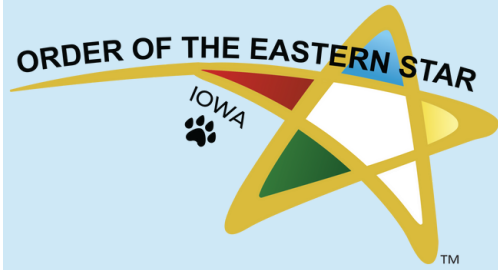


MARCH 2024

VOLUME 52 ISSUE 2



Iowa Galaxy



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MESSAGE FROM THE WORTHY GRAND MATRON AND WORTHY GRAND PATRON

Submitted by: Mary Reicks and Joe Reed

Shalom!

State School is a wrap and we could not be prouder of your Shining Star Grand Officers who let their lights shine bright at State School! Congratulations to the Board of Custodians, Sisters Polly, Cheryl, and Vicki, and your District Instructors on a very successful State School. Your Instructors are looking forward to visiting your chapters for your District Schools and Business Schools.

We have enjoyed reading and hearing about all the plans the Grand Chapter Committees are making. We attended a successful sewing days in Hills and West Union. We saw newspaper clippings about a successful TLC Day in Oelwein that had several photos and the headline "Eastern Star Sews for veterans, NICU". Great job spreading the light! There are more TLC days planned. Be sure to check Facebook or the webpage for information and plan to attend one or more! We look forward to photos that are shared as members publish photos of their OES Journey and send them to beccaw.oes@gmail.com

As you have the opportunity to share the light of Eastern Star, consider borrowing one of the banners designed by the Marketing Committee. Contact Danelle Essing or Christa Guthrie to make arrangements to use one of them. The Marketing Committee has also made brochures available to spread the word of ESTARL with people in your community. They are available on the webpage. Print several and share them with those who would benefit.

CONTINUED: MESSAGE FROM THE WGM AND WGP

Plan to have your Chapter honored at Grand Chapter by getting a bingo blackout on the new Chapter Bingo card, that can be found on the website and Facebook.

Our journeys have taken us to Fun Days, Chapter initiations, State School, Chapter meetings, Sewing Days, and more. We have been to the River and The River and everywhere in between and we always find Sisters and Brothers with smiles on their faces, plenty of food, and warm caring hearts.

As we travel the state we have the pleasure and honor of announcing new Grand Representatives! Sometimes we get to surprise them at an Eastern Star event and other times we surprise them at their home or on the road. We have a few people we are still planning to meet soon!

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at your District Schools, Fun Days, TLC Days, and other activities around the state! Remember Fun Days and TLC Days are open to everyone. Invite your family and friends. Check the website for some updates to the calendar. Remember it's not just about the journey or the destination, it's about the people you meet along the way!

Congratulations to the following new Grand Representatives!

MARY AND JOE

Jurisdiction	Grand Representative
Illinois	Laverta Yoder
British Columbia and Yukon	Dianne Robinson
California	Graham Raulerson
Deleware	Jim Spratte
Massachusetts	Janice Wauson
New Mexico	Karen Shields
Saskatchewan	Shirley Peterson
Wisconsin	Betty Briggs
New Jersey	JoAnn Bergeson
Oklahoma	Margaret Hahn
New Brunswick	Deb Anderson
Connecticut	Terry Osborne



UPDATES FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY

Submitted by: Nancy Ramthun

Greetings from the Grand Chapter Office,

I hope this note finds you doing well. I know we have members that are experiencing health concerns, and to you, we send our thoughts and prayers.

I have a few things to share with you. First, I am planning a Secretary/Treasurer Conference, Saturday, July 6th, the time is TBD but it will be held at the Grand Chapter Office. Please mark your calendars, I hope you plan to attend. I will have the official invitation in the next chapter mailing. It will also appear on the OES website and our OES Facebook page. I am also working on the 2024 Golf registration forms. This too will be included in the mailing along with our media outlets.

I have twelve 2023 Chapter Annual Reports that are now outstanding. Secretaries, please mail your reports to me ASAP, the deadline to avoid the late fee of \$10.00 was March 1st. If I have not received your chapter's Annual Report, please included the late fee with your payment. I would like to add when you are making out your check for your annual dues, please do not add other payment items to this check. This is the only time I ask that you don't add multiple dollars to a check.

As we enjoy the beautiful weather we have been given let us be most grateful as it is still the middle of March.

In Star Love,
Nancy

NOTE FROM YOUR ASSOCIATE GRAND MATRON

Submitted By: Sandy Meredith

I would just like to remind our Chapters, if they would like an Official Visit, Fun Day, Host the Degree's, etc. in 2025, please send me a note. Bill and I are starting to work on our calendar and we would welcome a visit with your Chapter. If you gave me a verbal request, send me a reminder.

Let us know of any Chapter members that would be willing to be on committees or Grand Representatives.

Looking forward to 2025!

Sandy
Associate Grand Matron, District Instructor



GRAND CHAPTER INPUT REQUEST

Submitted By: Kaylene Kiewiet

As Chairman of the Arrangements Committee, I want you to know that we are working diligently on many things for Grand Chapter. We need your help and are asking for your suggestions on a couple of things we are implementing. We have always had vendors in the past and plan to again this year. We would like to know what you as the consumer would like to see as NEW vendors and if you have any suggestions. Please send your suggestions to our Vendor Chairman, Lorretta Coffman at blcoffman00@gmail.com. Also, would you like to bring your lightly used formal clothing (women and men) to sell as a donation to Grand Chapter again this year? We want to make sure we have enough space for everything...and are always open to suggestions.



Thank you for your attention to these items. Please share this at your regular monthly meeting as many don't use computers/internet. We appreciate you and your input.

MARCH 2024

OH THE "PAW" SIBILITIES

Submitted by: Janice Megel

Dear Sisters and Brothers,



VOLUME 52 ISSUE 2
**RETRIEVING
 FREEDOM INC**

Our Special Project for this year is " Oh the Pawsibilities"; RETRIEVING FREEDOM SERVICE DOG PROJECTS.

Eastern Star is partnering with Retrieving Freedom to help support their dedication to training service dogs. Their primary focus is training dogs to serve the needs of veterans and children with autism. Proceeds from the following go to this project:

1. Sale of Bicycle pins
2. Note Cards
3. 5K/Walkathon/Silent Auction (October 5, 2024)
4. Quilt Raffles
5. OES Golf Outing (June 28, 2024)
6. Mystery Dinner Theater (East July 13, 2024 and West July 27, 2024)
- 7....There will be more functions and information to come!

One way you can donate to this project is to make payments to "The Order of Eastern Star Foundation" and designate the donation go to the WGM's project. The donation will then be sent to "Retrieving Freedom" from Grand Chapter.



EASTERN STAR FOUNDATION BOARD

Submitted by: The Foundation Board

The Eastern Star Foundation of Iowa is a 501(c)(3) entity. It was established to have an additional tool to help increase the charitable works of Iowa Order of the Eastern Star. It is not intended to compete with any chapter project, Grand Chapter project, WGM or WGP project, nor any General Grand Chapter project. However, because of its structure, the foundation can accept a variety of monies and assets as charitable donations which can be used to help promote the good works that Eastern Star is known for. The foundation now has brochures available and much of its information is available on its website at Eastern Star Foundation of Iowa.

