

The  
**EASTERN**  
JOURNAL



**STAR**  
[www.easternstar.org](http://www.easternstar.org)



*Dr. Robt Morris  
1818 - 1888*

*Travis Simpkins 2017*

**OCTOBER 2019**  
**Section I**

## ROBERT MORRIS



It was 1818  
in that very same year,  
Dr. Morris was born,  
a man all stars revere.

Next, 1846,  
a mason he became.  
A master without peer,  
of international fame.

Then he met and married  
Miss Charlotte Mendenhall.  
Love, Life and Masonry  
- he wished to share them all.

With his Masonic brothers  
this quest they might fulfill  
Could their wives share somehow,  
Masonic principle?

Within the next few years,  
his zeal would carry far,  
Writing his new ritual  
he called the Eastern Star.

Every year at this time  
Stars meet from far and near  
and honor Robert Morris,  
a man we all hold dear.

- Don Williams, PP (1991)

Courtesy of Don Williams, PGP  
GGCCM Service Dogs (2018-2021)

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## Editions

**Articles are received continuously with  
NO specific deadlines.**

**Submit articles as noted on Section II, page  
37. Articles submitted via email will receive  
an acknowledgment receipt from  
esjeditor@easternstar.org. Please check  
your mailbox for receipt email and review to  
ensure all information was submitted.**

**"If you can post it, we can print it!!!!"**

Cover artwork courtesy of Brother Travis Simpkins, Member of Stella Chapter #3,  
Auburn, Massachusetts ([www.tsimpkins.com](http://www.tsimpkins.com))



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FROM THE DESK OF THE  
MOST WORTHY GRAND MATRON

**Marianne R. Shenefelt**

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR®

Greetings my Sisters and Brothers. What an honor and a pleasure it is for me to greet you as your Most Worthy Grand Matron! I am having the time of my life filled to the brim with the blessings of having the opportunity to travel our beautiful world to be with all of you. Thank you again and again for giving me this tremendous and outstanding experience. I look forward with joy to more OES travels to be with you, my wonderful Sisters and Brothers!

My greetings are coming to you from our very first online *Eastern Star Journal*. The decision was made to move the *Journal* from a printed document to online. I know this may not be quite what we want for our magazine but it was felt some means of communication is better than nothing at all, which is where it was going due to increased printing and postage costs, delayed publication and a low number of subscribers. Some of the pluses include it will now be free to all members, there's more opportunity for more articles and the biggest plus, it is still available to read. Please continue to submit your articles and pictures to Editor, Sister Nancy Ford, at [oesjournaleditor@easternstar.org](mailto:oesjournaleditor@easternstar.org) (see Section II, page 37 for instructions, including mailing address).

I'm happy to report things are going very well with Eastern Star's permanent, primary, identifying charity—service dogs. Having this charity as our organization-wide charity is beginning to make a small but detectible difference. In just 1 year of promotion and fundraising, I am excited to tell you that the 3 quarterly reports for 2019 show that we've raised nearly \$430,000! With a figure like that, we

will raise over \$1 million in 3 years so reaching our goal of \$2 million is definitely possible. Please remember all the money raised for service dogs stays in your Jurisdiction. There is a cruise benefitting Service Dogs that's taking place in March of 2020. I don't know about you, but I love the idea of getting out of the cold Wyoming March weather for the sun and sand of the Caribbean! The cruise will set sail out of Port Canaveral (Orlando) on March 7 and return on March 14, 2020. Information is available on page 56 and now on the website MWGM1821.com under the "Travel Plans" tab or email Sister Holly Shenefelt at [oes4dogs@gmail.com](mailto:oes4dogs@gmail.com). We'd love to have you join us!



My Sisters and Brothers, keep up your good work and dedication to our beautiful Order. The world needs us now more than ever. It is my honor and privilege to serve you. Thank you for all your hugs and good wishes—I love them!

Until next time, in friendship and love,

Marianne Shenefelt  
Most Worthy Grand Matron



**Spirit, our poster Service Dog**

**Let's share our Howling Success Stories**

**The Paws-Abilities are endless!**

<http://www.oesservicedogs.com/media>

FROM THE DESK OF THE  
**MOST WORTHY GRAND PATRON**

**Henry S. Martin**  
GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR®

My Eastern Star Sisters and Brothers:

As we have traveled during this Triennium, it has been inspiring to meet the members of the Grand Jurisdictions and the Subordinate Chapters. How fortunate we are to be members of this beautiful Order. And we are seeing Chapters that are very successful in attracting and retaining new members. The key to retaining these new members seems to be mentoring them, teaching them about our Order and getting them involved in the activities of the Chapter. In short, making them feel like an important part of the Chapter.



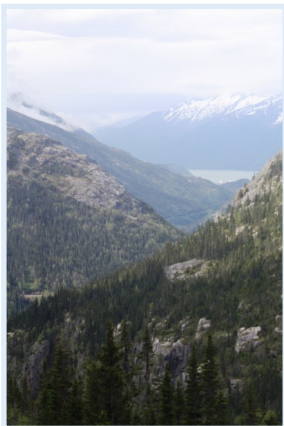
So, let all of us resolve to do everything we can to attract and retain new members to our Chapters and our beautiful Order.

May God bless each of you and may our Order grow and prosper in the future.

Henry S. Martin, MWGP



**NORTH  
TO ALASKA  
AND VANCOUVER**



*Pictures courtesy of Candace Marston, PM, Frederica Chapter #110, Plainsville, Connecticut*

FROM THE DESK OF THE  
ACTING RIGHT WORTHY GRAND SECRETARY

**Alma Lynn Bane**  
GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR®

Welcome to the new era of the *OES Journal*. I look forward to communicating my *OES Journal* articles with all of our OES membership and interested individuals. With this article, I hope to let each of you know the tasks and projects of the International Headquarters Staff as we serve our Order.

**Rituals** – The printing of the 2018 GGC OES Ritual, which was copyrighted in 2009, has been done for the Large Print Ritual in White or Navy Spiral Binding and we have sold out of these Rituals. We have re-ordered, and they should arrive in October. The Extra Large Print Ritual in Dark Purple Spiral binding has been printed and we still have a supply of them. The Small Print Book Bound version of our 2018 GGC OES Ritual is being printed and should arrive in November. As soon as any Rituals are received from the printer, I will send an email to all Grand Secretaries and Deputies so that they can let their Subordinate Chapters know that they can begin ordering Rituals thru their Grand Secretary or GGC Subordinate Chapter Secretaries.

**Resolutions** – So far, I have received three Resolutions for the 50<sup>th</sup> Triennial Assembly to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, in October 2021.

**Reports** – Monthly I send to the Grand Secretaries of the Grand Chapters whose due date is within 60 days. Soon, I will be mailing the 2019 GGC

Annual Reports to the Subordinate Chapters directly under the jurisdiction of General Grand Chapter. I am working on a better method of payment by our non-U.S. Grand Chapters and GGC Subordinate Chapters.

**Proceedings of 49<sup>th</sup> Triennial Assembly**

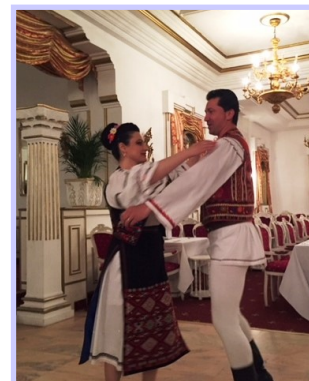
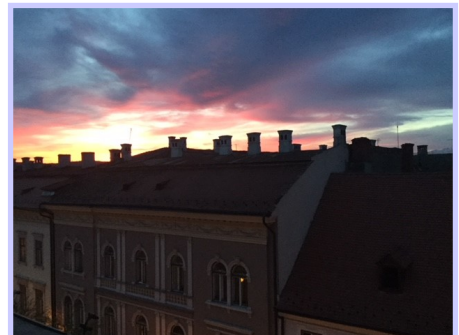
– Recently, I received from our Session reporter the transcription of our Proceedings of the 49<sup>th</sup> Triennial Assembly held in Orlando, Florida, in October-November 2018. A big thank you to Sister Diane Davidson, PM, McLennan Chapter #639, Waco, Texas, for assisting in formatting the text to MS Word. I will be working on the remainder of the Proceedings before sending it to the printer for printing. There is still time to order a copy by selecting “Triennial Assembly” on the GGC Website for the 49<sup>th</sup> Triennial Assembly Proceedings Order Form.

Until next time, please travel safely and share your smiles with everyone you greet.

Fraternally,  
Alma Lynn Bane  
Right Worthy Grand Secretary



ROMANIA





**General Grand Chapter**  
Order of the Eastern Star™  
Established November 1876

September 10, 2019

**TO BE READ IN EACH CHAPTER**

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The membership of the Order of the Eastern Star is wonderful group of individuals. It is the goal of the General Grand Chapter Elected Officers to provide support and information to our members in the best possible method. With the advances in technology and the changes in the means of communicating with our members, the General Grand Chapter Elected Officers will be improving our method of communication utilizing technology.

The era of printed media such as our Eastern Star Journal has evolved with the ability to have timely information in our lives without the printing and mailing of information to our homes. Due to the increasing cost of printing and mailing of the General Grand Chapter OES Journal, the General Grand Chapter Elected Officers have decided to provide the OES Journal information via the General Grand Chapter website ([www.easternstar.org](http://www.easternstar.org)) for ALL members and interested individuals. With a membership of over 300,000 and a subscription of fewer than 2,500 members, the printed OES Journal and its articles and information were not available to ALL members. With the conversion from a printed OES Journal to an electronic OES Journal, the entire membership of Eastern Star will have access to articles and communications without a subscription fee.

Those members and chapters that have paid subscriptions to the OES Journal will be contacted individually regarding their subscriptions.

Fraternally,

*Marianne Shenefelt*  
Marianne Shenefelt, PGM  
Most Worthy Grand Matron

Attested:

*Alma Lynn Bane*  
Mrs. Alma Lynn Bane, PGM  
Right Worthy Grand Secretary

CC: Henry S. Martin, Most Worthy Grand Patron  
Linn McNary, Right Worthy Grand Treasurer  
Dennis P. Jordan, Right Worthy Grand Trustee Chairman  
Jo L. Cullifer, Right Worthy Grand Trustee Vice Chairman  
Helen Delaney, Right Worthy Grand Trustee Secretary

**FROM THE DESK OF THE  
FINANCE CHAIRMAN, EASTERN STAR JOURNAL  
DONNA K. WILLIAMS, PGM OF DC**



**General Grand Chapter**  
Order of the Eastern Star  
Established November 1876

September 16, 2019

Subscriber's Name  
Address

Dear (Subscriber's Name):

The membership of the Order of the Eastern Star is wonderful group of individuals. It is the goal of the General Grand Chapter Elected Officers to provide support and information to our members in the best possible method. With the advances in technology and the changes in the means of communicating with our members, the General Grand Chapter Elected Officers will be improving our method of communication utilizing technology.

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This letter is being sent to you as a Subscriber of the OES Journal. Our records show that your Last Issue was to have been the 2018B - Summer.

Fraternally,

Attested:

Donna K Williams, PGM  
Eastern Star Journal Committee, Financial

Mrs. Alma Lynn Bane, PGM  
Right Worthy Grand Secretary

===== **CUT AND RETURN BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2019** =====  
Subscription for: Alma Bane      Last OES Journal Issue: 2018B - Summer

\_\_\_\_ Please remit unused portion of my Subscription fees to:  
Alma Bane  
1618 New Hampshire Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20009

\_\_\_\_ Please donate the unused portion of my Subscription fees to General Grand Chapter, OES  
(If not returned by December 31, 2019, the unused portion will be automatically donated to GGC-OES)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## SUGGESTIONS

**Please send your suggestions for future issues to**

**[OESJournalEditor@easternstar.org](mailto:OESJournalEditor@easternstar.org)**

***“We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things, because we’re curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths.”***  
**Walt Disney**

**FROM THE DESK OF THE  
EDITOR, EASTERN STAR JOURNAL  
NANCY L. FORD, PGM OF MD**

When the MWGM informed me that the *Journal* was moving from printed to electronic format to be posted on the GGC website making it available to all of our members, I wondered if the glass was going to be half empty or half full. My first thought was, “Will this be the beginning of the end of the *Journal*?”; the half-empty glass. I’ve subscribed to the *Journal* for many years but after I took over as Editor, I found out first-hand that many of our members were not aware of its existence. I’m remaining optimistic that with our MWGM’s letter being read in all of the Chapters around the world, our members will be encouraged to read the *Journal* and enjoy traveling around the world of Eastern Star from the comfort of their own home; the glass is now half full.

I love quotes and came across one from Walt Disney, a Mason who never let failure stand in his way and proved that dreams really do come true. When one door closed, he searched and opened another. His quote seemed so appropriate as our *Journal* is moving forward (in electronic format); opening new doors (available to all of our members); doing new things (trying new ideas for articles); and our members are curious and eager to learn about Eastern Star in other Jurisdictions, leading us down new paths we would not travel without the *Journal*’s existence.

Many have expressed concern over why the articles are “old.” When I took over as Editor, the *Journal* was three editions behind. I listened to our members’ concerns that they had submitted articles that were never printed and so I picked up where the last printed edition stopped. This edition covers the period June-October 2018 and was in final format ready to be sent to the printer when the decision to post electronically was made. Due to the cost of printing and postage, we were limited to the number of pages per edition; however, in electronic format, there is no page restriction. The goal remains to include the “old” plus more current articles in the next edition. If you do not see your article, please contact me to make sure it was received.

It’s always a pleasurable challenge working on the *Journal* and once again, I thank you for your kind words of encouragement and also the literary criticism I have received. This tells me the *Journal* is being read and I welcome suggestions. Speaking of suggestions, you’ll see “blank spaces.” Why “blank?”—that’s space reserved for future articles! Let’s showcase the talents of our members (i.e., photography, writing messages and poetry, recipes and art work ).

