree) anytime during my session that started last year until it ends this year. Names shall be entered into two drawings-one for members sponsoring new members and one for the new members who have completed applications and the initiatory degree with prizes valued up to \$500.00, along with receiving a certificate, a pin, and a T-shirt. For more details, please reach out to LaDonna.

If your lodge has contributed to any of the Sovereign Grand Lodge's projects be sure to fill out the forms that you can find on their website-they are due by July 15th and have been sent to the Lodge Secretaries. For example: Living Legacy etc. visit their site to download and send them in to Sovereign Grand Lodge as soon as possible. If your lodge was able to contribute to any of my Grand Master projects (Support the Epilepsy Foundation, Domestic Violence Prevention programs, and Veterans in your community. I want you to know how much I appreciate your efforts. Please include your activities in your lodge reports, so that we may give you recognition at the Grand Lodge Session in September.

This past weekend there were natural disasters, and flooding across the country. We pray for the families and children in Texas, may they feel God's tender love, and find strength through Him during this sad time. Our hearts go out to them. If your lodge can help, I urge you to reach out to the American Red Cross, or the Grand Lodge of Texas to see what the urgent needs are. Be careful not to contribute to any unknown organizations. The Sovereign Grand Lodge may also have started funds. You could also take this time to host a local fundraiser if your communities have been affected by storms and severe weather.

The last point I wanted to bring attention to is: how easy is your lodge to find or communicate with? Do you have a website or social media to search for, if someone is visiting from out of town? Do you have a reliable email and phone number for your current members? New people are moving to South Dakota and may want to find a lodge here if they belong to one in another state. LaDonna, our secretary at the Grand Lodge office, answers email and returns phone inquiries of those who find us through the Grand Lodge's Website or social media. It is a clever idea to make your lodge more accessible through digital means, as this is the most common way people look things up. Hope to see you in September!

In Friendship, Love, and Truth,

Grand Master Karen Bialas



2024-2025 Grand Master's Program

Motto: Today's dreams are tomorrows future

Colors: Violet, Pink, Peach

Flower: The Snapdragon – represents grace and strength, when it is done blooming and goes to seed, and it forms the shape of a skull. The tiny seeds spill out and become new flowers in the spring. Plant tiny seeds of hope, for a brighter future.

Aim: Motivate, Rejuvenate, Innovate

Attract new members with increased outreach and focus on accessibility. Place more emphasis on the value of Odd Fellow membership, while honoring the traditions and mission of our order to elevate mankind. Implement strategies to make your lodges easier to find.

Song: "Bridge Over Troubled Water" – Simon & Garfunkel

Projects: Support the Epilepsy Foundation. Support Domestic Violence Prevention programs. Do a project for/or visit Veterans in your community.

Scripture: 2 John, verses 2 and 3

Because of truth that abides in us and will be with us forever. Grace, mercy and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's son, in truth and love.

Guides: The Holy Bible and the wisdom of my amazing parents Joan and Martin Erck

Emblems: Dove – for peace and freedom, Globe – for unity of mankind, Heart in Hand – love and help each other

Fun Songs: "You've Got a Friend in Me" by Randy Newman (Toy Story Movie)

Quote: "There is nothing more truly artistic than to love people" – Vincent Gogh



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

2024-2025 Grand Lodge Officers

Grand Master Karen Bialas

Deputy Grand Master Barb Baisden

Grand Warden Brad Schneider

Grand Secretary LaDonna McKnight

Grand Treasurer Sean Bialas

Grand Conductor Carol Woltjer

Grand Marshal Nate Hadrick

Grand Chaplain John McKnight Jr.

Grand Herald Aliza Wonnemberg

Grand Guardian Joe Vallette

Jr. Past Grand Master David Chang

Grand Representative Paul Schaefer



Left to right-front row Brad Schneider, Karen Bialas, Barb Baisden, Back Row: David Chang, Sean Bialas, Nate Hadrick, LaDonna McKnight, Carol Woltjer

Not pictured: John McKnight, Joe Vallette, Aliza Wonnemberg, Paul Schaefer

2024-2025 Appointed Committees:

Education Committee:

Beth Leber, Carol Woltjer, Joe Vallette, Bill Glover, John McKnight Jr.

