



Everything you do matters!

Some people are fortunate to have a cabin in Wisconsin or perhaps a second home in Florida to escape Indiana winters. My second home is District 20, but mostly in Lakeville, Indiana at Lakeville Chapter #479. It became my second home when I was elected the Associate Grand Conductress.



District 20 is known for their recipe for chicken salad. One Past Grand Matron asked me to get the chicken salad recipe because it contained a "secret" ingredient. It's been a secret for years! I don't know the recipe or what their "secret" ingredient happens to be. I just know that it is fantastic chicken salad. When I was in District 20 for the luncheon I went into the kitchen and peeked in the trashcan. The trash bags were completely empty. To this day, the recipe is a great secret. The members are given an item to deliver to the kitchen on the day the chicken salad is made and only one person knows the entire recipe. Keep it a secret District 20! Just invite me to the luncheon next year!

When you are a Grand Star Point and then elected to the station of Associate Grand Conductress your life does change. You are paired up with the Grand Sentinel and together you go from one year to another planning your year of service and figuring the whole thing out like one gigantic puzzle. You spend a lot of your time in each other's district going to events and working together. The steering committees from both chapters and districts work together to help us be successful. I am blessed because Lakeville #479 adopted me. Harold Rowe, Chris Rowe, and Fred Rowe were adopted by District 12, but mostly New Castle #116.

Our districts and chapters are very similar. We are small in numbers, but the people that

make up each district and chapter have hearts that are pure and would do anything to make you feel welcome and loved. Our people worked very hard. Both districts raised money to help us so we could travel the state as Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron. Both District 12 and District 20 worked their tails off to help us. God bless Lakeville #479 and New Castle #116. God bless District 20 and District 12.

God does work in very odd and mysterious ways, but putting Cindy Willyard and Harold Rowe in the Grand East together was a perfect match. When I graduated from high school in 1974, Harold was born. I am 18 years older than Harold. Somehow, we were paired up and sitting in the Grand East. The members of this order have seen that sometimes the pairings of the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron don't work and the WGM and WGP end up not even speaking to each other after they are done or even during their year of service. It didn't happen to us and never will. We will be friends forever!

So, what made us successful? Our relationship developed slowly as the years went by. I told Harold that we were sticking together no matter what came our way. We were both determined to work together. We each shared a vision and had clear objectives for this order. We were honest and open with each other. We trusted each other. We made sure that we consulted each other. We made each other laugh and told jokes to each other. Harold Rowe is brilliant and a great ritualist. We each have different skill sets that complement each other. He helped me to

Everything You Do Matters!

look at things from a different perspective, and we were flexible. He was patient with me when we walked from one building to another at the DeMolay Conclave because I still struggle with fatigue and the neuropathy in my feet due to cancer treatments. When my chemo brain would hit me at the oddest and most stressful times, he made me feel better, and he made me laugh about it. He was raised by parents, who taught him great manners and empathy for other humans. Each person brought something to our team that the other person needed. We were both born and raised in Masonic homes, but my parents weren't members of Eastern Star. I joined Eastern Star after my husband became a Mason. I needed to learn so many things, but Harold grew up with parents that were members of Eastern Star. I learned that although I am retired, he's working. We used pronouns like us, our, and we. It was never I. There is no I in teamwork.

I have often said that when we first started on this journey that there were five of us in our group and their names were Cindy, Rick, Harold, Fred, and Chris. I find it hard to ask anyone for help. I had to swallow my pride and start asking. Fred Rowe found our music. What a gift he gave us! I needed help with dresses because fashion as you all know is not my thing. With five boxes of sample dresses to look over, I felt like Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*. Where do you start when the dresses all look somewhat alike? I asked Chris for help, and she knocked it out of the ballpark!

Chris came to our Deputy Boot Camp. We fixed the Deputies a home cooked meal. As the day of instruction with our deputies continued, I was getting fatigued. I told Chris I was very tired, and she got up and taught them how to bow and turn. Chris helped with passing out the ponies at the baby dedications and those precious red French Trapper hats our Grand Representatives received. I loved seeing Chris put the red hats on the heads of each of the Grand Representatives. My husband contributed to our success before he went home to God. My dear husband wrote me a note that I have on our refrigerator. It says, "God's direction will never take you where his Grace cannot protect you." I see that note and another one he wrote me every single day. Each person in our group contributed to our success.

The truth is that there were more than five of us on this journey. The entire Faith Moves Mountains Grand Family, our Mountaineer Deputies and their guides contributed to our success. The elected Grand Officers as well as our appointed Grand Officers performed their duties

with great care and pride. How blessed we were to have each person in our family because each one contributed to our success. God's hand directed each person into our Grand Family.

District 13 contributed to our success. When my steering committee asked for help from District 13 in planning the All Members Banquet, which included center pieces and table favors, they voted to help us before we ever left that chapter room. What they have planned is totally amazing. We are celebrating our 150-year of service, and District 13 has done an amazing job of working together to make sure that banquet is a huge success. We are grateful!

The acts of kindness done by our members made our year successful. Many of you served on a committee for us. You gave us your time to help complete a task or raise money for our charities. Our project "Supporting Our Future" will enable our three youth groups to travel, provide more hearing devices for children, and help with the upkeep of the Rainbow Camp. Our "Sit Awhile" project will provide benches for the residents at the Masonic Home. The residents will now have a place to sit and rest as they walk from one building to another. By purchasing a plush pony, the Service Dog Project keeps going. If you bought one of our special project bars or voted to use a coin collection to support one of our projects, you made a difference. Our members were creative in raising money for all the charities we support. We could not have been successful without you. With each member contributing their time and resources, we were very much like District 20's "secret ingredient" in their chicken salad. We all worked together to make "The Faith Moves Mountains" year of service a great one!

