



# EASTERN STAR Journal

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER

January 2026



*60 Years of Service*

**Brother Mike Berry, MWGP presents  
Sister Billie Bradfield with her 60 year pin**

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**Stories from around the Eastern Star world  
appear throughout the pages of the  
Eastern Star Journal**



The Eastern Star Journal  
is the official publication of the  
**GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER  
ORDER OF THE  
EASTERN STAR™**

The Eastern Star Journal is published  
two times yearly.

**Most Worthy Grand Matron**  
Billie Bradfield, PGM-Arizona

**Most Worthy Grand Patron**  
Michael E. Berry, PGP-Kentucky

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In case of errors or omissions, neither the General Grand Chapter, nor any Grand Chapter nor any Subordinate Chapter as an entity, nor its officers or members will be held liable. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit any stories submitted.

To submit articles, email  
[oesjournal2427@gmail.com](mailto:oesjournal2427@gmail.com)

# A Message from Billie...

I have completed my first full year, and I can honestly say that I have never had so much fun.

I have met so many members and made countless memories. It has truly been an honor to serve the Order of Eastern Star and to represent our members across our country—and beyond.

To wrap up my year, I have attended twenty Grand Chapters, and each one has been special in its own way. It was such an honor to recognize the General Grand Chapter officers at their receptions; the decorations were always a delightful surprise.

In Saskatchewan, I had the honor of installing the Star Points. In Minnesota, I had the pleasure of administering the obligation to the elected and appointed officers at the altar. In the Philippines, I was given the honor of installing the officers with the help of members who attended with me.

The Grand Chapter of Maine will always be a special memory, as my youngest daughter, Jennifer, attended with me. It was her first Grand Chapter event, and she had a wonderful time. The session in North Dakota will also always be special, as it was the first

outing for Brother Mike, and we had a great time together. We were also fortunate to have PMWGM Pat Rasmusson with us.

Indiana truly outdid itself with the reception for Susie Roach, RWAGC—she is definitely off to the races. Of course, Arizona is always special, and they honored our Arizona officer, Sister Tori, or as some know her, “Fern.” It was truly a night of green. Kentucky honored our own Mike Berry, Most Worthy Grand Patron, with an evening at the Kentucky Derby Museum, which was a wonderful event.

The Grand Chapter of Rhode Island may be a small jurisdiction, but they certainly know how to host a party. I was joined there by my daughter Jill, and we enjoyed touring Newport, Rhode Island—it was a wonderful adventure.

Hawaii was the last official visit of the year. We attended five chapter meetings on three islands and had the opportunity to share this experience with 65 members.

Hawaii truly surprised us with their planning, and they were gracious and wonderful hosts.

This is only a small overview of the year. It

has been very busy, but I am so grateful for the opportunity to travel and meet our members.

Each Grand Chapter I visited has a story I would love to share—just ask.

I also attended the funeral services for two wonderful leaders we lost this past year: Brother Bill Owens in Oklahoma City and Sister Bobbie White in Charleston, West Virginia. Both gave so much to the Order of Eastern Star, and we are extremely proud of their service.

The year ahead holds more Grand Chapters to visit and more subordinate chapters to see, and I can hardly wait. I want to thank the membership for giving me this time and opportunity to share my love of the Order with all of you. I look forward to seeing you along the journey.

I would like to close with a thought that is very special to me: “Keep your dreams alive. All things are possible for those who Believe.”



## Billie presents 80-Year Pin to Sister Marvel Leader, PGM-Utah

On Jan. 24, 2026, Sister Billie Bradfield, MWGM, presented an 80-year membership pin to Sister Marvel Leader, PGM of Utah, at the Official Visit in Yuma, Arizona. In addition to being a PGM of Utah, Sister Marvel is a member of Yuma #14 in Arizona. Sister Marvel lived in Yuma in her youth, and also served as the first Honored Queen of the first Job's Daughters Bethel in Arizona, which was located in Yuma. She is still a very active member of Star.



# A Message from Mike...

It is hard to believe that we are over one year through our “Dream Imagine Believe” triennium. It has been wonderful to be back traveling throughout our Eastern Star world. Beginning in June, my itinerary took me to the Grand Chapters of North Dakota, Indiana, Nova Scotia/Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Arizona, New Hampshire, Kentucky, Ohio, Rhode Island and South Dakota. A visit to the Subordinate Chapters under the General Grand Chapter in Hawaii was a wonderful November experience in that tropical paradise. It also brought back many fond memories when I accompanied my mother there when she was a General Grand Chapter Appointed Officer 40 years ago.

I also represented General Grand Chapter at the 150th Anniversary Celebration of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts and the 100th Anniversary of Amarillo Chapter in Texas. Closer to home, I celebrated the 75th Anniversary of the Grand Assembly of Kentucky Rainbow and the 225th Annual

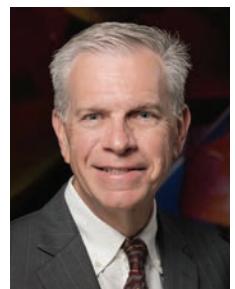
Communication of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F&AM. I was honored to join the Most Worthy Grand Matron in paying our respects at the Memorial Service for Past Most Worthy Grand Matron Bobbi White in Charleston, West Virginia. I attended the meetings of the Board of Right Worthy Grand Trustees in Washington, DC in May, August and December.

In my own Grand Jurisdiction of Kentucky, the Most Worthy Grand Matron and I were honored to be a part of the ceremony presenting the charter of Kentucky’s newest chapter, Charlotte Morris No. 585. Later that month, we were joined by the Worthy Grand Marshal, Debbie Dreier, and Susie Clark, Star Chaser, in laying a floral tribute at the grave of Clara Henrich, Past Most Worthy Grand Matron and Past Grand Matron of Kentucky on the 100th Anniversary of her Installation in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

In December, we welcomed the 2024-2027 General Grand Chapter Officers to the Inter-

national Headquarters in Washington, DC for a holiday party like no other. We viewed the musical “Elf” at a Maryland dinner theatre, toured the Scottish Rite House of the Temple, competed in an “Ugly Sweater” contest, decorated a Christmas tree in our pajamas and took a dinner cruise on the Potomac. A personal highlight for me was laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. It was a very special weekend with a very special family.

As we enter upon 2026, I am excited for the challenges ahead. Despite having to begin chemotherapy treatments once again, I know that the prayers of my Eastern Star Sisters



Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons at the 150th Anniversary Celebration of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.



A visit to Hawaii took place in November of 2025.



100th Anniversary of Amarillo Chapter in Texas

and Brothers will sustain me and that our Heavenly Father will continue to hold me tight in his loving arms. Please continue to support the wonderful objectives of our Order – especially Historical Landmarks, Alzheimer's and the Cancer project. When we work together, we are truly #OESStrong.

Keep Dreaming!

Mike

MWGP



General Grand Chapter Officers celebrate Christmas at the Perry Belmont House, pajama-style.



Charter presentation of Kentucky's newest chapter, Charlotte Morris #585



Sister Billie and Brother Mike placed a Star Wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.



Billie, Susie Clark, Star Chaser; Debbie Dreier, Worthy Grand Marshal and Mike laid a floral tribute on the Grave of Clara Henrich, Past Most Worthy Grand Matron, PGM of Kentucky, on the 100th Anniversary of her Installation.

# Who's Who 2024-2027 Book Changes

For your convenience, you can print out this page and paste these replacements in the book.

## Right Worthy Grand Secretary

Please replace Charlie Chandler on Page 8



### Kelly L. O'Malley

#### Right Worthy Grand Secretary

Past Grand Matron - Virginia

1618 New Hampshire Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20009

Email: [rwgsecretary@easternstar.org](mailto:rwgsecretary@easternstar.org)

Phone: 202-667-4737 Cell: 540-226-6493

Birthday: Feb. 14

## General Grand Chapter Committee Members

**Page 42** - Celebrations in D.C. Committee

Please add: Deanna Gillis - Past Grand Matron - Rhode Island



### Deanna "Dee" Gillis

Past Grand Matron - Rhode Island  
2 Davis Street  
West Warwick, RI 02893  
Email: [gillisdeanna@gmail.com](mailto:gillisdeanna@gmail.com)  
Cell: 401-545-2769  
Birthday: November 19  
Spouse: Bill

**Page 47** - Community Service Committee

Please remove: Bruce D. Thomas - Past Grand Patron - Iowa (Deceased)

## Deputies of the MWGM/MWGP:

**Page 100:**

Please remove: Jose' de Arribamar Pires Barroso - Deputy for MWGP for Brazil, Bahia & Northeast

Please add:

### Walter Noronha

#### Deputy for MWGP for Brazil, Bahia & Northeast

Email: [walter@waltercon.com.br](mailto:walter@waltercon.com.br)

**Page 105** - Please remove Corazon F. Tandoc - Deputy for MWGM for Philippines

**Page 105** - Please remove: Jose S. Redor "Joey" - Deputy for MWGP for Philippines

**Page 106** - Please remove: Fe Abarquez Suaco - MWGM & MWGP Liaison for Philippines

## Star Chasers Special Appointment of the MWGM/MWGP

Page 116 - Please remove:

Clarence J. Phillips - Past Grand Patron - Kentucky (Deceased)

Please add: Susie Clark



### Susie Clark

#### Past Matron - Kentucky

2036 New Linden Road

Newport, KY 41071

Email: [margaret.clark@fi optics.com](mailto:margaret.clark@fi optics.com)

Phone: 859-291-8910

Cell: 513-218-8026

# In Memoriam

## Bobbi White Most Worthy Grand Matron 2015-2018

### Past Grand Matron of West Virginia



On September 6, 2025, The Eastern Star World was saddened by the news that Sister Barbara

“Bobbi” Browning White, beloved and respected Past Most Worthy Grand Matron of the General Grand Chapter, was called to her Heavenly Home by a loving and compassionate God.

Barbara, better known as “Bobbi” to her family and friends, was born in Clendenin, West Virginia. She graduated from Clendenin High School with honors, and then received a Bachelor of Science degree from West Virginia State College.

Following her college education, she completed a year of Dietetic Internship at Cincinnati General Hospital and became a member of the American Dietetic Association.

In 1961, she married James Edward White, and were the proud parents of three children, and grandparents of several grandchildren.

Sister Bobbi began her fraternal relationships when she was initiated into Clendenin Assembly, Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and then became a member of Thelma Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, in Clendenin. She

served as Grand Adah in 1972, and then was installed as the Worthy Grand Matron of West Virginia in 1980.

Always generous with her time and talents, Sister Bobbi was also active with several community and fraternal groups, including Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, White Shrine of Jerusalem, and the Woman’s Club.

Sister Bobbi attended numerous General Grand Chapter Assemblies in various appointed positions, including Worthy Grand Marshal, 1994-1997, for MWGM Maxine Flint Justice and MWGP Robert L. Baker. She was elected Right Worthy Grand Trustee for the 1997-2000 triennium. In 2003, she was elected to the honorable station of Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress; and in 2012, she was installed as Most Worthy Grand Matron of the General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. Brother John E. Grobler, Past Grand Patron of Washington, served with her as Most Worthy Grand Patron during the Hope for Tomorrow Assembly in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 2015. The General Grand Chapter extends loving sympathy to the Family and Sorrowing Friends.

### What a Wonderful World

“I see trees of green  
Red roses too  
I see them bloom  
For me and you  
And I think to myself  
What a wonderful world  
I see skies of blue  
And clouds of white  
The bright blessed day  
The dark sacred night  
And I think to myself  
What a wonderful world”

*Written by Bob Thiele  
and George David Weiss*



Submitted by Billie Bradfield, MWGM & Mike Berry, MWGP

## IN MEMORIAM



# William Owen Most Worthy Grand Patron 2006-2009 Past Grand Patron of Oklahoma

William Edward "Bill" Owen was born on August 20, 1933, to Edmond F. and Willie J. Thomason Owen in Jacksboro, Texas, the eighth child and first son of a family of eleven and passed from this life July 19, 2025, at the age of 91. Bill moved to Oklahoma City at the age of eleven. He served in the U.S. Army for four years, serving overseas in Japan and Korea during the Korean conflict.

Bill was a Certified Public Accountant and obtained a Juris Doctorate Degree from Oklahoma City University in 1965. He opened the accounting firm of Owen & Thorpe in 1966.

Bill was very active in the Masonic Fraternity, serving as Grand Master, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Oklahoma in 2005. He served as Most Worthy Grand Patron, General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, with Sister Barbara Benton in 2006-2009.

He also enjoyed fishing trips to Cree Lake in Canada with the same group of friends each Summer. Bill had a deep appreciation of Native American artwork which led to an impressive collection. He also did documentaries of five Native American artists.

Bill is survived by his loving wife, Doris, his daughters, Cheryl Hill, Kathy Male (Bill), Becky Vissage (John), and Debra Hough (Rod), stepdaughters, Leigh Anne Gleghorn (Mike), Patti Kimmerly, Jennifer French (Jason), and stepson, Dennis O-Malley (Martine).

Bill was also proud grandfather to Paul Purcupile (Christi), Leila Holland (Joel), Laura Scott (Matt), Ashley Kazeck (Andy), Nick Shell, Jessica Male (Ray), Kara Boes (Brian), Emily Johnson, Lindsey Lawson (Gabe), Casey Blile (Aaron), Jake Kimmerly (Sylvie), Julia French, Noah French (Skylar),

Evan French, Emma O'Malley, and Ethan O'Malley. He was also survived by his sisters, Peggy Owen and Mary Garbett, and a brother, Johnny Owen.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Evelina, his son, James Owen and his sisters, Inez Tarrant, Irene Lewis, Wilma Marley, Mildred "Micky" Roberts, Ruby Jager, Ollie Jelinek, and Betty Buck.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to the many friends and caregivers who provided ongoing support, kindness, and companionship throughout Bill's final months and years. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that donations be made in Bill's honor to the William E. Owen and Doris E. Owen Rainbow Scholarship fund, 1415 N. Walnut Street, Guthrie, Oklahoma, 73044.

# Sister Billie Bradfield receives her 60-Year Pin

## Brother Mike Berry travels to Arizona to present her pin

A fun Friendship Night meeting was held at Sunrise Chapter #60 in Bullhead City, Arizona on Jan. 13, 2026. Members travelled from all over Arizona, and the country, to be there. The highlight was the presentation of a 60-year membership pin to our Most Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Billie Bradfield.

Sister Billie was originally initiated in the 1960s into what was then Long Beach Chapter #511 in Long Beach, California. After

Billie and her late husband Bob moved to Arizona, she affiliated with Sunrise Chapter #60.

Brother Mike Berry, MWGP, attended, with several Kentucky members in tow, to present Billie with her pin.

There were members from Arizona, Kentucky, Nevada, California and Montana present to enjoy a mermaid-themed meeting. Hawaiian clothing was the dress for the day.



Sisters Debbie Drier, Worthy Grand Marshal; Barbie Holmes, Right Worthy Grand Conduress; Billie Bradfield, Most Worthy Grand Matron; Brother Mike Berry, MWGP and Sister Tori Loll, Worthy Grand Martha were present.



Arizona's Worthy Grand Matron Sister Donna DiCola and Worthy Grand Patron Brother Gil Marriott were at the celebration along with Sister Billie and Brother Mike.



Billie and Mike looked awesome in matching Hawaiian outfits!



The General Grand Chapter officers present gave Sister Billie a bouquet of flowers after she was honored.



Above: Quite a few General Grand Chapter committee members, special appointments and Star Chasers are present to honor Sister Billie.

Left: Billie's daughter, Sister Jill Apolin, made the trip from California to be at this special event for her mom.

## Join the fun on a GGC Service Dog Cruise to Alaska

Mark May 1st through 8th, 2027 on your calendars to join General Grand Chapter in Alaska for a Service Dog Cruise of a lifetime.

