Grand Chapter of Nebraska



Order of the Eastern Star

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September 10, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers of Nebraska Eastern Star,

"Stay the course. Light a star, change the world wherever you are." These words are from the English poet and author Richard Le Gallienne who lived from 1866-1947. He never met face to face with 2020, yet his words ring out to us and so aptly fit the challenges we find in 2020.

As we prepare to enter October, I encourage each chapter and member to "stay the course". Permission is again granted for Nebraska subordinate Chapters to enter Phase 1 of opening and meeting in October. Permission is not a requirement or an expectation for your Chapter to meet or enter Phase 1 or meet during October. Permission allows your Chapter to individually determine what is best at this time for your Chapter. We advise caution as you consider the timing of opening your Chapter to begin Phase 1 meetings. The welfare and safety of our members must continue to be our highest priority. Conditions and risks are not the same in all communities. Focus on the unique conditions and risks of your Chapter and members. While we make our decisions for a date that lies in the future, conditions and risks will continue to evolve and attention must be paid to the realities as the date draws near. A plan may need to be altered as the date draws near and as conditions evolve and warrant. A cancellation may become necessary.

More of our chapters plan to open and meet in September than did in August. I hope that is a sign that you are moving forward in your preparations and comfort level with the guidelines that we continue to have faith will lower the risks involved with meeting and transacting business within our Chapters. We hope that the levels of infection will level off and decline, allowing us to adapt and maintain the discipline needed to "stay the course" and find a low risk path for our Chapters and members to meet and serve each other as well as reach out to those beyond our Chapter rooms.

As we move closer to November and our lawful election of Chapter officers, please find enclosed the definition of an alternative for election should your Chapter not be able to have your stated meeting in November. As you review the process of this option, if you have questions please ask.

Our Chapters and members continue to inspire us with your dedication, determination, willingness, patience, charity, truth and loving kindness. It is so encouraging to hear from you and know how your members are doing, how your chapters are staying together, and your ability to find the opportunities amidst the obstacles. Thank you for communicating. We encourage you to continue to "Hang On" and stay connected with your members and with us. Our prayers continue to flow for each of you, your health and your joy.

Star love, gratitude and with great expectations,

Lyran Bidsall

Karan Birdsall Worthy Grand Matron Bruce A. Baker Worthy Grand Patron