One of the biggest concerns is that so many wonderful articles are being posted on social media sources and sadly are not sent to the Editor. “If you can post it, we can print it!!!!” Next time you are posting, give thought to sending a copy to the *Journal*.

I encourage all submitting articles to proofread carefully, especially spellings of names, Chapter names and numbers, etc. Also, please include the date of the event as often times we are crossing over years and Officers have changed. We all enjoy reading the correct

spelling of our names, titles, etc. (see Section II, page 37 for guidelines on submitting articles).

As your fingers do the walking around our Eastern Star world, your heart will be warmed knowing that our Star is shining brightly, even as many of our Chapters face membership challenges. Speaking of membership, if your Chapter is growing, share with us how you are encouraging others to join. Consider how great it would be if we could read an article from each of our Jurisdictions. Calling on our WGMs/WGPs, Ambassadors and Deputies, Grand Representatives, WMs/WPs, our Youth and all our Sisters and Brothers to consider submitting an article. YES—our members do want to read it!!!!

Food for Thought: perform a Random Act of Kindness and print a copy for those who want to read the *Journal* but do not have access to a computer.

A special thanks to Sisters Renee Bearden for the Word Search Puzzle, Vicki Reynolds and Candace Marston for sharing their pictures and Brother Travis and Sister Janet Simpkins for their artwork. Keep the pictures coming!

Flood our mailbox so that we can fill the *Journal*’s pages with the “good work” our members carry out each day and instead of the glass being half full, it will be overflowing.

May our Star continue to shine as we work together seeking a future for our Order.

Godspeed,

Nancy L. Ford  
PGM of Maryland



Courtesy of Sister Janet Simpkins, Member of Stella Chapter #3, Auburn, Massachusetts

<https://janetsimpkinsart.myportfolio.com/masonic-temple-danville-illinois>



# FLOWERS AROUND THE WORLD - Part 2

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                W P I L C B
                V H Y E A S E C D W
                S A R S C W F S F W C T
                Q O O L D O S O Y Q D O O
                Z R J U H W P R Y E V R N
                R B W S O Q A D G O L C T
    A L G O      E T N Q H N L O I C H Q
    K E F D U G   Z T Y F U I C V Z I L
    T S U E S Z E S W D D K W T D E D R
    B Z T S I Q C S W M W V C Y R Z R B T
    C B M N Q F L L G J B E O L Y D O U H
    W P U V M X K U B Z R I R K C K S X K
    N H Q H A K N C F L N U M C K R E B G
    O M U T G Q A V A E D V A I E N I P R
    Q K P S N B J B H Y N Y H R O L E G P E N F R O J J T S Q B G P G N X Y Q A J X
    L O C O K D R F N C O S P L H X D L L P J G W W F C V W Z K L Y C N F N J M
    Q N H L U M R Y N E J R R G W B Y X T U P U E E H P M A B X Q D O T G A R L
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    Y A A Q Y A F Z Q T S H L V H A I Z I U L F Y N A E K Z P A D Q B S
                A E I G N H N C X K S Z
                R G R L V T R F E L O S
    I D Y A I Z B R J W H C L E N Y Q E O O S A O Y A Q Y G D O E E L C
    M A Y F L O W E R U O K G P M B B M K Y B S S V B D Y I S V N M W J N G
    Q I Y U Q K Q W R H D N P P E O V R L H V T W R K R D A V M M A G P X Y D F
    A X B O X V O V E O I R O X D W N E U U M P Z F F F R C L Q T E Q T V V J S
    H P J N S F L L T D Z V K B A W Y X L B S E J B H G N S P J K K L N F T U F U U
    D Q M T Z F L S E T Z M G X E M F S P   H F F Q D W Y P T D N L Z S Q O X N M
    O T G Z N V A N E H J Z X F B P A Q B   K T L B K F V J W C C I M N A J D H N
    A Z G U T I D V D O K S U U E I H A F   Y Y I A V I G H V L F S P I T Q Q G P
    L T S Q E R U A X W C M L A M J S Y B   M H W H G V V N R M I U F O R O P F W
    B I Q I O C G A L V G T C C S U E H T   S A Z D Y D N V H Y M T S F C T Q E J
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    X Z X O      M T Y W R N H I G N L A   X N A G E I R O X V J S   S N H
                P N H G M I S T L E T O E
                F E F J M T N F I V W M B
                S P R I N G E M P X H R A
                D M A R W Y K L K A L N
                Y S C L F F S K M K
                W V L E H N
                O D S U Q L
                J T G J N H M P K D
                F U K E R D P O E B G X
                L B B M P L F K Y R K R D
                M E H S L N O H U X M I N
                U C J D Z V W I Q N A F Z
                P E P O T H V Y V G L L   N F T V
                X T A S B I Y L E E E   R S P W K Q
                A Q S P S T H F R N U W X Y D P B Q
                M Q Q E O H Q S Z R U L S I Y J O U T
                W T U M F P D N P D K X B Y F V S N K
                Z G E J H L P W P H H E H H O P R U D
                Z Y F K P N Y Y R H K T B I S G R D O
                X P L N Z S E K V J U W K I M R H R N
                Q K P S N B J B H Y N Y H R O L E G P E N F R O J J T S Q B G P G N X Y Q A J X
                L O C O K D R F N C O S P L H X D L L P J G W W F C V W Z K L Y C N F N J M
                Q N H L U M R Y N E J R R G W B Y X T U P U E E H P M A B X Q D O T G A R L
                Y L I J O N A A L E I T F O D M E S V W I R G C F M T R G A E G E J H I
                Y A A Q Y A F Z Q T S H L V H A I Z I U L F Y N A E K Z P A D Q B S
                A E I G N H N C X K S Z
                R G R L V T R F E L O S
    I D Y A I Z B R J W H C L E N Y Q E O O S A O Y A Q Y G D O E E L C
    M A Y F L O W E R U O K G P M B B M K Y B S S V B D Y I S V N M W J N G
    Q I Y U Q K Q W R H D N P P E O V R L H V T W R K R D A V M M A G P X Y D F
    A X B O X V O V E O I R O X D W N E U U M P Z F F F R C L Q T E Q T V V J S
    H P J N S F L L T D Z V K B A W Y X L B S E J B H G N S P J K K L N F T U F U U
    D Q M T Z F L S E T Z M G X E M F S P   H F F Q D W Y P T D N L Z S Q O X N M
    O T G Z N V A N E H J Z X F B P A Q B   K T L B K F V J W C C I M N A J D H N
    A Z G U T I D V D O K S U U E I H A F   Y Y I A V I G H V L F S P I T Q Q G P
    L T S Q E R U A X W C M L A M J S Y B   M H W H G V V N R M I U F O R O P F W
    B I Q I O C G A L V G T C C S U E H T   S A Z D Y D N V H Y M T S F C T Q E J
    R W N K X G F O X A H M V Z Z A A Z   I A P O C W I Y S F G I Q X Q L H L
    Y V P A H W   U P J R Q U A M P H T   N Z F L H N J R N G Z   Q V L S B
    X Z X O      M T Y W R N H I G N L A   X N A G E I R O X V J S   S N H
                P N H G M I S T L E T O E
                F E F J M T N F I V W M B
                S P R I N G E M P X H R A
                D M A R W Y K L K A L N
                Y S C L F F S K M K
                W V L E H N
                O D S U Q L
                J T G J N H M P K D
                F U K E R D P O E B G X
                L B B M P L F K Y R K R D
                M E H S L N O H U X M I N
                U C J D Z V W I Q N A F Z
                P E P O T H V Y V G L L   N F T V
                X T A S B I Y L E E E   R S P W K Q
                A Q S P S T H F R N U W X Y D P B Q
                M Q Q E O H Q S Z R U L S I Y J O U T
                W T U M F P D N P D K X B Y F V S N K
                Z G E J H L P W P H H E H H O P R U D
                Z Y F K P N Y Y R H K T B I S G R D O
                X P L N Z S E K V J U W K I M R H R N
                Q K P S N B J B H Y N Y H R O L E G P E N F R O J J T S Q B G P G N X Y Q A J X
                L O C O K D R F N C O S P L H X D L L P J G W W F C V W Z K L Y C N F N J M
                Q N H L U M R Y N E J R R G W B Y X T U P U E E H P M A B X Q D O T G A R L
                Y L I J O N A A L E I T F O D M E S V W I R G C F M T R G A E G E J H I
                Y A A Q Y A F Z Q T S H L V H A I Z I U L F Y N A E K Z P A D Q B S
                A E I G N H N C X K S Z
                R G R L V T R F E L O S

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## WORD LIST:

LILAC	NORTHERN BLUE FLAG	PINK LADY'S SLIPPER	SPRING
LILY	ORANGE	POPPY	SUNFLOWER
MAGNOLIA	ORCHID	PRICKLY WILD ROSE	THISTLE
MAPLE LEAF	PASQUEFLOWER	RHODODENDRON	TUDOR ROSE
MARSH BLUE VIOLET	PEACH	ROSE	
MAYFLOWER	PEONY	SAGEBRUSH	
MISTLETOE	PINE	SHAMROCK	

## HISTORY OF DR. ROB MORRIS

Dr. Rob Morris was born near Boston, Massachusetts, on August 31, 1818, while his parents were spending the summer there. He spent his childhood and was educated in New York City. He received degrees in law and philosophy and also was very interested in theology and devoted much time to Bible study.

Dr. Morris moved to the south and became president of the DeSoto Academy. There he met Charlotte Mendenall and on May 26, 1841, they were married by Reverend Bethel. Their first child was named Robert Samuel and lived only sixteen months. Their second child was born September 17, 1843, and named John Anson. A daughter was born May 12, 1845, and named Charlotte Fales. Another son was born April 30, 1847, named Alfred Williams. Their fifth child was born December 11, 1849, named Robert with no middle name. Another daughter was born January 28, 1852 named Sarah Mendenall. Their seventh child was born July 26, 1855, and named Ruth Electa. Their eighth child was born May 17 1857, named Ella Wilson. A ninth child died at birth and was not given a name.

About a half mile away from Lodgeton stood Union Church, where Sunday after Sunday he preached to an admiring and devoted congregation. He was never regularly installed as pastor, but filled the pulpit at the request of his numerous friends of all denominations.

In the second story of this church, the Masonic Lodge, which he organized, and the Purity Chapter No. 1, the first Eastern Star Chapter ever established, held their meetings. It was while returning from nearby Hickman to his home in Lodgeton that he sat down on a fallen tree and wrote his most famous Masonic poem, "The Level and the Square", on the back of an envelope.

It was from his home in Lodgeton that he edited "The Voice of Freemasonry". He traveled by riverboat to Louisville, Kentucky, staying months at a time. It was during this time that he wrote and published Mirrors of Masonry, The Kentucky Mason, Life in the Triangle, and wrote many articles for Masonic papers throughout the country.

Dr. Morris and his family moved near 17th and Chestnut Streets in Louisville in 1860 and stayed there only a few months. He was appointed Professor of Ancient and Modern History at the Masonic College in La Grange, Kentucky, in 1860. This college soon became the Masonic University and Dr. Morris became the president in 1862. It was his training as an educator and his association with the youth of the country that made him an outstanding president of the University.

In a report to the Grand Lodge, the Committee on Education stated:

*The Masonic University is in a stage of successful operation far beyond what could have been expected. The whole number of students in the classes is two hundred and three, representing nine different states.*

Dr. Morris' first home in La Grange was burned, supposedly by guerrillas opposing his loyalty to the Union. Dr. Morris had never owned any slaves but was very close friends with many black families. Many of his valuable jewels, Masonic medals, awards and valuable books and writings were destroyed in this fire.

The Morris family moved to what is now the Rob Morris Shrine in 1862 and spent the remaining twenty-six years of his life there. The Shrine is presently owned and maintained by the Grand Chapter of Kentucky and its Subordinate Chapters. A Pilgrimage is held there annually on the third Sunday of August. Eastern Star members come from all over Kentucky and some surrounding states to pay tribute to the founder of our beautiful Order.

It was while Dr. Morris lived in La Grange that his one great desire in life was realized - that of visiting the land where Christ had lived. In February, 1868, he left for the Holy Land, returning in August after visiting Syria, Damascus, Joppa and Jerusalem. It was while sitting on the shores of Galilee that he wrote the song we love to hear, "Memories of Galilee". As a result of this trip he wrote Freemasonry in the Holy Land. His second visit to the Holy Land was made in 1878 and as a result of this visit he gave the world the following books: Free Masons' Monitor, Eastern Star Manual, Rosary of the Eastern Star, Funeral Book of Freemasonry and Lights and Shadows of Freemasonry along with many others. The first ritual containing any Eastern Star Degrees under the authority of Rob Morris was published in 1855. It was called The Mosaic Book of the Americas.

About a half mile away from Lodgeton stood Union Church, where Sunday after Sunday he preached to an admiring and devoted congregation. He was never regularly installed as pastor, but filled the pulpit at the request of his numerous friends of all denominations.

In the second story of this church, the Masonic Lodge, which he organized, and the Purity Chapter No. 1, the first Eastern Star Chapter ever established, held their meetings. It was while returning from nearby Hickman to his home in Lodgeton that he sat down on a fallen tree and wrote his most famous Masonic poem, "The Level and the Square", on the back of an envelope.

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Rob Morris was made a Master Mason in 1846 at Oxford, Mississippi, exalted to the degree of Royal Arch in Lexington, Mississippi, made a Knight Templar at Jackson, Mississippi, in 1850 and received his Scottish Rite 32° in 1854. He received the Rite of Memphis as far as the ninetieth degree in New York and the Encampment Order of English Templary in Canada in 1857. He also received three official orders of Royal Arch Masonry, Past Eminent Commander, Past Grand Commander-in-chief 32° and Past Grand Master of Kentucky. His honorary degrees and complimentary memberships numbered more than one hundred and fifty. The honor of Past Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada was highly prized by him.

