



# Star-Lite MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 2014

Volume 51, Issue 5

## IN THE GARDEN WITH THE WGM



Greetings to our Sisters and Brothers,

The fall season is about over and most of the leaves have fallen from the trees making way for the cold months of winter. Charlie and I have enjoyed the beauty of the fall as we have traveled over the state to the luncheons and inspections. Members of our beautiful Order have worked hard to make these meetings enjoyable for us. I thank each one for all the work and talents that have been shared.

November 2nd we celebrated Nettie Ransford Day. Our Sister Nettie was a visionary with great ideas for a Home and Orphanage. Thanks to my Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons of District 11 for the program and the work to make this day possible. A special thank you to Sister Mary Davis for the tribute and history of Sister Nettie. The Grand Choir out did themselves with the loving music and songs. Thanks to each of you, and especially Sister Ginny McCabe and Sister Rebecca Roland.

When you read this, all the Grand Officers receptions will be over and the District Deputies receptions will begin. Each one presided very well, I knew they would. Thanks to those that attended to make their day a special one. Please attend the Deputies reception, if possible. They are traveling very well. Give them your support. They are doing a great job in their Districts and Chapters. Momma B is proud of her Honey Bees.

At the inspections we are taking in a few new members, this is a welcome sight. Also, we have had several baby dedications. These little ones are precious, and our 50th year members share with us their experience over the 50 years they have been in Eastern Star and the changes they have seen.

As we begin the holiday season I wish for each one happy times and safe travels with family and friends.

On the day He was born  
No certificate was written ...  
..yet the angels did sing.  
No flowers were delivered  
For the birth of this King.  
But here in the stable  
On the first Christmas morn,  
The hope of all the world was born!



May all the Love of Christmas be yours. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our members.

Betty Swisher, Worthy Grand Matron



## GREETINGS FROM DISTRICT 20

Now that November is over, I trust everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is meant to share the day with family, having a wonderful meal and giving thanks for what God has done for us.

We are getting ready for Christmas with decorating the house inside and outside and remembering that the true meaning of Christmas is celebrating the birth of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ.

The last holiday for the year will be New Years. Sit back and relax for the day and watch the parade and some football.

My wish and prayer is that you have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. May God be with all my sisters and brothers.

We are starting the down side of our year and Grand Chapter will be upon us before we know it.

I want to extend a very heartfelt thank you to all our sisters and brothers for the gifts and love gifts. The most precious are the Honorary Memberships that you have bestowed upon Diane and me. We will always treasure these.



Sowing seeds of friendship and reaping bouquets of love,  
H. Fred Smith, Worthy Grand Patron

**Merry  
Christmas**



## **CAPS OFF IN DISTRICT 2**

A year of collecting bottle caps reaped the results recently when Eliz Lashley, Jr. Past Grand Master, traded a truck load of bottle caps for a bench! The bench is made from recycled plastic caps at Greentree Plastics in Evansville, Indiana.

Eliz's steering committee used recycling as one way to raise funds for her. Most of the recycling was

done at the Martin County Solid Waste Center, but the caps were saved for the bench which has been placed at the Indiana Masonic Home for the residents and visitors to enjoy.

Eliz received a wonderful surprise when she turned in the 2900 pounds of bottle caps. The manager of Greentree Plastics, whose father is a Master Mason in Evansville, is familiar with the IMH. He donated 2 handicapped picnic tables to IMH! This is an awesome donation as each table would have required 1100 lbs. of caps and \$600.00.

This was a great project as we recycled plastic to help our world and the bench and picnic tables will be enjoyed at the Masonic Home!



## **STELLAR STARS**

Stellar Stars is a great way to honor or remember an individual or a group for a full year. The costs of Stellar Stars are: \$10 - \$24 for 1 Star; \$25 - \$49 for 2 Stars; \$50 - \$74 for 3 Stars; \$75 - \$99 for 4 Stars; and \$100 and up for 5 Stars.

These will run for 1 year (10 issues) after we receive the request. The short information you want printed about the individual or group can be mailed to Pam Wrightsman along with a check payable to Indiana Grand Chapter, OES with the notation: Stellar Stars.

