



June 2025

Volume 61, Issue 6



SUNSHINE AND SMILES NEWS

Sisters and Brothers

As the year ends, I am honored to have served as your Worthy Grand Matron. It has been a wonderful year full of travel to each district. Luncheons, inspections, and receptions were done so well and I appreciated all the kindness and smiles you have given me at each of these districts.

It has been an honor to present many 75- and 50-year awards to our faithful sisters and brothers. It was a delight! We gave 31 Grand Representatives to our sisters and brothers and that was always such fun. There were many anniversary celebrations around our beautiful state. It was great to hear the history of these chapters and congratulate them on their years of service and devotion to our order.

The year was marked by several noteworthy and unique events, making it a significant period in history. The trip to General Grand Chapter, which so many of our members attended, made our State of Indiana shine! We brought home a new General Grand Chapter elected officer and watched our appointed General Grand Officer complete his years of service. What a great time we all had. A bus trip to Washington, D.C. was special as we laid a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in the name of the Indiana Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star. We had a reception for Our Worthy Grand Chaplain and a Multi-State event that was attended by many of our members and many out of State guests. Even the Most Worthy Grand Matron and Most Worthy Grand Patron were with us to celebrate. Again, Indiana showed their beautiful colors!

I don't know how to thank you all for your support and kindness that you have shown me. I want to thank my Grand Officers and Deputies for your work and support throughout the year. You are the best! I thank our project chairmen and members who worked to help to support our projects and our Order.

I look forward to getting back to my District 2 and continuing to serve our beautiful order. I am saying good-bye, but I will always be there for you all.

I hope to see many of you at the "Sunshine and Memories" 150th session of the Indiana Grand Chapter held at the Horizon Convention Center in Muncie, Indiana, June 12, 13, 14, and 15, 2025. The Most Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron are scheduled to attend our session. And we will have a reception/honor night "Back Home in Indiana" for our elected General Grand Officer, too.

Come join us for a fun evening.

I pray and hope that I served this Grand Chapter with grace and kindness. I thank Denver, WGP, for his support and for honoring me by serving at my side.

Love and Hugs
Karen Hazelman
Worthy Grand Matron



Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

As my year as your Worthy Grand Patron has ended, I reflect on our year which included many exciting events. We hosted Multi-State, attended General Grand Chapter in Myrtle Beach, SC, saw our own Susie Roach elected as Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress, celebrated our 150th Anniversary Session of Indiana Grand Chapter and attended many luncheons, Inspections and Receptions. It was definitely a very busy year.

We enjoyed attending several fundraiser events supported by our members to help us with our projects. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our State and District Chairs for all their work raising money for our projects. We could not have succeeded without your help. Your ideas for the fundraisers were a lot of fun to say the least! We enjoyed the Riverboat Cruise on the Ohio River, the trip to Washington, D.C., Doggie Dinner and several meals. The proceeds from these activities will benefit our youth organizations, Rainbow, Jobs Daughters and DeMolay.

The memories from our year in the Grand East gave us memories that we will remember and cherish our lifetime. Our Grand Officers and Deputies provided fun as we traveled the state. We may not see each other as often as we did last year, but friendships and memories will remain. I believe the love we share with our Sisters and Brothers would be hard to find in other organizations. I want to thank our Grand Officers for their faithful travels and for the good work they did performing the duties of their offices. Our District Deputies did a good job in their Districts giving the Worthy Grand Matron's instructions and getting the chapters ready for their Inspection. We are very proud of our Grand Family.

Now as the new year begins, I wish Sister Carol and Brother Tom and their Grand Family good health and safe travels. We look forward to a great year with you in the Grand East.

And now, I will say so long until we meet again. God bless each and every one of you with good health and safe travels.




V. Denver Gray, PGP

Appreciation Gift

Trinity Chapter #576 collected snacks and goodies for the Fort Wayne Fire Department Station #2 which is near to the Summit City Lodge where we meet. The snacks and goodies



were intended as a Valentine appreciation/ love gift, but we weren't able to deliver them until March 3rd following our Cheer Committee meeting. Sisters Sandy Gordon and Joan Willman organized the donation and purchase of all the goodies. Pictured from left to right are Sister Sandy Gordon, The Firefighters, Brother Jerry and Sister Joan Willman, and Sister Maggie Dewey.



