

# NEBRASKA OES NEWS

“Steps to the Stars” ~~~~Volume VIII Number 2

July, 2007

## VISIONQUEST

BY MIKE  
DONHAM

Visionquest Committee  
of the General Grand Chapter  
Past Grand Patron of Nebraska

### “WE ARE FAMILY”

“We are family.” We are a Masonic family as well as an Eastern Star family. We care about one another; we care about each other’s welfare; we care about each other’s feelings. We are not just a social organization, “We are family.”

Baseball fans will remember two fine ball players named Larry Doby and Joe Gordon, both played for the Cleveland Indians in 1947.

Larry Doby’s first time at bat as a rookie was a disaster. He struck out on three pitches and retired to the end of the dugout bench, with his head in his hands. Joe Gordon, an excellent ball player and good hitter, followed Doby that day and proceeded to strike out on three straight pitches. He went to the dugout and sat next to Doby and put his head in his hands.

Did Gordon strike out intentionally? No one knows, but it is interesting to note that every time Larry Doby went out on the field from that day on, he first picked up Gordon’s glove and tossed it to him. “That’s family” - that’s caring that someone else succeeds.

It is also interesting to note that Doby was the first African American to play on an American League team in 1947. Jackie Robinson was already playing in the National League.

Are you as an Eastern Star, ready to pick up your glove and toss it to your friend to help out and encourage? Are you willing to help with chapter projects, the WGM & WGP projects or even to help another chapter in need? Do you and the Masons in your town help one another?

**Remember the “We are Family” attitude and get out there and promote and encourage one another.**

## ESTARL

Thank you for supporting ESTARL—this year it is one of the projects our WGM & WGM are placing special emphasis on. This year 27 students are being given grants totaling \$42,000. Continue to support your ESTARL Committee by keeping watch in your community for those who are studying for religious leadership and could benefit from help from ESTARL.

### Enclosed with this NEWS:

~~Your first letter from the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron along with information and addresses to help you prepare for your Area Visitations.

~~ Information on the 5-State Bus trip to Branson

### Coming soon:

~~Your new booklet listing Grand Officers and Grand Chapter Committee Members

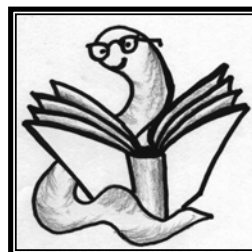
### **Invitation**

Oberlin Chapter No. 106, Oberlin Kansas invites you to their annual friendship night and official visit 9-8-07. Cream Can Dinner with more fun to follow. Hope the Southwest Nebraska Chapters will join the fun. RSVP by August 24 Call Grand Chapter office for details.

Once again a tremendous service has been rendered to those attending Nebraska’s Grand Chapter. A big thank you goes out to those who volunteer to drive the vans and assist persons on and off the vans and the busses. There is no way each one of us can repay these wonderful people for their dedication. But they can know that every single passenger they helped has gratitude beyond measure.

Ann Kuncel, Worthy Matron  
Sunflower #214

Hi Ya, Eastern Stars!  
Bucky Bookworm here!



I have already worn out 12 pair of shoes trying to keep in step with the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron. They

had receptions in South Sioux City and Hastings, went to Rainbow Grand Assembly, Job’s Grand Bethel, had an Exchange with Iowa and celebrated Phillips Chapter’s 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Whew! I sure hope they take time to read a book!

Hey! I told you I’d tell you about my name. Well, “buck” became slang for the U. S. dollar. The term originated in the Old West when buckskin was a common medium of exchange with the Indians. Later as currency replaced the barter system, people still refer to a dollar as a buck (short for buckskin). I always call a dollar a buck so my friends started calling me Bucky! I like my name.

Then I got this fantastic idea--Bucks for Books for the Read Nebraska project. It just goes with my name! Some chapters are already planning fundraisers. Wow! How cool is that? Hey! If you tell the Grand Secretary what your chapter is doing, I’ll tell the world! Deal? And don’t forget your reward pin for volunteering. Merrie Edwards, special project chairman says the libraries are really excited about your help.

