

Wisconsin OES Newsletter

Vol IV, issue 1

July 2021





Worthy Grand Matron
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July 1, 2021



Dear Sisters and Brothers:

The year is already flying by. By now, most of the Chapters will have had a social gathering and/or their first meeting. I hope you are all happy to see each other, catch up on how they are and maybe received a hug! Remember to follow your Lodge's Worshipful Master instructions on masks and cleaning. We will continue the no singing for right now, but we can resume the Conductresses and Associate Patron presenting and retiring the flag. Please note that I decided we will not prove the Chapters until the spring of 2022 when the District Deputy visit takes place. Installations have already started and will continue. If you are able to get out and travel, I know the chapters would love to see visitors. Make sure that Linda Schreier knows when they are so she may put the date in the blast. The Grand Conductresses will be hosting All Member Learning Sessions (formerly Red Book schools) in the month of July. They would love to see you and help you with refreshers of the Red Book.

There will be a Day of Remembrance for our members on Sunday August 8. We will try to put it on our YouTube channel or do a Facebook live event. Stay tuned for details!

Keep those Flat Stanley turtles traveling. It has been so wonderful to see the fun pictures of everywhere they have been so far! What new places will they roam to? Remember to email pictures to terrioes2021@gmail.com or when posting on Facebook use the #flatstanleyturtle hashtag which will make it easier to find.

Have a great July 4th with family and friends! "One flag, One land, One heart, One hand, One Nation Evermore!" - Oliver Wendell Holmes

With a heartfelt of love,

Terri Hundhausen, Worthy Grand Matron

NOTICE: CHANGES TO WISCONSIN CODE OF LAWS

This issue of the Monthly Newsletter has the changes to the Code passed at Grand Chapter Session in May. The changes are presented here in the format you can place in your copy of the code. These will not be handouts/mail-outs in other venues. This is your opportunity to update your Chapter copies and your personal copy of the Code with minimal effort.

Upcoming Events

- July 6 Eagle Chapter meeting; 7pm
July 6 Bristol Chapter meeting; 7pm
July 7 Starlight Chapter meeting; 7pm
July 10 All Member Learning Session: Ellsworth
July 10 NW Area Club 10:30 am social; 11am meeting; noon potluck
July 12 Martha Chapter Closed Installation; 7pm
July 13 Everett Chapter Installation; 7pm
July 14 Wauwatosa Chapter meeting 6pm with Open Installation at 7:30pm
July 15 Union Grove Open Installation; 7pm
July 19 Sparta Chapter meeting and Closed Installation 6pm
July 19 Wautoma Chapter Closed Installation; 7pm
July 20 Dodgeville Chapter Open Installation; 7pm
July 20 Electa Chapter Open Installation; 7pm
July 20 Eagle Chapter Initiation; 7pm
July 21 Starlight Chapter Closed Installation; 7pm
July 22 Kilbourn Chapter meeting and Closed Installation; 7pm
July 24 All Member Learning Session; Oregon
July 24 All Member Learning Session; Kenosha
July 31 Worthy Grand Patron party, Eagle River
Aug 3 Eagle Chapter Closed Installation; 7pm
Aug 5 Melody Chapter Closed Installation; 7pm
Aug 9 Willow River Chapter Installation; 7pm
Aug 13 Vega Chapter Open Installation; 7pm
Aug 15 Kenosha Chapter Open Installation; 3pm
Sept 10-12 Tri-State Exchange in MN

New Grand Representatives

Congratulations to these members who received their Grand Representative commissions at Grand Chapter in Stevens Point in May:

Jessica Dudzik, West Virginia (West Allis Chapter)

Marcia Ginther-Roelke, New Jersey (Kilbourn Chapter)

Esther Van Steen, Italy (Kenosha Chapter)

WGM & WGP SPECIAL PROJECT

Sister Terri and Brother Len have chosen "Pets for Vets" as their special project this year, whose mission is to help heal the emotional wounds of military veterans by using the power of the human-animal bond to provide a second chance for shelter animals by rescuing, training and pairing them with America's servicemen and women who could benefit from having a companion animal. The funds raised will stay in Wisconsin. **Over \$800 was collected from the silent auction held at the WGM party on June 27.** Please watch for opportunities to participate in fundraisers for this worthwhile cause, which will continue with a silent auction at the WGP party. Please contact Daylene Bain (DK326@aol.com) or Cindy Damon (cindydamon@hotmail.com) if you plan to bring an item to either auction.

All Member Learning Session (Formerly Red Book School)

You may have noticed our name change this year. Our intent is to enhance the teachings of our order for ALL MEMBERS, not just officers of a chapter. We want every member to be comfortable going to any chapter, and if necessary, perform any station knowing you are doing it correctly with or without a red book in your hand. Come join us and reacquaint yourself in the basics of our Order and floor work!! Contact me if you have questions or would like additional information: 608-692-7775 (cell) or sbnana98@gmail.com.

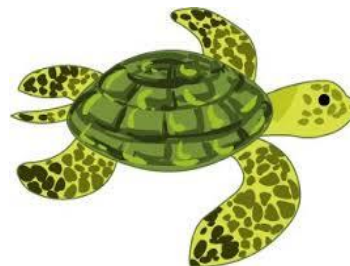
Debra Bower, Grand Conductress

July 10 at 1pm in Ellsworth

July 24 at 9am in Oregon

July 24 at 3pm in Kenosha

Date TBD in Appleton (Rescheduling from original date of July 17)





Eagle River Chapter #218 OES
 Invites you to
FOLLOW YOUR HEART
 and join us in honoring
LEONARD PEDERSON
WORTHY GRAND PATRON
OF WISCONSIN

Saturday July 31, 2021
 Eagle River Inn
 5260 Hwy 70 W,
 Eagle River, WI

Social Noon
 Meal 1:00 p.m. Cost \$30.00
 Menu Plated Salad, Buffet style: Sliced Turkey, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Beef
 Stroganoff with Noodles, Mixed Vegetables, Rolls and Dessert.
 Entertainment to follow

Please make checks payable to Eagle Chapter #218 and return by JULY 10th with form to:

Kay Smith,
 11382 Norman Dr,
 Arbor Vitae, WI 54568



No refunds

Eagle River Inn has a block of six (6) rooms available for Friday July 30, 2021. Two Queen beds, microwave and mini-fridge Rate \$134.10 plus tax. Call 715-479-2000 and mention Eastern Star

 Chapter Name _____ # _____ Location _____
 Name _____
 Title _____

RETURN BY JULY 10, 2021

Change of Address

West Allis Chapter #172 will be moving into a new building in July 2021. Please update your roster book to reflect their location as 11037 W. Oklahoma Ave, West Allis WI 53227. Continue to send mail to the Chapter Secretary as listed in the roster book.

