

A Word From Our WGM & WGP

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

It is hard to begin to imagine just how quickly time truly can fly. Our Grand Chapter will soon be here and a new core of officers and leaders will be in place. Our kite has flown high over the entire state and we have traveled many miles in our flip flops. Your Worthy Grand Patron and I wish to say, "thank you" to all of our members for the awesome amount of support and friendship that we have received while on this wonderful journey. We have traveled many miles and made many friends along the way. It has been awesome to watch our Appointed 10 Officers grow past their comfort zones and reach for the stars. We recently completed our Mini School to prepare us for Grand Chapter; we must say, "Wow" they are awesome.

This year we have tried to do some things a little different and we hope that each of you and your chapter members have enjoyed the changes. Each year there are some changes but with declining numbers of chapters we truly must start doing more. We would like to have each of you think about what your chapter might need to do for your chapter's growth or existence. For some of you, you might want to consider changing the time of your meetings, maybe to a day or later in the afternoon. We also would like you to "rethink" the way things have been done in the past. Recently, the Fab 4 (the WM's of the Northwest Area) got together and planned a Joint Friend's Night. It was a true success!! Each chapter was responsible for part of the meal and one more area such as games, prizes, table decorations and host chapter. We had 40 people attend and that saves each one a few nights of traveling to visit another chapter. This is but a small suggestion of how to "rethink" and make it work.

So, in closing of this year we wish to invite all to attend the Grand Chapter session and we will be so excited to see you there!

Brenda Gaulke Worthy Grand Matron
David Schreier Worthy Grand Patron
Soaring Amongst the Stars Grand Family

Grand Chapter Needs You!



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We are still looking for choir members (please contact Marcia Earl @ humlady@aol.com) and Assistant Sentinels (please contact Leonard Pederson at pedersonle@uwstout.edu)

This is the last call for Session Registration, meal reservations, and reservations for hotel accommodation. If you haven't gotten a better offer by now, you probably won't be getting one, so go ahead and register.

Please Remember . . .

If you are presenting a program, giving a response, or opening a session for us at Grand Chapter, please remember to limit remarks to three (3) minutes, and send an electronic copy of your program to WGM Brenda, so she has it in her records. Remember that her email has changed... brendagaulke59@gmail.com

All programs, responses and Session Openings are to be given to the Grand Secretary at the time of your presentation or may be sent electronically ahead of time to secretary.wioes@gmail.com.

Any Committee Reports which were not received by May 1st will need to be given verbally at Grand Chapter, as well as any updates to previously submitted reports.

Upcoming Events

- May 11 Initiation at Vega Chapter, Milwaukee;
6:30pm
- May 15 Initiation at Bristol Chapter, Bristol;
7pm
- May 20 “Shop ‘Til You Drop” a shopping
extravaganza at Grand Chapter.
Local vendors.
- May 20 Secretary/Treasurer Workshops
3pm at Grand Chapter Session
- May 20 Grand Chapter Kick-Off
Banquet; 2019-2020 Grand Officer
Station announcement
- May 21 9am: Silent Auctions at Grand
Chapter to benefit WGM’s & WGP’s
projects. Auctions end at evening
session
- May 21 9:30am: FAGO Meeting
- May 21 11am: Reception for Ron Pete, WGO
- May 21 12:30pm: Prelude, Prologue, Formal
Opening of 128th Annual Grand
Chapter Session, Stevens Point
- May 21 5:30pm: Distinguished Guest Banquet
- May 21 7:30pm: Evening Session, presentation
to charities
- May 22 Grand Chapter Elections @10am
SHARP. Members must be registered
by 9am in order to vote.
- May 22 2:30pm: Life Member Tribute
- May 22 7:30pm: Exemplification of Initiation
- May 23 1:00pm: Prelude, Prologue & Grand
Chapter Installation of 2019-2020
Officers

Worthy Matrons-Elect: don’t forget to send the date and time of your Installation to Linda Schreier (jobiemom@wi.rr.com) to be included in the Blast.

Lost: gold-toned necklace with black stones and a magnetic clasp. If you find it, please contact Paul or Maggie Trigleth at 608.370.7239.