*Hymera Chapter #289 in District 7
and
New Castle Chapter #116 in District 12*

*Cordially invite you to the
“Nature Sings” reception honoring*

*Sister Carol Davis, WGM
Brother Tom Ring, WGP*

*Indiana Grand Chapter,
Order of the Eastern Star*

Saturday, July 19, 2025

*Christ United Methodist Church
8540 U.S. 31 S.
Indianapolis, IN 46227*

**Social Hour - 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Addendum – 3:30 p.m.
Program – 4:00 p.m.
Dinner – to follow**

**Candi Hamilton, WM
Keith Burris, WP**

**Tommie Hunt, WM
Charles Merrell, WP**

**RSVP by July 12, 2025 to:
Sister Terry Ring
7498 N. C.R. 875 E.
Losantville, IN 47354
Email: tlring@peoplepc.com
Ph: 765-744-8299**

**Remittance of \$20 must accompany reservation.
Checks payable to New Castle Chapter #116
Proceeds to benefit the “You’ll Never Walk Alone” Service Dog Project**

Benefitting

Service
Dog
Project

Indiana Order of the Eastern Star Niagara Falls NY Getaway

October 20 - 24, 2025

Monday Oct 20, 2025

6:30am Board Coach Greenfield Walmart, 1945 N State St. **Depart 7am**
12:00pm World's Largest Cuckoo Clock Sugarcreek, Oh.
12:20pm Lunch at **Amish Dutch Valley Restaurant** Sugarcreek, Oh.
5:30pm **Dinner at Brick House Tavern & Tap**
7:00pm **Check-in at Comfort Inn the Pointe** – Niagara Falls NY
7:30pm Depart for **Falls Illumination Show at Niagara Falls State Park**

Tuesday Oct 21, 2025

7:30am Deluxe Continental Breakfast at Hotel
9:45am **Depart for Gardens**
10:30am **Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens**
11:45am Depart for Lunch
12:30pm Lunch at **Griffon Gastropub** (2470 Military Rd)
1:30pm Depart for Winery
1:45pm Wine Tasting at **Bella Rose Winery**
3:00pm Boarding for Back to Hotel to Rest and Refresh
5:30pm Depart for Dinner Detective Murder Mystery
6:00pm **Dinner Detective - Niagara Falls**

Wednesday Oct 22, 2025

7:30am Full Hot Breakfast at Hotel
9:30am **Niagara Falls State Park**
10:00am **Cave of the Winds** - (Wear "OK to get Wet" shoes)
11:30am Lunch at **Rainforest Cafe Niagara Falls** - Inside Sheraton Niagara Falls
1:30pm **Maid of the Mist** Niagara Falls Boat Tour
3:00pm Boarding for Back to Hotel to Rest and Refresh
5:00pm **Dinner at Niagara Falls Buffet**

Thursday Oct 23, 2025

7:30am Full Hot Breakfast at Hotel
9:45am Boarding for Outlet Mall
10:00am **Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls**
12:00pm Lunch on own in Food Court
1:00pm Boarding/Depart for the Fort
1:30pm **Fort Niagara Tour**
3:30pm Boarding for Back to Hotel to Rest and Refresh
6:00pm Boarding/Depart for Dinner
6:05pm **Seneca Casino for Dinner and Gaming**

Friday Oct 24, 2025

7:30am Deluxe Continental Breakfast at Hotel
8:30am Boarding/Depart for Indiana
12:00pm Lunch in Cleveland Oh at **Hofbräuhaus**, Cleveland Oh
1:00pm Drive past famous House in the classic film "A Christmas Story"
4:15pm Arrive at Greenfield Walmart, 1945 N State St, Greenfield In



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Triple: \$1,069 Quad: \$999

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Minimum of 30 registered passengers is required.
85% refund on cancellations
providing venue inclusions will refund.

A limited block of rooms is available the night before departure.

Group name: Eastern Star

Fairfield Inn & Suites * 2253 William Way * Greenfield, IN 46140 * Phone: 317-318 6006

Rate: \$139.00 + tax

Cutoff Date: September 24, 2025

Grand Adah, Alicia Corn

After a day of Fun in the Sun, it was wonderful to have an "Evening Under the Stars" at Mt. Moriah. It was an amazing day! The weather co-operated to allow everyone to arrive without being rained on. As everyone came in, they were able to choose a fairy friend that was individually unique to pin on as a companion for the festivities and beyond. The fairy is a swap from Girl Scouts. In Girl Scouts, the girls will make an individual swap like these fairies on a safety pin that they can share with other girls as an exchange to start the process of introductions and making a new friend.



Around the social area, were lanterns with fairy lights in them, and classical music playing where all were welcome to socialize and enjoy the refreshments provided. The altar was draped with an antique Eastern Star quilt from the 1920's that my husband and I found several years before he passed, at a tractor show of all places. The East was decorated with items from my past and present: a family keepsake Order of Eastern Star plate, a statue of Adah, a cross, a stuffed dog wearing a Service Dog bandana, my old Brownie uniform from Girl Scouts and many patches from my time as a girl and leader scattered about, plus silver bowls and ribbons from my years in 4-H. All are a part of my background and have made me into the individual I am today.



