



A Walk in the Woods



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Greetings to all the precious members of the Order of the Eastern Star in Indiana! It is my honor to serve alongside Brother Tom, Sister Terry, and all the "Nature Sings" Grand Family.

As we begin our service year to our Indiana Grand Chapter, I am reminded of one of my favorite scriptures: Ecclesiastes 3:1 "For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven." May hope, love, and prosperity define this new season for us all!

We congratulate Sister Karen Hazelman, Jr. Past Grand Matron, and Brother Denver Gray, Jr. Past Grand Patron, on a successful 150th Grand Chapter Session celebrating our rich history and we look forward to adding the next pages to launch our Order into that prosperous future.

The idea of bringing nature's beauty to the center was not at random. God's hand is evident from the first call of the songbirds to the flowers at daybreak, to the calming of the winds in a dazzling sunset sky. When was the last time you stopped to enjoy quiet beginnings of a new day dawning? To pause and revel in the brilliant hues of summer sky or appreciate even the crisp winter air that puts us beside a cozy fire with friends? Amidst the hustle and bustle, the truly wonderful moments lie in seeing the beauty all around us.

The same holds true for our beautiful Order. Our foundations are rooted in unchanging principles exemplified by the heroines of our central star and bound by the obligation we all took as we knelt at the altar. These are the foundation blocks and must be honored, but it is the small things that keep us together and make this Order worthy of our efforts. To those who quietly make sure the Chapter room is ready for a meeting, lovingly make the evening's meal, or make the effort to call up another member that hasn't been able to enjoy the fellowship of the Chapter in a while, your efforts do not go unnoticed.

Each of us plays an important role in writing the new pages of our history. Our thanks to the Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons of our subordinate Chapters, the Grand Chapter Committee members, and the Nature Sings Grand Family who have chosen a leadership role for our service year. With His guidance, may we serve you well this year.

For this new season of Indiana Grand Chapter, may we reflect on the guiding principles that have brought us to this point in our journey and how they help to guide our actions for the Good of the Order far into the future. May we all take those special moments throughout each day to reflect on the beauty of nature and our Order and continue to **Have Only Positive Expectations!**

Always together in service,
Carol Davis, WGM

Notes from the Woodshop

Greetings to all my Sisters and Brothers of the Order of the Eastern Star. It is an honor for Terry and me to serve with Sister Carol and our "Nature Sings Grand Family".

I would like to congratulate Sister Karen, Jr. Past Grand Matron, and Brother Denver, Jr. Past Grand Patron, on their fine job of celebrating the history of the 150th OES Grand Chapter Session.

I have found great satisfaction over the past four years by honing my woodworking skills and producing diverse pieces for different occasions, including heartfelt gifts and items for the steering committee to sell. My passion for woodworking has inspired the title "Notes from the Woodshop".

I am looking forward to traveling the state this year and seeing and making new friends. Our order is declining so hopefully with our new Membership Taskforce committee we may get some new ideas to increase our membership. Let's all get out there in our communities and promote our beautiful order and the projects we support.

Our Service Dog Project is named "Never Walk Alone". To raise money for this project, we have a bus trip planned to Niagara Falls on October 20th – 25th. Please contact Sister Diana Surfus at dlsurfus@gmail.com or 1-574-518-1935. We hope you will be traveling with us! We will have lots of sites to see and exciting things to do.

Support the Nettie Ransford Scholarships by inviting your District Deputy to your meeting and events. They will be collecting coins in a replica penny bank especially made for this year. The District with the most funds raised will earn a pizza party hosted by the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron.

"Follow His Star" is this year's ESTARL theme, guiding our continued commitment to funding those who seek to study religious leadership.

Our World of Youth Scholarship, "Blessings from Above", will be supported by a special event in April 2026, we will keep you informed. Our goal is to help fund one or two more opportunities for children and their parents to get the education they desire.

The Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron joint project, "Seeds of Hope", is a continuation of supporting our youth in Indiana. We are actively working to raise the necessary funds to bolster our youth groups and partner with fellow Masonic organizations for this worthy cause. Keep an eye out for exciting announcements in October about "Dancing with the Stars"- our year end event.

Our Most Worthy Grand Matrons Special Project is supporting Alzheimer's research. We encourage you to be active in your local communities in September and October by supporting the Alzheimer's Association in Indiana to support research efforts and local needs of families with significant challenges of this disease.