At the time of his death Dr. Morris was an Elder of the Presbyterian Church and a member of Fortitude Lodge No. 47 in La Grange, a member of the Royal Arch Chapter at Eminence, Kentucky, and a member of Louisville Commandary No. 1 Knights Templar.

The crowning event in the career of this remarkable man was his laureation at the Masonic Temple in New York on December 17, 1884. It has been said, "Robert Burns was laureated by his Scottish brethren for one Masonic lyric; Rob Morris has written more than three hundred; Crown him; he has earned it."

In the presence of many dignitaries, this honor was conferred for the second time in the history of the Craft. When his death came on July 31, 1888, messages of condolence came from all parts of the world. The entire Masonic world grieved and Masonry's loss was great, for there never before had been a man who devoted his entire life to the gospel of Masonry.

When a subscription was started for a monument to his memory, the first donation came from Royal Solomon Lodge No. 1, which he organized in Jerusalem. There was erected in the Valley of Rest cemetery at La Grange a large marble shaft, bearing on one side the Square and Compass and on the others the Keystone, the Knights Templar emblem and the Five Pointed Star.

After his Coronation as Poet Laureate in 1884, Rob Morris wrote "A Message from the Grave" and gave it to H. B. Grant, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, requesting that it be used at the first Masonic meeting after his death. The following lines were written:

*They do not die who leave their thoughts  
Imprinted on some deathless page;  
They pass on, but the work they wrought  
Lives on from age to age.*

How true this is, although the earthly labors of Rob Morris were ended in 1888, the fruits of his labors are not all garnered in, for his writings will continue to bring forth an abundant harvest of good deeds, fidelity, constancy, loyalty, faith and love; a living monument to his memory.

Compiled by

Davis Morgan

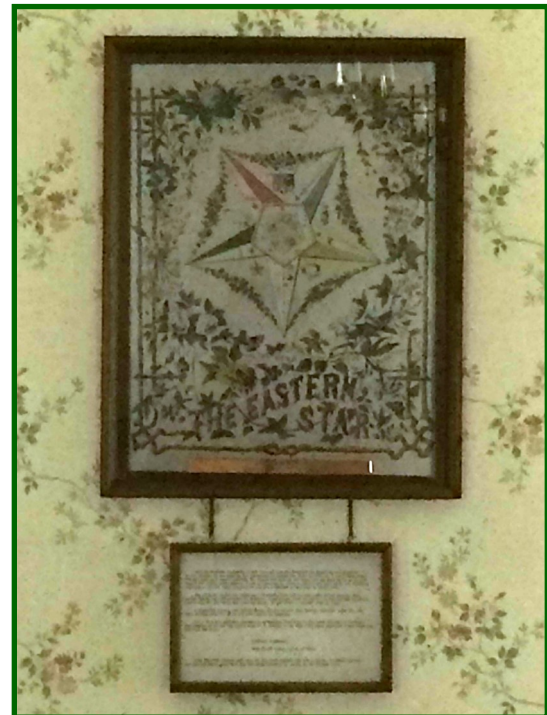
P. P. Rob Morris Chapter No. 114

Trustee and Member of the Board of Directors of

Rob Morris Memorial, La Grange, Kentucky

January 15, 1975

*Brochure from the Rob Morris Memorial  
printed with their permission*



*Signet designed by Charlotte Fales Morris  
(printed with permission of the Rob Morris Memorial)*

**ROB MORRIS PILGRIMAGE**  
**200th BIRTHDAY OF OUR FOUNDER**  
**AUGUST 18-19, 2018**  
**La Grange, Kentucky**

*Nancy L. Ford, PGM*  
*GGCCM Eastern Star Journal Editor*  
*Highland Chapter #33*  
*Dundalk, Maryland*



On August 18-19, 2018, the Grand Chapter of Kentucky celebrated the 200th birthday of Dr. Rob Morris who was born on August 31, 1818. In 1880, the GGC conferred on Dr. Morris the title of "Master Builder of the Order of the Eastern Star" and set apart this birthday as a Festal Day, to be observed by having special programs on that day. It is noted that Dr. Morris wrote over 400 poems, many devoted to his beloved Freemasonry, earning him the title of Poet Laureate of the 19th Century, and the Order of the Eastern Star. Dr. Morris also wrote hymns and so the celebration began on Saturday with a Hymn Sing at the Rob Morris Chapel Education Building on the campus of the Oldham County History Center. The Building is the former Presbyterian Church (circa 1880) where Dr. Morris worshipped. The land for the Church was donated by Amanda Mount, who became the mother-in-law of Dr. Morris' daughter, Ruth Electa, when she married Amanda's son John. In time, the building no longer served as a Church and is currently owned by the Oldham County Historical Society. It was remodeled and dedicated on August 20, 2006 by Freemasons and the Order of the Eastern Star.

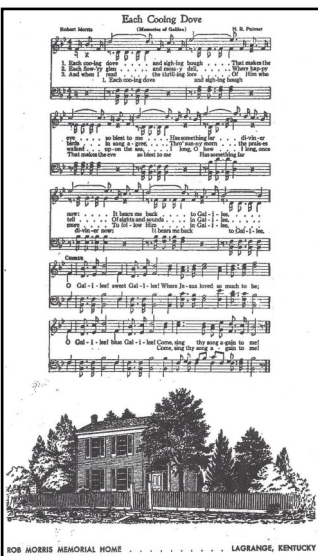
The Hymn Sing began with Dr. Theiss presenting a brief talk on the life of Dr. Morris, focusing on several hymns he penned. We were treated to beautiful renditions of several of his hymns sung by Brandi Lavrich accompanied on the History Center's antique player piano by John Ball, both accomplished musicians. If one closed their eyes, it was as if we traveled back in time and were sitting with Dr. Morris listening to his hymns sung and played much like they would have been 140 years ago (of course, with the benefit of air conditioning!). He visited the Holy Land and while seated on the shore of the Sea of Galilee in Palestine he wrote the beautiful song, "Memories of Galilee." "Memories of Galilee" ("O Galilee" ("Each cooing dove and sighing bough")), "As a Shepherd," "Weeping Tears," "Traveling from Afar" and "Consider the Lilies" were some of the hymns performed by Brandi and John. We all joined in singing "Singing From the Heart" ("If you have a pleasant thought, sing it.") and "The Sweet Now and Now." The afternoon concluded with a sweet treat of cake and tea.

Rob Morris said, "There are two things dear to my heart, my Presbyterian Church and Freemasonry."



(L-R) Brandi Lavrich, John Ball and Dr. Nancy Theiss

I'm sure Dr. Morris was smiling down on us that day as we joined in Star fellowship singing his hymns in his beloved Church.



## KY ROB MORRIS PILGRIMAGE

*(Continued)*



Youth; and Joan Smith, Community Service. Sister Debbie Dreier, PGM, graciously welcomed everyone and as laughter is good for the soul, interjected a joke or two filling the room with laughter. We enjoyed the music of Charla Whitt, pianist from the Henry County School District. From the tributes and remarks given, it is evident how proud the members are of these Sisters and Brothers who are working to ensure this is another successful Triennial term.

Sunday greeted us with a beautiful, sunny and might I add "warm" day as we gathered at the Valley of Rest Cemetery. The Procession was led by the Grand Marshal followed by Sister Helen J. Westmoreland, MWGM, and Brother Robert C. Penoyer, MWGP, carrying the floral Star. After the Welcome by Sister Trish Sargent, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, a beautiful Memorial Service was given celebrating the life of the Founder of our Order who entered eternal life on July 31, 1888. The Service was performed from memory by Sister Marsha Porter, PGM, and Brother Michael Martin, PGP, serving as WM and WP, with the Grand Officers filling their respective Offices (Sister Emma Bell, Grand Chaplain; Brother Peter Miller, Grand Marshal; Sisters Brenda Hopperton, Grand Adah; Elaine Gayheart, Grand Ruth; JoAnn Winkenhofner, Grand Esther; Cornelia Hafley, Grand Martha; and Penny Dalton, Grand Electa). Our MWGM and MWGP placed the floral Star at the base of the large marble shaft monument with the Star Points laying their flowers on the monument. The grave marker and monument was erected from donations from Eastern Star Chapters and Masonic Lodges and dedicated on May 29, 1891. What a fitting tribute to the author of our treasured Ritual.

Following the Memorial Service, we gathered at Dr. Morris' home for a box lunch (seems like we are always eating!) The festivities of the afternoon began with the presentation of our floral Star; the Christian, Eastern Star, Kentucky, Florida, Pennsylvania and American flags and the Holy Bible, followed by the Pledge to the Holy Bible ("I pledge allegiance to the Holy Bible, God's Holy Word. I will make it a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. I will hide God's word in my heart, that I might no sin against God."). After the Invocation, introductions and greetings were given followed by a program entitled "Eastern Star Truths" presented by Brother Adrian Cavanah, PGP. Reports were given by several committees, including the OES Golf Scramble which netted a profit of over \$4,000, and Offering of \$552.75 collected for the upkeep of the Rob Morris Memorial. Remarks were given by Sister Helen J. Westmoreland, MWGM; Brother Robert C. Penoyer, MWGP, and Sister Marilyn K. Watson, WGM, and Brother Tim Vanderhoff, WGP. Sister Anette Whitley, WM of Russellville Chapter #530, entertained us with several songs. The afternoon concluded with all joining hands for the Benediction.

The home was opened for tours. Dr. Morris purchased the home in 1864 for \$1,400. The Grand Chapter purchased in the home in 1918, 100 years ago, and it became a Museum in 1970. The home contains several items that belonged to the Morris family. On the following page I've showcased some of the items in the home but you'll just have to pay a visit to see more or purchase the DVD available from the Grand Chapter.

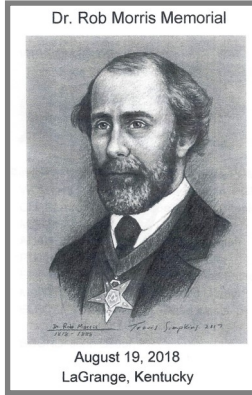
There are several other museums to visit in addition to the Oldham County History Center and Dr. Morris' home and the historic downtown area has about 30 trains a day traveling down the tracks right in the center of Main Street. We visited Main Street several times enjoying a treat or two from the local merchants just to watch and count the number of cars each locomotive was pulling. Each year in August, the Grand Chapter holds the Annual Rob Morris Pilgrimage. Tours are available by appointment. For more information, contact the Grand Chapter.

I am sure all join me in extending a heartfelt thanks to the many Sisters and Brothers who diligently performed all the many tasks that were involved in making this a wonderful weekend of fellowship, fun, food and true Southern hospitality. Hopefully when in the area, we will be able to visit Rob Morris Chapter #114, La Grange, which meets on the 3rd Thursday.

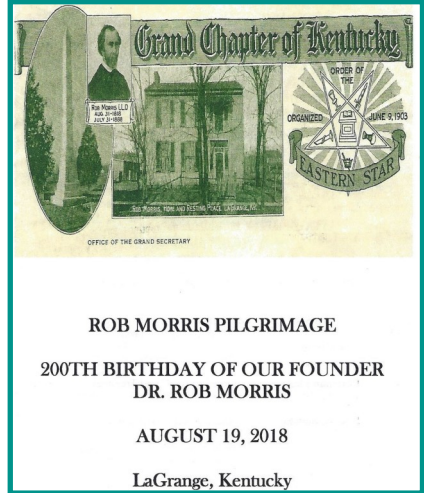
*Editor's Note: I want to thank Dr. Nancy Stearns Theiss, PhD, author of A Place in the Lodge: Dr. Rob Morris, Freemasonry and the Order of the Eastern Star and Executive Director of the Oldham County Historical Society; and Sisters Debbie Ballinger, PGM, Grand Secretary; and Linda Holman, Trustee Rob Morris Memorial, for their assistance in the writing of this article and permission to print the brochures. In addition to my personal pictures, I want to thank Sister Rhonda and Brother Michael Martin, PM and PP of Rob Morris Chapter, for sharing their pictures of Sunday's events. Brother Michael is a PGP of KY.*



*Mike Berry, RWGTreasurer; Sisters Nancy Ford, GGCCM ESJ Editor; Wilma Thompson, RWGElecta; and Billie Bradford, RGWAC*



**Rob Morris Memorial Service**



**Pilgrimage Afternoon Events**



*Beautiful inscription on sundial in Memorial's garden*

*MWGM and MWGP with WGM and WGP of KY*



*Above: Curio cabinet with items Dr. Morris collected on his Holy Land trip*



*(L) Beautiful quilt with our emblems intricately stitched into pattern*



*(R) Train traveling down Main Street in front of the Lodge Building*

# Welcome!



We are pleased to welcome you to the Rob Morris Memorial, the residence of our founder, Dr. Rob Morris, from 1864 until his death in 1888. His wife and family continued to reside here until her death in 1893.

The Home was deeded in 1919 to the Grand Chapter of Kentucky. Originally the front room was used as a museum and the curator resided in the remaining rooms. It was refurbished and returned as close to its original state as possible in the 1970's. We are indebted to the Morris family members for their contributions of furnishings, family photos and memorabilia, and to the support and generosity of the members of the Order.

A bedroom on the first floor is dedicated to Ella Morris Mount, Past Grand Matron 1936-37, granddaughter of Rob Morris. A second floor bedroom is dedicated to Josephine Harkins Browning, Past Most Worthy Grand Matron.



The furnishings in the master bedroom are original. There is a picture of Mrs. Morris and the grandchildren hanging in the Home, made in this room, which depicts the fireplace and furnishings.



The small pump organ in the parlor was used by Dr. Rob Morris and was donated by the Presbyterian Church he attended. The cabinet between the windows belonged to Dr. Morris' family.

The bookcase, which now holds dishes and other memorabilia, is original, as is the sugar chest. Both items are in the dining room.

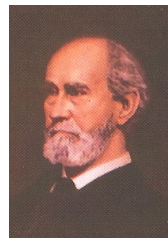


Rob Morris traveled extensively with his Masonic work. He visited the Holy Land and there are several items of interest that he brought back from his travels. These are on display in a room set up as his office, on the second floor.