Space is limited, so reserve your spot now!  
All you have to do is contact:

### Mr. Garrett Snowbeck

All World Travel  
20551 N Pima Rd Suite 200  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255  
480-585-2848

Join us in making lasting memories together, If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Debbie Tanner, GGC General Chairman of Service Dogs  
[gcservicedogs@yahoo.com](mailto:gcservicedogs@yahoo.com)

### OPTIONAL EXTRAS:

#### Princess Plus Package Includes:

- \$65.00 Per Person, Per Day
- 15 Drinks per day (up to \$15 each)
- 4 Casual Dining Meals Per Guest
- Ocean Now Delivery Fee Waived
- Room Service Delivery Included
- 1 Wift Device Per Guest
- Crew Appreciation Included

#### Princess Premier Package Includes:

- \$100.00 Per Person, Per Day
- Unlimited Drinks per day (up to \$20 each)
- Unlimited Casual Dining Meals
- Unlimited Specialty Dining Meals
- OceanNow Delivery Fee Waived
- Room Service Delivery Included
- 4 Wifi Device Per Guest
- Crew Appreciation Included
- Shore Excursion Credit of up to \$300.00 Per Guest
- Professional Photos Included
- Reserved Theater Seating Included

#### Wifi Package Options:

- 1 Device: \$24.99 Approx Total Per Person, Per Day
- Up to 4 Devices: \$44.99 Approx Total Per Person, Per Day

#### Gratuities:

- \$17.00 Approx Total Per Person, Per Day

#### Princess Standard Vacation Protection:

- \$241.00 Approx Total Per Person

#### Transfer Pricing

- \$88.00 Approx Total Per Person, Roundtrip

#### Pre-Stay - Hotel Options:

- Pending; pricing available 180 days prior to sailing

#### Airfare:

- Guests booking on own
- All World Travel is happy to help if preferred

#### Shore Excursions:

- Available to book approx.180 days prior to sailing



# GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER SERVICE DOG CRUISE TO ALASKA

## PRINCESS CRUISES: 7-DAY INSIDE PASSAGE WITH GLACIER BAY NATIONAL PARK, ROUND-TRIP SEATTLE!

**Dates: May 1-8, 2027**

**Ports: Seattle, Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan, Victoria**

### Pricing Information:

#### **Interior Cabin: Category IB**

- Double Occupancy: \$1,449.00 Total Per-Person, Cruise Only
- Single Occupancy: \$2,499.00 Total Per-Person, Cruise Only

#### **Balcony Cabin: Category BC**

- Double Occupancy: \$2,159.00 Total Per-Person, Cruise Only
- Single Occupancy: \$3,919.00 Total Per-Person, Cruise Only

#### **Balcony Cabin: Category BB**

- Double Occupancy: \$2,169.00 Total Per-Person, Cruise Only
- Single Occupancy: \$3,939.00 Total Per-Person, Cruise Only

Let's Go Cruising!

Making Lasting  
Memories  
Together!

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To Reserve Contact:  
**All World Travel**  
**Garrett Snowbeck**  
**(480) 585-2848**  
**garrett@awtaz.com**

**Debbie Tanner, GGC**  
**General Chairman,**  
**Service Dogs**  
**ggcsevicedogs@yahoo.com**



# Eastern Star ranks 4th in top new teams leading in the fight against Alzheimer's

Good afternoon Billie, Michael, and Ellen,

As we reflect on this incredible season, I want to thank each of you for your unwavering commitment to The Longest Day. Your tireless efforts—raising funds, spreading awareness, and building support—have been nothing short of extraordinary in your first year as a National Team. You even have large support for our Walk to End Alzheimer's events.

Every event that was hosted, every conversation that was sparked, and every hour you gave has helped bring us closer to a world without Alzheimer's. Your passion and commitment have touched countless lives. I'm proud to stand beside you, and I'm excited for what we'll achieve together in the year ahead by doing what we love to End ALZ.

With heartfelt gratitude,  
Lynda

Billie, Michael, and Ellen, Lynda and I want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your fantastic partnership and the incredible dedication your team demonstrated during the 2025 The Longest Day campaign! Together, National Teams have achieved something remarkable—over \$3.6 million raised for a cause that touches many lives.

We are grateful for the Order of the Eastern Star's leadership in fostering a culture of giving that empowers your members to make a lasting impact. Your dedication to supporting the Alzheimer's Association and our mission is truly inspiring, and we need champions like you now more than ever.

We are excited to share that the 2025 The Longest Day National Team reports are finalized, and your 7 teams have raised an incredible \$74,793 for The Longest Day!

Attached are your final reports.

We are preparing letters of appreciation to recognize your leadership efforts and to express our gratitude to your executive

leadership team. To ensure that the appropriate individuals receive these letters, please reply to this email with the names and addresses of those you would like to acknowledge.

Now it's time to Do What You Love!

We could not be more excited that the "Do What You Love to End ALZ" website is live and you can find your National Team page at [alz.org/easternstar](http://alz.org/easternstar)! Your vanity URL and QR code (attached) have already been adapted for the new campaign brand.

We'll contact you shortly to set up planning meetings for the 2026 National Team Program. We can't wait to continue this wonderful partnership and celebrate even more successes together!

Together, we will ENDALZ,  
Melissa LaBonge and Lynda Collins

## NATIONAL TEAMS LEADING IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ALZHEIMER'S!

### TOP 2025 FUNDRAISING TEAMS

National Teams	2025 Current Impact
1. Edward Jones	\$2,618,022
2. American Contract Bridge League	\$1,233,792
3. Brookdale Senior Living	\$998,241
4. Sigma Kappa	\$650,909
5. Senior Star	\$554,042
6. American Seniors Housing Assoc.	\$481,596
7. ADRAG - Alzheimer's Dementia	\$410,860
Rotary Action Group	
8. Alpha Delta Kappa	\$323,623
9. Life Care Services	\$314,011
10. Charter Senior Living	\$259,083

### NEW NATIONAL TEAMS LEADING IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ALZHEIMER'S!

### TOP 2025 NEW TEAMS

National Teams	2025 Current Impact
1. TMC - Therapy Management	\$157,849
2. Touchmark Senior Living	\$126,360
3. Gardant Management	\$75,541
4. Order of the Eastern Star	\$74,793
5. Cogir	\$61,349
6. QTS Data Centers	\$51,780
7. Cedarhurst	\$50,857
8. Deloitte	\$47,059
9. Interim Healthcare	\$35,709
10. Senior Helpers	\$31,337





# FUN IN THE SUN



**February 9, 2026 - Day 3 (Sea Day)**  
Time to be Announced

## Caribbean O.E.S. Cruise Onboard Celebrity Silhouette

**Awareness Walk on Deck 14 (Meet at the Mast Bar)**  
**The challenge is to move and to think,**  
**the mind we save may be our own...**

Believe Pins Available \$20 - contact Linda Hattrick  
[rabbit3@msmforless.com](mailto:rabbit3@msmforless.com) -or- (928)323-4918

T-Shirts Available \$20 - contact Madeline Weidner  
[alzgacm@gmail.com](mailto:alzgacm@gmail.com) -or- (518)563-6890



***Making waves for Alzheimer's Awareness. No sponsorships required.***

Those who wish to order must pre-purchase their items. If Stateroom # is provided they can be delivered.  
Purchase of Believe Pins supports the Lou Ruvo Brian Center Cleveland Clinic, Las Vegas Campus Alzheimer's.  
Purchase of T-Shirts supports the Alzheimer's Association.

# Official Visit of MWGM & MWGP to International Peace Garden Chapel set for Aug. 14-16, 2026



## In the Peace Gardens

11– Eastern Star Peace Chapel  
West end of formal garden loop  
Restrooms and parking located nearby

21– ND OES Overlook Shelter  
West end of the southern loop  
Restrooms available

8– Sunken Garden  
Within the formal gardens

25– Historic Lodge  
South Loop

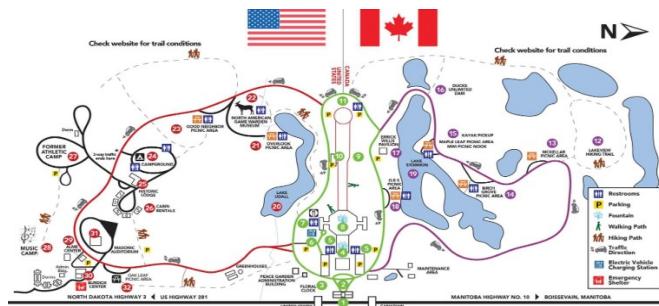
31– Masonic Auditorium  
South end of south loop

18– MB, SK OES Picnic Area  
North end of formal garden loop  
Restrooms available

3– Floral Clock  
Just south of main entrance

9– Carillon Bell Tower  
Within the formal garden loop

7– Conservatory & Interpretive Centre  
Gift Shop



## REMINDER:

Bring proper ID.

You do not need to show ID to enter the Garden,  
But you are required to show ID when exiting at customs.

## Minot Area Transportation

**Minot International Airport | MOT**  
motaairport.com  
305 Airport Road, Minot, ND 58701  
701-857-4724

**TransportMe Taxi Services**  
701-310-5340  
info@tranxportme.com

**Rental Cars**  
Alamo  
Alamo.com  
Enterprise  
Enterprise.com  
National  
Nationalcar.com

Avis  
Avis.com  
Hertz  
Hertz.com

## Hotels

**Grand Oasis**  
1505 North Broadway, Minot  
866-238-4218

**Hampton Inn & Suites**  
1400 N Broadway, Minot  
701-838-1400

**Quality Inn & Suites**  
3916 N Broadway, Minot  
701-390-1820

## Things To Do



Stave Church at the Scandinavian Heritage Park

**Scandinavian Heritage Park**  
120 S Broadway, Minot

**Roosevelt Park Zoo**  
1219 E Burdick Expressway, Minot

**Dakota Territory Air Museum**  
100 34th Ave NE, Minot

## Minot Restaurants

Ebeneezer's Eatery 300 E Central Ave  
10 North Main 10 Main St N  
The Starving Rooster 30 1st St NE  
Iron Horse 21 E Central Ave

Off the Vine 15 Main St S  
Bones BBQ 437 N Broadway  
The Station 1303 S Broadway  
Badlands Grill 1400 31st Ave SW

## Bottineau Hotels

**Cobblestone Inn & Suites**  
1109 11th St E, Bottineau  
701-534-2121

**Super 8**  
1007 11th St E, Bottineau  
701-228-2125

## Things To Do

**Tommy Turtle Park**  
1001 10th St E, Bottineau



**Lake Metigoshe State Park**  
2514 2nd St E, Bottineau

**Masonic Island on Lake Metigoshe**

## Bottineau Area Restaurants

Marie's 605 Main Street, Bottineau  
Pride Dairy 517 Thompson St, Bottineau  
Doghouse Saloon 507 Main St, Bottineau  
Norway Steakhouse 815 11th St E, Bottineau

Reid's Place 211 Main St, Dunseith  
Dale's Truck Stop 612 Main St, Dunseith  
Borderwalk Café 612 Main St, Dunseith



# Exciting happenings as Italian chapters meet in Naples

Subordinate Chapters under General Grand Chapter met in Naples, Italy on Saturday, January 24, 2026. After an instructional session conducted by the Deputies of the Most Worthy Grand Matron and Patron (Rosalba Maneri, Rosy Guastafierro, Giuseppe Labita), new charters were presented to several of the chapters and a formal meeting was held. We are excited that the M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Italy was present and announced that our subordinate chapters in Italy were once again permitted to meet in Masonic lodge hall.

After an instructional session conducted by the Deputies of the Most Worthy Grand Matron and Patron (Rosalba Maneri, Rosy Guastafierro, Giuseppe Labita), new charters were presented to several of the chapters and a formal meeting was held. We are excited that the M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Italy was present and announced that our subordinate chapters in Italy were once again permitted to meet in Masonic lodge halls.



The Most Worshipful Grand Master of Italy speaks at the Installation of Officers of Mediterranean Chapter #1 in Naples, the first meeting held in a Masonic hall after the ban was lifted.



# Florida chapter honors beloved members



On July 10, 2025, Cocoa Chapter No. 35 (Florida) held a dinner hosted by Susan Metcalf, Grand Adah and Worthy Matron; Denise Tyson, Past Matron; and Jane Wedekind, Past Matron, to honor their beloved Past Grand Patron, Paul Main, and his wife, Mary Alice Main, Past Grand Esther. The Mains have both served the chapter and Florida Grand Chapter for many many years in a variety of capacities. A lovely tribute was read and the Mains were presented with a beautifully framed and very meaningful poem. The many sisters and brothers who were in attendance also presented the Mains with cards and gifts.



## Amory Chapter #41 aids local high school bands

By Robin Nivens, Treasurer  
Amory Chapter #41, Amory, MS

The members of Amory Chapter # 41 provided assistance to the local high school bands battling the awful temperatures by donating cases of bottled water.

The Monroe County School bands spent their summer days practicing in the heat daily and the band directors, parents and students were greatly appreciative of the donations.

The members of the chapter understood the need for water to help deal with the temperatures. Bottled water was delivered to Aberdeen, Hamilton, Hatley and Smithville County Schools.



## Tennessee chapter donates Project Linus blankets



# Meet our leaders ...

## Right Worthy Grand Conductress Sister Barbara Ann Holmes, PGM-NV

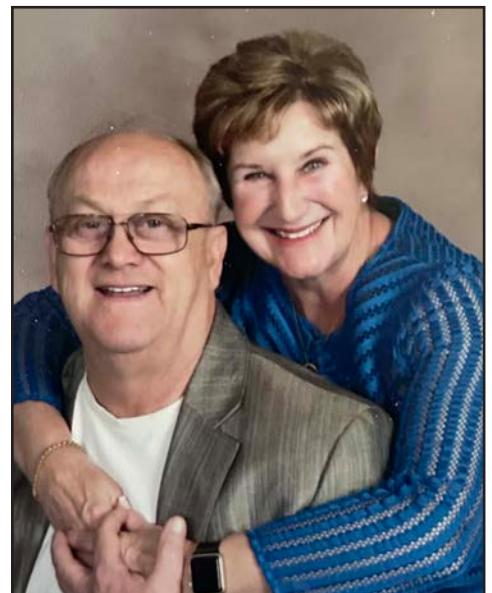
Barbara Ann Krajkoski Holmes, known as "Barbie", was installed as our Right Worthy Grand Conductress in Myrtle Beach at this most recent Triennium. An only child, Barbara Ann was born and raised in Evansville, Indiana, a town located on the Ohio River across from the state of Kentucky. She belonged to both Rainbow Girls and Job's Daughters and played the flute (and piccolo) for several musical groups. Now a 61-year member of the Order, she was initiated into Robert Morris Chapter #87 in Evansville while serving as Honored Queen of her Job's Daughters Bethel.

As a young girl, she always envisioned herself being a teacher, so off to Indiana State University she went on a music scholarship for her beloved flute. She discovered sorority life and joined Chi Omega. Leadership 'found' her and by the time she graduated with her bachelor's degree she had served as President of four organizations, was honored

as "Miss Page One" and received the honor of being named "Outstanding Senior Woman Class of 1968", one of two women chosen. During that senior year, she also served as Grand Bethel Honored Queen of Indiana Job's Daughters. Her goal was to visit all 100+ Bethels in Indiana . . . and she almost made it, just shy of her goal.

Barbie was awarded a fellowship to continue her studies at Indiana State where she completed her Master's Degree in Education in 1969. That led to her employment as a Residence Hall Director at Indiana State for the next four years.

It was at the university that she met her future husband, David Holmes. They married in 1971 and a few short years later, moved to Salt Lake City, Utah, for David to pursue a Doctor's degree while Barbara Ann accepted the position of Director of Residence Halls for the University of Utah. Then in 1976, the couple moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, for her husband to take a teaching position at the University of Nevada (UNLV), a fairly new university. Barbie agreed to the move with the understanding that it would be a short duration because she didn't want to raise a family in 'sin city.' Well, they both quickly found that life in the Las Vegas valley was delightful. With the exception of about two months in the summer, the weather was fabulous. They found a fantastic church and Barbara Ann reconnected with Eastern Star. The city had a small town feel during those early years. Barbara Ann accepted an analyst position at the Nevada Department of Education which led her to a position teaching computers in a middle school (think Commodore 64s and Apple IIe). She advanced to administrative positions in the Clark County School District, the fifth largest school district in the United States, and was elected Secretary of the Administrative and Professional Technical Employees organization and termed out after six years. She topped out as Principal of a career technical high school of 2300 students and 110 staff members, retiring in 2006 after 37 years working in Education.