Cindy





Focus on Star

All good things come to an end. I hope that this has been a good year for all of our Sisters and Brothers. I know that it has been one of the best years of my life. These past five years have been amazing. I hope I was able to make a positive difference for our beloved Order and its members. I look forward to getting my life back, but I will miss traveling the state and seeing so many wonderful people. Sister Cindy and I couldn't have asked for a better Grand Family. We have gotten along splendidly and had so much fun. We have also accomplished a great deal. We have tried new things while at the same time, restoring some old traditions that we felt needed a second chance. For every Worthy Grand Patron, this is a bittersweet time. The position demands a lot of time and miles and it will be a relief not to have to travel so much. But it is a sad time for me too. It's been such a joy to be able to see so many of you so often, to see the beautiful work that is done in our Order and to visit places that I never knew existed in our state.

Our projects have raised a great deal of money for the youth groups this year and for the residents of the Masonic Home. I'm sure the funds for the youth will go a long way to helping them boost their membership, support their projects and fulfill their needs. It has been a real joy attending their events and working with them this year. It is a really good feeling knowing that they are the future of our organizations and our world. The benches at the Masonic Home will be a lasting legacy for our organization. I know that they fulfill a great need and will be well utilized by the residents there. I think we have had a good response to the other projects as well and I hope that we will do some good in the world with those.

I would be remiss if I rambled on through this whole article and skipped my last Focus on Star. I know that many of you enjoyed my history of some of the other characters in the stories of our Heroines. For this issue, I want to explore some more history and talk about the places where these stories take place.

Jeptha lived in Mizpah, which is the Hebrew word for watch-tower. There were several places called Mizpah and one called Mizpeh. The city where Jeptha lived was Mizpah in the region known as Gilead. Gilead was a mountainous region along the River Jordan which is now part of the Kingdom of Jordan. It is bordered by the kingdom of Ammon, home of the Ammonites. The Mizpah where Jeptha lived was most likely the historical city of Ramoth-Gilead or the Heights of Gilead. It was one of six cities in the region with walls and bronze gates. It is one of several sites proposed to be the actual city of Armageddon, where the battle of the end times is said to start.

Bethlehem was a city in the hill country of the kingdom of Judea. It may be the same city as Ephrath and the place where Rachel died and was buried by the wayside. It was destroyed by Emperor Hadrian and rebuilt by Emperor Constantine and his mother Helena. There is some dispute as to whether or not it was rebuilt on the same site, but there is a cave in the area fitting the description of the manger where Jesus was born. The current city is in the West Bank, near Jerusalem. The valley where Ruth gleaned in the fields and encountered Boaz lies to the east of the city. Bethlehem is the site of King David's anointment and is known as the City of David.

As I noted in my previous article, Ahasuerus was probably the same king as Xerxes I of Persia. He is said to have ruled over one hundred and twenty-seven provinces from India to Nubia. The name of this region was the Achaemenid Empire or the First Persian Empire and he ruled from 486 to 465 BC. It was located in what is now Iran along with the Balkans, Egypt, West Asia, Central Asia and the Indus Valley, over 2 million square miles. At that point in history, it was the largest empire that ever existed. It had an organized system of roads, a postal service, an official language and a large professional army. It would eventually be conquered by Alexander the Great. Throughout most of its history, the empire displayed a large degree of religious tolerance. According to the Book of Ezra, Cyrus the Great released the Jewish people after freeing them from Babylon and allowed them to return to their homeland.

The town of Bethany is located on the Mount of Olives, a few miles from Jerusalem. It has alternately been translated as house-of-dates, house-of-figs and house of the poor. It has existed since the 6th century BC. Some historians suggest that modern day Bethany is not on the same site as the ancient town but instead had migrated from its original location to the nearby area

surrounding the tomb of Lazarus. The raising of Lazarus and Martha's meeting with Jesus are the town's most notable events, however it appears in the Bible seven times. The Bible does not specifically mention that Martha and Mary lived in Bethany, but because it is the site of Lazarus tomb, it is assumed that they resided there. In 1138 AD, the Queen of Jerusalem built a large Benedictine abbey near the tomb of Lazarus, dedicated to Martha and Mary. The town was abandoned after the fall of Jerusalem in 1187. The town would eventually be repopulated and is now home to over 20,000 residents.

The Second Epistle of John gives no clue as to where the Elect Lady resided. However, we know that it was in the Roman Empire and can assume that it was during the lifetime of St. John the Evangelist, who's life spans the first century AD. The Romans didn't begin persecuting Christians until AD 64 after Emperor Nero blamed Christians for the great fire of Rome. During this period, Rome spanned all of Europe and parts of Britain, Africa and the Middle East. Electa's encounter with the Roman soldiers could have occurred anywhere in this area. The story gives us no clue as to where. The fact that she encountered a band of soldiers demanding that she renounce her faith would be more likely to happen close to the heart of the Roman Empire rather than in the outlying territories.

I hope that these little history lessons have helped bring the stories of our beloved Order a little closer to you and will help to better understand the lessons of our Heroines. It has been a real joy writing them and it was an honor to serve as Worthy Grand Patron this year and to have the opportunity to communicate my ideas and feelings to you through the Star-Lite Magazine. I look forward to what the future holds and I hope that the Star in the East will continue to shine on all of my Sisters and Brothers. Farewell and God Bless.



At the inspection at Sunbeam Chapter in Mt. Vernon, *Don Byers* from Chrisney Chapter was awarded his 50-year award. WGM Cindy Willyard and WGP Harold Rowe presided over the ceremony.

