



Jottings from Jake & Jill

Notes in a Nutshell

Subordinate Chapter Spotlights

♥ The annual Imperial Chapter Golf Tournament will be held June 25th. For more information contact Sister Cyn Norman Worthy Matron 308-882-4495, or Sister Barbara Wood Secretary 308-882-5725. The word we have had from previous year's participants is that there is a great lot of fun and fellowship at this tournament, making it a trip well worth the time and effort.

♥ You can access Nebraska OES News on line at www.neoes.org ... and Print your own copy of the OES News from the website.

Sisters and Brothers,
Our "heritage" year has been a rewarding one and we thank all of you for your exceptional support. In May, 2004, with confidence we challenged you to improve your individual ritualistic proficiency and qualify for the Proficiency Award You did that and more! Almost 700 of you are wearing the Proficiency pin now.

We dreamed that a "History of Subordinate Chapters" would be compiled and available for sale at the 2005 Session. We needed your support....and we got it, overwhelmingly!

Long ago, when your Worthy Grand Patron was a young newspaper reporter, it was customary for reporters (now known as journalists or media specialists) to end their stories with a "thirty"...it appeared as -30- at the bottom of a sheet of paper.

The story was then edited by an old-timer in the business, who did not worry about hurting the young reporter's tender feelings by slashing, snipping, and otherwise tearing apart the story and ordering that it be rewritten if it was not up to ac-

Each active Chapter (and many that had consolidated) submitted a history. The book is for sale now for **\$7.00 if reserved before Grand Chapter and \$8.00** at the session and beyond.

We asked each Chapter to focus on one Chapter goal and make progress toward accomplishment as part of our "Vision Activity" for this year. You DID.

Our participation within the Fabulous Fraternal Family of Nebraska is alive and well. We have Unity meetings, sharing activities among the bodies, renewed growth within our youth groups as well as Eastern Star and the Masonic

Lodge. Where else do you find 11 petitions for membership read at a single Stated Meeting in a community of 1200 people?

Enthusiasm and participation by Nebraska Eastern Star members is the norm. Naysayers must look some place else to find our Order in the doldrums. You all have "HEART" to Honor the past, Embrace the present, And Reach To the future! THANK YOU ALL!

— *Jill Ramsey, WGM*

cepted journalistic standards.

Our editor also told us "to assume nothing."

"If your mother tells you she loves you, check it out anyway," he'd say.

Well, Sister Jill and I are at the end of our journey to the Grand East. We can't assume that everything we've done has been up to everyone's standards, but generally the feedback on our efforts hasn't been totally negative either.

It's been fun and frustrating, labor and laughs. Above all, it's been a unique opportunity to meet and socialize with some

of the greatest people you'll ever hope to find.

To all of you, we say thanks for everything...for your friendship, support, and assistance.

We hope to see you at Grand Chapter May 10-12 when we can be together one more time.

Until then, Sisters and Brothers....

-30-

- *Wayne Jacobsen, WGP*



Heart Notes

- *It is with a heavy heart that we received the news that our Sister Thelma Trego, Past Grand Matron, passed away in April. Our Grand Chapter will surely miss her warm smile and gracious manner.*

historical Narrative available NOW!!!

The long-awaited collection of historical narratives assembled from each active Subordinate Chapter of the Order in Nebraska is arriving!!! The final copy has gone to press and *the completed booklets will be available at Grand Chapter*

The booklets contain a delightful array of anecdotes and tales from the past through the current and are quite an interesting read. We have been able to include a variety of pictures that add a lot to the stories spun from the pages of our Chapter records and the memories of our Sisters and Brothers.

HURRY!

Reserve your copy of this booklet that includes the narrative from your Chapter!

With advanced reservation — placed by May 1—the price of the booklet is \$7.00. The histories reserved prior to Grand Chapter can be

picked up and paid for at Pershing Auditorium—look for the History Committee's table.

Cost per booklet purchased at Grand Chapter or thereafter will be \$8.00.

If you are unable to attend the 2005 Grand Chapter session this May, you may send your advance reservation request together with your payment of \$7.00 and a copy of the Histories will be sent to you as soon as possible after the close of Grand Chapter. Please contact Sister Cathy Wagner at the Grand Secretary's Office right away to place your advance reservation request.

Cathy Wagner,
Grand Secretary
Box 156—Fremont NE 68025
800-832-9320
402-727-8644

nebraskaoes@msn.com

Publicity Committee Notes

We would like to take this opportunity to thank each member and Chapter for their contributions throughout the year share their activities and accomplishments in Star and their active strides in community involvement and publicity for our beautiful Order. It has been valuable to share our activities and ideas with one another.

We also extend our sincere thanks and appreciation for all that Sister Cathy Wagner, Grand Secretary has done to help the committee complete its charge. Sister Cathy — you are superb!