Please consider honoring or remembering those special Eastern Star people in your family, chapter or district with a Stellar Star for everyone to see and know that they are special to you.

## INSPECTION AT GREENWOOD

On Monday, October 13th, the official visit of Sister Betty Swisher, Worthy Grand Matron, was held at the Greenwood Masonic lodge. Earlier in the day the Worthy Grand Matron's luncheon had been held in Greenwood. Prior to the official visit a light supper was served in the dining room. The tables were decorated with small watering cans filled with colorful flowers.

The Opening was by the Union Village Chapter with Dorothy Havener, Worthy Matron and Mike Duncan, Worthy Patron of Nineveh. Betty Swisher, Worthy Grand Matron, and H. Fred Smith, Worthy Grand Patron, were presented at the altar for introduction. "Count Your Garden" poem was read to them. Soloist Charles Russell of Greenwood honored them with "Angels Among Us." They were then escorted to the East. Joyce Small, Grand Trustee and Past Grand Matron was also presented at the altar.

Elective Grand Officers present were Larry Frost, Associate Grand Patron, and Cindy Skura, Associate Grand Conductress. Appointive Grand Officers attending were: Lexi Johnson, Grand Adah; Sherrell Bryant, Grand Esther; Deb Cramer, Grand Martha; and Diana Surfus, Grand Electa. The following District Deputies were introduced: Janet Sweet, #2; Tammy Bedell, #3; Gleda Brooks, #5; Cheryl Tichenor, #12; Margaret Smith, #14; and "our own" Sandy Harris, #6. Nina Sayer, District Grand Matron of Louisiana, formerly of Indiana's District #6, was also introduced.

There were eight Grand Chapter Committee Appointments; Grand Representatives - Sue Midkiff, Alberta, Canada; and Linda Beeler, North Dakota; 3 Worthy Matrons - Nancy Baker of Ransford IMH, Mary Fox of Greenwood and Wanda Lillyblade of Fortville; 24 Past Matrons and Past Patrons; and Harry Cartwright, Rainbow Pop.

The spouses attending were: Charlie Swisher; Diana Smith; Gloria Jonas, Widow of Jerry Jonas Past Grand Patron; Lonnie Small; Nancy Frost; Ben Bedell; Jerry Brooks; and David Johnson.

The initiatory was under the direction of Mary Fox, Worthy Matron of Greenwood and Mike Duncan, Worthy Patron of Nineveh. Candidates were Carolyn Janik and Patsy McKee. The Closing was under the direction of Patsy McKee, Worthy Matron, and Mike Duncan, Worthy Patron, of Nineveh.

Remarks were made by the W.G.M. and the Grand Star Points exemplified their signs.

Refreshments were served in the dining room following the Closing.



## FRANKLIN CELEBRATES HALLOWEEN

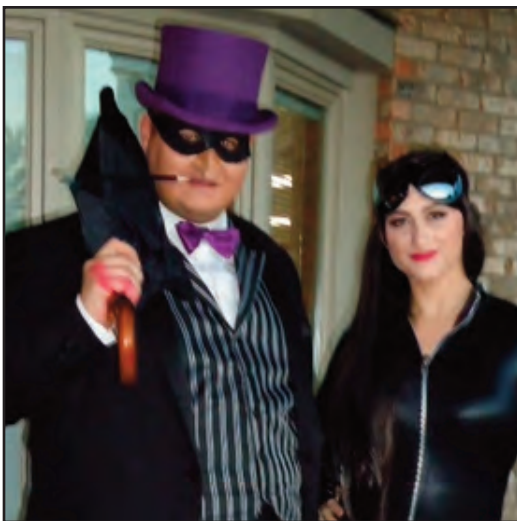
There is an old English proverb: “When the cat is away, the mice will play.” On October 8th Franklin Chapter had many who were “away.” So the rest did play.