The meal was good to perfection by Diana Surfus, as she always does. I made a donation to Labs for Liberty Service Dog Project in place of table favors. The Service Dog project has been dear to me from the very beginning when it started when I was a District Deputy that year.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed in making the day so amazing in the many different ways that it takes. I hope that everyone who made the journey to attend that day had a wonderful experience and I wish you all the best till we see each other again.

Vivian Ashton, PGM, Receives 50 Year Award



Third District was honored to pay special tribute to Vivian Ashton, PGM, for 50 years in Eastern Star. The luncheon on Tuesday, November 12 was at Clark 40 Lodge. Vivian was so pleased to have WGM Karen Hazelman and WGP Denver Gray make this special presentation. Vivian, pinned by her daughter Amanda, was feeling fortunate to attend this very special day. The Third District relies heavily on the sound judgment of Vivian Ashton. We give her love and appreciation for her continued service to our OES.

Grand Ruth, Elaine Sample

It was a beautiful day for a reception held at West Lebanon Christian Church. Fountain Chapter #204 and the rest of District #16 did an excellent job planning and decorating for the reception. The social hour was at 2:00 pm with delicious refreshments and pictures being taken by Brother George Vredenburg.

The backdrop was decorated with flowers and butterflies. There was also a sheaf of barley and a statue of Ruth decorating the photo area.

Everyone gathered into the sanctuary at 4:00 for the program. Elaine was escorted by Sister Thelma Ellingwood, Conductress. Sister Tina Vredenburg, our WM and PGM, led us all in the Pledge to the flag of our country followed by one verse of the National Anthem. Sister Tina welcomed everyone. We also had a precious baby dedication to take place. Travis and wife Jessica with their two children, Trampas and Scarlett Hetrick were presented at the altar for the ceremony. Sister Karen Hazelman, WGM, recited the beautiful words of dedication for little Miss Scarlett Hetrick, granddaughter of Brother Cary Hetrick, PGP, and Sister Michelle Hetrick.



The Invocation was given by Brother Larry Crowder, PGP. Elaine was then presented at the altar. She was very humbled and blessed that the song, "I Can Only Imagine" was played for her. She was escorted out to get ready as her Legacy of Hope Grand Family and other members lined up for the fun and exciting escort. She was dressed as a butterfly and received a huge bouquet of butterflies. So beautiful! It was a wonderful escort of Love. She was escorted to the East and introduced. She introduced those who were assisting her as: Tina Vredenburg, WM & PGM; Thelma Ellingwood, Conductress; Sharon Hutchison, Organist; and George Vredenburg, Photographer. Elaine's tribute was done by Jennifer Maggart, PGM.

Introductions were: Karen Hazelman, WGM and Denver Gray, WGP. There were 6 Past Grand Matrons and spouses, and 7 Past Grand Patrons and spouses. Members of the Grand Family were escorted and introduced as were District Deputies and spouses. Others were introduced from the floor. For each group, Elaine read quotes about butterflies. She also introduced 13 members of her family.

She thanked her Chapter and District for all that they did for her. Gifts were given to her from the WGM & WGP, as well as from Jennifer Maggart, PGM, and Robert De Rolf, PGP. She also received a gift from her Grand Families and District #16. The benediction and table grace were given by Cary Hetrick, PGP, and George Vredenburg gave the dinner instructions. Everyone was escorted to the dining room where we had a delicious dinner and wonderful fellowship. The tables were decorated with a cross and African violets. The whole church was decorated beautifully. Thank you to all!

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 August 2025, 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!

Grand Esther, Dori Cooper

What a great fun day it was when Mooresville Chapter #260 and District #6 hosted a reception honoring our very own, Dori Cooper, Grand Esther. This was held at Johnson County Fairgrounds, Scott Hall – March 29, 2025.



Scott Hall was decorated elegantly in various shades of purple, accented with white and black. The backdrop for pictures, was white with purple sheers, and variations of purple and white flowers. The podium in the East was in the shape of a Cross, very tastefully decorated, in shades of purple.

The reception was well attended. What fun was had by all, with pictures taken by Brother Brian Hensell, catching funny photos and helping create some!

The Grand Commandry of Indiana, escorted the flag to the east to start the Ceremony. The escort by the Let Freedom Ring Grand Family, had Dori with a beautiful crown, purple cape and Brother Starling with a crown. As they were escorted to the East, the escort line was fanning them! This was over the top of having fun. So wonderful to see so many of my Let Freedom Ring Grand Family.

The entertainment was by The Grand Commandry of Indiana giving the flag ceremony, folding of the flag, and explaining the meaning of the “folds” while folding the flag. I have heard from many people that this was a very moving ceremony.

Sister Diana Surfus, PGM, and her team of helpers, fed us with oven steak and all the fixings!

Thank you to all who took the time out of their day to spend it with me on my special day.

D#10 Gives 75 and 50-year Awards

The inspection for District #10 was held on March 7, 2025, at Pittsboro Chapter #416 with Plainfield Chapter #414, and Whitestown Chapter #248. Preceding the inspection were two 75-year Awards and a 50-year Award.

