

Wisconsin OES Newsletter

Vol II, issue 12

June 2020



May 25, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On March 14 all meetings and events were suspended due to the Covid19 emergency. While the State of Wisconsin restrictions were lifted by the Supreme Court, many local jurisdictions have issued their own restrictions. The Grand Master in March suspended all Masonic meetings and events. With so many different restrictions in effect, allowing meetings and events is not possible currently. The lives and health of our members are our most important consideration. Many of our members are at high risk for severe illness. This includes those 65 and older and people of all ages with underlying medical conditions.

This year only, if a chapter is unable to meet before June 30, 2020, Suspension of a member for non-payment of dues for 2 years may be performed by the Worthy Matron and Secretary. They must notify the Chapter members of any Suspensions.

Please stay Safe,

Laramie Reissner
Worthy Grand Matron



The Memorial Painting is complete and will be hung at UW Cardiovascular Research Center in June. The Painting raised \$1,200 for UW CRC. It will also be at Grand Chapter 2021. **Thank you all who donated to this worthwhile project.**

Marv and Elaine Engelke Co-Chair

Western Stars will be cancelling their June 2020 picnic due to social distancing and keeping everybody healthy.

Rhonda Roalkvam, Club Secretary

A Little Sunshine for Your Day

Probably the best benefit of working at the Grand Masonic Center is the beautiful grounds – no matter what time of the year. Last week, there was an additional bonus for those who ventured on the walkways between the Grand Masonic Center, through the park, and over to the foot bridge across the Root River to Village on the Square.

A group of staff members and volunteers and their families – being VERY mindful of Covid-19 restrictions -- created “Chalk the Walk” for Honor Senior Citizens week. I don’t know if that is a real thing or if they just used it as a reason to play with sidewalk chalk. There were inspirational messages and joyful pictures chalked on the sidewalks. It didn’t feel like spring was in the air, but the Chalkers made it look that way! THANK YOU, CHALKERS!!



Worthy Matrons and Secretaries

In case you are bored and looking for something to do while you wait to be able to meet again, DON'T FORGET your Chapter's Annual Report. The last day of the fiscal year is June 30th; all membership changes through June 30th are included on the report. The completed report is to be signed by the Chapter Secretary and Worthy Matron and sent to the Grand Chapter office with the check for your per capita and fees. Reports are due by August 1st, so be sure you allow enough time to get the signatures and check and mail it on time. The fee for a late report is \$100.00.

In anticipation of being able to hold Eastern Star events in the near future – both in Wisconsin and other jurisdictions – information about future events will be included in the Newsletter as they are received. Please remember, all events are subject to cancellation in the event the quarantine is extended.

It's Time to Renew

If you receive the newsletter via US mail and would like to continue receiving it for the coming year, please renew your subscription by remitting your name and \$15. If you have been receiving it by email but would like to start getting it in paper copy, please remit your name, \$15 subscription fee, and a note that you want to change how you receive it. Subscriptions end June 30th (this is the last issue for the current year).

Name _____

Address _____

Message/Note _____

CHAPTER SECRETARY: The following “In Memoriums” are to be read in your Chapter at your next meeting.

IN MEMORIUM

The voice of He Who Doeth All Things Well has called to His Heavenly Home our Past Grand Matron Sister Geneva L. Davis. Our sister was born June 11, 1921, and left us to be with God on March 31, 2020, at 98 years of age. She was a life member and Past Matron of Janesville Chapter, Janesville, and was appointed Grand Marshal by Past Grand Matron Sister Betty Krist and Past Grand Patron Brother John Maher in 1979–80. She was elected Associate Grand Conductress and proceeded through the Grand Chapter line to become Worthy Grand Matron in 1983, serving with Past Grand Patron Brother Jerry Gant at their “Showers of Blessings” session in 1984. Their session was held in the auditorium at the Temple of Freemasonry in Madison.

From her Worthy Grand Matron’s report we see the true spirit behind the kind face of our departed sister who said, “We have been showered with so many good things that there is a tendency to take them for granted. It would be well for us to set aside some time each day to give thanks to Almighty God, the giver of every Good and Perfect Gift, for the blessings that are ours. It is good to “Count Our Blessings” and Praise God from whom all blessings flow, and it is well for us to express our thanks to others. I thank all of you. God has given me so many blessings, yet I would ask him to give me one thing more—a thankful heart.”

It has been quite a number of years since our sister was able to be present at our Grand Chapter sessions, but she is remembered for her smile and her welcoming voice. She married Cecil L. Davis on July 29, 1938, and was preceded in death by Brother Cecil in 2010. She was also preceded in death by her son John in 2012, two grandsons, David and Joshua, four brothers and one sister. She is survived by her daughter Anita L. Davis (Richard) Markley of Beloit, and her son Cecil R. (Linda) Davis of Janesville; 11 grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

Private graveside services with burial were held at Milton Lawns Memorial Park. In token of respect, we request that this memorial be read at the first stated meeting after its receipt in each subordinate chapter and that the charter be draped for a period of thirty (30) days.