Credentials Committee:

Sandy Glover, Colleen Smith, Paul Schaefer

Finance Committee:

Larry Cross, Paul Hagenbuch, Pam Falconer

Property Committee:

Barb Baisden, Chuck Yarbrough, Ronell Beers

Membership Committee:

Brad Schneider Chair, Lori Clausen, Alisa Schmidt, Lisa Kerner

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



Membership Picnic
Held in Chamberlain in
June.

A great time was held
by all!!

Thanks to our Grill Master
Thomas Falconer and his
'assistant' Paul Schafer.

Thank you Grand Master Karen
for your decorating expertise.

Thank you David and his
amazing assistant Amy for
leading the games.

Thank you everyone for bring-
ing the wonderful salads and
desserts that were shared and
enjoyed by all.

Thanks everyone for attending
and we hope to see many
more members next year.



Thinking of you

All Members and Friends battling or recovering from illness—

Sandy Glover-Recovering from knee surgery

John McKnight Family-Death of Cheryl McKnight



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

Grand Master Karen's Lodge Honor Roll

1. Go visiting-arrange for your lodge to visit another lodge in our jurisdiction
 2. Sponsor a new activity or event that benefits the community
 3. Host a friendship night, invite neighboring lodge(s) to your lodge meeting
 4. Support one or more of my projects
- Report your accomplishments to me by August 1, 2025 and your lodge will receive recognition at my Session in September.



Grand Lodge Information

Grand Lodge will be held in Rapid City, September 18-20 at the Hilton Garden Inn at 815 E. Mall Drive. The Hilton Garden in is located just off I-90 exit 59, north two blocks then right at stop light, then just down the street past Fleet Farm.



To reserve your room(s) call the personal reservation line —Monday-Friday 8-5 at **1-605-791-9034**

YOU MUST CALL BY AUGUST 19TH TO GET THE MEETING RATE!

After this date our room rate is not guaranteed.

Tentative plans-Thursday evening-Officers (elected and appointed) meet for food and practice.

Session opens at 9:00 am Friday Morning, Dakota Rebekah Lodge #1 Meeting, Membership Banquet Friday evening.

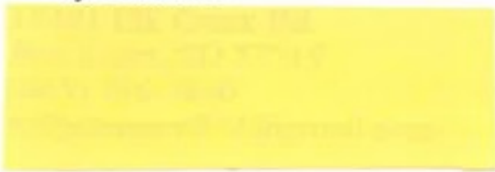
Session opens at 9:00 am Saturday Morning-followed by Memorial Service, Installation of Officers, Rebekah Initiation.

Executive Board meeting Sunday Morning at the Grand Lodge Office

Registration form will be sent out in a few weeks.

Two of our Scholarship recipients attended the Membership Picnic in June. Jayden Clark (from Sioux Falls) in the blue is the recipient of one of the Scholarships awarded along with the Memorial Scholarship, Kelly Clauson in pink— from Rapid City—is the recipient of one of the 24 scholarships. See Kelly's thank you below.

Kelly Clauson



June 20, 2025

Independent Order of Odd Fellows
Grand Lodge of South Dakota
Attn: LaDonna McKnight
550 N. 5th Street, Suite 103
Rapid City, SD 57701
(605) 719-7092



Dear Education Committee,

Thank you for making the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Grand Lodge Scholarship possible. I am so grateful that you have selected me for this wonderful opportunity! I have worked super hard in school to get the best grades on every assignment, to attain every piece of information presented to me and to learn from it, and to work hard and improve in all of my extracurriculars. I cannot express how thankful and appreciative I am that you have recognized my hard work. I will continue to work hard and show my appreciation for your help by going above and beyond in the classroom and on campus. I will strive to achieve great grades, always be curious and learn everything I can, and get involved in clubs, organizations, and intramurals to give back and have fun with the wonderful BH community.

Your generosity allows me to dedicate more time to my courses so I can focus on learning. I have always had a passion for learning math and I love solving problems because they all tie together like one big puzzle. Your scholarship is going to allow me to enjoy learning more about this wonderful subject and more. More importantly, it will help me earn my major in mathematics and either a minor in computer science or a specialization in the math field.