Our Mission:

The purpose of the Eastern Star Foundation of Iowa is to place into action the charitable tenets of the Order of the Eastern Star.

We are as tree branches - Ever reaching toward a higher purpose, yet firmly rooted and supporting each other.





LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES

Submitted by: Ellen Knupp

As the Chairman for the Little Free Libraries Committee, I'm not only filling libraries that are made and placed by our Members as part of the TLC Project, I'm helping to fill those already out there.

Today I received the following message from our Grand Ruth who had asked for a box of books for her community.

(Also want to send a shout out to Toledo Chapter and Susan Jones for the 2 extremely heavy totes, full of kids books to add to the collection.)



Hi Ellen,

I was in Le Mars today on an errand and I had my grandkids help me distribute the books that I picked up from you. I've attached pictures for you.

Star Love,

Linnea Clausen

WHAT IS A STAR? ~ FEATURING YOU

Submitted By: Danelle Essing

Our Worthy Grand Matron has tasked this year's Marketing Committee with creating a new "What is A Star" brochure, among others, in order to be more about Iowa Eastern Star. It's in the works, but there is a snag. What is needed are some pictures showing our members working on projects, attending events and enjoying Iowa's sights, history and activities. We'd rather SHOW folks how we as Eastern Stars like to spend our time together.

I made this request in the November Galaxy. BIG thank you to Ellen Knupp, who sent me some great pictures from Malta Chapter activities and from the Country Kids' service project. Gold star for you! Where are the rest of you??

Do you have favorite Star photos from post-covid you are willing to share with us in brochures? Send them! Please identify the event, when and where it was held, and each person in the photo. If there are one or more minor family members or other minors in the picture, we must have a completed media release form for each minor (found on the Iowa Grand Chapter web page for the Galaxy).



Email those jpgs or pdfs to essingdr@mchsi.com. (Snagging photos off a web site pixilates them and they are not high quality enough for reproduction in a brochure.) Media release forms may be snail-mailed or scanned and emailed. Can't wait to see your photos! Thank you.

Left: Malta Chapter members delivering goodies to first responders (fire fighters) Love this O.E.S. shirts!

Top: Country Kids revitalizing the Boone Home cemetery.

TLC COMMITTEE

Submitted By: Carolyn Smith

A sewing day was held on February 24 in Hills, Iowa to work on TLC projects. I reached out to area hospitals and they shared their needs and requests. It was mentioned they only need a few angel gowns. One hospital uses them for baptisms. I was also told the hospitals would rather have plain fleece blankets without crocheted edges. Their laundry is quite hard on them. One hospital sends a blanket home with baby that has the beautiful crochet work. Isn't that a lovely gift! Of course there are other venues that will appreciate these blankets. I urge you to reach out to your area hospital and ask for their needs and requests. Many hospitals have patterns available. It is a good way to introduce Eastern Star to the community and don't forget to attach our Star label with your work. I loved the chat I had with a hospital representative who was a former Rainbow girl. One thing leads to another! Best wishes and support the TLC projects.

Carolyn Smith
TLC Chairman



A PORT-A-CATH PILLOW “THANK YOU”

Submitted by: Danelle Essing

Did you know that Iowa Eastern Star members have been making port-a-cath pillows since 2003? This was a project introduced that year by the “Sew Much Love” Committee—a precursor to our current “TLC” Committee.

The patterns have changed over the years, but the need has not changed! Neither has the appreciation for these useful little cushions. Shown below is a letter received from a cancer patient at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in October 2023.

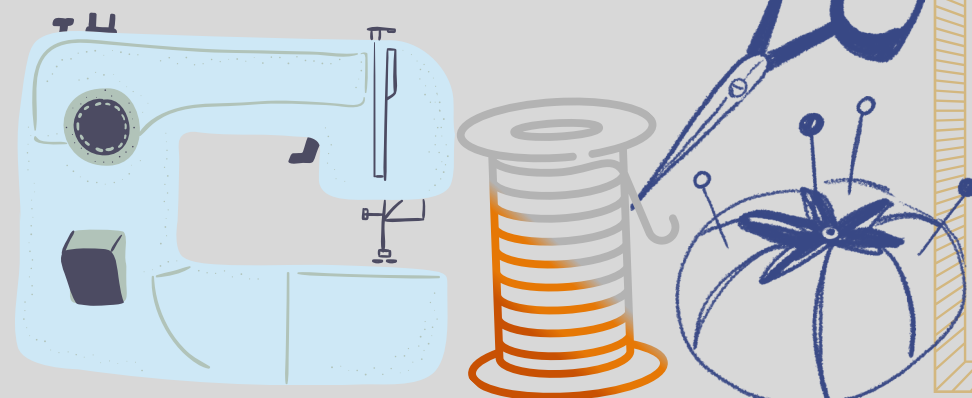
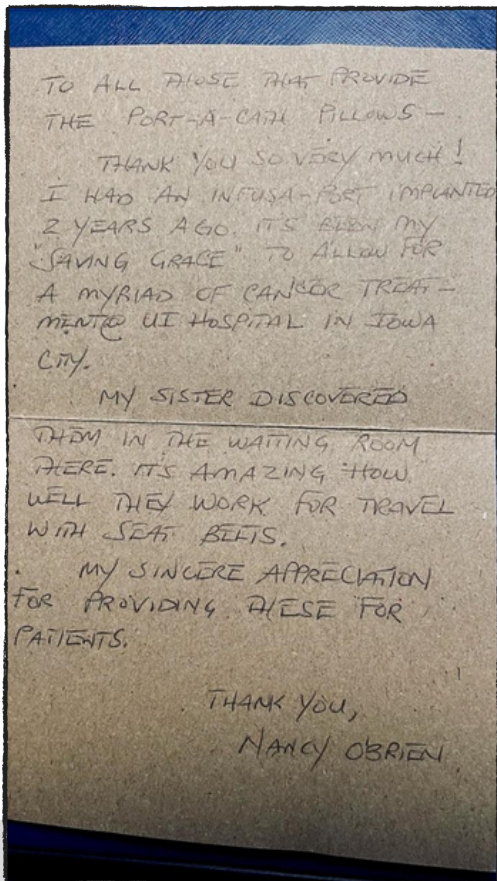
“To all those that provide the Port-A-Cath Pillows—

Thank you so very much! I had an Infusa-Port implanted 2 years ago. It's been my “saving grace” to allow for a myriad of cancer treatments at UI Hospital in Iowa City.

My sister discovered them in the waiting room there. It's amazing how well they work for travel with seat belts.

My sincere appreciation for providing these for patients.

*Thank you,
Nancy O'Brien*



SAVE THE DATE

TLC SEWING DAY
SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2024



MASONIC TEMPLE
304 FIRST STREET SE, MASON CITY, IOWA

Plenty of free parking – elevator available.

More details to follow soon.
All sewers and non-sewers are welcome.