As the Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Carol, Terry, and I journey the state this year let us work for the good of the order!

Thank you for electing me your Worthy Grand Patron. I am honored and humbled to serve our beautiful order.

Tommy R. Ring WGP
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Losantville, IN 47354
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New Castle, #116 D#12
ttring@peoplepc.com



Ahoy Matey !
 It's a pirates life for me!
Multi-State 2025
 Seized by Michigan Grand Officers
 August 16, 2025

Wisconsin
 Ransom: \$47.00
 (includes grub and brew)
 To: Colleen Wilcenski
 10696 Ferry Rd.
 Charlevoix, MI
 49720-9546
cmwilcenski@gmail.com
 231-675-2273

Michigan
 Checks payable to: Grand Chapter
 OES of Michigan

Tecumseh Masonic Temple
 700 Bishop Reed Dr.
 Tecumseh, MI

Registration: 4:00 pm
 Dinner: 5:30 pm
 Dress code: Ye old pirate garb!

Missouri
Illinois
Indiana
Pirates
Ohio
Kentucky

INDIANA WIDOWS SON 3-5-7
 PRESENTS
OES-ICAN
 VETERAN SERVICE DIVISION
 RIDE
 ALL PROCEEDS ARE DONATED TO THE SERVICE
 ANIMALS FOR VETERANS

SEPTEMBER 13TH
SCHNELKER PARK
 956 Park Ave; New
 Haven, IN 46774

WIDOWS SONS
 3-5-7

ICAN Indiana Canine Assistant Network

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
 Supports Service Dogs

REGISTRATION STARTS AT
10AM
 KICK STANDS UP **12PM**

\$15 a single rider
 \$20 with a passenger

"Nature Sings" Grand Family



Associate Grand Matron

Barbara Pefley
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Associate Grand Patron

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46936

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Grand Secretary

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Grand Treasurer

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Grand Conductress

Tamara Shake
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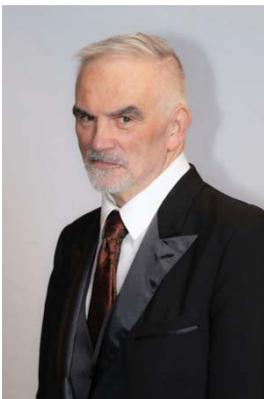
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Associate Grand Conductress

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Grand Chaplain

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Grand Marshal

Bobby Slaughter
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"Nature Sings" Grand Family



Grand Organist

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Grand Adah

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Grand Warder

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“Stars and Comets”

District #1



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"Sunflowers and Gardeners"

District #9



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District #10



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District #11



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District #12



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District #13



District #14



District #15



District #16



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"Stars and Comets"

District #17



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District #18



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District #20



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District #21



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Grand Secretary Emeritus

Jonny Beeler
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Franklin #439 D#6



“Nature Sings” 2025-2026

Motto

In every walk with Nature,
one receives far more than he
seeks.

Aim

When heaven and nature sings,
we should find the joy within.

Watchwords

Hope-in the principles of the five rays
of our Star

Love-for all our Sisters and Brothers

Prosperity-of our Order for the future

Emblems

Acorns and Oak Leaves

Fun Symbols

Woodland creatures, Campers,
Coffee cups

Flowers

Wildflowers, white lily, blue violet,
peony, hydrangea

Colors

Shades of brown, cognac, autumn
orange, accents of gold
All the colors of Nature's beauty

Honor Groups

Districts 7 and 12
Hymera and New Castle Chapters,
Youth Organizations

WGM/WGP Scripture

Do all things without complaining or
arguing so that you shine
like the stars in the universe.
(Philippians 2:14-15)

WGM/WGP Prayer

Create in us the desire to live in harmony
with creation so all creatures may flourish,
and your Kingdom come!

Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons

Fireflies and Lanterns

Music

Baby Dedication
“Itsy Bitsy Spider”

Opening Ode
“In the Garden”

Closing Ode
“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”





GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER APPOINTMENTS 2024-2027

Susie Roach, PGM (Mike)
Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress
 503 S. Oak Street Odon, IN 47562
 Odon #341, D#2

Cancer Committee

Angela Hensell, PGM
 (Brian)
 2115 Travis Lane
 Lebanon, IN 46052
 Whitestown #248, D#10

Eastern Star Journal Committee

Kathy Livings, PGM (Joe)
 15850 CR 129
 Bristol, IN 46507
 Starlight #181, D#20

Regenerative Medicine Committee

Richard Lassiter, PGP
 9646 Tammy Renee Dr.
 Indianapolis, IN 46235
 Radiant #200, D#10

Service Dog Committee

Diana Surfus, PGM
 3946 W. 1050 N.
 Milford, IN 46542
 Columbia City #65, D#14

Special Appointment -- Star Chasers

Vivian Ashton, PGM (Jim)
 3417 Stenger Lane
 Jeffersonville, IN 47130
 Jeffersonville #327, D#3

Jan Hogan
 3745 W. St. Hwy 250
 Paris Crossing, IN 47270
 Jeffersonville #327, D#3

Grand Trustees

Sonda Schapson, PGM (Butch) 1 Year
 22 Fairlane Dr.
 Warsaw, IN 46580
 Warsaw #88 D#20

Larry Frost, PGP (Nancy) 2 Years
 372 Lynnview Ln.
 New Castle, IN 47362
 New Castle #116, D#12

Patricia Endsley, PGM (Bill) 3 Years
 4404 N. 600 E.
 Van Buren, IN 46991
 Mississinewa #94, D#13

Cindy Skura, PGM (Dave) 4 Years
 10695 Peachtree Lane
 St. John, IN 46373
 Griffith #583, D#19

Cecil Scott, PGP (Pat) 5 Years
 454 S. 325 W
 Princeton, IN 47670
 Golden Fleece #176, D#1

OES Representative on the Masonic Home Board

Connie Branigan
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 Milan, IN 47031
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 Versailles #333 D#5

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!

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



The Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron presented a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington D.C., the week of May 5th, 2025. It was a moving experience, and our Order was represented with many Indiana members present for this service. Perfect weather was had during this ceremony. When presenting the wreath, the crowd is still, Taps are played, while everyone stands at attention. Many memories were made for Karen and Denver and all who attended the ceremony. We also visited

the Flight 93 Memorial, the International Headquarters of OES, the National Mall, along with other stops during the week. It was a wonderful trip!



75-Year Award - Doris Benson

Columbus Chapter #339 awarded a 75-year pin to Doris Benson on a special day with her daughters. Doris lives in Florida so her daughters took their Mother out to a special dinner on Mothers Day and gave her the 75-year pin. Doris was very excited and surprised.



Hanover Honors 75-Year Member

Brother James Rogers was honored to present Sister Irene Neal with her 75-year pin on Thursday, May 29. Several family members and OES members gathered at the Madison River Terrace facility to recognize this great accomplishment. Irene was pinned by her daughter, Toni Olberding.

Sister Irene held several offices in Hanover Chapter, including Worthy Matron. She faithfully attended meetings until she was unable to do so and fondly remembers her time in Hanover Chapter.



50-Year Award



Brother Farrell Duckworth was awarded his 50-year pin on May 8, 2025 at the Stanford Lodge. Brother Bobby Slaughter, Grand Sentinel, presented the award and was pinned by Suan Stine, his accompanying friend.

Brother Farrell lived in Chicago where he joined the Masons before transferring to Indiana where he was elected to the Indiana Senate and inducted to the Shriners. Brother Farrell was also the first fire Chief of Van Buren Township and responsible for starting the Van Buren Township Fire department.

He remarked the award means an awful lot to him and that his wonderful friend Suan pinned him. He is almost 92 years old, has enjoyed every year, and this is the icing on the cake! Pictured below are: Sister Sarah Hamlin, Sister Danielle Keene, Brother Farrell Duckworth, Brother Farrell's friend Suan Stine, and Brother Bobby Slaughter.



Pauline Engle Receives 50-Year Pin

Joyous time was had when Pauline Engle from Columbus Chapter in District 4 received her 50-year pin from Karen Hazelman, WGM. Pauline received her pin on April 16, 2025 at Traditions Assisted Living Center, Columbus, Indiana.



