

South Dakota Pasque Odd Fellow & Rebekah News

4th Quarter 2024



Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

The days are getting shorter, the nights are cooler, and frost will surely settle in soon. I love the colors of autumn and the adventures of the season: hayrides, canyon drives, football games, pumpkin patches, fall festivals, corn mazes, trick or treating, and even haunted houses! I hope everyone is well and can enjoy these activities too.

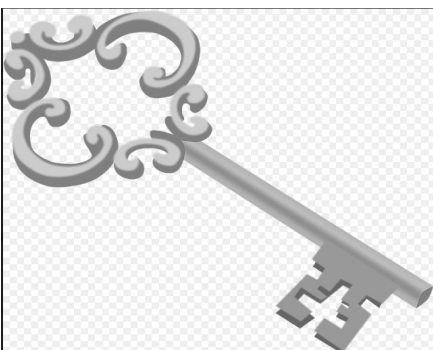
Thank you, members, for putting your faith in me, I will truly do my best to serve and guide, as we set our goals for the upcoming year. Thank you to the elected and appointed officers for accepting these offices and the challenges that lie ahead. I look forward to working with you and getting to know you better. Also, to the committee members I would like to extend my appreciation for your contributions to support our organization in the upcoming year. Thank you, Sean Bialas, for your encouragement and support, and for asking me to be a member of the I.O.O.F. (ask one to be one).

I wish to thank all of those who attended our outstanding Grand Lodge Session this year. I especially would like to give a shout out to David and Amy Chang, the Hawaiian group, and those who helped decorate, for putting together such a delightful, delicious, and fun banquet for all of us to enjoy! Thank you, Paul Schaefer, for recommending such a nice facility for the event. A lot of planning and organizing goes into the session, and LaDonna McKnight as always, you did an excellent job! I also want to thank the Installation Officers, Sovereign Grand Warden Ron, and my family members who attended the ceremony. Thank you to everyone who contributed their time and energy to make it happen.

Our new Sovereign Grand Master Gerald Workman from West Virginia has this motto: "We have not come this far ONLY to come this far. One act of kindness at a time. Together we can make it happen." He also reminds us that our Ritual states that "we should treat others the way we want to be treated".

We are blessed to have so many wonderful, dedicated people working towards the common goal of elevating mankind. What does this look like in your lodge? Please share your photos, newspaper clippings, articles, member stories and anything else you are doing locally with the rest of the lodges, by sending them in to be added to the Pasque, social media, or Website so ideas may be shared. Spread the news about what we do to serve in our communities. We will get noticed by

like-minded people who have the same values and maybe some who would like to join us in our mission. Be sure to give out your "keys" to potential members and honor your current members with well-deserved recognition.



Harvest the fruits of your labors and share your abundance with others. God bless you all.

In Friendship, Love, and Truth,
Karen Bialas, Grand Master

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

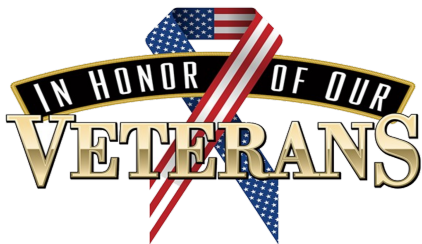
Because of truth that abides in us and will be with us forever. Grace, mercy and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's son, in truth and love.

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



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 Wonnenberg

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 Valette, Aliza Wonnenberg, 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



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 glstdioof@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—
Sandy Glover-knee surgery



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

Grand Lodge Happenings!!



Medallion Award recipients: Karen Bialas, Carol Woltjer-pictured with SGW Ron Hanson and GM David Chang



Lodge of the Year: James River #32-Larry Cross, Colleen Smith, Graham Smith, Lyle Ratliff, David Chang-GM

Congratulations Everyone!!



