



**ANNUAL
5-STATE EVENT
IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI
NEBRASKA, SOUTH DAKOTA**

March 25, 2008

It's time to start thinking about the 5-State Gathering for O.E.S! Nebraska is looking forward to giving all our Sisters and Brothers a hearty Western Nebraska "Welcome." This year's gathering will take place **August 1-3** in Kearney, Nebraska and we have planned a weekend of fun activities for you. The first thing we want to convey is that this special weekend is for ALL members of the Order. It's a wonderful way to get together and make new friendships, renew old friendships, share a lot of laughter, and – in general—just have a great time without any formal meetings, etc.

Here's the important information you need:

1. **Housing.** We have a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn Convention Center, 110 2nd Avenue, Kearney, NE. Rooms are \$79.95 per night for 1-4 persons. However, you must make your reservations **before July 1, 2008** or your rate will be significantly higher. The phone number is 308-237-5971. Be sure to indicate you are with Eastern Star to get the discounted rate. It will also be your responsibility to cancel your reservation should the need arise.
2. **Registration.** Please return your registration form to:
Betty L. Kirby, P.G.M.
4501 Eagle Ridge Rd.
Lincoln, NE 68516
by **July 1, 2008**. We cannot accept any registrations at the door, so please be prompt in returning your form. The registration and hospitality room will be open at noon on Friday.
3. **Activities.** Kearney has much to offer for a weekend of fun and friendship. With gasoline prices climbing higher and higher, we have tried to keep expenses at a minimum for this weekend. You can determine your own activities and your own schedule. You will be given a detailed map at registration to guide you to the various destinations. Some of the places that are expecting O.E.S. visitors that weekend are:
 - a. **The Great Platte River Road Archway.** A must-see for all. Admission is \$8.50, but you will receive a \$2.00 coupon in your packet at registration. The Archway not only spans the Interstate 80, but spans decades from the original trappers and pioneers to modern day life. You will not forget this experience!
 - b. **Cabelas.** You will find an impressive trophy collection of deer, elk, moose, bobcats, cougars and fish here as well as shopping a wide array of outdoor equipment.
 - c. **Museum of Nebraska Art.** Admission is free. This is the only collection within the state that houses paintings, sculptures, drawings, and prints created solely by Nebraskans. This is a wonderful exhibition that all should see.

- d. **Pioneer Village.** Fill your car with people and travel 20 miles to Minden to see one of the largest collections of historic items depicting America's progress since the 1830's. Admission is \$10.50.
- e. **Cookbooks by Morris.** For those of you who come early on Friday, be sure to stop by the Morris Press. They will be open until 5 p.m. on Friday. There are literally thousands of cookbooks at factory outlet prices. A free cookbook is given to all visitors.
- f. **Ft. Kearney Museum.** Here you will find thousands of items from all over the world on display. Plus, you can take the Midwest's only glass bottom boat ride on a clean, clear, spring-fed lake.
- g. **Shop at the "Bricks".** Unique shops and boutiques make this a fun place to spend some time. Cobblestone streets offer a touch of nostalgia and there are many fine cafés for lunch.
- h. **Big Apple Fun Center.** For those of you who prefer a little bit of action, this is a family entertainment facility. There is bowling, billiards, shuffle board, Black Light miniature golf and even a go-kart track.

Dinners on both Friday and Saturday night will be at the Holiday Inn Convention Center. Entertainment will be provided on Friday night. **We are asking every state in attendance to provide a "Skit" for Saturday night.** The theme for the skit is your preference, but we ask that you limit the time to 10-minutes per skit. We also will have a short Worship Service on Sunday morning at the Holiday Inn before we begin our migration back to our homes.

Sound like fun? We think so. Mark your calendars, make your hotel reservation, and send in your registration while it is on your mind. And we'll all be waiting and ready to say "Howdy."

Detach and mail to: Betty Kirby, PGM, 4501 Eagle Ridge Rd., Lincoln NE 68516

Name: _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Chapter Name and Number _____

Registration Fee	\$ 5.00
Dinner Friday Night	\$20.00
Dinner Saturday Night	<u>\$25.00</u>
Total	\$50.00

Make your checks payable to: 5-State Get-Together

Send to: Betty Kirby, P.G.M.
4501 Eagle Ridge Rd.
Lincoln, NE 68516