# Star - Lite Magazine



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Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

When I was first told how fast this year would go, I couldn't imagine this year flying by so fast. But it did! I'm not sad that our year will be over, well maybe a little, but I'm so happy we have gone through this journey with so much joy and happiness. My heart is filled with so many memories (too many to mention) and I have felt the LOVE from each of you over the years, especially this year. I have enjoyed every step of this journey and meeting each of our members.

We have made it through December and January and most of February without much of that white fluffy stuff called SNOW. Every day when I checked our calendar to see where we would be going, I would say a prayer to get me to my destination, especially when I had to travel without George. And so far, those prayers have been answered. I BELIEVE in the power of prayer!!

By now most of the Pretty Penguins receptions are almost over, just a few left, and the Grand Star Point Honor Nights/Mornings are in full swing. I hope you will try to make it to see our Grand Star Points when they are in your districts and give them some of your moral support and listen to their stories. They are all just beautiful ladies with beautiful hearts and LOVE our Order.

In May we will be on board the buses (hopefully 2) to Branson, MO to see some shows and have some fun, shopping, visiting and enjoying each other as we always do. I have never been to Branson and I am so excited to get this opportunity to go on our WGM trip together. I BELIEVE we will have a great time.

Our Grand Session will be here before we know it and I hope to see you all there with LOVE and support with all the events scheduled for the weekend. It takes us all to have a Great Grand Chapter Session.

We are winding up the last inspections, some have Luncheons and the addenda, but these are the fun times and I am blessed to have been in each of your districts, sharing our DREAMS and LOVE to everyone. My DREAM was to make a difference in the lives of our members and in doing this, was to show LOVE to each of you, our members, no matter what the circumstances. We have had a few challenges thrown at us, but it didn't change the way I feel about our members. I BELIEVE and take the Obligation of the Order serious. And no matter what I LOVE you all.

This is my last article for Star-lite. I hope you have enjoyed having it back on hard copy as much as I have. This was a DREAM I hoped would happen, and it came true. So see - DREAMS can come true, If You Just BELIEVE!!

Each one of you is my Golden Chain of Friendship, you are the links and each of you are rare and precious to me. We have been clasp together with LOVE and many happy memories, which these are all a priceless gift I will treasure and cherish forever. Knowing each of you has been a blessing. God put us all together for a reason. I will leave you with this:

To accomplish great things, we must not only ACT, but also DREAM, not only plan, but also BELIEVE.

Thank you! Go In Peace

Tina Vredenburgh

Worthy Grand Matron





As I sit here and write my last article of the Star-Lite, I am reminded of Carol Burnett and the song she always closed with. The words are as follows:

I'm so glad we had this time together, Just to have a laugh, or sing a song. Seems we just got started and before you know it Comes the time we have to say, 'So long.'

There's a time you put aside for dreamin', And a time for things you have to do.
The time I love the best is in the evening I can spend a moment here with you.

When the time comes that I'm feelin lonely, And I'm feelin' ohooooo - so blue, I just sit back and think of you, only, And the happiness still comes through.

I really can't believe this year is coming to a close. It has been an amazing experienceone that I will always cherish and never forget. I have enjoyed traveling all around Indiana and talking with my Eastern Star Sisters and Brothers. This is an amazing organization based on those beautiful stories from of the heroines of our Order taken from the Holy Bible. I think I have enjoyed it so much because it was something that Nancy and I could experience together. We have made so many friends-good friends who will always be there if we need them. There are many who are no longer with us, but have impacted my life and I am glad to have known them and learned so much from them

There was a time when I wasn't sure if I would have the chance to enjoy this special year. After I was diagnosed with Cancer, my spirits were sometimes very low. That is when an Eastern Star friend would call and ask how I was doing or I would receive many special get-well cards, and I felt the prayers that were said for me. I will never be able to repay everyone for that.

As we prepare for our Grand Chapter session, I ask for your love and understanding once more. I pray that all goes well and everyone has a great time at our session.

Thanks to all of you who have supported our projects with contributions. Remember, it is not too late to make a contribution. Mail your checks to Jonny Beeler, Grand Secretary; 890 Red Skelton Circle, Franklin, 46131, and make sure to note which project you are contributing to. I will share with you that the Dare to Dream Grand Family, in lieu of a Christmas gift exchange, decided to contribute to the Northern Indiana Service Dog Association to help a young boy, Alex, receive his dream of a special service dog, "Harper." I am proud and pleased that in the name of the Grand Family, we mailed a check for \$525.00 to support this endeavor. Eastern Star members are generous in their support of worthy causes. I do hope that many of you will join us on our Branson trip in May. It will be a great trip and if you have never seen a "Sight and Sound" theater show, you are in for a special treat. The deadline has passed, but if you are interested in traveling with us, call Mike Roach (812-617-2579) to check on a seat.

At this time, I couldn't begin to thank everyone who has played a part in this special year. I will try to address that in my Grand Chapter report. Most of all I thank God for allowing me to survive my illness and giving me this time to share with each and every one of you. I also thank Nancy for her love and support. Without this, I could have never attempted to fill this honored position. As always, I leave you with a quote from my favorite former President.

To His care commending you, as I hope in your prayers you will commend me, I bid you an affectionate farewell.

Abraham Lincoln--February 11, 1861 Farewell Address

Larry Frost, WGP



## Grand Adah - Wanda Gray

I am Wanda Gray from Seymour Chapter in District 4 humbly serving as your Grand Adah for the Dare to Dream Grand Family this year.