On April 5, 2024, Sister Deby Thomas, PGM, awarded *Sister Edna Mae Young* with her Award of Gold pin for becoming a 50-year member of the Order of the Eastern Star at Pendleton, IN, where she now resides. Her daughter, Lisa, placed her pin on her. She is a dual member of Tell City Chapter, OES #272, her home chapter, and Pendleton Chapter that has consolidated with Anderson Chapter. Three members from Tell City chapter attended the presentation, Coyce Greer, Sandy Cassidy, and Barbara Mills. Also attending were several members from Pendleton Chapter and 4 family members from the Tell City area. Everyone enjoyed visiting and celebrating with her.



District #16 Inspection, Diamond Awards, and Awards of Gold

On March 19, 2024, Worthy Grand Matron Cindy Willyard and Worthy Grand Patron Harold Rowe were welcomed to District #16 for their Official Visit. The day's events were held at the Hope Chapter #5 location, the Masonic Temple at Dayton, Indiana. The Past Deputies Association of District #16 entertained with a luncheon, after which the WGM and others traveled to Westminster Village in West Lafayette to present a 75-year Diamond Award to Sister Louise Baugher of Fountain Chapter. Sister Louise had eagerly been anticipating receiving her 75-Year pin from the Order of the Eastern Star. She has been a very faithful member who loves Eastern Star. Sister Cynthia Willyard, WGM, and Brother Harold Rowe, WGP, along with Sister Tina Vredenburg, PGM, Brother Larry Crowder, PGP, and Brother Carey Hetrick, PGP, were on hand to make sure she received her beautiful pin at Westminster Village Retirement Home. Many chapter members, family and friends attended this celebration. All then returned to the Dayton Masonic Temple for dinner at 6:00 p.m.



At 6:45 the evening's events got underway. First, the WGM and WGP were entertained with an addendum of jokes prepared by Fountain Chapter.

Hope Chapter then filled the stations for presentation of the Awards. Sister Caroline Nelson was presented at the altar and given her 75-year Diamond Award. Sister Caroline, who will be 100 in July, shared some of her many happy memories of her years in our Order. She was surrounded by family as she received the award. A third 75-year pin will be mailed to Sister Norma Jean Smith of Hope Chapter, who lives in Florida. Following these festivities, the 50-year awardees were presented at the Altar. Sisters Marsha Perkins Humphrey, James Inskeep, Janet Inskeep, Donna Moore, and Eileen Hession Weiss received their Awards of Gold. A pin will be mailed to Sister Mary Chubb, who lives in Arizona. These 50-year members are all members of Hope Chapter, although since Hope has welcomed eight other chapters in consolidation, some of these members started their OES life in other chapters.

Brother David Scanlon, Associate Patron of Hope Chapter, was then presented at the altar by WGP Harold Rowe, where he was given a voyageur's cap as Grand Representative of Utah in Indiana by WGM Cindy Willyard.

The evening was capped with inspection of the three chapters in District #16: Fountain Chapter #204, Hope Chapter #5, and West Lebanon Chapter #162.



Ed Nelson, WGM Cindy Willyard, Sister Caroline Nelson, Tara Nelson, Jamie Nelson, WGP Harold Rowe.



Eileen Hession Weiss, Donna Moore, WGM Cindy Willyard, James Inskeep, Janet Inskeep, Marsha Perkins Humphrey, WGP Harold Rowe.



WGM Cindy Willyard, David Scanlon, WGP Harold Rowe



INDIANA HAS A LOT OF REASONS TO BE BY THE SHORE FOR GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER IN OCTOBER 2024

The General Grand Chapter Session will be held October 24th to November 1, 2024, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Here is some information about transportation, housing, registration and more.

This is a rough draft of the plans. More details will be available as the plans evolve. Buses will depart Thursday, October 24th and return November 1st. The hotel is connected to the convention center. A deposit of \$200.00 goes toward your room and to secure a seat on the buses. Rooms cost \$200 a night for 2 double beds x 8 nights = \$1600 per room. A King room is \$200 a night x 8 nights = \$1600 per room. All checks should be made to Diana Surfus. There is no cost for the buses as bus 1 is sponsored by the Grand Trustees, IN Grand Chapter, and bus 2 is sponsored by fundraisers - Diana Surfus, PGM, Chairman. Meal forms and registration forms are on the GGC website. Easternstar.org under the Tab 2024 Triennium. There will be several outings for day trips at no additional cost. For more detailed and updated information contact Diana Surfus, PGM, at dlsurfus@gmail.com or 574-518-1935.

Each Triennial Session Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons of Indiana are appointed to serve on General Grand Chapter Committees. It is a three-year commitment. Glenda Winchester, Most Worthy Grand Matron, and Lon Lowry, Most Worthy Grand Patron, asked these Past Grands to serve on the following GGC Committees:

Cindy Skura, PGM, Community Service
Elizabeth Lashley, PGM, ESTARL
Betty Swisher, PGM, International Headquarters
Larry Frost, PGP, Service Dog

Their commitment will end at the 'Worldwide The Family Of God Marches Together' Session, when the next Triennial Officers and Committee Members are installed.

Indiana Grand Chapter is supporting our candidate for Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress, Sister Susie Roach. She will be elected to serve through the stations, to be Most Worthy Grand Matron, in 2033 to 2036, to preside at the General Grand Chapter Session in 2036, in Indiana. This will be 160 years after General Grand Chapter was formed in Indianapolis (1876) - a truly historic event.

START YOUR ENGNES – LET'S GO TO THE SHORE!

The next reason this information is important is that I will be serving as Chaplain during the General Grand Chapter Session, in Myrtle Beach. Serving as Chaplain for the General Grand Chapter has been an amazing experience. Lynn and I have traveled to many OES Grand Chapters within the USA, and to Sao Paulo, Brazil, Philippines, and Taiwan. The activities and adventures will culminate at the General Grand Chapter Session this October, when a new GGC Family will be installed.

We would love for you to make reservations to attend GGC in October of 2024. Indiana will have two busses of members to support our candidate Sister Susie, to set up and operate our hospitality area, do some daily excursions, and to enjoy the GGC Sessions with me.