Mr & Mrs OES

Those who are serving or have served in the East with their spouse, please mark your calendars! The annual Mr. and Mrs. OES meeting will be held on Sunday, October 10 at Thunder Bay Grill, Pewaukee. A delicious brunch at 11:30 a.m. followed by a short meeting. More details in future.

Elaine Engelke, Secretary/Treasurer

Wisconsin OES YouTube

Make sure to check out our Wisconsin Eastern Star YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI9ahAVtoFQHArCFVaDZkw>
 Grand Chapter installation of officers is available for you to view, and we plan to add other videos throughout the year. Thank you to Brother Brad Bingheim for sharing your talents by live streaming the business sessions of Grand Chapter 2021 and providing the Grand Chapter installation for all to view on YouTube.

Order Your 2021 Proceedings!

If you would like to purchase a copy of the 129th "The Light of Thankfulness" Grand Session Proceedings, please detach and fill in the bottom portion of this letter and return it to the Grand Chapter office by October 15, 2021. The price of the Proceedings is determined by the final cost when they are printed. Pre-orders are important as we only order from the printer the number that has been pre-ordered.

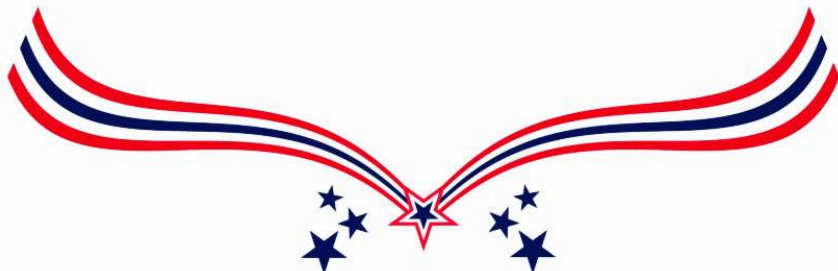
I would like to order a copy of the Proceedings Book or CD for the 129th "The Light of Thankfulness" Grand Session.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Chapter #: _____

Check one: hard-bound book
 spiral-bound book
 CD



Individual Achievement Award

The Individual Achievement Award for members during 2021-2022 involves a fun Bingo game. Between May 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022, achieve 16 of the 24 items on the Bingo card, cross out the 16 activities you completed, and turn in the Bingo card to a Grand Officer. It will be fun, you'll get to participate in so many wonderful Eastern Star activities, and you'll receive an award upon completion. Contact your Secretary or the Grand Secretary if you need a Bingo card.

Would You Like to Receive the Monthly Newsletter in Paper Format?

If you receive the newsletter via US Mail and would like to continue receiving it for the coming year, or receive it by email (which is free) but would like to start getting it in paper copy, please remit your name, address, and \$15 subscription fee to the Grand Chapter office. The form below is provided for your convenience. Subscriptions end June 30th.

To renew your subscription or start receiving a paper copy:

Complete the form and send with \$15 payable to WI Grand Chapter OES

Mail to: Grand Chapter OES
36275 Sunset Drive
Dousman, WI 53118-9349

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Paws Corner

Two Paws up Wisconsin Order of the Eastern Star. At Grand Chapter in May, we passed the resolution to make Service Dogs a permanent Grand Chapter Committee. This is exciting news since General Grand Chapter voted at the last Triennial Assembly to have Service Dogs the Eastern Star permanent charity.

Here are some service dog facts:

- a) Service dogs are defined as a dog that performs a specific task when the person has a disability. Some examples: Diabetic alert, seizure detection, guide dogs, PTSD dogs.
- b) Emotional support or comfort animals are not considered service dogs.
- c) The average length of time to train a service dog is around 18 to 24 months.
- d) The most popular breeds of service dogs are Labrador retrievers, golden retrievers and standard poodles.
- e) Organizations that train service dogs are supported by donations. They receive no support from government funds.

Chapters and individuals who wish to donate to the Service Dog Committee – please send your donations to the Wisconsin Grand Secretary. Be sure to put Service Dogs in the memo line. All monetary donations will stay in Wisconsin.

If you would a Service Dog Committee member to visit your Chapter or have any questions – please contact Kristen Schoville, GGCCCM at 608-574-3695 or goldenoegirl@yahoo.com.



Memorial Services for three Past Grand Matrons

Well done, good and faithful servant



Past Grand Matron Sister Patricia L. Rasmussen passed away on June 28, 2021. Funeral services will be held on Saturday July 17, 2021 at the First Baptist Church, Janesville. Visitation 9:30-11:00am; Eastern Star service at 11:00am followed by a memorial service.

A memorial service for Past Grand Matron Sister June Bjorklund will be held on July 31, 2021 at noon at the Congregational Church in Waukesha. If you are available to be part of the Eastern Star funeral service, please email PGM Sister Theda Andres at andresdt@att.net.



Save the Date – August 14th, 2021

Plans are being made for the Celebration of the life of PGM Sister Carla Badgley.

Memorial Services and a picnic will be held the afternoon of Sat., August 14th at Three Pillars, Dousman.

Update on Virtual Triennial Session, General Grand Chapter

On March 10, 2021, Sister Marianne Shenefelt, MWGM, and Brother Henry S. Martin, MWGP, announced the cancellation of the in person 50th Triennial Assembly that was planned to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah on October 29, 2021 thru November 5, 2021. Since then, many options have been considered for a 50th Triennial Assembly to transact the necessary business and elections to begin a 2021-2024 Triennial for the General Grand Chapter. Included on pages 7-8 and 9-13 of this Monthly Newsletter are two documents that were developed by GGC to answer many of the questions and concerns of the membership. Please read each of these documents carefully to understand the steps to be able to participate and vote (if eligible) in the 50th Virtual Triennial Assembly.