Alice Pritchett and Barbara Cameron were presented with their 75-year award by WGM Karen Hazelman and WGP Denver Gray. Alice was initiated into Brownsburg Chapter on Monday November 13, 1950, and was pinned by Pam Pizzato, Worthy Matron of Pittsboro Chapter. Barbara was initiated into Brownsburg Chapter on Saturday August 5, 1950, and was pinned by her daughter Tonya Cameron. Both Alice and Barbara are now members of Plainfield Chapter.



Connie Clonce was presented with her 50-year award by WGM Karen Hazelman and WGP Denver Gray. Connie was initiated into Plainfield Chapter on Thursday October 23, 1975.

Grand Martha, Amy Ogrentz

What a wonderful and memorable day! Crown Point First United Methodist Church was the perfect place to hold the "Garden of Faith" reception and I thank them for allowing us to use their beautiful building. Their sanctuary is filled with the most beautiful stained glass windows and an "ancient" organ that Brother Brian Hoover, PGO, expertly played during the prelude and the rest of the reception.



The welcome center of the church warmly greeted each person with a gift of a special "serenity/praying hand coin" and a special greeting with my picture on the TV overhead. The social hour included pictures taken by Brother Mike Roach as I stood near a white archway decorated with peach flowers and greenery. Guests enjoyed lively discussions while sharing a special sweet/salty mix and green sherbet punch.

Our Griffith Worthy Matron, Sister Jessica Jennings, who then welcomed all present, escorted me. District 19's own PGM, Sister Cindy Skura, gave the Invocation after which all recited the Pledge and the singing of the National Anthem. My cousin, Kelley Bryan (Conductress) presented me at the Altar upon which lay the Worthy Grand Matron's Bible. Also, on a shelf below the Bible was a special bronzed praying hands statue, which had belonged to my mom. A bouquet of red and white roses was present to represent my family (living and dead) as is heard in the DeMolay Flower Talk. My friend and teaching partner beautifully sang, "You'll Never Walk Alone" from "Carousel" as this is a very inspiring song to me.

One of the most surprising and fun parts of the day was my escort! "My

Faith Moves Mountains" Grand Family put together a "Beary" fun escort by putting me in a huge bear costume. I must say it was hard to get in and out of and it was very hard to see where I was going as the head kept closing over my face, but it was worth every second of fun and laughter. Each friend in the escort line had a stuffed bear and lined them up across the front of the sanctuary. I was able to take over 100 bears to the Highland Police Department to be share with children in need.

Our event was very well attended. Sister Karen Hazelman, WGM, Brother Denver Gray, WGP, and Sister Susie Roach, RWAGC were kindly in attendance with several General Grand Chapter Committee appointments, Past Grand Matrons and Patrons, Grand Officers, District Deputies, members, family (my son, Patrick is pictured), and friends. Each group was welcomed with a saying about Hugs. My deputy mom, Sister Cindy Willard, gave the tribute and hopefully people learned a little more about my past.

After several thoughtful and caring gifts were presented, Brother Harold Rowe, PGP, gave the Benediction and Brother Denver Gray, WGP, gave the Table Grace. Brother Jeremy Dykhuis, WP, did double duty as my soundman, and gave the dinner instructions. The dining room was decorated in ivory and shades of green with my own Precious Moment figurines as centerpieces and table favors of green gummy bears from Albanese. Sister Diana Surfus, GGCCM/PGM, with her helpers, prepared a delicious meal of chicken & noodles, beef & noodles, mashed potatoes, and all the side fixings.

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all who helped put this wonderful day together and to all who took time from their own special lives to share the day with me! It is appreciated more than you may ever know!

Hugs of Faith and Love to all!





Grand Electa, Susie Alpha

A reception honoring Sister Susie Alpha was held on Saturday, April 12th at the Monticello Christian Church. Susie greeted her guests in front of a beautiful Rose Garden backdrop where photos were taken by Marilyn McFatrige from District 16.

Susie received her 50-year pin from Sister Karen Hazelman, WGM, and her father, Dwight Vigus, a 67-year Past Master, pinned her. Susie told about her initiation into OES in the basement of the Monticello Methodist Church in 1975 because a tornado had destroyed the local Masonic Lodge the year before. She said she has been an active member for all 50 years.

Judy Luck welcomed everyone and introduced Susie, who mentioned throughout the program that she is a middle child, jokingly told of many ways this has come into play in her life.

Sister Conductress escorted Susie, dressed as a Hollywood star, to the East under a canopy of stars made up of Symphony of Love and Basket of Dreams Grand Families as they sang "Twinkle, Twinkle, our Red Star."