Ruth Chapter #23, La Crosse is looking for a copy of the music CD for meetings that was produced several years ago by Brother Emerson Kolda. If you have one and are no longer using it, please contact Sister Valerie Nelson, Secretary (valnelson55@gmail.com).



CHAPTER SECRETARIES, PLEASE READ THIS AT YOUR NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

IN MEMORIUM

Brother Elmer John Janka, PGP

Once again, our Golden chain has been broken with the passing of Past Grand Patron Brother Elmer John Janka, age 93, of Wautoma. Elmer died on Saturday April 13, 2019; he was born in Cudahy on Aug. 29, 1925 to Joseph and Louise (Miller) Janka.

After high school, Elmer joined the U.S. Army and served in the European Theatre during WWII with the 1st Infantry Division with the Signal Corp. On July 5, 1947 he married Sylvia A. Lyss in Milwaukee. Elmer worked with the Milwaukee Police Department and retired in 1979, then moved to the Wautoma Area. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing.

Elmer was initiated into Wautoma Chapter #198 on July 16, 1984. He petitioned for dual membership in Waupaca Chapter #197 on July 12, 1999 and elected to dual membership on October 13, 1999. He served as Worthy Patron in Wautoma for many years. Past Grand Matron Sister Joanne Wettereau and Past Grand Patron Brother Don Haas appointed Elmer as Grand Sentinel; he was elected to serve the state of Wisconsin as Worthy Grand Patron along with Past Grand Matron Carla Badgley. Their theme was “Circle of Love” and how appropriate Elmer’s Bible verse was from John 3:18 “Our love should not be just words and talk; it must be true love, which shows itself in action”. The aim: In all we do let us do it in love. When his Worthy Grand Matron was unable to attend their session due to an accident, Elmer worked nicely with Past Grand Matron, Sister Theda Andres, who being a true friend, followed all the work and plans Carla put into preparing for their session and doing so very graciously. That is true friendship and love fully coming to fruition as they had hoped for as they laid out their plans. Elmer always had a smile on his face and made everyone feel they were special. He was always happy when he could enjoy fellowship with the membership, especially if they served Lemon Bars. Elmer was also a member of Shriners and the Masons. The Marquardt Hospice group arranged for a WWII pinning ceremony for Elmer. It was very special for him. He will be sadly missed by his family and friends.

Elmer is survived by his children: Dennis Janka, Cindy (Phil Albo) Janka; grandson: Shane Nigbor and family; special grandson Sam; niece and nephew: Pam and Ken Rehbein who help Elmer over the years with different projects and odds and ends around the house; other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife Sylvia Janka; two infant children; daughter-in-law Glenda Nigbor; and granddaughter Jennifer Albo.

Private services will be held at a later date.

The family wishes to thank the staff of Marquardt Hospice for the care and compassion shown to Elmer.

In tribute to our beloved Brother, we ask every subordinate chapter to drape their charter for a period of thirty (30) days in loving memory of our departed Brother.

Brenda Gaulke Worthy Grand Matron Nancy Ryburn, Grand Secretary
David Schreier Worthy Grand Patron

STARBURST 2019-2020

Print schedule and article submission deadlines for the 2019-2020 Starburst are as follows:

Summer Issue (July-Aug-Sept) sent at end of October
Fall Issue (Oct-Nov-Dec) sent at end of January
Winter Issue (Jan-Feb-March) sent at end of April
Spring Issue (April-May-June) sent at end of July

PLEASE SEND ARTICLES BY 15TH OF OCT, JAN, APR, JUL
Articles and photos should be sent to wistarburst@gmail.com

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Subscriptions run from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

Electronic copy \$10.00/year Paper copy \$20.00/year

Send subscription request to: Deb Morgenstern
150 Teddy Avenue
Hartford, WI 53027

Checks payable to: WI Grand Chapter OES

Name _____

Address _____

City/St/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Thank you for your continued support.

So, What's Going to Happen With the Monthly Newsletter?

As you will recall, last year at Grand Chapter, the membership overwhelmingly voted to start the monthly newsletter and to provide it to each member for a trial period of one year. While this was not the original intent of the proposal (providing it by email was), it seems the project has been very successful, but VERY costly.