Member of the Year: Carol Woltjer with GM David Chang

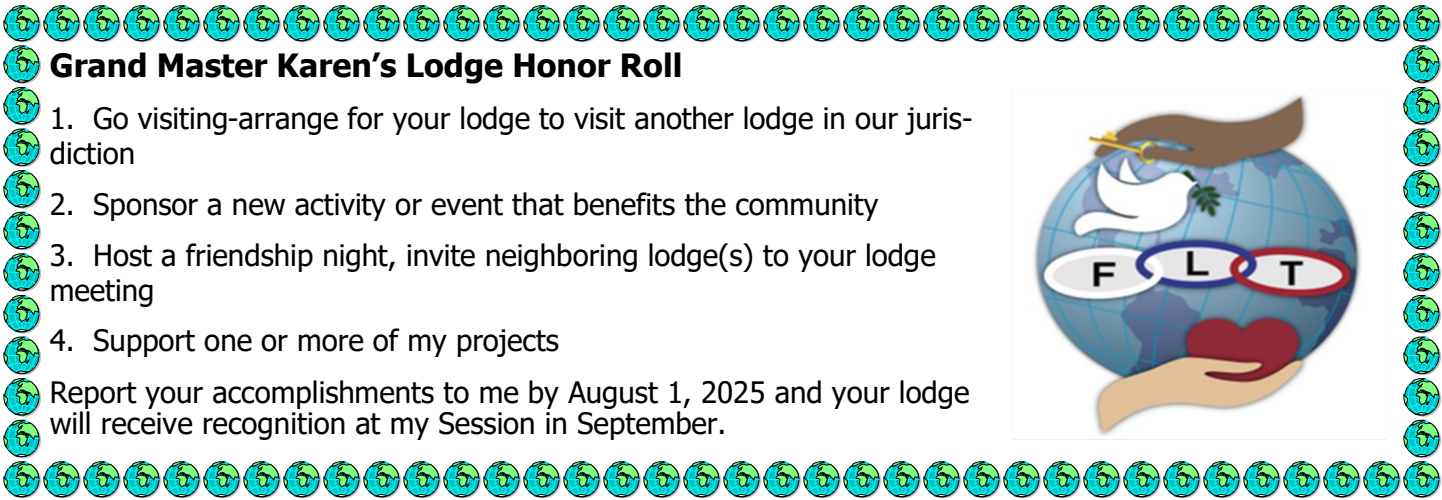


Installation of Grand Master Karen Bialas



The newest members of Dakota Rebekah Lodge #1 Kelly Boysen, Matt Rock, Brad Schneider, Nate Hadrick





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.



Past Assembly President Shirley McKnight and Past Grand Master Lyle Ratiiff served in 1994-1995 in Watertown.



Grand Master David and Amy Chang-thank you for all of the beautiful leis that you gave to all of us! Also, for organizing our entertainment!



We had a very colorful banquet with everyone in their bright Hawaiian outfits! What a fun night of Fellowship and Hula dancing and great food!

