



Notes in a Nutshell

- ♥ Masonic Eastern Star Home for Children Representatives this year are: Sis. Melinda & Larry Brage from Temple Chapter #271 in Lincoln. Their names were inadvertently omitted from the tri-fold list of committees. Thank you for your service, Larry & Melinda.
- ♥ The members of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska have been invited to attend the 100th Anniversary Ball and Celebration of the Grand Chapter of Nevada. March 18th - 20th, 2005, Palace Station, Las Vegas Nevada. Mark the date on your calendar and notify the Nebraska Grand Chapter Office if you wish to receive further information and registration packets when they become available.
- ♥ *DO YOU KNOW*—If you want to submit an article for the *Eastern Star Journal*, send it to; Corlynn Wilbeck, ESJ Chairman in Nebraska, 879th Road, Hartington, NE 68739
- ♥ You can now print your very own copy of the OES News from the website: www.neoes.org

Jottings from Jake & Jill

As you noticed in the last issue of the OES News, subscriptions to the Eastern Star Journal (ESJ) are increasing in Nebraska. We're *pleased* that our membership has made an active effort to subscribe. In the last issue there was a survey from the General Grand Chapter Ritual Committee (on behalf of our Most Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron) requesting that members give their input. The question regards shortening initiation by removing repetition in the ceremony and changing the language in our initiatory lectures to reflect everyday, conversational language rather than retaining the current language.

A number of people have asked me about the survey and have expressed *very differing opinions* about this issue. People who feel that the ritual should remain the same say that everyday language would

take away the poetic beauty of the ritual citing The Lord's Prayer which does not use everyday language. Regarding the length of the initiatory ceremony, those in favor of retaining it as is, say that other parts of our meetings could take less time so that we could enjoy the initiations more. Others have pointed out that repetition is a key tenet of teaching that an idea is presented, then repeated in different ways to enhance and clarify the ideas being "taught". It has also been mentioned that young people study Shakespeare and other literary authors (whose language is hardly that of this day and age) in high school. There are those members on the other side of the issue who say the lectures are hard to learn (confusing) and would be easier to understand in everyday language.

Here's a thought expressed by a minister from the pulpit recently. "Cursive writing and

love" are much the same. Both have many facets. Each is a process that you understand and appreciate with time. Eastern Star could take the place of the word "love" when compared to cursive writing as well. As new members we hear the words; the more we study our Star Point lectures and hear our initiatory work, the more we appreciate and understand it.

We hope that Nebraska members will *respond to the survey* and let *your opinion be known*. Our Most Worthy Grand Matron and Most Worthy Grand Patron are making an effort to be in touch with the membership. EXPRESS YOUR OPINION. They will appreciate it very much. Please submit the survey by **December 31, 2004**

Children's Home Representatives — Melinda & Larry Brage

We were pleased to attend the 4-H Achievement Day activities at the Masonic Eastern Star Home for Children in Fremont on August 15. It was good to see the youth receive recognition for their work and accomplishments. The event appeared to be very well attended.

We were able to visit with Ben Harvey, Executive Director and Rondald Giesselmann, Director Child Care Services about the operations and needs of the home. While there are many needs during the year, Ben mentioned that the greatest need at this time is twin-size bed linens and blankets; towel sets; and various toiletries such as toothpaste, shampoo, and soap. The residents receive these items upon arrival then receive replacements during the year as needed.

There is not a great need

for additional school supplies at this time. And — while a cash donation may not seem as much a "thought-out" gift... because of particular needs, Ben mentioned that it is really nicer as it allows them to purchase exactly

Heart Notes

- Congratulations and thank you extended for these new Grand Representative Commissions;

Sister Gwen Hurst-Anderson—West Virginia in Nebraska, Myrtle Chapter #94, Lincoln

Sister Shirley Wickett—Maryland in Nebraska—from Miriam Chapter # 175, Laurel.

Sister Deb Pickerel—Ohio in Nebraska—from Willanna Chapter #321, Polk.

Sister Helen Jenkins—Quebec in Nebraska—from Alpha Chapter #325, Bellevue





From the Grand Secretary

*Along the Road –
Diane Wiberg, Grand Warder*

Appreciation for ESTARL Grant

If you've ever wondered whether ESTARL has an impact on the recipients, read the note below from the parents of a young man who is currently receiving an ESTARL grant from Nebraska. This is only one of many such letters which are received!

"Just a note to thank you for all that you have done for our son over the past year and a half. Your involvement in Eastern Star opened doors that would not have been there otherwise. He is doing well in school. We did not know about ESTARL until you put us in contact with this program. Seminary would not have been possible without ESTARL's help."