Brother Ronald “Ron” Pete, Worthy Grand Organist and Past Grand Patron of Wisconsin, has submitted his candidacy for the office of Right Worthy Grand Trustee of the General Grand Chapter. Brother Ron served Wisconsin as Worthy Grand Patron in 1994, has served Wisconsin Grand Chapter as Grand Trustee 1995-2000, 2001-2004, as well as many Grand Chapter committee appointment. He is a member and Past Patron of Superior Chapter.

Flat Stanley Turtle

All Wisconsin Eastern Star members are invited to travel the state, country and world with Flat Stanley Turtle! Flat Stanley Turtle is available from your Secretary or can be found on the Wisconsin Eastern Star Facebook page. Cut out, color and take it along on your travels. Take fun pictures to show on the Wisconsin Eastern Star Facebook page and send to PGM Mary Rasmussen to be included in the Starburst. You can also send pictures to terrioies2021@gmail.com to be added to a world travels video on our Wisconsin Eastern Star YouTube channel.

Mrs. Marianne R. Shenefelt
Most Worthy Grand Matron
Cheyenne, WY 82009
Email: mshene8185@yahoo.com



Andrea Stamp, PGM
MWGM Personal Secretary
Email: astamp@bresnan.net

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER
Order of the Eastern Star
Established November 1876

TO BE SHARED WITH OES MEMBERSHIP

May 18, 2021

My Sisters and Brothers,

I have had the opportunity in some of the work I've been doing to review your websites and other informational materials. I am finding that the information relating to eligibility for membership is incorrect.

The information I've read on websites, new member brochures and other informational materials is the old, long, detailed "Eligibility for the Degrees" stating specific relationships, i.e., wives, daughters, etc. This information is not up-to-date. It needs to be replaced with the following correct information that was adopted at the 49th Triennial Assembly held in Orlando, Florida, in 2018:

"Affiliated Master Masons in good standing and any female relatives who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption to Affiliated Master Masons in good standing, or if deceased were in good standing at the time of death; as well as members – either active for three (3) years or majority – in the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls® or in Job's Daughters International®, each of whom having attained to at least the age of eighteen (18) years, are eligible to membership in the Order of the Eastern Star." (Ritual, General Regulations, Membership. Eligibility for the Degrees., pg. 163).

I am concerned that opportunities are being missed due to this situation when it comes to potential new members seeking to be eligible to join our Order. I am asking you to please update your websites, printed materials and other information with the correct wording regarding eligibility for membership. Thank you!

"Together is our favorite place to be!" –unknown

In friendship & love,
Marianne Shenefelt
Marianne R. Shenefelt
Most Worthy Grand Matron



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



General Grand Chapter

Order of the Eastern Star™
Established November 1876

June 17, 2021

Sisters and Brothers,

TO BE SHARED WITH OES MEMBERSHIP

As we enjoy less Covid restrictions in some areas, we would ask you to please continue to be watchful of the health and safety of our Sisters and Brothers.

With the cancellation of the 50th Triennial Assembly in Salt Lake City, Oct. 29-Nov.5, 2021, plans are being made to move General Grand Chapter forward into the 2021-2024 Triennium. Below is information about the plans. Please read this information carefully.

ASSEMBLY

Virtual Assembly. There will be a two-day, virtual Assembly. The dates are Wednesday, November 3rd and Thursday, November 4th. November 3rd will be the Business Session and November 4th will be the Installation of the 2021-2024 General Grand Chapter Officers. Both days will be livestreamed from our OES Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Please watch for more information regarding the links, etc., which will be sent out when the plans have been finalized.

REGISTRATION - DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

All registered and fee paid members will receive by mail an attractive souvenir Welcome Bag and the specially designed 50th Triennial Assembly badge.

A NEW Registration Form has been developed for your use. The form is available in two formats:

1. Online with payment options of credit card or PayPal.
2. PDF fillable form to be completed, printed and mailed along with your check.

NEW Registration Form for Voting Members. The NEW registration form offers voting members their choice of voting using an electronic ballot or a mail in paper ballot.

- **Have you already pre-registered and paid your fee?** You will be contacted by the Registration Chairman to complete a new form so you can mark your choice of how you want to vote: electronically or mail-in. If you complete this form online, the Registration Chairman will receive your form automatically after you complete it. If you fill out a paper form, please make your choice and return your completed form to the Registration Committee Chairman by mail. The deadline is September 1, 2021.
- **Do you need to register and pay your fee?** The registration form is available on the GGC website: www.easternstar.org under the Triennial Assembly tab. You can choose to register either by registering and paying your fee online (the Registration Chairman will receive your form and payment automatically) or by completing a paper form to be printed and mailed along with your payment to the Registration Chairman. The deadline is September 1, 2021.

NEW Registration form for Non-Voting Members. All non-voting members who register will receive an attractive souvenir Welcome Bag and the 50th Triennial Assembly badge. Please complete a NEW registration form. You can choose to register either by registering and paying your fee online (the Registration Chairman will receive your form and payment automatically) or by completing a paper form to be printed and mailed along with your payment to the Registration Chairman. The new registration form is available at www.easternstar.org under the Triennial Assembly tab.

- **Have you already pre-registered and paid your fee?** You will be contacted by the Registration Chairman so you can say whether you would like to receive the souvenir Welcome Bag and 50th Triennial Badge or a refund of your money by September 1, 2021.
- **Do you need to register and pay your fee?** Please use the Registration form available at www.easternstar.org under the Triennial Assembly tab. Please complete the form by choosing to register and pay online (the Registration Chairman will receive your form and payment) or by completing a paper form to be printed and mailed along with your payment to the Registration Chairman. After the close of Registration (September 1, 2021), you will receive your Welcome Bag and a beautiful 50th Triennial Assembly badge by mail.

This is the mailing address to send your registration form and fee:

Jeanine Cole, PGM, Registration Chairman
3870 Kitt Drive
Helena, MT 59602

ELECTIONS

2021-2024 Elections. Eligible voting members will be given a choice of voting electronically or by a mail-in paper ballot on the Registration Form.

- Electronic voting will be conducted starting at 12:01am EDT, October 31st and voting will end at 4:00pm EDT, November 2nd.
- Mail-in voting will begin mid-September when paper ballots will be mailed to voting delegates who are unable to vote electronically. To be counted, the completed mail-in paper ballot *must* be received at OES Headquarters in Washington, D.C., in the designated envelope by October 31, 2021.