KEEP THE FAITH – IT'S TIME FOR INDIANA EASTERN STAR TO SHINE

Bill Shoulders, Worthy Grand Chaplain, GGC, PGP of Indiana

Hoosier Hospitality Weekend

We will be honoring Brother William Shoulders, Worthy Grand Chaplain of the General Grand Chapter, and hosting Multi-State the weekend of August 23 & 24, 2024. Make an entire weekend here and join us in honoring Brother William Shoulders, WGC, on Friday with a cash bar and dinner at 7:00 p.m. at the Convention Center at Embassy Suites by Hilton at Plainfield. On Saturday enjoy a tour of the Scottish Rite Cathedral followed by a visit to one of our many area wineries ending with a Luau, Indiana Style Multi-State gathering. More detailed information is below along with the reservation form.



Please join Indiana Grand Chapter
as we
proudly
honor our very own
BROTHER WILLIAM SHOULDERS
Worthy Grand Chaplain
of the General Grand Chapter
FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 2024

Cash Bar – 5:30 p.m. | Dinner – 7 p.m.

Convention Center
Embassy Suites by Hilton
Plainfield Indianapolis Airport | 6089 Clarks Creek Road
Plainfield, IN 46168

Reservation form enclosed
Karen Hazelman, AGM | Denver Gray, AGP



A WEEKEND OF HOOSIER HOSPITALITY

Indiana Grand Chapter

General Grand Chapter Honor Night

Multi-State Friends' Night

August 23 and 24, 2024

ALL-IN-ONE REGISTRATION AND MEAL SELECTION FORM – ONE FORM PER PERSON

DEADLINE: JULY 27, 2024

NAME: _____

JURISDICTION: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Title as of August 2024: _____

EVENT	FEE	TOTAL
Friday, August 23, 2024		
Honor Night Worthy Grand Chaplain		
Chicken Bruschetta	\$65	
Salmon	\$70	
Vegetarian Option	\$45	
Saturday, August 24, 2024		
Day time tour of Scottish Rite Cathedral and local winery (will return in plenty of time to freshen up for the evening)		
Lunch	\$20	
Motor Coach	\$30	
Saturday evening, August 24, 2024		
Luau Indiana Style (no formals please...Hawaiian dress)		
Delicious buffet featuring pork loin and vegetarian tortellini)	\$80	
TOTAL (All costs include tax and gratuity)		

For hotel reservations: Embassy Suites by Hilton, Plainfield Indianapolis Airport, 6089 Clarks Creek Road, Plainfield, IN 46168. Call 317-839-1106 and ask for Eastern Star group (\$174 plus taxes per night) (Rate effective until July 23, 2024)

Make check or money order (U.S. currency) payable to: Diana Surfus, PGM

Mail completed form(s) and check to: Kim Frederick
1910 Pro Am Place
Indianapolis, IN 46229
E-mail: kfred@outlook.com or Phone: 765-661-1382

Carol Sloan, Grand Adah Reception



On Saturday, March 9, 2024, District 8 hosted the reception for Sister Carol Sloan, Grand Adah, in the Historic Terre Haute Masonic Temple. Youth members of Job's Daughters, Rainbow for Girls, and Indiana's newest DeMolay Chapter helped with the set-up and tear down as well as serving the reception dinner. Over \$1,500.00 was raised for the "Supporting Our Future" project.

The Social Hour was hosted by the Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons of District 8. Immediately prior to the program, a musical prelude was provided, first, by Sister Cheryl Kuritz and then by Dr. Brent

McPike and Mr. Solly Burton.

Assisting Sister Carol were Andrea McColl, Worthy Matron of Pimento Chapter; Sherrie Cheesman of Pimento Chapter as Conductress; Cheryl Kuritz, Worthy Matron of Lynhurst Chapter as Organist; Brian Hensell as Photographer; and Dr. Brent McPike (guitar) and Solly Burton (mandolin) as the entertainment. The Invocation was given by Ruth Thompson, PGM; the Tribute by Jennifer Nicholson Maggart, PGM; Benediction by Howard Farrand, PGP; Table Grace by Robert DeRolf, PGP; and Dinner Instructions by Norman Cheesman, PP of Pimento.

Carol was presented at the Altar, and then escorted to the East by her Legacy of Hope Grand Family. She and Doug were dressed as ballet dancers. Her "tiara" was created with toilet paper, in keeping with the ongoing theme of the LOH Grand Family. Carol's tribute was read by PGM Jenny Nicholson Maggart.

Those introduced and given a hearty welcome were Bill Shoulders, Worthy Grand Chaplain of the General Grand Chapter and his wife Lynn; Indiana's General Grand Chapter Committee Member Larry Frost and his wife Nancy; sixteen Past Grand Matrons, Past Grand Patrons, and their spouses; fifteen Grand Officers and spouses; and sixteen District Deputies. Each group was asked a "Teacher Question" that had a surprise answer.

Following introductions, Carol asked for her Star Point Sisters and the Grand Sentinel to be escorted to the East. In keeping with her "Make a Joyful Noise for Eastern Star" mantra, she presented the Star Points with colorful wind chimes and Brother Carl with ornaments for his "only silver and white" Christmas tree.

Over 200 dignitaries and friends attended the program with 168 of them enjoying the meal prepared by PGM Sister Diana Surfus and her crew. The weather cooperated with a dry and comfortable day. It was a beautiful reception that was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.



Roberta Ancil, Grand Esther Reception



LaFontaine Chapter and District 18 hosted the Reception honoring Roberta Ancil, Grand Esther, at the Honeywell Center in Wabash, March 29th. The theme was based on her life-long passion as an equestrian. In the East was a ribbon quilt made from horse show ribbons earned at various locations around the state and Midwest. A photo array of her horses was displayed in the welcome area.

