Member Access

You select the individual members of a structure variable by using the member access operator, or, more informally, the **dot operator**, like this:

```
cout << birthday.month << endl;
```

Here, `birthday` is the structure variable and `month` is the data member it contains. Such **selection expressions are assignable**, so you can modify the components of `birthday` like this:

```
Date birthday;
birthday.month = "February";
birthday.day = 2;
birthday.year = 1950;
```

Since this is assignment, and **not initialization**, this must appear inside a function.

With a **nested structure**:

- You can access the nested member in its entirety (aggregate)
- You can access the data members of the nested structure, using another level of "dots". Here is an example.

```
Date groundhog = {"February", 2, 1950};
Person steve;
steve.name = "Stephen";
steve.birthday = groundhog;          // aggregate assignment, or ...
steve.birthday.year = 2023;          // nested dots
```