

NEBRASKA OES NEWS

“Faith in Unity”

Volume IX Number XII ~May, 2009



TRAVELING WITH THE HERD

Well, my pansy's are becoming wonderfully—a sure sign that spring is here! I just love stomping around in my garden, but this year there has not been much time for that. I have been out there a few times to check the bird feeder and water the pansys. There are two beautiful red birds at my feeder almost every day. They are beautiful—but I have not had much time to visit with them—they seem busy too.

You guessed it, I've been in the car trunk again! The Worthy Grand Matron let me go with her to Ainsworth to consolidate Wood Lake Chapter into Bethany Chapter. What a nice new Chapter they are going to have. Then there have been meetings and more meetings—Trustees, Jurisprudence, ESTARL—so many meetings I can't remember them all. Then just last week we were off to Kansas Grand Chapter and ended up the week at an Exchange with South Dakota. I got lots of hugs at those meetings.

Wanda says I'll be “back on the shelf” soon. Hey, I'll be glad to be back with my friends in my original herd—but what a year I have had—Eastern Star has definitely been a great herd to belong to and I'll always watch over and protect you because you have become “my” herd—I'll never forget you. Thanks for the love.

Pansy



A Message from your Scholarship Committee

Your Chapter's scholarship recipients have no doubt been determined by now, so please remember to put an announcement in your local paper—include pictures of your recipients if you can. Those of you who have not done so—remember to send in your Notification of Award form and money to the Grand Chapter office so that the Grand Secretary can prepare your Scholarship Certificates.



May 15th is the deadline for filing the 990-N form on line at www.irs.gov/file

Please check with your Chapter Secretary to be sure this has been done. If you are having trouble doing this please call the Grand Chapter office.



Join the Herd
For the “Faith in Unity”
Grand Chapter Session.

Final reminders concerning our upcoming Session:

- ✓ Don't forget your dues receipt, credential or proxy, Past Matron, Past Patron, Past Grand Matron or Past Grand Patron Card as applies.
- ✓ Worthy Grand Matron Wanda wants to let you know that it will be permissible for you to wear your new formal to the Membership Banquet on Tuesday preceeding the Informal Opening.
- ✓ PAGOS and Past and Present Grand Representatives—please don't forget your cookies!

Grand Chapter Proceedings Book

Q: What is a Proceedings Book?



A: Each year the business of the Grand Chapter Session is recorded by the Grand Secretary and each year is published in book form.

Q: Where can I see this

book?

A: Each Chapter is provided a copy of the Proceedings of each Grand Chapter Session. Your Chapter should have on file copies of the books for each year. The Chapter copy is mailed to the Chapter Secretary each year. Certain members receive complimentary books from the Grand Chapter. Books may also be purchased from the Grand Chapter office.

This year the Grand Chapter will be publishing the Proceedings in book form as usual and will also be distributing the Proceedings on a CD which you can read from your computer. The Grand Chapter program book will have an order form—please fill it in and indicate if you would like to receive the book or the CD. The CD will be considerably less expensive than the book and mailing the CD will also cost considerably less in postage expense.

VISIONQUEST

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

Public Relations and
Communications

OES members are often confused about public relations because it deals with many intangibles and with human contact. With careful planning many of your Chapter's activities and special events can become items of interest that could attract and warrant media coverage. Earned recognition builds pride in the individual members of the Chapter and can create greater interest and enthusiasm.

The Masonic Family in general and Eastern Star in particular must bring their face, their profile, their “who we are” and their identity to potential members.

A good example: Imagine GM or Ford never telling anyone about their cars, where to get them, how much they cost and how they performed. “No cars would be sold.”

The Child Identification program (CHIP) is an outstanding vehicle to accomplish the above process. Make sure that Masonry and Eastern Star signage is posted to show those parents, guardians and friends of the children going through the program that the members of both groups are sponsoring and volunteering their services and work to make this CHIP program successful and available to everyone.

Wearing name badges, shirts or caps signifying membership in these organizations is a good PR tool. Ensure that there are membership brochures and petitions available for potential members to peruse and take. Having members available to answer questions about the Order of the Eastern Star is of great importance.