I was born the second of three siblings in Kingsport, Tennessee to the late Silas and Stella Phipps. My older sister Wilma is deceased and my younger brother Thomas resides in Virginia with his wife Donnie. I have a younger half sister, Irene, who also lives in Virginia with her husband Terry.

I moved to Indiana in 1960 and graduated from Seymour High School in 1964. After graduating I went to work in the Payroll Department of the local shirt factory where I worked for 23 years until it closed in 1987. After this, I worked in the accounting offices of a machine shop and two office supply stores until I retired in 2006.



It was at the shirt factory that I was introduced to Denver Gray who worked in the shipping department at the time. He worked there for a few months before going to Reliance Electric. He will now tell you that he worked there just long enough to get himself in trouble for the rest of his life. We were married 2/26/66 and recently celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This union blessed us with two sons, Denver and Kenneth. These two sons have blessed us with eight grandchildren, four boys and four girls. These 8 grandchildren are definitely the lights of our lives.

I stay busy with volunteer work, not only with Eastern Star cooking for our Masons, but with my church, Central Christian Church where I have served on the Board, the Church in Community Committee, the Worship Committee, cook for our Wednesday program, funeral dinners and our women's group. I also volunteer at two local nursing homes, the clothing center, deliver Meals on Wheels and served on the Board of our local food pantry. I was appointed Grand Helper for Rainbow and I serve on the Advisory Board for our Seymour Assembly as Secretary.

After retirement I joined Eastern Star with my husband Denver. I have served as Adah, Ruth, Martha, Electa, Associate Conductress, Conductress, Associate Matron and Worthy Matron in 2011-12 with Denver serving with me in the East and the West.

On Masonic Home Day in 2013, I was approached by Sister Betty Swisher, who asked me to be her District Deputy for the S & S Bouquet of Love Grand Family. In October 2014, Momma Tina and Poppa George and Poppa Larry and Momma Nancy visited us and handed me a card inviting me to be their Blue Ray for the Dare to Dream Grand Family. It has been my pleasure to serve both of these Grand Families representing our beautiful Eastern Star organization across the state. Serving as your Grand Adah has been a wonderful experience bonding with my Star Point Sisters and sharing our beautiful ritualistic work with others, meeting new people and forming new friendships.

May God always bless you and our Beautiful Order.

In Star Love and Friendship,

Wanda J. Gray, Grand Adah

## **Grand Ruth - Alice Rogers**

I am very pleased and honored to have served as Grand Ruth this year. I want to thank Sister Tina and Brother George for allowing me to serve in the "Dare to Dream" Grand Family.

I grew up in Elberfeld, Indiana with my parents Herbert and Alice Kuhlenschmidt. I was 26 months old when I met my father. Only two weeks after I was born he was wounded fighting in the Solomon Islands. He spent the rest of World War II at a military hospital in New Zealand. I am the oldest of 6 children, 5 girls and 1 boy. My parents and one sister live in our hearts, but the rest of us remain very close thanks to our cell phones, email. After graduating Elberfeld High School in 1961, I studied nursing at Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing in Evansville for over 2 years. Then I married Jim and in 1970 graduated the Community Hospital School of Nursing in Springfield, Ohio. After moving to Madison I worked for 14 years at Madison Nursing Home, 6 years as Director of Nursing and 8 years as the Nursing Home Administrator. I then worked from 1986 until I retired in 2008 as a psychiatric nurse at Madison State Hospital.

Jim and I have been married 52 years. We are members of First Baptist Church. We have three daughters. Our oldest daughter, Sierra, and her husband Mark live in downtown Madison. Sierra is a Registered Dietician and the Director of Nutrition Services at Kings Daughters Hospital in Madison. Our middle daughter, Shirley, and her son Derek live only a few blocks from us. Shirley is also a Registered Dietician and teaches Culinary Arts at the Southeastern Career Center in Versailles. Derek will graduate from ISU on May 7, 2016 with a degree in Industrial Technology with a teaching certification. Our youngest daughter, Shonica, and her husband Mark live next door with their two children, Veronica and Mason. Shonica teaches 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Pope John Elementary School. Veronica and Mason attend Madison Consolidated High School. In June, Veronica will graduate and Mason will complete his sophomore year. I admit to being a proud and doting grandmother.

Eastern Star was not my first fraternal love affair. I have served Psi Iota Xi, a philanthropic sorority as Indiana President and as a member of the National Council. Jim and I joined Madison Chapter, OES in 1979. I served Madison as WM 9 times. In 2009 Madison Chapter consolidated with Hanover Chapter where I have served twice as WM. Jim has served in the East with me each time. In 2012, I was appointed Grand Representative of Oregon in Indiana by Sister Deby Thomas and Brother Rob Maines. In 2013, I served as Grand Page for Sister Sonda Schapson and Brother Cary Hetrick. In 2013-2014, I served as "Ray of Sunshine #3" with my "Suncatcher" Jim for Sister Elizabeth Lashley and Brother Darrell Arthur.

I have enjoyed all of my years in Eastern Star. It has been so great to share the extra love and fellowship with my Star Point Sisters and Brother Robert. It has been very rewarding to have met so many Star members all over the state who have welcomed me so graciously. What a Blessing!

I will share with you this thought: "The bigger you dream, the higher you go."

In Sisterly love,

Alice Rogers, Grand Ruth

## **Grand Esther - Jennifer Nicholson**

I am Jennifer Nicholson from Center Chapter in District 15. I believe God sets each person on a journey to grow closer to others and to Him.