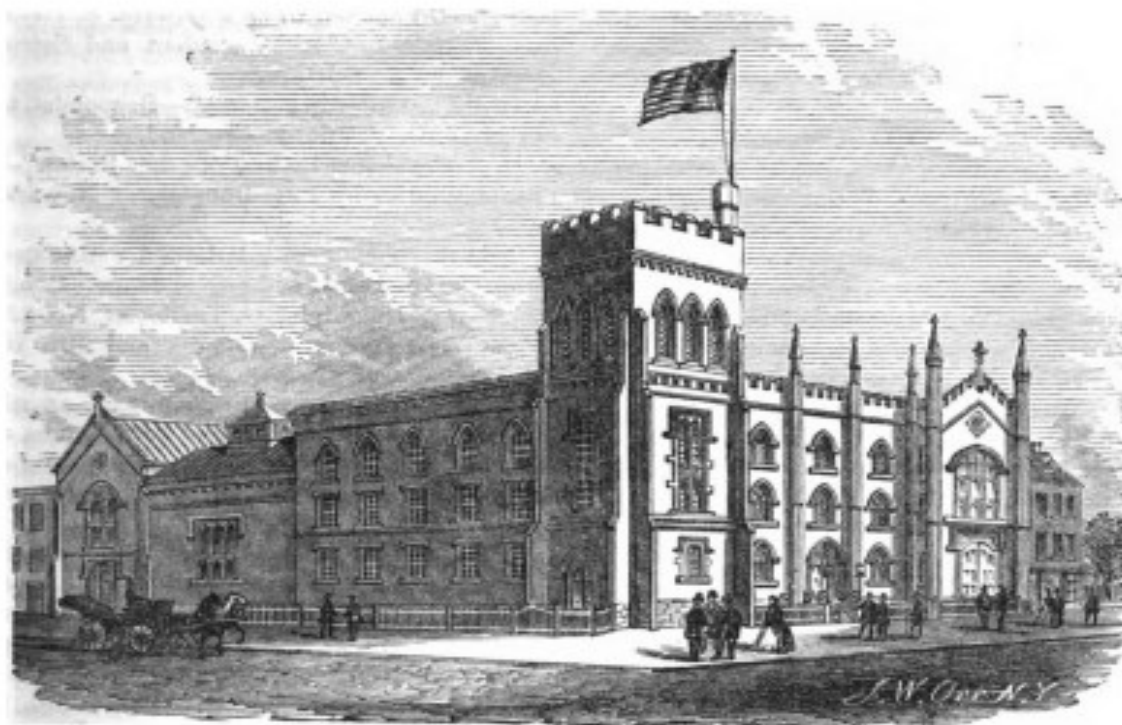


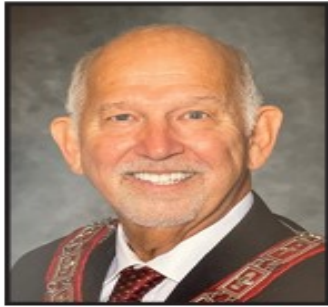
We had visitors from Washington, Iowa, North Dakota and Oklahoma for our Session this year!



The Sovereign Grand Lodge will celebrate 200 years since its formation 15 January 1825

The Grand Lodge of the United States: 1825. — A preliminary meeting of the “Grand Lodge of the United States” was called, and met “in the new Hall,” January 15, 1825, for the purpose of organizing the Grand Lodge of the United States. Four jurisdictions were represented: Maryland, by a representative; Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania, by proxies. The separation of the body from the Grand Lodge of Maryland was approved, and the new constitution was adopted. Thomas Wildey was unanimously elected Grand Master; John Welch, Deputy Grand Master; William Williams, Grand Secretary; and Thomas Mitchell, Grand Guardian. Information of the work done at this meeting was sent, by letters, to the several Grand Lodges; a resolution to print the “Past Grand’s charge book,” and the portion of the “Remembrance and Third degrees which the Vice Grand was to repeat,” were adopted, and the first session of the Grand Lodge of the United States of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, passed into history.





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



September 2024

To All My Fraternal Brothers and Sisters
of All Units of Odd Fellowship,

Address at Installation—Pittsburgh, PA

What an honor and privilege it is to stand here before you as your incoming Sovereign Grand Master willing to lead this great Order into the future. I truly give God all the glory for this occasion. I would like to take this opportunity to thank every brother and sister that has faith to elect me to such an honorable position.

Chuck Swindoll says “when you are in a leadership role, you are either in the Penthouse or the outhouse.” I am determined to keep us on the top floor, at least for a year.

In the book, *Good to Great* by Jim Collins, he states that the worst enemy of greatness is settling for good. Are we satisfied with simply good? “Our lodge is doing good; we have a few members coming to our meetings. We help our community at Christmas by distributing children’s toys. We try to visit the sick and help the distressed when we can.” They are right, it is good. I am not saying that what you are doing is wrong, I am suggesting that you could be doing great!

Being a retired coach, I was never satisfied with being okay; never satisfied only to win. My expectations for my teams were to play the best of their ability, and always play toward greatness.

Remember! We have not come this far ONLY to come this far.

Since the Bible and our Ritual are two of my guides, let us consider how greatness is addressed. In the Bible, book of Matthew, the disciples were disputing among themselves who should be the

greatest, Peter, James, or John. As they approached Jesus, he asked them about their dispute. Surprisingly, Jesus called a child over to Him and explained that if they desired greatness, then to be first, you shall be last and a servant to all. In other words, put others needs above yours and serve them. Serving others is a step toward greatness.

Our Ritual states that we should treat others the way we want to be treated, not the way you are treated, but how you would like to be treated. I confess that is not always easy. By being better servants, helps to open many opportunities for you to share and invite others to join you on the journey.

