

# Wisconsin OES Newsletter

Vol III, issue 7

February 2021



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Worthy Grand Matron  
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Dear Sisters and Brothers:

I hope that you are safe and healthy. Some of you are starting to receive the vaccines to fight the virus. I received my 1<sup>st</sup> dose on January 8<sup>th</sup>. I am in the 1A category because of my job. My clinic has started to vaccinate patients over 65 this last week.

The current numbers for Covid-19 are back down to last October levels. Let us pray that they continue this trend. I am looking forward to seeing my Sisters and Brothers again.

We are planning a reduced schedule for Grand Chapter in May for Wisconsin members only. Information will be sent out as soon as it is finalized.

Stay safe, you are all in my heart and prayers.

Laramie Reissner  
Worthy Grand Matron

## REMINDER

Please let Sister Mitch Behlke know if you are bringing items for the Silent Auction at Grand Chapter. 100% of the Silent Auction proceeds go to the UW Cardiovascular Research Center.

You can contact Mitch at  
[MitchRN507@hotmail.com](mailto:MitchRN507@hotmail.com) or 920-988-0608

## Mark Your Calendars!

The following events remain on the WGM and WGP's calendar. Stay tuned for details!

Apr	6	Electa's 125 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Milwaukee
	17	Wine and Chocolate Event sponsored by SE & Triwaukee
	29	MN Grand Chapter in St Cloud
May	18-19	Grand Chapter in Stevens Point
	TBD	Martha's 125 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Jefferson

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## OES Foundation

The deadline for applications for financial assistance from the OES Foundation are due to the Grand Chapter office no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>. Worthy Grand Patron Brother Ian Watts included information on the OES Foundation in the January newsletter. He wrote: *In order for Foundation to know that a member is in need, the Foundation Board must receive a Foundation application that provides information on why the member may need assistance. Each chapter secretary has a copy of the Foundation application, but the most current application can be found on line at [www.wioes.org](http://www.wioes.org) under the tab "Forms". You can then scroll down the page to "Foundation Application" and print it out to complete. You must also attach the copies of the bills that you need assistance with.*

The address of the Grand Chapter office is 36275 Sunset Dr., Dousman WI 53118.

## *Grand Chapter Telephone*

The telephones at the Grand Chapter office have been upgraded. To reach the Grand Secretary, dial 262-965-2200; extension 210.

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### *Red Book Update Available*

As noted in the December monthly newsletter, the 2019 Red Book updates were mailed to Chapter Secretaries in early December 2020. If you have a Red Book dated October 2018, your Chapter Secretary received a set of updates for you. The updates are being provided at no cost to the members and should be inserted into the October 2018 version of the Red Book. Contact your Chapter Secretary to receive your Red Book updates.

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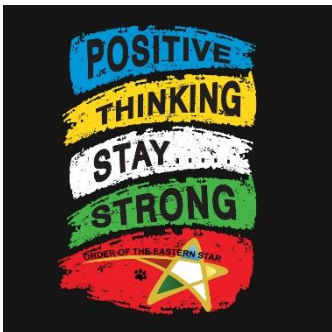
### *Triennial Assembly Salt Lake City, Utah*

You are cordially invited to attend the  
"Circle of Friendship & Service Around the  
World" General Grand Chapter  
50<sup>th</sup> Triennial Assembly  
October 29, 2021 – November 5, 2021  
Salt Palace Convention Center  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Currently, the following information is located on the GGC OES Website at <https://www.easternstar.org/triennial-assembly/>

- Triennial Pre-Registration Form (fillable format)
- Triennial Assembly Tentative Schedule Brochure
- Triennial Hotel Information
- Triennial Hotel Reservation Form

Additional information will be added to the website as it becomes available.



## *Letter from our WGM*

January 16, 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I wish that I did not have to write this letter, but it has become clear that it is needed. Politics does not play a part in our Order. A person's politics and political views are like religion. Both are sacred to them. This is a tradition not only of our Order but of the Masonic Fraternity as a whole.

It is your right as an American citizen to hold your own political beliefs and to live your life according to them. We are experiencing tumultuous times in our country. Sides have been drawn and acted upon.

However, this stops at the door of our Masonic lives. What brings us together are the Principles of our Order. Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. As Eastern Star members we MUST focus on what brings us together, not what tears us apart. Remember your Obligation. Do not speak against a Sister or a Brother, or perform any act of meanness or nastiness toward them.

