

Wisconsin OES Newsletter



Vol II, issue 11

May 2020

May 4, 2020

Although everything seems to be going in slow motion these days, changes can and do “pop up” quickly. WGM Laramie had sent a letter for the membership to be put in this newsletter. Thankfully, formatting problems delayed the publication of the newsletter until today, and now there is important new information to share. Here is the latest information from our Worthy Grand Matron:

Dear Sisters and Brothers

Discussions were held with the WGM, WGP, AGM, AGP, Grand Trustees, Chairmen of the Jurisprudence and Finance Committees concerning rescheduling the 2020 Grand Chapter Session. It was decided that trying to reschedule this summer was not possible due to the current uncertainty of group meetings. It was therefore decided to delay Grand Chapter to May of 2021. Article VIII Paragraph 9 Section 1(b) The WGM, should an emergency arise will select a date and place with the approval of the Grand Trustees.

- Grand Chapter Officers and Committees will remain in their positions until May 2021. Please let WGM Laramie or WGP Ian know if you are unable to remain.
- Subordinate Chapter Officers will remain in their positions with new elections in April 2021. If there are undue hardship reasons i.e. medical, I will consider requests on a case by case basis. Permission is **required** from the WGM to hold elections at a time other than April 2021.
- Resolutions and Business will carry over to 2021.
- Official Visits will not be held until 2021-2022. A Grand Officer will schedule a time to inspect the books and records of each chapter in order to compile the reports needed for Grand Chapter in 2021. A schedule will be sent this summer. This may or may not be at a chapter meeting.
- 2020-2021 Dues cards are being sent to Chapter Secretaries and Annual Reports and Per Capita are due August 1, 2020.
- Sister Terri and Brother Leonard have appointed Grand Representatives in anticipation of their Installation this May. They will be delivering these personally. WGP Ian and I will be keeping any dates scheduled with Sister Terri and Brother Leonard.
- All checks for Grand Chapter 2020 will be returned if requested. None will be deposited. Please allow time for this to happen.

This has been a difficult time for all of us. Please keep yourselves safe. You, the members, are the most important part of Eastern Star. **We will meet again.**

Laramie Reissner
Worthy Grand Matron



General Grand Chapter
Order of the Eastern Star

TO BE SHARED WITH OES MEMBERSHIP

April 18, 2020

Sisters and Brothers,

It seems the world has become an unfamiliar place as we experience the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting health and safety guidelines that are in effect around the world.

This “new world” has brought with it some very difficult decisions needing to be made by everyone, myself included. I am disappointed and sad that circumstances are such that it is necessary for me, with the support of MWGP Brother Henry, to make the cancellations listed below. These decisions have been made for the protection of the health and safety of the membership near and far.

CANCELLED: MWGM’s Honor Night and Official Visit – Honor Night scheduled Wednesday, August 5, 2020, and Official Visit, Cheyenne, Wyoming. **PLEASE NOTE: Wyoming Grand Chapter has not been cancelled.**

CANCELLED: Aruba – MWGM’s Official Visit scheduled July 16-19, 2020.

CANCELLED: Germany – MWGM’s Official Visits to Subordinate Chapters of Germany scheduled September 8-16, 2020.

CANCELLED: Romania – MWGM’s Official Visits to Subordinate Chapters of Romania scheduled September 17-21, 2020.

CANCELLED: Italy – MWGM’s Official Visit to the Grand Chapter of Italy scheduled September 24-27, 2020.

We are proud of all of you who are doing your part by responsibly observing the stay-at-home and social distancing guidelines. This is a TOUGH assignment for any Eastern Star! Thank you for putting the health and safety of the membership first, especially that of our beloved older members who are the most vulnerable among us.

Sisters and Brothers, when we can *safely* begin again, let us return to the Eastern Star of old and begin anew. “A bend in the road is not the end of the road unless you fail to make the turn.” --unknown

In friendship and love,

Attested:

Marianne Shenefelt
Most Worthy Grand Matron

Henry S. Martin
Most Worthy Grand Patron

Mrs. Alma Lynn Bane
Right Worthy Grand Secretary

Final Month to Honor your Chapter Member or Loved One lost to Heart Disease

This is your final chance to honor a chapter member, a Grand Family member, a relative or a friend with their name on this beautiful painting, which will be displayed at UW Cardiovascular Research Center, Madison. Send their name printed to Elaine Engelke, 400 North Main Street, Blanchardville, WI 53516. \$50 per name, check made out to WI Grand Chapter. Checks are due by May 15th to be on this beautiful Memorial.