One more thing—some areas are asking for “kiddie books” for the Fremont Home but remember the kiddies at the home are TEENAGERS.

Visitations start in July. I better buy some new shoes! Oh, yeah and keep reading!

More later.....**Bucky**

**Step Up To The Challenge**

Phillips Chapter No. 204 has been "Stepping Up" for 100 years now. One of the most impressive things about this Chapter is their cooperation with their Lodge, Keystone Lodge No. 62. The beautiful wooden plaque Keystone Lodge presented to Phillips Chapter on the occasion of its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary is a very expressive symbol of the love shared between that Lodge and Phillips Chapter. The two have held a joint Installation of Officers since 1939. They cooperate in hosting a chicken dinner every year and then join together to present academic and band scholarships with the proceeds. Together they award as many as 8 scholarships every year! Thanks Phillips Chapter for showing us how "visible" we can be in our communities when we work together as a Masonic Family!

HAVE YOU NOTICED A CHAPTER WHO HAS "STEPPED UP"? TELL US ABOUT IT!

Who receives the OES NEWS? EVERYONE can get it! Hard copies are mailed to Chapter Secretaries and Worthy Matrons, Grand Officers, Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons, District Grand Supervisors, members of Standing Committees and Chairpersons of other committees. Many Secretaries make copies for members who attend Chapter meetings. You can always download your own copy from our website: <http://neoes.org>



TRAVELING WITH THE STARS --- OES MONTHLY CALENDAR



**UPCOMING EVENTS:** (Information for the JULY News must be in the Grand Chapter office by JUNE 15<sup>th</sup>.)

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| June 3rd  | Reception honoring Betty Garwood, WGM, 2-4 p.m., Monterey Room, Marina Inn, 4 <sup>th</sup> & B Street, South Sioux City NE   |
| June 8, 9, 10 <sup>th</sup><br>June 10 <sup>th</sup>  | Rainbow Grand Assembly, Doane College, Crete<br>100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Phillips Chapter No. 204, Phillips Nebraska.<br>4:00 p.m. at Phillips United Methodist Church, 414 Third Street, Phillips.<br>RSVP to Betty Mabon, PGM at 402-886-2206 or Connie Robison, WM at 402-845-6559 |
| June 17 <sup>th</sup>   | Reception honoring David Thienel, WGP, 2-4 p.m., Hastings Masonic Center, 411 N. Hastings, Hastings NE  |
| June 20-23 <sup>rd</sup><br>June 25 <sup>th</sup><br>June 29-30 <sup>th</sup><br>July 1 <sup>st</sup> | Job's Daughters Grand Bethel, University of Nebraska at Kearney<br>Deadline for meal reservations for Iowa-Nebraska Exchange<br>Iowa Nebraska Grand Officer Exchange, Sioux City, Iowa<br>Deadline for Reservations for 5-State Get-Together at Branson MO  |



**ATTENTION CONCERNING RESERVATIONS FOR BRANSON:** *Our Worthy Grand Matron has found that some of the shows listed for Friday at 8:00 pm are not available—she is planning to attend the "Six Show" that evening and tickets are available for that show---if you wish to go, make reservations when you call in your reservation to Lodge of the Ozarks.*

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| July 6 <sup>h</sup>                     | Area Visitations begin—first meeting will be a casual evening meeting in the Scottsbluff area. |
| July 7 <sup>th</sup>                    | Noon Area Visitation in Ogallala area<br>Evening Area Visitation in McCook area                |
| July 13 <sup>th</sup>                   | Evening Area Visitation in Kearney area  |
| July 14                                 | Noon Area Visitation in Grand Island area  |
| July 20 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup> | DeMolay Conclave, Grand Island   |
| July 27 <sup>th</sup>                   | Area Visitation in Nebraska City area  |
| July 28 <sup>th</sup>                   | Shrine Bowl parade and game, Lincoln   |



Exact time and location of Area Visitations will be available as invitations are extended. Call the Grand Chapter office if you are interested in attending any visitations outside your own area—you are always welcome!