A big thank you to Brother Alvin Benemerito—our webmaster. Brother Alvin is a one-man wonder. The web pages are fantastic; they are kept up to date and he is always adding something new of interest. If you haven't visited the Nebraska Grand Chapter web pages, do so soon. If you are a visitor, return to it often to see what's new!

It has been a challenge that has also been quite rewarding. Keep up your good work getting the word out about our Star and its message.

More Subordinate Chapter Spotlights

by Brenda McGuire,
Past Matron, Eureka Chapter #86, McCook.
One of my goals in life is to help find a cure for cancer and to help others know that there can be life after the big "C" comes into your life. This has come true for me as Worthy Matron as my projects were to feed the Hungry and Relay for Life.

With a positive and very hard-working and generous group at Eureka Chapter #86, so much of my goals have come to pass.

One lovely gift given to my husband and Worthy Patron, Walt, was 8 cases of canned foods for the Food Pantry in our honor. A very large Christmas tree of jars of peanut butter and jelly was also given to the Food Pantry in our honor. What lovely gifts, so caring and sharing—letting the world know how very helpful ODES is.

**One more Reminder...
Place your order with the Grand Secretary **NOW!**
Reserve your copy of the *Historical Narrative of Nebraska Subordinate Chapter Histories* and **save \$1.****



I have been involved with the Relay For Life for many years and I was so pleased with the work of Sister Darlene Cole, who worked so hard to keep our Chapter and all the Masonic Family working on this one goal. Our group raised over \$500 in 2003. I was so proud our Chapter. They did so well. The next year was a repeat story and I was named *Honorary Chairperson...* but

this did not them. This year, I was so please to lead our survivor's lap and excited to have former Governor Frank Morrison and Alyssa Karr (11 year-old) help carry the banner. (see photo) What an honor.

Our new Worthy Matron, Sister Darlene Cole, is starting out with great goals—and so special that she pro-

Secretaries to the Rescue

The arrival of the 130th Grand Chapter Session has meant the usual extra work in the Grand Chapter Office.

Pictured here are a group of Chapter Secretaries (and one "assistant Secretary"!) who recently volunteered a day of service in the Grand Chapter Office.

Please help us thank these devoted members, and all others who are always so willing to help when



the need arises.

Seated are Imogene and John Waner (249). Standing from left to right are: Berta Barnett (269); Laura Dey (121); Jan Barnard, Grand Treasurer (216); Shirley DeVasure (299); the Grand Chapter Office Assistant, Betty Kucera (216-122).

Notice:

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

Cathy Wagner, Grand Secretary
Box 156, Fremont NE 68025
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nebraskaoes@msn.com

2005 AREA VISITATION SCHEDULE FOR JUNE AND JULY

Friday, June 24th

Evening Visitation – Lexington, Cozad, North Platte, Callaway, Broken Bow

Saturday, June 25th

Evening Visitation – Imperial, Benkelman, Culbertson, McCook, Bartley, Ogallala, Chappell, Oshkosh, Wallace

Friday, July 1st

Evening Visitation – Plattsmouth, Weeping Water, Elmwood, Palmyra, Nebraska City, Brock, Brownville, Stella

Friday, July 8th

Evening Visitation – Tekamah, Herman, Hooper, Blair, Ft. Calhoun, Arlington

Saturday, July 9th

Noon Visitation – Utica, Osceola, David City, Columbus, Schuyler

Saturday, July 9th

Evening Visitation – Fremont, North Bend, Valley, Elkhorn, Ceresco, Ashland

Saturday, July 16th

Noon Visitation – Wausa, Norfolk, O'Neill, Orchard, Plainview, Bloomfield

Saturday, July 16th

Evening Visitation – South Sioux City, Wayne, Stanton, Wisner, Laurel

Eastern Star Journal News

-Les Bailey GGCCM

As the assistant to the editor of the *Eastern Star Journal*, I am also the statistician (glorified name for "calculator operator") that maintains subscription data for all the reporting jurisdictions. In the Spring issue of the Journal, which should be out about the time you read this in the *Nebraska O.E.S. News*, you will see that Nebraska gained one position—from 33rd to 32nd

place among the 59 jurisdictions.

That rating improvement was accomplished, in part, because you have three more subscribers than you did the previous month. That brings you to your highest participation level this triennium. The other reason for your placement change is because Pennsylvania, who was one of those states ahead of

you, dropped a little in their number of readers. Well, that's one way to increase your standing...but a much better way is to gain even more subscribers. More subscribers equates to more articles by Nebraska members and, consequently, more of a local flavor to the Journal. Keep up the good work!

You'll note that the Spring

issue contains 36 pages (normally 32) because of the increased interest in and awareness of the Journal and what it has to offer.

We are looking forward to being at your Grand Chapter session again this year so we'll see you all soon.