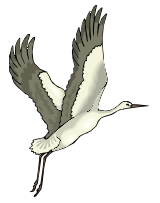




NEBRASKA OES NEWS

“Love is in the Air” ~~~~VOLUME VII NUMBER 7
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Important Information about Student Loans---

The new Educational Loan Committee wishes to announce that the deadline date for submitting applications for educational loans has been moved up to April 30th. New and former applicants must submit applications, letter of recommendation and transcripts to the Grand Chapter office by that date. Students who are members or relatives of members of the Order of the Eastern Star are eligible for these loans. The maximum which can be loaned per semester is \$2,200. The loans are for a period of four years and the interest rate (which must be paid annually) is 4%. With the interest on a Stafford loan (government loan) now at 6.8% members should encourage qualifying students to apply for the Eastern Star Student Loan. Call Carolyn Plants, Chairman (402) 477-9464 or the Grand Chapter office 800-832-9320 for more information or to obtain an application.

New Pins

With the beginning of the “Choctaw” Triennium, new pins are available to support the projects of the General Grand Chapter. Proceeds from the sale of these pins comes to Nebraska to be used here in our own jurisdiction. Pins are available to support Cancer Fund, Heart Fund, Shrine Hospital and Youth. A very interesting booklet, “Symbolism and the Eastern Star” is also for sale to support ESTARL. Each of these items sells for \$5. See any of our new General Grand Chapter

Committee members or call our GGC Project Chairperson, Sister Bev Donham at 402-558-9032 to purchase your new pins.

VISIONQUEST

BY MIKE DONHAM
PAST GRAND PATRON

I have been appointed to the General Grand Chapter Committee—Visionquest for the next three years.

Visionquest is a continuation of the ‘Visioneer’ program that Sister Pat Rasmusson, PMWGM and Brother Loyal Stark, PMWGP started in the last triennium.

I will be working with Nebraska’s Worthy Grand Matrons for the next three years and the committee they have appointed. I will also try to write a little excerpt for each edition of the OES NEWS.

Sisters and Brothers, consider two words, “Just Ask”. Just ask a prospect to come to a social function or community project of your chapter. They can become acquainted with the fellowship and dedication of the members of this beautiful Order. We have all heard the statement, “I was never asked to become a member.” There are plenty of potential members in our own Masonic family, so please remember these watchwords: “Just Ask”.

REMINDER FROM THE BOARD OF GRAND TRUSTEES:

If your Chapter has need of storage for extra Signets which you may have from consolidations, please call the Grand Chapter office at 800-832-9320.

PROCEEDINGS BOOKS

The Proceedings of the 2006 Grand Chapter Session will be available soon. If you would like to purchase a copy please call the Grand Chapter office. Approximate cost will be \$8 to \$10 each.

The Grand Chapter office also has order blanks for those of you who would like to order a copy of the Proceedings of the recent General Grand Chapter Assembly held in Minneapolis. Approximate cost of this book is \$28.00.

TRIVIA

Q: Music is one of the most important parts of our ritualistic work. What four times is it NOT appropriate?

A: The Organist is instructed by our District Grand Supervisors and in our Book of Instruction that she should not play during (1) proving of Chapter, (2) Opening and closing of the Bible, (3) Prayers and (4) Obligations. Officers do not need to wait until the music begins before beginning their duties, but they should wait until it ends before such things as kneeling at the Altar or beginning to open the Bible.

FROM YOUR ESTARL COMMITTEE -----

New brochures describing the ESTARL Program will be coming soon. Your ESTARL Committee is designating February as ESTARL MONTH, and will be enlisting the help of each Chapter to distribute these brochures to your community churches. Watch next month’s OES NEWS for details.

A Note to---

Clarence & Clara Crane



Dear Clarence and Clara,

While I understand your needing to head for warmer places, I want you to know how much I have missed you this month. You would have loved being with us in Minneapolis at the General Grand Chapter Assembly. It wasn't so very cold! I so enjoyed the wonderful banquets and shared so many fun times with friends from all over the world. I

loved sitting in on the business meetings—those speaking were projected onto a big screen—just like the ones in Husker Stadium (well I may be exaggerating a little). Here are some interesting things I wrote down to share with you. Did you know:

\$346,683.05 was reported raised for Heart in the last triennium.

\$276,480.65 was raised for Shriners' Hospitals.

An estimated 38,459 members were reached last triennium by the efforts of the Visioneers.

Total contributed to ESTARL through the G.G.C. in the last triennium was \$1,535,774.16.

\$250,096.43 was given through GGC for Hurricane Katrina victims.

All of us in Nebraska are so proud of those who have been appointed to serve in the General Grand Chapter in the coming Triennium. I am looking forward to hearing from all of the General Grand Chapter Committees and sharing their plans with our Nebraska members.

Here in Nebraska we are already making plans for our Schools of Instruction and our Grand Chapter Session. Please come back to Nebraska and see all your old friends at these events.

In the mean time Clarence and Clara, remember to "Celebrate What's Right" where ever you are.

Love,

Cathy

“WINGS TO FLY” OES MONTHLY CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS: (Information for the January News must be in the Grand Chapter office by December 15th.)

- Dec 3 9:00 a.m., Hastings Masonic Center, 411 N. Hastings St. -- Initiation of the Grand Master's Class, by Nebraska State DeMolay officers. Support our DeMolay—call Tyler McCabe, SMC (402) 679-1467—space is limited, so please call Tyler if you will attend.
- Dec 12 6:00 p.m., 314 Main St., Minatare NE – Minatare Chapter No. 270 Annual Christmas Party. Bring a \$5 gift for exchange. Meeting to follow. Call June at 308-623-1284 for information.
- Jan 13 7:00 p.m., Papillion Masonic Center, 84th St & Centennial Rd., Papillion NE – Papillion Chapter No. 114 Installation of Officers.
- Jan 13 7:00 p.m., Fremont Masonic Center, 350 East 23rd St., Fremont NE – Arbor Vitae Chapter No. 92 Open Installation of Officers.
- Jan 18 7:30 p.m., 5903 Maple St., Omaha NE – Narcissus Chapter No. 269 Installation of Officers.
- Jan 20 2:00 p.m. 83rd & Maple St., Omaha NE – Vesta Chapter No. 6 Installation of Officers.
- Jan 22 7:30 p.m., Shi-Oma Masonic Center, 83rd & Maple, Omaha NE -- AkSarBen Chapter No. 277 Open Installation of Officers.
- Jan 26 7:30 p.m., West Omaha Masonic Temple, 2324 South 135th Ave., Omaha NE – Fontenelle Chapter No. 249 Installation of Officers.
- Jan 27 7:00 p.m., Bellevue Masonic Center, 1908 Franklin St, Bellevue NE – Alpha Chapter No. 325 Installation of Officers.
- Jan 27 2:00 p.m., 84th St. & Centennial Rd, Papillion NE – Adah Chapter No. 52 Installation
- Jan 28 2:00 p.m., West Omaha Masonic Temple, 2324 S. 135th Ave, Omaha NE – Trinity Chapter No. 299 Installation of Officers.