My journey began on May 24, 1969 in Fort Wayne, Indiana when I was born to the late Leonard "Bud" and Holly Woods and older brother Tim and sister Barb. We grew up a very close family and I have many happy memories. At age 11, I was initiated into Bethel 8, Job's Daughters on my dad's Masonic affiliation. I held many floor offices and was elected through the line to be Honored Queen. I then joined Grand Bethel and held multiple state offices.

When I was 18, I was initiated into Shiloh Chapter in
District 14. My father gave me the obligation while my
mother and sister were Star Points. It was a very special time.
However, I was unable to be active as I was attending Ball State
University to receive a degree in Elementary Education. I began my career in the
Eastern Howard School Corporation and am in my 26<sup>th</sup> year.

While living in Greentown, I began serving at Jerome Christian Church in worship, women's, and youth ministry. I was also part of a small group Bible study and met Robert Nicholson, who I would later find was the love of my life. Bob and I had our first date chaperoning the senior prom! We dated and were married that December. With Bob came two children Michelle and Todd. Combined they have eight children and this Grandma loves and is proud of every single one!

With Bob's encouragement, I returned to Eastern Star. I found a home at Center Chapter whom I love. They, as well as District 15, have supported me through the deaths of my parents as well as my husband who passed of pancreatic cancer. Bob's death inspired me to work in the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCan) advocating for research, education, and awareness.

I have served in multiple Star Points and all the line offices at Center Chapter. While I was Worthy Matron I was approached by Sister Deby Thomas and Brother Rob Maines (from District 15) to be their Timekeeper 15 in the Moments of Freedom in Time Grand family. It was a very special year as my mom served as Grand Esther. Following, I returned to Center serving on the floor and again through the line to Worthy Matron. Currently I serve as Esther.

Sister Tina Vredenburgh and Brother George, along with Brother Larry Frost and Sister Nancy visited my home following the reception of Sister Betty Swisher and Brother H. Fred Smith. Inside a box of school supplies was a card asking me to represent the White Ray for their Dare to Dream Grand Family and the State of Indiana. After much prayer and support from family, I agreed. I am humbled and blessed to serve as Grand Esther. I have learned much and met many. I will always cherish this part of my journey.

Jennifer Nicholson, Grand Esther

## Grand Martha - Sheryl Lentz

I am Sheryl Lentz from the Stanford Chapter in District 7. I am very honored and proud to be serving as Grand Martha this year. I was born in Vincennes, IN to the late Billy Joe and Virginia Benedict. When I was two years old we moved to Monroe County, just a few miles southwest of Bloomington. I have one younger sister, Tracy. After I graduated from Bloomington High School North I accepted a position at Indiana University and have worked there for almost 38 years. My husband, Cliff and I have been married for 36 years. We have two children, Michael and Mandy and two precious grandsons, Takoma, 12 and Drake 3.

My father became a Mason when I was 12 and on his affiliation I was I was initiated into Bloomington Job's Daughters Bethel 22. I held several Messenger stations as well as Librarian and Chaplain. In 1977 my parents, with the support of the members of the Stanford Masonic Lodge and Easter Star, instituted Stanford Bethel 132. Although that Bethel is closed I am still proud that I was able to be a Charter member and was installed as their first Honored Queen.

On my 18<sup>th</sup> birthday my mother handed me a petition and I was initiated into Stanford Chapter #533. Cliff became a Mason and Member of Stanford Chapter shortly after we were married. I served as Adah and Ruth before being elected to Associate Conductress in 1983. Cliff and I served as WM/WP for the first time in 1986. I have also held the stations of Esther, Electa and this year is the first time I held the station of Martha. I have served as WM a total of four times. In 2012-13 I served as Beach Bunny #7 for Sister Sonda Schapson and Brother Cary Hetrick in the Paradise of Faith Grand Family.

My pin is in the shape of a triangle; the shape of the Job's Daughters emblem. On a green background at the top is a gold cross, representing Faith, Hope and Eternal Life. In the center is Martha's emblem-the broken column and on the column is the number 7 which represents my District #7. A palm tree in the bottom right corner represents my Paradise of Faith Grand Family; and on the bottom left is a cardinal with my parents' initials V. and B. After Cliff's parents passed away we moved into the home where he grew up. Cliff continues a tradition from his late father of having bird feeders in our yard. Some days we have 20-30 cardinals in our backyard and surrounding trees. I once read that 'If you have cardinals visit your yard, you have visitors from heaven'. I believe that these beautiful creatures represent our friends and loved ones that have gone before us and are waiting to welcome us to our eternal home.

I am excited to be serving in the Dare to Dream Grand Family this year. In my travels I have met new Brothers and Sisters and have been reacquainted with those I met while serving as Deputy. I know these will be friendships for a lifetime.

Sheryl Lentz, Grand Martha

## Grand Electa - Phyllis Gaff

Greetings everyone! My name is Phyllis Gaff and I am truly honored to be here in service to and for you. When I accepted to serve the Red Ray of our Central Star I also recognized and looked forward to a year of service, love and friendship with the Star members of our state. To Sister Tina and Brother Larry, I say a special "Thank you!"

