



Notes in a Nutshell *Jottings from Jake & Jill*

- ♥ **Fontenelle Chapter No. 249** Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, March 6th 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at West Omaha Masonic Temple, 2424 South 135th Avenue. Contact Lorna Robinson, WM, 333-5829.
- ♥ **Andrew Chapter #41**, Grand Island is hosting a soup supper on March 19 at the Masonic Temple. Serving from 5:00—7:00 PM. \$5.00—Adults. \$2.50—children 12 and under.
- ♥ **Temple Chapter #271** will once again host it's annual Roast Beef Dinner. March 19, 2005 @The Scottish Rite Temple 332 Centennial Mall South in Lincoln. 4:30—6:30 PM. \$8.00—adult. \$4.00—child under 12. People have said it's one of the best roast beef dinners. For tickets call; Karen Paulson 402-467-2253
- ♥ A number of items from the **2004-2005 Sales Table are still available**. If you would like a tee shirt (dark or light blue), travel mug, note cards, pens, heart pins, heart tie tacks or pocket knives, please contact either Jill Ramsey, Worthy Grand Matron, or Marilyn Jacobsen, wife of Worthy Grand Patron Wayne. We would be happy to sell these items to raise more money for our Eastern Star projects as well as HIKE (Hearing Impaired Kids Endowment). Thank you for helping support these projects!
- ♥ Take time today to visit your Nebraska Grand Chapter web site. You will find a lot of interesting and helpful information on those pages.

Has your District Grand Supervisor given her instruction at your chapter yet? When she comes, she will remind you that you must exemplify the initiatory work twice during the year in addition to the day of her instruction. A number of chapters have already begun to initiate new members in 2005. **KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!**

? **DID YOU KNOW** that *Ruth Chapter #119* in North Bend, Nebraska, read eleven—**YES 11**—petitions at their Stated Meeting in February? Seven of the eleven will be available to be initiated by the Grand Officers in North Bend soon.

If you do not have actual candidates for membership, you will ask some of your own members to “be initiated”. In this situation we sometimes hear the words “mock” or “straw” when referring to the exemplification of our ritualistic work using our own members as candidates. When you used these expressions in the past, did you mean that you intended

to “mock” the Ritual or that your own members were “straws”? Surely not!

Please do not refer to your members as “mock (or straw) candidates”. Do not refer to a “mock initiation” or “straw initiation”.

Someone could misunderstand and interpret this to mean we were “mocking” the beauty and solemnity of our initiation ceremony. Not one of us wants to belittle our work in any way. If you have been in the habit of using these words, we much prefer that you call them “courtesy initiations” and “courtesy candidates”.

Many other Grand Jurisdictions do use the word “courtesy”. We want to be among them.

? Our District Grand Supervisors began their instruction in Nebraska chapters on February 12? Please welcome these special sisters who give so much of their time at the annual School of Instruction, preparing instruction and driving many round trip miles to supervise.

Please “order excellent weather” for the day that your Supervisor will be in your Chapter so that she is assured safe travels!!!!

? We look forward to seeing many of you at Grand Chapter in May as we welcome our Most Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Pat Rasmusson, and Most Worthy Grand Patron, Brother Loyal Stark, to Nebraska. We have promised that there will be no snow or ice in *any* part of Nebraska in May, 2005. Do you think we can keep that promise?

? There will be a Family Tree and a worksheet sent to you very soon. Sister Nellie Frizzell, District Grand Supervisor and Past Matron of Dome Rock Chapter #215 in Scottsbluff, devised these items on behalf of the Membership Committee. Make copies and see how many people in your OWN FAMILY TREE are potential Eastern Star members.

Heart Notes



Sister Mae Christensen celebrated her 100th birthday, celebrating the milestone with her family and friends at the Pawnee Senior Center in Genoa, Nebraska, on January 30, 2005. She has always been a happy person who attends church and Eastern Star and visits friends. Mae was born January 31, 1905, on a farm northeast of Genoa, Nebraska. She graduated from Genoa High School in 1923, taught country schools and attended college classes. She married Clarence (Sam) in 1934. She has two sons, Rick and Gale, four grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and three step-great-grandchildren. Mae lives in her own home and does much of her cooking and light cleaning. , family members assist her as needed. Her specialty is homemade lemon pie. Everyone loves them.

“She’s been through it all,” Rick says of all that has gone on in his mother’s life, including the Depression, wars and advances in technology. This was a day of celebration and reflection for a dedicated friend, mother and Star member.

Sister Mae was initiated into Sylvia Chapter No. 80, Genoa, Nebraska, on November 7, 1947, serving four terms as Worthy Matron. Sylvia Chapter No. 80, Genoa, officially consolidated with Fullerton Chapter No. 191 on April 14, 2004, at the Masonic Temple in Fullerton, Nebraska.

More Jottings...

After 9/11, the hearts of Americans went out to the families who had lost loved ones. Much money was donated to funds to help this important effort. There has been an outpouring of support from United States citizens to the victims of the recent Tsunami disaster as well. That is our nature to provide aid to these special causes.