We are appreciative of your patience and understanding regarding the unusual circumstances surrounding conducting the 50th Triennial Assembly. Every effort is being made to share information in a timely manner and to accomplish the important business of General Grand Chapter in the best way possible.

"There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly."

—Buckminster Fuller

In friendship and love,

Marianne R. Shenefelt

Marianne R. Shenefelt
Most Worthy Grand Matron



Henry S. Martin

Henry S. Martin
Most Worthy Grand Patron

copy: Alma Bane, RWGS
GGC Jurisprudence Committee
GGC Elections Committee

**TRIENNIAL ASSEMBLY 2021
ELIGIBLE VOTING MEMBERS
ELECTIONS POLICY DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Purpose

The purpose of this "Elections Policy Due to Covid-19 Pandemic" is to formalize procedures and best practices to ensure the greatest participation of voting members for the election of the Officers of the General Grand Chapter for the 2021-2024 Triennium.

Cancellation of the in-person 50th GGC Triennial Assembly

The in-person General Grand Chapter 50th Triennial Assembly "Circle of Friendship & Service Around the World" for October 29 to November 5, 2021, Salt Lake City, Utah, has been **CANCELED** due to health and safety restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Plans are being made for a limited, two-day Virtual Assembly to be conducted November 3-4, 2021.

Constitutional Requirements

Due to Governmental health and safety restrictions for Covid, there are certain GGC Constitutional requirements that cannot be met. The General Grand Chapter will find the best possible measures to follow the Constitution as closely as possible. The Covid-19 pandemic situation is unique. The modifications to our normal procedures are for the specific situation that exists and are acceptable for the 50th Triennial Assembly only. The General Grand Chapter is fortunate to have a very capable Jurisprudence Committee to oversee these efforts and to advise on the best possible measures.

Registration

The NEW deadline for Registration is postmarked by September 1, 2021. Members who are eligible to vote must register in order to vote.

Voting members will be given a choice of electronic or mail-in ballot voting. These two choices are available on the updated Registration Form. Voters should note that the choice made cannot be changed at a later date.

Members Who Are Entitled to Vote

- All Officers of the General Grand Chapter.
- The Worthy Grand Matron, Worthy Grand Patron, Associate Grand Matron and Associate Grand Patron of Grand Chapters under General Grand Chapter.
- The three (3) Worthy Matrons elected and installed during the current Triennium of each Subordinate Chapter directly under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter.
- All Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons of Grand Chapters under General Grand Chapter.
- The Deputies to the Most Worthy Grand Matron and Most Worthy Grand Patron appointed for the current Triennium, unless they are a Worthy Matron during the current Triennium. If so, they are a voting delegate as a Worthy Matron not a Deputy. They do not get two votes.

Proxy Voting

The Jurisprudence Committee are in agreement that there is no need for proxy voting in the election of the 2021-2024 General Grand Chapter Officers: *"Because the election of General Grand Chapter officers will not be conducted in person such that every voting member will be able to participate, the appointment of proxies under Article VI of the Constitution has been deemed unnecessary such that there will be no proxy voting in this election."*

Voting Procedures

The voting procedures for the elections of Officers for the 2021-2024 Triennium will be held by electronic ballot or mail-in ballot.

- Those Voting Members who have already registered and paid the \$25 fee will receive an updated Registration form via email to make their choice for either electronic or mail-in voting and return the form to the Registration Chairman.
- Those Voting Members who have not yet registered and who wish to vote, a link to the updated Registration Form is available on the GGC website www.easternstar.org under the Triennial Assembly tab. The Registration fee is \$25.00 US and the method of payment is specified on the form.

ELECTRONIC BALLOTING

The General Grand Chapter is committed to ensuring that all Voting Members are able to participate in a secret ballot election for the 2021-2024 General Grand Chapter officers. The GGC Elections Committee has chosen *Election Buddy* as a third-party provider for the electronic online voting technology. The Election Buddy platform provides confidential and secure elections, and has been successfully used by thousands of organizations. The Election Buddy electronic balloting system can be accessed from any Internet enabled device. This system is confidential, secure, and meets the conditions for balloting in compliance with GGC voting procedures to the fullest possible extent under the circumstances.

Unique Ballot Identifier

Each eligible Voting Member will be assigned a unique Ballot Identifier in order to vote and that Identifier will be specified in the email notice received by the Voting Member. It is essential Voting Members use this unique Ballot Identifier to cast their vote for their vote to count. If two or more voting members share an email address, they can both cast their votes using their unique Ballot ID. If two individuals try to use the same Ballot ID, they will be informed that they have already voted. It is important to be careful and only use the unique Ballot Identifier that has been assigned to you as a verified, eligible voter.

Electronic Voting Notifications

Pre-Notification: The General Grand Chapter Elections Administrator will send out an email notification of the upcoming election reminding voters of the upcoming election.

1. At the opening of elections, Election Buddy will send an email to all registered eligible Voting Members who have chosen to cast their ballots electronically. The email will contain a unique Ballot Identifier, instructions for voting and the link to use to vote.
2. If you do not receive this email on October 31st from Election Buddy, check your spam folder or Google Calendar.
3. If members are concerned about missing this important email, one option is to add invitations@mail.electionbuddy.com to your contact list. This can help the email link for your ballot to arrive in your inbox.
4. If members do not receive their ballot, contact the Administrator, Larry Holmes at elholmes971@gmail.com

Electronic Balloting OPEN

.. Electronic balloting will OPEN Sunday, October 31, 2021, at 12:01 am, Eastern Daylight Time.

Electronic Balloting CLOSED

.. Electronic balloting will CLOSE Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at 4:00pm, Eastern Daylight Time.

ALL ELECTRONIC BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED DURING THIS SPECIFIED VOTING PERIOD TO BE COUNTED.

All electronic voting delegates are reminded that it is critical for General Grand Chapter to have your correct email address. If your email address changes prior to September 1, 2021, you must notify the Registration Chairman immediately to ensure email receipt of instructions to access your electronic ballot to be able to vote.

MAIL-IN BALLOTING

Mail-in balloting is being made available to increase participation of voting members who do not have access to a reliable Internet connection and/or those who do not have the option of accessing the electronic voting system.

