

Grace Bick, WGM
23609 458th Ave
Madison SD 57042

**Grand Chapter of South Dakota
Order of the Eastern Star**

Keith Sorge, WGP
2108 Roundtable Rd
Sergeant Bluff IA 51054



August 7, 2025

TO BE READ AT THE FIRST STATED MEETING AFTER RECEIPT

Dear Sisters and Brothers.

We shall always be thankful for the warm hospitality, generous courtesies, and friendships we have made or renewed during our travels throughout South Dakota this Grand year. We hope you have enjoyed your Journey with the Stars and have already received your Boots on the Ground Travel pin. We trust you have encouraged new memberships in your chapter and have been active in your community outreach.

Our Grand Session will be held Thursday, October 9th through Saturday, October 11th in Pierre. The MWGP will be attending and we are so happy to receive him during our Grand Session. We hope to see all of you there to give him a hearty South Dakota welcome!!

If you are eligible and have not yet received our Boots on the Ground travel pin, be sure to pick it up at Fall Practice on September 27th in Presho.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Pre-registration: We recommend this for all members. The Meal Registration deadline is September 17, 2025 and the In-State Registration is September 26, 2025. The sooner you register the better. Your Chapter Secretary has all of the necessary forms for you to complete and send in, or you may print the forms from our website www.sdoes.org.

Registration will be in the **Lake Oahe Lobby** as follows:

Wednesday	October 8 th	3 PM – 5 PM	Friday	October 10 th	10 AM – 4 PM
Thursday	October 9 th	10AM – 4 PM	Saturday	October 11 th	10 AM - NOON

Remember that all registered members of South Dakota have a vote at Grand Chapter and that you will need to proceed to the Credentials Committee for your voting pads. A signed receipt for dues or current demit will be required for registration. The Registration card is required for admittance to the Grand Chapter Session.

Grand Choir: Anyone who wishes may sing. Practice will be held Thursday, October 9th, from 1 -3 PM. The sessions are always much livelier with music from the choir. Check the final schedule for practice location.

ALL REPORTS, WELCOMES, AND RESPONSES: One computer ready copy (CD, flash drive, etc.) must be filed with the Grand Secretary at Grand Chapter. Electronic documents can be emailed to: sdoesgs@hotmail.com
Reports should be no longer than 2 to 3 minutes. Please check the program for your presentation time and note, that occasionally, as time permits you may be called on to give the report earlier than published. Reports do not require a vote so please remember to end your report with "Respectfully Submitted". Do not move for acceptance of this report.

Welcomes and Responses: Please be brief, no longer than 2 minutes. If you respond, please be at the front of the line and begin speaking when you receive the microphone. Give a typed copy of your response to the Grand Secretary immediately after you leave the floor.

Presentations:

Thursday Evening: Banquet to Honor the WGM/WGP

Thursday Evening Session: The Informal Opening will be held first with the Formal Opening of the 136th Session of Grand Chapter to follow. Formal Introductions are held at the Thursday evening session.

Friday Morning: Fraternal Correspondence Report with the Grand Representatives and their counterparts.

Friday Afternoon: Presentation of the 50 Year Members.

Saturday Morning: Presentation of our Boots on the Ground Travelers, 2025 Honored Stations (Chaplains and Adahs), 2025 Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons.

Saturday Afternoon: Presentation of the Eastern Star Home Representatives.

Rehearsal Schedule: Rehearsals will be at the Ramkota Conference Center unless otherwise noted.

Wednesday, October 8, 2025

1:00 PM Grand Officers at the Pierre Masonic Lodge
4:00 PM March Director, Grand Officers at the Ramkota Conference Center
6:00 PM Grand Officers, Escorts, March Director, and Grand Officer Narrator

Thursday, October 9, 2025

9:00 AM Memorial Hour
10:30 AM Emblem Bearers and Narrator
1:00 PM Grand Choir and Soloists (check for room location)
1:00 PM Grand Pages, Assistant Grand Sentinels and March Director
2:00 PM Flag Bearers and Narrator

Friday, October 10, 2025

Immediately after the Afternoon Session – Associate Matrons, Associates Patrons and March Director

Saturday, October 11, 2025

Immediately after the Morning Session – Formal Retiring March – Grand Officers and March Director
(Installation Rehearsal will be held immediately following Formal Retiring March practice).

Formal Pictures: Begin promptly at 3:00 pm on Thursday. Remember no cameras inside the Chapter Room during the photo session. Grand Pages and Assistant Grand Sentinels please plan to come at 3:45 to avoid congestion in the area and due to limited seating available. Check the program book for the schedule.

Cameras: A reminder that it is not appropriate to take photos inside the Chapter Room at any time during any meeting.

Gifts: The gift table will be located against the back wall in the Grand Chapter room. Please label your gifts plainly with the first and last name of recipient and securely attach the label to the gift.

Installation of 2026 Grand Officers: Installation will begin at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 11, 2025. There will be a receiving line, with cookies in the foyer immediately following the installation.

Faternally,



Grace Bick
Worthy Grand Matron



Keith Sorge
Worthy Grand Patron



Attest:
Sandra Vanneman, PGM
Grand Secretary