A bit about myself, I was born on a farm east of Ashley, a small town forty miles north of Fort Wayne. Sometime later my parents, Harold and Mable Rowe, purchased a farm west of Ashley where I attended school and grew into young adulthood. I graduated from Salem Center High School where I was active in many of the school sponsored activities. I was a 9 year 4H club member, twirler for the school band, member of pep-club, speech club and the "Reflector", the school annual. Soon after graduation in 1956, I took a job in our family business in Kendallville and not long after that was introduced to the Eastern Star.

On that note, I found a home and have been a member of the Ashley Chapter in District 21 since June of 1960, as well as a plural member with Spencerville Chapter. I have served the Ashley Chapter as Worthy Matron eight times, Junior Past Matron of Spencerville and I have served as Secretary of the Ashley Chapter since 2001. I first served as Worthy Matron in 1965, when Sallie Turner was Worthy Grand Matron and Brother Clayton Herrick was Worthy Grand Patron. In 1976 I was honored to serve as District Deputy for the Wood-B Grand Family for Sally Woodward and the late Robert Olson. In 1994 I was appointed Grand Representative of Scotland by Virgia Hendrick and our own Mark Ridenour. In 2010 I was asked to be District Deputy for the Shining Stars of Friendship and Faith Grand Family with Kathy Livings, Bill Shoulders and Dick, my husband as Star Keeper.

Dick and I remain very active in our local Eastern Star Chapter as well as a number of other community sponsored activities. We are both members of the Hamilton United Methodist Church where Dick serves on Pastor Parrish, Trustee and Finance committees. I serve on Matthew Meal Committee where we serve meals to shut-ins and also serve in the Dining room at church twice a month. We find this very rewarding and very important to our church and community. We are also members of the Hamilton Fish and Game Club that sponsors Easter, Halloween and Christmas parties for the community children. I am the Vice-President of the Hamilton Extension Home Makers Club. Dick and I both love to travel and have been in all 50 of the United States, with the exception of Alaska.

In closing, Sisters and Brothers, what an honor and privilege it is to belong to this Beautiful Order, whose greatest teaching is "Love one another."

Acts of Love and Kindness never die, but in the lives of others, multiply.

Phyllis Gaff, Grand Electa

## 75 - Year Awards

It wasn't a big event and the weather was nasty, but the setting was warm and inviting.

Mary Silvers was initiated March 17, 1941 and served as Worthy Matron 1946-47. She received her proficiency certificate in 1954. Mary was a faithful sideliner and pro-tem and she sent the cards for the chapter for many years. Her son William Silvers and her daughter Caroline Blake, also a member and Past Matron of our chapter, attended as did several chapter members. After the WGM conducted the ceremony refreshments were served. The chapter presented Mary with a bouquet of carnations. She is 98 years young!





Eastern Star members from Remington Chapter #169, family members and friends of Lucille Wingard gathered for the presentation of her 75 year membership pin. Sister Barbara Terry, Grand Treasurer and PGM, presided over the ceremony. Lucille joined Wolcott Chapter #171 in January 1940. She became a member of Remington Chapter when Wolcott Chapter affiliated with them in 2004. Lucille was pinned by her daughter, Marsha Kuebler. A bouquet of red roses was presented to her from the chapter. Refreshments were then served.

Marge Speitel of Royal Center Chapter #375 was honored before their November 19<sup>th</sup> Inspection with a presentation of her 75 - year pin. Her son Ray and his wife attended so he could pin her with her very special award. Marge was appointed Grand Representative of New Hampshire in 1981, Grand Warder in 1988 – 1989 and District Deputy #18 in 2009-2010. She was a member and chapter Secretary for many years at Walton Chapter before consolidating with Royal Center Chapter in 2007. She is still a very active member and holds the office of Adah at the present time. Pictured are Tina Vredenburgh, WGM, with Marge and son Ray and his wife Renee who is hidden, along with Larry Frost, WGP.





Saturday,

November 14, 2015, was a perfect day for the reception honoring the Grand Sentinel, Robert DeRolf. It was held at the Englewood Masonic Lodge in District #11 by Englewood Chapter #483.

The chapter room, foyer and dining room were all decorated with bird houses and robins. There was a whole lot of chirping going on! Refreshments were enjoyed during social time of cheese balls, strawberry cheese mix, M&Ms, nuts, tea and lemonade.

Pictures were taken in the West in front of a beautiful fall backdrop designed by Shirley Collins and Bonnie Allinder, PGM. Doris Bedell, PM of Fairland Chapter was the photographer, while all enjoyed the music prelude played by Peggi Barassi of Oakland Chapter.

The program started by a welcome from WM Tammy Borden and followed by the invocation by Bonnie Allinder, PGM. Bob was presented at the altar by the Conductress where Jenny Walton, PM of Oakland Chapter, and Sue Miller, PM of Irvington Chapter, sang their own version of "Red, Red Robin Goes Bob, Bob, Bob-in Along". Bob was then escorted to the East dressed as a mechanic with his wife, Melody, dressed as his nurse. This was narrated by Terri Barber, PM of North

## Rockin' Robin Reception

Vernon Chapter. Those forming the escort line were the Angelic Lights Grand Family and the Bearly Angels, PMs & PPs.

Jenny Dixon, PGM, and Howard Willis, PGP, delivered the tribute and presented Bob with a great outdoor birdhouse. Bob then introduced Tina Vredenburgh, WGM, and Larry Frost, WGP, who presented him with a wonderful cherry wood engraved mantle clock.

