



Independent Order of Odd Fellows
Dedicated Members for Change

March 7, 2014

Dear Dedicated Members for Change,

Friendship - Love - Truth. These are timeless concepts and they guide our thinking as Odd Fellows. Below is a brief, but uplifting message from our Grand Master Rick Boyles about "Love", that we should all take to heart.

F - L - T

Dave Rosenberg

Grand Warden

The Greatest of These is Love

One of my favorite movies, L.A. Confidential, has a line from one character to another, "So, why did you become a cop?" The answer the star, Kevin Spacey gave was "I don't remember." That line could easily be translated for our benefit. The primary question we should ask ourselves is "why did we join the Odd Fellows"? To me, the answer is love. If we don't have that for one another, then we don't have much remaining.

Whatever we accomplish within the order, we need to recognize our greater purpose. That purpose is love. We all make mistakes. We all can say or do bad or mean things, but the overriding principal of our order must be love.

My password this year was designed to help alleviate tension. I have been telling everyone that I see in my journeys that each day at Grand Lodge this year, I would like to kick off each day with a one minute jig or dance, lead by a different member each day. If you would like to help me with this, please let me know. Everyone I have mentioned this to, seems to like the idea. The premise of this idea is that all ideas and our moves forward should all be predicated on fun and love.

In the past, many of us through political or theoretical differences, have felt angry, confused, or perhaps even betrayed. But this only succeeds in diminishing our own caring for our brothers and sisters. Lately, at a reception, I came to what I viewed as epiphany, within my own mind (puny as it is). None of us really should mean ill will towards any one. All of us should bury our madness beneath our affection. To be brutally frank, soon enough all of us will be pushing up



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daisies, and it should seem that what we accomplish prior to that on earth should be infused by love.

Allow me to let you know that I love all of you, even those who may feel that we often disagree. If we all agreed on one way to live or to grow our order, it would be boring indeed. There is no need for us to agree, only to realize that surrounding and diminishing any issues we may have within our order is our love for all members.

So, in my personal view, of all three points of our creed, friendship, love, and truth, is the basic core principle of my existence, the greatest one, which is love.

In Friendship, Love, and Truth, Rick Boyles, Grand Master.