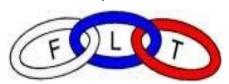
South Dakota Pasque Odd Fellow & Rebekah News

2025 1st Quarter Pasque







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

I hope this letter finds you well and filled with a sense of purpose to fulfill our mission with passion, dedication, and willingness to give of yourselves. You make a difference in the lives of many. We are off and running at the start of this new year with meetings and planning for our upcoming events.

Volunteering as an Odd Fellow requires time, energy, and even sacrifice, but every hour you give, every smile you share, and every act of kindness you offer leaves a lasting impact. You are the catalysts of change, uplifting your community and those you serve, to elevate the character of man. The work you do matters, and has a ripple effect in spreading hope, friendship, and love. You are planting seeds of goodness that will grow in ways that matter. When you lend your hands, you are also sharing your heart.

I found an interesting video that really sheds light on a serious epidemic "Loneliness" that is affecting our health and wellbeing and is causing higher rates of depression.

You can find the link here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7xsueRaWSa8&t=386s

Or search for "The Cure for Loneliness" video on YouTube. It was produced by the former U. S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy and Simon Sinek. He discusses the health benefits of interpersonal connections. Dr. Murthy shares how connecting with others can transform our lives for the better. He speaks about having places outside of work, and home where we can build relationships. Other highlights of the video were these key points:

- * Service can be small acts such as checking on people, visiting them, helping a stranger with a simple act of kindness.
- * Simply showing up is one of the best ways to support the people in our lives
- * The Triad of Fulfillment is relationships, purpose, and service
- * Connecting with something bigger than ourselves is how we grow and thrive and enjoy our lives.
- * What endures at the end of our lives are the relationships we had, and the lives we touched
- * Invest in friendships and relationships that are not measured by financial success or personal achievements. Support your friends, prioritize them.
- * The goal is not to eliminate hardship, the goal is to cultivate relationships that will be there with us through hardship.
- * Joy is brought to the recipient of kindness, to us, and can be witnessed by others We need to teach the importance of service early to children, not just focus on their success

Hmmm sounds familiar, doesn't it? Maybe Odd Fellowship is the cure for loneliness! Our organization reflects and practices these values and teachings. Lift your neighbors, friends, and family out of loneliness by inviting them to become an Odd Fellow. They will find the Triad of Fulfillment with us. Be proud of

what you do and share your success stories with all of us. Send them in to LaDonna to be shared in the Pasque Newsletter, on the website, and social media. Thank you for giving your time, your heart, and your spirit.

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, Reiuvenate, 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 amaz-

ing 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 rightfront 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

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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 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!

Thinking of you

All Members and Friends battling or recovering from illness-

California wildfire victims, now dealing with flooding

Everyone dealing with winter storms and cold weather

Any of our members, family members, friends dealing with life issues and or illness



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



Grand Lodge of South Dakota Independent Order of Odd Fellows Scholarship – 2025



Eligibility Requirements for IOOF Scholarship

To apply for the Grand Lodge of South Dakota – IOOF Scholarship, an applicant must:

Be a 3rd Degree Odd Fellow member of a local Odd Fellow Lodge or a member of a local Rebekah Lodge, or be a child or spouse of a member in good standing of a local Odd Fellow or Rebekah Lodge.

Be a senior in high school and/or hold a high school degree and/or be enrolled in an institution of higher education, must have a current GPA of 2.5 or better (not cumulative).

Scholarships are available to members who are residents of South Dakota and/or a student who will be attending an accredited institution - with preference given to SD institutions.

The applicant shall be endorsed by their Odd Fellow or Rebekah Lodge by having the signature of the Lodge Secretary and seal of the Odd Fellow or Rebekah Lodge affixed thereto showing they/their parent(s)/guardian(s)/spouse are members in good standing.