At the stated meeting of Franklin for October, we often dress in Halloween costumes for a little fun. Our Worthy Patron David Johnson was in charge of the refreshments. He worked hard to provide Halloween goodies: Skull and Eyeball Punch with a large spider floating in each glass, Dirt Pudding with worms, Cleaver Cupcakes (adorned with a knife and a meat cleaver), and a Cheeseball which was adorned with a spider.

Guests for the evening were a Medieval wench, a pioneer woman, a witch, Raggedy Ann, and the Penguin and Cat Woman from the Batman series.

Our Worthy Matron Jonny Beeler was “away” in Oklahoma so Sandra Heath, Associate Matron, presided over the proceedings of the meeting. She read the poem “Little Orphan Annie” by James Whitcomb Riley to open our meeting. The following were introduced: Barbara Heath, Star-Lite Reporter for District 6; Linda Beeler, Grand Representative of North Dakota; Anna Burton, Grand Marshal for Job’s Daughters; John Haynes, Past Patron and Martha Duke, Past Matron of Nineveh; and Sheila Haag, Past Matron of Seymour.

Barbara Heath, D#6 Star-Lite Reporter



*Left: David Johnson as The Penguin and Jennifer Moray as Cat Woman*



*Right: Sandra Heath as Pioneer Woman and Sheila Haag as the Medieval wench*

## **FRIENDS' NIGHT AT LOIS CHAPTER**

On October 24, 2014, Lois Chapter #147 in Greensburg, Indiana, hosted its Friends' Night. Using a Halloween theme, members and guests were greeted by decorations featuring pumpkins, scarecrows and fall flowers. Jean Hoffman, WM of Lois Chapter, welcomed everyone with a poem, and the Lord's Prayer and Pledge to the American Flag were recited.

Introductions were made with special recognition given to the District Deputies #2, #7, and #4—Janet Sweet, Sue Hays and Wanda Gray. Gifts of plastic canvas magnets in the five OES colors featuring the OES letters made by the WM were given to everyone. There were drawings for door prizes and they were presented to Eunice Low and Jerry Barber. A parade around the chapter room of those who came in costumes took place. Prizes were presented to the best costumes which included a pirate, nurse, teacher, farmer and pumpkin.

After the program, those in attendance moved to the dining room for refreshments of sandwiches, cupcakes, chips, candy, cider, tea and coffee. After the refreshments, all enjoyed playing bingo for the rest of the evening. Many received gifts from the bingo games and returned to their homes with trick-or-treat bags filled with apples, popcorn balls and Rice Krispies treats.



## What Is My Secret Message?

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                O E
                G L
                T D G H
                E E N L
                A K N A R F
                S H A K E S
S  K  C  I  H  T  K  N  O  T  T  N  R  I  E  S  S  E  K  L  I  W
   T  Y  L  E  R  A  A  G  C  O  U  C  H  S  E  T  A  Y  A  H
   N  M  E  I  R  G  I  S  C  O  U  T  S  R  O  F  T  I
       O  H  L  N  O  S  R  E  K  A  B  E  O  S  E  T
           M  E  S  H  S  M  E  M  N  E  W  O  B  E
               Y  N  E  E  R  G  I  B  E  E  M  U
                   L  I  C  E  C  R  V  S  A  A  L  L  E  N
                       B  R  A  G  G  R  R  K  C  A  L  B  L  E
                           Y  E  W  E  D  E  C  O  A  T  H  S  L  L  I  M
                               F  I  P  S  O  V  E               R  E  B  E  W  K  L
                                   E  S  E  M  I  H  T           T  H  I  P  L  E  E
                                       T  T  A  I  H               S  N  O  Y  L
                                           R  E  D  S                   L  W  O  L
                                               N  R  A                       S  G  Y

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Find the LAST names in the puzzle. The numbers represent the district they are from.  
The extra letters spell out the answer to the title of this puzzle.