**Rob Morris MEMORIAL**  
**106 e Washington Street**  
**La Grange ky 40031**



Grand Chapter of Kentucky  
 Order of the Eastern Star  
 102 East Washington Street  
 La Grange, KY 40031  
 502-222-0248  
 Email: grandcoe@gmail.com



Dr. Rob Morris

The Rob Morris Pilgrimage, held the third Sunday in August, is a special time for members and visitors to gather and commemorate his life. An old fashioned picnic is held on the grounds, and a special program is planned in his memory as our founder. Following the program, a memorial service is held at the gravesite of Dr. Morris a few blocks away. Masons have erected an impressive monument commemorating his life and work in the Masonic Order.

The Rob Morris Memorial may be reached by exit No. 22 (La Grange - Hwy 53) from I-71, approximately 17 miles North of Louisville, KY. Travel North on Highway 53 into La Grange, turn right on East Washington Street. The Home is located on the corner of Walnut and Washington Streets.

Hubert Huffman, Trustee  
 Linda Holman, Trustee  
 Marjorie M. Applegate, Honorary Trustee  
 Rob



*Brochure from the Rob Morris Memorial printed with their permission*

## ROB MORRIS "200TH" BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The Grand Chapter of Mississippi was honored to host the 200th birthday of Dr. Rob Morris, our founder, poet laureate, educator, teacher and visionary of the Order of the Eastern Star, with a fabulous weekend of fellowship, fun and food.

The weekend of fun began on Friday, August 24 with an honor night and fall-themed banquet set aside to honor Mississippi's General Grand Chapter Officers and to thank them for all their work during this triennium. The Most Worthy Grand Matron, Helen J. Westmoreland, was present to add her congratulations for a job well done. She spoke of her special project, "Regenerative Medicine" and stated that she hoped that it will continue to be of benefit to so many in need. Mississippi's Worthy Grand Matron, Mrs. Margaret Woodward, and Worthy Grand Patron, Mr. Lee Barnes, were very gracious and pleased to have so many people at this special event.

Saturday morning was full of excitement as we gathered at the "Little Red Schoolhouse" in Pickens, Mississippi. We were greeted by members adorned in "period dress," who gave us an extra special tour of the home and school where Rob Morris and his wife shared many years of teaching, and conceiving the idea of the Order. Mississippi Grand Chapter acquired the schoolhouse in a land swap and is very proud of its heritage and significance. Plans are under way to place shutters on the outside of the Little Red School House, as they were on the original building, along with other items that were part of the history of the building. Rob Morris' desk on which he worked for many years has been preserved and was awesome to see. Very interesting also was a complete schoolroom set up to explore. Many other artifacts are maintained and preserved for posterity, such as a trunk used by Dr. Morris and his family, a pie safe, a special settee donated this year, and a beautiful hand-made quilt.

The program began at 12:00 noon with a beautiful welcome and many introductions, which included our very own Most Worthy Grand Matron, Helen J. Westmoreland; Wanda Mitchell, and Elaine Howell, Hummingbirds to the Most Worthy Grand Matron of the General Grand Chapter and both Past Grand Electas of Florida. Also attending from Florida, were Millie Stoker, Past Grand Adah, and Betty Crain, Past Matron.

Sister Helen was invited to speak to a group of over 200 members, Rainbow Girls, DeMolay and visitors who attended this beautiful day of celebration. She commended Mississippi Grand Chapter on the restoration of the Little Red Schoolhouse and the tour. She also spoke briefly on General Grand Chapter and invited everyone to come and be with her in Orlando in October this year. The place to be seen in 2018!

The picnic was served in a large pavilion on the grounds. It was catered by Wanda's Catering and was very delicious. Miss Wanda has served this honor night and picnic for 22 years and now is retiring. Mississippi Grand Chapter will surely miss her!

Immediately following the picnic, Dr. Rob Morris "himself" was there to cut the 200th Birthday Cake that looked exactly like the Little Red School House. Slices were served up for everyone attending. The people of Mississippi are warm, friendly, loving and unified in their efforts to move forward on their projects. More information about the Little Red School House and Eureka Masonic College are on the Mississippi Grand Chapter website, [www.mississippioes.org](http://www.mississippioes.org). Check it out!

*Millie Stoker, STARGAZER Reporter*

*Wanda Mitchell, Hummingbird*

**Courtesy of the Florida Grand Chapter Stargazer**



*Above: The Little Red Schoolhouse.*



*Left: Helen, Most Worthy Grand Matron, addresses the group.*



*Below: Assisting Helen in blowing out the candles are Charles L. Cumberland, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi and Larry Woodward, Past*



*Sister Helen joins the cast in their period costumes.*

# LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE

Eureka Masonic College, at Richland, Mississippi, lovingly called "The Little Red Schoolhouse" by Eastern Star members all over the world, is preserved by the Grand Chapter of Mississippi, O.E.S., in honor of the Architect and Mater Builder of the Order, Dr. Robert



Morris, who conceived the idea of the Order while serving as Principal of the school

Official records show that the cornerstone of the building was laid early on October of 1847. It was described as "a handsome brick edifice, 60 by 30 feet, and two stories high."

The original name was Richland Literary Institute but on February 7, 1848, the college was chartered under the name of Eureka Masonic College with the power to confer literary and honorary degrees. Robert Morris was secured as the Principal of this new Masonic College.

The building was used during the Civil War to house Company C, 15th Mississippi Infantry, one of the first compa-

nies organized in the state. The regiment was noted for its heroic service throughout the war, serving in the battles of Fishing Creek, Shiloh, Franklin, and the Atlantic Campaign.

After the last session of school held in the building, in 1958-59, the Holmes County Board of Supervisors leased the property to the Grand Chapter of Mississippi for a twenty-five year period. In 1968, the Grand Chapter of Mississippi obtained legal title, by special act of the Mississippi Legislature, to the property in exchange for an equal, adjacent tract of land. In November, 1970, Eureka Masonic College was accepted for listing in the National Register of Historic Sites.

Early in 1975 the first superintendent moved into a brick home, built across Highway 17 from the Schoolhouse, obtained under the same legislative act



which allowed the original purchase in 1968.

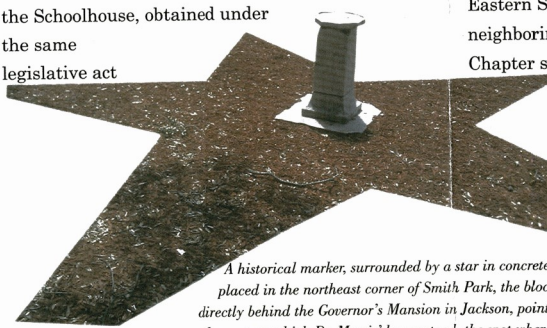
The 1979 report of the Board of Trustees states that a 21-year restoration of the school building began in 1958 had been completed on December 10, 1979.

Since securing possession of the Schoolhouse, the members of the Grand



Chapter of Mississippi have spent vast mounts of money, time, and effort in a long-range program of restoration. A fence encloses the property, and rest rooms of red brick have been built. A pavil-

ion, erected in 1962, shelters crowds assembling there in August of each year for a Festal Day picnic. This picnic attracts hundreds of Eastern Star families from Mississippi as well as neighboring states. Each year during the Grand Chapter session, a tour to the Schoolhouse is conducted by the Board of Trustees, providing an opportunity for out-of-state guests to share the pride which Mississippi members feel in the preservation of this shrine.

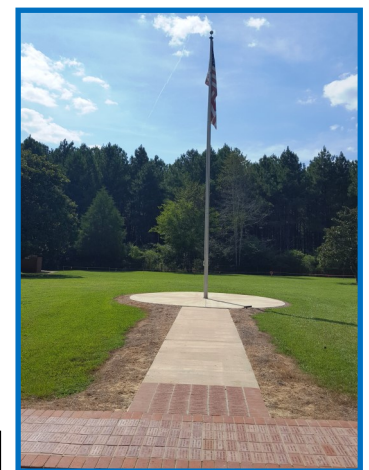
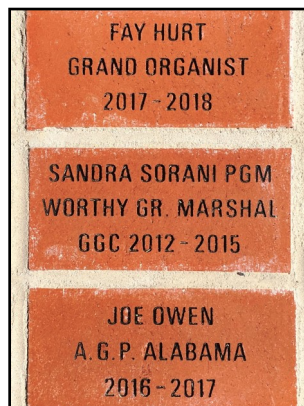


A historical marker, surrounded by a star in concrete placed in the northeast corner of Smith Park, the block directly behind the Governor's Mansion in Jackson, points out the spot on which Dr. Morris' house stood, the spot where the degrees of the Eastern Star were conferred for the first time.

*Editor's Note: Thanks to Brother Larry Woodward, PGP, Grand Secretary of Mississippi, for permission to print the Little Red Schoolhouse Brochure and pictures of the brick walkways.*



Bricks at Little Red Schoolhouse



Veteran's Walkway to the Flag



**LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE DONATION FORM  
DR. ROB MORRIS WALKWAY**

Mail Brick Order Form to:  
Larry Woodward, PGP, Grand Secretary  
P.O. Box 1071  
Louisville, MS 39339

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Only one character (letter, number, punctuation, space) per block is allowed. Print the message exactly as you want it to appear on the brick. All letters are CAPITAL.

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If you want the Certificate to read different from the brick, please indicate on three lines below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to The Grand Chapter of MS, OES  
(Each check is a \$50.00 donation. Additional Certificates are \$5.00 each.)

Please send the Certificate to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



**LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE  
VETERAN'S WALKWAY TO THE FLAG  
ORDER FORM**

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Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (evening) \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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(Each check is a \$50.00 donation. Additional Certificates are \$5.00 each.)

Please send the Certificate to: **Please indicate Branch of Service of Honoree:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## NORTH TO ALASKA

Submitted by

Diane R. Bargfrede

Ambassador to Alaska of the General Grand Chapter

Past Grand Matron of Iowa

While serving as the Ambassador during this triennium, I have learned much about the state of Alaska. The Eastern Star Chapters in Alaska are considered subordinate chapters under General Grand Chapter where once in a triennium the Most Worthy Grand Matron and the Most Worthy Grand Patron make an official visit to each of the chapters where they inspect the books; reconcile the financial records; and give additional instructions to the chapter as needed. The Most Worthy Grand Matron appoints a member in Alaska to serve as her Deputy. This person is the contact between the local chapters and the General Grand Chapter. The Deputy may serve in this capacity for more than one triennium. The current Deputy is Claudia Johnson who lives in Soldotna.

The dates for the official visit was May 19-25, 2018 and when the long awaited time to visit Alaska had finally arrived, I set out on my adventure accompanied by my husband, Craig; son, Grant; and my sister Janice Alger. We left Iowa on Thursday morning, May 17<sup>th</sup> from Des Moines on our 9:30 a.m. flight and finally arriving in Fairbanks, Alaska, at 12:15 a.m. Friday morning. We were cheerfully greeted by members of Golden Heart Chapter #6 at the Fairbanks airport.

My family arrived a day early in Fairbanks so we would have an opportunity tour Denali National Park and Preserve before the Eastern Star festivities started. Denali is true wilderness as we saw moose and other wildlife but no bears, just signs posted where they had been sighted on a certain date. The park was beginning to show signs of spring, however, there was still quite a bit of snow in some areas. The infamous Denali (Mt. McKinley) refused to show herself while we were there. We learned from many Alaskans that such is the case for most visitors, as they rarely get to see the mountain.



**Denali Sign:** Pictured Left to right: Craig and Diane Bargfrede, Janice Alger and Grant Bargfrede

Fairbanks is located in what is referred to as Interior Alaska, the middle of the northern part of the state. Eventually, our group would work their way down to Juneau which is located in Alaska's inside passage.

Throughout our time in Alaska we had between sixteen to twenty-five people traveling with us including Helen J. Westmoreland the MWGM; Robert C. Penoyer the MWGP and his wife Mariel; two General Grand Chapter Officers, Judy Rutter, Worthy Grand Ruth and her husband Michael; and Wilma Thompson, Worthy Grand Electa. We had several General Grand Committee Members: Shilora Hudlow and her husband Robert; Stacey Jordan-Knox; Irma Maxwell; Hummingbird, Pauline Polly Thomassen; Margaret Clark, Past Grand Matron of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. We also had two Sisters from the Yukon with us in Fairbanks and Anchorage. A husband and wife from California joined us in Juneau. We were also pleased to have with us part of the time, Sandy and Johnnie Wallace, Joan and Dennis Morgan, Victoria Ault, and Barbara Kennedy from Anchorage.

There are five chapters in Alaska: Golden Heart #6 in Fairbanks; Denali Chapter #16 in Anchorage; Anchorage Chapter #8; Star of the North Chapter #17 in Soldotna; and Juneau Chapter #7. Each meeting varied slightly. Some of the chapters marched into the Hollow Square while one just simply took their stations informally. In each chapter all of the Star Point chairs faced directly East. Some chapters had the pedestal behind the Star Point chairs; other chapters had the pedestals in front of the chairs. The Christian Flag was not present in any of the chapters. The only introductions that are normally done at an Alaskan chapter meeting would be for the Deputy to the Most Worthy Grand Matron; current Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons; Past



**Picture:** Sister Helen, MWGM, and Santa Claus

Matrons and Past Patrons for any chapter including their own. Therefore, introductions were stressful for the Worthy Matrons as the only opportunity for them to practice presenting additional guests is when the Most Worthy Grand Matron and the Most Worthy Grand Patron visit.

Each of the five Eastern Star chapters arranged an itinerary of things for us to do while we were in their area. Golden Heart Chapter in Fairbanks began our activities on May 19<sup>th</sup> with a visit to the North Pole; North Pole, Alaska that is. We enjoyed visiting the town and stopping at the Christmas Store. We then journeyed on the see the Alaskan Pipeline, followed by lunch at Ivory Jack's for us to enjoy local fare and experience a stopping point which is used during the Iditarod Dog Sled Race.