The photo booth was a barn wall and Bert was seated in Mr. Mark Honeywell's personal chair that was loaned to her for the occasion. The photographer was Brian Hensell.

Grand Esther was escorted into the room. Presiding were LaFontaine Chapter's Worthy Matron, Jean Sneed, Associate Patron Robert Musgrave and Conductress Kaye Sorrell, assisting was Peggi Barrasi, Past Grand Organist.

Past Grand Matron Markie Edwards give the invocation. Grand Esther was presented at the Altar, welcomed and honored with a song by Tina Mullens, Past Grand Esther. The escort was provided by the Let Freedom Ring Grand Family assisted by the Legacy of Hope Grand Family. Bert was dressed as a Rodeo Queen and received white and purple roses which were displayed in the East.

The tribute was given by Jr. Past Grand Matron, Angela Hensell. She and Jr. Past Grand Patron Jim Rogers presented Bert with a love gift. Worthy Grand Matron Cindy Willyard and Worthy Grand Patron Harold Rowe presented her with a beautiful crystal vase and a love gift from the Grand Family. The various groups introduced were given a favorite Facebook quote.

Bert's Star Point Sisters, Carol Sloan, Tammy Shake and Judy Warstler and Grand Sentinel, Carl Hinshaw, were escorted East and given a gift. A special song "You'll Never Walk Alone" was sung by Tina Mullens. The Benediction was given by Past Grand Matron Martha Brown and table grace by Past Grand Matron Jenny Nicholson-Maggart.

The table decorations were western boots filled with white flowers. Those attending enjoyed the meal of fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, salad and rolls with various cookie desserts.

In lieu of gifts at the registration table, a donation was made to the Wabash County Animal Shelter and in lieu of table favors donations were made to horse rescue groups Friends of Ferdinand and Shadorobah.

It was a fun-filled afternoon in a lovely setting. Many thanks to all who came, and all who helped in any way to make it a wonderful day.



Tamara Shake, Grand Martha Reception



On April 6th, District 7 and the members from Sullivan and Hymera Chapters welcomed guests to the reception honoring Sister Tamara Shake, Grand Martha at the Sullivan Civic Center. Tamara received guests in a garden setting while Brian Hensell captured the moment with photos. Those attending enjoyed snacks of lamb shaped chocolates and bags of popcorn with die cut lamb face on each bag. A video of photos of Tamara's life events played on the monitors in the foyer. Rhea Dawn Gadberry provided beautiful music before and during the reception.

Carol Davis, GC and WM Hymera, welcomed everyone to the German themed Strassenfest reception. The invocation was given by Joy Ellen Kuppler, PGM. Tamara was presented to the altar by Martha Santus, Conductress. The Symphony of Faith and Love Grand Family provided a memorable escort of Tamara, dressed as a bee outfit including the stinger, as she was escorted to be East. Tamara thanked the members for being there and her wonderful escort and all their support this year.

Tamara welcomed everyone speaking in German, at least her best attempt at it. Gleda Brooks, PGM, gave Tamara's interesting tribute and she and Richard Lassiter, PGP, presented her with a gift.

Tamara introduced Cindy Willyard, WGM, and Harold Rowe, WGP, who presented her with a beautiful vase with the Grand Martha Emblem etched in the glass and gifts from the Grand Family. Tamara introduced her distinguished guests giving them a German proverb, in German and then translated into English. Introduced were: Bill shoulders, Worthy Grand Chaplain of the General Grand Chapter and his wife, Lynn; 7 PGM's and PGP's and 6 spouses; 11 "Faith Moves Mountains" Grand officers and 6 spouses; 18 District Deputies (Mountaineers) and 3 spouses (Guides); 9 from the "Symphony of Faith and Love" Grand Family. Many introductions were made from the floor. Tamara then had her family in attendance escorted across the East and introduced them.

Before closing Tamara had her Star Point Sisters and the Grand Sentinel escorted across the East. She announced to all that in lieu of favors at the door, she would be donating to the WGM/WGP project "Supporting our Youth", "Our World of Youth" scholarship fund, and the Service Dog Project. Tamara expressed her love and how blessed she felt to have each of the sisters and brother as part of her journey this year. She couldn't let them leave empty handed though, she wanted them to remember this day and to feel part of the German festivities. She presented them along with the Grand Family and apron of either a Dirndl or Lederhosen.

Tamara invited her son Evan, joined by his side kick (son) Oliver, to give a bit of information on Germany and some key phrases that would be handy if traveling there. Tamara's entertainment was provided by Hans (Candi Hamilton) and Frans (Lynn Padgett) with their rendition of Hans and Frans from Saturday Night Live. Laughs were enjoyed by all. For the grand finale, Tamara asked the Conductress to escort her Hummingbird Deputy Sisters across the East, much to their surprise. Tamara announced that it wouldn't be a German/American Strassenfest without the "Chicken Dance." Everyone was invited to stand up and join in.

During the remarks several presentations were made. Darrell Arthur, PGP, gave the Benediction and Richard Lassiter, PGP, gave the table grace. Norman Santus, WP, gave dinner instructions. The dining room was decorated with green or white table covers with a broken column for centerpieces and green honey candy.



AN AFTERNOON AT THE BEACH

Clinton Chapter #6 celebrated Sharon Jones, D. D. #15 on March 16, 2024, while a cool wind blew outside. Inside the warm beachy vibe lifted our spirits. Nearly 90 guests were greeted by flamingos, sand buckets and palm trees. Guests greeted Sharon and posed for photos surrounded by a balloon arch in shades of pink, yellow, ivory and gold with green palm leaves. They then enjoyed refreshments served in the lovely decorated Masonic library.

