



Independent Order of Odd Fellows
Dedicated Members for Change

May 27, 2014

Dear Dedicated Members for Change,

I'm pleased to share with you a short e-mail I recently received from the Jurisdiction of Hawaii. Odd Fellowship is alive and well in the Aloha State - the Lodges are active and growing in membership. I was delighted to read that the perspective of the Hawaiian Lodges is very close to the perspective we have touted in these DMC articles over the years. To grow membership, our Lodges have to be three dimensional, not just one dimensional. Those dimensions include emphasizing the rich history and ritual that makes us uniquely Odd Fellows; engaging in an active social life within our Lodges ; and reaching out into our towns and environs with good community and charitable projects. Three dimensional Lodges provide members with a complete fraternal, social and community-giving life. Three dimensional Lodges give members significant satisfaction. And significantly, three dimensional Lodges attract applicants and new members.

F - L - T

Dave Rosenberg
Deputy Grand Master

ALOHA,

Thank you Brothers and Sisters from across the globe! I know I speak for my Brothers and Sisters here in Hawaii when I say we too love our organization, especially the rich traditions, rituals and teachings of Odd Fellowship, for these are some of the cornerstones of our wonderful Order. However, the other cornerstones, and in my opinion, more important than the brick and mortar of our Order are the PEOPLE (my brothers and sisters) that comprise our Order, for I would rather be with my Brothers and Sisters in a vacant lot than to be amongst others in an extravagant venue.

I am of the opinion that pairing the rich traditions of yesterday and the new ideas and technology of today will undoubtedly aid The Order in strengthening its place in the new era of benevolent fraternal organizations. We do need to consider how we can infuse new and fresh methodologies with which to recruit and retain a different demographic from what we are accustomed. However, we must first accept the fact that change is necessary.... Maybe I'm being naive, but I



Independent Order of Odd Fellows
Dedicated Members for Change

feel the SGL needs to get more young members involved at the SGL level to provide a totally different perspective to those that are piloting the SGL.

Our Hawaii lodges are seeing tremendous membership growth since we have begun to coordinate joint service projects with our five lodges. We try to keep our community calendar full with as many varying types of community service projects as possible to accommodate members with differing capabilities and or restrictions. We know our new members have joined primarily for the service projects, but we also coordinate member events as well. We must remind ourselves that **NO MEMBERS = NO LODGE = NO ODD FELLOWS!**

Fraternally,

StevenTseu
Past Grand
Excelsior Lodge No. 1