Barbie and her husband, Russ Askland.

In 1981, Barbara Ann and David (both only children) welcomed their daughter, Susan Ann Sky, the delight of their lives. A short year later, they learned Susie had Gaucher's Disease, a very rare and fatal disease that eventually led to over 23 surgeries. Despite her challenges, Susie was a delightful child with an infectious smile. She served as Honored Queen of her Job's Daughters Bethel and as Sweetheart of two different DeMolay Chapters. During these years, Barbara served as Council member, Bethel Guardian, and as Assisting Supreme Deputy along with serving as Susie's personal driver. In 1999, Susan Ann was selected Supreme Bethel Honored Queen of Job's Daughters and traveled 'the world' pulling her 45 lb oxygen cart behind her. Her health that year was stable, so it was a shock when she passed away near the end of her term. She was 19 years old.

Barbara Ann relied heavily upon her Eastern Star family in the time after Susie's death. She affiliated with Sunrise Chapter 28 in Henderson, Nevada, and quickly began a trip up the line. After serving as Worthy Matron, she served in six different offices and then nine years as Chapter Secretary. It was her honor to serve as Grand Representative of Bolivia in Nevada and Grand Representative of Indiana



Barbie was installed Worthy Grand Matron of Nevada in 2010, along with Worthy Grand Patron, Jay Dini.

in Nevada. In 2004, she was thrilled to serve as Grand Chaplain for Nevada's 100th year for WGM Judy Raiche and WGP Rick Tanner. Two years later she was elected to the Grand Chapter north and served as WGM of Nevada in 2010-2011 with Brother Jay Dini as her WGP. She and Jay, and his wife Kathy, developed a true friendship that continues today.

Her service to General Grand Chapter began in 2006 serving as a Triennial Assembly Page and as an Assistant to the Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress in 2009. In 2012, she was appointed as a member of the GGC Membership Committee, a position she just 'loved.' In 2018, she was appointed as Ambassador to Aruba and was able to visit two times before covid turned the world upside down.

In 2013, her husband of 43 years was diagnosed with Lewey Bodies Disease. Life became very different from those days forward. A terrible and debilitating disease, David passed away near the end of 2014. Again, Barbie's Eastern Star Sisters and Brothers were there for her during those many difficult days. They truly were the family she lacked.

In 2016, Barbie turned to the internet (yes, the internet) to possibly find a gentleman who might like to 'go out to dinner.' Well, she found Russell Askland (or he found her, as

he claims). They were married in 2017 with Jay Dini walking her down the aisle. Russ traveled with Barbie those early years but was unable to attend meetings since he wasn't a member. So, he joined a Lodge and then Sunrise Chapter and enjoys traveling with her still today. Barbie says that he's the best TLC ever (tug, lug, and carry).

Today Barbie is currently serving as Right Worthy Grand Conductress. She says that she thoroughly enjoyed serving three years as Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress. She continues to be impressed by the leadership of our Order – she says they are so talented and dedicated.

Her goal that first triennium was to find a partner to accompany her on the journey to the General Grand Chapter East. Brother Michael Cornell, PGP of California and his wife Norma, agreed to serve with her and they are beginning their plans for the 2033 Triennial Assembly. Their support clubs, the Gems of Nevada and the California Miners, have been formed, and their fundraising efforts are underway. Do you want to be a member of their clubs? Just purchase a Gems and/or Miners' pin. Everyone is welcome!

As we look ahead, Barbara Ann says that she is filled with enthusiasm and optimism for our Order. She encourages YOU to join us



Barbie served as Grand Bethel Honored Queen of Indiana in 1968.

and become involved – whether by volunteering, suggesting new ideas, or just showing up with a smile and your fantastic energy. If you've not met her yet, please be sure to seek her out and say, 'Hi.' She looks forward to seeing YOU along the OES Trail!



Barbie, along with her parent, at her installation as Honored Queen of Bethel 26, Evansville, Indiana, 1964



Barbie, along with Michael Cornell, PGP of California, in Henderson, Nevada at Sunrise #28. This was the night she revealed he was her selection to advance to the General Grand East with her.

# Delaware chapter helps purchase van for disabled resident

**Submitted by Nancy K. Davis, PM**  
Georgetown # 9, Georgetown, DE

He was born March 5, 1999, severely premature at only 24 weeks gestation. He weighed only a pound and a half (24 ounces) and was only 12 inches long. Ryan "Hot-wheelz" Passwaters was not due until June 22. Permission was given by Ryan's parents for Georgetown Chapter No. 9 to write this article for publication.

At birth, Ryan's head got stuck resulting in two (2) brain bleeds, a grade 3 and grade 4. These brain bleeds ultimately led to his diagnosis of Cerebral Palsy. Ryan was transferred to A I Dupont Children's Hospital where he underwent surgery to have a trach. His airway was just too narrow to survive without an artificial airway. He spent 228 days (almost 8 months) in NICU/PICU between Christiana and A I Dupont hospitals. When Ryan was discharged to his home on October 19, 1999, it was by ambulance because he arrived home with a trach and he was on a ventilator.

A year later, Ryan was scheduled to have airway reconstructive surgery using his own rib cartilage to enlarge his airway. October 31, 2000, after lying in a medically induced paralytic state, he had his trach pulled out and he was breathing on his own without an artificial airway. Ryan is now 26. He had a total of

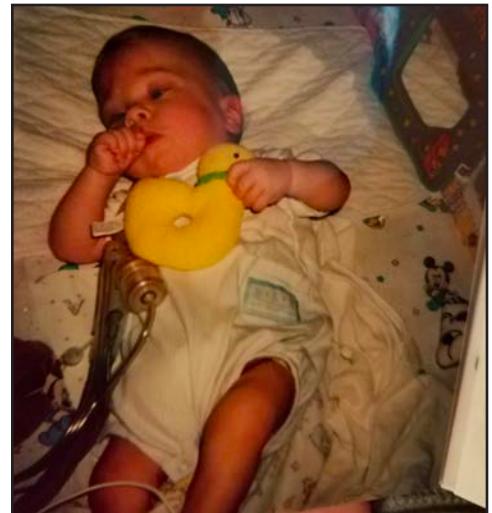
17 surgeries in his childhood years.

Ryan has multiple medical diagnoses: Cerebral Palsy (the main reason he will be in a wheelchair for the rest of his life), moderate Autism, ADHD, OCD, Epilepsy, Asthma, Kyphoscoliosis (with Spinal Fusion to repair it).

In 2014 after Ryan's spinal fusion, the family had to decide what to do regarding his fulltime caregiver. His maternal grandparents were helping with his care before and after school and taking him to and from school each day, but age was making it difficult to lift him and get his wheelchair into the vehicle. The decision was made for his mother to quit her job and be a full-time stay-at-home mom and full-time caregiver.

His Mom and Dad were also getting older; it was difficult lifting Ryan and his wheelchair in and out of the vehicle. Back, hips and shoulders could not be relied on to do the job. With Ryan growing up and his wheelchair weighing 75 to 80 pounds. It became a two-person job getting Ryan in and out of the vehicle.

Ryan loves to play the WII and bowling is his favorite game on it. He has had a perfect 330 score several times. He is a huge NASCR



and NHRA fan, and he loves to watch baseball and football on TV as well as bowling, cornhole tournaments, storage wars and multiple game shows.

Our Worthy Matron, Jennifer Esham-Bradish presented all the challenges which Ryan and his parents face and Ryan's need. The Chapter voted unanimously to donate \$1,000 toward the purchase of a van with a lift for Ryan's wheelchair to enable Ryan to attend various activities. At the same time, our brothers in Franklin Lodge No. 12 A.F. & A.M. also donated \$1,000 toward this purchase. The members of Georgetown Chapter No. 9 and Franklin Lodge are extremely happy to help a young man in need in our community.





## New Mexico chapter awards "Quilts of Valor" to veterans.

**Submitted by Marjorie Stockton, PM**  
Alamo #11, Alamogordo, NM

An event at Alamo #11, Alamogordo, New Mexico is one that is important in so many ways. It is awarding quilts to our Veterans and active Military people. It is through the Quilts of Valor Foundation (QOVF). The quilts were made by WM Marjorie Stockton, A QOVF member. Each is a different pattern but always the colors are red, white, and blue.

For those that have not heard of this organization, these quilts are awards and not

gifts. They represent a "warm hug" for their service and sacrifice for serving our Country. The recipient is only allowed to receive one of these quilts in their lifetime. As per the QOVF guidelines, there is a small ceremony that is required when these quilts are presented. One of the requirements is that the recipient be wrapped in the quilt while the presentation is being conducted. Since 2003, the Foundation has awarded over 400,000 quilts to Veterans and active Military service people through the efforts of nationwide volunteers.

There is a website for the Quilts of Valor Foundations for those who would like to learn more about this organization.

In November, 2024, Alamo #11 awarded quilts to PGP Mike Beckett, Leif Molander, and Larry Eakin. In January, 2025, PGP and WP B. Jesse James was awarded his quilt. Pictures shown also include the WM Marjorie.

These recipients were very pleased with their quilts and the presentations were quite an emotional event for all. There are more quilts to be awarded at future dates.

## WFIRM names facility after General Grand Chapter

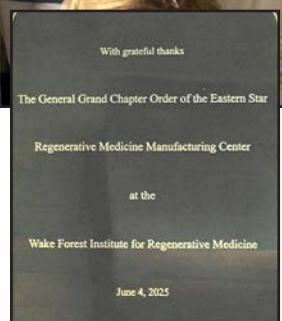
A historical event took place on June 4, 2025. The Order of the Eastern Star was honored by the Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine (WFIRM) when they named their new manufacturing facility "The General Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star Regenerative Medicine Manufacturing Center". We believe that this is the first facility to be named for the Order of the Eastern Star.

In his dedication speech, the Director of the center, Dr. Anthony Atala thanked the Order of the Eastern Star for all of its contributions. He explained that our contributions fund the research that is required to provide the statistics required to obtain grants. Those grants would be impossible to obtain without viable proof that the research would help to find cures for many currently incurable conditions.

He also expressed his gratitude for our late Past Most Worthy Grand Matron, Helen Westmoreland for initiating the General Grand Chapter Committee for Regenerative Medicine and for Billie Bradfield, Most Worthy Grand Matron and Glenda Winchester, Past Most Worthy Grand Matron for continuing to support this very important work.



Several members, including Glenda Winchester, PMWGM; Peg Reiterman, Past Chairman of the Regenerative Medicine Committee; Scott Riddle, Chairman of the Regenerative Medicine Committee and Charlie Jones, Past Committee member attended the ceremony.





The Grand Officers of Ontario performed degrees on one new member at the 100th birthday celebration of Edgemount Chapter 127. Front Row L-R: DDGM Sis Marjorie Demerchant, WGM Sis Barbara McGregor, WM Sis Kelly Mackey, WP Bro Garth Powell, WGP Bro Richard Arding. Back Row L-R: Grand Chaplain Bro Rick Carmichael, Associate Grand Conductress Sis. Debra Beachamp, Grand Organist Bro Bill Gibson, Grand Secretary Sis Lillian Gohn, Grand Treasurer Sis Marilyn Taylor, Grand Electa Sis Rosemary Delahey, Grand Sentinel Bro Anson Sinanan, Grand Esther Sis Judi Gough, Grand Ruth Sis Linda Murray, Grand Adah Sis Lola Bowen, Associate Grand Matron Sis Dawn Forbes, Associate Grand Patron Bro Jim McGregor, Grand Conductress Sis Melissa Brown.

## Ontario chapter celebrates 100 year anniversary

**Submitted by Kelly Mackey, WM 2024-2025**  
Edgemount #127, Edgemount, ON

From September 2024 to June 2025 Edgemount Chapter 127 members celebrated its 100th year.

The members went to lunch and the WGM and WGP presented a Bible marker, all members signed a quilt square, the chapter did a

FNHF presentation, donated to cheque Halton Food for Kids, donated 10 large boxes of clothing and a cheque to the Compassion Society, had a Grand Representative appointment, celebrated a 40 year member and a 45 year member, affiliated one member, and in June the Grand officers performed the degrees for a brand new member.

And the final hooray we drew for the quilt celebrating our members and Charter members.

It was a wonderful year for Edgemount Chapter.



Worthy Grand Patron, Bro Richard Arding, Worthy Patron Bro Garth Powell, Worthy Matron Sis Kelly Mackey, Worthy Grand Matron Sis Barbara McGregor present a commemorative 100 Year Bible Marker to the Chapter.

Quilt made by Worthy Matron Kelly Mackey Celebrating 100 years Centre lists all Charter members and white squares signed by present members of Edgemount Chapter 127. This was raffled off to members and the Winner was Sis Alice Ferrenden.





## Louisiana chapter/ lodge team up to assist local parents

**Submitted by DeLores Woods, WM**  
Sunset Star #277, Baton Rouge, LA

Early in this year the members of Sunset Star #227 participated with our brothers at Sunset Lodge #438 in Shreveport to gather baby items and items for the single mothers at the Heart of Hope home in Keithville, Louisiana.



The Residential program offers access to educational and vocational training programs, independent living skills, and opportunities for spiritual renewal. All parenting options are supported: single parenting, marriage and adoption. At the homes banquet, we were in awe of the stories these young ladies shared with us about their journey and how their lives had been changed because of the environment at the Heart of Hope home. Some brought us to tears.

Continuing their education was an important part of the help they received. The banquet was held to help them financially. We were the ones blessed by their stories and achievements. Please check out their site to see all of the amazing things they offer our young women at [heartofhopeministry.org](http://heartofhopeministry.org).

## Saskatchewan sister act

**Submitted by Saskatoon Chapter #4**  
Saskatoon, SK

For the first time, we have biological sisters following each other on our Chapter line. This puts a new meaning into the word "Sister" and is something that not too many Chapters can boast.

Each of these sisters have had experience being Worthy Matrons for our Chapter previously. This is the first time that sisters have followed sisters up the line. Worthy Matron, Sister Patricia (Wilson) Meddins is a sister to Sister Carole-Anne Wilson, Associate Matron. Sister Anita (Haroldson) Ingram, Conductress, is a sister to Phyllis (Haroldson) Byers, Associate Conductress.

This picture was taken by Sister Bev Otsuka PGM when we were all together as a Chapter for a BBQ Social event.

## Fun, fellowship and food is the theme for this Ohio chapter

**Submitted by Fran Hall, WM**  
Palmy Chapter #114, Ohio

This years theme is Friendship, Fellowship and Food. If you have ever been to Palmy Chapter #114 you know, we excel at all three of those things.

Most of our fundraisers center around food, from Fruit braids to Pancakes to Soup

and Salad, you will never go hungry at Palmy.

All of our events are labors of our love of the Order and filled with laughs and smiles.

Some of our events for Fellowship and Fundraising this year included card crafting parties, a Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner, monthly Soup and Salad Fundraisers, and our

annual Christmas party.

In September First Responders eat free and in November Veterans eat free at our Soup and Salad Fundraisers. All of our events are posted on our Facebook page if you are in the area and want to visit, we would love to meet you.



## Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin come together for tri-state event

On March 29, 2025, Peninsular Chapter #65, Grand Rapids, Michigan hosted a Tri-State event that included Michigan, Illinois, and Wisconsin. First on the agenda, was a tour of the Frederik Meijer Gardens to see the spring flowers and the butterfly hatch of several varieties of lepidoptera in the Lena Meijer Tropical Conservatory. Then everyone came together at the Grand Rapids Masonic Center for social time, which was followed by a wonderful meal put on by Peninsular Chapter. Following dinner, there were introductions and skits performed by each Jurisdiction. Twenty-one Wisconsin members, thirty-seven Illinois members, and ninety-one Michigan members attended. It was so nice to share this special day of fellowship with our sisters and brothers from nearby states.



## Michigan chapter initiates six new members



On March 24, 2025, the officers of Martha Washington Chapter #113, Saginaw, Michigan did something historic as they initiated six new members; three women and three men.