We also visited the Morris Thompson Cultural Center, and some of us checked out the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus and Great Alaskan Bowl Company.

Each of the chapters would coordinate evening meals for us in their area. Golden Heart Chapter served dinner prior to the stated meeting which featured Pulled Moose meat as the main entree.



**Photo to upper right:** Claudia Johnson, Deputy & Diane Bargfrede, Ambassador

## NORTH TO ALASKA (Continued)

The two chapters in Anchorage arranged our first meal at a long established restaurant which was known for serving reindeer, moose, and a variety of fish. The second evening meal provided by the chapters of Anchorage was a traditional catered meal served the Prince Hall Eastern Star members.

Some of the things we were able to see in Anchorage were: the Alaska Native Heritage Center; Anchorage Heritage Museum; Ulu Knife Factory; a fish hatchery; the Alaskan Wild Berry Product business where some saw the chocolate waterfall believed to be the biggest of its kind. Others checked out the David Green Fur Company.



We continued our journey on to Soldotna, which is located on the Kenai Peninsula. The members of Star of the North Chapter arranged a tour of the oldest Russian Orthodox Church in Alaska built in 1894 and still used today. The tour was most interesting. In the evening, prior to the stated meeting we enjoyed an old-fashioned potluck supper. One of the highlights of the meeting was to see four Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Alaska presented. Throughout our travels in Alaska it was heartwarming to see a great relationship between the members of the Masonic Lodge and the Eastern Stars Members.

**Pictured left: Oldest Russian Orthodox Church in Alaska**

We had one free day, where our group visited Whittier, Alaska, located along the Prince William Sound. There is only one way to drive into the town through a long single lane tunnel with staging areas on each side of the mountain. Traffic was able enter the on the hour and exit on the half hour. It is difficult to describe Whittier as it was originally an army base during WW II and used until 1960. Almost all of the residents live in one building. Also, in the building you will find the grocery store, post office, a medical facility and more. There is a K-12 public school attached to the living facility as well. There are a few small restaurants to visit on the docks that serve the most delicious halibut and shrimp freshly caught from the Sound.

Many toured the towns of Portage Glacier and Girdwood. Our family took a tram ride to the top of Mt. Alyeska Ski Resort before returning to Anchorage where the next day we flew to Juneau for our final destination.

When we arrived in Juneau we were greeted by a large delegation of their Chapter members at the airport holding an Eastern Star flag. After checking into our hotel, the group set off to see the Mendenhall Glacier National Park. In the evening the chapter hosted a buffet meal featuring fresh salmon along with other local dishes. We were also treated to fresh spruce tip ice cream. The next morning we were off to do sightseeing in Juneau and Douglas. Part of the group toured the Glacier Gardens and took a tram ride that overlooked the city. Others ventured out on their own to check out historic gold mines, the harbor area, the state capitol building, the unique gift shops and restaurants.



**Photos: Left: MWGM Sister Helen J. Westmoreland and MWGP Brother Robert C. Penoyer. Above: Our traveling delegation with the members of Juneau Chapter #7.**

Serving as the Ambassador to Alaska was an opportunity of a lifetime. It was a most memorable trip. The generous hospitality we received, the Honorary Memberships and many special gifts from the Alaskan chapters will long be remembered. Traveling with Sister Helen J. Westmoreland, MWGM and Brother Robert C. Penoyer, MWGP was a most enjoyable experience.

## MWGM AND MWGP VISIT ALASKA

*Polly Thomassen, PM, Hummingbird  
Alderwood Chapter #185, Everett, Washington  
Victory Chapter # 15, Dover, Delaware*

### Official Visit of Golden Heart Chapter #6, Fairbanks



May 19, 2018, saw Sister Helen Westmoreland, MWGM, and Brother Robert Penoyer, MWGP, along with eighteen other traveling members attending the Official Visit at Golden Heart Chapter #6 in Fairbanks. Before the Meeting, all attended a dinner provided by the Chapter and enjoyed the food and fellowship

Sister Stacy and Brother Jeremy Harvill served as WM and WP. I was asked to serve as Adah and Sister Claudia Johnson, Deputy to Alaska, served as Ruth. Sister Helen spoke on Regenerative Medicine and how important this forward moving research is to the improvement our own health by using our own cells. She also spoke about the First

Responders, and the coins that are available to give to them and encouraged us to show them how much Eastern Star appreciates them. Brother Robert spoke on membership. He pointed out that membership in Bolivia, Brazil and Romania are increasing while here in the U.S., it is decreasing. He suggested several things for us to do to help increase membership in our Chapters.

The WM and WP presented Sister Helen and Brother Robert with Honorary Memberships and gifts. The WM announced that all of the traveling members would also receive Honorary Memberships and the Secretary, Sister Hilary Freeman, would give them to us after the Meeting.

After the Closing, all gathered for pictures then went downstairs for more food and fellowship. All enjoyed the wonderful evening.

### Official Visit of Anchorage #8 and Denali #16



On Monday, May 21, Sister Helen Westmoreland, MWGM; Brother Robert Penoyer, MWGP; Sisters Judy Rutter, Worthy Grand Ruth; Wilma Thompson, Worthy Grand Electa; Diane Bargfrede, Ambassador to Alaska; Claudia Johnson, Deputy to Alaska, along with fourteen other traveling members from the U.S. and Canada, attended the Official Visit of Anchorage Chapter #8 and Denali Chapter #16. We enjoyed a wonderful dinner before the Meeting provided by the members of Far North Chapter #4, Prince Hall Order of the Eastern Star.

Anchorage Chapter Officers, led by WM and WP Sister Iris Crothers and Brother Monty Schefers, opened the Meeting in Ritualistic form. Sister Judy Ritter served as Ruth. Denali Chapter's WM and WP, Sister Sandy Thompson Wallace and Brother Johnnie Wallace, presided over the Introductions of Sisters Shilora Hudlow, GGCCM Credentials and PGM of Nevada; Irma Maxwell, GGCCM Support First Responders and PGM of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island (NS and PEI); Stacey Jordan-Knox, GGCCM Membership and PGM of British Columbia; Margaret Clarke, PGM of NS and PEI; Mariel Penoyer, Special Appointment Personal Secretary to the MWGP; Polly Thomassen, Special Appointment to the MWGM Hummingbird; Janice Alger, District Instructor and WM of Buena Vista Chapter #309, Sioux Rapids, Iowa; and Brothers Robert Hudlow, PGP of Illinois; Craig Bargfrede, PP, Iowa Grand Chapter Hall of Honor Committee Chairman; and Michael Rutter, husband of Judy Rutter. Since this was Anchorage Chapter's Stated Meeting, the WM and WP returned to the East and Chapter business was completed. Sister Helen, Brother Robert and Sister Diane were presented with Honorary Memberships by both Chapters.

Sister Helen spoke about her Special Projects, along with several special events coming up: the Rob Morris 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party in La Grange, Kentucky; and the Little Red School House Celebration in Richland, Mississippi. Brother Robert spoke on membership emphasizing the importance of each member bringing in at least one new member.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of 25 and 50-Year Certificates to Anchorage Chapter members. Sister Helen presented Sister Sherry Love with her 25-Year Certificate and pin. Sisters Doris Miller and Frieda Sullivan were unable to attend and receive their 25-Year Certificates and pins. Associate Conductress Sister Brenda Crothers escorted Conductress Sister Judy Kelley west of the Altar where she was introduced as a new 50-Year member. She was escorted to the East and given Grand Honors. Sister Helen presented her Certificate and pin and thanked Sister Judy for the many years of service. The WP announced that Brother Jerry Pinion was also a new 50-Year member. Sister Ginger Pinion accepted the Certificate and pin for him.

The Ritualistic Closing completed the meeting. An enjoyable evening was had by all in attendance.



*(L-R Front Row) Helen Westmoreland, MWGM;  
Judy Kelley, 50-Year member; and Robert  
Penoyer, MWGP  
(L-R Back Row) Iris Crothers, WM, and Monty  
Schefers, PP*



*(L-R Front Row) Sandy Thompson Wallace, WM  
(Denali); Helen Westmoreland; MWGM; Robert  
Penoyer, MWGP; and Iris Crothers, WM (Anchorage)  
(L-R Back Row) Johnnie Wallace, PP (Denali) and  
Monty Schefers, PP (Anchorage)*

# MWGM AND MWGP VISIT ALASKA (Continued)

## Official Visit of Star of the North #17, Soldotna

Tuesday, May 22, found our group traveling to Star of the North Chapter #17 in Soldotna. We were warmly greeted by members of the Chapter who provided a wonderful potluck dinner before the meeting. The table decorations were all about how far each of our homes were from Soldotna (see picture below).

The Chapter meeting opened under Special Dispensation in Ritualistic form. Within introductions, two were special. First the four PPs were all Past Grand Masters of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska; Brothers Les Little and Carl Lindstrom from Star of the North Chapter, along with Johnny Wallace and John Bishop of Denali Chapter #16. It is not often that four Past Grand Masters are all together at the same time in a Chapter meeting. The second was Sisters Claudia Johnson, Deputy to Alaska. She was in her home Chapter where she serves as Secretary.



A very special visitor present was the 3-month old daughter of the Associate Conductress, Sister Emily Warner. Baby Anna was very well behaved and received lots of love from all of us.

The WM, Sister Yolanda Lindstrom, presented our MWGM, Sister Helen Westmoreland, with an Honorary Membership along with a card stating a donation had been made to Wounded Warrior's. Sister Helen's gift was a pillow made by a Chapter member. It said, "Just One More Chapter." meaning that Juneau Chapter #7 was the last one left to visit.

The WP, Brother Carl Lindstrom, presented our MWGP, Brother Bob Penoyer, with his Honorary Membership and note about the donation to Wounded Warriors. Brother Bob's gift was a railroad spike on a train car being held up by a moose.

Next Sister Diane Bargfrede, Ambassador to Alaska, was escorted to the East and presented with her Honorary Membership and a cookbook done by the Chapter. Sisters Helen and Diane and Brother Bob each received a picture of all the Chapter members.

Sister Helen spoke about the unique decorations on the dinner tables and thanked those who did all the research required. She encouraged us to make sure we thank our Military when we see them. We should also never take our First Responders for granted and to thank them, as well. She closed with a poem by Helen Keller, "I Am Only One."

Brother Bob spoke on membership and the Chapters in Brazil that are growing. He thanked the Past Grand Masters for being present and for their continued support of their Chapters. Sister Judy Rutter, Worthy Grand Ruth, was asked to give the Farewell.

Following the Closing, we all gathered for group pictures thus ending another very special evening of friendship and fellowship.



(L-R) Yolanda Lindstrom, WM; Helen Westmoreland, MWGM; Robert Penoyer, MWGP; and Carl Lindstrom, WP

(L-R) Les Little, Johnny Wallace, Carl Lindstrom and John Bishop, Past Grand Masters; with Helen Westmoreland MWGM; and Robert Penoyer, MWGP



Polly Thomassen, Hummingbird, and Claudia Johnson, Deputy to Alaska



How far is Seattle from Soldotna? 2,406 miles according to the unique table decorations marking the distance between various cities.

## MWGM AND MWGP VISIT ALASKA (Continued)

### Official Visit of Juneau Chapter #7, Juneau



When our traveling group arrived at the Juneau Airport on May 24, we were met by Juneau Chapter #7 members with a flag and a Star sign along with cheers as greetings. What a wonderful reception! That night, we had dinner with them at their new Masonic Center Building.

The next night we were back at the Center for a catered dinner before the meeting. We all felt very much at home because of the friendly fellowship we experienced. At the meeting, a number of the group filled several Offices: Sisters Claudia Johnson, Deputy to Alaska (Adah); Margaret Clark, PGM, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island (Esther); and Janice Alger, District Instructor and WM of Buena Vista Chapter #309, Sioux Rapids, Iowa (Martha); and Brother Robert Hudlow, PGP,

Illinois (Marshal). Chapter members filled the stations of Adah and Electa.

The WM, Sister Andrea Miller, welcomed all to the Chapter saying, "We have been looking forward to this visit and are so happy you all are here." Introductions included several new members: Sister Vicki Francis, Past DGM, and Brother Don Francis, PP, Star of the East Chapter #300, El Cajon, California. Also, Brother Grant Bargfrede, WP of Daisy Chapter #86, Farley Missouri. Brother Charles Ward, WP, was introduced as the sitting Master of the Lodge.

Sister Helen Westmoreland, MWGM, encouraged the members to come to Orlando. She showed a First Responder decal and gave it to the WP along with the First Responder Coin. She talked about things other Chapters were doing to show them our support, such as inviting a local unit to a dinner. She mentioned the Regenerative Medicine cruise in January 2019 as a celebration for all our hard work.

Brother Bob Penoyer, MWGP, said "I have enjoyed being with you, our members. You show great companionship and fellowship." He commended Sister Claudia Johnson for all she did in planning and making our trip enjoyable. He talked about the 501C3 Perry Belmont House Foundation for the maintenance of the building and the new roof. He commented on working with the Youth and encouraged the members to continue their good work.

Sister Helen was presented with an afghan made by Sister Debbie Ackerlan from Skagway. The pattern came from an argument between two ladies over the pattern they had. They both went home and made their own pattern for the design and gave them to Sister Debbie, who combined both patterns to make one afghan. It is beautiful and warm. The WP gave Brother Bob a "Klenket" or "Halibut Trap" – "Just for the Hal-a-bit." He also gave both Sister Helen and Brother Bob Lodge pins and Centennial coins. After Chapter closed, we all received a coin. What a precious gift to remember our time with these members!