Attending were 2 General Grand Chapter Committee members, 15 Past Grand Matrons and Patrons, 18 members of the Fun in the Sun Grand Family and 11 District Deputies. Many guests introduced themselves from the floor. Conductress Tina Terry then escorted 11 members of Susie's family across the East. A total of 147 were in attendance.

Before closing, Susie had her Star Point Sisters and Grand Sentinel escorted to the East and presented her Sisters with a bracelet reflecting sisterhood and then presented Bobby with a model tractor made by Susie's father.

The entertainment was a skit by Julie Perkins, Deputy of District 17. She hilariously portrayed a former hair customer of Susie's who was disgruntled because of Susie's recent retirement and because of all her recent OES travels.

Closing remarks were followed by Susie singing a beautiful acapella version of the song "Seeds." The benediction was given by Gleda Brooks, Past Grand Matron with table grace and dinner instructions given by Richard Lassiter, Past Grand Patron and General Grand Chapter Committee Member. The dining room was decorated in bright red, following the rose garden theme. A delicious meal was prepared by Diana Surfus, Past Grand Matron and General Grand Chapter Committee Member. Table favors were small red treat containers, each made by Sister Susie.

Susie wished to thank everyone who attended her special day for their love and support.

Thank you! Thank You! Thank You!

***Many thanks for all of the cards, notes, calls, e-mails, and texts
I received after my hip surgery. You are all special and Loved.
Barb Pefley, Grand Conductress***

THE PIT CREW NEWSLETTER

At the General Grand Chapter sessions in October, 2024, an outstanding event took place. Our Sister, Susie Roach, ran for the office of Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress. There were three candidates nominated for the office, which starts the line to be Most Worthy Grand Matron. There was only one ballot needed to elect her, by a large majority. Indiana Grand Chapter now has the privilege and honor to have a Most Worthy Grand Matron. She will serve her three-year term from 2033 to 2036 and preside at the 55th Triennium Session of General Grand Chapter, the 160th Year Anniversary. Yes, it will be back in Indiana, where General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, was formed in 1876.

To prepare for this memorable occasion, a steering committee has

been formed – The Pit Crew Inc. It is the committee to guide and direct the activities to reach the ultimate and final goal of hosting the General Grand Chapter session in 2036. We have received so much help from other Grand Jurisdictions, the ones who have completed the journey and those who are going through the same steps as we will. The Pit Crew is completing its organization. We continue to meet and formulate the many steps to take as we move forward. The first presence will be at Indiana Grand Chapter in June of 2025. We hope you will be at The Horizon Center, in Muncie, to see what is available. One of the future steps will be providing General Grand Chapter, during year number four (2028), with a budget for our GGC session, which once approved, will be the amounts General Grand Chapter will pay for the 2036 meeting. This is all a part of our progress to the 160th anniversary. Enough for now, there will be more at Grand Chapter.

Tammy's Tea Party for St. Martin's Healthcare

Spencerville Chapter members and guests participated in the 19th Annual Tammy's Tea raising funds for St. Martin Healthcare Clinic of Garrett, IN. A tea, lunch and desserts were enjoyed by the 1341 attendees before raffling of the 45 donated baskets. Twenty-four Spencerville Eastern Star Members and family friends donated items for a little girl's basket including a bean bag chair, stuffed animals, and jewelry. We won several items in an Easter basket which was shared at our March meeting with the men winning the body cream and lady's green purse. Personnel donations were also given toward the operations of the Mobile Unit for



the Clinic. Pictured are 1st Row - Amelia Krafft, Evelyn Rodkey, Sophie Sparkman, Ari Lauer. 2nd Row - Joan Chavez, Tammy Hickman, Rachel Ardinse, Diann Stienbarger, Angie Sparkman, Becky Hoover, Suzzete Rodgers. 3rd Row - Deb Wyse, Angie Dunakin, Dawn Tilkins, Tracy Whan, Laura Dangler, Millie Lentz, Donna Lentz, Bev Krafft.

125th Anniversary for Hayden Chapter

It was a sunny, windy day in District #4 on March 30, 2025, when Hayden Chapter #253 celebrated their 125th Anniversary. It was celebrated as a Birthday party. The tables were decorated with spring flowers and Butterfly's and a stage full of many beautiful wrapped gifts.



The special guests in attendance were introduced by Paula Kahrs, WM as: WGM Karen Hazelman and husband Mike Hazelman; WGP Denver Gray and wife Wanda Gray; our District #4 Deputy Roberta (Robbie) Anderson and Marvin Anderson; and our special Star Chaser Janice Hogan. Each received a special gift that they got to choose from the row of gifts.

Paula Kahrs gave a special report of the 125 years of highlights in the Hayden Chapter along with the number of District Deputies, Former Grand Representatives, and several distinguished

members. The purchase of their first piano was \$40.00, which was a lot of money at that time to raise.