Laramie Reissner, Worthy Grand Matron

Ian Watts, Worthy Grand Patron

Nancy Ryburn, Grand Secretary

IN MEMORIUM

The Golden Chain of Wisconsin's Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons has been broken once again with the passing of Past Grand Matron Sister Carla J. Badgley on May 1, 2020. Sister Carla was a member of Wautoma Chapter, Wautoma, and had previously been a member of Waupaca Chapter, Waupaca, where she served several terms as Worthy Matron. She was appointed Grand Warder by Past Grand Matron Sister Joan Smith and Past Grand Patron Brother Ron Pete in 1993. In 1994, she was elected Associate Grand Conductress at the "God Is Glorious" session in Green Bay. She progressed through the Grand Chapter elected line and was installed as Worthy Grand Matron in 1997, serving with Brother Elmer Janka as her Worthy Grand Patron. Unfortunately, after a full year of service to Wisconsin Grand Chapter, our sister was hospitalized at the time of her "Circle of Love" session in 1998 and was unable to preside.

Sister Carla had suffered from Alzheimer's Disease over the past several years and was lovingly cared for by her husband, Brother Don. However, her final days were spent at Angels' Grace Hospice in Oconomowoc and on May 1 she peacefully stopped breathing. She will be greatly missed by her many friends in Milwaukee, Oak Park, San Marino, Waupaca and Dousman. She was a retired teacher and leaves behind many friends from her professional days in the classroom.

She is survived by her husband, Brother Don, her daughter Janet Moran, daughter-in-law, Lydia Badgley, and two grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son, D. Eugene Badgley who was the soloist at her installation as Worthy Grand Matron in 1997.

There will be a memorial service for Sister Carla after the Corona Virus restrictions are lifted. The service will be held at the Three Pillars Chapel, officiated by Past Andrew Holmes of the Jerusalem Presbyterian Church, assisted by Three Pillars Chaplain Terese Leonhard. The service will include the Eastern Star funeral ceremony; all of these things planned by Sister Carla herself. The family wishes to extend grateful thanks for the many prayers offered during her illness.

In token of respect to this Past Grand Matron, we request that this memorial be read at the first stated meeting following its receipt in each subordinate chapter.

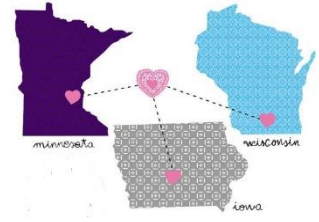
Laramie Reissner, Worthy Grand Matron

Ian Watts, Worthy Grand Patron

Nancy Ryburn, Grand Secretary

Fall Tri-State Eastern Star Exchange

We need YOU!



Please save the dates and plan to join in on a fun weekend with Eastern Star Sisters and Brothers from Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin September 11th through the 13th, 2020. This is for ALL STAR SISTERS AND BROTHERS! Come for the whole weekend, or just a day. We'd love to see you either way!

Minnesota is hosting this year, and our headquarters will be with Queen Esther Chapter #26 at the St. Paul Park Minnesota Masonic Center (644 Broadway Ave., St. Paul Park, MN).

We will start with a Friday night Pizza party. Saturday begins with a Pancake Breakfast served by Newport Lodge #118. Saturday afternoon is open for seeing the sights of the Twin Cities. We have a great tour of the St. Paul Wabasha Caves and other historical sights led by a "Real" Gangster set up. Or you may choose to go on your own to a number of local sights like the Capitol building, Como Zoo and Conservatory, Historic Fort Snelling and many others, even the Mall of America! Information will be available with registration for sites of interest.

Saturday evening starts with a great buffet dinner followed by entertainment by each Jurisdiction and time to meet and socialize with Sisters and Brothers from our three states. Sunday morning, we will have a light breakfast and Sunday service at the Masonic Center before you all travel back to your homes.

Registration information will be sent out in July. You can also contact Sue Bay for registration forms. Suebpgm10@hotmail.com or 651 459-6620.

We realize that in this time of uncertainty over COVID-19 that future plans are uncertain. We assure you that should we determine cancellation of the event is necessary, we will give sufficient notice, and any fees sent in will be returned to you. We are hoping our fall future is brighter, and that we may "See you in September", as the old song goes.

Sue Bay and RaVelle Smith, co-chairmen

I joined Eastern Star, come & serve with me.



With all the turmoil
in today's world, isn't
it time you establish
more structure
in your life?

All Master Masons and their female relatives are eligible to join.