We have analyzed the costs and determined that it costs just under \$15 per person per year to produce and send paper copies of the newsletter. In addition, postage costs will again be increasing in June 2019. Sending the newsletter via email does not have any inherent costs.

The Grand Chapter Trustees, the Grand Treasurer and Secretary, the Grand Line Officers, and the Finance, Ways, and Means Committee have discussed some of the options available:

- 1) Discontinue the newsletter and go back to producing the "monthly mailing" as has been done in the past, which are sent only to select members and those who pay for it, and are read at each Chapter meeting;
- 2) Continue to send the newsletter to every member according to their preference and consider an increase in per capita to cover the cost of paper copies; or
- 3) Provide email copies for no cost to the membership and charge those who receive paper copy the cost of producing the communication in such a format.

Members will have the opportunity to discuss these options at Grand Chapter during the discussion of the proposed budget. The budget, as proposed by the Finance Committee, includes provisions for charging for the receipt of paper copy, as well as charging for the inclusion of "ads" for Chapter events, etc. in the newsletter. Finance Committee is proposing a \$10 fee for quarter page ad; \$20 for half page; and \$30 for a full page ad. This is what the Finance Committee is proposing; the membership may vote for a different solution. If you have an opinion about what should happen with the newsletter, come to Grand Chapter and participate in the discussion and vote regarding the budget.

Regardless of the outcome of the vote on the budget, the last issue of this year's newsletter will be the June issue. In anticipation of the possibility of charging for paper copy of the newsletter, the subscription form on the back page is provided with the intent of helping plan for changes.





Sharon Mosmeyer

Membership Committee Chairman, General Grand Chapter

16710 Cedar Yard Lane

Cypress, Texas 77433

281-389-3091

oesmembership2018@yahoo.com

I am honored to have been asked by our Most Worthy Grand Matron to serve on the Membership Committee for General Grand Chapter for this Triennial. The theme is: "Circle of Friendship & Service Around the World" for Sister Marianne Shenefelt, Most Worthy Grand Matron and Brother Henry S. Martin, Most Worthy Grand Patron. Sister Marianne and Brother Henry have designated "membership" as one of their "focus" projects for this Triennial.

The Goal for this Triennium: To provide the wherewithal through magazines, newspapers, brochures and any other publications, making people cognizant of the Order of the Eastern Star, thus increasing membership in all Grand Jurisdictions and Subordinate Chapters under the General Grand Chapter. It is also desired to achieve higher retention of our new members and reward our existing members for their dedicated work.

Sister Marianne is offering several new programs for the Triennial, as well as supporting some existing ones. The following is a list of the programs and a brief description.

1. Rob Morris Jewel and Bars for members signing Petitions for the Degrees and Reinstatement Petitions. This has been an on-going project for many years. You can see many members proudly wearing their Rob Morris Jewel and Bars. Guidelines and forms are on the General Grand Chapter website.

2. "Mother Hen" project, which is a **mentoring program** to help improve the retention of these new and/or returning members by reinstatement. This is an initiative project of rewarding the mentor (big sister/brother) upon report of satisfactory mentor assistance to these new members, such as continued support following initiation or return by reinstatement. Simple guidelines have been developed to determine if satisfactory assistance has been accomplished. A "Mother Hen" pin is available to your jurisdiction to successful mentors who have successfully utilized the program.

3. "Awesome Twosome" ribbon award. These 5 ribbons in the Star Point Colors are available:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Blue Ribbon: | Awesome Twosome |
| Yellow Ribbon: | Terrific Threesome |
| White Ribbon: | Fantastic Foursome |
| Green Ribbon: | Fabulous Five |
| Red Ribbon: | Remarkable Six |

This program is to reward and recognize new members initiated or reinstated in a group and to encourage members to initiate or reinstate 2 or more people together. The ribbon is worn by the new members. For example: a husband and wife initiated together would receive the "Awesome Twosome" ribbon. Three initiated together would receive the "Terrific Threesome" ribbon, and so on. The purpose is to encourage several to join or come back together.

