

Terri Veen, WGM
823 First Ave
Brookings, SD 57006

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

Jeff Marchetti, WGP
3916 W 93rd St
Sioux Falls, SD 57108



August 5, 2026

TO BE READ AT THE FIRST STATED MEETING AFTER RECEIPT

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We are eternally grateful for the warm welcomes, generous hospitality, and kind courtesies we received as we traveled throughout the State. We enjoyed making new friends and renewing friendships during this Grand Year. As the Patchwork of Hospitality year draws closer to the end, we hope that you all took advantage of traveling and earning your Blue Corvette travel pin. We hope you all have made known to your current members how appreciated their faithful contributions are to your Chapters.

Our Grand Session will be held Thursday, October 8th through Saturday, October 10th in Pierre. Please come and take this opportunity to greet our visiting Sisters and Brothers and those from all over our Great State!

If you have traveled and have not picked up your Blue Corvette travel pin, be sure to pick it up at Fall Practice on September 26th in Gettysburg.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Pre-registration: We recommend this for all members. The Meal Registration deadline is September 17, 2026 and the In-State Registration is September 26, 2026. 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 7 th	3 PM – 5 PM	Friday	October 9 th	10 AM – 4 PM
Thursday	October 8 th	10AM – 4 PM	Saturday	October 10 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 8th, 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 electronic copy (flash drive or attached to an email) must be filed with the Grand Secretary at Grand Chapter. Reports should be no longer than 2 to 3 minutes.

Electronic documents can be emailed to: sdoesgs@hotmail.com and should be submitted no later than October 31, 2026. 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 137th 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 Blue Corvette Travelers, 2026 Honored Stations (Secretary, Electa, and Marshal), 2026 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 7, 2026

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 8, 2026

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 9, 2026

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

Saturday, October 10, 2026

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

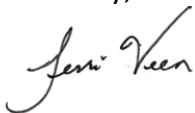
Formal Pictures: Begin promptly at 3:00 pm on Thursday. Remember no cameras inside the Chapter Room during the photo session. Grand Pages and Assistant Grand Sentinels please plan to come at 3:45 to avoid congestion in the area and due to limited seating available. Check the program book for the schedule.

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 2027 Grand Officers: Installation will begin at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 10, 2026. There will be a receiving line, with cookies in the foyer immediately following the installation.

Fraternally,



Terri Veen
Worthy Grand Matron



Jeff Marchetti
Worthy Grand Patron



Attest:
Sandra Vanneman, PGM
Grand Secretary