Our Artist has begun painting our Memorial Painting (see below). She plans on finishing by early May in time to ship it to Wisconsin. There is still plenty of time to honor a loved one or a Chapter member you have lost to heart attack, stroke, or other cardiovascular issue. Loved ones honored do not have to be Star members. Remember, this will hang at UW Cardiovascular Research Center in Madison. 100% of the proceeds go to the WGM and WGP Special Project – UW-CRC! The painting will be 30 inches by 40 inches. \$50 made out to WGM WGP Special Project and send to Elaine Engelke, 400 N. Main St., Blanchardville, WI 53516 with your loved one's name printed.



Finish the Step-Up Challenge

Prizes will be given when we can meet again.

Ellen Myers, Union Grove Chapter, was first place winner with 6,048,151 total steps.

Elaine Estervig Beaubien, Starlight Chapter, Madison, was the second place winner with 5,992,682 steps.

Honorary Mention are:

Over 5,000,000 steps: **Jan Winget**, Union Grove Chapter

Over 3,000,000 steps: **Alora Fiscus**, Honor Chapter, Sturgeon Bay, and Oregon Chapter

Shawn Opgenorth, Ozaukee Chapter, Port Washington

Carol Falkowski, Wauwatosa Chapter, Brookfield

The Team winning the Marv-lous Meal is:

Honor Chapter, Sturgeon Bay. Their 11 members combined for an amazing 19,312,132 steps!

All participating teams (except Honor Chapter) were in the delicious Sunshine Candy drawing, and that was won by **Kilbourn Chapter, Wisconsin Dells.**

Thanks to all who participated and helped us raise \$2,420.00 for UW Cardiovascular Research Center!

Charity of the Month

Wisconsin Eastern Star Foundation

Dear Sisters and Brothers;

The Wisconsin Eastern Star Foundation is the charitable part of the Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star of Wisconsin. Through the work of the Foundation, we are able to provide assistance to our Sisters and Brothers during a time of need: whether it is due to illness, unanticipated home or auto repairs, loss of employment or accident.

The funds come from the income of our investment accounts. They are awarded to members based on completion and review of an application. Applications are available from your chapter secretary, on the Grand Chapter website under forms or from the Foundation secretary. Assistance is granted upon review of applications from members. Members are encouraged to apply. All assistance must meet IRS rules for non-profit foundations.

The OES Foundation board meets four times during the year to review applications. The current Worthy Grand Patron is President. The Worthy Grand Matron and line officers are members as well as five members appointed by the Worthy Grand Matron. The secretary and treasurer positions are elected annually from the appointed members.

The OES Foundation welcomes donations to the investment funds to grow the ability to fund applications. Donations can be made by sending a check to the Grand Chapter office made out to Wisconsin Eastern Star Foundation.

Ian Watts, President

Mary Olson, Secretary

Ruthann Watts, Treasurer

WI OES Foundation to Meet June 12, 2020

The Wisconsin Eastern Star Foundation will meet on June 12 at yet to be determined location. Please send applications to the Grand Chapter office by June 1, 2020. Applications received after June 1 will be held for the September meeting.

Mary Olson, Secretary

APPEAL FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

It seems that somewhere between Chapter Secretaries/Membership Committee members and the Grand Chapter Membership Committee the names of new members initiated since last Grand Chapter have gotten lost. The Membership Committee would really like to acknowledge our new members, but the Committee doesn't know who they are. **PLEASE** send our new members' names and date of initiation to PGM Laurie Twardy, 7847 49th Avenue, Kenosha, WI 53142 or wilady-bug@gmail.com. Thank you for your assistance.