Sisters and Brothers, there are so many activities that our Star Chapters can participate in and bring relevance of our organization in the community and make others considering joining.

E. I. Honey S. J. (until we meet again)

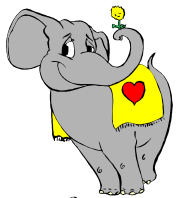
BY MIKE DONHAM

Notice: Next Month look for a letter from our newly installed Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron along with a schedule of the Area Visitations. We are planning to print updates to the "Introduction Cards" that were distributed by the District Grand Supervisors. Please note that this year the Chapters will be responsible for doing the introductions at the Area Visitations—using these cards can be a tremendous help to you—in fact using them seems to make it kind of fun!

Thank you—The Grand Secretary and Office Assistant wish to thank the "anonymous" Sister or Brother who, for the second year in a row, has had an "Organic Bouquet" delivered to the Grand Chapter office. The beautiful flowers and your kind words are much appreciated.

Enclosed with this OES News-----

Is the information for our annual 5-State Event. This year's event is being hosted by South Dakota and will be a special treat for us as it will also include South Dakota's "Quad State Event" (Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota and Wisconsin) and its annual "Central Star Event" (Manitoba, Minnesota, North and South Dakota). What a wonderful opportunity to meet members from states that we don't often have the time to socialize with! Chapter Secretaries please be sure your members are aware of this event to be held August 14-16 in Sioux Falls. Registration deadline is July 1, 2009. Forms for registration may be copied and this information will also be posted on our Web Site for you to download.



FOR THE GOOD OF THE HERD----

This little portion of the OES News has been set aside to give thanks and recognition to those who are "committed to the herd"—those members who have devoted a part of their lives to make our Eastern Star experience richer and more meaningful. This will be the last "For the Good of the Herd" and let it be known that it was impossible to recognize everyone who has a part in keeping our Order strong. If you are one of those who are reading this just now and if you are one who does actually read the OES News each month, then you are one of those who are contributing to "the good of the herd" and we thank you for your interest in the activities of our Order. Our thanks to Sister Wanda, our Worthy Grand Matron and her husband Albert and to Brother Lowell, our Worthy Grand Patron and his wife Mary Lou, Past Grand Matron, for their exceptional dedication and direction this year in leading our "Grand Chapter Herd". And, thanks to the Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons of each Chapter for leading their "Chapter Herds" toward a successful year.

KEEP UP WITH THE HERD --- OES MONTHLY CALENDAR

PLEASE SEND IN INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE JUNE OES NEWS BY MAY 15, 2009

- May 30, 2009.....Breakfast meeting of Omaha Secretaries and Treasurers, 8:30 a.m., Old Country Buffet, 14525 W. Center Road, Omaha.
- May 31, 2009.....Reception honoring the Worthy Grand Matron and all 2009-2010 Grand Officers, 2-4 p.m., West Omaha Masonic Temple, 2424 South 135th Avenue, Omaha.
- June 5, 2009.....Area 4 Visitation: South Sioux City, Laurel, Wayne, Norfolk, Stanton
- June 6, 2009.....Social Get-together with Iowa Grand Officers, Sioux City
- June 12-14 2009Rainbow Grand Assembly, Crete
- June 17-20, 2009Job's Daughters Grand Bethel, Grand Island
- June 20, 2009.....Clara Chapter No. 222, 100th Anniversary, Callaway
- June 26, 2009.....Area 6 Visitation: Lincoln Chapters, Ceresco, Ashland, Palmyra, Elmwood, Weeping Water
- June 27, 2009.....Area 3 Visitation: Tekamah, Herman, Hooper, Arlington, Ft. Calhoun, North Bend, Fremont
- June 27, 2009.....Area 7 Visitation: Fullerton, Central City, Stromsburg, Osceola, David City, Schuyler, Columbus, Utica, Polk

~~~~DON'T FORGET!—YOU CAN POST YOUR EVENTS ON THE NEBRASKA OES WEB-SITE CALENDAR~~~~