SANDRA TRAINER, TLC COMMITTEE

QUILT OF VALOR DAY - APRIL 21ST

Submitted By: Pat Burch

We will be hosting several sites around the state for our Day of quilting. Here are the sites we have identified:

- Waverly Masonic Temple: Coordinator Irene Stocks
- Comanche Masonic Temple: Coordinator Mary Jane Young
- Des Moines Chapter, Pleasant Hill: Coordinator Sue McMMain & Pat Burch
- Mt Ayr Chapter: Coordinator Kathy Shields

We are working on a day in Northwest IA also, but it will be held on an alternate date than the 21st . If you wish to hold a day of sewing in another area of the state and would like to coordinate that, please contact Pat Burch.

Several have asked how the quilts will be distributed. We want these to go to any Veteran or active duty person in your area. They need not be members of our Order or Masons. I do keep a list of requests from members but it is not necessary to be on that list in order to receive one of these quilts. Presenting them in our area would be the best!



A pieced Quilt of Valor, waiting to be finished with batting, backing and quilting made during the Oelwein sewing day.

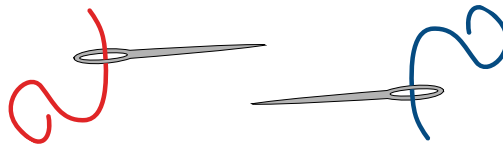
What we Need:

1. If you are planning to attend one of these sites, please send the coordinator of the site a message indicating you are planning to attend. In addition, please tell them a) your skill level and b) if you will be bringing a sewing machine. This will assist in preparing for the day. Remember you do not need to be a quilter to participate. Knowing how to operate a sewing machine and sew a straight line would be fine.
2. We still need long armer quilters to finish the quilts once we have the tops pieced. Let us know if you are willing to quilt one or two quilts.
3. And finally, this all costs. The average cost of fabric is \$13/yard and depending upon the design it can cost from \$40-\$60 to cover the cost of the top of the quilt. The batting and backing that is added to it is an additional cost. If we don't have quilters who will volunteer to finish the quilts that also adds between \$60-\$90. Please consider making a donation for this project, either individually or by Chapter. All donations are to be sent to the Grand Secretary.



OES Sewing Day

Submitted By: Diane King



Oelwein Chapter #45, Order of the Eastern Star, held a District 3 sewing day on Saturday, February 3, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Oelwein Masonic Temple.

The event was organized by Quilt of Valor state committee member Irene Stocks, who is also Oelwein Chapter's Worthy Matron.

The fun day was spent organizing Quilt of Valor kits, constructing the quilts, and making flannel hearts for the neonatal intensive care unit at the University of Iowa Hospital.

Top from left to right: Faye Faust, Joan Hillman, Mary Davis (at ironing board), and Harvey Davis. (Not pictured- Diane King)

Bottom: Irene Stocks does piecework as Bill Stocks presses.



WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH A MARKETING COMMITTEE?

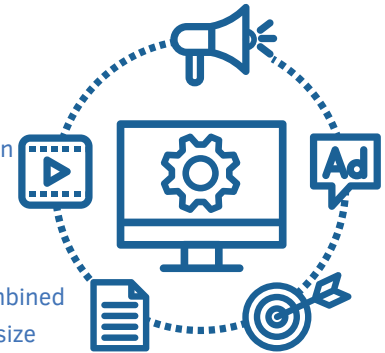
Submitted by: Danelle Essing

Why does Eastern Star need one of those? Consumer goods suppliers—from Apple to Coca Cola to Proctor & Gamble—recognize that marketing is a customer-oriented approach to delivering goods and services. Goals of marketing research usually emphasize growing a larger portion of the market in order to increase sales.

You ask: “What’s that got to do with Eastern Star?”

When implemented in non-profit organizations, proactive marketing techniques have been proven to reverse the trend of decreasing membership while increasing member involvement.

Our Order’s purpose, Ritual, philanthropic projects and community service programs combined make us specialized and unique. Using effective public relations methods, we can emphasize what makes O.E.S. different and present ourselves in the best possible ways. That’s called *promotion*.



There are so many ways now to “get out the word” to inform, remind and educate people about the tangible and intangible benefits of Eastern Star membership, charitable works and services and benevolent purposes.

Sometimes the most effective publicity is done one-on-one...maybe not Caitlin Clark style, but through personal references. When’s the last time you shared your Masonic origin story with a new or prospective member? What caught your attention and interest? What held your interest and inspired you to take an active role in your chapter? You are Eastern Star’s best walking, talking, breathing advertisement. Don’t hesitate to let your light shine!



We are now entering School of Instruction season, and here’s a thought about our Ritual. Did you know our District Instructors just completed their annual Ritual proficiency, instruction and examination at State School? Here in Iowa we have for years prized our Ritualistic proficiency. Truth be told now...when’s the last time **you** recited Ritual with another member holding the book on you? Or, just to back up a bit more—when’s the last time you actually read through your part in the Ritual?

One thing that sets O.E.S. apart from other community groups is our Ritual. Scripture-based and over 170 years old, the Ritual makes us unique and deserves our respect. Make a commitment now to review your Ritual wording before each meeting. Please?

Some time ago there was discussion about separating out the Ritual from our regular (business) meetings as a way to shorten our meetings and allow more time for fun and fellowship. One Eastern Star member (and a good Mason) told me afterward he hoped Eastern Star would not go this route. He said he knew of an appendant organization which did this, and it essentially lost its identity, splintered and declined. Respect the Ritual—it makes O.E.S. unique and elevates our purpose, giving us a marketing edge!

Next issue: The necessity of our Order to be willing to change in order to remain vital. Yes, that includes being willing to make changes to the Ritual.

If you’re thinking “How do I purchase a new ritual?”

Chapter Secretaries order rituals from the Grand Secretary. There are green rituals available in the large spiral (\$27.00) and small hard bound (\$20.00). The cost of shipping must be included with payment. Your next chapter meeting is a great time to determine if multiple members in your chapter are interested in a new ritual as shipping costs per ritual decrease with each ritual ordered.

Chapter Secretaries, the [2024 Order Form](#) to purchase rituals is available on the Secretaries Page on the Iowa OES Website.





Public Schools Committee Suggestions

The Public Schools Committee, composed of Segna Birkhofer and Marjorie Frisbie, has compiled ideas for our Shining Star chapters to consider this year. We want to support our public schools in many ways, both materially and by our physical presence. If you have ideas that you would like to share, please contact Segna at birksac@hotmail.com or Marjorie at frisbee18@hotmail.com.

Some ideas that you might want to consider are listed below.

1. Take supplies (paper, crayons, pencils, etc.) to your local schools.
2. Collect hats, gloves, scarves to share with your local schools.
3. Go to the schools and read to the children.
4. Help in a classroom during a regular day or special events day.
5. Greet children on a given morning as they arrive at school school.
6. Take a healthy snack to classrooms. (i.e. a special day in history, change of season, end of grading period, etc.)
7. Give child-sized underwear for boys and girls to the schools.
8. Take treats to the teachers' lounge and/or send a card(s) to teachers, thanking them for their hard work.



Be sure to take pictures to share on the website and Facebook. Share with your local media.

Look for an upcoming questionnaire about what you have done.