Bob introduced those assisting him as: Tammy Borden, WM; Bill Pike, PP; Linda Buchanan, Conductress; and Carleton Hinshaw, PGO, Organist. Past Grand Matrons, Past Grand Patrons and spouses were introduced along with the Dare to Dream Grand Family, the District Deputies aka Pretty Penguins, and their spouses and escorts. Each group was followed by Robin trivia. Bob asked his family to stand for introductions. All other introductions were made from the floor. Also recognized were the Angelic Lights Grand Family, Englewood Chapter Englewood Masonic Lodge brothers, the 11th District and his Bob-in Along steering committee.

Entertainment was presented with the help of Mary Hutson, PM of Lynhurst Chapter. A CD was played of the song "Rockin Robin" while special dancers, H. Fred Smith, Jr.PGP, and his wife Diane and Patricia Crask, JrPD#11 and her husband Mitch, did the jitterbug. Both sets of dancers were awesome! After the dancing, Mary Hutson went on with the trivia about 50's dancing and the story of the singer Bobby Day.

Bob thanked all that helped in making his reception come together. Bob left everyone with a thought: Robins return every year to the same place to build their nest for life. Eastern Star friends are special friends for life.

The benediction was given by LeVon Holmes, PGM, and the table grace by Howard Willis, PGP. Dinner instructions were by Bill Pike, PP. Everyone enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by Englewood OES and Englewood Masons. Bird nests with robin eggs (chocolate malt balls) were table favors.

### Connie's Heartfelt Appreciation

*Thank you*, Sisters and Brothers, for your flood of fraternal love and support in the aftermath of our loss of my beloved Bob. Your phone calls, emails, cards and notes, red velvet cake, attendance at his visitation and funeral, flowers, gifts and memorial love gifts—everything! along with God's grace, lifted me up and gave me the courage to face his internment on January 6<sup>th</sup> with many smiles and only a few tears and happiness instead of loss in my heart.

You know how Bob always teased me that I "could cry over a good steak!" Many of you also know the devastation of losing one's spouse. However, your outpouring of love helped me avoid falling apart during his loss, preparations of arrangements and his burial. For all of these things, to each of you, I am eternally and fraternally grateful.

Wrapping you in huge Irish hugs, on Wings of Faith, Connie Branigan, Widow of the Past Grand Patron Robert L. Branigan

### Award of Gold

When Sister Edna Jackson, PD and widow of Brother Harry Jackson, PGP, received her 50-year pin, several members of Remington, Monticello and Fort Wayne Chapters were present to see it. Sister Barbara Terry, Grand Treasurer and PGM, conducted the ceremony. Sister Edna's daughter, Terri Solomon, pinned her mother's pin on her.

Sister Edna and Brother Harry were initiated into Wolcott Chapter #171 in 1965. They became members

of Remington Chapter #169 when Wolcott affiliated with Remington. Everyone enjoyed visiting with Sister Edna and eating the refreshments Terri provided for the afternoon.



## **Jennifer's Gifts**



George and Tina Vredenburgh, WGM; Jennifer Pelter; WGP Larry and Nancy Frost

Trinity Chapter #576 hosted a Reception for Sister Jennifer J. Pelter, District Deputy #14 on January 30, 2016 at come2go ministries in Fort Wayne, IN.

Sister Jennifer chose to give a monetary gift on behalf of the Order of the Eastern Star of Indiana to the Shepherd's House in Fort Wayne, in lieu of gifts and table favors. A short video was shown explaining the Shepherd's House program for homeless Veterans. Sister Jennifer explained that there was an envelope on each of the dinner tables, encouraging everyone to donate on behalf of the Order. Through the generosity of the attendees, \$507.00 was donated to this worthy cause. Go to www.shepherdshouse.org/ to learn more about Shepherd's House.

Sister Jennifer extends her thanks to her Trinity Chapter and all those that attended and assisted with all the preparations for the wonderful Reception.



## **Grand Representatives**



On January 30, 2016, Sister Shirley Crispen of Columbia City Chapter #65 was surprised with a Grand Representative of North Carolina appointment. Presented by Sister Tina Vredenburgh, WGM, and Brother Larry Frost, WGP, in Fort Wayne, IN.

Shirley is a Past Matron of Floral Chapter #75 which consolidated with Columbia City in December. She was District Deputy in 2010/2011 for District 14.

#### NO BAD LANDS IN SOUTHERN INDIANA

Nothing is better than spending a Sunday Fall afternoon with family and Star friends. On Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup> both filled inside the new Newberry Chapter #198 to pay tribute to Becky Arthur, Grand Representative of the Indiana Order of Eastern Star of South Dakota in Indiana. After delaying it for as long as she could, Becky finally gave in to her mother's and her chapter's repeated requests to allow them to honor her for her Grand Representative appointment.

Her mother and former Grand Representative, Barbara Musselman, chaired the celebration. Joy Ellen Kuppler, PGM, gave the benediction and table grace. Darrell Arthur, PGP and Becky's husband, read a moving poem from the sixties called "One Tin Soldier". If you had seen the movie "Billy Jack", you probably recall the poem. Becky's outlook on life is revolved around that poem that we all need to "Love One Another" and to remember that when we have any strife in our life.

Our hearts were warmed from all the love that Becky has shared with those that have met her, but also from the hot soups served with gourmet crackers and ham sandwiches. Healthy portions of Becky's cake left all with a sweet taste for the trip home.



In addition to the 4 current Grand Representatives shown in the picture, there were numerous former Grand Representatives present. We all love you Becky.