Thank you for investing in my future! I plan to make you proud of my accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Kelly Clauson

Orange Creamsicle Bars

Ingredients

- 1 package (12 ounces) vanilla wafers, crushed
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 2 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup confectioners' sugar
- 3 tablespoons frozen orange juice concentrate, thawed
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 1 pinch salt
- 1 carton (8 ounces) frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 2-1/2 tablespoons orange gelatin

Fresh orange slices, candy orange slices, orange zest or additional orange juice concentrate, optional



Directions

1. In a small bowl, combine wafer crumbs and butter. Press onto the bottom of parchment-lined 8-in. square baking dish; freeze until set.
2. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese until smooth, 2-3 minutes. Add confectioners' sugar, orange juice concentrate, vanilla extract and salt; beat until smooth, 2-3 minutes, scraping sides as needed. Fold in 1-1/2 cups whipped topping until well incorporated.
3. Divide filling in half. Spread one half over crust.
4. Add orange gelatin to the remaining filling; beat at medium speed until slightly thickened, 1-2 minutes. Gently spread over cream cheese layer. Top with remaining 1-1/2 cups whipped topping. Cover; refrigerate 4 hours or overnight.
5. Using the edges of the parchment paper, remove from pan. Cut into bars. Garnish with orange slices, candy, orange zest or additional orange juice concentrate before serving.

Send me your favorite recipe to go into the Pasque!! I would love to put recipes from our members!! Please send in a word document or typed into the body of an email so I can cut and paste! Pictures would be great but not required.

Request from the Grand Master

Years ago, we had music at the Grand Lodge Sessions, and I would love to HEAR that again. Keeping our traditions is as important as embracing the changes to the future of Odd Fellowship.

If you are interested in or able to play a keyboard, guitar, even a harmonica, or other instrument, or lead us in singing a couple of songs, please email or call LaDonna at the Grand Lodge Office to arrange to be in attendance at the session in September. I have a decent keyboard that I can bring for you to use. PSGM Michelle Heckert used to play such lovely music at the sessions, it would be appreciated if a **qualified member** (LaDonna will determine if you meet the credentials) could be present to bring that to us again.

Thank you in advance,
Yours sincerely,
Grand Master Karen Bialas



**OFFICE OF THE
SOVEREIGN GRAND MASTER
INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS**



May 2025

Greetings Brothers and Sisters

Oh, that fresh smell of Spring in the air! When leisure walks in the woodland open your eyes to the rebirth of nature. The trees budding and turning the bright reds and greens of spring. The flowers are beginning to lift their heads out of the winter sleep. The honeybees are emerging from their hives to begin their search for pollen and nectar to feed the new babies. The birds are singing way before the sun peeps up over the mountain ridge.

Spring reminds us to keep moving forward, learn and grow from the winter reflections, and honor the past through memorials. The Ninety First I.O.O.F. Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns is set for the first weekend in May. This annual event is to show our respect and gratitude to the Unknown Soldiers, as well as all the service men and women buried in the beautiful Arlington National Cemetery. Another War Memorial our Order brings honor to is the Annual Canadian War Memorial Celebration and Wreath Laying Ceremony held the last weekend of May. Respect given to those Canadians who gave their lives in a number of wars. I would like to encourage and invite the members and lodges to join us in solemn events. It will stir your heart and reignite the purpose of our Order.

These memorials serve as poignant reminders of our shared history and the lessons we have learned. They inspire us to build a future and to cherish the memories of those who came before us. As we look back, we gain the wisdom to make informed choices about where to go next, how to develop, and how to thrive.

The spring months have been busy with many traveling adventures. The visit to the Texas Sessions in Corsicana was exciting and windy. To further enhance my great visit to the Sessions was the presents of Past Sovereign Grand Masters, Doug Pittman, and Danny Wood. The people, facilities and hospitality were amazing. They offered a presentation by a local college production company about the rich history of their Odd Fellow/Rebekah Home for disadvantaged children called, "A Place to Call Home." The story behind the production was just as fascinating as the production. Everything is bigger in Texas, so I am told.

The next adventure led me to Rehoboth Beach, Delaware for the Mid-Atlantic States Conclave. This annual event always provides cherished time with friends, many entertaining events, and a little business. What an opportunity to learn about the unique events happening across the northeast

(Continued on page 4)

"WE SEEK TO IMPROVE AND ELEVATE THE CHARACTER OF MAN"

(Continued from page 3)

region. Charity Lodge No. 27 and Martha Rebekah Lodge No. 21 of Laurel, Delaware in cooperation with other community organizations have a short season providing Haunted House tours that have earned them about \$70,000. This in turn allows the lodge to show benevolence back to the community through charitable deeds. This is a pure example of Odd Fellowship reciprocity in action. Just a reminder, please use the IOOF Odd Fellows Social Media Submission Form to post the momentous events happening in your lodges.

