

IOWA GALAXY



MESSAGE FROM THE WORTHY GRAND MATRON

Submitted by: Sandy Meredith

Sisters and Brothers,

I can not believe the year is half over! School Official Visits ended in April and I was able to attend the Grand Chapters of Wisconsin and Nebraska. Always fun to attend another Grand Jurisdiction. I was also able to attend the Masonic Golf Outing and Rainbow banquet.

The Grand Officers were able to confer the degrees in Davenport in May. Four new members were initiated. I was also able to give Sister Vicki Wallner her 50 year pin.

We have attended a few fun days, which have been very entertaining!! We look forward to seeing the other Chapters on our schedule. I know they have fun things planned for us. Everyone enjoyed the Barn quilt painting and Bingo at SouthGate Chapter.
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Our next Big event will be hosting the 5-State Exchange in Mason City/Clear Lake, August 1-3. We look forward to welcoming our Sisters and Brothers from Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, and South Dakota. We will also be hosting the 3-State Exchange in October for Minnesota and Wisconsin. This will be held in Algona. I want to thank these Chapters for helping with these events.

We were able to give Children's Cancer Connection over 100 blankets!! I know more are being made. Keep up the good work. Maura said what they do not use this year, gives them a good start on next year. Maura was able to attend our Golf Outing and was very appreciative of everyone who stopped by to visit with her.

We will be leaving for our Cruise to Alaska in August. A week away sounds wonderful!! Time to relax and enjoy the sights of Alaska.

It's also time to start planning for our Grand Chapter session. Forms and information are on the web page. I hope you plan to attend our "Home Sweet Home" session.

We still have pins and challenge coins for sale. You still have time to purchase a "Snowflake" in honor/memory of someone. Please let your Project Chairman, Sue Thomas or myself know if you would like one. They will be used at Grand Chapter for decorations and you will be able to receive your snowflake some time after our session.

Have a safe and wonderful summer!!

Sandy

Grand Representatives Appointed:

Kris Roudybush - Indiana
 Bev Reinert - New Hampshire
 Susan Krueger - Florida
 Amber Johnson - Wyoming
 Joel Tacket - Michigan
 Nancy Akers - New York
 Win Miller - Kansas
 Bonnie Anderson - Minnesota
 Darcey Swope - Missouri
 Lora McCollum - Alabama



MESSAGE FROM THE WORTHY GRAND PATRON

Submitted by: Bill Howie

Sisters and Brothers,

Well, we are a little over half way through the year and an interesting year it has been. We spent several weekends visiting chapters to see our District Instructors conduct our schools. I must say that they were all exemplary in their execution, each one with their own style and methods. I heard more than once, “this is always the same stuff that we do every year, I could almost do it with my eyes closed.” But I also hear, “If there are only one or two new people who have never been to a school and never seen the work done, it is worth the time and effort.” I feel that both points are valid but this is also necessary if we wish to maintain the proficiency that we are so proud of and that other states envy.

Barb and I have visited two other Grand Jurisdictions so far and are very proud that we have seen a great representation from the state of Iowa at both. It means a great deal to other states when representatives from other states care enough to visit and show support. It is also interesting to witness the variations of the work elsewhere.

We are now entering the season of Fun Days and look forward to traveling across the state to enjoy the activities that have been planned to support our projects. It is important to remember that we not only do this to fraternize and have fun with our Sisters and Brothers, but to also raise funds for our important causes. It is my hope that we can continue to support and GROW our Order and the important work we strive to do, not only as Eastern Star members but also our youth organizations. I look forward to, not only the other events, but also to the cruise we have planned for August. It promises to be a lot of fun.

Bill





ALL IOWA COUNTY FAIR INFORMATION



You're invited to the All Iowa County Fair on Saturday, September 27, 2025, from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM in the 4-H Building at the Union County Fairgrounds, 301 South Grace Street, Afton, Iowa (just off Highway 34). This event is open to the public and everyone is welcome! Pre-registration helps our food vendors plan ahead, but it's not required—you can simply show up and buy tickets at the door.

Event Highlights:

- Hosted by Districts, Chapters, and Individuals
- Fun games, activities, and vendor booths
- Vendors will handle their own payment methods (cash is common)
- All other activities will require tickets (number of tickets per game/activity set by the host)

Registration Information for Booths:

- Registration is available for Individuals and Vendors hosting booths or selling items. While there is no charge for vendor space, we kindly request a free-will donation to support our “Hope for Tomorrow” project. Donations can be made the day of the event.
- Forms for both Individual and Vendor Registration will be available soon on the Iowa OES Website, Facebook, and through our District Instructors and Chapter Secretaries.
- For details on registration perks or booth requirements, please contact one of the Committee Co-Chairs listed below.

