

Polly Miller

Worthy Grand Matron

2021



Kenny Wogomon

Worthy Grand Patron

2021



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Happy Summer!

Hard to believe Spring “sprung” and Easter is past; graduations and Memorial Day have been celebrated!

Plans are being made for our “Butterfly Dreams” Grand Chapter Session, which will be held October 8, 9 and 10 at the Sheraton West Des Moines. Some things will be the same; some will not. A big change this year will be not having any out-of-state guests! It was a difficult decision, but we felt that some jurisdictions were not doing as well as others in controlling the coronavirus, and to be fair (and cautious), we would just make our Iowa Grand Chapter 2021 “a family affair.” We will miss hosting our guests from other Grand Jurisdictions this year, but we will look forward to seeing them in 2022!

Our Special Project this year is Timber Creek Therapies. This outpatient facility in Iowa was created to provide therapy services for patients of all ages and all types of disabilities using innovative tools not found in most therapy centers.

Timber Creek Therapies is located on a 220-acre ranch near Guthrie Center, Iowa. They offer hippo-therapy (equine-assisted physical and speech/language therapies) and hydrotherapy (warm, moving water physical therapy). They also offer more traditional therapies such as occupational, speech and physical therapies.

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Worthy Grand Patron's Ramblings from the Road

*The time has come to sit and type and slowly ramble on,
And as I do from inside my head, I hear the words of a song.
I hear the voices singing out and those words are truly clear.
Kruzers are attending Schools and it is our music that I hear.*

*The songs are all familiar ones--
we will hear them played until this fall;
And at our Butterfly Dreams Session you can hear them all.*

*So, make your plans to attend this year
and remember this where and when:
We will be at the Sheraton West Des Moines
from October seventh until it's ten.*

Welcome to my Rambling for this issue of our Galaxy.

“Hello! We are happy to have visitors to present!” Are those not the best words you could hear in a Chapter room? It's not that being presented is such an all-important thing to me--I am but a humble servant of this wonderful organization. It is simply the fact that we (everyone) can be out and about going here and there to Chapter functions; although before we just pop in on another Chapter, we should check to see how comfortable they are with visitors. I am so excited the 2021 calendar has opened. If you do not have an updated schedule,

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LAST PRINT ISSUE

From the Grand Secretary's Pen...



Nancy Ramthun
Grand Secretary &
Past Grand Matron



Greetings,

Sisters and Brothers!

It is nice that we finally were able to enjoy Spring before the heat set in. The tulips and daffodils were beautiful, and all the green foliage made it beautiful.

I just want to remind you that if you wish to submit a resume for the opening on the Barthell Home Board, Eastern Star Masonic Home Board, or the Board of Grand Trustees, those need to be in the Grand Chapter office not later than July 11.

If you are still thinking about your options, nominations from the floor at Grand Chapter are accepted also. Remember you do need to be present to accept the nomination.

Please be sure to check the O.E.S. website for the Golf Tournament registration forms along with the 2021 sign-in sheets for your Chapter's use.

This covers all my ramblings I have for now-- thanks for reading. Please stay safe and healthy.

In Star Love and Friendship, ~~ Nancy



Kenny Wogomon, Worthy Grand Patron

(Continued from Page 1)

get with your project chairperson or check the website. On the calendar we have listed all the things you need to know for the 2021 O.E.S. year. Some things may be subject to change due to pandemic restrictions, but we will try to advise well in advance if there are any changes. I know it has been a long road to get from where we were to where we are, and where we are is not exactly where we should be, but it's a lot closer now. I look forward to meeting each and every one of you as we flit and flutter once again across this beautiful state to events near and far.

In Star Love and Friendship, ~~~ Kenny

Polly Miller, Worthy Grand Matron

(Continued from Page 1)

When Timber Creek Therapies was created they also developed Timber Creek Charities, a 501c3 publicly supported non-profit entity. Therapy funding is often limited or non-existent and the founders felt a non-profit charity was critical to providing quality treatment and therapeutic activities to all persons in need.

Now you may ask, "What is hippotherapy?" Specially trained therapists use the movements of a horse as a treatment tool for patients in need of physical, occupational and speech/language therapy. This treatment takes place in a controlled environment following a specific treatment plan. There is an indoor riding arena that allows patients to be treated year-round and an adjoining building houses the pool, treatment rooms, office space and a kitchen where patients receive cognitive retraining.