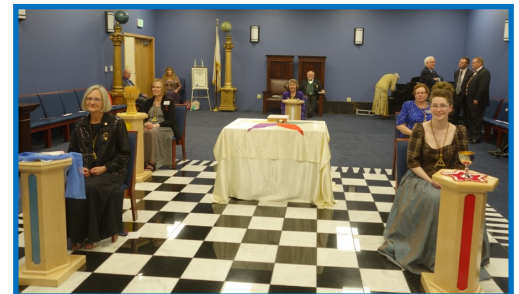
Sister Claudia was escorted to the East and presented the WM with her 25-Year Certificate and pin. She spoke about the Power Point presentation she was doing for GGC. Sister Diane spoke thanking Sister Claudia and Juneau Chapter for everything they did to make our visit so memorable.

We assembled for pictures after the Closing of the Chapter.



*(L-R) Polly Thomassen, Hummingbird, and Diane Bragfrede, Ambassador to Alaska*

*Andrea Miller, WM*



*Star Points seated at their Stations in the new Masonic Center Building*

With the closing of the evening came the closing of our travels in Alaska. Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> was a travel day with many of us heading off to the Grand Chapter of British Columbia and Yukon being held in Nanaimo, Canada.

Everyone left Alaska with wonderful memories and many new friends.



## CALLING ALL PRESENT AND PAST GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

Dear Readers,

This is your President of the International Grand Representative Association (IGRA) writing to explain a few things about and for the IGRA.

First, I would encourage all past and present Grand Representatives to join the Association.

WHY should I join? Your friendship and fellowship with your counterpart will extend into years of pleasure and personal satisfaction. You will (hopefully) attend Grand Chapters where you will make even more friends. You will share knowledge of your own Grand Chapter and learn about another.

WHEN should I join and how much are the dues? With each new MWGM, you will see a new President of the Association. You will not be reminded that dues are due. The amount of dues has remained the same for many years, \$5 per Triennial. You can go on the MWGM's website ([mwgm1821.com](http://mwgm1821.com)) or the General Grand Chapter's (GGC's) website ([easternstar.org](http://easternstar.org)) for forms and more information.

WHAT can I expect in return for my membership? You will receive once per year a newsletter from the Association. In that publishing, you will see complete Bylaws (sent in first mailing only), proposed amendments and other noteworthy events and happenings. I am asking that you send news from your travels or Jurisdiction to me to publish in the next edition. Also consider sending your news to the Eastern Star Journal Editor ([OESJournalEditor@easternstar.org](mailto:OESJournalEditor@easternstar.org)) to be included in that publication as well.

A portion of your dues and purchases goes to the International Headquarters for the Preservation and Restoration of the Perry Belmont House Foundation. This is our charity to support.

ALSO, your attendance at GGC is important for our Association. You will be a part of the floor drill to honor our MWGM and MWGP. A practice time is set aside for us with the Worthy Grand Marshal. The Association also hosts a Hospitality Room and holds their Luncheon and Meeting at Triennial. Both venues provide a great place for our members to "mix and mingle."

FUNDRAISING? The President creates a pin, symbolic of her term, for sale to the membership. My pin is a gold gift box symbolizing the four gifts God has for us. The cost is \$6. Also for sale are the IGRA cloisonné pins for \$6.

It is customary that the President has a dress/outfit for purchase by the members. This will act as an identifier. This Term, I have chosen a poncho top of lavender brocade roses. It will be our "Butterfly Moment in Salt Lake City" in 2021.

More information on the IGRA is provided on GGC's website [easternstar.org](http://easternstar.org) (Contact Us and scroll to International Associations) or contact Sister Patricia Harwood, PGM of Nevada, at (307) 689-7455 (email [patriciahaywood@rocketmail.com](mailto:patriciahaywood@rocketmail.com)).

Let's let the world know how much we care!

Fraternally,  
Patricia Harwood,  
IGRA President



**INTERNATIONAL GRAND REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION  
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR  
2018 - 2021 TRIENNIUM**

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**SECRETARY/TREASURER**

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**APPLICATION FOR 2018 - 2021 IGRA MEMBERSHIP/DUES  
PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT**

**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP**

**NAME** First \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State/Province** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone Number** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**Jurisdiction of** \_\_\_\_\_ **in** \_\_\_\_\_ **Years** \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

(You Represent) (Your State/Providence)

Mail entire form and a SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE WITH CHECK PAYABLE TO IGRA in U.S. Funds to **DOTTIE WEBB, Secretary-Treasurer** at the address shown above, **WHEN ONLY PAYING DUES FOR THE 2018 - 2021Triennium.**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00                      **IGRA Dues (2018 - 2021)**                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**PRICES BELOW INCLUDE SHIPPING AND HANDLING**

_____ \$6.00	<b>Presidents (2018 - 2021) Triennium Pin</b>	\$ _____
_____ \$6.00	<b>IGRA PIN</b>	Pin \$ _____
_____ \$7.00	<b>IGRA Handbook</b>	Pin \$ _____
_____ \$50.00	<b>Brocade top for Triennium</b>	\$ _____
	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT DUE</b>	\$ _____

**CONTACT DOTTIE FOR APPLICATIONS**

**+++ THE IGRA NEWSLETTER** will be available through the internet. If you would like to receive your newsletter in this manner, provide your email address.

# THE CORVIN CASTLE AND THE NEBOISA TOWER

*Aruna Ionescu, PM  
Deputy to the MWGM for Romania  
Neboisa Chapter UD  
Hunedoara, Romania*

Corvin Castle, also known as Hunyadi Castle or Hunedoara Castle, was built more than six centuries ago and has been the subject of numerous myths and legends. The first rock fortification from Hunedoara dated from the 15th century and had an elliptical shape with sharp ends in the northern and southern part. Ioan de Hunedoara, or John Hunyadi, started a huge construction after 1440 turning the citadel into a castle in the first phase by building two walls of limestone around the ancient construction. Corvin Castle is adorned by eight towers, most of them having a military purpose. These defence towers turned the castle into a settlement which proved to be impossible to conquer.



Mace Tower is a defence tower which dates from Ioan de Hunedoara's time and received its name after the ball pen shape of the roof, but the roof was changed in the restoration from the 19th century. This tower is considered the biggest and the most impressive building from the northern part of the Corvin Castle.



The Neboisa Tower is situated in the southern part and was considered the last line of defence of the castle. The tower was built on five levels and was provided with openings for the weapons. It was built to strengthen the castle in front of the Ottoman invasions. The name "Nje Boisa" ("Don't be afraid." in the Serbo-Croatian language) comes from a garrison of Serbian soldiers who as an encouragement used to say to each other, "We are up in the southern tower, Neboisa" ("Don't be afraid").

As the Austrian surveyor, Joseph Adalbert Krickel, stated, "The tower is very tall and offers a wonderful view all around." The name of the tower comes from the fact that the double walls defend people from all harm, and everything was planned skillfully to ensure safety.

This is why Neboisa, with such a powerful significance, was chosen by our members as the name of our Chapter. We believe this name defines us as women. Two of Eleanor Roosevelt's quotes come to mind. "You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You are able to say to yourself, 'I lived through this horror. I can take the next thing that comes along'." and "You must do the thing you think you cannot do."

The Gate Tower, with a drawbridge, serves as the main entrance in the castle. The tower was provided with a guard room for the garrison and also served as a prison. The Capistrano, Old Gate, White and Deserted Towers are part of the circular system of towers of the Corvin Castle. Each of these towers has played an important part in strengthening the castle's defense system. Geometrical motifs were painted on the towers. They were also adorned with paintings and impressive gothic architecture.



An historical event worth remembering in this castle is the victory of Ioan de Hunedoara against the Ottoman offensive on July 21-23, 1456. His modern strategical thinking helped him defeat the Ottoman Sultan despite the unfavorable odds and obtain Christianity's biggest victory against the Ottomans. As a tribute to his victory, the Pope Callixtus III acknowledged this victory as "the happiest moment of his life" and ordered that the bells of all the churches in Europe ring each noon from then on. The bells are rung at noon and, therefore, is seen as the international celebration of the victory in the battle against the Ottoman Army led by the Sultan Mehmed II, the Conqueror of Belgrade. Ioan de Hunedoara died on the August 11, 1456 of the plague in the Zimony Camp. He is buried in Alba Iulia in the St. Michael Roman Catholic Cathedral and on his tombstone it is written, "The moonlight went out." Even the Sultan Mehmed II gave him a tribute, "Although he was my enemy, when hearing about his death, I felt sad because the world has never seen such a man before."

# THE CORVIN CASTLE AND THE NEBOISA TOWER

*(Continued)*

All castles have legends but ours claims two.

On the crest of the Corvin family can be seen a raven holding a golden ring. Legend claims that Ioan de Hunedoara was the illegitimate son of Sigismund of Luxemburg, King of Hungary, with his wife Elisabeth from Hateg County. To prevent her from being ridiculed, the King gave her a gold ring for his unborn child as a recognition for when he would grow up and arrive at the Royal Court. This ring was stolen by a raven but Ioan saw the raven and using the bow killed it, recovering the ring. When the King heard what happened, he was impressed by the story and decided that the crest of the family from Hunedoara should be a raven holding a gold ring in its beak.

The legend of the fountain does not have a happy ending as a promise made was not honored. A fountain was dug by three Turkish prisoners held by Ioan of Hunedoara in the castle. He promised them that they would be released if they dug a fountain and found water. The prisoners, hoping to be released, dug in the rock for 15 years and found water at 28 metres deep.

Meanwhile, Ioan de Hunedoara died and his wife Elisabeth decided not to respect her husband's promise and refused to release the three prisoners sentencing them to death. The prisoners requested as their final wish permission to write an inscription on the fountain. "You have water, but not soul." as a reproach for the promise made and broken afterwards.

Corvin Castle is also associated with the fictitious Transylvanian residence of Count Dracula with its legend full of pain. Today our castle is considered one of the most beautiful castles in the world as it is situated among the top 10 fairytale destinations in Europe.

Neboisa Chapter reunites the wives, daughters, widows, sisters and mothers of the Master Masons from Hunedoara Valley by the desire to overcome both morally and intellectually life's experiences, and by the desire to take part in the noble work of philanthropy. Our members chose the name Neboisa for our Chapter knowing we will face, with courage and determination, the future and our actions will become a new page in the beautiful history of Hunedoara!

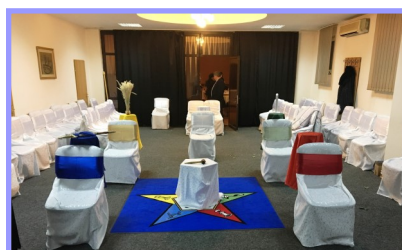


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## *Institution of Neboisa Chapter UD in Romania Wednesday, March 21, 2018*



*What an awesome cake!*



## SUPPORTING FIRST RESPONDERS

*Judith Hall, PM  
McKinley Chapter #12  
Cumberland, Maryland*

**General Grand Committee Member presents a “First Responder’s” Coin Plaque**



David L. Hall, General Grand Chapter Committee Member of the Community Service Committee, a Past Grand Patron of Maryland and a Past Patron of McKinley Chapter No. 12, Cumberland, recently presented to the Fire and Police Department Chiefs of Cumberland, MD with a plaque that displays both sides of the International Order of the Eastern Star’s “First Responder’s Coins” at the monthly City Council Meeting.

He also explained about the Order of the Eastern Star, its many charity and service projects and organizations that we donate to that benefit mankind .

Left to Right: Fire Chief Donald J. Dunn; GGCCM David L. Hall; Police Chief Charles H. Hinnant

*Courtesy of the Maryland Old Line State Courier*

On his recent trip to KY Grand Session, GGCC Member of Community Service David L. Hall, met with John Layman, the paramedic with the Bullitt County ambulance service that transported him to Norton Hospital in Louisville, KY on July 25, 2016. David gave him a “First Responders” coin and coins for the rest of the crew that was there that day. John was happy to see David was going well and survived his health crisis. He was also pleased to receive the coin, which he said he would carry with him.



*Courtesy of the Maryland Old Line State Courier*

## FEEDING OF THE TROOPS

*Joshua M. Bowers, PP  
Lillie Chapter #27  
Hampton, South Carolina*

One hundred and ten National Guard Troops were welcomed home by a homecooked meal provided by Lillie Chapter #27, OES, from Hampton, SC, and Blessings Catering, Walterboro, SC. Joshua Bowers, Secretary of Lillie Chapter, received a Facebook message from a colleague in Summerville that this group of National Guard would be returning home and have been living off of MREs for the past three weeks and wanted to know if I could locally do something for their homecoming. Jennifer Baker, Family Readiness Group, was put in contact with Joshua Bowers and the wheels began turning. "I contacted Jenny Hiott with Endless Blessings and Lillie Chapter #27, OES, and within hours we had a plan." Joshua Bowers A homemade spaghetti dinner was prepared onsite at the Armory and enjoyed by all. Donations were received from Palmetto State Bank, Food Lion of Hampton and The Bread Store in Summerville.

"Our Troops protect the reason we are here and this was a simple community service we could do for them to show our appreciation." Joshua Bowers Lillie Chapter #27, OES, is located in Hampton, South Carolina.

*(Reprinted as published in the local newspaper)*



**Event date: June 15, 2018**



## HOSTING A DINNER HONORING OUR FIRST RESPONDERS

*Sherrill Gould, PGM, Secretary  
Ascutney Chapter #2  
Windsor, Vermont*



Ascutney Chapter #2, Windsor, hosted our second recognition dinner for the local First Responders on August 28, 2018. The Police and Firefighters/EMT's all appreciated our efforts and it was a great way to get to know these public servants. The meal of chicken and biscuits, mashed potatoes, corn, cole slaw and cake was apparently their favorite as there was little left over.

At a recent Festival, I spoke with two former DeMolay, now Firefighters, about them missing our dinner. They had a class that night and were looking forward to us doing it next year. Our building is being sold so there is a question about where we will be and I told them we would keep them informed as we do intend to host another First Responders Dinner. A little time later, they approached me with a message from the Fire Chief. We are invited to use the fire station for our dinner next year. What a wonderful indication that they really do appreciate our efforts.

Sister Sherrill Gould, PGM, pictured above, enjoyed talking with some of those attending.