Please note: Mail-in ballots will only be available to U.S or Canadian residents due to USPS mail issues.

All members who are eligible to vote must register in order to vote. There are two choices on the updated Registration Form: electronic or mail in. Voting Members requesting to vote by mail should indicate that choice on their registration form and return the completed form with the registration fee to the Registration Chairman shown on the form. **Voters should note that the choice made for either mail-in or electronic ballot cannot be changed at a later date.**

- Those Voting Members who have already registered and paid the \$25 fee will receive an updated Registration form via email to make their choice, electronic or mail-in voting, and return the form to the Registration Chairman.
- Those Voting Members who have not yet registered and who wish to vote, a link to the updated Registration Form is available on the GGC website www.easternstar.org under the Triennial Assembly tab. The Registration fee is \$25.00 US and the method of payment is specified on the form.

If at all possible, Voting members are encouraged to cast their ballots using the electronic voting system to avoid unforeseen delays in postal service.

Mail-in Balloting OPEN

- ❖ Mail-in ballots will be mailed as soon as possible following the close of Registration of September 1, 2021. Mail-in balloting opens when you receive your ballot in the mail.

Mail-in Balloting CLOSED

- ❖ **You must return your ballot by mail to be received before October 31st for your mail-in vote to be included in the final tabulations.** Mail your ballot to the GGC International Headquarters in the pre-addressed envelope which will be provided. Ballots received after October 31, 2021 will not be counted.

ALL MAIL-IN BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED AT HEADQUARTERS BY OCTOBER 31, 2021, TO BE COUNTED.

This schedule for mail-in balloting is necessary to allow time for counting the ballots received in the mail in order to announce the final election results on Wednesday, November 3, 2021.

All voting delegates are reminded that it is critical for General Grand Chapter to have your correct mailing address. If your mailing address changes prior to September 1, 2021, you must notify the Registration Chairman immediately to ensure receipt of your mail-in ballot for you to be able to vote.

Unfortunately, due to the uncertainty of the national and international postal services, there could be unforeseen and lengthy delays for mail-in ballots. Please take this possibility into consideration. Any and all ballots received after October 31st will not be counted.

Completed mail-in ballots are to be mailed to the GGC International Headquarters. A secure process has been put into place to ensure all mail-in ballots received by October 31st will be processed. The GGC Teller Committee will enter mail-in ballots into the electronic balloting system. The data entry will be supervised and verified for accuracy for an impartial, secure and valid election results. The privacy of the secret ballot process that takes place with in-person voting has been taken into consideration and members can be assured that all reasonable and possible secure measures have been taken to replicate this privacy.

Ballot Tabulation and Results

The GGC Red Book states a candidate who receives the majority of votes cast is elected. The following procedures will apply to the process of ballot tabulations:

- Offices with one candidate/nominee for the office. The candidate/nominee will be declared elected by acclamation.
- Offices with two candidates/nominees. For offices with two candidates/nominees, the candidate who receives the largest number of ballot votes will be declared elected.
- Offices with three or more candidates/nominees. For offices where there may be three or more candidates/nominees, the voting process used will be a preferential vote.
- Preferential vote. On a preferential vote ballot, each voter will be required to enter their vote in the order of preference for the office. For example, if there is one vacancy and three (3) candidates, each voter will vote their choice in order of preference: 1 - 2 - 3. Instructions will be given on the ballot.
- The first preference marked by the voter on each ballot counts as a vote for that particular candidate and the votes are tallied. If no candidate receives a majority (greater than 50% of the total valid ballots), the candidate with the fewest number of votes is eliminated. The ballots for the eliminated candidate are re-tabulated to the ballot's second preference. The process continues until a majority of votes is reached by one of the candidates and that candidate is declared elected. This process is in accordance with the requirements specified in the GGC Red Book.

Candidates

All candidates for an Elected Office in General Grand Chapter must be nominated in writing by the Worthy Grand Matron, Worthy Grand Patron and attested by the Grand Secretary. Also to be included is a letter from the candidate stating their agreement to be nominated and willingness to serve if elected. **The letters must be postmarked by the May 31, 2021 deadline.** No additional nominations will be accepted after June 1, 2021. Please contact the Right Worthy Grand Secretary at rwgsecretary@easternstar.org for complete instructions regarding the nomination process.

If desired, candidates may provide a photograph of themselves to be included with electronic voting online or with the mail-in voting by mail. The photograph cannot be larger than 5MB and must be in .jpg format in order to be included online. Candidates may also submit a short biography of information for the voters. The recommended limit is 150 words or less. Please contact the Right Worthy Grand Secretary at rwgsecretary@easternstar.org if there are any questions.

The names of the candidates for office and their information will be posted in a link on the General Grand Chapter website www.easternstar.org under the Triennial tab.

DEADLINES & VOTING SCHEDULE

May 31, 2021	Deadline for Nominees/Candidates to have the required information to the MWGM, MWGP & RWG Secretary.
September 1, 2021	Postmark deadline for Registration.
September 1, 2021.	Deadline email or mailing address changes to Registration Chairman for Registered Voting Delegates.
October 31, 2021	Deadline for Mail-in Ballots to be received at GGC Headquarters in D.C.
October 31, 2021, 12:01AM, EDT	Electronic balloting opens.
November 2, 2021, 4:00PM, EDT	Electronic balloting closes.
November 3 rd , 2021	Announcement of Election results.
November 4, 2021	Installation of 2021-2024 Officers

ELECTION RESULTS

The results of the elections will be announced by the MWGM Marianne R. Shenefelt and MWGP Henry S. Martin on Wednesday, November 3rd. The results will be posted on the General Grand Chapter website as soon as possible.

The Installation of the 2021-2024 GGC Officers will take place on November 4, 2021. Additional information regarding Installation may be available from RWAGM Glenda Winchester and RWAGP Lon Lowry.

General Grand Chapter Elections Committee
Richard Ashby, PGP, GGC Parliamentarian RPP, Chairman

Approved: Marianne R. Shenefelt, MWGM

Revised 6/2021

I joined Eastern Star, come & swim with me.