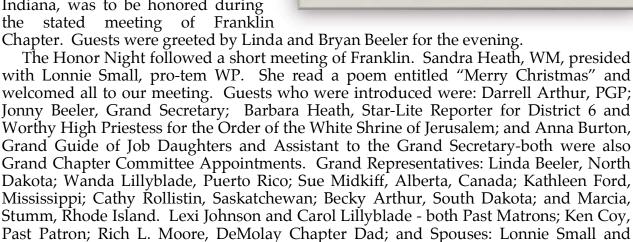
From left to right in the picture is: Becky Arthur – Grand Representative of South Dakota, Carla Rollison – Grand Representative of Saskatchewan, Loda Stewart – Grand Representative of Oregon, Janet Sweet – Grand Representative of Ottawa and Nicky Napier – Grand Representative of Delaware.

## Franklin Honors Linda Beeler

Franklin Chapter was decorated for Christmas in the dining room with red, white and green crocheted centerpieces centering the tables with vases of poinsettias on red tablecloths. A Christmas tree made the room festive. It has been beautiful weather for traveling especially for December.

Linda Beeler, Grand Representative of North Dakota in Indiana, was to be honored during

Chapter. Guests were greeted by Linda and Bryan Beeler for the evening.



Linda was presented at the altar and then introduced in the East. Darrell Arthur,

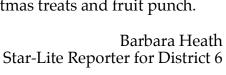
PGP, read the tribute about Linda on behalf of Elizabeth Lashley, PGM, who was on a cruise at this time.

It seems that Linda received a grant to study in France during her college years. She told some trivia and facts about her state of North Dakota: they produce more honey than any other state; lawn mower races are very popular there; more sunflowers are grown there than in any other state; and the state was named "Dakota" which means "Friend or ally" for the Dakota tribe of Indians who live there.

Linda introduced her husband Bryan of 45 years who is also a member of Franklin Chapter. After Lonnie gave the refreshments prayer, all went to the dining room for Christmas treats and fruit punch.



Becky Arthur.



## Lyn Pefley-Lees Honored



Montezuma Chapter #537 made time at the Covered Bridge Festival to take care of business. After working all morning (starting at 4:30 a.m.) some of us hurried home to wash the flour off and change clothes so Lyn Past Pefley-Lees, Matron, could be presented with her 25

year pin. She was pinned by her mother, Worthy Matron Barbara Pefley.

When Lyn joined 25 years ago, there were four generations of the family in Eastern Star. Her great-grandfather presented her petition and helped with the initiation. Several Star members, family and even festival visitors witnessed Jill Rice, AGM, give a short ceremony with Ron Mendenhall, AGP, at her side. Pictured are WM Barbara Pefley, AGM Jill Rice, Lyn Pefley-Lees, AGP Ron Mendenhall and WP Les Scott.

## Stanford Chapter 25 Year Awards

November is the birthday month of Stanford Chapter #533. It is the tradition at Stanford that any 25 year awards are presented during this month. This year was no different. November 12<sup>th</sup>, Stanford Chapter honored Brothers Tim Crouch and Ray

New for their 25 years of membership. Tim was pinned by his wife, Terri. Luann Isom, Worthy Matron, pinned Ray. After the meeting, all retired to the dining room for delicious refreshments and fellowship.

Terri Crouch, Tim Crouch, Ray New, Luann Isom



## Winter Inspection in District Six

On the 74<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, four chapters of District 6 met for their Inspection. Carla and Randal Ellington, Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron of Flat Rock Chapter, presided for the Baby Dedication. Colin Alexander Lacey, nine month old son of Derek and Emily Lacey, AM and AP of Ransford IMH Chapter was dedicated to the principles of our Order.

Tina B. Lee of Ransford IMH Chapter was presented at the altar to receive the appointment of Grand Representative of Saskatchewan in Indiana.

Brenda and Ed Morin of Naamah began the proceedings with the Opening of the Chapters. Dee Willett, WM of Nineveh, was in charge of the Introductions.

Introductions were: Tina Vredenburgh, WGM; Joyce Small, Grand Trustee and PGM; Bonnie Allinder and LeVon Holmes, PGMs; Grand Officers: Jonny Beeler, Grand Secretary; Wanda Gray, Grand Adah; Jennifer Nicholson, Grand Esther; Cheryl Lentz, Grand Martha; and Robert DeRolf, Grand Sentinel; Deputies: Margaret

Bebout, #1; Loyce Kulbeth, #2; Mildred Cooley, #7; Angela Hensell, #10; Pam Butz, #12; Elaine

Sample, #16; and Cindy Essig, our own #6.



The Initiatory Work was presided over by Sue Cheeley, WM, and Carl Hinshaw, WP, Ransford IMH Chapter. Candidates were Bonnie Rife and Carla Ellington.





Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, Nineveh Chapter was all in readiness for the visit of Cindy Essig, the Deputy of District 6. A hearty meal was enjoyed by all in the dining room before the meeting. The meal was prepared by Dee Willett, Worthy Matron, and the refreshment committee provided the desserts and drinks.

After all the work of the Opening and the Initiatory were complete, Dee presented Cindy with an Honorary Membership in Nineveh Chapter. She was given the traditional Charm for her bracelet and was also given a gift

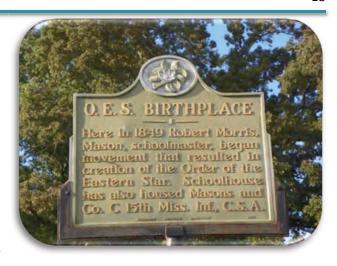
from the Worthy Matron, Dee Willett and Worthy Patron, Ivan Lancaster. And she was given three large trash bags filled with plastic caps and lids. These were for the Worthy Grand Matron's benches for the Indiana Masonic Home Project. After the Deputy's remarks, the chapter closed.