The pool is a warm-water pool with an electrical current system. This system can move 5,000 gallons of water up to 6.5 miles per hour. The floor of the pool can be raised or lowered making the depth as shallow as 2 feet up to 5 feet deep depending on the patient and their treatment needs. There is also a motorized chair lift to assist individuals into and out of the pool. The moving water provides an effective treatment tool for patients with mobility, gait, trunk control, extremity strength and pain issues.

Timber Creek was founded by Cindy McCarty in 2000. Cindy is a licensed speech/language pathologist and a certified therapist in hippotherapy. Cindy is assisted by several talented individuals – both volunteers and paid staff – to provide the therapies needed for their patients. Some of you may know an Eastern Star member, Gigi Nelson, who has worked as a volunteer for Cindy. In addition, they have several horses that are used to provide hippotherapy.

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Star Power

Star Power, Thoroughbred, age 8, was retired from a racing career in 2012 and is in training to add a new type of movement pattern to our therapy program. He is coming along nicely. He is sweet, gentle and loves people and is a big, strong, handsome boy. We are expecting him to become a great addition to our therapy program.

LAST PRINT ISSUE

Polly Miller, Worthy Grand Matron

(Continued from Page 2)

As with many businesses, 2020 has been hard on Timber Creek Therapies. They were shut down for about 4 months and the usual fund-raising activities were suspended. So, our support will be appreciated to assist them in helping patients get needed treatment.

By attending our annual golf tournament, July 16, at Terrace Hills Golf Course in Altoona or the All Iowa Celebration, July 31, in Winterset at the city park, you can help raise funds for Timber Creek Therapies. We hope you will consider attending one or both events! The forms for the golf tournament are on the OES website. More information will be coming soon for the All Iowa Celebration, so keep checking the website!

In addition, we have 5 quilts we will be raffling off Saturday, Oct. 9, at Grand Chapter. You do not need to

be present to win! We have 1 wall hanging, 3 lap quilts and 1 full/queen size quilt that have been donated for the raffle. See our OES FaceBook page for pictures of these beautiful quilts!

Guidelines are beginning to change, so keep your eyes and ears open for news of changes to Iowa's restrictions. Take care and be kind to one another as we all adjust to returning to a more "normal" way of doing things! Some folks may be more hesitant than others to embrace this return to "business as usual" – be kind and encouraging to those who are unsure of resuming activities.

As we resume our activities we look forward to seeing everyone along the Star Trail!

~~ Polly



Unity Chapter #58 O.E.S. ~ Mason City

Following the 82nd North Iowa Band Festival parade in Mason City on May 29, members of Unity Chapter O.E.S. served a luncheon in East Park to Masonic and Shrine members and their families who participated in the parade.

The luncheon itself was hosted by Mason City's two Masonic lodges, Benevolence Lodge #145 and Harding Lodge #649.

Unity Chapter members pictured include Dianne Robinson, Christa Guthrie, Evelyn Cross, Peggy Liekweg, Tresa Dietrich, Mike Cross, and Pat Kleinow.



LAST PRINT ISSUE



“Kruzin’ the World from my comfy chair”

A Travelogue from our Fraternal Correspondent

Mary Reicks

Associate Grand Conductress and District Instructor



Our virtual travels take us to Ohio where we will enjoy the “Nature’s Life and Beauty Session.” The Grand Officers, or Dragonflies, wore blue jackets with iridescent skirts in peacock-colored swirls as they watched the opening drill which included representatives from Job’s Daughters, the Grand Worthy Advisor of Rainbow for Girls, State Master Councilor of DeMolay, Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons from the Worthy Grand Matron’s and Worthy Grand Patron’s districts, and the Worthy Grand Matron’s and Worthy Grand Patron’s grandchildren. One of the Worthy Grand Patron’s grandsons sent video greetings from where he was stationed. The Worthy Grand Matron had 6 Grand Pages and 3 Grand Aides! New 50 year members were given their pins at Grand Chapter and throughout the year pins were given for 25, 40, 45, 60, 65, 70, 75 and 80 years of membership. A tradition at Ohio Grand Chapter is a Ritual Competition hosted by Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons. This year 93 competed. Competition took place for lectures of Star Points, Associate Patron, and Chaplain. Prizes for first, second, and third place were awarded for each office. There was also a Circle of Knowledge Test at Grand Chapter with 7 achieving mastery.