I am asking that no one comment on another's online posts i.e. Facebook, Twitter or other social media sites unless you follow these guidelines. If you disagree with another person you do not have to make it public. Doing so in a mean or nasty manner reflects badly on Eastern Star and yourself.

This nation and yourselves are all in my heart and prayers.

Laramie Reissner  
Worthy Grand Matron

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*February is Heart Month* 

The first American Heart Month, which took place in February 1964, was proclaimed by President Lyndon B. Johnson via Proclamation 3566 on December 30, 1963. The Congress, by joint resolution on that date, has requested the President to issue annually a proclamation designating February as American Heart Month.

Inspire and motivate yourself and those you love to make heart health a regular part of your self-care routine.

# February Membership Zooms

Hosted by Laurie Twardy, PGM; Membership Co-Chair

Thank you to all who joined our first 2 sets of zooms. It was great to see everyone. We had great discussions on what Chapters have been doing the last year. Then we talked about communicating with our membership and different ways to do that. We also talked about thinking outside of the box to keep up with our community service.

The zoom in February we will discuss what to do when we get the go ahead to meet in person. Please join us and ask your Chapter members to join also. It's February, so let's celebrate Valentine's Day. Wear red. We will have refreshments after the "meeting", so have yours ready!

If you would like to have a zoom for your Chapter and need help, contact me. There are several of us that are willing to help and host the zoom for you.

## **Wednesday Afternoon February 24, 2021 at 1:30 pm CST**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83797615060?pwd=OFBIWTZ2RU15ZXNBVUp4M3lkTU1zUT09>

Meeting ID: 837 9761 5060

Passcode: 756141

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 837 9761 5060

Passcode: 756141

## **Thursday Evening February 25, 2021 at 7:00 pm CST**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86378082769?pwd=ajY5ZHpHSWVja2w2U2NYUFdlZXUzd09>

Meeting ID: 863 7808 2769

Passcode: 112654

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 863 7808 2769

Passcode: 112654

**Let's ZOOM!!!!!!!!!!**

# Most Worthy Grand Matron Communication

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Andrea Stamp, PGM  
MWGM Personal Secretary  
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## General Grand Chapter

Order of the Eastern Star™  
Established November 1876

**TO BE SHARED WITH OES MEMBERSHIP**

January 6, 2021

My Sisters and Brothers,

It is my sincere hope the New Year has greeted you and your loved ones with good health and safe conditions. There is the promise of a better year ahead; however, it remains necessary to continue to do all we can to safeguard the health and safety of each and every member due to the current increases in Covid cases. Please remember—the majority of our members are at a larger risk for severe illness due to age and underlying medical conditions should they become ill. I strongly urge you to take this into consideration when thinking about holding in-person Chapter meetings and/or activities. Please continue to wear face masks.

I am writing to inform you of the cancellation of the following MWGM Official Visit trips and placing the scheduled visit to British Columbia/Yukon, Canada, on hold due to the border being closed.

Monterrey, Mexico	February 3-7, 2021	OV CANCELED
Brazil & Peru	March 1-13, 2021	OV CANCELED
Scotland & Ireland	April 5-16, 2021	OV CANCELED (Scotland canceled 2021 Session)
British Columbia & Yukon	May 23-26, 2021	ON HOLD
Australia & New Zealand	June 1-11, 2021	OV CANCELED (Australia canceled 2021 Session)
Bolivia	July 2-4, 2021	OV CANCELED

It is unfortunate the circumstances of the worldwide coronavirus pandemic have made it necessary to cancel these trips and to place the scheduled visit to British Columbia/Yukon on hold.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of the wonderful, uplifting messages I received throughout 2020. They always arrived just when I needed them the most and I sincerely thank you. I am blessed in many ways, with a special blessing that my family and I are safe and healthy with no Covid.

*"And now we welcome the new year. Full of things that have never been."*

--Rainer Maria Rilke

In friendship & love,

*Marianne R. Shenefelt*

Marianne R. Shenefelt  
Most Worthy Grand Matron



CC: Henry S. Martin, MWGP  
Alma Bane, RWGS

I joined Eastern Star, come & serve with me.



Sisters and Brothers love your heart!! It is the only one most folks get!! Support your Chapter heart fund, UW Cardiovascular Research Group, and other heart research organizations.

~ PEYTON



Call: 262.975.2200  
secretary.wioes@gmail.com



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