

NEBRASKA OES NEWS

“Steps to the Stars” ~~~~Volume VIII Number 9
February, 2008

VISIONQUEST

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

Dr John C. Maxwell makes six key observations about enacting change and when you need to change.

- Most people change just enough to get away from their problems not solving them. In OES implementing an aggressive membership program is a change desperately needed.
- Changing your organization (OES) requires changing yourself; “People do what people see”. Changing yourself into a recruiter and sales person for the Order of the Eastern Star encourages Sisters and Brothers to do what they see.
- “People tend to do the same thing the same way and expect change to take place.” That philosophy does not work! Pitney Bowes explains that if you do the same thing the same way over ten to twenty years, it’s being done the wrong way. We cannot expect to attract and hold new and old members without change.
- “Change when you see the light, not when you feel the heat.” The loss of members, Chapters closing or consolidating--that is the heat - now is the time to see the light and make changes to beat the heat.
- “Change is uncomfortable; it’s unsettling and sometimes downright painful.” In the long run, the thought of the loss of your Chapter is far worse.
- Change if properly done is helpful not harmful to a Chapter. It fosters and enhances the Visionquest criteria of membership, leadership, involvement, communication, enthusiasm and fellowship.

“We cannot become what we need to be by remaining what we are.” - Max Depree

E I Honey S J (Until we meet again)

A Note from the Grand Secretary:

On a recent visit to the IRS website, www.irs.gov/eo I learned that we can look for the new electronic form 990-N (the e-Postcard) in early February. I know that many of you looked for the form early and were not able to locate it. Do remember to continue to check the web-site until you can file your form—it is most important for your Chapter’s tax exempt status. It must be filed by May 15. Call the Grand Chapter office if you have questions.



Hi Ya, EasternStars! **Bucky's** back and I have lotsa news this month so listen up!

VA-room, Va-ROOM!
VA-ROOOOM! Hey!



Stars! Would you like to be like a NASCAR driver??? The Grand Chapter Transportation Committee is looking for **Van Drivers**. Contact Dennis Newman dnewman1@cox.net or 402-933-4850. A safe driving record is nice but no previous Grand Chapter experience is necessary.

Did you hear about the big **Chili Feed at the Fremont Home?** It will be on the fourth Saturday in February; _____ that's February 23rd. They have g-o-o-d soup; you won't want to miss it.



The Supervisors are coming! The Supervisors are coming!!!! Dust off the furniture and the picture frames! Besides holding school the Supes are bringing the new Aerial Photos of the Fremont Home.



These pictures are one of the WGM and WGP's projects this year. The Supes will help you put your new picture in the frame the old photo you have is in.

Happy Hearts Day--that's another way to say Happy Valentine's Day. Give your Sweetie a book for a valentine; give a buck a book for the books for the kids across Nebraska. And don't forget to read a book to somebody and get your Starman pin!



Bucky

More later.....

Join the Nebraska Masonic Home for The Largest Garden Party in Town!

Saturday, June 7, 2008

6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

\$65.00 per person

The Nebraska Masonic Home, Plattsmouth NE
Live Auction—Silent Auction

(Watch for further details!)



READ NEBRASKA

Merrie Edwards, Chairperson



Actress Lily Tomlin penned an interesting difference between books and TV saying "If you read a lot of books you are considered well read. But if you watch a lot of TV, you're not considered well viewed." I remember one time when I read "Little Red Riding Hood" to my 3 year-old niece who would "correct" my pronunciation of some words which made our reading time fun! It's still not too late to volunteer to read; then fill out and send me the report form and you will be a proud owner of a Starman pin. Need copies of report forms? Please let me know and I will send you a copy. Be sure to start saving used books for the Used Books Exchange to be held at Grand Chapter Season/May 2008. Happy Reading.

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**ENCLOSED WITH THIS NEWS:** This month's OES NEWS is accompanied by~~~~~ information and forms for the 2008-2009 Grand Chapter Scholarship Program. We hope your Chapter will make plans to participate and that you will take the advice of the new Scholarship Committee as it recommends to the Chapters to "give more than the minimum amount" and make your Chapter's Scholarships larger and more attractive to your high school seniors. How about a book sale at your own Chapter to help raise additional funds to make your scholarships larger?? And—don't forget PUBLICITY! Let your community know that you are giving scholarships!

**THANK YOU**—to the Chapter Secretaries for turning in your Annual Reports. Your promptness and accuracy are very much appreciated in the Grand Chapter Office. We are working hard on updating our records and will have a copy of your report returned to you soon!

*Step Up To The Challenge*



Twenty-six Sisters from Chapters across Nebraska "Stepped up" on January 20, 21, and 22<sup>nd</sup> to attend the Nebraska School of Instruction and prepare for the instruction of our ritualistic work in our Chapters. These new District Grand Supervisors are now making plans with the Worthy Matrons and you will soon get to meet these wonderfully dedicated Sisters. Please honor them for their hard work and devotion to our Order. How can you honor your Supervisor? One good way would be to study your Red Book before she visits your Chapter and to work hard to memorize your part. The Ritualistic work makes Eastern Star a "Step Above" other organizations. Studies tell us that it is healthy for us to use our brain—doing puzzles and yes, memorizing. Give it a try—you've already made it through the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag! Eastern Star is indeed a healthy lifestyle! Enjoy your District Grand Supervisor's visit!



**TRAVELING WITH THE STARS --- OES MONTHLY CALENDAR**

**(Information for the March NEWS must be in the Grand Chapter office by Feb. 15th.)**



February 10, 2008

Sweetheart Dinner, Columbia Chapter No. 275, 5:30 p.m., Cotner Masonic Center, 1542 N. 65<sup>th</sup> St., Lincoln. Couples and Singles welcome. \$10 per person. Call Tracy Wright at 402.217.0994 by Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>. A great place to eat after the Grand Lodge Installation—get your reservations in now!



February 14, 2008

Deadline for submitting resolutions to be presented at the Grand Chapter Session.

February 23, 2008

Annual Chile Feed sponsored by the Rawhide Wranglers 4-H Club at the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, 23<sup>rd</sup> Street & Hwy 30, Fremont. 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Adults: \$4.00; Children: \$2.00

**PLAN AHEAD~~~~~**



March 1, 2008

ESTARL Applications due in the Grand Chapter office.

April 30, 2008

Applications due for Nebraska Eastern Star Educational Loans

June 7, 2008

Garden Party at the Nebraska Masonic Home, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. \$65.00 per person. Live Auction – Silent Auction. Save the date and watch for more details!

October 18-19, 2008

3<sup>rd</sup> Triennial Masonic Youth Leadership Conference, Kearney NE