We then had entertainment of a crossword puzzle with some answers to questions that were given in the Hayden report. The next game was a left-right game where everyone selected a gift from the row of gifts and we stood in a circle while Paula Kahrs read the "Blossom Bunny Story" containing left and right in the story. Every-time she read a direction we had to pass our gift in the direction told in the story. This game had everyone laughing and having a good time.

After the entertainment we had delicious Cake and Ice Cream, then we went next door to enjoy the Hayden Historical Museum, which was very interesting showing Hayden's distinguished people. Next, we went to the Museum called "Yesterday". It was very interesting with a Narrator showing the original Phonograph players and original pump organs, all played without electricity by cracking and pumping pedals on the organs. The original records were paper rolls with holes that made the music, then we had plastic rolls that looked like film rolls with holes to make music, then we had the aluminum records with holes that made the music, and last, as we know, the vinyl records which were very thick at first then later much thinner. The Narrator played each of these types of music records on an original music cabinet with a



crank and they really sounded like songs.

This Museum of Yesterday was also filled with many Time magazines dated from 1936 for 10 cents, then each 10 years they went up in price all the way to the last one printed. It also had a wall of record albums with all the famous singers on the covers. After this Museum, we went to the Nichter Gas Station, having the original tall gas pumps and fancy wooden counter inside with old oil cans on display.

This was a very exciting and fun filled day of going back in the past.



Let It Snow Friend's Night

Jeffersonville Chapter in District three had their Friends Night planned for the 10th of January with a theme of Snow. However, there was too much real snow at that time and the meeting had to be canceled.

That didn't change the theme when the Friends Night was rescheduled for the 14th of February. The evening started with a pitch-in dinner. The plans went forward with an opening ode of 'Let it Snow'. Friends Night is a fun time to honor our District Deputy Sister Rhonda Martin. Rhonda was given a gift and invited to sit in the East. The closing ode was 'Frosty the Snowman', after which everyone retired to the dining area for fun and games.

Sister Rhonda drew a name from a box containing the names of those present to be her contestant. Sister Freda Sommerville, a member of La Belle Chapter, was her contestant in the Snowball Race. Sisters Rhonda and Freda each had a shovel and using only one hand transferred snowballs to buckets at the end of the hall. The snowballs were so much alike they looked like cotton balls and the shovels resembled spoons. It was decided that Rhonda had the most snowballs in her bucket.



Then Sister Rhonda drew the name of Debra Byrd, a member of Blazing Bright and Jeffersonville Chapters to see who could scoop the most 'snowballs' into a bucket using only one hand and blindfolded. Again, it was decided that Sister Rhonda had the most snowballs in her bucket.

Next Sister Rhonda drew the name of Sister Sherry Snead, a member of Blazing Bright, Jeffersonville, Hanover and LaBelle Chapters. The challenge this time was to see who could build the best 'Ice Castle' within three minutes. The 'ice blocks' were sweet like sugar cubes. Those present voted that Sister Rhonda had made the best 'Ice Castle'.

After that, a 'Very Cold Snowball' was passed around. As the plastic wrap came off from the snowball, a small gift fell out.

Everyone went home with the gift they were holding at the end of the Right/Left game to the story of 'Frosty the Snowman'. The evening was full of laughter and fun.



Martha Rennick Received Award



On April 9th, Montezuma Chapter made a trip to Compass Park in Franklin to present a 75-year OES pin to Martha Rennick. She had started her journey at Judson Chapter in Judson, IN. She was a Worthy Matron the year our current Grand Conductress Barbara Pefley was a deputy her first time. Present were: Pam Wrightsman, WM; Barb Pefley, Grand Conductress; Roy Methews, WP; and Mrs. Martha Rennick. She was so excited to receive her pin and told us about all her memories and friends she has made during her Eastern Star years.

District #5 Happenings

District 5 has been busy this year providing community service to those distressed in the district and raising funds for Service Dogs and the Worthy Grand Matron & Patron's projects! It has also recognized those that achieved significant milestones of service in our order. Among those recognized included:

75 years of service: Dorothy Jewett & Betty Hyatt, both of Versailles #333 and Nedra Smith of Brookville #449

50 years of service: L. Joe Combs, Andersonville #93, Sharon Jones & Margaret Lykins, both of Versailles #333, Virginia "Ginny" Reeves, Bennington #407 and Marilynn Chilton, Alice Pennington and Shauna Vonderheide, Brookville #449

Bennington member Jim Baker was honored with an appointment as Grand Representative of Alberta, Canada in Indiana at the first inspection in the district!

Andersonville #93 continued their longstanding tradition of providing food donations through the area schools for area families in need. They also donate homemade fruit pies to assist the Mason's fund-raising September Chicken dinner held in Laurel.

Versailles #333 was busy raising money for Worthy Grand Matron's projects (and chapter) with Wick's pie sales. Approaching Christmas, additional funds are raised by sending out Santa letters to deserving kids ordered by a loving family member.