4. Publicity of our Order. Possibly members in your jurisdiction are doing benevolent projects already that are worthy of publication. Getting the word out about our Order is a priority in membership awareness. One of Sister Marianne's projects is the Service Dog Program. This would be an excellent source for us to contact non-members and show off our Order.

Many jurisdictions have committees for membership and to assist General Grand Chapter with the different projects for the Triennium. If you have a committee in place, please advise me of the names and contact information of the contact person/persons. If you choose to participate in any of these programs, this chairperson could be my contact for information and distribution of materials. I would also like to connect all the membership committees in my jurisdictions together so that they may share programs and information with one another.

I may be sending you information on additional programs as the Triennium progresses.

As the General Grand Chapter Membership Committee Chairman, I will attempt to visit as many Grand Chapter Sessions as possible during this Triennium. If you have any questions about the Rob Morris Jewel and Bars for members signing petitions, the newly added "Mother Hen" and "Awesome Twosome" projects, and sharing information about our Order while attracting new members please let me know.

Please let me know if you have any questions. One of the members of this committee will be contacting you and/or one of your Worthy Grand Matrons for this triennial with a suggested date to attend one of your sessions.

My hope for this triennial is to see our membership grow. I believe working with all the Grand Jurisdictions is the key. We all have good ideas to share to make us stronger. I look forward to working with you.

Star love,
Sharon Mosmeyer
Sharon Mosmeyer, PGM
Membership Chairman for GGC



**ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER**

**ROB MORRIS MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM
2018-2021**

“CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP & SERVICE AROUND THE WORLD”

Sister Marianne Shenefelt, MWGM and Brother Henry S. Martin, MWGP will continue the Rob Morris Award Program for sisters and brothers who sign petitions.

A Rob Morris Membership Jewel is awarded by General Grand Chapter to members who sign petitions as follows:

- 100 points Top line signer of a Petition for the Degrees.
- 50 points Second line signer of a Petition for the Degrees.
- 50 points Reinstatement by Affiliation (Top line or second line signer).

For 300 points, a member qualifies for a Rob Morris Membership Jewel. Then, a member may earn a triennium date bar for an additional 300 points to attach to the jewel (see picture of Jewel and bar above).

NOTE:

- Points may be carried over from the previous triennium (2015-2018).
- Points cannot be shared.
- Members need to sign the petitions and earn the points on their own.
- Points earned since November 2015 can be added to points earned this triennium.
- We do have some 2015-2018 bars left. Please make sure to specify if you want one of the previous bars.

Requests for jewels and bars should be submitted on the proper form (sent to subordinate Chapter Secretaries) with the **Seal of the Chapter**. Our policy is to send all of the awards to the Chapter Secretary. If the award is needed for a special awards ceremony, send an email to me at the address below and I will make sure you have it by the date needed (if notified timely).

Questions and forms should be directed/mailed to:

Sharon Mosmeyer, Membership Chairman
16710 Cedar Yard Lane
Cypress, Texas 77433
281-389-3091 oesmembership2018@yahoo.com





WILLOW RIVER CHAPTER AND

NORTHWEST CHAPTER

INVITE YOU TO A PARTY HONORING LARAMIE REISSNER,

WORTHY GRAND MATRON OF WISCONSIN

SUNDAY JULY 21ST 2019

GATHERING 11:30

DINNER 12:30

INTRODUCTIONS AND ENTERTAINMENT TO FOLLOW

READY RANDY'S

1490 131ST STREET

NEW RICHMOND WI 54017

COST PER PERSON \$29.00 – NO REFUNDS

RESERVATIONS AND TITLES TO:

JILL THOMAS

552 CASSANDRA DRIVE

NEW RICHMOND WI 54017

RESERVATIONS BY JULY 1ST 2019

Tea Time



JOIN Laramie on Sunday, June 2, 2019
For a High Tea!

12:30 pm Social Time
1:00 pm Tea Time

Raise your pinkie and sip your tea!
\$25.00

Proceeds to:
Laramie's Project:
Health and Research Center UW-M

Limited Seating
RSVP: sultana313@charter.net
Or at Grand Chapter
N5109 Oak Hill Road
Fond du Lac, 54937

Grand Chapter Order of
Eastern Star of Wisconsin
36275 Sunset Drive
Dousman, WI 53118

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