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Submitted by: John Hauser, Member of The International Headquarters Committee of The General Grand Chapter

I want to provide an update on the International Headquarters Committee so far this Triennium. The Perry Belmont House in Washington, DC., was constructed in 1909. Since 1935, it has been owned and has served as the Order Eastern Star International Headquarters. It has been beautifully maintained since 1935. These efforts include maintenance, preservation, conservation, and rehabilitation, which are necessary and ongoing, like any home. Members were asked to contribute 1 dollar per year for each year in the Triennium. I want to thank all those who have donated so far and encourage others to donate. Three (3) projects have been completed. Solar film was purchased and installed on windows on the 2nd and 4th floors for \$17,000.00 using money donated by the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania. Last year in February, the skylight over the staircase had rotted seals. The committee was able to fund half of this cost. Rain was coming in while the heat was going out. The solar film has lowered the heating and air conditioning costs, and the skylight repair has reduced those even more. A third project was completed in January 2023, with the committee assisting with refinishing the second floor's wooden floors by giving the additional \$13,000.00 needed. By going to a matte finish, the number of steps needed to clean the floors has been reduced by two, reducing the amount of money spent on cleaning supplies and the hours it takes to clean each week, sometimes twice and occasionally three (3) times. The committee is working to help fund the cost of replacing three (3) very old and inefficient air conditioners. Again, this would save on operational expenses.

In May of 2022, I escorted a group of members from Iowa and Nebraska on a Masonic Pilgrimage to tour the International Headquarters and other sites. We had an opportunity to witness the work of the dedicated volunteers to protect and restore this building and the artifacts for generations to come. As a result of the funds collected during our trip, some of the chairs in the State Dining Room have been restored. Much work still needs to be done so please help if you can. Contributions should be sent to the Grand Secretary's office. Please note in the memo that it is for the International Headquarters.



SERVICE DOGS GGC COMMITTEE UPDATE

Submitted by: Jane Green

I am continuing to sell the pins from General Grand Chapter. I only have 1 "paw" pin left but I do have several of the other pins which include the "Bone" pin, logo pin, and the music pin. As some of you know, I added the miniature paw pins this past year and I have several of them. Remember, the money raised from these sales stay in Iowa.

"Partners for Patriots" is the organization that I chose to support with these sales. They are located in Anthon, Iowa. They are selling t-shirts and other clothing items to raise money for their organization. I have been told that you can obtain these items on Amazon. I have not tried to do this as I am not as computer literate as many of you are. I also have several of the t-shirts with me when I travel to different Eastern Star events.

I have a flash drive and I would be willing to attend your chapter meetings to promote this organization and would bring along the pins and t-shirts.

This past December, I was able to give a check for \$1999.56 to Partners for Patriots from Iowa Grand Chapter. This was money from donations from individuals and/or chapters and also from the sale of pins to support this organization. I know that Cindy Brodie, director and lead trainer, and Gerry Holtrop are very appreciative of all that we do.

Sincerely,

Jane Green, Member of the Service Dog Committee of the General Grand Chapter

DISTRICT INSTRUCTORS - WHO ARE THEY AND WHAT DO THEY DO?

Submitted by Polly Miller, President Board of Custodians

A District Instructor, or DI, is an OES member who is very dedicated to Iowa Eastern Star. Someone who works very hard to see that the membership is instructed in the correct way to conduct the business of Iowa OES, including the yearly changes that each Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron have implemented. Your DI is constantly studying, continually working to improve her manner of instructing at her schools. She loves to meet the chapter members and help them do the very best job they can do when having an initiation or reception or some other event. If you have questions about how to do something, send an email or give them a call!

Your DI has her own school before the School season starts - it's called State School. They must be ready to assume any part during the school session, without prior knowledge of their assignments! That's one of the reasons they are constantly studying! I have heard many times over the years from the membership "why do we have to do this every year, the DI never says anything new"! But let me ask you this, for those things that we don't do every year except at our schools, i.e. balloting or initiation, do you think you would remember the correct way to do that item of business without a yearly practice? Plus, there are the yearly changes that we all need to know about. That's why we have schools each spring to refresh our memories and learn the changes for the new year!



Sandy Meredith Associate Grand Matron



Sandy is a member of Bedford Chapter.

Her favorite thing about being a DI is meeting members from all over the state.

She's also been a Girl Scout Leader and Cub/Boy Scout Leader.

Janice Alger Grand Conductress

Janice belongs to Laurens Chapter and Twilight Chapter, Spirit Lake.

Her favorite thing about being a DI is meeting members from other parts of the State. She also, enjoys instructing.

She's also taught/instructed: Sunday School for 15 years at Meadowbrook United Methodist Church in Gladstone, MO and was the VSB Director for fours and the Youth Director for 5 Years at the same Church.



Lori Rasmusson Associate Grand Conductress



Lori belongs to Cedar Falls Chapter.

Her favorite thing about being a DI is meeting and getting to know members from other chapters. She also loves our ritual work and thinks it is fun to help others learn it.

She's also taught/instructed: CPR, middle school and high school health, and adult continuing education classes on many health topics, including Advanced Cardiac Life Support classes.

Kelly Walker

Kelly is a member of: Heartland Chapter, Des Moines and South Gate Chapter, Des Moines.

Her favorite thing about being a DI is teaching others.

She's also taught/instructed: Computer classes to both colleagues and a retail computer store.



Anna Boecker



Anna is a member of Newton Chapter and Toledo Chapter, Tama.

Her favorite thing about being a DI is seeing old friends and making new ones. She loves the members of OES.

While working for USDA Farm Service Agency, she held a lot of public meetings and taught producers about farm programs and software. She currently assists in home schooling her grandson.

Chris Brown

Chris is a member of Signet Chapter, Carroll.

Her favorite thing about being a DI is meeting the members, seeing old friends, and making new friends.

She also instructed income tax classes for many year.



DIS - WHO ARE THEY AND WHAT DO THEY DO - CONTINUED

Your DI is there to help you out all year long, not just during School season! They work throughout the year helping with the golf tournament, degrees, and helping with other fundraising events for Grand Chapter projects and of course the big one - Grand Chapter! Our District Instructors are in charge of a lot of the events at Grand Chapter and help to keep things moving smoothly for the whole weekend!

Lastly, I want to remind everyone that these ladies are volunteers, just like all OES members are when serving on a committee! They work for the smiles, hugs and the simple thank you from you the membership. So, remember to show your appreciation for these hard working ladies when you see them next!

Heather Wogomon



Heather is a member of Amber Star Chapter, Carson.

Her favorite thing about being a DI is visiting Chapters across the state and meeting the membership and making new friends. Also, helping our membership be proficient in all our work.

She has taught Sunday School at Church and has been a Mother Advisor of a Rainbow Assembly.

Cindy Beatty

Cindy is a member of Malta Chapter, Cedar Rapids.

Her favorite thing about being a District Instructor is working one on one with our members.

She has taught swimming, Sunday school, and Vacation Bible school.



Sheila Kiehne



Sheila is a member of Coinette Chapter, Reinbeck and Cedar Falls Chapters.

Her favorite thing about being a DI is getting to know the members of the Chapters. There are always more friends to be made.

As the Children's Education Leader at church she taught kids and adults. She ended the adult classes with the Mizpah benediction, which Eastern Star gave her to include.