In the Chapter Room prelude music was played by Virginia McCabe, PGO, where guests were greeted by a signboard in the East stating "Sharon, D.D.#15" surrounded by flip flops and a flamingo. In front of the dais was a sand bucket, shells, flip flops and a welcome banner. In the West hung a banner with the words "The Voice of the Sea Speaks to the Soul."

The program began with a welcome by Cathy Scott, PM. The Invocation was given by Jennifer Nicholson-Maggart, PGM. After the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, the National Anthem and the Pledge to the Christian flag, Sharon dressed in a floral wrap for her skirt, a coconut bra and a beach hat was escorted to the East by Conductress, Amy Flowers. They walked through lines of District 15's Worthy Matrons and Patrons and members of Clinton Chapter #6 holding flip flops, sun hats, shells, sunglasses and other beach items.



Assisting Sharon was Cathy Scott, PM, Richard Scott, PP, Amy Flowers, Conductress and Virginia McCabe, PGO. After welcoming her guests, Sharon was given a tribute of her life and Eastern Star journey by

Cindy Willyard, WGM. A gift was then given to Sharon by the WGM and Harold Rowe, WGP.

Sharon then introduced her many guests and family members giving them inspiring quotes related to her beach theme. Sharon's fellow District Deputies, the "Mountaineers" and "Guides", each introduced themselves saying "My name is Sharon Jones", leaving the task of giving their real names to Sister Sharon.

We were then entertained by a delightful rendition of songs by the infamous OES Beach Bums consisting of Tom Ring, Keith Zook, Rex Lamb and Tim Swisher. Cindy Cohee, PGM, gave the Benediction and Keith Zook, Grand Marshal, gave Table Grace. Richard Scott, PP, dismissed guests to the dining room where a delicious meal was enjoyed amid reminders of beach vacations - sea glass, seashells, beach umbrellas and the pastel colors of summer. The reception was a warm and loving tribute to Sister Sharon for a job well done.



Love Is In The Air

The "Love Is In The Air" Reception for Rosemary Trump, District Deputy #18 was held at Ivy Chapter in North Manchester, Indiana on February 24, 2024.

Pictures were taken by Sydney Trump in the front room of the chapter building. Refreshments of mints, nuts and punch were available for all. The Social Hour was at 3:00 with the Program at 4:00 pm.

A prelude was enjoyed by all performed by Tina Mullens, Pianist. The Bible was escorted to the altar by Charles Merrell, Grand Warder. Assisting today were Worthy Matron - Linda Torpy, Worthy Patron - Tom Torpy, Conductress - Kaye Sorrell of LaFontaine Chapter, and Pianist - Tina Mullens of Royal Center Chapter.

The WM & WP escorted Rosemary and her husband Steve into the chapter room then presided in the East. WM Linda welcomed everyone. Martha Brown, PGM, gave the invocation. The Pledge to the flag was given followed by the National Anthem and the Pledge to the Christian flag.

The Conductress presented Rosemary at the altar. Tina Mullens sang "The Rose" to Rosemary. After being escorted out of the room, Rosemary, dressed with huge hearts and a heart headband, and Steve dressed as cupid, complete with wings and a bow and arrows, were escorted to the East thru D#18 members holding red roses with flowing white ribbons that they put in a vase for Rosemary. Steve actually shot a suction cup arrow at the target on Rosemary's back and it stuck! In the East, Rosemary was introduced and given a hearty welcome.

Rosemary then introduced Cindy Willyard, WGM, and Harold Rowe, WGP. The WGM gave a tribute to Rosemary and the WGP presented her a gift from them. He also presented Rosemary with a Love gift from the Grand Family.

Rosemary presided and had the Conductress escort 4 Past Grand Matrons & Past Grand Patrons and spouses, 14 Grand Officers and spouses along with 19 District Deputies, spouses and traveling companions. Rosemary gave a cute saying and a welcome to all the groups.

Introductions from the floor included 6 Grand Chapter Committee Appointments, 1 Grand Representative, 5 WMs & WPs, 4 PMs & PPs. Rosemary then introduced her family - Eric & Angie, Travis, Sydney, Charity, Brad, and Taylor. She thanked her chapter and D#18 members saying it was a great group and thanked them for all their work for today and for everything.

Tina Mullens was the entertainment and sang "You Light Up My Life", "Love Me Tender" and "Crazy". The benediction and table grace were given by Grand Esther Roberta Ancil followed by dinner instructions given by WP Tom Torpy. All enjoyed a light meal of sandwiches, chips, cheese & crackers, cookies, lemonade, tea and coffee.



WGM OFFICIAL CALENDAR

Jun 6-9 Grand Chapter, Muncie

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!



Spencerville Food Bank Program Expanding Outreach to Feed the Hungry

The Spencerville Order of the Eastern Star Chapter #386 is dedicated to serving the community by providing food assistance to those in need. The Food Bank Program, initiated by Arden Dwyer approximately 20 years ago, has grown significantly.

Initially, the program supported a single food bank. However, recognizing the increasing demand for food assistance, the chapter extended its reach to include multiple food banks in local churches. In 2019 the program extended its support to the *Woodburn Christian Children's Home* in Woodburn.

In 2020, the *Quiet Knight's Veterans Food Pantry* located in Waterloo and the *Hearten House Women's Shelter* in Auburn were added to the program. Recognizing the importance of addressing addiction recovery, the *Serenity House Drug and Alcohol Rehab Program* was incorporated in 2021. Most recently, in 2022 *Images of Hope Ranch* of Auburn joined the Spencerville OES Food Bank Group.

Through this comprehensive program, the Spencerville Chapter strives to make a meaningful impact in our community on the lives of those facing food insecurity and other challenges. By collaborating with various organizations and providing essential food supplies, the chapter demonstrates its commitment to alleviating hunger and promoting community well-being.