**Congratulations
WGM Terri, WGP Len,
and Grand Master
Gary. Best wishes to
your Grand Officers
~ Maude**

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

GENERAL GRAND
CHAPTER

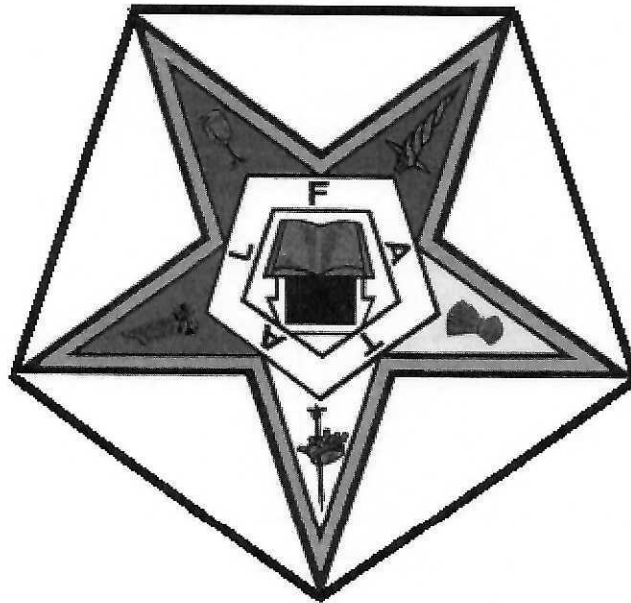

**Don't
forget your
Petition!**



Call: 262.975.2200
secretary.wioes@gmail.com

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

CODE OF LAWS
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER OF WISCONSIN
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR



Revised May 2014
May 2015
May 2016
May 2018
May 2019
May 2021

ARTICLE V
ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

PARAGRAPH 6
Section 1.

MUST BE ELECTED OR APPOINTED ANNUALLY

The Grand Officers of this Grand Chapter, except Grand Trustees who are starting their second or third year of their three-year term, shall be elected or appointed annually. No elected Grand Secretary or Grand Treasurer, may serve for a period of longer than ten (10) consecutive years. No Grand Trustee may serve more than two (2) consecutive terms. No elected Grand Officer may nominate a successor to her/his office. In the event that a Worthy Grand Matron appoints and installs a Grand Secretary or Grand Treasurer to fill a vacancy in either of those offices, the person so appointed and installed may seek election to that office for nine (9) consecutive years.

(a) **Elected Officers:**

1. The Worthy Grand Matron, Worthy Grand Patron, Associate Grand Matron, Associate Grand Patron, and Grand Conductress shall be individually nominated by a voting member for the following year. The voting member proposing the nomination shall do so only after having previously ascertained that the nominee will serve if elected. Only the nominee's Name, Chapter, Chapter Number, City and Office for which she/he is being nominated shall be mentioned. No second is necessary. If there is only one nomination for each office, the presiding officer shall close the nominations and instruct the Grand Secretary to cast a ballot and record the office as being filled. If there is more than one nomination for an office, election shall be by secret ballot. If an elected Line Officer does not seek election to a higher office, others who may wish to be nominated for said office may be nominated by giving the nominee's name, chapter, chapter number, city and office for which she/he is being nominated as well as any qualifications which may be pertinent to election to said office.
2. The Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Associate Grand Conductress and one (1) Grand Trustee for a three-year term, shall be individually nominated by a voting member in writing. The voting member proposing the written nomination shall do so only after having previously ascertained that the nominee will serve if elected. This written nomination must be submitted to the Grand Secretary no later than February 1st of the election year so the written nomination information may be sent to the Chapters in March. Only the nominee's Name, Chapter, Chapter Number, City, and her/his qualifications for office are to be mentioned. This does not prevent a nomination to be made on the day of election of officers at Grand Chapter. The voting member, nominating the candidate, shall read the individual's qualifications for office if the nomination is made on the day of election of officers at Grand Chapter. If there is more than one nominee, the nominees shall be invited to the Grand East during Grand Chapter, and be introduced to the Grand Chapter by the presiding officer, but shall not speak. If there is only one nomination for each office, the presiding officer shall close the nominations and instruct the Grand Secretary to cast a ballot and record the office as being filled. No second is necessary. If there is more than one nomination for an office, election shall be by secret ballot. No elected Grand Officer may nominate a successor to her/his office. In case there are no nominations for the positions of Grand Secretary or Grand Treasurer, the Worthy Grand Matron-elect shall fill such vacancy by appointing a Past Grand Matron or Past Grand Patron until the next Grand Chapter Session. In the event that a Worthy Grand Matron appoints and installs a Grand Secretary or a Grand Treasurer to fill a vacancy in either of those offices, the person so appointed may seek election to that office for nine (9) consecutive years.
3. From the time a Sister's or Brother's nomination has been received and acknowledged by the Grand Secretary, an introduction as a candidate may be made. The candidate may then have the privilege of introducing herself/himself to the Worthy Matron and club presidents. Those officers will then be aware of a candidate's presence whenever a

candidate visits a Chapter or club. She/he may be introduced from the sideline, no remarks may be made by any candidate.

4. Speeches regarding her/his candidacy may not be made by the candidate, or anyone else on behalf of the candidate. There will be no distribution of printed material or postings on any type of social media concerning the candidate. This will be interpreted as electioneering. This includes flyers, business cards, personal websites or any other types of social media.
5. Failure to adhere to these guidelines will be reviewed by the Worthy Grand Matron and/or the Jurisprudence Committee. If a violation has been found, all chapters will be notified of the violation. This would be in accordance with Section 2:
ELECTIONEERING FOR OFFICE.

(b) **Grand Trustees:**

The Grand Trustees must be a Past Grand Matron, Past Grand Patron or **a member in good standing of any subordinate chapter of Wisconsin**. One or two of the three Grand Trustees must be either a Sister or a Brother and a Past Grand Matron or Past Grand Patron. They shall be elected for a term of three years, one of whom is elected at each annual session of the Grand Chapter. A Grand Trustee is not eligible to serve on the Finance, Ways and Means Committee.

1. A Grand Trustee holding a three-year elective term may be re-elected to only one additional consecutive term of three years.
2. In case of resignation or death of a Grand Trustee, the Worthy Grand Matron shall fill such vacancy by appointment of a Past Grand Matron or Past Grand Patron to serve until the next Grand Session when a Past Grand Matron or Past Grand Patron shall be elected to fill the unexpired term. A Grand Trustee so appointed shall be installed at a stated or special meeting in a Subordinate Chapter in Wisconsin.
 - a. If the vacancy occurs six months or less before the Grand Chapter Session, the Grand Trustee so appointed may be elected to serve two additional consecutive three year terms.