That has not been done in some time in their Chapter. Three General Grand Committee Members were present to watch this historic event.



May we all welcome our new OES Sisters And Brothers.

# Vermont Star donates \$25,000 to benefit food banks throughout the state

Submitted by Deb Litchfield, PGM  
Grand Chapter of Vermont



John Sayles, CEO of the Vermont Food Bank stopped by Summit Lodge, in Williamstown, Vermont on April 21, 2025. He was presented a check in the amount of \$25,000.00 for the grant program of the Vermont Food Bank, by Sister Sherrill Gould, PGM and President of the Board of Trustees of the Vermont Eastern Star Home. This money will benefit all of the food shelves throughout the State of Vermont.

Board members looking on were: Rod Churchill, PGP, Vice President; Deb Litchfield, PGM, Secretary; Doris Graves, PGM, Treasurer; Erron Carey, PGM, Assistant Treasurer; Melissa Chancey, WGM; Palmer Martin, WGP; Kathleen Lamberton, AGM; Michael Wood, AGP; Heather Hinckley, PM; Jody Small, PGP and Donarae Metcalf, PM.



## Busy times for Ohio's Crystal Chapter



Mary Ellen Carnahan, new member Dorothy Broadbent, and Dottie Orlo.

Last January, The family of Crystal Chapter #18 Past Patron Earl Fitzgerald hosted a 95th Birthday Party for him at the East Liverpool Masonic Temple on Sunday, January 19 at 2:00pm.

Eleven members of Crystal Chapter attended the celebration.

In February, Crystal Chapter #18 initiated 93 year-old Dorothy Broadbent. Her daughter Dottie Orlo, who is Marshal, filled in to walk for her mother, and member Mary Ellen Carnahan, her daughter, was a pro-tem candidate.

Crystal Chapter #18 participated in a Community Trunk or Treat in East Liverpool on Saturday, October 20th. Over 600 children received treats over a 2 hour period. Grace McClester and Jaymee David decorated the trunk in a campfire theme and gave out candy along with Karen Jones. A big thank you to American Legion Post 374, who donated money to purchase candy and bags and to Crystal Chapter members, who donated and helped bag all the candy. Slips of paper with Crystal Chapter's name were made by Grace and put in each bag.



# An Evening by the Lagoon



## Honoring shared values and unity between the Order of the Eastern Star and Job's Daughters in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

**By Narjara Fernandes  
Deputy to the Most Worthy  
Grand Matron to Colombia**

On a tranquil evening, under a sky as clear as a promise, the esteemed Clube dos Caiçaras in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, opened its doors to an event that, while humble in scale, was imbued with the aspiration of deeper con-

nection—between the Order of the Eastern Star and the organization of Job's Daughters International.

Organized by my husband João and myself, this dinner was both a celebration and a gesture of respect for the distinguished members of the Supreme Team of Job's Daughters visiting Rio de Janeiro. All the adult invitees were either members of the Order of the Eastern Star (90%) or supporters of the local activities of Job's Daughters in Brazil. Our purpose extended beyond mere hospitality; it was an occasion to reaffirm the fundamental values common to both our organizations—truth, charity, and universal love—and to explore avenues for cooperative efforts.

The setting, nestled amidst the lush greenery of Ipanema and overlooking the serene lagoon of Rio, with the Christ the Redeemer statue visible on the nearby mountain, served as a fitting backdrop—symbolic of the harmony and hope we wish to nurture. The evening's theme, inspired by Easter—delicately woven with eggs and bunnies—added a touch of whimsy and renewal, aligning with the spirit of new beginnings and enduring friendships.

Throughout the night, our guests were warmed by the soulful singing of a celebrated Brazilian artist, whose voice seemed to echo the heartfelt message of unity. Beside him, a talented cartoonist brought humor and levity, capturing the essence of the gathering with strokes of vibrant ink—reminders that art

and culture are vital threads binding us all.

In my speech, I sought to emphasize that the very roots of our traditions call us to seek greater understanding and cooperation. I highlighted that the ritual of the Order of the Eastern Star begins with the recognition of our kinship with Job's Daughters, rooted in shared principles and mutual support. It was a call to see beyond borders and nurture partnerships that serve the moral and spiritual upliftment of our communities.

I am honored to be a PHQ (Past Honored Queen) and MM (Majority Member), currently holding a position on the Guardian's Council of the Keren Happouk #5 Bethel (Rio de Janeiro) of Job's Daughters in Brazil. Additionally, I have the privilege of acting as the Deputy for Colombia for the Most Worthy Grand Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star, Billie Bradfield. My journey also includes service as a Past Matron at OES in Brazil—an experience that deepens my appreciation for the bonds we share across organizations and nations.

Most importantly, I echoed the inspiring current motto of the Job's Daughters Supreme Team: "Be the Change." This phrase, a powerful reminder of our individual agency, urged all present to actively participate in shaping a better world—locally and globally—through courage, compassion, and unwavering commitment.

Adding to the significance of our gathering, I would like to acknowledge the presence of



Olivia, Miss International Job's Daughter; Juliana Menezes Gomes, MM of Job's Daughters and Member of OES Electa Chapter #1; Natalie Lira, Job's Daughters Supreme Bethel Honored Queen



Sister Beatriz Vichiato, PM- OES and Job's Daughters International Supreme Deputy to Brazil and Narjara Fernandes, OES MWGM Deputy to Colombia

the key authorities from the Job's Daughters International Supreme Team who attended the event: Sister Beatriz Vichiato, Past Matron of Luz da Verdade Chapter of OES, PHQ, and Supreme Deputy to Brazil; Sister Jennifer Selock, Supreme Guardian of Job's Daughters; Brother Brad Bingheim, Supreme Guardian; and our dearest nieces: Natalie Lira, Supreme Bethel Honorable Queen, and Olivia, Miss International Job's Daughter. Their



OES Sister Jennifer Selock, Supreme Guardian of Job's Daughters International, Narjara Fernandes, OES MWGM Deputy to Colombia, Beatriz Vichiato, Past Matron of Luz da Verdade Chapter of OES and PHQ and Job's Daughters International Supreme Deputy to Brazil, OES Brother Brad Bingheim, Associate Supreme Guardian of Job's Daughters International.

participation symbolizes the organization's strong focus on fostering international bonds and shared purpose, emphasizing the importance of unity within our broader brotherhood and sisterhood.



Narjara Fernandes, OES MWGM Deputy to Colombia, Beatriz Vichiato, Past Matron of Luz da Verdade Chapter of OES and PHQ and Job's Daughters International Supreme Deputy to Brazil, together with her husband Rodrigo, and Carolina Freitas, Keren Happouk #5 Bethel Guardian and member of Chapter Electa #1 OES.

As glasses lifted in a toast beneath the shimmering stars, we celebrated not only friendship but the promise of future collaboration. Our gathering, though fleeting like the reflections dancing upon the lagoon's surface, planted seeds of cooperation, understanding, and enduring fellowship.

May this account serve as a testament to that memorable night—a night that illuminated the potential for unity when shared values serve as guiding stars. Because, as in the calm waters of the lagoon in Rio de Janeiro, the ripples of our actions extend far beyond the moment, shaping a future where partnerships



Natalie Lira, Job's Daughter Supreme Bethel Honorable Queen and Olivia,



Most Worshipful George F. Hamilton, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts poses with the Grand Families of 2024-25 and 2025-26 and with the newest members of Massachusetts Star.

## Massachusetts initiates 24 new members Grand Master's Class ceremony

Submitted by Colleen M. McDuffie, PGM  
Stella Chapter No. 3, Auburn, MA

History was made at the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts on Saturday, June 14, 2025. After three years in the making, the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts OES held the first Grand Master's Class in the beautiful Ionic Lodge Room.

Over 150 Sisters and Brothers from Massachusetts and other Jurisdictions were witness

to 24 new initiates join 21 of our Chapters. All this would not have been possible without the assistance of the Most Worshipful George F. Hamilton, Grand Master, and R.W. James J. Gonyea, both members of Stella Chapter No. 3 in Auburn. Our Grand Master is in his third and final term and has made great strides in strengthening the bond of all appendant Masonic Bodies.

The members of the 2024-2025 Royal Highland Stars Grand Family opened the Chapter at the invitation of our Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Suzanne F. Ward and the 2025-2026 Guiding Explorers of Hope Grand family had the incredible experience of performing the degree work. A luncheon was held after the Initiation in the Grand Master's Dining Hall.



## Grand Chapter of Delaware helps children with special needs

By Karen E. Womach, AGM  
Chairman of Benefit for Children 2024-2025  
Grand Chapter of Delaware

The Benefit for Special Needs Children is one of the oldest Charities of the Grand Chapter of Delaware Order of the Eastern Star. It has been assisting children in the state of Delaware since 1933. This year we raised \$10,000 which went towards 7 worthy recipients. Addison was one of these recipients.

Addison is a 6-year-old that attends an Early Learning Academy in the state of Delaware. She was diagnosed with unilateral hearing loss in 2023, which requires her to wear hearing aids. Her hearing loss challenges her in the ability to localize speech in noisy environments and communicate in group or distance settings.

Addison is very active in Brownies, plays softball, and attends summer camps. She is a very independent child with a big personality.

I called Addison's mom and asked if there was something Addison could use that was not covered by insurance. Ironically, she was on the phone with the insurance company on this very day trying to get a wireless remote microphone system called an Oticon's EduMic, which would significantly improve speech understanding, aiding in



Addison received a wireless remote microphone system through the Grand Chapter of Delaware.

language development, learning, social interactions in the classroom, as well as doing other activities. The insurance company was refusing to cover the cost of this device. This system is used in Addison's school, and would be a tremendous asset when Addison is out for recess or attending other activities that are in noisy environments. The teacher can simply speak into this device and it will go directly to Addison's hearing aids and she can understand directions normally as her classmates do.

Having this microphone at home will also allow Addison to stay connected to an adult voice at all times, especially when playing softball. This will allow her to hear her coach clearly.

Addison's mom recently sent me a picture of Addison with her new Edumic device. Addison is so happy the Grand Chapter of Delaware presented her with the funding for this state-of-the-art hearing device. In her picture she is signing "I Love You". Seeing this beautiful, heartwarming "Thank You" gesture from a child makes the Grand Chapter realize all their hard work for this charity is so worthy.

When working for this charity, I always think of this quote: "Anyone who does anything to help a child in his life is a hero to me" -- Fred Rogers



# Blood drive follows Michigan Masonic home visit



Grand Family gives Easter message to the residents

After the Decker/Brock Grand Family's annual visit to the residents at Masonic Pathways in Alma, Michigan and the conclusion of their luncheon and meeting, the Doig Chapel was converted into a Blood Donation Center.

Around ten people gave blood that day. WGM JoAnne Decker has encouraged the Michigan members to give blood and has asked the Chapters to hold blood donation drives. Besides donating monetarily to Pancreatic cancer, donating blood is another way to help that cause.



Sharon Ward, first time donor



PGM Denise Abbey was the first to donate



WGM JoAnne Decker was the second to donate



Darci Herl, Power Red donor.



Betty and David Bradley, PGP

# Delaware bake sale goes to the dogs



Submitted by Nancy K Davis, PM

Unity #16, Lewes, DE

## How Homemade Dog Biscuits Became an Attraction

For the past two years, Unity Chapter #16, located in the quiet town of Lewes, Delaware has hosted a bake sale on Saturday mornings that provided the locals and the tourists a day of delicious treats. The second week's bake sale, however, had a delightful twist that made tails wag and hearts melt: homemade dog biscuits debuted as part of the merchandise, transforming the sale into a man and beast event. The event was not just about raising money, a portion of which was to support our service dog program; it was about community bonding.

**The Idea That Sparked the Change** It all began with me, a retired, avid dog lover. While browsing through my kitchen, I came across a recipe for homemade dog biscuits. I had lamented the lack of pet-friendly options at the bake sale, as I watched neighbors and tourists walking their dogs up and down the street without anything to offer them. "Why not bake treats for our furry friends too?" I thought aloud.

I shared the idea with the bake sale chair. Initially met with a mix of curiosity and skepticism, the proposal gained momentum after the following week's sale. Made with wholesome ingredients like oats, peanut butter, and pumpkin, the biscuits were a hit.

**Preparation and Marketing** My kitchen quickly became the hub of biscuit production, rolling dough, cutting out shapes ranging from bones to paw prints. The biscuits were tested by my own canine residents, and the unanimous approval was marked by wagging tails and eager sniffs. The Second Day of the Bake Sale, the following week, an air of excitement mingled with the tempting aroma of pastries and baked goods. As families strolled up and down the street, our table of baked goods became a magnet for dog owners and animal lovers alike. Dogs of all breeds—from bounding Labradors to gentle Dachshunds—approached the table, noses twitching in anticipation. A large bowl of water was available for those who were thirsty. The customers were provided with the insights of the healthy ingredients used in the biscuits. The response was overwhelmingly positive. Pet owners praised the thoughtfulness behind the idea. We quickly sold out, with proceeds exceeding expectations. The addition of dog biscuits also drew a wider crowd to the bake sale.

**Conclusion** Unity Chapter's bake sale proved that small ideas could lead to big changes, bridging new connections within the community. The homemade dog biscuits didn't just add another item to the menu; they broadened the event's scope, reminding everyone that generosity and creativity can make even long-standing traditions feel brand-new.



### Bananas Peanut Butter Dog Biscuits - Grain Free

1 ripe medium banana

3 Tbsp of Peanut Butter (Be sure your brand does not contain xylitol!)

1 large egg

1 ¾ C garbanzo bean flour

You can often find both xylitol free peanut butter and garbanzo bean flour in the gluten free or natural foods section at your grocer.

Preheat oven to 300 degrees.

In a small bowl, mix the banana, peanut butter and egg, until well combined. Add the wet ingredients to the dry, gradually adding in the garbanzo bean flour.

Transfer the mixture to heavily floured wax paper. This dough is very sticky, so be sure to flour cookie cutters, rolling pin, etc., well. Move the cut outs to a parchment lined cookie sheet and bake for 30-40 minutes or until golden brown. Allow cooling before four legged taste testing.

Store in airtight container. Yields about 2 dozen

### Dog Ice Cream

2 ripe bananas

1 C plain Greek yogurt

½ C peanut butter (unsweetened and xylitol free)

¼ C water

In a blender or food processor, combine bananas, Greek yogurt, peanut butter and water.

Blend until smooth and creamy.

Pour the mixture into ice cube trays or silicone molds.

Freeze for at least 2 hours or until solid.

Pop out the ice cream cubes and serve to your dog as a treat.

Servings: 12-15 treats

# Arizona chapter supports "Phone Down, Just Drive" group

**Submitted By Laurel Wadley, PM**

Saguaro #48, Tucson, AZ

I have been a part of a newer non-profit group called "Phone Down, Just Drive", since our daughter became involved. The Non-Profit was started by Julie Festerling, when her daughter and her boyfriend were read-ended by a driver on her phone. Their car was pushed into on-coming traffic, which killed both young adults. The driver said she was not on her phone, and it ended up taking 5 1/2 years, and 2 separate court hearings, to finally get her put away for 16 years. In the meantime, I had told Julie about our Arizona Eastern Star Foundation. I sponsored her and she applied in 2024, getting a grant of \$1,500.00. I told Julie she could apply each year and I would be her sponsor. This year, she was awarded a grant of \$4,000.00.

Here is what Julie had to say about the grant money: "With this gracious donation, we will continue to raise awareness on the dangers of distracted driving. We have recently partnered with the Pima County Sheriff's Department to get our life-saving message into the community through their deputies. Many of their vehicles are displaying bumper stickers with PDJD! logos on them! We are working with a certified middle school teacher to develop curriculum for the

Pima County School District's resource officers, to share with students at schools they are assigned to."

Department Of Public Safety state troopers have been distributing PDJD! Informative flyers at routine traffic stops for about 3 years. Most recently, Marana Police Department asked if they, too, could partner with us. Our volunteers are raising awareness in the local networking groups, at car shows, expos at churches and throughout our community. Their primary focus is to get vehicles tagged with our important message on bumper stickers or car magnets.