Disclaimers: Scholarship stipend is issued based upon funds being available and applicant meeting set criteria. Scholarship Applicants will have 4 years of eligibility for a Grand Lodge Scholarship. Checks will be distributed to the Institution indicated on your application in August and will not be held over by the Grand Lodge for future semesters or quarters. You will be responsible for notifying the Grand Lodge office of any changes in your plans by August 1^{st} or risk losing the scholarship for this year, checks will not be re-issued to another institution without proper, timely notification given to the Grand Lodge Office.

Applicant must meet scholastic qualifications. Leadership qualifications and financial need form an essential part of the Education Committee's review process and reflect the objectives sought by the Education Committee.

How to Apply

Application forms for consideration to receive the Grand Lodge of South Dakota – IOOF Scholarship are available from any of the local Odd Fellow or Rebekah Lodges, Education Committee Members, and the Grand Lodge of SD. <u>Use the current</u> **2025** application, previous versions will not be considered.

Completed applications must be sent by March 1, 2025 -- return receipt requested to:

Grand Lodge of SD – IOOF Education Committee 550 N 5th St Suite 103 Rapid City SD 57701 Questions: call or email the Grand Lodge Office: 1-605-719-7092 or glsdioof@gmail.com

Applications submitted by fax or e-mail will not be accepted.

General Information

Applications **must be** postmarked by March 1, 2025 to be considered. Applications received postmarked after March 1, 2025 **will not** be considered.

Send only the documents and information requested on the application. Documents will not be returned.

IMPORTANT: Please read and follow all instructions carefully. Incomplete applications will not be considered. **Your ability to properly follow instructions will be considered in our selection process.**

The decisions of the Education Committee are final and confidential, all information submitted and contained in the applications will not be disclosed to anyone outside the scholarship committee.



Social Media Reminders from the Grand Lodge

Social Media use in moderation is beneficial, but when it is overused and we become disconnected from each other it is a burden. We suffer from emptiness, lack of fulfillment and loneliness. There is a balance we must maintain. Personal face to face socializing and friendship is very important to our mental health. I have touched on that in my letter this month, and you can find more resources online. However, sometimes we need to communicate with more people at one time to get our messages out, that is where social media

comes in. It is a helpful tool and may help with our future growth and engagement to new audiences.

<u>Do Not</u> post more than twice a day, unless there is an immediate issue

<u>Do Not</u> share external links (we have no control over that content or ads being shown)

<u>Do Not</u> post anything controversial, political, or inappropriate (including memes and gifs)

Do Have permission from the person featured in the photo to post it on social media

Do Positively portray the service work of the Odd Fellows with photos

Do Schedule your posts a week in advance on Meta (Facebook)

- 1. Instagram is a great platform to share videos and content that shows us in action.
- 2. Facebook is available for paid advertising should you have a special event or fundraiser that you want to reach a wider audience.
- 3. Know your target demographic. Create content that will connect with and appeal to that group or niche.
- 4. Content can be created using Canva which is easy to use and has a reasonable cost.
- 5. Historical content is a great way to share the traditions and history of our order. Take photos of items at your lodge that are cool or interesting like the vintage photos of lodge members lined up in costumes.
- 6. Promote the benefits of Odd Fellowship such as building relationships and connections, education scholarships and other programs.
- 7. Ask your friends and family to like and follow your lodge and the South Dakota Grand Lodge on Facebook.

Please review and give copies of the Sovereign Grand Lodges social media rules (attached) to the person in your lodge who is posting. We want to be sure we are aware of them and adhere to them. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Grand Lodge Secretary.



(\$\dagger\$\dag b Grand Master Karen's Lodge Honor Roll

- $\stackrel{igoplus}{ ext{ iny }} 1.$ 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 meetina
 - 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.







