



A Walk in the Woods



Thank you to all the members who were able to join us at the “Let Heaven and Nature Sings” 151st Grand Chapter Session in Muncie on June 12-14! We were blessed with a large group of distinguished guests from both within our borders and from many other Grand Jurisdictions. It was our honor and privilege to welcome them to our Hoosier state and to recognize our own Diamond and Gold Service Awards, our newest in-state members, and Grand Representatives from here and around the world! Your presence made each day very special to us!

Looking back at the beginning of the Nature Sings Grand Family service year, we chose to keep the goals of our year simple and worthwhile. And those goals that we prayerfully set forth were accomplished! First, we dedicated our year to the service and support of each of you. We enjoyed working side-by-side with you in your Chapters and communities. Your ongoing commitment to your Chapters, Districts, and the State is to be commended!

Second, with the capable assistance of your respective District Deputies, each District participated in a School of Instruction to review the ‘why we do what we do’. The response to these fall schools was overwhelmingly positive across the state in rekindling the spark with our more experienced members and helping give guidance to our new members. We see many members revisiting your Rituals and CR&Rs to understand and execute many of the topics discussed and we thank you for your renewed commitment to our Order!

Finally, as we progressed through the year, we always kept in mind the watchwords that were so carefully chosen to help guide us. As this year ends, we feel that they undoubtedly still ring true! That we continue to have **HOPE** in the principles of the five rays of our central star, **LOVE** for all our Sisters and Brothers, and as we continue to encourage and lift each other up, strengthen the **PROSPERITY** of our Order for the future!

Congratulations to Sister Barb, Brother Keith, and Sister Kim along with all the “Bridges of Love” Grand Family as you begin your year! May it be all that you dreamed it would be!

To all our Sisters and Brothers, each of you has been a blessing with your encouragement and support throughout the year! It has been my pleasure to serve as your Worthy Grand Matron! Though this year of service has come to a close, know that I will enjoy visiting with each of you again soon somewhere on the OES trail!

Star Love and blessings,
Carol J. Davis
Worthy Grand Matron



Last Notes from the Woodshop

The “Nature Sings Grand Family” will be making its final stop at Grand Chapter very soon. The events that have taken place during the past six years will be in my heart and thoughts for many years to come. I had the opportunity to travel the State East and West; North and South, visiting many Chapters, meeting new friends, and getting reacquainted with previous. Thanks to PGM Gleda Brooks and PGP Richard Lassiter for this once in a lifetime experience and hope I have not disappointed them or my Sisters and Brothers.

Your support of the sponsored scholarships, Nettie Ransford, ESTARL, and Our World of Youth, have brought many new opportunities to so many deserving individuals seeking higher education.

The “Never Walk Alone” Service Dog project has been successful in providing the needed funds for our licensed support provider, ICAN. Through your generous support, multiple new pups have entered and graduated from the program.

Our Grand Sentinel John Auld and his Committee have been diligently working on our Membership Taskforce “HOW TO” and having a workshop on Saturday at Grand Chapter.

We continued to support the Youth organizations throughout the state through the “Seeds of Hope” projects. The seeds have been sown, and we look forward to seeing the fruits of your labor in full bloom in the near future! On behalf of the members of DeMolay, Job’s Daughters, and the Rainbow for Girls in Indiana, your continued excitement in supporting our youth is a blessing to us all!

Sister Terry and I extend heartfelt congratulations to Sister Barb, Brother Keith and Sister Kim as they begin their year of service to Indiana.

Our Nettie Ransford penny bucket collection consisting of 21 District Deputies came to an end on April 1, 2026 and the winner of the pizza party hosted by the WGM and myself is District #18 with a total of \$2,000.00 and a GRAND TOTAL of all Districts being \$5,744.66. Congratulations to District #18 and to all our Sisters and Brothers in supporting this project.

In closing, I would thank all my Sisters and Brothers support, love, and memories in this “Nature Sings Grand Family” journey.

Bless you all
Tommy (Tom) Ring
Worthy Grand Patron



Thelma Butler Honored

Sister Thelma Butler was honored on her 75th year of membership in the Order. She was initiated in Ivy Chapter #69 on December 17, 1951. She held the stations of Esther, Martha and Electa before starting through the line and served as Worthy Matron in 1962. She received her 25-year pin in 1977, and her 50-year pin in 2001, presented by then WGP Robert Surber. In September 2025, Ivy Chapter consolidated with LaFontaine Chapter.