## SUPPORTING FIRST RESPONDERS

*Betty Thompson, PM  
Laurel Chapter #67  
Berwick, Nova Scotia*

Sister Irma Maxwell, GGCCM Support First Responders, recently presented pet crates to local Fire Departments for the use of First Responders when attending fires to prevent family pets from re-entering a burning building or running away. Sister Irma also presented a cheque to the Brooklyn Fire Department to use in purchasing a thermal imaging camera. Prior to those presentations, Toys for Tots and handknitted items were collected and given to the Salvation Army for distribution to children. Laurel Chapter #67, Berwick, Nova Scotia, also presented a pet crate from the Chapter.



*(L-R) Midge Medcraft, DDGM; Laurie Saunders, Chief; Irene Bent, WM; Fred Lipskey PGP, WP; and Irma Maxwell, GGCCM, presenting a pet carrier and a cheque to the Berwick Fire Department*



*(L-R) Fred Lipskey, WP; Irene Bent, WM; Irma Maxwell, GGCCM; and Wayne Swinamer, Deputy Chief of the Brooklyn Fire Department*

## PROCEEDS FROM SALE OF MEDALLION COINS

*Dennis DeJoode, PGP  
GGCCM Support First Responders Committee  
Pleasant Chapter #378  
Pleasantville, Iowa*



Brother Dennis DeJoode, GGCCM Support First Responders Committee of Iowa (IA), informed the members that a total of 900 medallion coins were purchased and sold throughout the State. A total of \$7,200 was returned in 10 checks to our IA communities and I believe IA ranks fourth in the Nation in sales.

All three Tri-Line WGM's in this Triennium were presented checks for their communities. The Tri-line picture above includes: Sisters Nancy Kiehne, PGM; Jane Green, PGM; and Ellen Knupp, WGM; with Brother Dennis DeJoode, GGCCM.



Pleasantville Fire and EMT Department received a check for \$1,500 from the GGC Project.

Sister Betty Clark, WM, and Brother Dennis DeJoode, WP, Pleasant Chapter #378, Pleasantville, presented the check to First Responders Jordan Van Ness and Benjamin Mead. The medallion coins were presented to all and accepted with gratitude for our generous gift to the Community.

The checks were presented during the month of July 2018.

Thank you, First Responders of IA, for all your service.

**HERSHEY CHAPTER #509**  
**HONORS FIRST RESPONDERS**

*Linda Watson, Grand Conductress, Secretary  
 Hershey Chapter #509  
 Hershey, Pennsylvania*



On October 2, 2018, Hershey Chapter #509, Hershey, was pleased to exemplify one of the precepts of the Order, service to the community, by serving a covered dish dinner at the Hershey Fire Company and then presenting a check for \$1,500 to Patrick Rudisill, President of the Fire Company. Remembrance coins were sold by all Jurisdictions in the worldwide Order, and the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania raised the most funds.

Pictured are Linda Tripp, PM; Aleta Ann Sultana, WM; and Linda Watson, Grand Conductress, presenting the check to the members of the Fire Company.

Hershey Chapter has a special connection with the Fire Company, as the Chapter meetings started in 1951 on the second floor social room of the original fire house building and continued until 1959 when they moved to the newly built Brownstone Masonic Building. Great fellowship was enjoyed by all attending.

**STUFFED ANIMAL DONATIONS**  
**TO FIRST RESPONDERS**

*Barbara Blanton, PGM  
 Inverness Chapter #65  
 Inverness, Florida*



The Officers and Members of Inverness Chapter #65, Inverness, along with their guests for "Friends' Night" collected stuffed animals to donate to the Inverness Fire Department on October 23, 2018. Photograph above by Brother Gary Blanton, PGP, WP.

*(L-R First Row) Gabriel Trujillo, FF; Shirley Harman, WM, Past Grand Warder; Steve Ogden, FF/EMT; and Tony Martin, Associate Patron*

*(L-R Second Row): Virginia Beggs, Organist, Past Grand Organist; Georetta Doland, Warder; Nancy Brandlein, Associate Conductress (friend); Patricia McDonald, Secretary; Barbara Lupton, Adah; and Diana Kreisle, Marshal*

*(L-R Third Row): Eva Dick, WM (friend); Mary Moody, WM, Belleview Chapter #122, Belleview, (friend); Eleanor Underwood, Sentinel; Barbara Blanton, PGM, Conductress; Berley Underwood, Treasurer; Carol Poole, Associate Conductress, Past Grand Esther; Gale Fleites, Conductress (friend); Callie Bewley, Secretary, Past Grand Chaplain (friend); and Teri Brittain, Esther*

## Grand Chapter of South Carolina Makes Donation to South Carolina Search and Rescue Dog Association

The Grand Chapter of the South Carolina, Order of the Eastern Star recently presented a check in the amount of \$22,367.50 to the South Carolina Search and Rescue Dog Association (SCSARDA). SCSARDA say they are blessed to be a recipient for 2018, but we are most blessed to be in a position where we can make donations to charities.

SCSARDA is a team of volunteer professionals who dedicate their time and personal resources to search for lost and missing persons using specially trained search dogs. SCSARDA works in cooperation with local emergency response agencies. According to SCSARDA President Maria Pelligrino, "This is the largest donation our organization has received since its inception in 2002. This donation will help us replace an aging Jon boat with a larger and more stable boat that is capable of being used on large lakes as dogs are used to search for drowning victims. The aging GPS equipment needs to be replaced and outside trainers need to be brought in to enhance our K9 training program."

A typical member of the organization spends several thousand dollars a year in expenses associated with volunteering such as travel to and from searches, personal search and rescue equipment, and care and training of their dogs. They don't seek to cover such personal expenses but providing necessary team equipment and training really helps to lighten the financial burden on their handlers.

All who attended this presentation loved meeting some of these special dogs as well as these special volunteers.

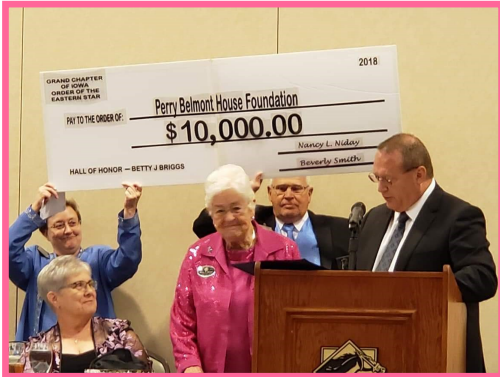
Kaye Rackley, PGM  
Grand Treasurer





# RECEPTION HONORING SISTER BETTY J. BRIGGS

*Susan Jones, PM  
Toledo Chapter #380  
Tama, Iowa*



On Saturday, July 21, 2018, IA (IA) Grand Chapter was honored to host a reception honoring Sister Betty J. Briggs, Chairman of the Right Worthy Grand Trustees of the GGC, along with the GGC Ambassador, Committee Members and Special Appointments of Iowa: Sisters Diane R. Bargfrede, Ambassador to Alaska; Nancy Ramthun, Regenerative Medicine; Brothers Jerry Jones, Credentials Committee; Dennis DeJoode, Support First Responders; Bruce Thomas, Eagle for the MWGP); and Bill Briggs, Hummingbird for the MWGM)

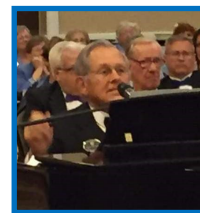
The reception was held at the Prairie Meadows Convention Center in Altoona. A delightful dinner was served and entertainers for the evening were Brothers Dennis Jordan and Don Snyder - the California Duo. Brother Dennis is the Right Worthy Grand Trustee of the GGC and PGP of California (CA). Brother Don is a member of the Bylaws Committee of the GGC and PGP of CA.

A highlight of the reception was when Brother Craig Bargfrede, PP, Hall of Honor Committee Chairman, had the honor of presenting Sister Betty with a check for \$10,000 for her name to be engraved in the "Hall of Honor" at the International Headquarters in Washington, DC. IA's tribute to Sister Betty will give her the Gold Level Recognition in the Hall of Honor. What a special night it was as IA Grand Chapter honored Sister Betty for her 30 years of GGC Service.

IA Grand Chapter raised funds for the Hall of Honor to recognize two additional IA Sisters who were instrumental in starting IA Grand Chapter.

IA will donate \$1,000 to recognize Sister Jeannie E Mathews in the Hall of Honor. Sister Jennie was Worthy Grand Ruth of the GGC at the 3rd Assembly in 1880. She was elected as Right Worthy Grand Treasurer of the GGC at the 4th Assembly in 1880 and served for 3 years. She was elected MWGM in 1883 and presided over the 5th Assembly in 1886. Sister Jennie was instrumental in starting IA Grand Chapter.

IA will donate \$1,000 to recognize Sister Harriette A. Ercanbrack in the Hall of Honor. Sister Harriette was Worthy Grand Martha of the GGC at the 6th Assembly in 1889. She was elected Right Worthy Grand Treasurer of the GGC at the 6th Assembly in 1889 and remained in that Office serving the GGC for 25 years until resigning in 1914 due to illness. Sister Harriette died on January 1, 1915.



## FUN DAY CHARITY EVENT

*Mary Sisemore, PGM, Co-Chairman  
Lexington Chapter #248  
Lexington, Missouri*



*2017-2018 Grand Officers, Escorts  
and some of the Fun Day workers*



*Bidding at the live auction.*

The Grand Chapter of Missouri held their third annual WGM and WGP Fun Day Charity Event at the Masonic Complex in Columbia on July 14, 2018. The event was to benefit the Shriners Hospitals for Children and our ABC's (Rainbow Assemblies, Jobs Daughters Bethels and DeMolay Conclaves).

The members, their families and friends had a day of fun and fellowship and raised over \$10,000 for the above charities.

Included in the activities of the day were carnival-type games, Madam Fortune Teller, cake walk, bingo, barbecue lunch, silent auction, live auction (pictured above) and semi-finals of our Talent Contest. Shrine clowns added to the fun of the day and did a lot of photo bombing! Members of ARARAT Shrine were judges of the Talent Contest.

Sister Mary Sisemore, PGM, and Brother Doug Baylous, PP, were Co-Chairman of the event. Sister Karlene Baylous, WGM, and Brother Ken Sisemore, WGP, were pleased with the happenings of the day and excited to be able to present scholarships to more deserving youths, making a total of nine for the year. The check to the Shriners Hospitals will be presented at our Grand Chapter Session in October 2018. Next year's Fun Day Charity Event is scheduled for July 20, 2019.

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## DONATION TO ST. LOUIS SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN

*Mary Sisemore, PGM  
Lexington Chapter #248  
Lexington, Missouri*



On August 11, 2018, Sister Karlene Baylous, WGM, and Brother Ken Sisemore, WGP, along with several of the 2017-2018 Grand Officers and Pages of the Grand Chapter of Missouri toured the Shriners Hospitals for Children in St. Louis and presented a donation to this worthy charity.

*Editor's Note: Sister Mary advised that the Grand Chapter at the close of the 2017-2018 Session donated over \$18,000 to the Shriners Hospitals.*

## Missouri OES Gives Back

Debi Olson  
Associate Grand Matron of Missouri

At our October 2018 Grand Chapter session this year, WGM Karlene Baylous and WGP Ken Sisemore presented checks to CHAMP (*Canine Helpers Allow More Possibilities*), Missouri Honor Flights, Masonic Home of Missouri, and Shriner's Hospital along with our Youth Organizations—Rainbow for Girls, Jobs Daughters and DeMolay. Members purchased a charity pin and all proceeds were distributed among the above groups. The following "Checks" were presented at our Tuesday afternoon session:

Masonic Home of Missouri	\$ 9,600.13
CHAMP	\$ 2,772.02
Shriner's Hospital	\$18,349.65
GGC Regenerative Medicine	\$ 1,705.45
Missouri Honor Flights	\$ 9,756.64
Masonic Youth Groups	\$ 9,000.00 (Three \$1,000 scholarships for each);
	\$ 4,540.17 (Split between 3 youth groups general funds)



In November 2018, AGM Debi Olson, along with members of her 2020 Shining Stars club, presented a check for \$4,000 to Missouri Honor Flight at Lambert Airport in St. Louis, Mo. Funds were raised by her 2020 Shining Stars Club and Florissant Chapter at a Quarter Auction and were matched by the Masonic Home of Missouri.



At the Associate Grand Matron Debi Olson and Associate Grand Patron Mike Reeder joint reception on November 10, 2018, members helped create over 500 greeting cards for use by Missouri Masonic Home Outreach clients and our Veterans.



*Missouri Masonic Home Outreach*

## Grand Chapter of South Carolina Makes Donations to Charities

On August 29<sup>th</sup> some members and Officers of the Grand Chapter of South Carolina, Order of the Eastern Star delivered donation checks to two charities on behalf of all of our members in South Carolina.

My Sister's House was our first stop. My Sister's House is a non-profit that provides food, clothing, shelter, and services to empower domestic violence victims and their children to live free from abuse.

Disabled American Veterans Association was our second stop. The DAV provides a lifetime of support for veterans of all generations and their families in positive, life-changing ways.

We were received by each with kindness and hospitality. What a blessing we all felt knowing that we are helping change people's lives for good. This is who we are.

Kaye Rackley, PGM  
Grand Treasurer



**Left to right:**  
Donna Brantzeg, Jr. PGM  
Shirley Henderson, WGM  
Cecil Swank, WGP  
Larry Brantzeg, Jr. PGP

## QUEBEC CHAPTERS HOLD RECEPTION HONORING WGM AND WGP

*Brenda Shaw-Radford, PGM  
ESJ Correspondent for Quebec  
Westmount Chapter #9 & Victory Chapter #35  
Montreal, Quebec*



A reception to honor Sister Janet Patch, WGM, and Brother Robert Weidner, WGP, was held in the Legion at Waterloo on October 20, 2018. It was sponsored by Owl's Head Chapter #35 and Victory Chapter #34.

The theme for the year is Christmas with elves and Christmas trees taking pride of place for the WGM and Snowflakes for the WGP. The tables were beautifully decorated with centerpieces displaying the colourful fun symbols of the WGM and the WGP.