GUTEN TAG FROM GERMANY

Submitted By: Diane R. Bargfrede, Worthy Grand Adah, Past Grand Matron of Iowa

September 5-12, 2023, found our Most Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Glenda G. Winchester on her official visit to Germany. Winchester was accompanied by the Worthy Grand Adah Sister Diane Bargfrede, Past Grand Matron of Iowa, and her husband Craig; along with Sister Marcia Perry, GGCCM Ritual, Past Grand Matron of Virginia. Due to health reasons Brother Lon Lowery, Most Worthy Grand Patron and his wife Sister Barbara was unable to join the travels through Germany.

Sister Marion Reich, Deputy to the Most Worthy Grand Matron along with Sister Stephanie Brooks planned some amazing events for us to enjoy during the visit to Berlin.

We were greeted at the Berlin Airport by Sister Stephanie Brooks, where she presented the MWGM with a beautiful bouquet of flowers.

Also, at the airport to meet the delegation on Tuesday September 5th was Worthy Matron Sister Eka Grubert and the chapter Secretary Sister Vera Dorett-Peter. The weather was unusually warm for this season.

Sister Stephanie Brooks accompanied us to our accommodations, the Novum Hotel Kronprinz our home while in Berlin.

On Wednesday we toured the Allied Museum at Clayallee. The Museum features the Berlin Blockade and the Airlift, Check Point Charlie and Berlin Spy Tunnels just to name a few. We visited Bush Plaza at the Embassy of the United States followed by lunch at Toscana Restaurant. Afterwards we had time for some shopping on Kurfürstendamm Blvd. and a rest before attending the stated meeting of the Berlin Chapter. The meeting was held at the Lodge Hall on Peter Lennè Street.

Pictured right the members of Love Chapter from Manheim, Germany joined us on the official visits in Germany.



On Thursday Sept. 7th we were honored to visit the Reichstag (German Government Building) and the German Bundestag. We

also enjoyed lunch and sightseeing around Pariser Platz, which included the Berlin Wall and Brandenburg Gate. A stop at the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church was very humbling. This church sustained damage during Allied bombing raids of WWII. A portion of the church survived and is being preserved as a memorial.



Pictured above from left to right: Bargfrede; MWGM Glenda Winchester; Brooks



Pictured above the chapter room of Berlin Chapter.

Pictured below following the chapter meeting wonderful food and fellowship was enjoyed with the members.



GUTEN TAG FROM GERMANY - CONTINUED

Pictured below on Friday September 8, 2023, a river cruise through new and old Berlin and the Government area with Berlin Chapter and Love Chapter members. An evening meal was enjoyed after the cruise followed by a tour of DDR Museum.



Saturday September 9th found us at the train station in Berlin waiting with our host, Sister Stephanie Brooks, for our departure to Hamberg then on to Lubeck, Germany. Unfortunately, the sightseeing plans in Lubeck for the afternoon were cancelled due to an unexpected incident which left us sitting in the train car stranded on the tracks for a three-hour delay. We were thankful for the treats Sister Stephanie had prepared for us to take on the train ride.



When we finally arrived in Lubeck, we were greeted warmly by the members of Esther Chapter No. 21. In the evening, we enjoyed a get-together at the home of the Worthy Matron Sister Christa Kupferschmidt, pictured Left.

Sunday the 10th, we attended the stated meeting of Esther Chapter No.21, at the Logenhaus in Lübeck on St.-Annen Street Pictured right: Members of Esther Chapter in Lubeck and the chapter of the Deputy Marion Reich, along with Craig Bargfrede, Marcia Perry, Diane Bargfrede, MWGM Glenda Winchester and the members from Love Chapter, Manheim. After the meeting a delicious lunch was enjoyed at the Hotel Jensen followed by a relaxing cruise on the rivers in Lubeck.

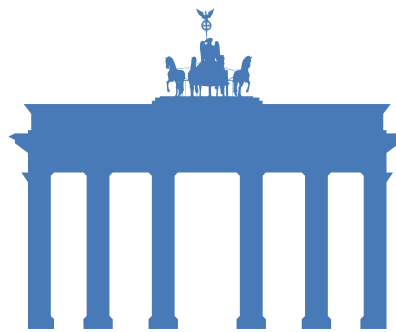


GUTEN TAG FROM GERMANY CONTINUED

Monday September 11, we departed by train for Hamburg where Sister Marion Reich, the Deputy to the MWGM, arranged a tour of two Masonic Lodges. Pictured top is the foldest with lodges dating back to 1737. The original building was destroyed during WWII.

The other was Logenhaus Moorweide with a guided tour by Brother Winkleman. (pictured bottom) Additional touring while in Hamburg was the Miniatur Wunderland (translation Miniature Wonder Land). Many hours could be spent at this attraction. The miniature detailed scenes were phenomenal. We also stopped at the renowned Elbphilharmonie (Concert Hall). Truly an amazing facility with a breathtaking view of the city.

On Wednesday, September 13 we said Auf Wiedersehen to our Sisters and Brothers of Germany reflecting on the new friendships made and memories to last a lifetime.



FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENT REPORT

Submitted By: Lori Rasmuson



Today's journey takes you across our country from Washington State to Vermont.

Washington held their "Oceans of Blessings" Session and their Proceedings was filled with 421 pages of information about their activities. One of the fun things they did was to have "teas" across their state which chapters hosted for their WGM to attend, so that she could get to know the membership. She loved those special journeys of friendship. Another highlight was an Alaskan Cruise all membership trip.

Vermont celebrated their "Celebrate Vermont Session." Their state special project was the Ronald McDonald Houses. They raised money for these homes that allowed families of children with cancer to journey to a place close to the hospital where their child was admitted. They have 6 districts in their small state, and the DI's work together to provide 3 Schools of Instruction across those districts. An interesting journey for their members!



Happy travels!

MARCH 2024

VISIT TO ARKANSAS GRAND CHAPTER

Submitted By: Diane R. Bargfrede, Worthy Grand Adah, Past Grand Matron of Iowa

“Rebuilding by Faith” Session 147th Annual Session Grand Chapter of Arkansas held in Little Rock.

Pictured below: Impressive and beautiful flag ceremony.



Pictured above: DeMolay Flower talk presented to the MWGM Sister Glenda Winchester; WGM of Arkansas and the Grand Conductresses of Arkansas.



Diane with Arkansas Grand Adah, Nancy Brown.

Pictured below: The Grand Chapter Room.

VISITS TO MISSOURI GRAND CHAPTER

Submitted By: Diane R. Bargfrede, Worthy Grand Adah, Past Grand Matron of Iowa

“Purrfect Friendships” 148th Annual Session of Missouri Grand Chapter was held November 13-15 in Springfield, Missouri.



Grand Chaplain Brother Doug Reese and Grand Page Grant Bargfrede



Grand Adah of Missouri bringing the Sword and Veil in for the emblem ceremony.



Grant Bargfrede, a dual member in Missouri, served in a year long appointment as page to the Grand Chaplain.



Diane with Grand Representative Brother Greg Yoder of Iowa in Missouri.



GRAND REPRESENTATIVE REPRESENTING IA IN MI

Submitted by: Ellen Knupp



Top: Michigan members enjoying a 50's themed conga line. We even had Elvis sightings.

