

NEBRASKA OES NEWS

“Steps to the Stars” ~~~~Volume VIII Number 4

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VISIONQUEST

DONHAM
Visionquest Committee
of the General Grand Chapter
Past Grand Patron of Nebraska

Making Star Appealing for Membership

A fundamental leadership task is to coordinate and organize people through performance of common goals and values. Quality organizations (Order of the Eastern Star) always relate to their membership while adapting to change.

To be appealing to new members, we need to identify interests, attitudes and values while explaining our mission and goals to prospective members.

Max DePree author of Leadership is an Art outlined “Rights of an Organization’s Members”:

The Right to be Needed

Can I use my gifts to benefit the organization and myself?

The Right to be Involved

Can I give and receive input and be a part of the action?

The Right to a Conventional Relationship

Can I enjoy a contract with leadership based on trust and some sense of ownership in the solution?

The Right to be Understood

Where is the organization going? What is its vision and mission and what is my roll in its future?

The Right to Affect One’s Own Destiny –to influence one’s own personal progress and future.

If we meet the specific needs of our members, the future of OES is assured. Membership development is our number one priority; this includes attracting new members as well as retaining current members as active and committed to our mission.


**IMPORTANT INFORMATION
ENCLOSED CONCERNING
LETTERS YOU MAY HAVE
RECEIVED FROM THE IRS**

CLARIFICATION ON “EACH ONE BRING ONE” ----- Several of you have asked who qualifies for the “Each one Bring One” award pin. If you are the first or second line signer of a Petition for the Degrees, you may fill out the form and send \$5 to receive the award. (Your Chapter Secretary should have the forms, or call the Grand Chapter office.

Ritual Assistants List

A new list of those members willing to help other Chapters with ritualistic work will be coming out with the next issue of the OES News. If you’d like to help and have not sent in your form yet, see your Chapter Secretary or call the Grand Chapter office for a form. Deadline for mailing in the form for this year’s list is Sept. 15. If you were previously on the list and wish to be removed, call the Grand Secretary by Sept. 15.

We were so sad that there was not an article from Nebraska in the new issue of the OES JOURNAL.

 Let’s not let that happen again! Send a photo and article about what your Chapter is doing to any member of the Publicity Committee or to the Grand Chapter Office. Subscriptions are \$12 per year. (Subscription forms are available by calling the Grand Chapter office 800-832-9320.)



THANKS to all who have been contributing to Verneal & Levi’s project to gather school supplies for the children at the Masonic-Eastern Star Home. It’s not too late to participate in this project—you may send monetary donations to the Grand Chapter office.



Hi Ya, Stars!
He-e-r-r-r-e-s-s
Bucky!!
Did ya know
September is
spelling and
vocabulary month? Me either; but
it seems like a good idea!

What besides Bucky are the “B” words? You’ve got it! Books! Books! Books! I love it! We have delivered eight boxes of books to the homes and have a box for the Shrine Hospital. That’s just in the first half of August! There were more in July and more to deliver. You Eastern Stars are awesome! The WGM told the Homes they don’t have to write individual thank yous. Hope that was okay with you.

How about an “M” word? Whoo-eee--Membership! The WGM and WGP are talking about it a lot. They are going to recognize every Chapter who initiates new members between May 2007 and May 2008. Don’t be left out. All you have to do is ask! We are hearing success stories and about initiations all around the state. If you need help, just call the WGM or Grand Secretary or your neighbors. There are a whole lot of Stars that will come to you to help. We’re on a roll.

And there’s that “E” word — ESTARL. Do you remember what that means? Eastern Star Training Awards for Religious Leadership. Giving to this project means help for new ministers and more. Just think how many lives you can touch? A lot, I betcha!!!

That’s all the room for now. Get your rakes out; fall is almost here! But don’t forget to read a book to somebody!

More later.....Bucky

Step Up To The Challenge

Violet Chapter No. 105 of Wymore, has made it up several "steps" this year. One member read about the "Read Nebraska" project in the newspaper (step up to PUBLICITY) and sent a donation to the Secretary. The Secretary makes a "Congratulations Sheet" for members belonging 25 years or more and on the month of their initiation passes it around the Chapter room for members to each write a personal note. (Step up to MAKING MEMBERS FEEL WELCOME AT THE MEETINGS) The Chapter also has a "Brag Box" so that members can tell of their blessings. (Step up to ACCENTING

THE POSITIVE at our meetings)

The Members of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska receive many nice notes of thanks following our Grand Chapter Session each year. Sister Jill Ramsey would like to pass along this note she received recently:

"Dear Jill, I just wanted to thank you for your absolutely warm welcome when I arrived in Nebraska. I have put off traveling to the states for about 15-20 years because the towns along the border (both sides) are so dirty and miserable. You completely dispelled that. My family and I enjoyed ourselves so much and felt like we belonged. Mother and I are looking forward with delight to our return next year. See you there!" God Bless, Elizabeth Ann Cunningham.