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



January 2025

Greetings Brothers and Sisters and Happy New Year!!

restarts our calendar year, it also starts our Odd Fellows Lodges and Rebekah Lodges with new rotation of Officers. What an exciting time for members to reflect on the past, to identify what is working and what needs attention for all lodge members. A suitable time to question; are we truly seeking to improve and elevate the character of man? With man meaning the combined members of the lodge, from lifelong members to the newest initiated and the community beyond. The new year offers opportunities to set new goals and put plans in place to successfully achieve them. As you look out on the horizon, how are the valleys going to be maneuvered and the mountain tops celebrated? James B. Miller says, "Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success." As the new season begins, encourage all members to participate in the meetings, be willing to listen to each other and work together to come to productive resolutions. Celebrate success as a team win, because it takes a team to win in the lodge. The month of January provides two great opportunities to celebrate.

The Anniversary of Thomas Wildey's birthday, who was born on the 15th day of January 1782. He was the founder of our great Order in the United States. After eighty years of active recruiting, encouraging, and

New Year, new beginnings, as January leading his legacy is 42 jurisdictions and 200,000 Odd Fellows to follow. A great challenge and reason to celebrate in your jurisdiction. Is your jurisdiction willing to take the challenge to increase your membership? This birthday celebration brings us to the 200th Anniversary of The Sovereign Grand Lodge on January 15th. As a way of honoring this great accomplishment, I challenge each lodge to create a 200th Celebration Event. Let those creative juices flow and produce your own 200th Celebration; then publish to The Sovereign Grand Lodge a description and pictures of your event. The finalists will be shared at the Sessions in August with a competition of sorts to select a Grand Winner. All submissions must be postmarked by May 15, 2025. The Finalist will be notified by June 15 to present at Sovereign Sessions in August, with the final winner recognize then. January administrative requirements as well. The Annual Reports for the lodges are due. As a reminder, make sure the reports are filled out completely, current and correct for the membership, inventory cost, and deaths. The completion of the SGL reports is dependent on the lodge report information.

> February is another month for celebrating the Educational Foundation. Why not educate your Lodge members on the scholarship offerings and grant programs offered by the

(Continued on page 14)



In the practice of FRIENDSHIP, LOVE, and TRUTH will be found the best safeguard against the ills of life.

FORGET IT NOT!

IOOF | ASK ME I MAY KNOW

Lodge Secretaries

Annual Reports are due!

Please get your Lodge Reports sent into the Grand Lodge Office as soon as possible!!

Scholarships Applications are due March 1st!



Rushmore Lodge Celebrated Thomas Wildey's birthday with newly elected Noble Grand Margery Glandt and Grand Master Karen Bialas.

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Educational Foundation. Information is available at: https://odd-fellows.org/programsEducational-Foundation. This information is another recruiting tool available to build your lodge membership by encouraging family and friends seeking assistance with educational funding.

I hope the Tournament of Roses Parade was part of your New Year's Day celebration. It was an opportunity of a lifetime for me to work with my brothers and sisters to help decorate and be a part of this amazing program. Another recruiting tool for potential members to the Order.

So thankful for the invitation to attend the Wilmer Annual Eve Institute Donors Celebration with the Visual Research Foundation committee members, Mark Ulrick. Sharon Magden, and Patty Gowdy. Such an "eye opening" experience, meeting with Dr. Professor of the Odd Fellow Jampel. Ophthalmology and Fatemeh Rajaii, Odd Fellow Rising Professor of Ophthalmology was honoring. The funding provided by the Odd Fellows supports her research into how orbital changes contribute to the expansion of tissue behind the eye in thyroid eye disease. Seeing

the lab and work area of Dr. Rajaii was the reward of seeing our funding for visual research at work in real time. A rich opportunity for our members not to overlook and inform prospective members.

Bringing all of this back home, let's renew our commitment to relieve the distress by checking on the shut-ins in our communities and those going through hardships during these cold winter months. There are many community organizations that work to meet these needs but all too often they need volunteers to reinforce their efforts. How about this idea for the competition? The members in a lodge can get 200 volunteer hours in the time limit. Just offering an idea to spark the imaginations of our members. remember, we didn't come this far, just to come this far.