Ohio Grand Chapter supported several worthy causes. Special Projects of the Worthy Grand Matron included Service Dogs and the Shrine Hospital Patient Transportation Fund to honor the memory of her father. The Worthy Grand Patron’s special project was our Youth. Ohio members supported several District Charities including Children’s Dyslexia Centers, Youth, Heart, Education Fund, Cancer, and ESTARL. One of the fundraisers for Service Dogs raised nearly \$2,400. All districts were asked to bring a stuffed dog dressed any way they would like--and all attendees were asked to vote through monetary donations for their favorite dogs. Money was also raised to help increase security at their Eastern Star Home. This year Ohio Grand Chapter provided 16 academic scholarships to members of Jobs, Rainbow, and Demolay. The Emerald project encouraged all Chapters to beautify their local area by planting trees or flowers.

There were several types of Official Visits. Along with Schools and Fun Days, there were 5 educational opportunities with workshops during the year. Topics covered at the workshops included jurisprudence (which involved a game), protocol, Signs and Passes (new Triennial signs were demonstrated by the Grand Star Points for the membership), and an opportunity for Chapter Line Officers to meet with the corresponding Grand Officers. Another type of Official Visit was helping Chapters to celebrate anniversaries.

The Worthy Grand Matron has a personal secretary to help her with her year. The Grand Secretary had a busy year, as she was appointed a Grand Representative and, with the Grand Treasurer, hosted Secretary/Treasury Appreciation Day with 110 Secretaries and 72 Treasurers in attendance with 28 traveling companions also attending. At the Grand Session, 132 Chapters were represented. Ohio has 181 Chapters with 22,855 members. Although many Chapters in Ohio are doing well and many Chapters are welcoming new members, some Chapters face declining membership. Their Grand Line Officers meet throughout the year and their efforts included working to reverse declining membership in some of their Chapters. There is also a speakers bureau which includes the “Star Polisher” program--started to assist Chapters who want help in efforts to attract new members or revitalize their current membership.

I look forward to our virtual visits soon being in person!

~~Mary

Our Changed Lives During the COVID-19 Pandemic

24th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

4 Person Best-ball

New Location!

A.H. Blank Golf Course

808 County Line Road, Des Moines

Friday, July 16, 2021

Cost: \$80 per player

(If Paid by July 10th)

\$90.00 per player

(If Paid After July 7th)

Registration 12:00 PM

Shotgun start 1:00 PM

Cost Includes:

18 holes of golf, cart, meal
and prizes...

- Putting challenge on the practice green
- Two longest drives, closest to the pin, longest putt contests
- Mulligan
- Mulligan String
- Flight prizes
- Silent Auction Don't worry if you are not a golfer; join us for dinner in the clubhouse.

Cost: \$24.00 per person
Reservations are required.

Golf Outing Committee:

Tom Rice-chairman

712-732-6030 / 712-299-3022

44darice@gmail.com

Ron Mullenger

712-732-6030

darron@metc.net

Vivian Pitlo

563-872-5764 / 563-599-0786

jvpitlo@iowatelecom.net

All Iowa Celebration



Come Party with the Kruzers in the Winterset City Park

Saturday July 31, 2021

1:00 - 4:00 pm

attire is ultra casual

Corn-hole

Yard Yahtzee

Come enjoy fun games and fellowship in the county fair tradition as we work together to raise funds for Timber Creek Charities! There will be a silent auction, fun yard games, a pie/cake/cupcake auction, snacks and drinks!

Bring your lawn chairs along, sit a spell and catch up with friends you haven't seen in awhile!

Looking forward to seeing everyone in July in Winterset!



Cake/Pie/Cupcake
Auction



The mission of the Perry Belmont House Foundation (501c3) is to preserve and promote our O.E.S. International Headquarters in Washington, D.C. If you shop on Amazon, you can be an active contributor to the preservation and restoration of the International Headquarters of the General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. For more information, go to <http://perrybelmonthouse.org/>.

Perry Belmont House Foundation



amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Select "Perry Belmont House Foundation" and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

LAST PRINT ISSUE

Greenfield Chapter #91 would like to thank all those who gave money to our Chapter in memory of Bea Mayes. Eastern Star meant a lot to both Sister Bea and Brother Don, and we thank the family, Jane Beeman (Past Grand Martha), and her brothers John and Craig, for choosing this as one of the ways to honor their mother. The Chapter will apply the memorial money to our scholarship fund, as we know how important the youth were to Bea and Don. Sincere thanks again to everyone!