Darlene Small, Grand Organist Reception

Your Grand Organist's year of service began with a seriously ill spouse. Six days before I was scheduled to play for the reception of our Worthy Grand Matron, my lifelong classmate and friend and Worthy Grand Patron, my husband was put in the hospital with toxic shock pneumonia and in 24 hours was on a ventilator for the first week. His total care resulted in 38 days of in-hospital and rehab. After over a year of ups and downs, I believe I can say he has reached a new normal, but at least is able to get out and about with some driving, church, dining and light shopping. A BIG

thanks to all of you around the state for your prayers for us – GOD is good!!

My planned August reception happened on February 8th. I extend a heartfelt 'thank you' to my Washington Chapter #210 members here in this picture for putting together a lovely reception and celebration to honor me. You can see we are small, but a mighty force with our past and present Grand/General Grand Officers plus many lifelong members of our beautiful order!

A huge "thank you" to those who were able to come – you all made my day! The extended friendships made during a year of service in a 'Grand' office are beyond measure! Hugs to all members of my District No. 2 and others beyond!!

Sister Darlene Small, JP Grand Organist



Bluebird Deputy #16 Celebrates 104 Years!



PGM Linda Cline's Bluebird Deputy #16 in 1983-84 is Kathy Raub. Linda put the word out to those she knew about Kathy's upcoming 104th birthday. The following is what Kathy's son, Greg Raub, wrote to Linda after the celebration.

On behalf of my mother, Kathy Raub, thank you for your contributions to her 104th birthday celebration...your card, spreading the word, and the beautiful flowers. I sort of lost track of things that day, but I believe you also sent the birthday sash.

For my mother, it seemed like a pretty good day (she has good days and not-so-good days). In typical fashion for her, she didn't know what all the fuss was about. Including residents, staff, family and friends, I would guess that we had close to 75 people attending. There were also lots of cards, including some from other Star folks. I spent a good part of the morning after sitting with my mother helping her to look through the cards. I know she appreciated hearing from everyone. Thanks again - Greg Raub

Fort Wayne Chapter Adopts A Service Dog

At a recent stated meeting of Fort Wayne Chapter #432, Margaret Smith moved the Chapter adopt a Service Dog. The motion was seconded and carried. In honor of a longtime member, Mildred "Millie" Walker, the Chapter requested a female dog with the name of Millie.



PGM Diana Surfus took the order and was delighted that District 14 was adopting another Service Dog. Sister Millie Walker was initiated into Chapter on December 21, 1978, beginning years of service not only to Fort Wayne Chapter, but also to Indiana Grand Chapter.

She served on all the Standing Committees—Program, Social, Decorating, and Visiting, as well as serving as an Officer several times in the Past Matrons Club. Her first office was Electa in 1980 followed by five more stints at the Electa Point. She served as Martha seven years, Esther two years, Ruth one year, Marshal one year, Chaplain three years, Associate Conductress two years, Conductress ten years, Associate Matron three years, and Worthy Matron four years. We could always depend on Millie to be at the Temple working on whatever project was underway, from decorating to setting tables, to fixing meals, to making noodles, to serving pancakes, etc. She was always the first to volunteer.

Millie was appointed a Grand Representative of Florida in Indiana by PGM Cindy Cohee. She was a Grand Page for PGM Patricia Endsley, was District 14's Star-Lite Chairman for PGM Ruth Thompson, and was on the Pilgrimage to the Holy Land Committee for PGM Joyce Small.

She passed away in April 2023, having been a member for 45 years and is sorely missed by all who knew her. May this Service Dog named in her memory bring joy to the recipient.



Greencastle Sponsors Gracie

Greencastle Chapter #255 is sponsoring a service dog and her name is Gracie! She started her training the first week of June for her first session! She will train for 6-9 weeks, then she will be on furlough with an ICAN representative to acclimate her on her social skills! An ICAN representative brought her to Putnam Inn on May 14th so that we could meet her! Greencastle members are pictured with Gracie.

District 1 Looking Forward

We are looking forward to listening to the "Natures Sing" year ahead. This year we start with some new songs and some old favorites, with some excited new Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons who are up and coming for the year ahead.