Fraternally in Friendship, Love, and Truth,

s/ Gerald V. Workman Sovereign Grand Master





INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS Committee on Membership

"A PROGRAM OF THE SOVEREIGN GRAND LODGE TO OBTAIN MEMBERSHIP GAINS IN ALL UNITS OF ALL BRANCHES OF THE FAMILY OF ODD FELLOWSHIP"

January 2025

New Year New Beginnings

It's that time of year when we take a look at the past year and review those goals we set for our lodges and ourselves. Which goals did we or did we not accomplish. Were those realistic. practical, exciting, encouraging, and possible?

It's a new year and our Noble Grands need to encourage their lodges to set realistic goals for 2025. This is a great time of year to freshen up your lodge, deep clean, paint, organize, and plan future events. Working together to clean up your lodge is a great time to bounce ideas off one another, brainstorm future events and talk about how you're going to invite people you know to join your Odd Fellow family. Taking inventory of what needs to be fixed, what needs to be thrown out, what needs to be replaced, and evaluating whether or not the lodge is inviting to members and new candidates.

The New Year is also a time to take inventory of our Attitudes! Leaders of this organization have an obligation to promote the positive welfare of our lodges and its Leaders members. Our need be knowledgeable and excited about all the programs and possibilities this wonderful organization has to offer their members, their communities, and those less fortunate. and they need to share their enthusiasm with their lodge members. As leaders we take an obligation to promote the welfare and harmony of our lodges. We cannot do that if we have no idea what Oddfellowship has to offer. Take time to study the ritual, through the Sovereign Grand Lodge and

choose a community project that your lodge can get involved with and provide not just monetary support, but actively participate in that project so that you can meet new people and possibly new members. This is the time to take seriously the idea of making time at each meeting to talk about a project of the order, talking about what Oddfellowship means to your Lodge, and how you are going to promote that in your communities. Make your meetings informative, worthwhile, and

Our attitudes can make a difference in everything we do! If you continue to proclaim that this organization will not be here in 10 years, that we have nothing left to offer future generations, that we are not relevant to the world anymore, than it will be so, because that is the negative attitude that will make it so, but if you take a Positive attitude and proclaim that we will always be here to help those less fortunate, that we will invite positive people to join us to help better our communities one good deed at a time, and that we positively have so much to offer the world by choosing to care about one another, teaching our future generations about Friendship, Love and Truth, and truly caring about our Brothers and Sisters all over the World, then we will positively, absolutely, always be relevant to future generations simply because we have a positive outlook about what we can and will accomplish in the future. The World needs caring, loving, positive people more now than ever.

January is a time of new beginnings in learn about the programs we support our lodges. We will be installing new officers,

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(Continued from page 28)

and I challenge your lodges to install your officers using the ritual, taking seriously the obligations for your offices and reading to each appointive officer their duties. I challenge all of you to follow the ritual at your meetings, allowing the officers to do their duties properly so that they have a sense of purpose in helping the meetings run smoothly and efficiently. Officers, it is your duty to provide a positive attitude for your members, to be prepared for the meetings, to provide encouragement, support, and ideas to promote the welfare of your lodge. It's also the time to set goals for membership, brainstorm ideas to invite new candidates to join, and implement those ideas. Don't just talk about membership goals, implement those ideas, you have nothing to lose and everything to gain!

If you need help in putting into action the membership goals and ideas you have come up with, please call me and I will help you brainstorm ideas to make those goals a reality. We have so much to offer our communities and the people that live in our communities, don't deny them the opportunity to belong to a wonderful family organization, because you're too afraid to ask. Knowledge of the Order will give you the positive attitude you need to make a difference. Stop making excuses and take a positive attitude towards your membership goals. I'm proud to be a member of the Odd Fellow family and I hope you are too. Let's be positive about the future of Oddfellowship!