~Submitted by Ruth McGinnis, Secretary, Greenfield Chapter

Coral Chapter, Sanborn, Consolidates with Spencer Chapter

Instituted on January 25, 1882, Coral Chapter #41, Sanborn, Iowa, met for the last time on June 10, 2021, after 139 years. In attendance were visiting members from Spencer Chapter and Twilight Chapter, Spirit Lake. For its final meeting, Coral Chapter was opened in full Ritualistic form after completing the 2020-2021 Opening March. Under Good of the Order, Worthy Matron Jane Green presented information she had gleaned from old minute books found in the attic at the Masonic Temple in Sanborn. After closing the Chapter, the members performed the Closing March. What follows are excerpts from Sister Jane's gleanings.



ORIGINAL BYLAWS (adopted March 3, 1882)



Section 1: This Chapter shall be distinguished by the name of Coral Chapter No. 41 holding an unreclaimed charter from the General Grand Chapter of the Order.

Section 2: Stated meetings of the Chapter shall be held on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month. The hour of meeting shall be 7:30. Meetings may be suspended during the month of July and August by a two thirds vote of the members present at a regular meeting.

Section 3: Called or special meetings may be held at any time, in the discretion of the Matron.

Section 4: Election of Officers: The annual election of officers shall be held on the regular meeting next preceding the 27th of December (Festival of St. John the Evangelist) and all officers elected or appointed must be installed on the same or at the next regular meeting.

Section 5: The elective officers are the Patron, Matron, Associate Matron, Treasurer, Secretary, Conductress and Associate Conductress. The appointed officers are the Warder, Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha, Electa and Sentinel, to be appointed by the Matron at the time of her installation.

.....

Section 18: Relief Committee: The Matron shall appoint three members of the Chapter as a Committee of Relief, whose duties it shall be to investigate all applications for relief made to the Chapter and report the circumstances of the case at the first meeting after receiving notice of the applicant. If the case be one of pressing necessity, the Matron may, on report of the Committee, draw an order upon the treasurer for an amount not exceeding five dollars, and the order so drawn shall be sufficient voucher for the Treasurer to pay the money. No applicant for charity shall be relieved out of the funds of the Chapter except women and orphans, children in some way connected with Free Masonry.

.....

Section 26: Fees and Dues: The initiation fee and membership fee in this Chapter shall not be less than two dollars for a brother, nor less than two dollars for a lady, the amount to accompany the petition. The affiliation fee shall be, if the candidate has received the degrees gratuitously, the same as above, but if the candidate has previously paid for and received the degrees in another Chapter, shall pay one dollar.

Section 27: The annual dues of each member shall be one dollar per annum, payable by fifty cents at the end of six months.

Section 28: Penalties: Arrears for dues for more than one year may subject a member to be stricken from the roll of this Chapter. Any member so stricken from the roll can only be reinstated by a two thirds vote of those present and payment of the arrearages.

Coral Chapter, Sanborn, Consolidates with Spencer Chapter

First meeting of Coral Chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Sanborn, Iowa; January 23rd, 1882:

“The following Master Masons; A. G Willis, W. E. Skinner, E. F. Parker, P. Miller, W. Day, E. A. Brouditch and Geo. Oluistead, with Mrs. Jennie Perry, Charlotte Puffer, Julia Oluistead, Cora E. Willis, Ella Brouditch, Julia W. Skinner, and Miss Ella Skinner met at 8 o'clock for the purpose of organizing a Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star, having with us the Grand Matron Mrs. Jennie Matthews, who as the meeting was called to order, proceeded to give a brief history of the order together with its objects, benefits, etc.

“The obligation was conferred on the Brothers and Sisters present. Brother Willis acting as Marshal. Sister Perry was installed by the WGM as the WM. Sister Oluistead was installed Associate Matron, Brother Day as Worthy Patron, Sister Willis as Secretary, Sister Brouditch as Associate Conductress, Sister Ella Skinner as Adah, Brother Willis as Sentinel. The ceremony of initiation was explained.” The meeting dates were first set for the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays.