Jeanie Boling and Ron Howard starts us off with a new song at Chrisney No. 357. Kelly and Jim Reilly will sing again, but this time at Evansville No. 555 by way of Tennessee. Emilie Williamson and Tom DeDios will sing another chorus at Friendship No. 32. Patti and Dwight Horn are singing another stanza at Garnet No. 146. Judy Phillips and Bruce Davis will be singing again in the East at Golden Fleece No. 176. Barbara and Ron Price will be riding in on another verse at Lynnville No. 542. Mae Pavelka and Billy Joe Bebout will sing a new song at Sunbeam No. 1. Christy and Rusty Lenard are singing a second verse at Tell City No. 272.

We in District No. 1 are looking forward to the new and the songs of old that will ring out in our Chapters as we find Joy, Hope, Love and Prosperity as our Star shines bright in 2025-2026.



Golden Fleece Baby Shower

Golden Fleece Chapter held a special Baby Shower before its second meeting in April, to assist True Hope Pregnancy & Family Resource Center, after it lost all inventory in a tragic fire. True Hope was warehousing its inventory in a church two blocks north of its offices. The historic church caught on fire and all inventory was lost. Golden Fleece Chapter accepted donations from members and friends to help rebuild the inventory. True Hope is a faith-based organization providing material aids and support to young mothers and families. Pictured are Golden Fleece members: Judy Phillips, Pat Scott, Cecil Scott, Bruce Davis, Lynn Shoulders, and Donna Bishop.

Summer Greetings from District #3

Hello Indiana OES Friends!

My name is Tammy Watson, and I am honored to have been asked to serve as District Deputy for District #3 this year.

I began my Eastern Star journey at the age of 18 when I joined Jeffersonville Chapter while serving as Honored Queen of Bethel #24, Job's Daughters. Throughout the years, I've had the privilege of serving my chapter in many capacities including Warder, Electa, Organist (many years), Associate Conductress, Conductress, Associate Matron (twice), and Worthy Matron (twice). Later, I joined Blazing Bright Chapter, where I continued my service as Organist, Associate Matron, and most recently, Worthy Matron. Eastern Star has always been a family tradition — my mom and dad were Past Matron and Patron of Jeffersonville Chapter in 1980–1981. Now my husband, Ken, and daughter, Rachel, are also members of Jeffersonville Chapter.

District #3 Updates

Blazing Bright Chapter kicked off the year with excitement by holding their first initiation in July and has already read a second petition! We are thrilled to welcome new members and share the light of our beautiful Order.

We're also proud to spotlight a wonderful accomplishment in our district: Amanda Rehkamp, of Jeffersonville Chapter, and daughter of Vivian Ashton, PGM, was installed as Grand Guardian of Indiana/Kentucky Job's Daughters on June 21st at Huntington University. She will serve through June 2026, traveling the state to support Bethels and host official visits. What an honor for Amanda, and for all of us in District #3!

A Final Thought

"If you're alone, I'll be your shadow. If you want to cry, I'll be your shoulder. If you want a hug, I'll be your pillow. If you need to be happy, I'll be your smile. But anytime you need a friend, I'll just be me."

Stay tuned for more happenings from District #3 in the next issue. Until then, enjoy your summer, stay connected, and keep shining bright!

Muncie Chapter Has A New Member!

Please help us welcome Sister Carole Bashore, our newest member! Sister Carole was initiated on June 3, 2025, into Muncie Chapter #104, with the assistance of a few Sisters and a Brother from Upland Chapter #411. Sister Carole will be a welcomed addition to our chapter as she loves to stay active and organize fun things to do. She is a golfer and also plays cards, when she isn't working. Her enthusiasm is contagious and we look forward to many fun evenings! Carole petitioned our Chapter with letters of recommendation from Sister Sandra Slavin and Brother Robert Fey, both members of Muncie Chapter



Rebecca Roland, WM; Carole Bashore;
Max Nottingham, WP

Nineveh Friend's Day Tea

Nineveh #466 OES Friend's Day was held on May 3rd, 2025. This was a first-time tea and fun was had by all. We had games, prizes, entertainment, and great food. Most everyone dressed in hats and some costumes. Carla and Dee Ellington seemed to be the best dressed for the day. Several Masons served the ladies in formal attire and did a fantastic job. We are looking forwards to next year's tea.



Carla & Dee Ellington



Past deputies of District 6 attending the tea.



Carla Ellington is a rebel and needed coffee, as being poured for her by Jeffery Prairie!