Growing our lodges seems to be a major issue throughout our Order. Bringing our lodges from being good to being great begins in part with service. Seeking those in our communities that are like minded. Those that show an obvious desire to improve and elevate the character of man. Seeking those that display a bent toward charitable and beneficent work and the reciprocal and benevolence which springs from a recognition of a Supreme Being. That my friend will not only grow a lodge but make it great again! Begin by putting others first.

At this time, I would like to recognize the installation staff. You did a superb job, as I knew you would, thank you. To my appointed officers, thank you for accepting these offices for next year. To my Executive Board, I look forward to working with each of you over the coming year.

Jurisdiction of West Virginia, “Almost Heaven”, and the home of the 2025 Sessions of The

(Continued on page 6)

“WE SEEK TO IMPROVE AND ELEVATE THE CHARACTER OF MAN”

(Continued from page 3)

Sovereign Grand Lodge. Thank you so much.

My brothers and sisters from my home lodge, Boone Lodge No. 170, Madison, WV, there are not enough words to express the gratitude for all you have done for me.

To all the Past Sovereign Grand Lodge Officers and friends that have encouraged me along the way with a smile, handshake, or word of wisdom, thank you.

Sister Mira, President-I.A.R.A., and Gen. Jeff, General Commanding, I look forward to working with

you this year. Together we can make it happen with one act of kindness, because we have not come this far only to come this far.

And lastly but definitely not least, I want to recognize my lovely wife, Cheryl. My best friend, co-worker, cheerleader and beekeeper, my queen bee! I love you bunches.

Thank you for making this evening so special.

Gerald V. Workman
Sovereign Grand Master



Membership Goal for 2025!

Goal:

Growing the Lodges. Matthew 7: 7-8. "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock it shall be opened. For everyone that ask will receive; and he that seeks will find and to him that knocks it shall be opened." Growing our Lodges seems to be a major issue throughout our Order. A simple solution is to seek, ask and guide. **Seek** those in our communities that are like minded; those that show an obvious desire to improve and elevate the character of man. Seek those that display a willingness toward charitable and beneficent work; and the reciprocal and benevolences which spring from a recognition of a Supreme Being. There are those that can be found if we are looking. Then **ask** them to join us in the practices of Friendship, Love and Truth; Faith, Hope and Charity; Purity and Universal Justice. Draw those in by showing the same characteristics in you. Finally, come alongside them and **mentor** them to learn the Rituals and Government of the Order.

Learning to serve. Philippians 2: 2-3, "Fulfill my joy by being likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself." We need to be the example in our communities and jurisdiction that others want to be a part of and say proudly, "I am an Odd Fellow." Our communities need to see how we work cooperatively to relieve the distressed, visit the sick, educate the orphans and bury the dead. We will always have problems, sickness, and death; therefore, we must follow through on our commitment to serve others in a wholesome manner before God and the public eye.

GROWTH GOALS

for 2024-2025 and beyond:

- ◇ Each member to recruit a new member.
- ◇ Increase membership in each unit of our Order.
 - ◆ Through member education
 - ◆ Through lodge & unit education
 - ◆ Through community education (*involvement*) and awareness

'COMPASS' AWARDS

For outstanding performance by a Unit promoting Odd Fellowship through a community project.

For outstanding performance by an individual member promoting Odd Fellowship through a public awareness program.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS— FOR SPONSORING NEW MEMBERS

- For 25 members lifetime,
the Bronze Meritorious Service button.
- For 50 members lifetime,
the Silver Meritorious Service button.
- For 75 members lifetime,
the Gold Meritorious Service button.
- For 100 members lifetime,
the Gold with diamond Meritorious Service button.
- For additional increments of 100 members—blazer buttons, belt buckles, key rings, money clips, etc.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

- ◇ To all new members a 'fraternal' pin.
- ◇ To the Unit sponsoring the most new members a '3 link' rug.
- ◇ To the Grand Body with the largest net gain a plaque.
- ◇ Units being instituted will receive an altar Bible and Institution Kit from the International Leaders upon notification from the Grand Body secretarial officer. Please send ***name and number, date of institution and location*** to: The Sovereign Grand Lodge, I.O.O.F., 422 Trade Street NW, Winston-Salem, NC 27101

AWARDS FOR SPONSORING NEW MEMBERS

- ◇ "I Got One" button to each sponsor.
- ◇ \$25.00 to the I.O.O.F. program of the sponsors choice for sponsoring 10 new members into the Order—in the sponsors name.