Middle: Michigan Grand Chapter room, one side looked like piano keys, the West had film reels. Snoopy sat behind the Star Points.

Bottom: Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn, Mary Knupp, former school teacher, standing beside the oldest school bus known to be still around, a Bluebird.

In October 2023, Mom and I headed to Michigan Grand Chapter. My counterpart, Sue McKibben had been a member in Conrad as well as Iowa City, so we'd known each other for years. While reminiscing we realized that we'd both been WMs in 1990.

We had a great time at Grand Chapter meeting Michigan members who love to have fun. The week started with a Grand Family dinner that we were all invited to for a blow out bash.

After Grand Chapter we spent the rest of the 10 days traveling across the state. We stopped at the Gerald Ford Museum in Grand Rapids and the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, just to name a few. We saw 3 Great Lakes, Michigan, Huron and Erie.

We saw many sights in Michigan, but can't wait to go back and see more this summer!

Ellen Knupp, Grand Representative of Michigan



Ellen Knupp, Grand Representative of Michigan in Iowa; Sue McKibben, Grand Representative of Iowa in Michigan, Mary Knupp, PG Marshal.





TRAVELING
ALONG WITH
THE GRAND
FAMILY

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER 51ST TRIENNIAL ASSEMBLY

Submitted by: John Hauser

Join us "On the Shore in 2024" at the General Grand Chapter 51st Triennial Assembly in Myrtle Beach South Carolina. A trip has been planned to help us get there and enjoy the Assembly and all that South Carolina has to offer. The trip includes Round Trip Coach Class Airfare from Des Moines to Charleston-Myrtle and back to Des Moines; 6 nights' accommodations at General Grand Chapter hotel; 6 Breakfasts; Charleston Tour; Boone Hall Plantation; Brookgreen Gardens; Broadway at the Beach; Motorcoach Transportation Per Itinerary; Full-Time Tour Director; Taxes and Gratuities on Included Accommodations, Attractions and Meals; Motorcoach Driver Gratuities and Tri-State Travel Tour Director Gratuity. We have an initial block of 16 rooms, so please register as soon as possible to ensure you get your slot. You can view the trip itinerary and costs online here https://cobia631.org/GGC_TRIP.html. Contact John Hauser if you are interested or have any questions - Phone 402-250-0436, Email johnhauser11@gmail.com.



FRANKENMUTH



Frankenmuth & Mackinac Island

June 1-8, 2024

TOUR INCLUDES: • All Admissions • Deluxe Motor Coach • Onboard Entertainment
• Tour Coordinator • 7 nights of Comfortable Lodging • 9 Meals (6 breakfast, 3 lunch/dinner)

\$1337/person double occupancy | \$1543/person single occupancy | \$100/person deposit

Door County - On the peninsula between Green Bay and Lake Michigan in Wisconsin. It's known for its long shoreline and many parks.

Enjoy the luxury & grandeur of the beautiful and historic village. Explore the Wings of Mackinac Butterfly Conservatory.

Door County Fish Boil -Head to the tables, for the buttery, perfectly cooked whitefish and fixings for a melt-in-your-mouth delight.

Served in the main dining room, the legendary Grand Luncheon Buffet features hot and cold entrees, seafood, salad, fresh fruit, cheeses, a selection of meats, and desserts.

Frankenmuth - Known as Michigan's *Little Bavaria* with its picturesque old-world European flavor, craft and quilting stores, and restaurants. One meal on us here.

In Grand Rapids, tour the Gerald R Ford Presidential Museum. Wander the grounds of the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park.

Bonner's Christmas Wonderland - The world's largest Christmas store! Let the sights, sounds and spirit of Christmas surround you at this amazing store.

Take a scenic tour of the Dells on the Wisconsin River. Cruise the channel cut by ancient glaciers and pass by pine-crowned cliffs. Then, head to Milwaukee, and take the ferry to Muskegon.

Mackinac Island - This island is a living Victorian village dedicated to preserving the Victorian way of life.

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PICTURE ROCKS



BETHEL #1 JOB'S DAUGHTERS AND COBIA LODGE #631 A. F. & A.M. ANNUAL HOG ROAST

Submitted By: Claudia Hauser, Guardian Secretary

Bethel #1 Job's Daughters International in Council Bluffs held a bake sale to support their philanthropic project HIKE, Hearing Improvement Kids Endowment, at Cobia Lodge's Annual Hog Roast in November.

Pictured are the Bethel Daughters, Parents, and Council Members working at the event. The Bethel used this opportunity to promote HIKE and Job's Daughters. The Job's Daughters Bethel raised \$500 at this event to send to HIKE to be used to help children from birth to age 20 who need hearing aids and other assistive hearing devices.



WORKING WITH AREA MASONS

Submitted By: Janice Alger

The Laurens Chapter OES and Pomegranate Lodge, Alta share a float which has appeared in numerous parades. In 2021, after many years of non-use, the two organizations worked together to refurbish the float. It received new logos, skirting, and tires. Since then, it has appeared in many parades, advertising area Eastern Star Chapters and Masonic Lodges. This December, Speculative Lodge No. 307, in Cherokee asked to use the float in "Cherokee's Light Christmas Parade". The Lodge members put lights on the float, it was a speculator site. The parade was held on December 7th in downtown Cherokee. Thank you to Speculative Lodge No. 307 for helping to get our name out to the public.

MONTAGUE LODGE DONATES TO RETRIEVING FREEDOM

Submitted By: Karen Miller

Montague Lodge, Eldora, recently made a donation to Retrieving Freedom, Waverly. Retrieving Freedom is a non-profit organization that breeds and trains dogs as service dogs for veterans with disabilities and children with autism.

Worthy Grand Matron Mary Reicks and Worthy Grand Patron Joe Reed, Order of the Eastern Star have chosen Retrieving Freedom as the main fund-raising project for this year as Mary teaches autistic children and Joe is a Veteran.



Mike May, Sr., Worshipful Master Greg Priske, and Win Miller, of Montague Lodge present a donation to Calvin VerMulum of Retrieving Freedom

If you are aware of donations made to Retrieving Freedom because of the awareness brought to the organization by Eastern star, e-mail Janice Megel: adamsara3@msn.com

EPILEPSY AWARENESS

Submitted By: Mary Reicks and Joe Reed

Ann Fremont, the First Lady of Iowa Masonry, has challenged all Masons to go to this website: <https://www.epilepsy.com/learn> and become certified in Epilepsy First Aid. We are extending the challenge to all of our members. Please take the online training, take a photo of yourself with the certificate, and send the photo to Ann (aefremont@gmail.com) and also post it to the Iowa Eastern Star Facebook page.