Spencerville OES Members Becky Hoover and Terri Rosenbury, Maddy Dangler, "Penny" (horse), Image of Hope Ranch Manager Alisha Shanks .



Spencerville OES Member Dawn Tilkins, Serenity House Board member Patrick Tyler, Serenity House Manager Jessica Lopez, and Spencerville OES Member Suzette Rodgers.



WCCH Board Member Joe Hines, Spencerville OES Member Terri Rosenbury, Vikki Hines, and "Lucie" (dog).



Receiving food bank gift is Quiet Knight Treasurer / Waterloo Veteran's Food Bank Chris Lamm and Spencerville OES Member Becky Hoover.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR STAR-LITE?

You have received this issue, but will you get the next one? Check your expiration date on the back page to the left of your address. If it says your last issue is June 2024, then you need to renew now! Fill out the form on the next to the last page and include your check made out to Indiana Grand Chapter, OES and mail to Nancy Pratt, 3597 N. Old U.S. 31, Rochester, IN 46975.

Thank you! We couldn't continue without your support!

Spencerville Pajama Party

In 2019, Spencerville Chapter #386 expanded their FOOD PANTRY program to include the Woodburn Christian Children’s Home. WCCH located near Ft. Wayne is a not-for-profit residential children’s home. This special home has provided a Christian family environment for children who are homeless or who have special needs. WCCH helps boys and girls ranging in age from 9-16 years old. WCCH accepts no public funds, but is entirely funded by private donors such as Spencerville Eastern Star. They currently have 16 children living at the home.

Spencerville OES’s 3rd annual Pajama Party for these children was held in December. We purchased pajamas and slippers for each child. We also donated gift cards for regular household necessities to the House Mothers of the 3 residential homes where the children live.



Pictured are Spencerville member Suzette Rodgers presenting our Food Pantry check of \$400.00 to WCCH Board Chairman Joe Hines with OES member Ann Merrit.



Pictured presenting the gifts of pajamas and slippers are OES member Dawn Tilkins, WCCH Director Carol Rodgers, WCCH Staff member Heather, and OES

Member Suzette Rodgers.



Spare Change Jar



We at the Spencerville OES are so grateful for the support of our community. For 74 years, we have been making donuts at the DeKalb County Fair and using the proceeds to support 34 Community Service Projects that help our schools, veterans, handicapped, and less fortunate.

In 2018, we started a new project called the “Spare Change Jar”. We asked our supporters/customers at the Donut Trailer to put their spare change in a jar and we would contribute a matching \$200 to the jar that would benefit a local charity. In 2022, our supporters and Spencerville OES “Spare Change Jar” donated \$2376 to support Sunny Meadows County Home with new Bedding for the 23 residents. This year’s “Spare Change Jar” collected \$2143 to support Alliance Industries Handicapped Workshop of Garrett with a Storage Shed, Recycling Bins, HEPA Sweeper, and Digital Scales to help with production.

We are so grateful to our supporters for their continuing dedication and effort. Our clients brave the elements, starting at 7 am and continuing until 9 pm, in weather temperatures of 40 to 90 degrees, rain or shine, to purchase our Donuts. While walking around Auburn at the DeKalb County Fall Fair, you will see white bakery bags containing our Donuts, and you can be assured, that the purchase is being used for a good cause! Our community support is what makes our Donut Sales and Community Service Projects successful. Thank-You to the Best Supporters in our Community!

Busy Day for District 9

March 18th was a busy day in District 9. WGM Cindy Willyard and WGP Harold Rowe attended the luncheon followed by the opportunity to present Franklin Ford, a member of Roachdale Chapter #247, his 75-year pin. WGM Cindy asked WGP Harold to present the pin as he shared Masonic affiliation with Franklin! Several District members attended the ceremony and joined Franklin's family with memories of his time as an Eastern Star member. Another 75-year member was expected to receive her pin, but due to a fall, a hospital visit by Montezuma Chapter #537, Sister Charlotte Hicks, aunt of our Associate Grand Conductress Barb Pefley will be rescheduled! Then off to the Official Visit of District 9 at Greencastle Chapter where more activities were planned! The first was the Baby Dedication of the great-granddaughter of DD#9 Jane Hansen, Murphy! Newest 50-year members, Jo Ellen Reed and Steve Butts, both members of Greencastle #255, received their pins from the WGM and WGP, followed by the Inspection! Members of all 4 chapters worked together to round off a great Eastern Star evening! Thanks to all the Grand Officers who attended and our District's members who worked to make this possible!



"Picture Perfect Celebration"

District Ten hosted their "Picture Perfect Celebration" inspection by Sister Cindy Willyard, Worthy Grand Matron, on April 10, 2024, at the Fishers Masonic Temple.

The Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons gave a parody of the Oompa Loompa song during the addendum. They each gave Violet Beauregarde (Sister Cindy) and Willy Wonka (Brother Harold) a candy bar for their basket.

Prior to the meeting, the WGM and WGP performed the Baby Dedication ceremony for little Teddy Norris, son of Sister Sarah Norris and grandson of Sister Linda and Brother John Gasper of the Fishers Chapter. The WGM and WGP made three presentations of Awards of Gold and a Grand Representative. Sister Cathy Thomas, of Fishers, was appointed as Grand Representative of Saskatchewan in Indiana.

The East was decorated with the official portraits of our Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons with the number of the Session they presided over. The West had a Happy Birthday banner and mylar balloons representative of the 150th birthday of Indiana Grand Chapter.

Following the meeting, all enjoyed birthday cake in the dining room. The tables were decorated with framed pictures of each Chapter in the District, party hats, and glasses. Some pictures were of Friends Nights, and many were of the Chapters having a birthday party celebration!

Happy Birthday Eastern Star in Indiana!