The meal was a full Christmas dinner. It was cooked and served by members of the Legion and was delicious.

The Head Table was colourful as the lady Grand Officers were all in their official gowns, which are white skirts and red tops. Christmas music played in the background.

During the afternoon, Sister Janet was pleased to present the very first Educational Bursary to her own granddaughter, Skyler Patch-McCoy.

The charity for the year 2018-19 will be Mental Health Estrie. Tanya Gibson, the Executive Director of Mental Health Estrie, spoke at the Reception about the work done by the organization. It has been in operation for 13 years. It was founded by the Rev. Lynn Ross and Judy Ross. It serves the English population in the Eastern Townships. It sponsors two main support groups. One centres on family and friends and meets twice a month. The other is to support individuals who are in recovery. The organization provides information, gives referrals and advocates for individuals. The main goal is to eliminate the stigma surrounding mental illness. They also support other organizations, such as the local Women's Shelter.

Dove pins are being sold to raise funds for the Organization and the members and Chapters will be making donations during the year.

## NEW SUBORDINATE CHAPTER INSTITUTED IN COLORADO

*Sharon Parrish, Grand Martha  
Sunshine Chapter #53  
Grand Junction, Colorado*



On November 10, 2018, at a Ceremonial Grand Session, the "Spirits in Harmony" Grand Officers of Colorado instituted the Peace and Harmony Chapter Under Dispensation of Pagosa Springs, and initiated 11 new members. Following the ceremony, Brother Michael Brewer, WGP, granted membership by declaration to 2 additional members and the Peace and Harmony Chapter Under Dispensation added 9 Plural members by affiliation. Brother Michael also appointed Sister Sharon Kinton, WM, and Brother Jim Hawkins, WP, to serve the Chapter for the term.

Please help us welcome its newest Chapter and its new members!

## WONDERFUL PUERTO RICO

*Martie MacKidd, PM  
Arizona ES Journal Committee  
Sunrise Chapter #60  
Bullhead City, Arizona  
Queen Esther #22  
Phoenix, AZ  
Manchester Chapter #449  
Downey, California*

If you ever have a chance to visit Puerto Rico, (PR) do it!! Our Sisters and Brothers there are so warm and welcoming and are truly our Masonic family. I have attended their Grand Chapter in May for the past few years and always have tons of fun - the members are wonderful and fun! Although they're still experiencing a few problems from Hurricane Irma, they are well on their way to recovery.

On my latest trip in May 2018, the Grand Chapter was held in Old San Juan. My companion, Sister Linda Gillis (at the time she was serving as Arizona's (AZ) Grand Chaplain) and I took in a little shopping. Old San Juan is delightful and quaint, boasting these beautiful cobblestones which turned out to be treacherous for me! While crossing the street, I fell and broke my femur. Now what to do, as my Spanish is very limited and Linda's non-existent. So we called my friend Brother Willie Segarra, PGP, who was up the street preparing for Installation. He came running and basically handled getting me to the hospitals (two, but that's another story). He also called Sister Dr. Gloria Colon, PGM, who spearheaded my care and got me connected with a fantastic orthopedic surgeon who did a superb job of replacing my hip.

But that's not all! Brother Willie's wife, Sister Mayra Guzman, PGM, rallied the troops, took up a collection and hired a caregiver to translate and care for me during my two weeks in rehab. I was truly pampered with my Sisters and Brothers (Millie Court, WM; Elba and Tato Carrero; and Neysa Valle, PGM) visiting me, doing laundry, errands and airport duty, along with Dr. Colon and hubby, Brother Eduardo Rosado Hernandez, PGP, who saw me to the airport for the trip home. Everyone kept tabs on me. Sister Mayra and Brother Willie made several long trips from their home in Aguadilla. I really received the royal treatment! My heartfelt thanks to all who helped in any way. PR has a great Crisis Committee and I hope our other jurisdictions do also. You never know when you'll need a helping hand!

The best part of this entire experience has been the care and concern of wonderful friends. Special thanks to Sister Linda who stuck with me, had my back and watched over me for many days until things stabilized; to my super friends in PR named above, in addition to Sister Betty Vega and the many, many others who called and texted; and to Sister Hildalise Valentin, WGM, and hubby Brother José Martel PGP; and to all the Chapters and members who went above and beyond to check in on me

and make sure I had a translator, clean clothes and everything I needed. Every one of these Sisters and Brothers truly walked the Eastern Star walk and will forever be in my heart. I thank you all for your prayers and good wishes - they worked!! I'm just about finished with PT and although not quite dancing yet, am feeling better and better each day.

So if you're looking for a super place to visit and a very special Grand Chapter to attend, please put Memorial Day weekend in Aguadilla on your 2019 calendar! It's a beautiful tropical place with loving, friendly folks and even if you don't speak Spanish, many members speak English and are happy to translate. They are warm, welcoming and will show you a very good time! Our PR members certainly live our Obligation and support Eastern Star and I truly hope our Eastern Star world will support them.

*(Editor's Note: Sisters Martie and Linda, along with Brothers David Gillis (WGP 2018-2019 (AZ)), and Jim Biever, PP (California), attended the 2019 Session this past May to thank her Sisters and Brothers for all their help and well wishes. Sister Martie even danced at several events this year. Pictures are a compilation of the 2018 and 2019 Sessions.*



*Martie MacKidd and Jim Biever on flight home from PR accompanied by a Veteran's service dog.*

*Rescuers Reunion dinner:  
(L-R Seated) Millie Court, PM PR;  
Martie; Tato Carrero, Past Potentate PR;  
and wife Elba  
(L-R Standing) Jim Biever PP;  
Neyssa Valle, GGCCM Youth, PGM PR;  
Linda and David Gillis WGP AZ*



*Traditional dancers from local disabled school at the Annual Memorial Day pig roast at Aguadilla*

*Muchas Gracias*

## A DAY AT THE RACES

*Nancy L. Ford, PGM  
GGCCM Eastern Star Journal Editor  
Bonnie Blink Committee  
Highland Chapter #33  
Dundalk, MD*



*And the horses are off...  
Champion winning horse*

The Grand Chapter of Maryland's Bonnie Blink Committee provides activities for the residents of the Maryland Masonic Homes. Throughout the year the Committee holds activities, such as "A Day at the Races" where attendees place bets on the horses and receive a treat each time their horse wins. The "bookie" takes the bet and the caller rolls the dice. The first roll determines which horse moves down the track while the second roll determines how many blocks the horse moves. What fun it is watching the horses run (on occasion some never even leave the gate) and the attendees cheering on their horse. As with all Eastern Star activities, we get the opportunity to share some fellowship, fun and, of course, food. Another popular activity is the auction of items donated by Committee members where each attendee is given play money to bid with. It's fun watching them bid against each other and it seems there's always one item that all want but there's only one winner! The attendees also enjoy celebrating the holidays and especially their visit from Santa. The year ends with a birthday party celebrating everyone's birthday. The Committee receives its funds from the generous donations from our Chapters and members. Plans are already underway for next year's events.



*Auctioning "Teddy"*



*Preparing Halloween treats*

## Mystery Dinner Theater



*Pictured is the cast of the mystery theater: Linda Leibowitz, Hummingbird of the MWGM (CATHY); Jim Guest, OES Endowment & Investment Committee (JUAN); Patrick Uppole, Associate Patron, Pine Castle No. 321 (KEVIN); Michael Blankenship, Worthy Patron, Clermont (MOE); Debbie Rosenthal, PG Warder and Stargazer Committee (EVE); Gerri Rosenthal, PG Ruth and SOS Committee (ZSA ZSA); Jocelyn Hargrove, PG Marshal and Service Dog Committee (GOLDIE); and Carl Hargrove, GGCCM, Regenerative Medicine and PGP, (INSPECTOR CARLOS.)*

"A Midsummer's Night Murder" debuted on July 1, 2018 at The World Famous Florida Resort (Pioneer Chapter No. 99 in Winter Park, Florida). The Mystery Dinner Theatre was presented for Sister Helen J. Westmoreland, Most Worthy Grand Matron's Charity, Regenerative Medicine. The exciting cast of players are featured above.

Carl Hargrove, General Grand Chapter Regenerative Medicine Committee, and PGP, of the Grand Chapter of Florida, wrote, produced and directed the play. There was lots of suspense throughout the dinner, including the blood curdling scream of death, which prompted the guests to retire to the Activity Hall at the World Famous Florida Resort around the heart shaped pool.

Deliberations began as Inspector Carlos presented the forensic report and evidence collected. One team actually presented the appropriate verdict, as to "who did it" and "why". The actors were splendid in their performance.

I cannot let the secrets out as this is an ongoing theatre play and will be presented again and again. You will not want to miss any performances.

*Joyce Bottieri, Grand Representative, Pine Castle No. 321*

*(Courtesy of the Florida Grand Chapter Stargazer)*

*A visit from Santa, his helper and a reindeer in training!*



**KENTUCKY STAR MEMBERS  
RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR  
MASONIC WORKS**

*Michael E. Martin, PGP  
Rob Morris Chapter #114  
La Grange, Kentucky*



*(L-R) Sister Debbie Dreier, PGM; Brother Ronnie Bell; and Sister Kassie Parrish*

At the Grand Master's Banquet at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky (KY), in October 2018, Most Worshipful Grand Master, Brother Tim Sanders, Elizabethtown Chapter #174, Elizabethtown, presented Brother Ronnie Bell, Past Grand Master, the Daniel Boone Medal of Distinction. This award is the second highest award that a KY Mason can receive. The award is meant for those who have spent years of tiresome work behind the scenes of the Fraternity working for its betterment. He is a member of Irvington Chapter #544, Irvington. Sisters Dr. Kassie Parrish and Debbie Dreier were presented the Lincoln Medal which is the highest award that can be give to a person who is not a Mason. This award is for non-Masons who have contributed to Freemasonry in some way befitting the criteria set forth by the Grand Master. Sister Kassie is the Deputy Supreme Inspector of Rainbow for Girls in KY and a member of Fairdale #153, Fairdale. Sister Debbie is a PGM and a member of Rosebud #39, Covington. Our congratulations to these deserving individuals.

**GRAND REPRESENTATIVES  
ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES  
40TH ANNIVERSARY**

*Susan Thames, PM  
Hasson Chapter #179  
Rogersville, Tennessee*



*(L-R) Fran Deakin, Secretary; Mary Kaylor, Charter member-Treasurer; Rosa Shiflet, Vice-President; and Susan Thames, President*

The Grand Representatives Association of Upper East Tennessee met at Amis Mill Eatery in Historic Rogersville on Saturday, September 8, 2018 for its quarterly meeting and to celebrate 40 years of organization. With 38 members in attendance, members and guests revisited 1978 by sharing pop culture from that year.

Currently, the Association has 109 present and past Grand Representatives members who promote fellowship among its members. Although it has no civic or beneficent purpose, the members have always been available for service to each other, to the WGM and to Grand Chapter. Every 9 years, the Association hosts one of the most attended luncheons at our Grand Chapter.



## IOWA'S PGMs/PGPs 2018 SUMMER OUTING

*Susan Jones, PM  
Toledo Chapter #380  
Tama, Iowa*

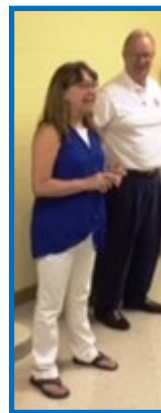


Iowa's (IA) PGMs and PGP's met for their second annual summer outing on July 10, 2018. The group consisted of 143 PGMs, PGP's and their traveling companions. This group of IA Eastern Star leaders has decided to get together annually to just enjoy one another and talk about their families, their Chapters and just what is going on in their lives. There were notes read to the group from those who were unable to attend. The event was planned and organized by Sister JoAnn Runyan, PGM, and Brother Phil Corwin, PGP. The group met at Home Lodge #370 in Pleasant Hill. A delicious luncheon was prepared and served by the members of Des Moines Chapter #89. Des Moines Chapter uses the funds from the meals they serve to support their annual scholarship fund. After lunch, there was entertainment which included a Rob Morris trivia contest which had been prepared for them by Sister Betty Briggs, Chairman of the Right Worthy Grand Trustees and Right Worthy Grand Secretary Emeritus of the GGC and Past Grand Matron of IA. Some attendees did very well on the quiz and some still have some Eastern Star history to read about. One of the PGP's was heard making a comment as he was leaving the Lodge that he felt that the best part of the day was the talk and the special friendships. At the end of the day, it was the consensus of this special group of Sisters and Brothers that this strictly social gathering continues to be a special event and that it should continue to be held annually.

## TEAMWORK

*Corley Byras, PGM  
Grand Secretary Emeritus  
Electa Chapter #2  
Bowdoinham, Maine*

Each year, members of the Maine Jurisdiction gather in August at the Masonic Hall in Auburn to fold, stuff, seal, sort and prepare for a bulk mailing for the WGM's Special Project. The WGM, Sister Flora M. Stack, designated that the proceeds of this yearly project will be going 40 percent to ESTARL, 40 percent to the Grand Chapter Charity Fund and 20 percent to Heart. Sisters Lynda Bell, PM, and Nancy Jacobs, PM, were the Co-Chairmen for the charity mailing. The morning commenced with about 85 members having breakfast together and catching up on what has been going on. They then arranged themselves at the various round tables where supplies had been placed and Chapter by Chapter, prepared the mailing. Runners picked up the finished envelopes and took them to a sorting room where they were sorted and counted for the bulk mailing. The morning was filled with laughter and conversation as the Sisters and Brothers came from all over the State. A fun time was held and the end result is funds will be contributed for these three worthy projects.



*Flora Stack, WGM, and Brett Jervis, WGP*



*Nancy Jacobs and  
Lynda Bell,  
Co-Chairmen*



**Due to the large size of this file, it was divided into 2 Sections.**

**Please take the time to read Section II of the October 2019 Edition.**