Notice:

Articles and calendar items for the Nebraska OES News **MUST** be received by the 15th of the preceding month! Submit to:

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402-727-8644

nebraskaoes@msn.com

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- Read the OES News online at www.neoes.org
- Print your own copy of the OES News online from the website at www.neoes.org
- Receive the OES News by mail; contact Carolyn Plants for details.

THANK YOU!

Sister Cathy, Grand Secretary and her assistant, Sister Betty Kucera (122-216) recently received the honor of being appointed Admirals in the Great Navy of the State of Nebraska. Thank you—we are most honored!

Did you know?

Eastern Star is a 501 (c) (8) non-profit organization. All contributions you make to Eastern Star for charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes ARE tax deductible, according to IRS code Section 170 (c) (4). **Also---** Eastern Star is NOT exempt from payment of state sales tax. Being exempt

from income tax under section 501 (c) of the IRS code does not entitle this organization to an exemption from Nebraska sales and use tax.

NOTE—A new copy of the list of Officers and Committee Members is enclosed with this mailing. Several corrections have been made. Call the Grand Chapter Office for additional copies.

A copy of the survey from the General Grand Chapter Ritual Committee will be enclosed with the OES NEWS. Please make copies for each member of your Chapter or call the Grand Chapter Office for additional copies. The surveys need to be submitted by December 31.

Iowa-Nebraska Officer Exchange

On Friday, June 25, the Grand Officers from Iowa and Nebraska gathered for dinner at the Masonic Temple in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Harmony Chapter (#25 of Iowa) and Amber Star Chapter of Quick, Iowa, were the host chapters for the evening. Following the meal, the Nebraska Grand Officers performed the initiatory work for three candidates from Iowa. Our own Past Grand Matron, Sister Bonnie Brasel, was our pro-tem Grand Esther for the evening. On Saturday, the two groups gathered at the Benson Masonic Temple in

Omaha for the annual brunch honoring 50 and 25-year members at Narcissus Chapter (the home chapter of Worthy Grand Matron, Jill). Narcissus extended honorary membership in their chapter to Nebraska's Worthy Grand Patron and his wife, Wayne and Marilyn Jacobsen of Harmony Chapter (#13 of Nebraska) as well as Harmony's Worthy Matron, Sister Dona Ridenour and Iowa's Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron: Sister Ann Robinson and Brother Ray Rardin.

After the brunch and presentations, both groups of Grand Officers performed



Our Area Visitations started on July 6. The first meeting was a luncheon in Gordon, followed by an evening meeting in Sidney. Several officers attended the Annual Meeting at the Children's Home in Fremont on July 14 and enjoyed a delicious taco meal with the kids and staff. A nearly full slate of officers then traveled to Laurel for an evening meeting. The next two days were filled with good food, good fellowship and fun in Bloomfield, Ainsworth and Hyannis. Sister Betty Kirkpatrick, Grand Electa was honored at a reception prior to the evening banquet and meeting in Ainsworth. It has been a very busy, but VERY ENJOYABLE past month.

Meet our Grand Officer

Louise Scolaro, Grand Electa, is Past Matron of Alpha Chapter #325, Bellevue. Her husband, Gus, is Grand Custodian Emeritus of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. They have two grown daughters. Louise worked for many years as Office Manager for Benchmark Homes and is now retired. Two of her favorite activities are playing golf and attending Nebraska football games.



Iowa's "double march". The Iowa Grand Officers initiated two more Iowa candidates and one candidate from Nebraska's Alpha Chapter in Bellevue. The two groups of Grand Officers combined in Iowa's "circle of friendship drill" to end the afternoon. The entire event emphasized our Fabulous Fraternal Family!