One of the best ways to educate and encourage accountability is an interactive "take the pledge" ceremony. Participants read the Phones Down, Just Drive! Pledge out loud. Then sign and date a certificate (printed on certificate quality paper) and are gifted a wrist band to wear on their right wrist. This certificate is to keep and to display in a prominent location to remind them of their promise to NOT interact with their cell phone while driving. The wrist band is to wear on their right wrist to remind them to NOT reach for their cell phone while driving. We are still in our infancy of raising awareness and saving lives! Mothers Against Drunk Driving fought



Laurel Wadley, PM and Secretary of Saguaro Chapter in Tucson presents a check for \$4,000 on behalf of the Arizona Eastern Star Foundation to Julie Festerling, founder of "Phone Down, Just Drive."

the good fight to increase fines, penalties and awareness with drinking and driving. Distracted driving and cell phone use is an epidemic that is out of control. We too, will continue the fight to save lives and to hold law breakers accountable.

## Oklahoma chapter presents 70-year pin to longtime member

**Submitted by Linda K. Jordan PGM**

Oklahoma

Wilma Jean Wheeler received her 70 year membership pin on May 6, 2025 at Guthrie Chapter No. 120 in Guthrie, Oklahoma. She was initiated by Mulhall Chapter No. 66 in Mulhall, Oklahoma on May 5, 1955. Mulhall Chapter consolidated with Guthrie Chapter No. 120 after a tornado destroyed most of the town of Mulhall. She first moved to Kansas and now lives in Stanwood Washington with her daughter and two sons, returning to Oklahoma for periodic visits. She valued her membership in Guthrie Chapter and continued paying her dues faithfully for the 50 years she has lived away from Oklahoma. Guthrie was pleased to be able to present this 70 year pin



Wilma Jean Wheeler is presented her 70-year pin by her son David Wheeler



# "Down the Leash Services Dogs" the focus of Illinois chapter fundraiser



Worthy Matron Tracie Brantley presents a check to Brother Tony Eaton, who trains service dogs and their handlers.



**By Tracie G Brantley, WM**  
Leroy A #350, Marion, IL

In 2025, the Worthy Matron, Sis. Tracie Brantley, and members of Leroy A Chapter #350 of the Order of the Eastern Star in Marion, IL chose to focus their fundraising efforts to benefit Down The Leash Service Dogs organization. This organization is owned and operated by Bro. Tony Eaton and training is held weekly at Herrin's Prairie Masonic Lodge in Herrin, IL. There are several members of Leroy A who are veterans and support veteran-owned businesses and organizations that support veterans.

On June 21, 2025, Leroy A held the first of its annual Trivia nights to benefit Down The Leash. The chapter was able to raise \$1130 for Down The Leash. The evening began with great food followed by a fun trivia game. The silent auction items were donated by a few of the members as well as a new sponsor for the year Mrs. Peggy Hutchins. She and her husband, Ed, own a shop called The Basket Case where she sells handmade craft items and rare collectibles from her family as well as from disabled crafters from the area. Mrs. Hutchins has pledged to offer whatever she can to support the Chapter's fundraising efforts for this year.

The first of two Trivia nights concluded and the check was presented to Tony on

July 8, 2025. Leroy A is proud to be able to donate to Down The Leash Service Dogs for their efforts in aiding and assisting veterans and the disabled to live a much happier and more fulfilling life. Tony trains the dogs as well as teaches their handlers how to maintain their service dogs and continue training after graduation from Tony's program. The dogs are not cheap. Tony estimates it takes between \$20,000-\$30,000 per dog for training and getting them prepared to assist their handlers to the best they can. Tony does not charge the handlers for any of the cost associated with the dogs and provides any assistance required after graduation as well.

Leroy A chapter will be hosting their final fundraiser for the year on October 25, 2025 at the chapter. This will also go to benefit Down The Leash Service Dogs organization. Sister

Tracie Brantley, Worthy Matron, has pledged to continue her heartfelt fundraising efforts for many years to come because she believes that Down The Leash is providing a very vital need for disabled veterans as well as the general public. Information on Down The Leash Service Dogs organization can be found at: [www.downtheleashservicedogs.org](http://www.downtheleashservicedogs.org) or by emailing Tony Eaton at: [tony@downtheleashservicedogs.com](mailto:tony@downtheleashservicedogs.com) or calling (630)707-1281. Down The Leash is a non-profit organization and appreciates any donations and publicity they receive. Tony began this organization from a very small one man operation to a fully staffed organization with far reaching benefits to the disabled. Any donations and fundraising efforts are greatly appreciated by Tony and Down The Leash.



# An Honor Across Borders

## My Journey as Nebraska's Grand Representative of British Columbia and Yukon

By Allen Straub

Grand Representative of British Columbia/Yukon in Nebraska

When I received my commission as the Grand Representative of British Columbia and Yukon in Nebraska, I was filled with a mix of excitement, humility, and anticipation. The opportunity to represent my home jurisdiction in an international capacity was a true honor. My wife—who also serves as the Grand Conductress of Nebraska—and I set out on the long journey to Prince George for their Grand Chapter session this last May. The journey itself was unforgettable. We traveled through winding mountain roads, dense forests, open plains, and breathtaking vistas that seemed to grow more beautiful with each mile. It was more than a road trip—it was a pilgrimage filled with adventure, reflection, and appreciation for the journey ahead.

What made the journey even more memorable was how I received my commission. It was a complete surprise! During chapter, my wife stood before me—on behalf of the

Worthy Grand Matron—and presented me with my commission in front of everyone. I was caught completely off guard. I stood there, a bit stunned, and in a soft-spoken voice I said, “Well... I guess I’m kind of a big deal now.” That one little comment ballooned into something much bigger. The Nebraska Grand Officers ran with it and, before I knew it, they had gifted me an “I’m a Big Deal” pin. So now, not only am I honored to serve—I guess I officially have the pin to prove it!

Attending the Grand Chapter of British Columbia and Yukon was an experience that will stay with us forever. From the opening session to the final farewell, we were met with genuine warmth, gracious hospitality, and a shared sense of purpose. Every conversation and every handshake reinforced the bonds of Eastern Star that transcend borders and titles.

British Columbia’s natural beauty added another layer of wonder to the visit. Towering peaks, crystal-clear lakes, and vibrant greenery served as the perfect backdrop for a gathering

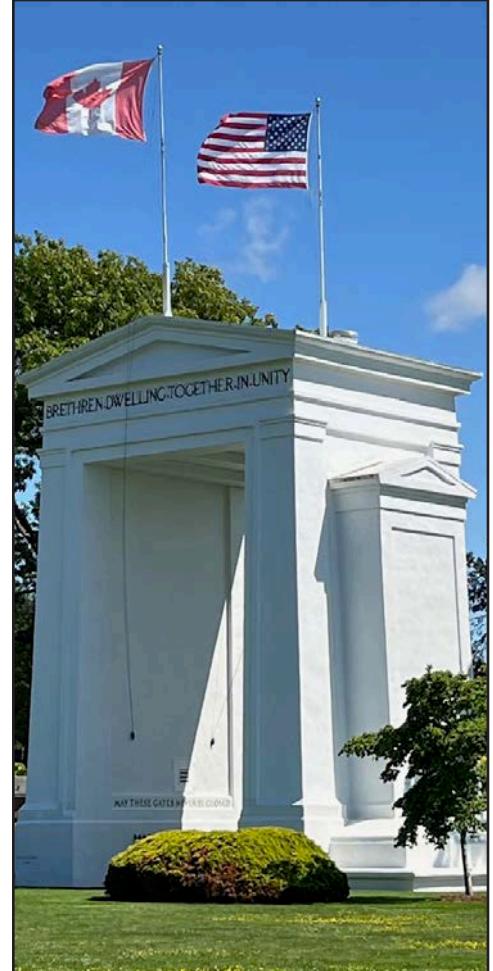
grounded in love, faith, and service. Sharing this experience with my wife made it even more special, as we were able to walk this journey together in both love and leadership.

What stood out most was the deep sense of unity and connection. Though we came from different jurisdictions and even different countries, we spoke the same language of compassion, integrity, and fraternal love. I left British Columbia with new friendships, renewed inspiration, and a heart full of gratitude.

Serving as a Grand Representative is a rare privilege—one that bridges distance and brings our Order closer together. If you are fortunate enough to hold this honor, I encourage you to make the journey to visit your assigned jurisdiction. There is no substitute for the power of personal connection, and the memories you make—complete with a few unexpected laughs—will serve you, and our Order, for a lifetime.



Kerri Straub, PM of Narcissus 269 and current Grand Conductress of Nebraska; Allen Straub, PP of Narcissus 269, Grand Representative of British Columbia and Yukon in Nebraska; Bonnie-Jean Foulds, Past Grand Matron of British Columbia and Yukon and Terry Foulds, Past Grand Patron of British Columbia and Yukon.





## Louisiana holds pizza party for Scottish Rite Literacy project

Submitted by Jim Josker, PP

Ruth #16, Lake Charles, LA

On July 24, 2025, members of district 7 and Worthy Grand Matron Jo Schexneider of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana Order of the Eastern Star had the opportunity to partner with the Valley of Lake Charles Scottish Rite and participate in an end of summer camp pizza party for the RiteCare "Language and Literacy Project 2025". This camp is run by the Scottish Rite RiteCare center located on the campus of University of Louisiana Lafayette each year. The Scottish Rite, RiteCare Foundation is one of several charities that the Worthy Grand Matron is supporting this year.

The pizza party was a huge success. Besides the members of OES and Scottish Rite in attendance, there were 18 children, 10 clinicians, and 4 faculty members. The campers read their stories that they wrote over the summer to us, and several campers were awarded with major accomplishment awards. The culmination of the day was a skit the clinicians put on for us titled "The Royal Paper". Afterwards

we all enjoyed pizza and soda. It was a great time had by all.

For those who might not know what the RiteCare program is, The RiteCare Childhood Language Program is a program sponsored by the Scottish Rite that helps thousands of children across the United States overcome speech and language issues. With the good work of dedicated clinicians and volunteers, it has achieved successes that could only be imagined a few years back. Children who might have remained educationally handicapped for a lifetime can now talk, read, and lead productive lives.

Today there are approximately 170 RiteCare Childhood Language Program facilities located throughout the United States. In Louisiana we are fortunate to have 5 that cover the whole state. They are in Lafayette, Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Shreveport, and Monroe.

### The Mission of the Clinic

Early diagnosis of language disorders or delays.

Provide speech and language therapy at no cost to families.

Provide parent and community education regarding childhood communication disorders.

Train professionals in the area of early childhood communication development and disorder.

The Foundation provides scholarships to graduate students seeking a master's degree in Speech Pathology. These students receive actual experience at our clinics as our children receive the assistance they need.

The Worthy Grand Matron and members of district 7 were honored to have been able to attend pizza party and gain firsthand knowledge of the RiteCare program and all that they offer.



On June 22, 2025, New Port Richey Chapter No. 117 (Florida) had a wonderful pot luck picnic at Frances Avenue Park to celebrate the start of the summer and the chapter going dark for July, August and September. The picnic was attended by many sisters, brothers, family and friends.



# Grand Representative of NJ in NH, brings greetings from New Jersey

## Submitted by Walter Wedlock

Grand Representative of New Jersey in New Hampshire The 154th Grand Chapter Session was held on May 20-22, 2025 at the Tropicana Hotel in Atlantic City. Walter C. Wedlock, Grand Representative of NJ in NH was in attendance and had a wonderful time with his counterpart Maryellen R. Thoren.

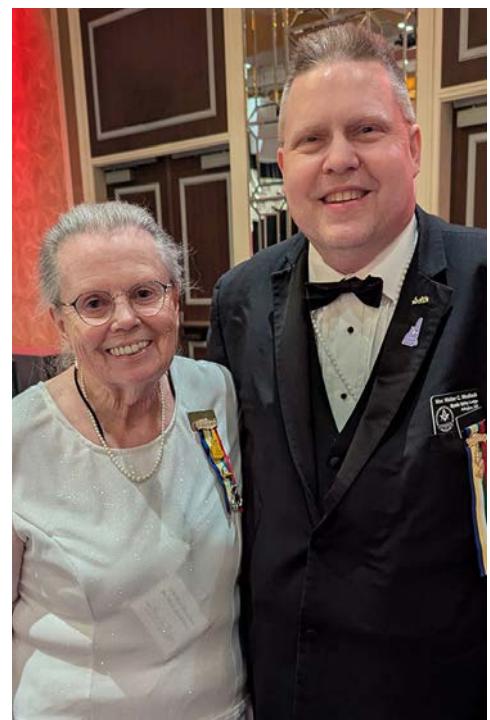
The Grand Chapter Room was decorated with a Carousel theme with colorful horses lovingly restored by the Most Worthy Grand Matron. Yes, the Most Worthy Grand Matron, as New Jersey is its own General Grand Chapter and not part of our General Grand Chapter.

There are several interesting traditions within their Grand Chapter. Both the Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress and the Right Worthy Grand Conductress open the Bible at the Altar. One opens the Bible and the other places the Bible Marker. The Reverent Attitude is different, but an Eastern Star member would recognize it. There is no male in the West and the Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron chooses someone to be her Most Worthy Grand Patron with her

during her term.

During introductions, the Most Worthy Grand Matron announces everyone and their title. The Grand Family from two years previous hosts the Grand Representatives Banquet using their theme, which really makes sense since that Most Worthy Grand Matron issued many of those Grand Representatives commissions. And most importantly, New Jersey makes a really big deal out of their Grand Representatives. They have a special section where they sit for the sessions; announcement of new Grand Representatives at Grand Chapter is a special event; there is a parade of flags with all the Grand Representatives and their counterparts; and a fun costume parade which is narrated by the Fraternal Correspondent.

A grand time was held by all and many memories made in New Jersey. As always, get out and travel with Eastern Star. Meet new people, make new friends, and learn about our wonderful Order.



Brother Walter C. Wedlock, Grand Representative of NJ in NH with his counterpart, Sister Maryellen R. Thoren.

## Pennsylvania members make memorable trip to DC as WGM and WGP lay wreath on tomb of Unknown Soldier

### Submitted Emily McCarthy, PGM-PA

GGCCM, Eastern Star Journal

Words cannot describe the honor on this spring day when the members of Pennsylvania Eastern Star were privileged to watch our Worthy Grand Matron Sister Marcia Holland and her husband Joe and our Worthy Grand Patron, Brother Michael Byers and his wife Michelle lay a wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

This was a dream of our Worthy Grand Matron, to honor our soldiers in our military that gave their lives to keep our country safe. As we watched them descend down the staircase toward the tomb, they were met by a soldier from the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment known as the Old Guard who guard the tomb 24 hours a day 7 days a week in all types of weather. The large wreath of red, white and blue flowers were provided by Marcia's club board. The members of PA OES watched in silence as the wreath was laid in front of the tomb. This solidified our commitment to our military and to their remembrance.

Later that day our members were able to tour Arlington National Cemetery. This is a hallowed place that many distinguished military are buried along with notables such as former President John F. Kennedy, his wife Jacqueline and their son Patrick, Robert Kennedy and his wife Ethel, actor Lee Marvin and Audie Murphy are also buried there. In addition, 400, 000 soldiers and sailors are lie there on the 639 acre site. The most recent section holds the military members from Afghanistan and Iraq Wars. It is a humbling place to walk through knowing all of the men and women who defended our country are buried there.

After leaving the cemetery we were able to visit the site of various memorials dedicated to the men and women who fought in those wars.

At the end of the day, our members left the trip with many lifetime experiences and remembrances we will never forget.



WGM Marcia H. Holland and her husband Joe and our WGP Michael E. Byers and his wife Michele at the tomb of the unknown soldier

# Ontario celebrates a year of angels, peace, and love

The year began with hearts full of hope and a message that would guide us through everything to come: carry the peace, belief, and love of the holiday season with you every day of the year. This was the theme brought to life by our Worthy Grand Matron Barbara McGregor and Worthy Grand Patron Richard Arding—a beautiful reminder that the light we share doesn't have to be reserved for special occasions. It can be something we live out daily, in every act of service and every moment of kindness.