Bennington #407 provided creative hand-made crafts by Julie & Roy Leap sold at Sleepy Hallow in Vevay and the Pumpkin Patch Craft Fair in Versailles for the Worthy Grand Matron & Patron's project, Supporting our Youth.

Not to be out done, Brookville #449 sells lemon shake-ups and Jonagold apples during the Franklin County Fair and Canal Days. The money made is used to help families at Christmas time. This year, because the need was so great, a family from Laurel was assisted.

As many remember Hurricane Helene this past October left many towns in western North Carolina along the French Broad River destroyed by flooding. By the end of the week, Bennington and Versailles chapters teamed together to collect badly needed PPE supplies and bottled water for the City of Hot Springs, North Carolina, one of the cities in the path of Hurricane Helene's flooding. North American Stainless should be commended as well, for donating over \$5000 of these supplies trailered by the chapters to Hot Springs in this project.

Pictured helping load relief supplies for Hot Springs, NC are: Julie Leap, Bennington; Denise Wilson, Versailles; Mark Boggs, Bennington; Roy Leap, Bennington; and Chip Marcy, Versailles. In the lower picture are Hot Springs, NC Disaster Relief officials accepting the PPE and relief supplies.



Birthday Bash

Happy 102nd Birthday to Englewood #483 and District 11

Englewood celebrated its own birthday and those in attendance on Friend's Night with a Birthday Bash. Good food, tables decorated for the 12 months in a year welcomed those who made the trek to Englewood for Friend's Night on March 24th. Guests were asked to sit at a table of their respective birth month and asked to pick a name tag of a famous celebrity who shared their birthday of that respective month.



Celebrities ranged from famous singer Celine Dion, Supreme Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg to Tom Cruise, Barbara Streisand to name a few. Once your celebrity was picked, everyone was asked to use their phones to learn something about their special person. It was interesting while most knew the celebrity by name, little unknown facts were discovered. Between good food and good fellowship, it was a good evening and one shared by many.

Little Things Mean a Lot

In these days where there is so much being busy and pulled in so many directions, it doesn't take a 'lot' or a grand program to make a meeting meaningful. Melody DeRolf, Worthy Matron of Englewood #483, made a stated meeting special, yet meaningful to those in attendance. She read off the names of those who were on committees to stand and be escorted to the West. She then shared a reading about serving the chapter. Ladies were treated to a journal and the men a flashlight.

Imagine the surprise when Brother Bob, PGP, presented Brother Ron Buchanan, PP, with his certificate of having passed his Proficiency test. Brother Ron had been silently wondering if he had passed or not, having taken the test in December. Unbeknown to him, his wife had received in the mail his certificate and was holding it until a stated meeting. In addition to his certificate Sister Melody had a white duck that had the date he passed his test written on the front of its body.

This particular stated meeting held all of the business required and it also included some little things to make it an enjoyable evening. Sometimes it's not what is done, but how the 'little things' can be big things for all who attend.



The Beat Goes On in District 10

Whitestown Chapter #248 celebrated their 125th Anniversary on February 22, 2025, at the Celestial Masonic Lodge with 58 guests and members present. The program started off with an invocation and everyone joined in giving the Pledge of Allegiance and sang the National Anthem. As members were introduced, they played "As the Beat Goes On" and we snapped our fingers to the sounds of the music.

Distinguished guests were introduced by Pam Cohee, WM. We welcomed Karen Hazelman, WGM; Denver Gray, WGP, and Wanda; Angela Hensell, GGCCM and PGM, and Brian; Madonna Meyerrose, Cindy Cohee, Sherry Johnson, all PGMs; Richard Lassiter, GGCCM and PGP; Larry Mills, PGP; Anna Burton, Grand Secretary; Carl Hinshaw, Grand Marshall; Alicia Corn, Grand Adah; Dori Cooper, Grand Esther, and Starling; Amy Ogrentz, Grand Martha; Susie Alpha, Grand Electa; Lynn Shoulders, Grand Warder, and Bill; Bobby Slaughter, Grand Sentinel, and Sharon; Michelle Mitchell, DD#2; Robbie Anderson, DD#4, and Marvin; Cathy Thomas, DD#10, Linda Gasper, DD#11, and John.

PDD Felecia Bayer read some history regarding the last twenty-five years of Whitestown Chapter. The Chapter proudly continues to have members selected that keep the heartbeat of the District and state going strong over the past 25 years. They had the pleasure of their own Angela Hensell serving the state in 2022-2023 as WGM of the Indiana Grand Chapter with Brian by her side. Vicky Tudor joined them as the Grand Warder.

They were honored to host the School of Instruction in 2022 for Sister Angela Hensell, WGM. Lebanon Chapter #23 consolidated with Whitestown Chapter in 2021 bringing them PGM Cindy Cohee.