I hope you all had a peaceful Holiday Season in whichever belief you chose to celebrate, and I wish for you a Blessed, Prosperous, Healthy and Safe New Year.

We didn't come this far only to come this far! How do we change the World? One act of kindness at a time! Together we can make it happen!

Fraternally,

Michelle Heckart Membership Chairman heckart@danvilletelco.net





Dues are due for the 2025 Lodge year for all Rebekah Members. If you have already sent in your dues to Sandy-Thank you!! If you haven't sent them in yet please do so ASAP!

Rebekah Dues are 35.00/year.

Dakota Rebekah Lodge #1 Attn: Sandy Glover 14 Crescent Drive Deadwood, SD 57732



Greetings from the Grand Lodge Office.

What a busy month and a half it has been since New Years!! On the next page you will find some pictures highlighting my trip to California to work on the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Float and attend the Rose Bowl Parade and Game. I was joined by my niece Alicia from here in Rapid City and my sister Rita and her daughters Amy and Carrie all from Oklahoma. We worked on the float Sunday evening and all day Monday into the wee hours of Tuesday before we got to go back to the hotel. What an awesome experience! I got to see many friends –PSGM John Cupp and his wife Emily Cupp, Sovereign Grand Master Jerry Workman and Cheryl Workman, IARA President Mira Pittman and PSGM Doug Pittman. On New Year's day we were up very early to head to the Parade, watched it then headed to the Rose Bowl Football game. That was another great experience. We spent Thursday and Friday in Anaheim at Disney. What a great week!! Seeing old friends and making new ones!! If you ever get the chance to go, GO! You won't regret it!









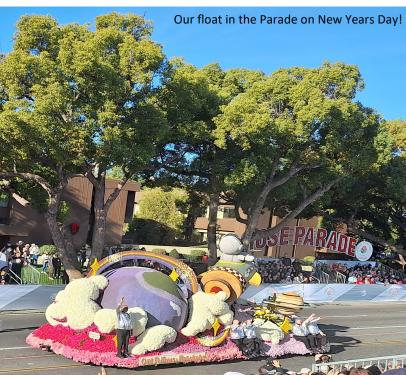
From start when we got to Pasadena on Sunday to the Parade on New Years day!

Nieces Alicia, Carrie and Amy-they climbed all over that float, and glued down lots of silver leaf.

Sister Rita cut and fluffed lots of carnations,

I glued carnations on the fluffy clouds and covered the bottom with lots of roses.





Raspberry Crumble Bars

Ingredients

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1-1/2 cups sugar, divided
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 cup shortening
- 2 large eggs, room temperature, lightly beaten
- 1 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 4 cups fresh or frozen raspberries

Directions

- 1. In a large bowl, combine the flour, 1 cup sugar, baking powder, salt and cinnamon. Cut in short-ening until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Stir in eggs and extract. Press two-thirds of the mixture into a greased 13x9-in. baking dish.
- 2. In a large bowl, combine cornstarch and remaining 1/2 cup sugar; add berries and gently toss. Spoon over crust. Sprinkle with remaining crumb mixture.

Bake at 375° for 35-45 minutes or until bubbly and golden brown. Cool on a wire rack. Cut into bars. Store in the refrigerator.

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.

Pepperoni Pizza Casserole

Ingredients

- 2 pounds ground beef
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 3-1/2 cups spaghetti sauce
- 1 package (16 ounces) spiral or cavatappi pasta, cooked and drained
- 4 cups shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese
- 8 ounces sliced pepperoni

Directions

- 1. Preheat oven to 350°. In a large skillet, cook beef and onion over medium heat until meat is no longer pink; drain. Stir in spaghetti sauce and pasta.
- 2. Transfer to 2 greased 13x9-in. baking dishes. Sprinkle with cheese. Arrange pepperoni over the top.

Bake, uncovered, 25-30 minutes or until heated through.





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 Frist 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 218/21-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