With that guiding light, our Grand Chapter year officially began on August 27, 2024, with the installation of our Grand Officers. But joy was met with sorrow and we had to say goodbye to Alex Crawford, our Grand Warden, before he could take his place among us. His absence was deeply felt. His memory became a quiet presence at every event, a reminder of how much love one life can bring.

September arrived with the energy of new beginnings. Our Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron set off on the road, attending installations and bringing their message to every corner of our province. The fall months brought learning and laughter through three special workshops in London, Sudbury and Brockville, where members gathered to grow together—not just in knowledge, but in friendship.

Their journey didn't stop at our borders. This year took many of us beyond Ontario—first to our annual trip to the Grand Chapter of Michigan in October, followed by a strong showing of 58 members at the General Grand Chapter Triennium in South Carolina in November. In February, we joined with members from 11 jurisdictions—Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Brunswick, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island, Ontario, Rhode Island and Vermont—at the Can-Am event in New Hampshire. Each stop was a chance to connect, share our story, and learn from others

walking similar paths.

Even when winter tried to throw us off course, it couldn't dim our spirits. In January, flight cancellations and a surprise snowstorm in New Orleans threatened the Grand Family trip—but in true Eastern Star fashion, we adapted, laughed, and carried on. Forty-one members made it aboard the cruise along the Mexican coast and Grand Cayman, where we found warmth not just in the sun, but in each other. It was a trip full of joy, shared memories, and the kind of connection that lingers long after the journey ends.

Spring brought one of the most magical moments of the year: the Ontario/Michigan Exchange in Barrie. With a theme of "Wizards and Hogwarts," the event felt like stepping into another world—a place where costumes, creativity, and camaraderie came together in the most joyful way. It reminded us how powerful imagination can be when it's shared.

Of course, not every chapter of our story was easy. We faced challenges. Some chapters had to make difficult decisions—one consolidation and two surrenders—bringing us to 52 chapters. And we said goodbye to beloved members who's passing left empty chairs and aching hearts. Their legacies remain, carried forward in the work we continue to do and the love we hold for them.

But even in sorrow, there was celebration. Our Grand Family shone during degree work, and we were thrilled to welcome new members—fresh faces bringing new energy and hope. It was a sign that even as we face changes, the future of our Order remains bright.

We had special anniversaries to honour, too. Lakeshore Chapter 257 celebrated 75 years, while Binbrook Chapter 117, Edgemont Chapter 127, and Veritas Chapter 128 marked an incredible 100 years. Even more astonishing—13 additional chapters reached or surpassed the century mark. What a powerful testament to who we are and the strength that has carried us through the last 110 years thus far.

Looking back, this year wasn't just about meetings or milestones—it was about moments. Moments of laughter on the road. Moments of stillness as we remembered those we lost. Moments of



WGM of Ontario, Barbara McGregor with her Escort, Jane Ball

inspiration as we watched young people rise, supported by our special project, Covenant House. Through this cause, we stood together to help homeless and at-risk youth find shelter, education, support, and most importantly—hope.

At the heart of this year's journey was a shared commitment to service. Our special project, Covenant House, inspired incredible generosity across our chapters. Together, we raised an amazing \$50,099.90 to support homeless and at-risk youth. These funds will help provide shelter, food, healthcare, education, job training, and counseling—giving vulnerable young people the tools they need to build safe, independent lives.

Our care extended even further, with members raising \$23,028.00 for National Service Dogs, an organization that trains life-changing support animals for people with autism, PTSD, and other challenges. Through this cause, we showed how love can empower others to live with dignity, confidence, and connection.

And in another meaningful act of giving, we made five special presentations of \$5,000 each to hospitals across Ontario through the Florence Nightingale Home Foundation. These gifts reflected our enduring gratitude to the health care community and our commitment to supporting healing wherever it's needed most.

And so, as we close this 109th Grand Chapter session, we carry with us the heart of the year: peace, belief, and love. Not just as a theme, but as a way of living. Let it continue to guide us—not only during holidays or ceremonies, but every single day. Because this isn't just a story about a year. It's a story about us—and the light we bring to the world, together.



Ontario's 2024-2025 Grand Family.

# Vermont members join with Masons for Ladies at the Table event.



**Submitted by Madeline R. Weidner,**  
GGCCM Alzheimer's, PGM of Québec,  
Grand Marshal of Vermont

Members of Vermont Eastern Star joined Lee Lodge No. 30, Scottish Rite and Shriners for "Ladies at the Table" in Castleton, VT. Brother Michael Wood, WGP, spoke on the importance of Concordant Bodies coming together to build stronger relationships.

It was a pleasure to attend this Lodge's first "Ladies at the Table" with the hopes that the occasion may become an annual event. The toasts and narrative paid tribute to women who have had great impact on the world around them. Lee Lodge No. 30 was established in 1852 and is named after Colonel Noah Lee. Colonel Lee, originally from Norwalk, Connecticut, was a Revolutionary Soldier and one of the early settlers of Castleton, VT. After the Revolutionary War he and his wife Dorcas helped found the Castleton State College. Lee Lodge has an impressive

fireplace made from bricks, granite, marble, sandstone, slate and soapstone blocks that have an amazing history. The story begins in August of 1886, when the Lee Lodge Masons erected a monument on the summit of nearby Birdseye Mountain. 756 blocks were contributed by individual masons and were inscribed with names and Masonic symbols. Creating the monument was a collaboration of Masons from a wide area. 19th Century Masonry was shrouded in legend and myth. The same was true of this monument with spectacular views only reachable by a tough climb through dense woods. In 1917 the Masons of Lee Lodge rescued the bricks and stones after the monument was struck twice by lightning, the first in 1898. Four Commandry pieces mark the chimneybreast under a Knights Templar commemorative. This special evening reinforced that we should be proud of our history and excited about our future.



Brother Michael Wood, WGP, spoke on the importance of Concordant Bodies coming together to build stronger relationships.

## Wisconsin "Trust in the Lord" year recap

**Submitted by Lori Williams**  
PGM of Wisconsin

Our "Trust in the Lord" Grand Chapter session was held May 20-22, 2025, in Stevens Point. We welcomed 274 registrants, with all chapters being represented this year. In addition to many Masonic dignitaries, we welcomed guests from California, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania and Tennessee.

We worked hard on membership this year, not only recruiting new members, but reinstating former members and reaching out to avoid suspensions. We are pleased to report 38 new members in addition to several returning members. Our members in danger of suspension or considering a demit also responded positively to our efforts. We did our best to make connections with our Masonic family and are pleased to report this resulted in several petitions, especially from much-needed Masons and their spouses. This work is continuing into the new Grand year with many chapters bringing in petitions and having initiations in June and July. These new members have invigorated our chapters with energy and new ideas. We unfortunately had a consolidation in June, so are down to 34 chapters.

We also broadened our definition of donations for our charities to include gifts of time and collection of needed items in addition to monetary donations. Our chapters have been very busy in their communities. This presence, in addition to a more active and engaging Facebook presence, has also brought interest and new members to us. We are pleased to report the following donations as of April 31, 2025:

\$2,449 for heart research at the University of Wisconsin

\$2,210 for cancer patient support at the Carbone Cancer Center at the University of Wisconsin

\$2,198.85 for Occupaws

\$8577.50 for ESTARL

\$1780 for Disaster Relief

\$11,182.13 for World of Youth. Twenty-two scholarships were given.

\$15,277.45 for the initial check for the WGM/WGP joint project, which was the Wisconsin LEDR Team, an organization that supports first responders across the state.

Since Grand Chapter, we have attended installations, are busy with initiations all over the state, have had two All-Member Learning Sessions, and one Exemplification of

the work by our Grand Officers. This year's Wine and Cheese Pairing raised \$2100 each for Occupaws and our Youth Scholarship program. Chapters are currently attending schools of instruction taught by our District Deputies to prepare for this year's Official Visits. We look forward to gathering with members from Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Ohio this weekend at the multistate event. Many Wisconsin members will attend this event as their final destination on the WGM's bus trip to Mackinac Island.

The WGM's project this year is Reach-A-Child. This organization provides age-appropriate books to first responders to use when comforting children they encounter on their calls. We have been busy raising funds, collecting books, and making connections in our communities to ensure Wisconsin communities are served by this worthy cause.

We always enjoy visitors to our chapters. If you are coming to Wisconsin, please check our website ([wioes.org](http://wioes.org)) to see what chapters are meeting or what state-wide events may be occurring. We would love to welcome you!

# Ohio Grand Representative makes memories at the very first Grand Chapter of the Philippines

**By Carol L. Campbell, PM**

Grand Representative of the Philippines in Ohio

When our WGM asked me to be the first Grand Representative of the Philippines in Ohio, I said, of course! Two of my favorite activities are OES and traveling. Then two of my Chapter sisters, Linda Ayers and Karen Smith, said, of course we are coming with you, so we started making plans. Although it was early fall and the Grand Chapter session wasn't until the first week of May, our Chapter sister, Helen Mount, who is a AAA travel agent urged us to start making flight reservations to Davao City where the session would be held.

We were not going to be able to stay too long in the Philippines, but we did want to arrive a few days before the session opened in order to recover from 2 1/2 days of travel. We decided to go through San Francisco and spend a night there before the 17-hour flight to Singapore. Since our flight didn't leave till 10 at night, we enjoyed the afternoon at the Embarcadero Farmers' Market and got to ride the giant Ferris wheel and the cable cars in town.

After that long flight, we got to spend about eight hours in the Changi airport. We can attest that it is indeed one of the most

beautiful airports in the world. Finally, when we arrived in Davao City, we had the only problem in our journey. We thought we had reserved a van from the hotel, but it was not there. I called the hotel, received many apologies, and shortly after, the van arrived.

Davao City is alleged to be one of the safest cities in the world, and we came to understand why: security at the entrance to the hotel, at the entrance to the huge shopping mall across from the hotel, and at many of the stores in the mall, and of course at the entrance to the conference building where the Grand Chapter session was being held. Right from the beginning we were impressed by how welcoming and friendly the people were, and to be truthful, as we are not youngsters, how respectful of their seniors.

On our first full day we took a short, guided tour of the city and had our first exposure to their crazy traffic; good thing we had not even thought about renting a car. As we did not have time for a full city tour, the guide took us to the Upside-Down House for fun and the Philippines Eagle Center where they are trying to protect the endangered Philippines eagles. Our last stop, as night was starting to fall, was a spot overlooking the city.

The next day, of course, we had to check out the mall. Some stores we recognized and many we did not but were able to find lots of



Karen Smith, Linda Ayers, and Carol Campbell leaving for the Philippines in May.

good souvenirs. To our surprise, there was also a giant supermarket at one end of the mall. There were also many dining choices, including a Burger King, but we sampled the local fast food at the Jollibees; pretty good fried chicken and a local favorite, spaghetti with hot dogs in the sauce.

Due to a misunderstanding, we did not stay at the hotel where the session was being held, but we discovered the car service called Grab. I put the app on my phone and when we sent a message, a car showed up in about five to ten minutes, and it took about ten to fifteen minutes to get to the session. When I converted the amount of the fares, I discovered that each trip cost about \$3!

Finally: the first opening session of the Grand Chapter of the Philippines. For the informal opening on Thursday May 8, it had been suggested that the members wear their Chapter attire, so we wore our purple Chapter tops. We arrived well before the starting time to get our credentials and were overwhelmed by the friendly greetings. I had been working with their Grand Secretary Alma A. Alterado to make our arrangements and was thrilled to meet her in person. We hugged like long lost Sisters! But many others greeted us just as profusely.

As things got started, we learned that there were twenty-six out-of-country visitors, including the MWGM Billie Bradfield who would be the Installing Officer on Saturday, and five other Grand Representatives. As the opening ceremony began, the Grand



Enjoying the Upside Down House in the Philippines



New friends. The other non-Philippine member is Grand Representative from British Columbia.

Secretary read the list of Chapters in attendance, and the last Chapter listed was our own Triangle #592!

The registration fee included lunch and dinner each day. At the meals, at one end of the room, there were three large round tables for the visitors with the food already on the tables. The local members went through a buffet line, so we did not have too much of a chance to visit casually with them. But we visitors did take the opportunity to meet the other visitors by changing seats at each meal. And many of the local members took opportunity to greet the visitors during meal times, if they had not already done so in the session room, and many brought gifts for all of the visitors.

Unfortunately, my counterpart was unable to attend. Her husband, also a member, was running for city council in their home city, and she was pretty busy campaigning. When several members of her Chapter came to greet us, I asked them if they would take the gift I had brought to her.

After the evening meals, there was entertainment. The first night, we all wore pink t-shirts which were included in the registration package. The first music that first night was local tribal dances performed by various Chapter members. Then we all danced to popular music. Friday night was black and gold dress up night, with more pop music and dancing after dinner.

At the formal opening on Friday morning, they had scheduled a half-hour for the opening ceremony and introductions, and

three hours for reports. Of course, those of us who had been to other Grand Chapter sessions before were not surprised when the ceremonies took about two hours. But since they are a new Grand Chapter, the reports were pretty simple, so the morning activities still finished in time for lunch at noon. They did inaugurate three new Chapters during the session.

At the afternoon session, nominations were held for the new Officers. In preparation, it was announced that there were 230 local members and 26 visitors in attendance. Two hundred ballots had been distributed but only 199 voted, so there was a little concern. But they finally decided just to count the ballots in hand. Some differences we noticed from Ohio: their three Trustees each represent a local area, they have five Districts, and each has a Deputy Grand Matron and a Deputy Grand Patron, and the Jr. PGM will be serving as the Grand Lecturer, and her travel expenses will be reimbursed.

Finally, the big day: Installation of the new Grand Officers. The Installing Officer MWGM Billie of



Albert is now the Associate Grand Patron.

course did a wonderful job. The Installing Grand Marshal, Cindy Powell, who is the Grand Marshal from Washington, had been quite anxious to get the names right, but she had studied well and did a great job. Another interesting thing we learned: Cindy and her husband and their daughters are quite active in Rainbow, and they had traveled to the Philippines before when the Rainbow Grand Assembly was established there several years ago.

After another fun evening celebrating with the newly installed Officers, we finally left Davao City at 6:30 the next morning, for another long journey home. Before we had left home, stormy weather had been predicted for the whole time of our journey, but that never happened. Finally, back at the Changi airport, we made a point to find the indoor waterfall that we could not find before. It is truly amazing – as was our whole wonderful adventure to the Philippines!



The Ohio ladies with Grand Conductress Alma.

# Arizona chapter assists young woman in Eagle Scout project

Golden Rule Chapter #1 in Prescott, Arizona, recently assisted Amelia Gonsalves of Prescott Valley in achieving her Eagle Scout. Her project was to do renovations such as a seating area in the Aztlan Lodge Masonic Cemetery in Prescott.

The members of the chapter helped her financially. Brother Fred Burr, a member of Golden Rule, is very involved in Scouting in

Arizona and was instrumental in enlisting the chapter's help.

Amelia turned 18 two days after her investiture. She and her mother are interested in continuing their service to the community through Eastern Star. Her investiture ceremony was held at the lodge in Prescott. Several members of Golden Rule were in attendance.



Members of Golden Rule Chapter #1, which include Arizona's WGM and WGP, and Aztlan Lodge #1, attended the Eagle Scout investiture of Amelia Gonsalves.

Amelia Gonsalves received her Eagle Scout designation recently with her investiture taking place at the lodge in Prescott, AZ.

## Ohio chapter teams up with Masons to give Thanksgiving aid

Helping our community, yesterday Mason Chapter #494 along with Worshipful Master Rob Fite of Mason Lodge #678 F&AM made a delivery to the Schuh Center at St Susanna Church. With the assistant from the officers and Members of Mason Lodge 678 we created 7 full Thanksgiving Meal Boxes plus a box of miscellaneous extra items plus 3 - \$70.00 Bob Evans gift cards for 3 families. We were able to provide 10+ families with Thanksgiving. Thanks to everyone who participated.

Submitted by  
Connie Lynch  
of Mason Chapter #494



# Kansas chapter Dog Dollar project raises thousands



## Submitted by Ronna Kimbrell

Queen City #138, Winfield, Kansas, Secretary  
Grand Representative of Wisconsin in Kansas.