(c) The Officers shall be installed before the Grand Chapter is closed, unless an Open Installation is voted by the Grand Chapter. In the event of the unavoidable absence of such Officer or Officers, the Worthy Grand Matron may, at her discretion, install such Officer or Officers at a stated or special meeting in a Subordinate Chapter at a time and place convenient to both. Each Subordinate Chapter to this Grand Jurisdiction need not be notified prior to such Installation.

1. The Installation Ceremony is closed, unless determined by a vote of the Grand Chapter. If the Installation Ceremony is open to invited guests, the Ritualistic Closing of the Grand Chapter shall take place before the Open Installation Ceremony begins.
2. The rules and ceremony for the Installation of Officers shall be those prescribed by the General Grand Chapter, and none other.
3. No Grand Officer shall perform the duties of the office to which she or he has been selected or appointed until she or he has been installed.

Section 2.

ELECTIONEERING FOR OFFICE:

Electioneering for office in the Grand Chapter shall be a penal offense, and the penalty for such offense, on conviction after trial, shall be expulsion from all rights and privileges of the Order.

- (a) The term electioneering as used in the previous paragraph shall be understood as absolutely prohibiting the solicitation, oral or written, directly or indirectly, of support for or opposition to, any member as a possible officer of the Grand Chapter. It shall not be meant as preventing an honest and bona fide seeking or imparting, when requested, of information relative to the merit or qualifications for holding office in the Grand Chapter of any member of the Order. It shall not prohibit asking a member if she or he will serve this Grand Chapter if elected.

Section 5.

THE GRAND SECRETARY

The Grand Secretary shall keep a record of all transactions of the Grand Chapter; receive all money due the Grand Chapter and pay the same promptly to the Grand Treasurer, taking her/his receipt therefore; make a report in writing annually or more often, if required by the Worthy Grand Matron or Grand Chapter, of the amount of money received; obey the edicts and orders of the Worthy Grand Matron or Grand Chapter, and deliver all books, papers and other property belonging to the Grand Chapter in her or his possession to her or his successor in office.

- (a) The payroll, as prepared by the Grand Secretary, shall be referred to the Finance, Ways and Means Committee and be reported by them to the Grand Chapter.
- (b) All questions on Code shall be referred to the Worthy Grand Matron immediately.
- (c) The Grand Secretary cannot send out any material other than the regular business supplies without approval of the Worthy Grand Matron.
- (d) The Grand Secretary shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Finance, Ways and Means Committee and shall provide such information as needed by any committee of this Grand Chapter.
- (e) The Grand Secretary shall, unless otherwise ordered, publish the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter Session under the direction of the Junior Past Grand Matron. The Grand Secretary shall ensure that an electronic recording of the Grand Chapter Session be made of the entire Session and provide said electronic recording to the person(s) transcribing the Proceedings. Renumeration for transcribing and preparing the Proceedings for printing shall be in an amount established annually and brought forth as part of the proposed budget presented at the Grand Chapter Session and accepted by a majority vote of the voting members at the annual Grand Chapter Session.
 1. Copies shall be sent to the following:
 - a. Provide copies of Wisconsin's Proceedings to other Grand Jurisdictions by electronic media (CD or PDF file). A printed copy of the Proceedings may be sent to other Grand Jurisdictions if they so request.
 - b. One copy of the Annual Proceedings be provided by the Grand Chapter to each subordinate Chapter
 - c. Past Grand Matrons, Past Grand Patrons and Junior Past Matrons of subordinate Chapters may receive a printed copy or compact disc recording of the Proceedings if they so request it by July 1st of the current year.
 2. Additional copies may be purchased from the Grand Secretary.

Section 6.

THE GRAND TREASURER

The Grand Treasurer shall receive all money belonging to the Grand Chapter from the Grand Secretary and give her/his receipt therefore; shall keep an accurate record thereof; pay all warrant orders from the funds of the Grand Chapter, when signed by the Grand Secretary or the Worthy Grand Matron; submit at each annual Session or more often, if required, a detailed account of receipts and disbursements and present a statement of the current balances of all accounts of the Grand Chapter.

- (a) The Grand Treasurer shall, at the expiration of her/his term of office, account for and pay over to the Grand Trustees all money and property that has come into her/his hands, deliver to her/his successor all books, vouchers and papers and shall obey the edicts and orders of the Worthy Grand Matron and the Grand Chapter.
- (b) The Grand Treasurer shall deliver her/his books to the Grand Trustees or Finance Committee for examination and to the Auditor for audit.
- (c) Before any warrant order for payment of expenditures is presented to the Grand Treasurer for payment, the Grand Secretary shall attach an itemized statement. Warrant order when properly verified and signed shall be paid by the Grand Treasurer.

- (j) The Grand Trustees shall administer the Perpetual Membership Program of this Grand Chapter as outlined in Rules and Regulations for Subordinate Chapters; Title XIV HONORARY, LIFE, DUAL, AND PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIPS; Paragraph 39; Section 4. The Grand Trustees shall meet during the month of July to issue checks to the Subordinate Chapters for dues for Perpetual Members and to issue a check to the Grand Chapter General fund for per capita tax on living Perpetual Members.

Section 2. **REIMBURSEMENT**

The expenses of the Grand Trustees, while performing the duties of their office, shall be the same as other Grand Officers or Committees for mileage.

ARTICLE VIII
PLACE AND TIME OF ANNUAL SESSION

PARAGRAPH 9

Section 1. **ANNUAL SESSION, WHERE AND WHEN HELD**

The Annual Session of the Grand Chapter shall be held in a City in Wisconsin. The Session shall commence on the third Tuesday in May at an hour designated by the Worthy Grand Matron.

- (a) The Associate Grand Conductress elected in 2009, and thereafter, shall work with the Grand Trustees on the accommodations for her Grand Session. She will be responsible for forming her committees for Grand Session plus be in charge of all dinners and entertainment. This will assure that her Grand Session will proceed as she wishes.
- (b) Should an emergency arise as to date and place, the Worthy Grand Matron shall select same with the approval of the Grand Trustees.