◇ PM AWARDS

Sponsor one (1) new member: ribbon bar
Additional 2 new members: add 1 bronze oak leaf
3 oak leaves per ribbon bar.

January 1, 2025—December 31, 2025



Chicken Alfredo Casserole

Ingredients

1 pound uncooked penne pasta
2 (15 ounces each) Alfredo sauce
2-1/2 cups reduced-sodium chicken broth
2 cups cubed cooked chicken breast
1-1/2 teaspoons minced garlic
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese
1/4 cup minced fresh parsley, optional



Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400°. Combine pasta, alfredo sauce, chicken broth, chicken, garlic, salt and pepper in a greased 13x9-in. baking dish; mix well.
2. Cover; bake until pasta is al dente, 30-35 minutes. Turn oven to broil setting. Uncover, sprinkle with Parmesan and mozzarella cheese. Broil 3-3 in. from heat 2-3 minutes, until cheese is golden brown. If desired, garnish with parsley.

Nutrition Facts

1 serving: 532 calories, 22g fat (13g saturated fat), 86mg cholesterol, 1230mg sodium, 52g carbohydrate (3g sugars, 3g fiber), 31g protein.

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.

Chocolate Chip Mug Cake

Ingredients

6 tablespoons 2% milk
2 tablespoons canola oil
1 large egg yolk, room temperature
1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
7 tablespoons all-purpose flour
3 tablespoons packed brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/4 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons semisweet chocolate chips
Chocolate fudge sauce, optional



Directions

1. Spray a 16-ounce microwave-safe coffee mug with cooking spray. Combine milk and oil in mug. Whisk in egg yolk and vanilla extract. Add flour, brown sugar, baking powder and salt; stir to combine. Add chocolate chips; stir to combine.
2. Microwave on high until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, 2-1/2 minutes; mug will be hot. Serve immediately. If desired, drizzle with chocolate fudge sauce and sprinkle with additional chocolate chips.

Nutrition Facts

1 mug cake: 808 calories, 41g fat (9g saturated fat), 192mg cholesterol, 896mg sodium, 101g carbohydrate (56g sugars, 3g fiber), 12g protein.

JANUARY 2024

- 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**
- 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 20 Executive Committee Meeting, Baymont Inn-
Oacoma**

FEBRUARY 2024

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

MARCH 2024

- 1 Annual Reports Due to Grand Lodge Office**
- 1 Scholarship Application Deadline**
- 10 Daylight Savings Time begins
- 16 Executive and Scholarship Meeting
—Chamberlain-Baymont Inn**
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 19 First Day of Spring
- 23 Schyler Colfax Day**
- 23 Scholarship Committee/Executive Board-
Oacoma**
- 24 Palm Sunday
- 29 Good Friday**
- 31 Easter Sunday**

APRIL 2024

- 22 Earth Day
- 26-Founders Day Celebration for Odd Fellowship**

MAY 2024

- 1 May Day
- 2 National Day of Prayer
- 6 Holocaust Remembrance Day
- 12 Mothers Day
- 18 Armed Forces Day
- 20 Victoria Day (Canada)
- 27 Memorial Day



MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

JUNE 2024

- 6 D-Day
- 14 Flag Day
- 16 Father's Day
- 19 Juneteenth Holiday
- 20 Frist Day of Summer
- 22 Membership Picnic/Executive Board
American Creek Campground—Chamberlain**

JULY 2024

- 1 Canada Day
- 4 Independence Day

AUGUST 2024

- 1 ADVANCED REPORTS DUE TO GL OFFICE**
- 21-24-Sovereign Grand Lodge-15-22-Pittsburgh PA**

SEPTEMBER 2024

- 2 Labor Day
- 8 Grand Parent Day
- 11 Patriot Day
- 19-21 GRAND LODGE—Sioux Falls**
- 22 Autumn Begins

OCTOBER 2024

- 14 Columbus Day/Native American Day
- 14 Thanksgiving (Canada)
- 31 Halloween

NOVEMBER 2024

- 1 All Saints Day
- 3 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 11 Veterans Day
- 28 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER 2024

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