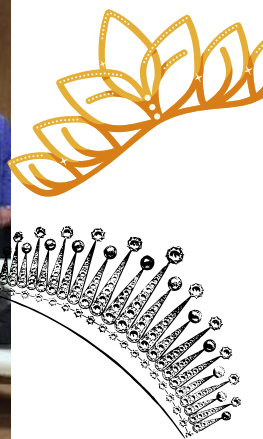
BETHEL #1 IOWA JOB'S DAUGHTERS CELEBRATED THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY AND SUPREME OFFICIAL VISIT

Submitted By: Claudia Hauser, Guardian Secretary

Bethel #1 Council Bluffs, Job's Daughters International celebrated their 90th Anniversary at a reception on February 10, 2024, at the Council Bluffs Masonic Temple. A meal was served, and the program consisted of the History of Job's Daughters, History Iowa Job's Daughters, and Bethel #1 Council Bluffs. The Supreme Guardian, Supreme Bethel Honored Queen and Miss International Job's Daughters were honored guests present as well as other Supreme Bethel Officers, Supreme Bethel Representatives, Supreme Officers, and Board of Trustees, were present.



We were honored to have Grand Master of Masons in Iowa, Darrell Fremont and his Grand Officers; Mary Reicks Worthy Grand Matron and Joe Reed Worthy Grand Patron and Grand Officers from Iowa Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star; Abigail Johnson, Grand Worthy Associate Advisor Iowa Rainbow, Betty Garwood, Supreme Faith and Past Supreme Inspector, member of the House of Gold International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and Mary Danner, Supreme Deputy Iowa Rainbow for Girls; Nate Renner, Grand Commander Knights Templar of Iowa; Shamus Roach, State Master Councilor Iowa DeMolay; Katie Swallow, Grand Royal Matron of Iowa, Order of the Amaranth; present and past Job's Daughters, Council Members, Parents and Friends.



RECOVERING A PICTURE FROM THE PAST

Submitted by: Christa Guthrie

At their December 5, 2023 meeting, Mason City Eastern Star members were presented an Eastern Star picture, which had been restored and reframed by Christa and Ron Guthrie, chapter members.

Throughout the years, the Guthries had noticed a large Eastern Star picture hanging high on the wall in the entrance of the vault area of the Masonic Temple. This past fall Christa asked for help in getting the picture down. The Eastern Star artwork was hand painted on plastic by T. S. Hulbert in the year 1896 (11 years after Unity Chapter #58 OES Mason City was established in 1885).

Thru the years the painted plastic had warped from the sun coming thru the vault window. The picture was very dirty and the large gold Victorian gilded frame was so badly damaged, that the artwork needed to be restored and a new frame added.

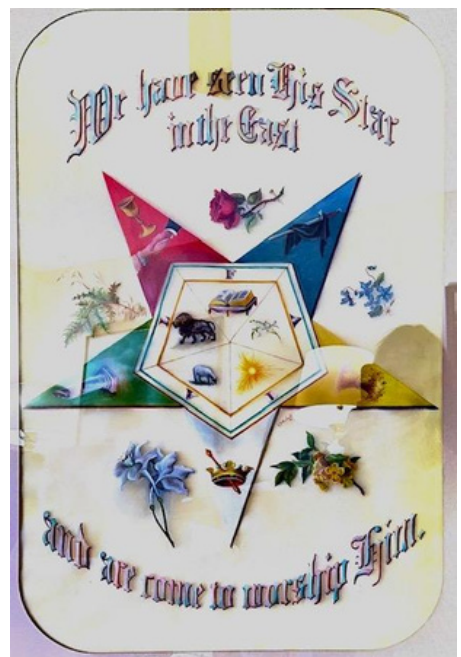
Christa and Ron Guthrie felt that it was important to reframe and restore this very old painting for their chapter. Christa stated, "that this does not come close to showing how grateful we really are for our membership in Unity Chapter ".

In addition, a framed document was found, which acknowledged that the chapter's petition was granted to establish Unity Chapter #58 to be held in Mason City County of Cerro Gordo on the 5th day of January in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred 85. Signed by T. R. Ercanbrack, Grand Patron, and Mary C. Agnew, Grand Matron.



Picture above after restoration.

Picture below is prior to restoration



Hand painted on plastic by T. S. Hulbert, 1896. Restored and reframed 2023.

Pictured left : Christa Guthrie presents restored and reframed Eastern Star picture from 1896 to Chris Mishler, WP, and Peggy Liekweg, WM, and to members of Unity Chapter #58 OES Mason City.



50 YEAR MEMBER

Submitted by: Claudia Hauser

Ruth Negus, received her 50 year pin at Vesta Chapter in Omaha, Nebraska on December 10, 2023. Ruth was initiated into Sandborn Chapter in Iowa and then moved and became a member in Aksarben Chapter in Omaha, Nebraska. This past year, Ruth became a Dual Member with Council Bluffs Chapter. Aksarben Chapter just recently consolidated with Vesta Chapter in Omaha.

Pictured are Claudia Hauser, Ruth Negus, and John Hauser.

TRAVELING BATON

Submitted By: Christa Guthrie

The traveling baton was picked up on January 6, 2024, at Malta Chapter's stated meeting and official visit in Cedar Rapids by Christa Guthrie of Mason City. Christa, who is a member of Unity Chapter #58 OES Mason City, is shown with the traveling baton and the new Iowa Eastern Star marketing banner at her local chapter meeting.



NEWTON CHAPTER DONATION

Submitted By: Anna Booker

Newton Chapter #100 presented the Newton High School nurse with an ice maker. At the high school health office, they had just ice cube trays to fulfill the need for ice packs. Clarissa Bloom, High school nurse, stated "When they contacted me about a donation they wanted to give, I was racking my brain trying to think of something that would have a longer lasting effect on the students than daily supplies. The ice machine came to mind and while out of the price range the group initially offered; they generously came up with the remainder so the high school could utilize this for years to come. Thank you Newton Chapter #100 Order of the Eastern Star!"



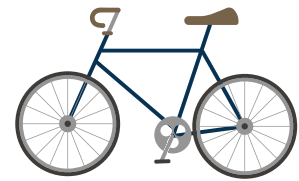
Pictured are Sue Eldred, WM; Clarissa Bloom, school nurse; and Sharon Jolley, AM.





YOUR 2024 OES JOURNEY START PARTICIPATING TODAY!

Check out and start participating in the Your 2024 OES Journey Photo Challenge today. A portion of the 2 page challenge is included below. The entirety of the challenge can be found on the OES Website [here](#).



Mary Knupp, Malta Chapter Cedar Rapids, put some books in the Little Free Library in Glidden, Iowa on the way home from State School which was held in Carroll. Just one of the many fun photo challenges for Star.

SMILE FOR A PICTURE WITH THE TRAVELING BATON

DO A PART AT A DISTRICT SCHOOL

TAKE A SELFIE AT A MASONIC TEMPLE

ATTEND THE LAST SCHOOL

GO TO STAR OUT OF STATE

SNAP A PHOTO ADDING A BOOK TO A LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

SHARE A PHOTO WITH A BICYCLE

YOUR 2024 OES JOURNEY

HOW TO PLAY:

- TAKE A SELFIE VISITING LOCATIONS OR COMPLETING ACTIONS LISTED.
- PHOTOS ARE WORTH 15 POINTS EACH
- SHARE FOR ADDITIONAL 5 POINTS.
- COLLECT 150 POINTS TO EARN YOUR FIRST ENTRY INTO THE GRAND PRIZE DRAWING. EACH ADDITIONAL 100 POINTS COLLECTED EARNS PLAYERS ADDITIONAL GRAND PRIZE DRAWING ENTRIES.