Greetings from District Deputy #6

I was born on December 18, 1950, in Brazil, Indiana. My immediate family is my mother, who is a sixty-plus year member of Eastern Star, sister, brother and sister-in-law, two nieces and their husbands and one great niece. My father passed away in May 2005. We moved to Fortville in March 1961 so my father would be closer to work. I retired from the Federal Government at the end of 2005.

My Masonic history started with my parents being active with Fortville Masonic Lodge and Fortville Chapter OES. I was initiated into Job's Daughters Bethel 41 Fortville on April 5, 1965. I am a Past Honored Queen and Past Bethel Guardian of Bethel 41 and a Past Grand Guardian of Indiana.

I joined Fortville Chapter #149 in November 1971. I have held several offices for the Chapter. My first time as Worthy Matron was in March 1976. I have been Worthy Matron 11 times at Fortville. After Fortville consolidated with Eden Chapter #101, I have been Worthy Matron 3 times plus have taken other offices. Also, I am a Past President of District 6 Association. I have been Grand Page and Grand Representative of Puerto Rico in Indiana.

My sister and I have lived together ever since I was born. Yes, she puts up with me. I love to be with family, put jigsaw puzzles together, play cards and read.

I am still active with Job's Daughters and, of course, Eastern Star. I look forward to enjoying the time as Nature Sings 2025-2026 District Deputy #6. I look forward to seeing everyone around the State!

Wanda Lillyblade, DD#6

District #15 News

As a new term begins, we are excited for all the Past Matrons who have been elected / installed as Worthy Matron's again.

Center Chapter #108: Jennifer Maggart, Past Grand Matron 2019–2021, Past District #15 Deputy 2011-2012, Past Matron 2009-2010. Clinton Chapter #6: Sharon Jones, Past District #15 Deputy 2023–2024, Past Matron of Kirkland Chapter 1984-1985, Past Matron Clinton Chapter 2021-2023. Greentown Chapter #195: Carol Higley, Past Matron 2024 – 2025. Kokomo Chapter #89: Goldie Snavely, Past Matron 1997 - 1998 and Former Grand Representative. Russiaville Chapter #130: Rebecca Dunlap, Past Matron Sharpsville Chapter 1972-1973, Past District #10 Deputy 2010–2011, Past Matron Cicero Chapter 2021-2022, Past Matron Russiaville Chapter 2024-2025.

Although all 5 Chapters have decreased in active membership, the whole District works together to help each other. Center Chapter has a plural member petition from a member in District #10. Greentown Chapter is starting out their term by initiating a new member. Kokomo Chapter has two new petitioners, and one will be under the new General Grand Chapter ruling of a sponsored petitioner. Members of all five Chapters will be taking part in the Initiation Ceremony for these new members.

District #15 has been helping their communities and will continue to do so this term. Center Chapter helps first year teachers at Taylor Schools with monetary donations and supplies. They also walked and supported a team in the Walk to End Alzheimer's. Clinton Chapter helps Clinton Prairie Elementary School with school supplies for the children and gives a monetary donation to Frankfort TPA Park Festival of Lights during the Christmas Season. Greentown Chapter hosts the dinner for the Corvette Club and helps with the Fish and Tenderloin Fry with the Masons of Greentown Masonic Lodge. Kokomo Chapter sends their Happy Moments collections to the Disabled American Veterans every three months. This money helps veterans to pay for doing their laundry. Howard Masonic Lodge has been hosting flashlight tours of our Historical Building to help with the cost of renovations of the building. Russiaville Chapter helps Russiaville United Methodist Church. They either donate food and clothing to the pantry or donate money to the local Grocery Store to help purchase frozen food and meat products for the pantry recipients.

District #15 has a few exciting events coming up: August 9th is a Golf Outing at Chippendale Golf Course located at 1047 Golf Course Lane, Kokomo IN 46902. September 20th is the Community Bazaar and Car Show located at Kokomo Shrine Club, 3892 East 00 NS (IN-22), Kokomo IN 46902. District #15 will be selling Wick's Pies for the Grand Officers Fund until October 18th. Pick up or Delivery will be after November 15th, 2025. \$10 per pie: Sugar Cream, Peanut Butter, Pumpkin. \$12 per pie: Southern Pecan, German Chocolate, Coconut Cream. Please contact Contessa Barber, District #15 Deputy (765) 398-7156 or any member of District #15 to place an order.