## WHERE IS RICHLAND, MISSISSIPPI?

Go on MapQuest and depending on how you ask it, you can find 2 of them. One **is** a town south of Jackson, MS and the other **was** town north of Jackson, MS. Dr. Morris's "Little Red School House" is located north of Jackson in the old town area just about a mile off I-55. Go north at exit 144 on SR 17. It is a great place to take a break when travel through Mississippi and is rich with OES history and hospitality.



Millie and I made a point of looking it up when I was working down in Mobile, AL and searching for weekend adventures. After asking a lot of people in the wrong Richland where the Red School House was, I realized that I had written down the wrong directions and only had enough time left in the day to get to the correct address about a half hour before closing.



When we got there a 4:30 PM, the site had already closed for the day and everyone gone. Determined to at least get some pictures from outside the fenced School House property, I stopped and started clicking away. The caretaker, who lives across the highway from the school, saw our car and came over. After informing him about us being lost Hoosiers in Mississippi and Indiana OES members,

he opened up the gate and gave Millie and me a private tour of the grounds and school.

He was a Past Patron of OES and was recovering from a stroke. His southern hospitality beamed and his love for Star lit up the schoolhouse. After an hour and a half tour, we felt like we left an old friend. As we walked the red brick path from the schoolhouse, we recognized not only OES names from Indiana members, but Sisters and Brother's names from other States that we have met along our travels. The bricks help pay for the upkeep of the school. When you make your way south, stop by the Little Red School House, and see how many names on bricks you know including the "Cooley's".





## Seymour Celebrates Christmas

Seymour Chapter held their annual Christmas Dinner prior to their December Stated Meeting. Honored guests were Zailey Andrade and her grandmother, Sandy Harris, PD, of the Mooresville Chapter. Six year old Zailey has a rare medical condition that affects the joints and muscles in her extremities and is permanently in a wheelchair.



Seymour Chapter spearheaded a successful campaign to raise money to purchase a wheelchair van for Zailey. With the generous donations from our Sisters and Brothers and Chapters, Lodges, and friends, Seymour Chapter matched over \$20,000. In conjunction with Jackson Lodge #146, a fully equipped van was located and title was transferred to the Andrade family in November. Zailey reports she can wheel herself into this van and is ready to go when anyone is ready to drive her.

Charity plays an important role in our Order and as expressed on the faces of our Chapter members everyone can attest this was a job well done. Thank you everyone for your participation in this Project.



## Franklin Chapter Plays Santa Claus

On the afternoon of December 19, 2015, Franklin Masonic Lodge held its annual Installation of Officers at the Franklin Masonic Temple in Franklin. After all the ceremonies for the installation of Rodney Blevins as Worshipful Master, a special ceremony was held. During presentations a very special gift was given to Zailey Andrade, granddaughter of Sandy Harris, Jr. Past

Deputy of District 6. She was given a large wooden copy of the check that she had received to use for the purchase of a much needed van. Zaley uses a wheelchair to get around.

Members of the Franklin Eastern Star Chapter who were present were: Sandra Heath, Worthy Matron; Linda Beeler, Treasurer; Barbara Heath, Secretary; Kathy Moore, Chaplain; Rich L Moore, Marshal; and Lexi Johnson, Adah. Sandra and Linda presented Zaley's check to her with the members gathered around her.

Later the same afternoon, the DeMolay had their installation ceremony as well. Brandon Whiteman was installed as the Master Councilor for the Franklin Chapter.

The members of Converse Chapter in District #18 have been collecting stuffed animals for the We Care Park in Kokomo for the children when they pass thru at Christmas time. This is the 3rd year they have been doing this. This year they collected 130 stuffed animals and they were very glad to get them. Pictured are sitting: Phyllis Hale, Bonnie Christie, Rita Nolan and Belle Adkins. Standing are: Barbara Sommers, DD#18, Sue Rossman, Judy Shrock and Judy Musgrave.