Queen City Chapter #138 in Winfield, Kansas is celebrating remarkable fundraising success for KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc., thanks to the unwavering dedication and creativity of Sister Roberta McGrew. Since April 2025, the chapter has raised over \$2,900 to support the organization—an inspiring achievement built through multiple efforts, including the chapter's featured project, the Dog Dollar Jar.

The Dog Dollar Jar itself contributed just over \$1,300 toward the total. Throughout the year, Sister Roberta collected one-dollar bills containing either a "D" or a "G" in the serial number, filling a large jar with contributions from members, friends, and supporters. To add a fun twist—and raise additional funds—participants donated \$1 per guess to estimate the total amount inside the jar. The guessing game inspired friendly competition and fellowship while boosting donations for KSDS.

At the chapter's gathering on November 25, 2025—attended by Worthy Grand Matron Teresa Ryan and Worthy Grand Patron O. Carl Anderson—the winning guess was announced. Sister Donna Fagg, General Grand Chapter Committee Member on Registration, Past Grand Matron, and Grand Adah, came closest to the correct amount and was awarded a beautiful diamond painting handcrafted by Sister Roberta.

Beyond the Dog Dollar Jar, Sister Roberta has continued to lead additional fundraising and outreach efforts, all of which have helped Queen City Chapter surpass the \$2,900 mark since April.

These efforts will continue throughout the year, as Worthy Grand Matron Teresa Ryan



Cheryl Brock, Worthy Matron of Queen City Chapter #138; Teresa Ryan, Worthy Grand Matron of Kansas; Roberta McGrew, Queen City Chapter—holding the Dog Dollar Jar; O. Carl Anderson, Worthy Grand Patron of Kansas; and Don Flickinger, Past Grand Patron of Kansas, Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Kansas, and Worthy Patron of Queen City.

has challenged all Kansas chapters to raise funds for KSDS in increments of \$150, in honor of the 150th anniversary of the Order of the Eastern Star. Each \$150 increment is encouraged to be made up of \$1 bills with either a D or a G in the serial number, a challenge that Kansas members have embraced with enthusiasm.

Queen City Chapter #138 is honored to

support KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc.—an organization that transforms lives through highly trained service dogs. The chapter extends heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed to this meaningful project, and especially to Sister Roberta McGrew for her creativity, leadership, and unwavering commitment to service.

## Tennessee chapter supports food bank, angel tree



Camden Chapter #121, Order of the Eastern Star delivered an assorted collection of non-perishable meat products to the local Benton County Ministerial Alliance's Food Pantry for Thanksgiving and Christmas. The Camden Chapter members had collected donations to supply the local food pantry with meats to go along with their stores of vegetables for those in need throughout the county. This much appreciated contribution was just in time for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

The chapter also chose an "Angel" from a local Angel Tree to assist in providing a precious child (age 4) a very Merry Christmas. Items donated totaled over \$200.00. Camden Chapter #121 is honored to be able to support our community in every way possible.



# Delaware chapter visits historic home tour for Christmas

**Submitted by Nancy K. Davis, PM**  
Unity Chapter #16, Lewes, Delaware

 On December 13th, 2025. Our group loaded into the vehicle and it was Hi ho, hi ho, off to Odessa we go! Our first stop was "The Bank" which serves as Historic Odessa's Visitors Center.

It was closed to the public because of a baby shower, but signs directed us around the corner to the 1700 "Collins-Sharp House" where we registered for our tour and were entertained with a hearth-cooking demonstration featuring documented recipes



from the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Our docent was a lovely, knowledgeable lady who told us the history of the house.

She led us to the 1769 "Wilson-Warner House" which was decorated for the Holiday Season, and, author, Jane Austin was being honored this year. The contents of each room were explained to us along with the display of period clothing. Jane Austin books were displayed chronologically from room to room. I must admit that after the tour I decided to watch the movie Pride and Prejudice when we returned home.

Next we entered the 1774 "Corbit-Sharp House," a National Historic Landmark. It is a handsome example of Philadelphia-Georgian style. Builder William Corbit, the town's leading citizen, operated a tannery on the Appoquinimink Creek. The furnishings in several of the rooms were original to the house.

This house was the initial reason for our trip as it housed thirty-three Christmas trees decorated by various organizations. The theme for the decorations this year was books. Of special interest to us was the tree decorated by Unity Chapter, OES, Lewes, Delaware. Our book "The Whispering Star" set the tone for a tree covered with stars; some were the OES shooting star. It was beautiful.



I was delighted to also see a tree decorated by Delaware Freemasons, Ionic Lodge #31. Their book was "My Dad is a Freemason."

By this time hunger pangs were starting and as the tour had ended, we walked across the street to 1822 "Cantwell's Tavern" at Historic Brick Hotel. We had a choice of regional fare and all enjoyed a delicious lunch.

Then it was time to head home. I am so proud of the Eastern Star's decorated tree and the story it told of our organization.

## Tennessee chapter reaches out to Masonic widows

Henderson Chapter 120 sent a Christmas card with a picture of its members to the widows of our Masonic brothers.

The chapter also sent one to our inactive members with added newsletter of projects and events we have enjoyed participating in this year.



# Community Caretakers event sponsored by Ohio Masonic Family

For the past 31 Christmases, West Carrollton and Dayton area first responders have enjoyed hot food and warm fellowship at the Community Caretakers event, which is sponsored by the West Carrollton Masonic bodies.

From 5 pm Christmas Eve through 7 pm Christmas Day, members of West Carrollton Lodge #737 F&AM, Friendship Chapter #245 Royal Arch Masons, and Jacob Eby Chapter #571 Order of the Eastern Star, provide hot food and a place to fellowship to the area first responders. Police officers from neighboring cities, county sheriff's deputies, state highway patrol officers, fire, and EMS crews, and even snowplow drivers participate in the event.

The Community Caretakers Project began in 1994 under the direction of Vicki and Charlie Cooper and continues to this day. In

2025 there were ninety-one first responders served. During the 26 hours there were forty-two volunteers from Masonic Bodies, friends, and family. This included 19 Eastern Star members.

A buffet of non-traditional holiday food is offered, including cabbage rolls, fried chicken, pizza, meatloaf and lasagna, shrimp and crab, and tacos. Homemade quiche, breakfast casseroles, and biscuits with gravy are served Christmas morning. Cookies and cakes and other sweet treats round out the offerings, along with granola bars and things for the officers to take back for later. To go boxes are always ready to be filled for the dispatchers and others who cannot leave the stations.

Local restaurants donate their specialties and friends and members from all the bodies provide financial donations along with food

and most importantly the gift of their time at Christmas to make the event happen. There are folks who stay through the night to help keep things going and others come early Christmas morning to wash dishes, and others come back at the end of the event to clean up. It is truly a village that makes this happen.



Charlie and Vicki Cooper, Event Coordinators

In 2020 the City of West Carrollton honored the Coopers for 25 years of Community Service. Vicki has served as Worthy Matron of Jacob Eby Chapter five times, and Charlie has been Worthy Patron seven times.

Charlie and Vicki always take pictures of those in attendance to be placed in the library of photo albums. After enjoying their meal the officers look through the photo albums, seeing their younger selves and looking for their mentors in their earlier days. Charlie said he feels "the best part of the project is to watch officers move up the ladder and grow from rookies into leadership positions." Retired officers often stop by visit with the "young'uns" and reminisce. Vicki collects her traditional hugs from the guys and gals before they resume their shifts, they always tell her to "keep this up and don't let it die." Vicki's response is always "With the help of our brothers and sisters we intend to keep this going for you for years to come."



Charlie Cooper, Sherry Bosse – Grand Warden of Ohio, & Mike Smith, Worthy Patron Jacob Eby #571

## California chapter uses fourth Monday for service, education and more

**Submitted by Don Snyder, PGP-CA**  
South Pasadena #21, California

Many Star chapters have gone from two monthly meetings down to one. My chapter South Pasadena #21 in Southern California made this change in our bylaws several years ago. However, we reserved our time at our Masonic center for the second monthly meeting to be used for various events. Since we previously met for our regular meetings on the second and fourth Mondays and now only have stated meetings on the second Monday, we call these nights "The Fourth Monday".

What do we do on these evenings? We try to organize them into three repeating categories: Community Service, Education and Fellowship. Here are some examples for the first category. We pack homeless kits, back to school supplies, collect food, bring in speakers from local schools and collect money for their needs or raise awareness for their causes. These are just some examples of Community Service.

Our chapter feels strongly about Masonic education. On education nights we have discussions of our ethics and philosophy. We discuss the origins of the Masonic Fraternity and the Eastern Star. We take aspects of our ritual and ponder on the symbolism of the order. We discuss why, in initiation we walk the labyrinth as we do.

Are the colors of the star in a specific order and could they represent creation through the colors of the alchemical elements of earth, air, fire and water. If Martha's column were complete, not broken, on a different plane what would its capital be and why.

There are no correct answers, but the discussions can be very enlightening. We also hold "new member classes" which are good for any member of the Order who wants to refresh why they are in the Order in the first place. We also will have initiations on this evening which keeps our Stated Meetings from being too long and keeps a focus on the Initiation itself.

We use the other Monday for things like wine

tastings, paint nights, lectures about architecture or entertainment. We may have one of our Masons in the State who is involved in the George Washington Memorial come and speak about it. There are endless possibilities here. We will give presentations on our landmarks such as Perry Belmont House, Rob Morris Home, The Little Red Schoolhouse and The International Peace Garden Chapel.

Our evenings are open to anyone, member or guest, and we invite all other chapters to join us. These events are held at the same time as our monthly meetings and are at our lodge so there is no confusion as to time or place. And we never cancel whether we have five or fifty participants. In other words, we are consistent. We advertise on our State FB page and on our own as well. We serve light refreshments and find the friendships deepened or created make these invaluable to us and to our surrounding community.



# Attracting younger members to Star: Things to consider

**Submitted by Cheryl Maslowski,**  
PGM of Ohio  
GGCM-Eastern Star4 Journal

As a part of Ohio's "Strike a Chord" Ohio Grand Chapter year in 2024, we asked a few OES friends to think about ways of attracting and retaining younger members in our chapters. They formed a group called "Young At Heart" and not only brainstormed a list of ideas to implement but planned an event at our Grand Chapter to invite younger members to gather in a social setting in order to get to know each other and start conversations going that will promote their endeavor.

The two members of the "Young At Heart" committee included Bradley Campbell and Kalyn Bruce. Bradley is an excited and eager newer member. He was initiated into Home City Chapter #258 in October of 2019. Since that time, he has served as Chaplain, Associate Patron, Worthy Patron, became a dual member of Olivet Chapter #258, has served as a Grand Aide twice, and currently is on the State Charities Committee, is a trustee for his chapter, and is on the Board of Governors for the Dayton Children's Dyslexia Center. Bradley states, "I believe it's not only exciting to bring in new members, it's essential for continued growth and our future." Bradley is a true example of a younger member who is active and making a difference in our Eastern Star community. Bradley also plays a key role in his Masonic life, currently serving as Vice President of the 6th Capitular District

of Royal Arch Masons of Ohio and is a member of St. Andrew's Lodge #619 and AASR Scottish Rite Valley of Dayton.

Kalyn Bruce is a member of Bryan Chapter #248 in the NW corner of Ohio. She was initiated in May of 2010, and since then she has served her chapter as Electa, Martha, and has gone through the elected line being Worthy Matron two times. She has also served the Ohio Grand Chapter as a Charities Director, Grand Page several times, and Grand Representative of North Carolina in Ohio. Kalyn states, "The Eastern Star has truly been a blessing in my life, providing opportunities for service, leadership, personal growth, and most importantly, cherished friendships.

I believe it is vital for us to focus on welcoming new members who are enthusiastic and ready to be actively involved. Like many organizations, we've seen a decline in membership over the years, and to maintain the strength and vitality of our chapters, we must continue engaging individuals who have a genuine interest in contributing. New members — regardless of age — bring fresh ideas, energy, and perspectives that strengthen our chapters while preserving the traditions that have guided us for generations.

While all members are valued, I believe it's important to also focus on bringing in younger individuals. By doing so, we help build a strong foundation for the future, providing new members many years to serve and develop a lifelong love for the Masonic family of

organizations.

With the recent changes to our eligibility requirements, we now have a unique opportunity to reach individuals who may not have previously qualified. These changes open the door to many who share our values but may not have had the Masonic family connection. This expanded eligibility allows us to introduce more people to the mission and service of Eastern Star, ensuring continued growth for our organization.

To foster growth and attract active members, we can take several steps — hosting open houses, partnering with local Masonic lodges, youth, and community organizations, engaging in public service projects that reflect our values, offering mentorship programs to guide new members, and utilizing social media and community outreach to share the good work we do.

By creating a welcoming, active, and inclusive environment — and fully embracing the opportunities provided by our updated eligibility — we can continue to honor the rich traditions of the Eastern Star while building a strong and vibrant future for generations to come."

It is my hope that our Order will continue to bring attention to attracting younger members. Doing what we've always done in the past is not working, so I challenge you to think "outside the box" and be ready to embrace some changes that will entice younger members to our fold.

## The Power of Youth and what they bring to our table

*Bradley Campbell, a Past Patron of Home City Chapter #258 in Ohio, and a younger member of Eastern Star, compiled the following information that would be helpful in attracting more youthful members into the order.*

### The Power of Youth: What They Bring to an Organizations' Table

The younger generation, often misunderstood or underutilized, is an energetic reservoir of potential. They're not just future leaders; they are active, influential participants in today's social discourse. Driven by values, adaptability, and a desire for authentic impact, their involvement can invigorate an organization's mission.

Beyond sheer numbers, they offer innovative ideas, bridges to new communities, and the ability to authentically connect with their peers. By understanding and valuing what the youth bring, organizations can unlock new avenues for growth, relevance, and impact.

#### **1. Understanding Their Worldview**

Before you can engage effectively, it's crucial to understand the driving forces behind these younger generations.

#### **Value-Driven Activism**

Millennials and Gen Z are deeply committed to causes, not just organizations. They are more inclined to support initiatives that resonate with their personal values and beliefs.

*Continued on next page*

- Such as your efforts to collect/distribute hats, mittens, etc. for local elementary schools

- Can someone describe this to me?

### **Digital Natives with a Global Perspective**

Having grown up in the digital age, these generations are globally connected. They're aware of international issues and often see themselves as global citizens.

- Think about what we as Eastern Star members do to make an impact globally. Try to engage in that space. Promote what you do on a larger scale.

### **2. Embracing Technology**

The digital realm is the primary playground for the younger folks. Engage them where they are.

#### **Social Media Engagement**

Platforms like Instagram, TikTok, and Twitter are not just for entertainment. They can be potent tools for awareness, fundraising, and mobilization.

#### **Interactive Websites**

A dynamic, mobile-friendly website can be a powerful tool. Integrate options for volunteering sign-ups, and interactive multimedia content.

#### **Virtual Events and Webinars**

Given the comfort level with digital platforms, virtual events can be a significant draw, especially if they're interactive and engaging.

- iHeart Media for instance, uses Live Streaming at events to encourage real-time attendance for those that cannot make the event AND post event engagement for those that missed the event all together.

### **3. Authentic Communication**

The younger generations value transparency, accountability, and authenticity.

#### **Openness and Transparency**

Be clear about where donations go, how initiatives are progressing, and even areas where the organization faces challenges. Authenticity fosters trust.

#### **Storytelling Over Statistics**

While numbers can be impactful, personal stories resonate deeply. Share narratives of individuals impacted by the organization's work.

### **4. Involve Them Actively**

Passive support is not the style of the young. They want to be involved.

#### **Youth Advisory**

Boards Consider setting up youth councils or advisory boards to involve them in decision-making processes.

#### **Micro-Volunteering Opportunities**

Not everyone can commit long hours. Offer short, impactful volunteering stints, which can be as simple as digital tasks.

- Ask a classroom (High-school or Freshman in college) to help you implement a digital change in your online presence. They could receive school credits and hopefully engage with you on a larger scale over time.

### **5. Educate and Empower**

Young people are keen on personal growth and empowerment.