Calendar of Events: September–October 2004

September 12	Phillips Chapter No. 204, Chicken Dinner – 5:00 pm, Phillips Community Center – Tickets must be purchased in advance—\$7.00 each. Call Betty & Bob Mabon 402-886-2206 for tickets
	AkSarBen No. 277 Annual Ham Dinner - call Fritzie Nixon 402-963-5024 for details and tickets
September 18	Papillion No. 114—Annual Salad Luncheon and Bake Sale -Masonic Center, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, 84th & Centennial Rd, Papillion.
	Electa No. 8 Friendship Night - 7:30 pm: 1635 'L' St Lincoln - Initiation; Rainbow Girls Presentation
September 20	Temple Chapter #271, 21 st Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Country Store. 5:00-7:00PM. Scottish Rite Temple, 332 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln NE. Call 1-402-467-2253 or 1-402-488-0837 for tickets.
September 22-25	Colorado Grand Chapter
September 23	Thirty-fourth Annual Meeting of West Nebraska Panhandle Past Matrons' Club - registration 9:30—10:00 am; lunch at noon: 1830 Illinois St, Sidney. Call Marilyn Schmidt 308-879-4425 for reservations (Lunch \$6.50; Registration \$2
	Reception & light refreshments for Dave Thienel, Grand Sentinel. 4:00-6:00 pm, Hastings.
	evening – Hastings, Kearney, Grand Island, Aurora, Chapman, Central City, Phillips, Ravenna
September 24	Area Visitation—York, Utica, Seward, Milford, Crete, Friend, Geneva, Sutton. 11:30 am:— Saunders Ave and Forrest St, Sutton. Call Kay Batt 402-773-5302 for reservations (\$6 per person)
	Area Visitation—Columbus, Schuyler, David City, Osceola, Stromsburg, Polk, Fullerton, Albion. evening meeting
September 25	Reception for Roger Warnke, Grand Chaplain. 10:00-11:00 am. Contact Janet Reed for more information — 402-873-7677.
	Area Visitation—Nebraska City. noon meeting. Contact Janet Reed for more information — 402-873-7677.
	Area Visitation—Omaha Area [including Papillion & Bellevue. evening meeting @Omaha Home for Boys, 52 & Ames Avenue. Contact Andrea Hargan, President Metro Area Line Officers (402-592-4552) or Tami Stites, Worthy Matron, Bellevue (402-293-1538).
September 26	Reception honoring Cheré Schroeder, Grand Organist and Louise Scolaro, Grand Electa 12:30—2 pm: Masonic Center, 84th & Centennial Rd, Papillion.
September 28	Myrtle Chapter No. 94 Yum-Yum Dinner. 5:00-7:00 pm: 2610 N. 48th St, Lincoln. Call Bette Cummins 402-423-2689 for tickets (\$5 each)
September 30	Omaha Area Past and Present Grand Representatives Social Event - McCall residence, 310 Fleetwood Dr, Papillion. For reservations call Mike and Margaret McCall, 402-592-8608.
October 02	Laura Chapter No. 301, Soup and Dessert Supper - 124 E 19th, South Sioux City. Call Betty Garwood 402-494-5159 for tickets.
	Vesper No. 9 Spaghetti Supper. 5:00-7:00 pm: 601 Grand St, Beatrice Call Jackie Stake 402-228-2790 for reservations. (This event is to honor Jan Thoman, AGM, Free Will Offering to support her year as WGM)
October 7–9	10-7, 8, 9, 04: South Dakota Grand Chapter, Pierre South Dakota
October 8–9	Nebraska/Kansas exchange: Friday evening – Kansas Grand Officers initiate in Hastings. Saturday afternoon at 1:30 pm – Nebraska Grand Officers initiate in Phillipsburg KS.
October 9	Annual Chicken Noodle Dinner. Arbor Vitae Chapter #, . 4:30-7:00 pm at the Masonic Center, 350 E 23rd Street, Fremont Nebraska. Contact Sister Shirley Frink, Worthy Matron.
October 23	Grand Representatives' Fall Meeting. Kearney Holiday Inn
October 26	Soup Time at Fontenelle No. 249. 1:00 am-2:00 pm: 2424 South 135th Ave, Omaha. Call Genia Ripley 402-896-1763 for tickets and information.
October 29	Electa No. 8 Yum-Yum Dinner - 1635 'L' St, Lincoln -Yum-Yums, chips, salad, pie, drinks for \$5.00 - Call Barbara Dunekacke, Worthy Matron, 402-474-3803 for tickets.

**RESERVATIONS ARE NECESSARY
FOR MOST OF THESE EVENTS**



Grand Chapter of Nebraska O.E.S.



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NEBRASKA OES NEWSLETTER

Carolyn Plants, Editor
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Lincoln NE 68521

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Place address label here

Nebraska OES is on the web: www.neoes.org

Eastern Star Journal – Les Bailey GGCCM

The summer issue is out—and it's a good one! The only thing missing is an article or two from Nebraska. We'd love to receive articles and photos about special projects that your chapters are involved in, your special members and their achievements, unusual or interesting events...anything that you think is interesting that involves Eastern Star folks.

I have had a couple of comments from one of the jurisdictions that I represent that members have, in the past, submitted articles that were never published, and no explanations were given. Please be assured that, if that should happen to you, we will track down the problem.

There are two things you should be aware of, however. Due to the varying number of articles submitted in any given quarter, yours may not get in the very next issue if space is limited, in which case it would be held over until the following issue. Secondly, we typically do not print memorials and stories honoring deceased members (with rare exception), because we do not want the Journal to become a "book of obituaries."

If you've never submitted an article before, give it a try—it's fun (and rewarding)!

If you want to submit an article for the Eastern Star Journal, send it to

**Corlynn Wilbeck
ESJ Chairman in Nebraska
55512 879th Road
Hartington,
NE 68739**