To all Eastern Star members,

Star-Lite magazine is a publication for all members! You are part of why we exist. We want to hear from you. We want to share the good works you do. ***Any member***, not just a member who has been appointed to the Star-Lite committee, ***may submit articles and pictures***. Be proud of who you are and what you do in your chapter and in your district. We all love to see the information about receptions, inspections, and Grand Chapter, but we believe the membership should also see different ideas about bringing in new members, attracting current members back into our chapter rooms, and other fun activities. We need your help to accomplish this! Please keep in mind that we are limited to a maximum of 20 pages (except the August issue), so some articles may need to be held for the next issue. The District Deputies may help with directing questions to the editor. Each issue has information to share on subscriptions (old and new) and Stellar Stars. We are anxiously awaiting your articles.

Thank you and Happy Labor Day!

Spencerville Story Part 1

Part 1: Sweet Traditions and a Vision for Hope The Indiana OES and the Rise of ICAN Support

The Order of the Eastern Star (OES) in Indiana stands as a testament to enduring tradition, unwavering community support, and a deep-seated commitment to making a tangible difference in the lives of Hoosiers. This vibrant tapestry is richly woven with threads of shared purpose, exemplified by the collaborative spirit of the Indiana Grand Chapter and the steadfast dedication of Spencerville Chapter #386. Together, their combined endeavors are currently creating a profound impact through their support of the Indiana Canine Assistant Network (ICAN), an organization that truly transforms lives, one paw print at a time.

The journey of OES support for ICAN in Indiana began in 2018, sparked by a visionary project promoted by the General Grand Chapter OES. Diana Surfus, who served as the Worthy Grand Matron of the Indiana Grand Chapter of the OES in 2018, became a passionate champion for this initiative. Her leadership ignited a remarkable wave of generosity that swept across the entire state. Under her tireless efforts, numerous OES Chapters have contributed to this vital cause, demonstrating a diverse range of fundraising creativity. From engaging golf outings that drew enthusiastic sponsors to lively bake sales held at local festivals, the spirit of giving has been truly inspiring. Even a unique motorcycle event, spearheaded by a group of compassionate motorcyclists, has contributed significantly to the cause, alongside contributions from Diana's own catering business. Since its inception in 2018, the Indiana Grand Chapter has remained a firm and consistent supporter of this crucial program, recognizing the immense and invaluable work that ICAN performs in empowering individuals and transforming communities. Their dedication underscores a core principle of the OES: collective action for the greater good.

While the Indiana Grand Chapter rallied its statewide efforts around the burgeoning support for ICAN, Spencerville Chapter #386 continued to uphold its own remarkable and deeply rooted tradition of charitable giving. For this particular chapter, the path to philanthropy has long been paved with the sweet scent of freshly made donuts. The story of Spencerville's legendary donuts is as rich and enduring as the Chapter itself, a testament to a century of dedication and community spirit. The earliest documented mention of these beloved sweet treats at a Spencerville OES meeting dates all the way back to February 27, 1922, where they were served as humble refreshments for a modest cost of \$1.80 a dozen. Little did anyone know then that these simple pastries would become the cornerstone of a fundraising powerhouse, fueling decades of philanthropic endeavors and cementing the Chapter's legacy within its community. The true turning point for their donut enterprise, however, was still decades away, destined to emerge from a moment of adversity and a profound sense of community responsibility.

Read more about it in **Part 2, A Century of Sweet Success**



"The Dwyer Leadership Award"

The Spencerville O.E.S. is dedicated to helping the children in our community and school district receive an extended education beyond High School. We believe these children will become our Nation's next Leaders and Mentors. To honor (2) 50-year members of Spencerville Eastern Star who were outstanding Leaders in our District, State and International Organizations, and also in our DeKalb Co. Community, we have created the "Dwyer Leadership Award" Scholarship in honor of Jim and Arden Dwyer of Spencerville, IN.

LaTrisha Lee, St. Joe, IN. is our 7th recipient of this \$1,000.00 Scholarship. LaTrisha graduated from Eastside High School in Butler, IN. LaTrisha will attend Ball State University to pursue a degree in Biochemistry.



Teacher Appreciation Week

The Spencerville Eastern Star is invested in supporting the education of our youth. The Cornerstone of a great Education starts with people dedicated and vested in the Values, Spirit, and Creativity of the children in Our Community.