SECRETARY: PLEASE READ IN ITS ENTIRITY AT YOUR NEXT STATED MEETING

Dear Wisconsin Chapter Members,

Thank you for your participation in the fall 2019 Official Visit Process. We hope you enjoyed seeing the elected officer for your school of instruction and the appointed officer for your Chapter Official Visit. We appreciate the courtesies your Chapters extended to them and their escorts. For those of you who held a combined school of instruction, thanks for making the school successful. We had expected that all stations be filled for OV 1 and OV 2 and in most instances this was achieved.

Our ritualistic work is beautiful; we appreciate the effort and pride in doing your work correctly. Our Wisconsin Code of Laws, Redbook and Ritual should be studied and followed so the work continues to be performed correctly.

After reviewing the forms from the Grand Officers, following are some comments for Chapters to consider:

Chapters were diligent in Proving the Chapter, presenting and retiring the flag at every meeting and making sure the Quorum offices were filled during the meetings. Remember any member can act as the flag bearer (Red Book, Page 61, #3).

The Initiatory work, including balloting, must be exemplified at least once a year in addition to the exemplification of the work at the Official Visit. (Red Book Page 141 #2) The exemplification must be noted in the minutes.

We are a very charitable organization; every Chapter donated to Local Charities and had a positive influence in their communities. Many Chapters support local youth with scholarships. We are Good People, doing Good Things for Good Reasons.


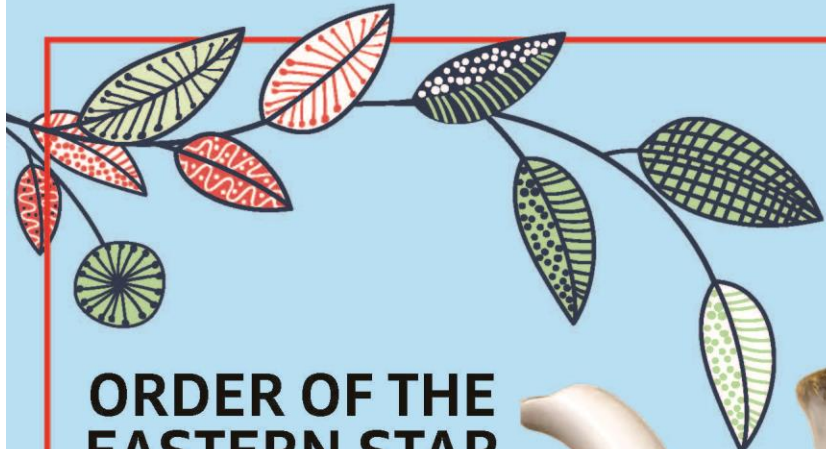
According to the Grand Officer reports, Wisconsin has approximately 3000 members and of those 717 are Life members.

Keep up the good work! If at any time you have questions or would like additional help, please contact me.

Stay safe during these difficult times.


Star Love and Butterfly Kisses,

PGM Rosie Fiscus, Grand Lecturer

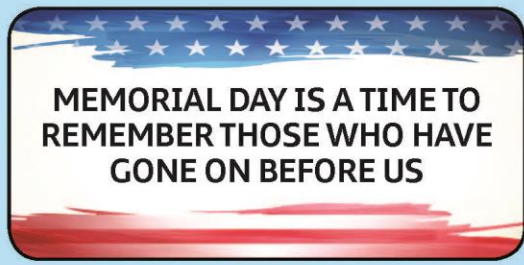


ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

*Sharing
Charity, Truth,
& Loving Kindness*



**ONE CUP
AT A TIME!!**



**MEMORIAL DAY IS A TIME TO
REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE
GONE ON BEFORE US**

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

Come and have a cup with us!

Memorial Day is a great time to attend the American Legion presentation at your local cemetery. Many Masons are also Veterans.

Odds and Ends to share . . .



First Place prize for Step-Up Challenge



Second Place prize for Step-Up Challenge

Grand Chapter's Golden Chain is broken by the loss of two Past Grand Matrons . . .

PGM Geneva Davis passed away on March 31, 2020. Past Grand Matron Carla Badgley passed away May 1, 2020.

Please keep their families and their Chapters in your prayers. Memorials will appear in next month's newsletter.



Virtual Tour CV
Research Center.pptx

Starlight Chapter shared the Virtual Tour they recently had with UW Cardio-Vascular Research Center.