In the fall of 2001, however, there was a considerable drop in money given to HIKE as a result of 9/11. As a result some Nebraska families whose children were newly-diagnosed with a hearing loss waited many months until HIKE funds became available. There is no time to waste for children to learn the speech and language which they don't hear.

We sincerely hope that the HIKE fund will not experience that same decline in contributions this year.

A sincere thank you to our Nebraska Eastern Star members. You have contributed several thousand dollars to the Hearing Impaired Kids Endowment so far during this Grand Chapter year. The Job's Daughters' Grand Guardian Council in Nebraska set a goal to raise \$20,000 by June, 2005. Let's show the girls our support for their HIKE project.

From the desk of the Grand Secretary

Grand Chapter has sent \$1,000 in support of the General Grand Chapter's united effort for relief to those affected by the Indian Ocean tsunami. These funds were given on behalf of all Nebraska Chapters, but your Chapter or individual members may also give additional funds.

All donations received will go to the *Habitat for Humanity International*.

This organization's plan calls for transitional and permanent housing projects in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, and Thailand to house some

25,000 families in a first-phase effort and tens of thousands of families in the long term. To quote the Vice President of HFHI-Asia/Pacific, "The families most impacted were the very poor and there is a serious need to get them out of the camps and back into their own land as soon as possible. Not only are many of the centers unsafe and growing more unsafe, but they have moved families away from the limited sources of livelihood that they have."

Please send donations to the office of the Grand Secretary. They will be

forwarded immediately to the Office of the General Chapter so that the combined gift might be recognized. Please make your checks to the Grand Chapter of Nebraska and indicate "Tsunami relief." As an alternative, the Grand Lodge of India, the only Grand Lodge in that area is also receiving donations.

So that Nebraska's contributions can be among those in this united effort please send your contributions in as soon as possible.

Sister Secretary, please be sure to read this letter - to your Chapter!!!

Lincoln City Wide Past Matrons & Past Patrons—Going Back to the Fifties

Dust off your Poodle skirts and penny loafers, break out the butch wax and work on your duck tails because we are going to Rock and Roll on Sunday, April 3rd @ the Masonic Hall, 1635 L Street. Doors open @ 5:30 p.m. and a catered dinner will be served @ 6:00 p.m.

Come Join in the fun and help us celebrate our 45th anniversary as we

go back to the Nifty Fifties.

Now, while you are sitting there remembering your Senior Prom Date and humming some good ol' tunes, contact one of the Chapter officers for tickets.

EVERYONE is invited - PM/PP or not.

Ticket Price: \$7.00

Deadline for ticket purchases: Monday, March 28th -

No tickets will be sold at the door.

Sister Beth Benson, President
4615 M Street: Lincoln, NE 68510 --
486-3767

Brother Mike Berger, VP
5448 High Street, Lincoln, NE
68506 - 488-5133

Brother John Kirby, Sec/Treas
4501 Eagle Ridge Road: Lincoln, NE
68516 - 421-2502

Eastern Star Journal News

Les Bailey GGCCM

I want to take this opportunity to thank your WGM, Sister Jill Ramsey, for being such a great supporter of the *Eastern Star Journal* this year. She has been a delight to work with and helpful in every possible way.

Last year I asked her if she would consider appointing an Eastern Star Journal committee to be Journal representatives within Nebraska. A committee, consisting of Sisters Berta Barnett, Mary Frandsen, Janet Reed, Wandalee Watson, and chaired by

Corlynn Wilbeck, was soon in place. Some of these ladies will be assisting me at the ESJ table at your grand session in May.

I asked for articles from Nebraska, so the Journal would be even more interesting for the Nebraska members. Again, no sooner said than done.

See Sister Corlynn's contribution in the current issue. An article from Nazarene Chapter #117 should be in the next issue. Also, Sister Jill has recently submitted an article and accompanying photo that should appear in the next

issue as well.

Sisters and Brothers.... when you subscribe, you will be in good company! I am pleased to say that 8 of your Grand Officers take the Journal, as do 3 of your Grand Trustees, 2 of your GGCCMs, and both of your Grand Officers Emeriti. Please ask any of them if they think you would like the Journal. Isn't it time you got in on the enjoyment and value that the Eastern Star Journal brings these leaders of Nebraska Eastern Star?

See you in May!

Meet our Grand Officer

My wife Glee and I have been married 43 years. We are members of Queen Esther Chapter #1 in Nebraska City. We are members of the Bethel United Church of Christ.

We have three children Our son Seth and wife Jeannie live in Columbus NE. They have two sons. Our daughter Shawn lives in Big Spring TX. She has a daughter and son. Daughter Sabrina and husband Toby live in Lincoln.

I am retired from Nebraska Public Power District, Purchasing Department, Cooper Nuclear Station in Brownville NE.

I enjoy carpentry work, walking, reading and Eastern Star.



Roger Warnke
Grand Chaplain

Subordinate Chapter Notes

Enthusiasm is becoming contagious this year at Signal Chapter No. 55, in North Platte. Four Sisters and one Brother are serving as officers for the first time, and the chapter has three petitions to read, while Brother Charles Grigsby continues to design and make special decorations for every meeting.