Whitestown Chapter has continued to provide aid to philanthropic projects supporting the fruit fund, cancer fund, Masonic Home projects, WGM and WGP projects, ESTARL, the canine project and others.

Guests were treated to a catered lunch of soup and sandwiches in the dining room afterwards. Table favors given out were small read pouch envelopes including an image of a heartbeat rhythm scan, and Dove chocolates enclosed.

Like many Chapters, the membership of Whitestown Chapter has had its ups and downs. However, one thing has continued to be steadfast and true: the friendship of our Sisters and Brothers. May the members of Whitestown Chapter keep the beat going for another twenty-five years! **Here's to 2050!**



Ruth Hussong, PM; Karen Hazelman, WGM;
Pam Cohee, WM; Doug Tudor, WP; Dennis
Shepherd



Pam Cohee, WM; Vicky Tudor, PDD & PG Warder;
Ruth Hussong PM

Quacks for Kids

Jeep Run & Scavenger Hunt

**Silent Auction, Music, Food,
Fun, and Doorprizes.**

**Pre-register & be entered
for special doorprize.**

**Many prizes for
decorations,
scavenger specials,
and more!!**

***Pre Registration \$20.
\$10 per passenger.
\$30/\$15 late comers***

**Have an adventure
supporting our youth!!**

**Start Location: Scottish Rite
8930 U. S. Highway 40,
Terre Haute, IN 47803
Saturday, August 2nd, 2025
Registration opens: 9 a.m.
Start time 10 a.m.
Return time 4 p.m.**



REGISTER NOW

**Cheryl Phillips
oes.CherylPhillips.in@gmail.com
812-699-5027
2032 N 31st Street
Terre Haute, IN 47804**



HOPE

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

2 Stars

In Memory of
Beverley Barton & Lowell Carlisle
PGM & PGP 1984-1985
Sunshine Grand Family
From Ann Merritt, DD#21

In Memory of
Virgia Hendrick, PGM 1994-1995
Precious Memories Grand Family
From Ann Merritt, Grand Warder

OES Love in Remembrance
Barbara Terry, PGM
Beverley Barton, PGM
From Naomi Mitchell, PGM

3 Stars

I have three amazing children, Jennette I. Munoz-Colon, Hector L. Munoz-Colon, Danny R. Colon-Clark. I thank God every day for these three blessings.
Gladys Colon-Clark

4 Stars

In Loving memory
of my wonderful mother,
Martha Jocelyn Strader, 65 Year member
Secretary emeritus, Past District Deputy #11
Past Grand Martha
Love you forever.
Your daughter, Barbara Lanouette

5 Stars

In Memory of
Sister Virgia Hendrick, PGM
D#13 Past Deputies Association



SAVE THE DATE TO DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY
Supporting the WGM/WGP's Joint Project

"SEEDS OF HOPE"

May 2, 2026

"DANCING WITH THE STARS OF OES"



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!

Star-Lite

Published Bi-monthly (6 issues a year) \$20.00

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Lynhurst Presents 50-Year Awards

Before our stated meeting on April 8th at Lynhurst Chapter #505 of Indianapolis, a 50-year award presentation took place. The officers entered the chapter room and took their respective stations. The Conductress attended at the altar and the Bible was opened.

The Secretary read the proclamation giving Brother Carl Hinshaw, Grand Marshal, an appointment as Special Deputy to present a 50-year Award of Gold. The Conductress conducted Brother J. Edwin Bourne and family to the altar as per instructed. At this time, Carl presented the ceremony

and Ed received his pin from his wife, Connie. Ed was asked to say a few words regarding his time in Eastern Star and he stated that he has made a lot of good lasting friendships through this organization, as well as the Masons. He introduced the family members that were with him at this time. Ed was escorted to the East and was given Grand Honors, a standing ovation, and applause by the members in attendance. The family was escorted back to their seats, the Bible was closed and a short recess was given before the opening of Chapter.

There were two more 50-year awards given this year as follows: Cynthia A. Day and Wanda Lowe. Sister Day was ill the evening of the presentation and Sister Wanda lives in Florida so her pin was sent to her.

Pictured are Carl Hinshaw, Connie Bourne, Edwin Bourne, Jeff & Brenda Bourne, Ed's son and wife with Mary Hutson, WM, in the background.

Star-Lite is the official magazine of the Order of the Eastern Star in Indiana. It is published bimonthly (Aug., Oct., Dec., Feb., April, & June) online and in print by subscription. Check your address label for errors in your name, address, and especially the chapter and district number. Report errors and/or corrections to Nancy Pratt.

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

Send articles and pictures with self-addressed stamped envelope if you want them returned to:

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Copy Deadlines:
August issue – June 15
October issue – August 15
December issue – October 15
February issue – December 15
April issue – February 15
June issue – April 15