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 after we receive the request. The short information you want printed about the individual or group can be mailed along with a check payable to Indiana Grand Chapter, OES with the notation: Stellar Stars, to:

Nancy Pratt
3597 N. Old U.S. 31
Rochester, IN 46975

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.



1 Star

In Loving Memory of
 Mary Means – 75-Year Member
 With Love, Tim & Margot Wade
 Son-in-Law & Daughter

2 Stars

To my wounded warrior
 SSG Hector L. Munoz-Colon
 & his beautiful family,
 wife Nikki, daughters Lily & Sofia.
 Thank you for being my family.
 Love Gladys Colon-Clark

In Honor of the “Wings of Faith”
 Grand Family 20th Anniversary! 2003-2004
 Always “Walk the Walk of Faith”
 Love and Hugs, Mama Cat & Connie

45 Years!
 Grand Caroler Grand Family
 Anne Eastam, WGM
 Harry E. Jackson, WGP

In Loving Memory of
 Harold Crider 1925 – 2017
 P.P. Griffith #583
 Great Ritual Work
 With Love, Judi Crider, P.D.

5 Stars

In Loving Memory of
 Betty Thousand
 100 Years old & 77 Year member
 Faithful member of
 Rochester Chapter #70 and
 Royal Center Chapter #375

In Honor of
 William “Bill” Shoulders- Worthy Grand Chaplain
 District 1

In Loving Memory of
 Debra Bryant - Past Deputy of District 1
 Past Grand Organist
 Bill & Lynn Shoulders

In Loving Memory of friends lost in 2023
 Bonnie Allinder, PGM, Englewood Chapter
 Patricia Burns, PSWHP, Nineveh Chapter
 Debbie Schmidt, PM, Englewood Chapter
 Debbie Hooten, PN, Oakland Chapter
Well done good and faithful servants.
 Rochelle A. Hargis

In Memory of
 Marguerite DeVore, PM
 From the members of Corinthian Chapter #456

In Loving Memory of
 Joyce L. Small, PGM
 50 Year member and charter member of
 Ransford IMH Chapter #605
 You are greatly missed.
 With much love,
 From all Ransford IMH members

Helping Foster Families

One of the issues that has been brought to the attention of Hymera chapter #289 is the help, especially new foster families need, as they start in foster care. Many times, the family will receive the children in the middle of the night, right after school, or right after the birth of a baby and the family was not prepared to bring the children into their new home. These families do receive a stipend when receiving the children, but sometimes it may be a couple of days before getting this stipend and/or if getting these children in the middle of the night, the stores are closed.

This is where the help of Fostering Hope comes into play. Instead of gifts at her reception, Lynn Padgett DD#7, from the Hymera Chapter, requested items for these new families. The response was awesome and Lynn thanks everyone who contributed. We repeat in one of our lectures one of our purposes is to "provide for the.... and orphans", and in donating to this particular cause, we are doing just that in our area.

Even though these children are not necessarily children of Masons or OES members, they are the ones that are left behind if not receiving this assistance. Lynn became aware of this when volunteering for a few years as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA). She has a love for children and when hearing of the foster families struggling, she felt the need to help in some way. Our chapter continues to be attentive to what is going on in our surrounding rural communities and this is just one of the ways we support the children of our future. Here's a little something to ponder: There are over 17,000 children needing foster care just in Indiana alone. That is a lot of children.



Pictured is Lynn presenting a couple of items to Jim Pendelton, the campus pastor at her church, which is the foundation of Fostering Hope, and to Dawn Arnold, Outreach Director for Fostering Hope. As you can see from the pictures we have a lot of fun.



Springtime Friend's Day

Royal Center Chapter #375 in District 18 held their Springtime Friend's Day on Saturday, April 20th. Worthy Matron Leila Ferguson welcomed everyone saying "You are the best friends any Bunny could have."

We then received an Easter egg and stood in a circle. Leila read an Easter Left-Right story and we passed the eggs around left or right whenever she said left or right in the story. Everyone enjoyed the fun game. Upon opening the eggs, we found some coins and candy.

Chaplain Kim Russell gave table grace after which we all enjoyed sandwiches, potato salad, chips, a fruit tray, and vegetable tray along with desserts, tea and lemonade. Table favors were paper baskets with hand lotion and candy for everyone attending.

More games were played with Rosemary Trump, DD#18, winning the jar of M&Ms by guessing how many were in the jar. Everyone introduced themselves and named the committees they have been on, what offices they have held, and what they enjoyed most about Eastern Star.

We also played Springtime Bingo with cards made by Nancy Pratt. Many prizes were available for winners to pick from. Several won Bingo numerous times, but gave their prize away to others who hadn't won yet, so everyone received a prize. Several door prizes were given out, too.

The day was nice and friends were happy that they were able to attend. We all had a wonderful time.



 What Are These?

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

Find the WORDS in the puzzle. The extra letters spell out the answer to the title of this puzzle.

21 ASHLEY

9 ATHENS

2 BIRDSEYE

8 BRAZIL

20 BRISTOL

5 BROOKVILLE

15 CENTER

18 CONVERSE

17 CRYSTAL

6 EMINENCE

13 FARMLAND

10 FISHERS

14 FORT WAYNE

16 FOUNTAIN

1 GARNET

15 GREENTOWN

3 HANOVER

4 HARTSVILLE

16 HOPE

18 IVY

11 KEYSTONE

3 LABELLE

19 LAKE

4 LOIS

12 LOYAL

11 LYNHURST

1 LYNNVILLE

12 MIDDLETOWN

9 MONTEZUMA

19 OLIVE

10 PITTSBORO

7 SOLSBERRY

7 STANFORD

20 STARLIGHT

13 SWAYZEE

21 SYLVAN

8 TERRE HAUTE

14 TRINITY

6 UNION VILLAGE

5 VERSAILLES

2 WINSLOW

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