#### **Workshops and Training**

Offer training sessions in areas like leadership, activism, digital

campaigning, etc. This not only builds skills but also strengthens their bond with your organization.

#### **Mentorship Programs**

Pairing younger members with experienced professionals can facilitate two-way learning and foster deeper engagement. There are many ways mentoring can be done.

- Think about an "Adopt a Grandma/Grandpa" program. Much like "Lil' Brothers/Sisters" program only offering children who need the loving arms and insights of another generation.

### **6. Recognize and Celebrate Their Contributions**

Every bit of effort, whether big or small, deserves acknowledgment.

#### **Digital Badges and Certificates**

Consider offering digital acknowledgments for their efforts, which they can proudly display on their social profiles or CVs.

#### **Spotlight Stories**

Feature their success stories, testimonials, or experiences on your platforms, be it newsletters, websites, or social media.

### **7. Fostering Community and Belonging**

#### **Peer-to-Peer Campaigns**

Leverage the networks of young supporters, encouraging them to reach out to their peers and create ripple effects.

- Challenge them to encourage participation and friendly rivalries

#### **Collaborative Projects**

Provide platforms where young volunteers can collaborate on projects, fostering a sense of community and collective achievement.

#### **Student Chapters and Clubs**

Facilitate the setup of university or school groups of your organization, encouraging on-ground activities and local outreach.

### **12. Flexibility and Adaptation**

#### **Dynamic Engagement Models**

Recognize that the ways in which young people want to contribute can change rapidly. Offer diverse engagement models to cater to shifting interests and commitments.

#### **Surveys and Regular Check-ins**

Regularly gauge the interests, feedback, and preferences of your young demographic to stay updated and relevant.

#### **Navigating the Path Forward: Embracing Youthful Energy**

In conclusion, engaging the younger generation isn't about changing them but evolving with them. By understanding their motivations, leveraging their digital prowess, and offering meaningful involvement opportunities, nonprofits can harness the boundless energy and passion that Millennials and Gen Z bring to the table. The future of philanthropy is young and vibrant, and with the right strategies, nonprofits can make this journey both impactful and mutually rewarding.

# Breakfast with Santa in Ohio

**Submitted by Joyce Patton, Worthy Matron**

Guernsey #211, Cambridge, OH

Guernsey Chapter #211 in District 15 held their Second Annual Breakfast with Santa on Saturday November 15. This is a fundraiser for the Chapter as well as a time for parents to enjoy a family-oriented outing with their children. Cost is "by donation only".

This year we had 22 children, 19 adults and seven Guernsey Chapter members in attendance. Santa and Mrs. Claus are members of Woodsfield Chapter #268, also in District 15. Everyone had pancakes and sausage, all cooked by our Associate Patron. The children talked with Santa and received a stuffed toy, made crafts, and received a free kid's meal coupon provided by the local Ruby Tuesday Restaurant, and a candy cane from the Chapter. Parents could take all the pictures they wanted at no cost, and a great time was had by all.

This will, hopefully, continue to be an annual fundraiser for Guernsey Chapter #211, as this year's attendance and funds raised both doubled that of last year.



## Local community well served by Ohio chapter

**Submitted by Debbie Snell**

Evelyn #146, Chesterville, OH

Evelyn Chapter #146, located in Chesterville, Ohio, has been busy serving their community and members.

On 1st in November they donated 90.00 to help the Seniors at Benington Glen Nursing Home. With this amount they purchased little gifts and some wrapping products so residents could go pick items out and wrap them for their family members and friends. It was their Christmas for Seniors.

Then in December they adopted three Angels off the giving tree at Highland Elementary School, and they adopted three stars off the giving tree at their local library and purchased three items the residents requested and purchased for them.

They continued with the Christmas Spirit and had a luncheon at Chesterville's new Fire Station. They were able to eat with the firefighters and ask questions and visit the new Fire Station.

They signed and mailed out Christmas cards and took care of four of their shut-ins and filled Christmas items and split up who would be delivering.

They had their Christmas dinner at their last meeting in December. The song "Paper Angels" was played to remind members that the giving off the Angel trees gave their Chapter a sense of pride as they were able to put smiles on faces they don't even know. It was a busy, few months.

## Small Arizona chapter makes big donations to local charities

For several years, Verde Valley #7 of Cottonwood, Arizona, has been making steady contributions to two local Verde Valley charities.

The Verde Valley sanctuary is a shelter for women who have suffered from domestic violence or sexual assault. Diamond Chapter 7 in Cottonwood supported them for many years prior to consolidating with Sedona #58 to become Sedona #7, which continued to support the sanctuary. When the chapter moved back to Cottonwood, it was renamed Verde Valley #7. Verde Valley still donates \$60 worth of paper and feminine products to the Sanctuary, which totals \$720 per year. This has been a continuing project of the chapter for several decades.

In addition to the \$60 per month to the Verde Valley Sanctuary, for the past few years Verde Valley #7 has been donating an additional \$60 per month to the Cottonwood senior center for its Meals on Wheels project. This also adds up to \$720 per year.

The little chapter in Cottonwood takes the watchword "charity" to heart as it continues to make a big impact on local charities for many years, and has no plans to stop anytime soon.



# West Virginia members have hearts of gold for service dogs

On a chilly Sunday afternoon in November 2025, the West Virginia Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star became the “puppy parents” for five loving little girls. The WV Grand Chapter has teamed up with the WVU Hearts of Gold Service Dog Training Center to work together to help our new “babies” to be trained to assist veterans. Cindi Shockey, WGM and Dale Meadows, WGP were at the happy occasion with Service Dogs and Veterans Needs being their chosen projects during this year. Cindi shared, “We’ve seen how much a service animal can help veterans and others with special needs, making their lives much better.”

The WVU Hearts of Gold program trains



Worthy Grand Matron Cindi Shockey and Worthy Grand Patron Dale Meadows along with newly christened canine Ruth and her trainer.



Front row: Bill Shockey, General Grand Chapter Committee Member, Co-Chair Service Dogs; Dr. Jean Steadman, Veterinary Consultant for Hearts of Gold (holding Electa); Cindi Shockey, Worthy Grand Matron of WV. Second Row: Dale Meadows, Worthy Grand Patron of WV and Debbie Dhayer, Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron of GGC

puppies from the time they are born to become service dogs for people who need them. The puppies learn to help with both emotional support as well as physical support. Some are taught to jump up to put gentle weight on a person having anxiety or even grab a tissue for someone who has just sneezed.

One of the trainers at WVU Hearts of Gold explained that the focus of this program is the training of service dogs for veterans to provide them to the veterans at no cost. The cost for the housing, training and health checks can cost upwards to \$30,000 per dog over a two-to-three-year period. The West Virginia Grand Chapter has embraced this project to help defer that cost.

Now, this new class of fluffy helpers is starting their journey. This Sunday in November was the day for our baby girls to be “christened” with their official OES names. We have ADAH Fanta, RUTH Sprite, ESTHER Pepper, MARTHA Misty, and Poppi ELECTA. The Worthy Grand Matron wrote and presented a Blessing Ceremony for the day. Each puppy was presented a collar with their christening name attached to their collar. Adah Fanta received a blue collar, Ruth Sprite had a yellow collar, Esther Pepper received a white collar, with Martha Misty receiving a green collar and Poppi Electa was given a red collar.

The day went off without hitch!!! It was a well-organized event by the West Virginia Grand Chapter Service Dog Committee members. Teresa Cisco serves as chair with Sandy Dumire, Amanda Shockey, Nikki

Shockey, Cindy Kline, Norine Waugaman, Heather Kidd, Alissa Williams, Sandy Harper, Sara Chapman, Stacey Bonner, and Virginia

Dixon. It was a furry-filled, fun-filled day for the 53 attendees. There were three veterans with their service dogs from previous puppy classes that participated and were happy to “show off” the many skills their furry buddies provide for their improved quality of life.... things as important as alerting for seizures to opening the dryer to help with laundry. It was a rewarding, learning day for all.

West Virginia Grand Chapter was able to present a check for \$1,578 to the center to help establish the first service dog professional journal that will focus in the development of training techniques, matching protocols and methods, service dog wellness and care, and many of the various caveats found in the world of service dogs. This professional journal will be the first totally committed to service dogs. It was a wonderful way to begin our year-long campaign to help off-set costs.

After the ceremony, a reception was held to allow the over-flowing guests for the occasion to meet our newest five heroines, canine-style.

It was a Paw-some day!!!



Dr. Jean Steadman, Veterinary Consultant for Hearts of Gold and Cindi Shockey, Worthy Grand Matron of WV presenting WV Grand Chapter \$1,578 donation to Hearts of Gold.



Staff trainer describing the uses of service dogs and training techniques used to all visitors in attendance.

# British Columbia & Yukon holds jurisdiction's first ever outdoor Official Visit

**Submitted by Cheryl Rikley, WGM**  
British Columbia & Yukon

On Sunday morning, Aug. 17, 2025, many of our members awoke to the worry of rain. On Vancouver Island, off the west coast of British Columbia, Canada it rains often. In the summer, if it is not a rainy time it can be rather hot for outdoor events. Courtenay, in the Comox Valley, is one of our beautiful cities on the Island and on this day was the location of our jurisdiction's first ever Outdoor Official Visit.

Our members, Carol and Robert McLellan live on property in the area. Some years ago, Robert had created an area for an outdoor Masonic lodge in a partial clearing in the woods. On a road trip with Carol and other Sisters, I heard about this outdoor space and suddenly had the same thought. What about an outdoor Eastern Star Official Visit in that space?

My Eastern Star partner and I were AGM & AGP when we asked permission of Florence Chapter to do this. Fortunately, our very forward-thinking WM and WP of Florence Chapter, Sister Barb Flesh and Brother Gerry Flesh, Grand Sentinel, worked with their Chapter to ensure this was possible.

What a day it was! We arrived in the late morning for a wonderful outdoor lunch before we walked down to the "Chapter Room". It was breathtaking. On our Island we have the most serene scenery and natural beauty. Tall fir trees, log and bench seats surrounded the "room". The Altar was a large knotted stump that I asked to remain uncovered. In the labyrinth the Star points had antique looking chairs that Sis. Carol had refinished and painted for the event.

The East was adorned with benches that sat all the Grand Officers.

The meeting was run by WM Sister Barbara and WP Brother Gerry Flesh, Grand Sentinel. For entertainment the Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron entertained us with a hilarious skit about the idea of forming our Order acting as Mrs. Morris and Bro. Rob Morris.

As time was drawing to a close, we looked around us in quiet reverence. The tall fir trees were almost touching at their tops, forming a cathedral. The long sweeping branches swept down as if holding us in God's arms. I have never felt closer to God than at this time in this place.

My heart was full, my brain was clear, and



Members of British Columbia & Yukon gather for outdoor Official Visit.



my soul was satisfied.

So many thanks to our Sisters and Brothers who shared in this amazing tribute to our natural surroundings; they were not disappointed.

To our wonderful Florence Chapter, the WGP and I know how much work this was for you and are so very grateful that you were able to provide all of us with this beautiful memory of a lifetime.



**INTERNATIONAL GRAND REPRESENTATIVES ASSOCIATION**  
**“IGRA” MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ~ 2024-2027**  
**(Former & Current)**

President:  
Molly Veile, PM  
13369 S Avenue 14 1/2 E  
Yuma, AZ 85367-9259  
marching@frontiernet.net

**PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY**

Secretary/Treasurer:  
Laurel Wadley, PM  
8867 N Majestic Mtn Dr  
Tucson, AZ 85742-4503  
strawberrystar@sisna.com

**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Initial: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone/Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jurisdiction of \_\_\_\_\_ In: \_\_\_\_\_ Years: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
(State You Represent) (Your State/Province)



The IGRA Full Color 16"x72" Chiffon Scarf/Wrap was custom designed by President Molly Veile. It represents a marriage of Arizona Sunrises and Sunsets and the Kentucky Rolling Hills. The outer edge includes the names of the Eastern Star Jurisdictions and Grand Chapters. Also, notice the Arizona Spirit Bear and Kentucky's Thoroughbred horses.

**Please Note: Billie & Mike would like you to know that All OES members can purchase & wear this beautiful Scarf/Wrap.**

**NOTE: When you are ONLY paying Dues:** Mail entire form, along with a **SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE**, to the Secretary listed above. Make checks payable to **“IGRA”, in US FUNDS (CHECK or MONEY ORDER).**

IGRA Dues (2024-2027)	\$10.00	X	_____	\$	_____
IGRA Scarf/Wrap	\$50.00	X	_____	\$	_____
President's "Spirit Bear" Lapel Pin (2024-2027)	\$ 5.00	X	_____	\$	_____
Large IGRA Lapel Pin (for members only)	\$10.00	X	_____	\$	_____
Small IGRA Lapel Pin (for members only)	\$ 6.00	X	_____	\$	_____
IGRA Handbook	\$ 7.00	X	_____	\$	_____
Button Cover w/"Spirit Bear" emblem	\$ 5.00	X	_____	\$	_____

**SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS. For ALL US deliveries add \$8.00 for Postage.**  
**For shipping outside of the USA, FIRST email your full address to the Secretary at [strawberrystar@sisna.com](mailto:strawberrystar@sisna.com), to be sent the shipping costs to your Jurisdiction.....**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\* TOTAL DUE** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

You can find this application, and more information on IGRA, at the following websites:

Arizona Grand Chapter: <https://www.azoes.org/>

General Grand Chapter: <https://easternstar.org/>

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**OFFICE:** Date Rec. \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Deposit: \_\_\_\_\_

## ITINERARY - JANUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## ITINERARY - FEBRUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						Aruba Cruise
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>Official Visit and Cruise to Aruba - Feb. 7-15</b>						
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<b>GGCTrustees Feb. 15-17, Washington DC</b>						
Aruba Cruise						
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

## ITINERARY - MARCH 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<b>OV-Louisiana, Mar 21-25, Sulphur, Honor RWG Treasurer</b>						
29	30	31				

## ITINERARY - APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
				<b>OV-Mississippi, April 14-16, Vicksburg</b>		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		<b>OV-Florida, April 14-16, St. Augustine</b>				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		<b>OV-Kansas, April 20-22, Topeka</b>				
26	27	28	29	30		
<b>OV-Tennessee, April 26-29, Lebanon, Honor RWAGP</b>				<b>OV-DC, April 29-May 2, Falls Church</b>		

**NOTES:** Other GC Sessions in April: Connecticut, April 23-25; Manitoba, April 26-29; Maryland, April 27-30; Saskatchewan, April 30-May 2, Saskatoon; Minnesota, April 29-May 2, St. Cloud.

## ITINERARY - MAY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
				OV-DC, April 29-May 2, Falls Church		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	GGCTrustees May 4-6, Washington DC					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		OV-Nebraska, May 12-14, Kearney				
17	18	19	40 20	21	22	23
	OV-Virginia, May 18-20, Richmond Honor RWG Secretary					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	OV-Puerto Rico, San Juan					
31						

**NOTES:** Other GC Sessions in May: District of Columbia, April 29-May 2, Falls Church; Saskatchewan, April 30-May 2, Saskatoon; Delaware, May 11-12, Rehoboth Beach; Massachusetts, May 13-17, Boxborough; Maine, May 17-20, Rockport; Wisconsin, May 19-21; British Columbia/Yukon, May 25-27, Nanaimo; Manitoba, May 25-27, Winnipeg.  
Dates and Locations TBD: New Jersey

## ITINERARY - JUNE 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
			OV-Vermont, June 3-5, Essex Junction			OV-No. Carolina
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	OV-North Carolina, June 6-10, Durham			OV-Georgia, June 11-14, Stone Mtn.		
14 OV-Georgia	15	16	17	18	19	20
	OV-South Carolina, June 14-17, Columbia					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	OV-Pennsylvania, June 26-29, York, Honor WGAdah					
28 OV-Pennsylvania, June 26-29		30				

**NOTES:** Other GC Sessions in June: North Dakota, June 3-6, Fargo; Alberta, June 5-7, Olds; Indiana, June 12-14, Muncie; Idaho, June 14-16; Montana, June 17-20, Billings; Oregon, June 21-24, Pendleton; Washington, June 29-July 1