Members met at her home in Laketon where Worthy Grand Matron Carol Davis, assisted by Past Grand Patron Robert Surber, conducted the Diamond Award ceremony and presented her with her 75-year pin. The Chapter gave her a bouquet and treated her to lunch following the ceremony. Also attending were: Carl Hinshaw, Grand Chaplain; Leila Ferguson, Grand Ruth; Normand See; Regina Brane-Hiple, District Deputy #18; and LaFontaine members – Worthy Matron Kaye Sorrell, Darlene Turner, Debbie Blanchard and Roberta Ancil.



PGP Robert Surber, Thelma Butler,
WGM Carol Davis



Awards A-Plenty for Converse

It's always a special day when an Eastern Star member receives their 50-year service award. Kim Ziner, member of Converse Chapter 334, was awarded her pin from Carol Davis, Worthy Grand Matron, prior to the School of Instruction on November 18, 2025. To make this day even more special, Kim's father, Milford Wagler, also a member of the Converse Chapter and serving as Treasurer, made the actual pinning (pictured at left). To make the evening even MORE special, Milford, soon would be celebrating his 100th birthday on March 9, 2026. Kim joined Eastern Star at the Ruth Chapter, Peru, in 1975. Sister Kim currently serves as Chaplain. Kim's mother, Barbara was also a member of Eastern Star serving as Adah for many years.



On February 11th Worthy Grand Patron, Tom Ring, presented 50-year awards to Brothers Steve Hyman and Brother Xen Prickett. Brother Steve was pinned by his cousin, Susie Weicht, and Brother Xen was pinned by his daughter, Mia Ellett, Secretary of Converse Chapter.

A special 100th birthday celebration for Brother Milford Wagler was held at the Riverview Event Center, Peru, on March 9th.



SOLSBERRY "MARDI GRAS" FRIENDS NIGHT



Solsberry Chapter #547 held Friends Night at their stated meeting on Wednesday, February 20, 2026, and what a special night it turned out to be!

The Chapter was blessed to have in attendance Sister Carol Davis, WGM; Sister Tamara Shake, Grand Conductress; Brother Bobby Slaughter, Grand Marshall, Sister Martha Santus, Grand Warder, and Sister Leila Ferguson, Grand Ruth.

An abbreviated stated meeting was held, at which all unnecessary business was postponed. Sister Carol spoke briefly, and at the end of her gracious remarks, Sister Carol instructed Brother Bobby Slaughter to escort the next Star Gazer to the altar. After walking around the room, Brother Bobby could not seem to find the person he was looking for, until suddenly, he approached Brother Garry Bryant who was pro-teming as Worthy Patron, asking him to join him at the altar.



As Sister Carol approached the altar, she mentioned this was a long over-do appointment for Brother Garry. Sister Carol read Brother Garry's Grand Representative appointment to the state of Montana in Indiana. Brother Garry was quite taken by the surprise and was pretty much speechless.

Solsberry Chapter is so grateful to have Brother Garry as a member, as he is a perfectionist in his work, always willing to help others, and instrumental in keeping Solsberry Chapter an active Chapter. As Brother Garry was escorted back to his station, Sister Carol once again reiterated that Brother Garry's Grand Representative appointment was long over-do.

Immediately following the Closing of Chapter, it was time for Fun and Games provided by Sisters Patti Burch and Nichole Browning.

Carrying out the Mardi Gras theme, Sisters Patti and Nichole entered the Chapter room in Mardi Gras apparel and head gear. Yes, there were beads, lots of beads. Everyone joined in answering riddle questions, playing Mardi Gras Bingo and a ticket drawing. All prizes were hand-made by

Solsberry Chapter's talented Brother Steve and Sister Nichole Browning.

After a perfect night of Fun and Fellowship, everyone went home with beads and a purple pen engraved with 'Welcome to Mardi Gras Friends Night 2026, Solsberry Chapter, OES.' Without question, a good time was had by all!

CONGRATULATIONS to Brother Garry Bryant on his Grand Representative appointment to the state of Montana in Indiana!

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 2026, 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.**

Please, **do not** mail renewals or correspondence to the Grand Secretary's office in Franklin!
Thank you! We couldn't continue without your support!