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\_\_\_\_\_

- |                   |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Tom ADAMS       | 6 Cynthia ESSIG   | 9 Belinda MONTS   |
| 3 Carol ALLEN     | 7 Angela FRANK    | 17 Dick MOORE     |
| 5 Gayle ANGLE     | 11 Shirley GREEN  | 10 Myrna OGDEN    |
| 6 Dee BAKER       | 16 Debra HIATT    | 8 David PETER     |
| 16 Alice BLACK    | 20 Robert HICKS   | 1 Ethel RIESS     |
| 21 Hannah BOWEN   | 13 Bob HIMES      | 11 Judy RILEY     |
| 13 Ruby BRAGG     | 18 Regina HIPLE   | 7 Tamara SHAKE    |
| 5 Patricia BUELL  | 12 Darlene HODGE  | 15 Carolyn SWOPE  |
| 19 Donna CECIL    | 20 Diane HOGAN    | 17 Sharon TYLER   |
| 15 Tom COATH      | 18 Marilyn KARNES | 4 Dorothy WEBER   |
| 14 Jane COUCH     | 10 Ann KELLY      | 2 Marsha WELLS    |
| 2 Tina COUTS      | 4 Ollie KNOTT     | 12 Marjorie WHITE |
| 14 Margaret DEWEY | 8 Beverly LYONS   | 19 Paula WILKE    |
| 9 Ed ERVIN        | 3 Thomas MILLS    | 21 Misty YATES    |

## FACTS ABOUT CHRISTMAS

“Silent Night” was first sung as part of a church service in Austria. A guitar was used because the church organ was so badly rusted it couldn’t be played.

In Germany there are many different characters for Christmas. Nikolaus comes on December 5th and on December 24th when the actual opening of the gifts is happening, they have been brought either by Knecht Ruprecht, Weihnachtsmann, or the Christkindl, (Christ child) which is an angelic child dressed in a white and or golden dress much like a long nightgown. It has wings, and has usually a small horse or a donkey as a companion.

In Germany and some other western European countries, St. Nicholas , or Nikolaus comes on the night from the 5th to the 6th of Decemer, where children have their boots all shined and clean in front of a door or window. He will leave toys, nuts oranges, apples and chocolate for the good children. The bad child gets a branch to be used by the parents to punish the child.

Guatemalan adults do not exchange Christmas gifts until New Year’s Day. Children get theirs (from the Christ Child) on Christmas morning.

In North America, children put stockings out at Christmas time. Their Dutch counterparts use shoes.

The poinsettia, a traditional Christmas flower, originally grew in Mexico, where it is also known as the ‘Flower of the Holy Night’. Joel Poinsett first brought it to America in 1829.

When visiting Finland, Santa leaves his sleigh behind and rides on a goat named Ukko. Finnish folklore has it that Ukko is made of straw, but is strong enough to carry Santa Claus anyway.

When distributing gifts in Holland, St. Nicholas is accompanied his servant, Black, who is responsible for actually dropping the presents down their recipients’ chimneys. He also punishes bad children by putting them in a bag and carrying them away to Spain.

The day after Christmas, December 26, is known as Boxing Day. It is also the holy day of St. Stephen.

Franklin Pierce was the first president to decorate an official White House Christmas tree.



One town in Indiana is called Santa Claus. There is also a Santa, Idaho.

In Syria, Christmas gifts are distributed by one of the Wise Men's camels. The gift-giving camel is said to have been the smallest one in the Wise Men's caravan.

The popular Christmas song "Jingle Bells" was actually written for Thanksgiving. The song was composed in 1857 by James Pierpont, and was originally called "One Horse Open Sleigh".

There are 364 gifts mentioned in "The Twelve Days of Christmas".

The Puritans forbade the singing of Christmas carols.

George Frederick Handel's great Christmas oratorio, "The Messiah", was first performed in 1742, in Dublin.

America's official national Christmas tree is located in King's Canyon National Park in California. The tree, a giant sequoia called the "General Grant Tree", is over 90 meters (300 feet) high, and was made the official Christmas tree in 1925.

The first Christmas was celebrated on December 25, AD 336 in Rome.

Artificial Christmas trees have outsold real ones since 1991.

St. Nicholas was bishop of the Turkish town of Myra in the early 4th century. The Dutch first made him into a Christmas gift-giver, and Dutch settlers brought him to America where his name eventually became the familiar Santa Claus.

Christmas has different meanings around the world; Christmas Eve in Japan is a good day to eat fried chicken and strawberry shortcake.