The dates of the meeting changed to the first and third Tuesdays on May 23, 1883. Those voted to become members were initiated the same night they were presented. After a short recess, the “bylaws were suspended for the purpose of balloting. The candidates being in waiting were secured and initiated in regular form.”



February 5, 1884, “the Worthy Matron being absent, the Associate Matron called chapter to order. The GWM being present, she was invited by the Associate Matron to preside as Worthy Matron; received 2 petitions; then initiated 2 others in waiting who were previously elected.”

June 23, 1888, “Coral Chapter met in special meeting instituted by GWM Sister Ercanbrack for the purpose of investigating the work of our Chapter. Trying to establish uniformity of work in the chapters throughout the state.”

September 15, 1891, “Our WM (F.E. Inman) entertained us by reading a full account of Grand Lodge proceedings which she had prepared herself. She had the honor of being appointed Grand Esther which is certainly a compliment to Coral Chapter. Worthy Matron's expenses to be paid to Grand Lodge was on motion of the Lodge. It was allowed and order drawn on treasury.”

September 5, 1893, “A communication from RW Grand Secretary ... asking that each chapter send \$1 to assist in keeping open Eastern Star Headquarters at the World's Fair was read. Secretary instructed to send the amount.”

March 25, 1898, “Chapter opened in form, prayer by Chaplain, singing Ode 2, after which a school of instruction was held by our Grand Worthy Patron Wesley Geiger of Marion, Iowa. The work of the Chapter was exemplified and a pleasant and interesting session was held.”

CHAPTER HISTORY ~ BY JANE GREEN

White Ray Chapter #456, Larchwood, Iowa, instituted July 5, 1912; consolidated with Rock Rapids Chapter #288 on September 16, 1946

Starlight Chapter #433, Rock Valley, Iowa, instituted on February 16, 1910; consolidated with Rock Rapids Chapter #288 on October 13, 1970

Rock Rapids Chapter #288, Rock Rapids, Iowa, instituted on May 22, 1900; consolidated with Century Chapter #298, Orange City, Iowa, on September 4, 2001

Century Chapter #298, (originally Alton, Iowa, later moved to Orange City, Iowa, in November, 1937), instituted in 1900 (NOTE: An exact date was not found – they held their 50th anniversary in 1950; the first minutes located were for September 13, 1910); consolidated with Coral Chapter #41, Sanborn, Iowa, on December 31, 2012

Lone Tree Chapter #442, Everly, Iowa, instituted on January 31, 1911; consolidated with Golden Sheaf Chapter #181, Hartley, Iowa, on November 10, 1965

Golden Sheaf Chapter #181, Hartley, Iowa, instituted on June 6, 1895; consolidated with Coral Chapter #41, Sanborn, Iowa, on April 9, 1980

Sweet Brier Chapter #299, Paullina, Iowa, (instituted date not located), The first mention of this chapter was in Primghar minutes of February 9, 1966, when Primghar was invited to their school of instruction and inspection meeting. Then, in the minutes of January 11, 1967, it was reported “that Paullina Chapter has a floor cloth that we might be able to purchase with Grand Chapter permission.” It is assumed they consolidated with Primghar Chapter.

Primghar Chapter #241, Primghar, Iowa, instituted June 22, 1898; consolidated with Coral Chapter #41, Sanborn, Iowa, on November 24, 1975

Victory Chapter #498, Sutherland, Iowa, under dispensation on May 27, 1920, previously known as Sutherland Chapter #82, which was formed under dispensation on April 11, 1890, (NOTE: This information was located in a Sutherland history book as the Chapter minutes were burned in the fire.) It consolidated with Coral Chapter #41, Sanborn, Iowa, on September 10, 1997

Floyd Chapter #220, Sheldon, Iowa, instituted April 15, 1897; consolidated with Coral Chapter #41, Sanborn, Iowa, on September 9, 1987

Coral Chapter #41, Sanborn, Iowa, instituted January 25, 1882; consolidated with Evening Shade Chapter #116, Spencer, Iowa, on June 30, 2021, after 139 years.

"The ninth annual session of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, Order of the Eastern Star, was held in the Masonic Temple in the city of Des Moines, convening on the evening of June 3d, A.D., 1886, and was called to order by the Grand Matron, Mrs. M. (Mary) C. Agnew (of Keokuk) and opened in due form." (This was her second of two years serving as Grand Matron.) There were only 15 installed Grand Officers and 12 were in attendance. The Associate Grand Conductress served as the Grand Conductress for the session and there were protems for the Associate Grand Conductress, Grand Martha and Grand Electa. There was no Grand Chaplain, Grand Marshal or Grand Organist; however, a Marshal was appointed to serve for the Installation of Officers before the close of the session.