#### **Converse Cares**



## Check your



| WGM OFFICIAL CALENDAR |             |   | RECEPTIONS    |                |                         |               |
|-----------------------|-------------|---|---------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Apr 20                | Gr          | and Star Point Honor Night                | Apr 2         | Loyce K        | Gulbeth, DD#2           | 2 at Birdseye |
| -                     |             | D#12                                      | Apr 9         |                | McCabe, DD#             |               |
| Apr 30                | La          | st Inspection in state                    | Apr 9         | Marilyr        | McFatridge,             | DD#17         |
| -                     |             | Prospect - D#11                           | Apr 16        |                | Vilkie, DD#19           |               |
| May 5-8               |             | GM Bus Trip                               | Apr 23        | Beth W         | esseler, DD#4           |               |
| May 14                | 100         | Oth Anniversary, Bennington, D#5          |               |                |                         |               |
| <b>May 27</b>         | Gr          | and Star Point Honor Night                |               |                | NDS NIGHT               | <u>'S</u>     |
|                       |             | D#16                                      | Apr 1         | D#14           |                         | 7:00 pm       |
| Jun 7                 | 100         | O <sup>th</sup> Anniversary               | Apr 4         | D#16           | Hope – 25 &             | z 50 Year     |
|                       |             | Upland, D#13                              |               |                | Awards                  |               |
| Jun 9-12              | Gr          | and Chapter                               | Apr 7         | <b>D</b> #15   | Russiaville             |               |
|                       |             | Indianapolis - Marriott East              | Apr 8         | <b>D</b> #1    | Friendship 6:30 Central |               |
|                       |             | INSPECTIONS                               | Apr 8         | D#4            | Seymour                 |               |
|                       | Bal         | by Dedication 7:10 pm                     | Apr 11        | D#7            | Sullivan                |               |
|                       |             | ward of Gold 7:20 pm                      | Apr 11        | D#16           | West Leban              | on            |
|                       |             | Inspection 7:30 pm                        | Apr 13        | <b>D</b> #7    | Solsberry               |               |
|                       |             | nless otherwise noted                     | Apr 14        | <b>D</b> #11   | Acton                   |               |
|                       |             |   | Apr 14        | D#15           | Clinton                 | 6:30          |
| Apr 1 D#1             | L           | at Sunbeam w/ Friendship,                 | Apr 15        | D#20           | St. Joseph              |               |
| •                     |             | Robert Morris & Evansville                | Apr 18        | <b>D</b> #5    | Brookville              |               |
|                       |             | Luncheon                                  | Apr 18        | D#17           | Remington               |               |
| Apr 6 D#10            |             | at Lebanon w / Pittsboro &                | Apr 19        | D#11           | Lawrence                |               |
| -                     |             | Whitestown                                | Apr 19        | D#15           | Greentown               |               |
| Apr 7 D#1             | 13          | at Mississinewa w/ Swayzee &              | Apr 19        | D#20           | Starlight               | 7:00          |
| _                     |             | Upland Luncheon                           | Apr 21        | <b>D</b> #1    | Chrisney                | 7:00 Central  |
| Apr 11 D#6            |             | at Fairland w/ Franklin &                 | Apr 24        | $\mathbf{D}#7$ | Bloomfield              | 6:30          |
|                       |             | Morristown                                | Apr 25        | D#11           | Bridgeport              | 7:00          |
| Apr 13 D#             | ‡3          | at Hanover w / Scottsburg &               | Apr 29        | D#3            | Hanover                 |               |
|                       |             | Blazing Bright                            | Apr 29        | D#20           | New Carlisl             | le 7:00       |
| Apr 15 D#             | ŧ 9         | at Montezuma w/ Hedges &                  | <b>May 18</b> | D#11           | Millersville            |               |
|                       |             | Alamo                                     | May 20        | <b>D</b> #1    | Lynnville               | 6:30 Central  |
| Apr 18 D#8            |             | at Riley w/ Pimento & West                | May 21        | D#4            | Hayden                  |               |
|                       |             | Terre Haute                               | May 24        | <b>D</b> #1    | Evansville &            | k Robert      |
| Apr 21 D#             | 16          | at Hope w / West Lebanon                  |               |                | Morris                  | 7:00 Central  |
|                       |             | Luncheon                                  | May 31        | D#20           | Goshen                  | 7:00          |
| Apr 25 D#             | †7          | at Ellettsville w / Columbian & Solsberry | Jun 3         | <b>D</b> #7    | Newberry                | 6:00          |
|                       |             | Luncheon                                  |               |                |                         |               |
| A m# 20 D#            | <i>+</i> 11 |   |               |                |                         |               |
| Apr 30 D#             | 11          |   |               |                |                         |               |
|                       |             | GOEx                                      |               |                | <b>a a</b>              |               |
|                       |             | Lunch - Noon Raby Dodication 1:10         |               |                |                         |               |
|                       |             | Baby Dedication 1:10                      | Y             |                |                         |               |
|                       |             | 50 Year Awards 1:20                       |               |                |                         |               |
|                       |             | Inspection 1:30                           |               |                |                         |               |

## Check your



#### **GRAND STAR POINT HONOR DAY/NIGHT**

| Apr 2  | D#2          | Birdseye  |
|--------|--------------|-----------|
| Apr 16 | D#19         | •         |
| Apr 20 | <b>D</b> #12 |           |
| Apr 23 | <b>D#4</b>   |           |
| Apr 26 | <b>D</b> #17 | Remington |
| May 11 | <b>D</b> #11 | J         |
| May 13 | D#20         |           |
| May 18 | <b>D</b> #13 |           |
| May 20 | D#21         |           |
| May 23 | <b>D</b> #3  |           |
| May 25 | <b>D</b> #9  |           |
| May 27 | D#16         |           |

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LES SIMONTON

for a

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on

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Boarding Time 6:00 -7:00 p.m.

#### Cruise & Dinner Time is 7:00 p.m. SHARP

Dinner is The Admiral's Buffet
Return Docking Time is 9:30 p.m.

Cost = \$75 per person

#### Make your reservations now:

Les' Pit Crew Team Member - Connie Nierste 765-932-3776 or cnierste@frontier.com

Directions and maps are available from her.

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#### 1 Star

In Memory of *Robert "Bob" Branigan, PGP*From his "TOC" Deputy Daughters

#### 3 Stars

In Honor of

Past Presidents & 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents

of District #6

Sandie Thomas, P.P.

#### 5 Stars

In Honor of

Harold Myers, PGP

96 on November 23, 2015

From the "Hearts in Touch"

District Deputies

1987 - 1988

#### Star - Lite

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