Alabama was the first state to recognize Christmas as an official holiday, and the tradition began in 1836.

Many of the traditions associated with Christmas (giving gifts, lighting a Yule log, singing carols, decorating an evergreen) date back to older religions.

Michigan has no official state song, but one, 'Michigan, My Michigan,' is frequently used. The words were written in 1863, and the melody used is that of the Christmas song "O Tannenbaum".

## Check your Calendars

### WGM OFFICIAL CALENDAR

Dec 6 DD#15 Reception  
 Dec 13 DD#20 Reception  
 Feb 8 Valentine Tea IMH  
 Mar 21 Worthy Grand Warder Reception

### INSPECTIONS

Baby Dedication 7:10 pm,  
 Award of Gold 7:20 pm  
 Inspection 7:30 pm Unless otherwise noted

Dec 2 D#17 Luncheon  
 Dec 4 D#16 Luncheon  
 Dec 8 D#14 at Churubusco w/ Columbia  
 City, Leo & Floral Luncheon  
 Dec 10 D#10 at Fishers w/ Cicero & Radiant  
 Feb 24 D#13  
 Feb 26 D#11 at Millersville w/ Beech Grove,  
 Keystone & Lynhurst

### RECEPTIONS

Dec 6 Stacy Miller, DD#15  
 Dec 13 Patsy Kuhn, DD#20  
 Jan 10 Thelma Coy  
 Grand Representative of Arkansas  
 at Lebanon Chapter  
 Feb 21 Betty Poff, DD#8  
 Feb 21 Tulie Ann Jadzak, DD#9  
 Feb 28 Sandy Harris, DD#6  
 Feb 28 Tiffany Ingles, DD#10

### FRIEND'S NIGHTS

Meetings at 7:30 unless noted  
 Dec 11 D#11 Acton  
 Jan 17 D#3 Blazing Bright  
 Feb 6 D#2 Hanover 6:30 pm  
 Feb 14 D#20 Bristol 10:00 am  
 Feb 21 D#11 Oakland  
 Feb 27 D#3 Old Capitol 6:30 pm

### GRAND STAR POINT HONOR NIGHT

Dec 19 D#18 Royal Center  
 Dec 23 D#5  
 Feb 20 D#10

*If you don't see all the information that you need,  
 please contact your District Deputy or  
 Nancy Pratt, Editor.*

*Please be aware that on occasion a date and/or  
 location will be changed and it will be too late  
 to make the correction in the magazine.  
 Thank you for your understanding.*



## *We Need Your News!*

Help keep Star-Lite interesting! Submit your news so all can see what you are doing. Check deadline dates if you want your news in a certain issue, especially items for the calendar. Please limit articles to 500 words. There is no charge to print pictures and more than one per article is permitted. Please remember to identify everyone in the pictures.

To submit articles through the web page Click on ROSTER, scroll down to Star-Lite Magazine, click on Nancy Pratt, fill in the required information, type in a short message and click SEND. I will receive your message and respond so you can then submit your articles and pictures directly to me.

*Send articles, photos and return envelope to:*

Nancy Pratt, Editor  
3597 N. Old U.S. 31  
Rochester, IN 46975-8312  
starliteeditor@comcast.net

Copy deadlines:

March - January 15  
April - February 15

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**ADVERTISEMENTS** are for any business, individual, chapter, district, etc., that would like to place an ad in Star-Lite. This can be used for fund-raisers by steering committees for Grand Officers. If a profit is to be made on an event, then it is advertising.

**COPY DEADLINE** is the same as any article submitted for publication.

**COST:** \$10.00 per ad per issue for 1/12 page or \$75.00 per year (10 issues)

#### *Larger Ads*

1/6 page	\$20.00	1/3 page	\$40.00
1/4 page	\$30.00	1/2 page	\$60.00
		Full page	\$100.00

**SUBMISSION:** All items should be camera-ready. Please make checks payable to IN Grand Chapter

**Send copy and payment to:**  
**Amy Ogrentz**

See our new Website:  
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DETAILS.**

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