"T. R. (Thomas Russell) Ercanbrack of Anamosa was serving his fourth of four years as Grand Patron and his almost seven-page address was the first order of business. He began by stating: "...the Grand Chapter of Iowa, like all other human organizations, had a feeble beginning. The members of the Order are not familiar with our early history. It occurred to me that for my valedictory address as Grand Patron, I could do no better service than to make a sketch of our history thus far, as gathered from our printed proceedings.

"Nearly eight years ago, that is on July 30, 1878, there met in the Masonic Hall at Cedar Rapids, twelve persons who had received the degrees of this Order in Chapters holding what are known as Macoy Charters. They hailed from seven different Chapters, some of them remote from each other, but all of them holding out a fraternal hand to be grasped.

"During the next year, on May 13, 1879, eight of the twelve reassembled at the same place. They met five others, and the thirteen composed the Grand Chapter at its second state session. Seven Chapters were again represented, though twelve chapters sent in returns. From these returns it appears that there were 356 regular members of the constituent Chapters. The Grand Treasurer had received \$168.06, of which sum the Grand Officers had expended \$80.91, leaving \$87.15 to be appropriated by the Grand Chapter.

"The third annual session was held at Council Bluffs, May 11, 1880, and for the first time in a city containing a constituent Chapter. This circumstance rendered this meeting more cheery than any which preceded it. Nine chapters were represented. Fifteen Chapters were on the roll; thirteen of which

Just Reminiscing...

~ 135 Years Ago ~

By Janelle Hammarstedt

Grand Chapter 1886



Mary E. Agnew

Worthy Grand Matron

~ ~

Thomas R. Ercanbrack

Worthy Grand Patron

The original seven Macoy-chartered Iowa Chapters:

Excelsior Chapter No. 5, Charles City
Ruth Chapter No. 6, Iowa City
Waverly Chapter No. 18, Waverly
Harmony Chapter No. 25, Council Bluffs
Fidelity Chapter No. 42, Rockford
Charity Chapter *U.D., Marble Rock
Gem Chapter *U.D., Shell Rock

NOTE: Of these seven Chapters, only
Harmony Chapter No. 25, Council Bluffs,
is still in existence.
Congratulations, Harmony Chapter!

*U.D. = "under dispensation"

reported, showing a membership of 468--a gain of 92. Twenty-seven persons present were entitled to participate in the deliberations, and the members of Harmony Chapter were generally in attendance. For the first time in the history of our Grand Chapter the delegates present outnumbered the offices to be bestowed.

"May 10, 1881, our Grand Chapter held its fourth session at Charles City. Ten Chapters were represented and twenty-five persons took part in the deliberations. Fourteen Chapters were on the roll with a membership of 413, showing a decrease of 55 from 1880. The revenue was \$155.00, but available cash on hand was only \$15.68.

"The fifth annual session convened at the Masonic Hall in Des Moines, June 6th 1882, with thirty-seven voting members hailing from thirteen different Chapters. Twenty-five Chapters were on the roll; nineteen reported a membership of 855, a gratifying increase of 442 or more than 100 per cent.

"A very pleasant session was that at Mount Pleasant, May 22 and 23, 1883. Forty voting members were present, fifteen of our thirty-three Chapters being represented. Twenty-nine Chapters sent returns showing a membership of 1,192, an increase of 387. The several Chapters paid to our treasury \$272.55 and the Treasury carried a balance of \$48.92.

"At Grinnell, June 10 and 11, 1884, our Grand Chapter held its seventh annual session. Nineteen Chapters sent delegates, and forty voting members were present. The members of Beulah Chapter filled the remaining space in the Hall, and rendered the occasion delightful. Of the forty-one Chapters that once existed, twenty-six reported a membership of 1,556. The Grand Treasurer has a balance on hand of \$151.39. The Grand Matron of New Jersey was assisted with the Installation of Officers.