The first-time Worthy Matron, Sister Nola Synovec, has planned interesting and unique programs for the chapter's eighteen stated and special meetings.

Laughter rang high at the first meeting when Recognition Night highlighted unusual "secrets," shared by the officers. It was learned the Treasurer's parents aged considerably when they found her, at age four, completing a climb to the top of a metal grain bin. The chapter's petite Adah, a Past Grand Bethel Honored Queen, has a secret desire to go hang-gliding!

Presidents on Parade will feature Masons who were

American Presidents or Vice Presidents. Many member's interests are already tweaked about the program titled, "Oh, No, Bloopers!" The best to come may be the September dinner for the "Chronologically Enhanced."

Three enthusiastic sisters were appointed to call all resident members. These telephone calls are not only invitations to meetings, with transportation available, if needed, but personal contacts and visits to show the chapter's interest and concern for all its members. The response is amazing, and inactive members now are beginning to feel they are a special part of the chapter.

--Submitted by
Helen M. Brannan, P.G. M.

General Grand Chapter — Peace Garden Pilgrimage

The International Peace Garden Committee has completed its plans for the next "Peace Garden Pilgrimage" to be held August 12, 13, 14, 2005 at the International Peace Gardens on the Manitoba-North Dakota Border.

Those participating can enjoy the lovely Eastern Star Chapel, beautiful flowers, tours, fellowship, good food, and entertainment.

It is a wonderful time to meet Eastern Star Sisters and Brothers from around the world and to enjoy the beautiful North Dakota summer weather.

Information on meals, lodging and registration for this event can be had by contacting the Grand Chapter office. Please note that the deadline for registration is July 1, 2005. And, motel reservations must be made before June 1, 2005.

Subordinate Chapter Histories

Connie Havekost, Chair

Our Worthy Grand Matron Jill's History Committee is working on the Grand Chapter Book of Chapter Histories!!

We have a number of volunteers who are helping key and scan the Chapter Histories into text documents that will be inserted into the booklet.

We would still like to include some pictures in the book but are on a rather short deadline.

Appropriate pictures would include pictures of a Past Grand Matron

and/or Past Grand Patron, a Grand Officer, your temple, or perhaps a picture of an anniversary celebration.

Our editor advises that we have room for three to six pictures for each Chapter's history depending on the size of the text document that has already been submitted.

Any pictures that you would like included should be e-mailed as a JPG attachment to Carolyn Plants at cp13522@alltel.net Or... you can mail a copy of the photo to 6124 NW 6th Street, Lincoln NE

68521 — as soon as possible.

The editing process must be completed and the copy delivered to the printer before the end of March...(just as a note of interest I sent a number of E-mail messages to those Chapter Secretaries [04] for whom I had e-addresses requesting photos to be sent to me—Carolyn) Materials received after the 15th of March will most likely not be included in the booklet.

Thank you for your continued interest in this project.





Grand Chapter of Nebraska Order of the Eastern Star

NEBRASKA OES NEWS

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Articles, photographs and calendar items for the Nebraska OES Newsletter must be received by the 15th of the preceding month.

Treasures of the Heart

*Honor the past, Embrace the present,
And Reach To the future*

Insert mailing address here.
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Insert mailing address here.
Insert mailing address here.



**Nebraska OES is on the web:
www.neo.es.org**

Getting To Work On Your Publicity Campaign

Have you taken advantage of the sample news articles that you can use to help you write and release information about your Chapter's activities and the accomplishments of your members?

Have you contacted me or retrieved the sample articles from the Nebraska OES web pages?

Have you visited the web pages?

Have you taken every (or any) opportunity to get out the news of your Chapter's doings?

We know you are very active within your Chapters, in community and youth activities, and as individuals in private and professional lives. Yet many of you still need to let the world know! It really is a good thing to toot our own horns — if we don't Who will???

One of the most important things we ... correction... **you** can do is to let the world around us know who we are and what contributions we make on a regular basis to our communities and

society at large. People need to know that we are a viable, energetic, philanthropic organization that is worthy of their attention and consideration. There are prospective members in every community, we have to get their attention if they are to contemplate the Order as a good place to invest their time and energies.

[Hmmm.... I think I've heard this before. But it bears repeating!!]

People like to hear about local names and events. People like to know what an organization is doing and what it is about. Prospective members are out there waiting to learn about our Star and learn why we are a good bunch of people to join with for good purpose.

Don't be shy, get your news out to the public and to the OES Newsletter, and/or the Eastern Star Journal.

Your successful fund-raiser, your special activities, the awards your members earn both in Star and in their personal/professional lives are important news and need to be shared. You are doing it.... Now share it!

Worthy Matrons, please appoint someone as your Publicity Chair — charge her/him to take care of getting the word out about your Chapter, it's activities, and it's members... It is important that you do put Eastern Star in the news—and do it regularly.

Please start right now to make a plan. Devise your own local public relation campaign. And... include the OES Newsletter in your plan.

I expect to hear from each of your Chapter's at least once before Grand Chapter.



Let's toot our OES horns!!