

FACTS ABOUT ODD FELLOWSHIP

- DID YOU KNOW:** That we are a world-wide fraternity with lodges in many countries of the world.
-Our Order has a total of more than a million members in lodges throughout the world, and is the largest fraternal Order under one head.
 -We have the only truly fraternal society in the world.
 -We have a Sovereign Grand Lodge, composed of representatives from lodges all over the world, which meets every year.
 -Ours was the first fraternal order to build and maintain homes for our aged and indigent members and orphan children.
 -We were the first fraternal organization to authorize lodges for ladies.
 -We have an organization that in the last 125 years has expended more than \$365,000,000. in the relief of the distressed.
 -We are the only fraternal organization having a semi-military branch recognized by the United States Army.
 -We have established and maintain a chair at the John Hopkins University for the study of the human eye.
 -Some of our lodges own a number of hospital beds and wheelchairs, which are available for needy members and other worthy persons.
 -Ours is the only fraternal organization that is permitted to confer our Decoration of Chivalry on the Unknown Soldier.
 -According to the General Electric Company, our Order purchased more iron lungs than any other organization, including hospitals.
 -We are the only fraternal organization permitted to send young people on a guided tour of the United Nations.
 -All the money you may pay into the lodge, for all branches, in a life time would not pay for your expenses at the Home for more than a few months, yet you might live there for 8, 10, or more years.
 -Our order maintains an education fund for worthy young people who need financial assistance to further their education.
 -Our order sponsors Junior Odd Fellow Lodges for boys 10 to 18 years old and Theta Rho Girls Clubs for girls the same ages as the Junior Odd Fellows.
 -We are one of the few organizations that does not depend on the sale of alcoholic beverages as a source of revenue.
 -Ours was the only fraternal organization whose head officer attended the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II by special invitation of Her Majesty.
 -The gates to the International Peace Garden on the border between the United States and Canada were built by the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs of the World.
 -Our degree fees have changed very little during the last 150 years.
 -Odd Fellowship is growing by leaps and bounds in foreign countries, especially in Skandania, Germany, and Switzerland. In June of 1984, A Grand Lodge of Finland will be instituted. (Formerly under the Grand Lodge of Sweden).
 - The Odd Fellow Order is the prestige order in those countries, and in spite of high fees, (Some as high as \$500.00) there is a long waiting list of applicants to join.
 -California spearheads the construction and entering of a float in the annual Rose Parade at Pasadena, seen all over the world and with many first prizes to our credit.
 -Our imminently successful International Youth Program is bringing much understanding and satisfaction to many members through visits of the children of European Odd Fellow children as guests to participating Odd Fellow homes here. In turn, we are sending our children to European Odd Fellow families for visits.

IT IS HOPED THAT THIS FACT SHEET WILL GIVE YOU SOME ANSWERS TO THAT INQUIRING PROSPECTIVE MEMBER THAT ASKS YOU WHAT ODD FELLOWSHIP IS ALL ABOUT.