"Our eighth stated meeting was distinguished by the peculiar feature that it was held in the beautiful hall of the Masonic Library in Cedar Rapids, and Grand Secretary (Theodore) Parvin, of A.F and A.M. (Grand Lodge of Iowa), set everything in order and was made a life member of the Grand Chapter. Forty-six Chapters appeared on the rolls and twenty-one sent delegates to Grand Chapter. The returns showed a membership of 1,647. The year's revenue was \$458.14, but when the expenses of the session had been paid, the treasury was exhausted."

Brother Ercanbrack concluded his lengthy address with the following admonition: "But we are not entirely beyond the possibility of serious calamity. The Grand Matron and Grand Patron could tell you of pitfalls that future Officers may fall into. It is to be hoped that they will be possessed of the wise discretion to ignore trifles, to be deaf to unkind criticism and to keep an eye single to F.A.T.A.L."

The Annual Address by the Grand Matron was also very long and very eloquent compared to present day speaking. "Again through the divine providence of God we have been permitted to meet and assemble at the ninth annual session of the Grand Chapter of Iowa. Although a goodly number have been able to come forth on this occasion, many have been called to a higher life, as the stern Reaper has entered our ranks during the past year, taking some our most zealous and earnest workers. Yet, while we mourn, we must remember that our loss is but their gain.

"The outer world sees no good in secret Orders, like the infidel who cannot fathom the deep mysteries of God's ways and understand the immutable laws of the Most High, refusing to bow to the mild precepts of His holy will, thereby seeking to raise himself higher than the Son, who did not know all the secrets of the Father... Is it any wonder that the time-honored institution to which we cling for protection and support should stand on such a foundation from time immemorial, witnessing the uprising and downfall of empires, withstanding all the ravages of time. Look at her, a monument in the dim ages of the past. She is growing at the present, and will continue to grow through all the ages to come... Her fraternal chain encircles the globe. Her mission is one of peace and love and brotherhood. Let us strive to follow closer the examples of this grand institution."

With regard to organizing new Chapters, Mrs. Agnew noted: "I have made quite an effort to assist in forming new Chapters, but not with as great success as I should have liked. I have also endeavored to revive some of our sleeping Chapters by visiting... Some have displayed signs of life by asking for dispensations, but failed to recover energy enough to revive. I fear they are past restoration."

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The Barthell O.E.S. Home in Decorah Announces its Campaign:

"Creating a Home with Heart"

We are pleased to announce the "Creating A Home With Heart" Fundraising Campaign! The campaign was initially slated to begin in March of 2020. Unfortunately, this was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Construction on the nursing home addition began in November of 2019, and continued steadily through the last year. Despite delays in the capital campaign caused by the pandemic, construction continued in order to prevent increased construction costs, and to not delay a project that would bring enrichment to the residents' lives. The recently-completed nursing home addition includes a chapel, new activity room, larger therapy room, conference room, and beautiful lobby area, as well as centrally-located restrooms and administrative offices. Our goal is to provide an exceptional quality of life for residents, and to create a beautiful, functional space that feels like home. Residents and staff look forward to the day when they can share this vibrant new space with the public. Until then, please enjoy this Virtual Tour of some of our new spaces! Those interested in making a donation toward the Creating A Home With Heart Campaign to further this project, may contact Mandy or Brittane at (563) 382-8787 or info@easternstardecorah.com for more information.

~~Submitted by Mandy Baker, Provisional Administrator, Barthell O.E.S. Home/Arlin Falck Assisted Living

Pictured above is the newly-renovated entrance and the lobby area of the Barthell O.E.S. Home. The chapel is shown below left and the wide, bright corridor is centered below. At lower right is the spacious, multi-functional activity room.



LAST PRINT ISSUE

THE FUTURE OF

The Iowa Galaxy

For several years now, the Board of Grand Trustees has debated the future of our state publication, *The Iowa Galaxy*. *The Galaxy* was never intended to be a money-making publication, but it was hoped that it would at least break even, with subscriptions covering the expenses to print and mail. Over the years, printing and postage costs have increased and the number of members wishing to have the publication mailed to them has dwindled – more members are now receiving the publication by electronic means.

At the May 15, 2021, meeting of the Board of Grand Trustees, it was decided that *The Iowa Galaxy* will be a free publication from now on, available to everyone on the O.E.S. website, www.iowaeasternstar.org. No more subscriptions will be accepted. If a subscriber wishes to receive a refund on an existing subscription, please contact the Grand Secretary – the refund may be prorated depending on how much time remains on the subscription. As an alternative to receiving a refund, I ask that you please consider donating the remainder of any subscription money to Iowa Grand Chapter.