Questions? Contact the Committee Co-Chairs:

- Terri Murphy: (712) 303-1392 | 27t1m87@gmail.com
- Deb Jones: (712) 370-1027 | gdwallin1@iowatelecom.net



PROJECTS



Every year we have different items for sale to support our Projects. Please take a moment to stop by the Project table to see what is for sale. Even if you do not wear the pins, you will be supporting our Projects.

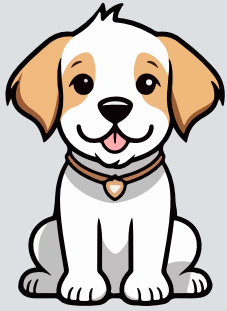
- Barn Pin and Note Cards will support our two Projects; Children's Cancer Connection and Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center.
- Cross pin and March Music support Estarl.
- Cream Can Pin and Worthy Grand Patron's Barn will support Youth.
- Our Challenge Coin and Snowflakes will support Grand Chapter.

The Snowflakes we will use as decorations at Grand Chapter. You will get your Snowflake after our session. Our Project Chairman has a form for you to fill out for the Snowflakes. Buy one in memory or honor of someone.

March music and notecards are all original art work by Kerri.

Just take a moment to stop by the table and see our Projects.





"DOGS" FOR SERVICE DOGS

Submitted by: Sandy Meredith, WGM



If you have been to any Eastern Star events, you have seen our "Dogs" for Service Dogs. This is a "fun"raiser between the Grand Officers this year. We will have our "Dogs" with us as we travel the State this year. Your vote is cash, so vote for your favorite "Dog". This will continue until Friday afternoon of Grand Chapter. The Service Dogs committee will tally the votes and announce the winner Saturday evening of Grand Chapter. The money will go to Iowa Service Dogs which helps provide service dogs to veterans and first responders.



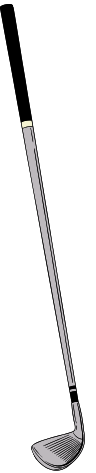


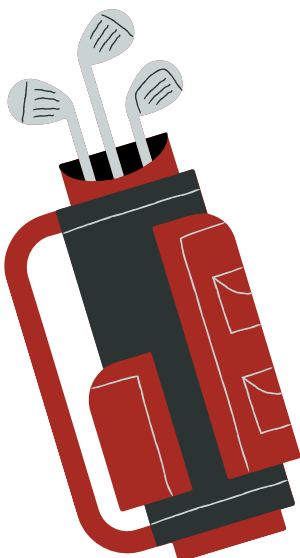
THE GOLF OUTING 2025



Thank you to everyone who came out for the Eastern Star Golf Outing on June 27th! It was a beautiful day on the course filled with great swings, plenty of laughs, and strong community spirit. Whether you played, volunteered, or supported from afar, your participation helped make the event a success. See you next year!



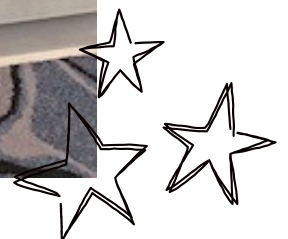




CHAPTER NEWS

Cecilia, Honored Queen of Iowa Job's Daughters International (left) and Abigail, GWA of Iowa Rainbow Girls (right) represented their Organizations at the Grand York Rite Session in June.

Submitted by Claudia Hauser, Guardian Secretary JDI.



Algona OES Chapter and Algona Prudence Lodge held their Annual Belgian Waffle Fundraiser on April 19th at the Masonic Temple. Proceeds from the fundraiser go to each organization's projects.

Submitted by: Sue Thomas



Seven members of Decorah Chapter, Postville, and three members from New Hampton Chapter, Lawler, enjoyed an afternoon visiting and playing BINGO with the residents at Barthell Eastern Star Nursing Home and Arlin Falck Assisted Living in Decorah Tuesday June 10th. Afterwards the OES members served soft ice cream with all the toppings one could imagine.

Those attending were Luke Reicks, John Hyman, Mary Reicks, Judy Hyman, Judi Krauskopf, Gene Cummings, Toni Wandling, Nona Stone, Andee and Lloyd Billman. Fayette County Dairy Promotions donated the ice cream machine for the day.