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
Linda Stewart
Past Deputy of District #13
From the Past Matrons of
Muncie Chapter #104

In Memory of
Sister Mildred Duzan, 75-Year Member
Past Deputies of District 7

In Memory of
Sister Jean Pieper, 75-Year Member
Past Deputies of District 7

The Joyful JJ's Grand Family of
Jerry W. Jonas* and Gloria
Joy Ellen Kuppler and Richard*
Appreciate all who served with us and
went on to serve in other Grand Families

In Loving Memory of
The members we have lost
From the Showers of Blessings Grand Family
2013-2014

2 Stars

I had the privilege of serving
in these Grand Families, "Hearts in Touch"
with Patsy Hinds and Harold Myers*, "Key to
Happiness" with Geneva Sare* and Robert
Gillespie*, "Let Your Light Shine" with
Edythe Gordon* and Murl Frazer*
Star Love, Joy Ellen

2 Stars

Susie Roach, RWAGC
We look forward to your journey
into the future for our OES.
Your dedication, love for our Order of
Eastern Star, and leadership are appreciated.
Washington Chapter #210

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

The Joyful JJ's Grand Family has been
honored to have the following serve as
GRAND WARDERS
Geneva Taylor, Arlene Mohler,
Lynn Shoulders, and this year is Martha Santus

4 Stars

Bill and Lynn Shoulders continue to serve for
the Rainbow Girls. They help keep the grounds
and do maintenance for the Rainbow Girls
Chateau. Lynn is Supreme Grand Treasurer.
Bill served General Grand Chapter as Most
Worthy Grand Chaplain. They still serve their
Golden Fleece Chapter. They enjoy all the
traveling. The JJ's THANK YOU.

Stellar Stars - continued

4 Stars

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTED
 Rovena Harrison, Kat Wilson*, Mayme Lytle,
 Carolyn Janick, Geneva Taylor, Deanna
 Carrington, Gloria Jonas, Lynn Shoulders, and
 Martha Santus.

These also made the Joyful JJ's Proud

GRAND SENTINELS APPOINTED

Mark Ridenour and Julie in 1990
 Ron Wahl and Zeta in 1992
 Beryl Harrison* and Rovena* in 1993
 Ron Stabler* and Neva Jean* in 1994
 Larry Deutscher and Vickie in 1995
 Dwayne Taylor* and Geneva in 2000
 William Shoulders and Lynn in 2006
 Such an honor for the Joyful JJ's

5 Stars

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

In Loving memory of the members we have
 lost from the Shining Stars of Friendship and
 Faith Grand Family 2010 – 2011

5 Stars

Honoring our Sister Becky Arthur and
 Brother Darrell Arthur for their friendship,
 love, service and dedication to the
 Order of the Eastern Star
 With love from Newberry Chapter #198

I thank Beverley* and Bob Barton and
 Lowell* and Ann* Carlisle for letting me
 serve as District Deputy #7 in their
 Sunshine and Love Grand Family
 I thank Markie and Ted Edwards and Jack*
 and Betty* Skinner for letting me serve as
 Grand Martha in their Harmony Belles
 Grand Family
 Star Love, Joy Ellen

In Memory of
 PGM Naomi Mitchell
 Love, daughter Sherry Harris
 Athens Chapter #97, Crawfordsville

In Loving Memory of
 Camille Swisher
 Past Deputy of District #15
 Symphony of Faith and Love
 Grand Family



Grand Chapter June 11-14
 "Let Heaven and Nature Sing" Grand Chapter Session

If you don't see all the information that you need, please contact your District Deputy. 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.

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MILFORD WAGLER 100TH BIRTHDAY

The Peru Masonic Lodge, Converse Chapter OES, members from District #18 and family and friends helped Milford Wagler celebrate his 100th Birthday on March 9th at the Riverview Event Center on West Canal Street in Peru. By special invitation from Brother Milford, Carol Davis, Worthy Grand Matron, attended Milford's celebration.

What event isn't successful when you have good food and reminisce?

Those pictured are: Milford's daughter Kim Ziner, Milford himself, Sister Carol Davis, WGM and Regina Brane-Hiple, District Deputy #18 and Normand See in the back. Other OES Grand Officers and escorts were present for this occasion.

Winchester Chapter #60

Winchester Chapter #60, Order of the Eastern Star, started our year with a first time Worthy Matron, Sister Kimber Daly. Her enthusiasm for our Order is evident in her willingness to participate in all activities as her work schedule allows.

Winchester Chapter voted in the Fall to donate money to the local Cancer Service as they helped our Worthy Patron, Brother Hugh Smith, through his treatments. We also voted to give money to other local organizations. Sweet Dreams provides complete beds for children who have nowhere to sleep except the floor. This organization delivered 145 beds in 2025 and has been around since 2019. Another project that is near and dear to the Chapter's heart is the local animal shelter. We count it a privilege to help as they find fur-ever homes for displaced pets. And finally, the Chapter gave money to the local food pantry to help needy families.

We did help our Masonic brothers by replacing the broken dishwasher so that when they fix a meal cleanup will be so much easier for them and we also paid to have the upstairs restroom remodeled as a convenience to the Masons and to the Star.

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

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