This has not been an easy decision for the Trustees, but it was felt to be the most fiscally responsible choice, given the steadily increasing costs to publish *The Galaxy*. Sisters and Brothers, be sure to check with your Chapter members who do not have a computer – ask if they would like to have you print out a copy of the newest issue! I am sure they would appreciate your kindness in offering to print out the newest issue out for them to read and catch up on the O.E.S. news from around Iowa!

~~Polly Miller, Worthy Grand Matron

LAST PRINT ISSUE

Dear O.E.S. family and friends,

I want to say thank you for all the love and support you gave me and my family at the time we needed it most.

Thank you, everyone, for the prayers, cards, phone calls and donations to Doug's memorial, and thanks for all the kind words and the time spent with me. A special thanks to everyone who made it to Doug's Celebration of Life at Rockwood Park. What a gorgeous day he had! That was one of his favorite places. He always wanted to drive through the park. A special "thank you" to my precious Candlelighters' Grand Family. You did a beautiful O.E.S. service.

Doug is greatly missed. He was very proud to be a member of our beautiful Order.

Star Love and Friendship,

JoAnn Seelye

Janelle Hammarstedt, Historian

(Continued from Page 9)

Mrs. Agnew organized Chapters in Murray, Runnells, Abingdon and Sac City during the year and on August 5th, Signet Chapter No. 1 of Carroll was reorganized and their Macoy Charter was exchanged for a Grand Chapter Charter. "This Chapter started out under very favorable circumstances; over fifty charter members being present." (NOTE: If I understand correctly, the Chapters that were in existence when the Grand Chapter of Iowa was organized on July 30, 1878, *DID NOT* automatically become a part of Grand Chapter. It was necessary for these Chapters to relinquish their Macoy Charters in order to receive a Charter from Iowa Grand Chapter. It is unfortunate that there is not a complete list of Chapters which held Macoy Charters.)

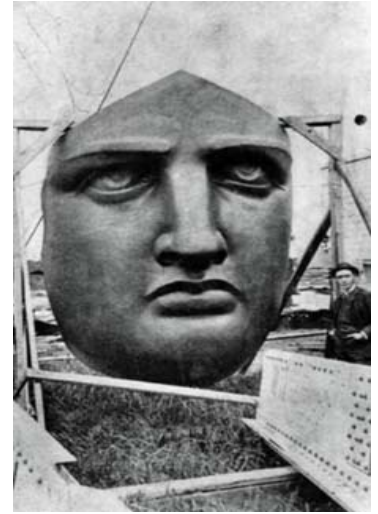
In her address, Mrs. Agnew noted that she had used over 700 letterheads, and had been out of supply for some time. She also noted that: "...unfortunately the team which was conveying me to the depot ran away and I lost my letter register and quite a number of important memoranda which must have been buried in the mud as we failed to find any trace of them; therefore I cannot give you a very exact account of stamps. I can only say that my correspondence, which has been much more extensive than last year, has been wearisome." She concluded her remarks by saying: "Yes, while memory lasts a sweet remembrance of these few brief months will ever remain, a sweet recollection, and as I return to the bosom of my family I shall only carry with me these pleasant recollections."

Thanks for listenin' ~

Janelle Hammarstedt

An additional note from Coral Chapter's history:

The last meeting of Primghar Chapter was on October 8, 1975. “Worthy Matron Wilma Reese announced officially our meeting was dismissed and we would have no other meetings until we are notified of a joint meeting with Coral Chapter, Sanborn. All of our members are urged to take an active part in Star and attend meetings to keep Eastern Star meaningful to all of us.” Sister Wilma was herself active in Coral Chapter and served as Chaplain for several years. She received her 50-year pin in July 2019. She passed away on December 1, 2020, having lived a wonderful life of fidelity, constancy, loyalty, faith and love.



The Statue of Liberty is seen on this cover of LIFE Magazine from 1986. At right, the face before it was installed. “In 1865, Edouard de Laboulaye, a French political intellectual and authority on the U.S. Constitution, proposed that France give a statue representing liberty to the United States for its centennial. He argues that it would strengthen the cause for democracy in France. In 1870, the young sculptor Auguste Bartholdi was selected to be the sculptor. The statue of ‘Liberty Enlightening the World’ is completed in 1886.”

~~National Park Service

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