Travel led us to the Midwest; Denver, Colorado to honor the International Association of Rebekah Assemblies, President, C.A. "Mira" Pittman. It was a lovely but cold weekend to visit with "ole" friends and honor and give testimony to Mira in her year as president. It was an enjoyable time and well attended.

Directly from Colorado, we traveled to Calgary, Alberta to attend their Sessions. Past Sovereign Master, Wes Nelson and his wife Marge organized a quick trip to Banff. It is hard to put in words the beauty of the area and people. The few days of relaxing prepared us for a great session in Calgary. Once more, learning of the charitable programs of the lodges is so encouraging. While some desire to focus on challenging the foundation of our Order, others are looking for ways to show true odd fellowship in their home

communities. The program for Challenged and Afflicted Children is commendable and worthy of repeating in other regions. It was a delight visiting with our Canadian brothers and sisters. We are now in the process of traveling to Illinois to honor General G. L. 'Jeff' Lasswell.

As my travels continue and the executive committee meet to maintain and resolve issues with respect, truth, and faith, because faith in God is the path to truth. The foundational steppingstones of Friendship, Love, and Truth cast a clear pathway for modeling true Odd Fellowship. Remember our goals to focus on recruiting fellow Odd Fellows, offering support and encouragement to our brothers and sisters. This brings to mind the golden rule, do unto others as you would have other do unto you. Living this out in our own life is a lot harder than reminding others how to do it in theirs.

So, put those organizational winter plans in place, honor the past, and hit summer wide open, ready to embrace new opportunities with a renewed sense of purpose for our Order. Always remember, we haven't come this far, just to come this far.

Fraternally in F, L & T,

s/ Gerald V. Workman
Sovereign Grand Master



Let's get ready for Grand Lodge!!

Grand Lodge will be here before we know it! Make plans now to attend. See the info regarding the Hotel information on page 4 of the Pasque!

All Lodge reports and forms are due **August 1st, please offer your assistance to your lodge secretary-they would most likely appreciate it.**

If you are interested in being a Grand Lodge Elected Officer-let your Lodge Secretary know-he/she has the forms. (nominated from your/a lodge)

If you know of any Legislation that needs to be submitted-talk to your Lodge Secretary.

If you would like to be nominated to attend the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Pilgrimage in 2027-see your lodge secretary. (vote of your Lodge-must be a Veteran)

JANUARY 2025

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
18 Executive Committee Meeting
20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

FEBRUARY 2025

2 Groundhog Day
12 Lincoln's Birthday
14 Valentine's Day
15 Annual Reports due to Grand Lodge Office
17 Presidents' Day
22 Washington's Birthday

MARCH 2025

1 Scholarship Application Deadline
5 Ash Wednesday
9 Daylight Savings Time begins
15 Executive and Scholarship Meeting
——Oacoma-Baymont Inn
17 St. Patrick's Day
20 First Day of Spring
23 Schyler Colfax Day

APRIL 2025

18 Ash Wednesday
20 Easter Sunday
22 Earth Day
26-Founders Day Celebration for Odd Fellowship

MAY 2025

1 May Day
1 National Day of Prayer
6 Holocaust Remembrance Day
11 Mothers Day
17 Armed Forces Day
19 Victoria Day (Canada)
26 Memorial Day



JUNE 2025

6 D-Day
14 Flag Day
15 Father's Day
19 Juneteenth Holiday
20 First Day of Summer
21 Executive Board/Membership Picnic
American Creek Campground—Chamberlain

JULY 2025

1 Canada Day
4 Independence Day

AUGUST 2025

1 ADVANCED REPORTS DUE TO GL OFFICE
18/21-Sovereign Grand Lodge-15-22-Charleston,
WV

SEPTEMBER 2025

1 Labor Day
7 Grand Parent Day
11 Patriot Day
18/21 GRAND LODGE—Rapid City
22 Autumn Begins

OCTOBER 2025

13 Columbus Day/Native American Day
13 Thanksgiving (Canada)
31 Halloween

NOVEMBER 2025

1 All Saints Day
2 Daylight Savings Time Ends
11 Veterans Day
27 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER 2025

21 Winter Begins
24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas Day
31 New Year's Eve

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!