Section 2. **SPECIAL SESSIONS**

Special Sessions may be ordered by the Worthy Grand Matron at such time and place, as in her opinion, the interests of the Order may require.

- (a) No business, except that specified in the call, shall be transacted at such special sessions.
- (b) Each Chapter in this Grand Jurisdiction shall be notified at least thirty days previous to the date of such session.

Section 3. **SPECIAL ANNUAL SESSION**

In the event of a National or State Emergency, Act of Congress, State of War, or epidemic of disease, the Worthy Grand Matron, with the advice of the Worthy Grand Patron and the Grand Trustees shall have the authority to call a Special Annual Session or cancel or postpone the Annual Session of Grand Chapter.

- (a) In the event a Special Annual Session is called and opened, it will be necessary to have at least: the WGM, WGP, AGM, AGP, Gr. Treasurer, Gr. Secretary, Gr. Cond, Assoc. Gr. Cond, Gr. Warder and Gr. Sentinel. In addition, one member from each of the following committees be in attendance: Grand Trustees, Jurisprudence, and Finance, Ways and Means. Properly registered members, which satisfies the requirement of representation from 51% of Subordinate Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter as of May 1st prior to the Special Annual Session, must also be present. A representative from other committees may attend if requested by the WGM. Members being nominated for an elected office must be present at the Special Annual Session. The number of individuals that attend, once the required quorum is met, may be limited depending on specific guidelines established at the State, City, or County level taking precedence over such emergencies aforementioned.

- (b) No new legislation may be presented or current laws amended.
- (c) Business shall be limited to budget and election of Grand Officers. The Grand Chapter budget shall be approved by a majority vote. Election by acclamation shall be allowed for elected Officers. A majority vote will be required if there is more than one candidate for an elected Office. Installation of Elected Officers shall take place following the close of the Special Session. Appointed Officers shall be installed at the same time if present.

ARTICLE IX
FISCAL YEAR

PARAGRAPH 10

Section 1.

THE FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of this Grand Chapter shall commence on the 1st day of July and end on the 30th day of June, and of the Subordinate Chapters, shall commence on the 1st day of July and end on the 30th day of June in each year.

THIS SPACE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

- b. **Turn Over Fees** – Prior to the annual session of the Grand Chapter, the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron shall turn over to the Grand Secretary all fees received by them for dispensations or otherwise and report in detail to the Grand Chapter.
- c. **Chapter Assessments** – A Chapter must levy assessments when necessary to meet any special assessment levied by Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE XIV
STANDING COMMITTEES AND DUTIES

PARAGRAPH 15

Section 1. The Standing Committees of this Grand Chapter shall be appointed by the incoming Worthy Grand Matron for the ensuing year, immediately after she is installed. The first named member shall be Chairman of the Committee. The number of members that shall constitute each of the several committees shall be as follows:

- (a) Appeals and Grievances, three members
- (b) Consolidation or Surrender of Charter, six members
- (c) Constitutional Amendments, three members
- (d) Finance, Ways and Means, composed of five (5) members: three (3) Past Grand Matrons, or Past Grand Patrons and two (2) Voting Members. Each year two (2) new members will be appointed one (1) Past Grand Matron or Past Grand Patron, and one (1) Voting Member at-large. The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer shall serve as ex-officio members of this committee. The Past Grand Matron or Past Grand patron serving in the third year of their three-year term on the Finance, Ways and Means committee will be designated the chairperson of the committee.
- (e) Fraternal Relations, one or two members
- (f) Jurisprudence, five members
- (g) Necrology, one member
- (h) Uniformed Proficiency Committee, four or five Past Grand Matrons, providing the fifth member is the Worthy Grand Matron going out of office, Worthy Grand Matron, Associate Grand Matron, Grand Conductress and Associate Grand Conductress.
- (i) Registration, eight members
- (j) Revision of Subordinate Chapter By-Laws, three members (one appointed each year)
- (k) Unfinished Business, three members
- (l) Service Dog Committee, two or three members. If there is a General Grand Chapter Service Dog Committee Member from the Jurisdiction of Wisconsin, she/he shall be designated as the Chairman of the Committee; otherwise a member in good standing appointed by the Worthy Grand Matron shall be designated as Chairman.

- (k) **Unfinished Business:**
1. To examine the Proceedings of the previous annual Session or Sessions.
 2. To report all matters pending and other unfinished business of which they may have knowledge.
- (l) **Service Dog Committee:**
1. Shall be responsible for fund-raising efforts in the name of the Grand Chapter to support the financial goals of the Committee. All monies collected shall be paid to the Grand Secretary for deposit in the designated Grand Chapter Charity account for Service Dogs.
 2. The Committee Chairman will discuss with the current Worthy Grand Matron the selection of a reputable organization or organizations that possesses either a current ADI (Assistance Dogs International) or IGDF (International Guide Dog Federation) accreditation or both. No organization will be awarded monetary funds if they do not possess these requirements.

ARTICLE XV
DISPENSATIONS FOR NEW CHAPTERS

PARAGRAPH 16
Section 1.

WORTHY GRAND PATRON MAY GRANT DISPENSATIONS:

During the recess of the Grand Chapter, the Worthy Grand Patron may grant dispensations to form and open new Chapters to twenty-five or more demitted members of the Order or those with Certificate of Membership (not Dual Members), three of whom shall be Master Masons in good standing. Such dispensations shall be attested by the Worthy Grand Matron and authenticated by her Seal.

- (a) **Procedure:**
1. A Petition for Dispensation and duplicate copy for a petition for dispensation for a new Chapter shall be secured from the Worthy Grand Patron.
 2. The Petition for Dispensation with twenty-five or more signatures shall be presented to the Worthy Grand Patron for verification and his official action and signature.
 3. The original Petition for Dispensation and the copy shall then be signed by the Worthy Grand Matron and authenticated by her Seal.
 4. The Worthy Grand Patron, having approved all the necessary requirements, will then issue a Letter of Dispensation to the new Chapter and file the copy in the Grand Chapter office.
 5. After the Letter of Dispensation has been presented to the new Chapter, two (2) copies of the Code of Laws of the Grand Chapter, one (1) Ritual, one (1) copy of the Red Book, four (4) copies of the Secret Work, blank Petitions for Degrees and Affiliation are sent without extra charge.