(NOTE: Elizabeth Ann is our Grand Representative of Nebraska in Ontario and the counterpart of Sister Beth Benson, Grand Representative of Ontario in Nebraska. **THANK YOU BETH, JILL, AND ALL NEBRASKA MEMBERS FOR ALWAYS SHOWING OUR GUESTS THIS WONDERFUL HOSPITALITY.**



TRAVELING WITH THE STARS --- OES MONTHLY CALENDAR

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



- September 7 Area 7 Visitation, Springview Elementary Multi-purpose room, Springview.
Registration: 3:30 pm
Reception honoring Sister Lenna Weber, Grand Organist: 4-5 pm
Celebration of 100th Anniversary of Springview Chapter No. 205: 5-6 pm
Dinner and Area Visitation meeting: 6:30 pm.
- September 8 Area 8 Visitation, Serendipity, 408 W. Locust Ave, Plainview
Reception for Sister Karen Foster, Grand Adah: 4:30-6:00 pm
Dinner and Area Visitation meeting: 6:30 pm
- September 14 Area 9 Visitation, 4722 28th Street, Columbus. Dinner served at 6:45 pm. Cost: \$10.00.
Call Dona at 402-564-5581 for more information.
- September 15 Area 12 Visitation. Call Grand Chapter office for details.
- September 16 Afternoon tea honoring Christine Harriman, Grand Worthy Advisor, International Order
of Rainbow for Girls, 2-4 pm, Benson Masonic Center, 5903 Maple, Omaha. Call
Harold Terry at 402-496-2367 for more information and to RSVP.
- Sept. 19-21st Colorado Grand Chapter, Denver Colorado.
- September 22 Area 19 Visitation, Picnic Pavilion of the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children.
Registration at 11:30; meal at 12 noon. Cost: \$8.00. Call Lois at 402-666-5214 for
details and reservations.
- September 28 Area 6 Visitation. Call Grand Chapter office for details.
- September 28 Oberlin Chapter No. 106 of Oberlin, Kansas cream can dinner, friendship night and
official visit starting at 6:00 p.m, Gateway Civic Center, Hwys 83 & 36.
- September 29 Area 5 Visitation. Call Grand Chapter office for details.
Reception honoring Brother Roy W. "Bill" Lichtenberger, Grand Sentinel, 1:30-3:30 pm,
Seven Valleys Senior Center, Callaway. Hosted by Clara Chapter No. 222,
Callaway, and Arrow Chapter No. 164, Broken Bow.
- October 2 One hundredth anniversary celebration, Capitol City Past Matrons/Past Patrons, Legacy
Estates, 7200 Van Dorn St., Lincoln. Cost: \$5.00. RSVP by Sept. 10 to Karen Cook
or Imogene Kermoade, 402-423-0188
- October 4 Pioner Division Past Matrons Annual Meeting. Call Janet Donahey at 308-384-6893 for
details and reservations
- October 13 Grand Representatives Association Annual Meeting, Holiday Inn, Kearney. Registration
10:00 am. Buffet Luncheon at 12 noon. Cost \$16. Call Myrna Vasta, Secretary,
for details and reservations at 402-334-7669.
- Oct. 14 Reception honoring Gwen Hurst-Anderson, Grand Chaplain and Mary Kay Retzlaff,
Grand Esther, 1-3 pm, 4430 N. 70th St., Lincoln. Hosted by Martha Washington
Chapter No. 153 and Starcraft Chapter No. 307
- October 19 Special invitation from New Mexico Grand Chapter to attend a reception honoring the
MWGM, MWGP, and Worthy Grand Martha, Virgie George. Reservations due by
October 1st. Call the Grand Chapter office for details.



NOTICE OF NEW REQUIREMENT FROM THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Secretaries and Worthy Matrons: Please read this important notice to your Chapter and keep this sheet in a safe place for reference—this information is important to your Chapter, so make sure all of your active members know of this [new requirement](#).

If you have not received a communication from the IRS concerning the new requirement for small tax-exempt organizations, you will no doubt be receiving one soon. This notice is to help clarify this requirement.

Note: The Chapter's tax-exemption status will be terminated if this new required filing is ignored.

1. All Chapters whose gross receipts are less than \$25,000 per year will now be required to file annually Form 990-N for small Tax-Exempt Organizations. (This form is called the “e-Postcard”.) The first time you will be required to file is for the year 2007. The information is due on the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of your tax period. Example: If your tax year ends 12-31, you would be required to file by May 15th.
2. The IRS is requiring that this be done online. Those of you who do not have computers will need to find someone in your Chapter who does and who will be willing to help you with this. You may also consider going to the public library to file the e-Postcard.
3. The basic information you will be asked to provide is relatively easy:
 - ❖ Legal Name: (Refer to your Chapter Bylaws for legal name)
 - ❖ Mailing address: This should be the name and address of your Chapter Secretary or the address where your Chapter receives its mail.
 - ❖ Employer Identification Number (EIN): You should have this number in your records. If you do not, you will need to call the Grand Chapter office and have the Grand Secretary give it to you.
 - ❖ A Principal Officer: Your Worthy Matron, or if you like you may use the name of the Chapter Secretary if her address is the same as you have listed for the mailing address of the organization.
 - ❖ Annual tax period: Example: Tax period ends December 31st.
 - ❖ You will be asked to verify that your Chapter's annual gross receipts are still normally \$25,000 or less.
 - ❖ You will need to notify the IRS on this form if your Chapter has consolidated or surrendered its Charter.

You can read more about this new requirement by going to the website: www.irs.gov/eo. Click on “Charities and Non Profits” at the top of the page and then click on “Filing Requirements for Small Tax Exempt Organizations”.