VISIT ANOTHER CHAPTER

GIVING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY

Submitted by: Christa Guthrie

Unity Chapter #58 Mason City tries to follow our Order's principles of caring, loving, and charity thru objectives of giving back to the community as well as other Eastern Star annual projects.

Bingo Concession Stand - Since July 2021, Unity Chapter #58 Mason City's fun money-making project has been setting up and operating a concession stand for people who attend the Friday Night Bingo, which is hosted by our Masonic Brothers at the Mason City Masonic Temple. Every Friday night pop, water, candy, chips, and popcorn are sold, which has resulted in extra funds for the chapter. As a result, Unity Chapter was able to make donations to Grand Chapter of Iowa plus several local charities during 2023.

Salvation Army - In July, Unity Chapter #58 donated \$500 to help The Salvation Army in their continuing support to families of North Iowa with backpacks and school supplies to begin the 2023-24 school year. Unity Chapter matched a donation from its member, Caryl Lawyer, to meet the needs of others in the North Iowa community.



Service Dog Project - In September, Unity Chapter was able to assist a "Student Leader Dog" with Leader Dogs for the Blind. She (Lorena) and her trainer made a presentation to the chapter and received a \$200 monetary gift. Lorena has since moved on to the second phase of her training in preparation to be paired with a person needing her assistance, who is either legally blind or both deaf and blind.

YSS of North Iowa - In October, several members of Unity Chapter Mason City went on a \$200 shopping spree to fill 10 care packs for the YSS of North Iowa (formerly known as Francis Lauer Youth Services). The back packs were filled with personal hygiene products, hair care products, combs/brushes, slippers, socks, gloves, stocking caps, school supplies, activity books, pillowcases, and stuffed toys. The YSS staff was very appreciative of the boxes filled with the care packs and supplies, which were delivered by Peggy Liekweg and Christa Guthrie, members of Unity Chapter #58 OES. The emergency shelter at YSS of North Iowa offers a safe place for youth in crisis—with food, clothing, hygiene items, and support.



Mason City Parks & Recreation - In December, Peggy Liekweg and Christa Guthrie, members of Unity Chapter #58 Mason City, presented a check for \$175 to Linda Hunt and Brian Pauly, Superintendent, of the Mason City Parks & Recreation for the sponsorship of a youth basketball team for Mason City Youth Sports.



Pictured Bingo Volunteers:
Christa Guthrie,
Dianne Robinson,
Peggy Liekweg,
Evelyn Cross,
Mike Cross,
Christopher Mishler, and
Tresa Dietrich



Major Leti Crowell, Salvation Army, Mason City; Christa Guthrie, Unity Chapter Mason City; & Cadet Alisa Carson, Chicago, IL, TSA Seminary School

Peggy Liekweg, WM of Unity Chapter Mason City, displays the many items the chapter filled in back packs for the YSS of North Iowa Youth Shelter.



GIVING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY - CONTINUED

Hawkeye Harvest Food Bank – Unity Chapter #58 OES increased its annual contribution to \$200 to the Hawkeye Harvest Food Bank in December. Hawkeye Harvest Food Bank provides services to meet basic nutritional needs to anyone in need, all ages, and low-income. The Food Bank is 100% volunteer staffed. In 2023, the program served 23,220 individuals with food boxes to make 278,540 meals. This program covers residents of the following counties: Butler, Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Mitchell, Winnebago, Worth, and Wright Counties.

These were the projects for the 2023-chapter year. Unity Chapter members are already putting their thoughts and suggestions together for the new year. By giving back, we can inspire others to do the same. Our actions can encourage others to get involved in their community and make a difference in the lives of others.

COUNCIL BLUFFS CHAPTER INITIATES NEW MEMBERS

Submitted by: Claudia Hauser

Council Bluffs Chapter #441 initiated two new members on February 9, 2024. We welcome the two new Sisters and are looking forward to a great 2024. We appreciate the assistance from our Sisters from other Chapters in Iowa and Nebraska for helping us with the initiation.



MALTA CHAPTER OFFICAL VISIT

Submitted by: Ellen Knupp

Malta Chapter held its January Stated Meeting and Official Visit on January 6th at 10:00am followed by lunch and games. Dress of the day was blue jeans and snowman (or winter) shirts. We enjoyed seeing all the various tops people came up with. Kris Stolba, Past Grand Adah, received her 50-year pin. The pin Kris received was her mom's (Joy Cheney), who had been a member of Malta. While WGM Mary Reicks read her history, PGM Shirley Peterson pinned her. Sister Shirley was the Instructor when Kris was initiated during the Inspection meeting at Shriner Chapter in Monticello 50 years ago!

Pictured below: Mary Reicks, WGM; Shirley Peterson, DI from 50 years ago; Kris Stolba, new 50-year member; Bruce Stolba, husband; Jennifer Moore, daughter; Ellen Knupp, WM



Pictured right the Beachcombers help Kris celebrate Nancy Niday, Mary Knupp, Carolyn Smith, Ellen Knupp, Kris Stolba, Bruce Stolba and Larry Niday



Pictured above all the Grand Officers and Malta Officers
1st row - Karen Miller, Grand Warder; Julia Ball, Chaplain; Mary Knupp, Secretary; Kris Stolba, Conductress; Ellen Knupp, Worthy Matron; Cindy Ball, Martha; Bruce Stolba, Worthy Patron



50 YEAR MEMBER

Submitted by: Judy Boden



WM Cindy Bachtell and WP Darrell Bachtell of EC Blackmar Chapter, Burlington, were presented with their 50 year pins and certificates by their daughter, Heather Bachtell Hayes. Also in attendance were their son, Dustin, and his wife, Jennifer Bachtell.



LIBERTY CHAPTER VISITOR

Submitted By: Marjorie Frisbie

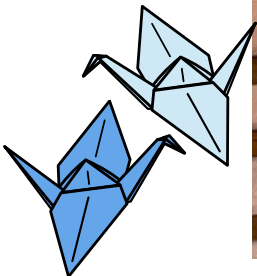
Worthy Matron Victoria Means and Worthy Patron Terry Frisbie with Milo Means at his 1st meeting February 15th. They are members at Liberty Chapter, Marne. Milo was born during the January blizzard. Terry is proud Dad and Grandpa. Congratulations to Victoria and Ryan Means. Milo joins brothers, Cooper and Nelson.

INSTALLATION AT JESSAMINE CHAPTER

Submitted By: Elizabeth Reicks

After multiple weather delays, Jessamine Chapter in Iowa City was finally able to hold its installation of officers. Worthy Grand Matron of Iowa, Mary Reicks presided as Installing Officer to install her daughter, Elizabeth Reicks as Worthy Matron.

Pictured are Luke Reicks, Mary Reicks, and Elizabeth Reicks with a quilt made by Mary Reicks.



A NOTE FROM THE GALAXY COMMITTEE

Thank you to everyone who submitted articles for this issue. We would love to hear from all of the Chapters in Iowa this year!

Please submit articles (and pictures!) anytime by e-mailing iaoesgalaxy@gmail.com. The deadline to submit articles for the next Galaxy issue is May 17th.

Your Galaxy Committee Members: Elizabeth Reicks, Kerri Meredith, and Victoria Means