Submitted by Judi Krauskopf



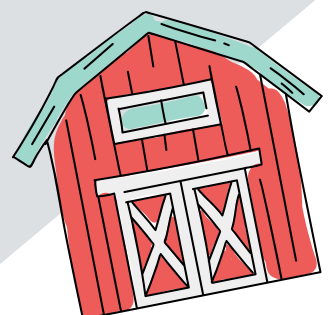
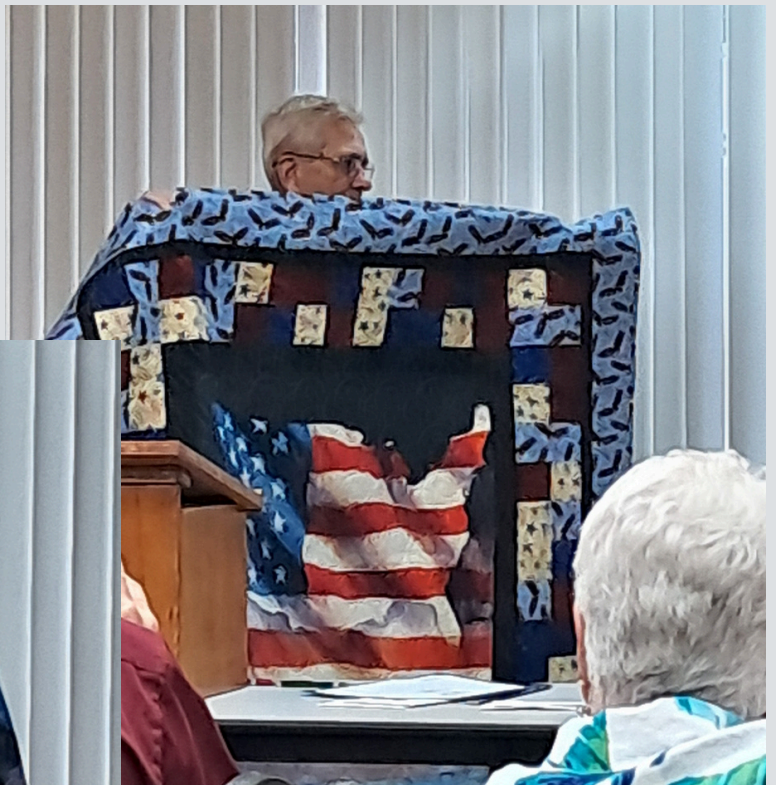


Amber Star Chapter #328 Carson have completed 8 tie blankets to donate to Children's Cancer Connection. Several members took the material home and brought back the completed blankets. The blankets are very colorful with various designs. They are now ready to go!

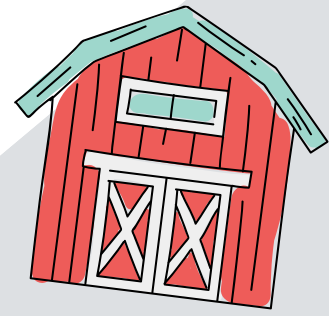
Submitted by Loretta Coffman



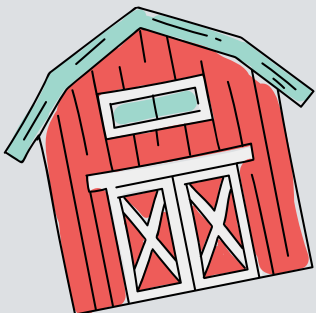
A FEW GOOD SHOTS



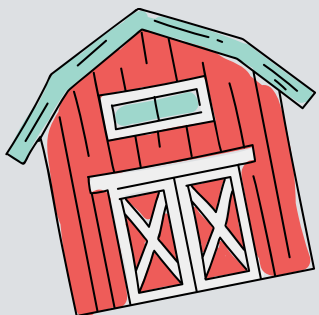
A FEW GOOD SHOTS



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A FEW GOOD SHOTS



FRIENDLY REMINDERS AND GRATITUDES

Thank you to the many friends and organizations that have supported me on my journey to recovery. Your cards, calls, visits, and support have been priceless in my pursuit of improved health. As well as all the birthday wishes while I was hospitalized.

Your continued support has made every day a great day!

Bruce Thomas

Grand Chapter will be held November 13-16, 2025 at the Holiday Inn/Airport. All forms can be found on the OES web page. We look forward to hosting you at the "Home Sweet Home" session!

Planning to Attend Grand Chapter?

There will be a formal dress exchange held near the Chapter room during Grand Chapter. If you have any gently used formals you no longer need, please consider bringing them to share with others. It's a great way to recycle elegance and help fellow members find something special to wear!

NOTES FROM THE GALAXY COMMITTEE

Thank you to everyone who contributed articles for the Galaxy!

The deadline to submit articles for the next Galaxy issue will be September 30th.

Please send all submissions to the Iowa Galaxy email
iaoesgalaxy@gmail.com. If you send them elsewhere, there is a high chance of
them getting lost and not ending up in the issue!

We kindly ask that you include both the text and any photos you'd like featured in your email submissions. Unfortunately, we're unable to add invitations, write content on your behalf, or source material from other online articles due to copyright issues. Your cooperation helps us ensure the newsletter reflects your voice and vision. Thank you for your understanding and continued contributions!

Galaxy Committee Members: Kerri Meredith, Victoria Means, and Janelle Miller