Teacher Appreciation Week in DeKalb County begins the 2nd Week in May. The Spencerville O.E.S. offers a Pop (Corn) Quiz Party for (6) local schools and (2) local Preschools in our community. At each school, a wrapped basket including many school supplies and a \$100.00 school supply gift card is delivered. Each Teacher is allowed (1) guess of the number of pieces included in the basket. Winning classrooms are awarded the basket and a "Popcorn Party". This is the 9th year we have supported this program for DeKalb County Schools.

Pictured is the "2025 Riverdale Elementary School Teacher Appreciation Winner", Special Education Resource Teacher Patsy Harper. This is her 6th year of teaching at DeKalb Middle School in Auburn, IN.

Most of her life she has wanted to be a teacher. Patsy is married and has a young son. In addition to caring for her family and teaching, Patsy also cares for her mother and brother. She enjoys spending time with her family and listening to music.



Best of All

What is the Order of the Eastern Star and what does it do?

Are its aspirations worthy, goals steadfast and true?

The Ritual says its lessons are pure and teachings upright,

With ceremonies exactly the same on every meeting night.

It impresses on us our duty to God, country, and one another,

To treat every member as a true sister and brother.

But, best of all we realize 'til our lives come to an end,

Each sister and each brother is a sincere, devoted friend.

Wayne Eicher, Ohio

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

To my four amazing grandchildren
Lily, Peter, Sofia, Cecilia
From your GG who will always stand by you.
Love you to the moon and back
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

Honoring Royal Center Star-Lite
Grand Chapter Committee members
in D#18 for 2024 - 2025





WGM OFFICIAL CALENDAR

Aug 9	Grand Warder Reception
Aug 16	Multi-State, Jackson Michigan
Aug 23	Grand Sentinel Reception
Aug 30	Assoc. Grand Conductress Reception
Sep 7	Masonic Home Day
Sep 20	Grand Adah Reception
Sep 27	Grand Ruth Reception
Sep 28	Grand Representative Fall Luncheon
Oct 4	Grand Esther Reception
Oct 11	Grand Martha Reception
Oct 18	Grand Electa Reception
Oct 20-24	WGM/WGP Bus Trip CANCELED

DISTRICT SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION

Social 5:00 pm
Light meal if provided 5:30 pm
Town Hall 6:00 pm
School of Instruction 7:00 pm

Aug 1	D#15
Aug 4	D#14
Aug 5	D#21
Aug 6	D#13
Aug 7	D#12
Aug 12	D#20

DISTRICT SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION

Aug 19	D#2
Aug 28	D#11
Sep 12	D#10
Sep 16	D#1
Sep 19	D#3
Sep 22	D#19
Sep 30	D#4
Oct 1	D#5
Oct 13	D#8

OFFICIAL VISITS

Meal if provided 5:30 pm
Baby Dedication 7:00 pm
Award of Gold 7:10 pm
Inspection 7:20 pm

Aug 20	D#15
Aug 21	D#6
Aug 27	D#14
Sep 10	D#12
Sep 11	D#13
Sep 15	D#2
Sep 17	D#7
Sep 23	D#20
Sep 24	D#21 CANCELED
Oct 29	D#4
Oct 30	D#3

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

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Newberry

The members of Newberry Chapter under the direction of Becky and Darrell Arthur, WM, and WP, in District 7, hosted their friends on June 5th. A scrumptious buffet was enjoyed by all at 6 PM. A short meeting followed. Entertainment was provided by Lori Beth Kelley, DD7, with trivia questions and a sing-a-long lead by Rhea Dawn Gadberry. Much laughter ensued. A great time was had by all.

Friend's Night

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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ADVERTISEMENTS are for any business, individual, chapter, district, steering committee, etc., that would like to place an ad in *Star-Lite*. If a profit is to be made on an event, then it is advertising and needs to be paid for. DEADLINE is the same as any article.

COST per ad per issue:

1/12 page (Business card size) is \$10.00

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1/3 page is \$40.00

1/2 page is \$60.00

Full page is \$100.00.

SUBMISSION: All items should be camera-ready. Please make checks payable to **Indiana Grand Chapter, OES**. Send copy and payment to: Nancy Pratt, Editor

WE NEED YOUR NEWS!

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