

NEBRASKA OES NEWS

“Steps to the Stars” ~~~~Volume VIII Number 7
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VISIONQUEST

BY
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of the General Grand Chapter
Past Grand Patron of Nebraska

Chick-chic-a ma is Choctaw for Good afternoon or evening. The morning greeting is chic-a ma.

Do we take time to say “good morning” or “good afternoon” to those we meet? Sometimes we are all so busy that we forget what we might call the “little things”. Finding our way in a busy, busy world of high speed internet, instant gratification and a multitude of activities to be involved in is a challenge we must face as Eastern Star members, and overcome.

Be proud of your membership in OES. “Walk the walk and talk the talk”. Share our story with everyone. Develop an “elevator speech”. This is a short message about the Order of the Eastern Star, something you can remember that delivers a short brief statement that supports and promotes our beautiful Order.

The following are a few examples:

- ✓ “The Order of the Eastern Star is an international Masonic affiliated organization of women and men serving and supporting family and community.”
- ✓ “We are an international organization for men and women who promote charitable goals and friendships. Would you like to hear more?”
- ✓ “The Order of the Eastern Star is a fraternal organization for men and women dedicated to charity, relief and support of mankind.”

Always remember to greet everyone with a smile and warm greeting and be prepared to promote our Order.

A native Indian blessing for you:

“May you have the strength of eagles’ wings, the faith and courage to fly to new heights, and the wisdom of the universe to carry you there.”

E I Honey S J (Until we meet again)



ESTARL

Remember that January is ESTARL month.

Brochures are enclosed with this mailing. Please distribute them to your local churches. Call the Grand Chapter office if you need more brochures. Other ideas to celebrate ESTARL Month:

Write an article for your local paper.

Honor your local ESTARL recipients or your local pastors with a community Coffee or other event.

Invite a member of the committee or a former ESTARL recipient to speak at your meeting.

Plan something special for ESTARL in January and let the committee know about your efforts.

IRS Reminder~~~

Chapters—don’t forget the new requirements for electronic filing of the “e-Postcard” (Form 990-N) You will need to file for the 2007 year after December 31st and before May 15th. If you do not have your EIN number call the Grand Chapter office and they will look it up for you—you will need this number when you go online to file. Your Chapter’s tax exempt status now depends upon your filing this form annually, so it is important.

Happy Holidays~~~

Eastern Stars!



The turkey was yummy and now it is time to bake Christmas cookies. I love sugar cookies with frosting. Let me tell ya the WGM makes g-o-o-d cookies!

The WGM and WGP took their books and ten days and went on the Panama Canal Cruise. There were 46 other Nebraskans on board. Lots to see, lots to do, and the Canal

was impressive. Another highlight was visiting the Masonic Lodge in Aruba and meeting the OES Officers there. On the way I got to ride the iguana on the hood of the Banana Bus! What a trip!

The WGM says Chapters will hear from her soon about Schools of Instruction. She says you will get the kind of school you asked for so start planning now for a good turnout.

More Nebraska Eastern Stars are *really* stepping up! As of November 26 the total received for Golden Sower Books is \$3,251.16. Here are a lot more Chapters who have sent their bucks: Tuscan No. 35, Guild No. 16, Bethany No. 113, Ceresco No. 198, Willanna No. 321, Mt. Vernon No. 84, Luna No. 169, Arrow No. 164, Papillion No. 114, Franklin No. 213, Wausa No. 159, Moab No. 182, Nelson No. 27, Olivette No. 83, Blue River No. 132, Rose Croix No. 298, Laura May No. 251, and Vesper No. 9. Don’t forget that some of the funds given at the Area Visitations will also go for Golden Sower Books—we are on our way!

Thanks to the 2007 officers of all Chapters for all they did to make the year a success. Congrats to the 2008 officers-elect. Let’s step up and plan a year of positive attitudes and growth.

Hey! Listen up! I have an idea for your Christmas gift list— BOOKS are great Christmas gifts.



Hey! Have a Merry Christmas and very Happy New Year.

More next year!.....Bucky

ENCLOSED WITH THIS NEWS:

A special letter from your ESTARL Chairman and several ESTARL Brochures. Since the mailing goes to the Worthy Matron and the Secretary your Chapter will receive at least 4 brochures (if you have a Supervisor, a Grand Chapter Committee member or a Past Grand in your Chapter, you'll receive even more). Hope you will see that each church in your community receives one—call the Grand Chapter office if you need more brochures!

The Annual Report packets were mailed to Chapter Secretaries in November. Don't forget that the completed report and a check for dues and fees is due in the Grand Chapter office by January 15. After installation reports are due 3 business days after the Installation; receipts for Secret Work and Red Books are due immediately following the installation of the officers to whom they are entrusted. If you are not able to install all of your elected officers in January you will need to call the Grand Secretary for a dispensation to install them "out of time."

Step Up To The Challenge






Wonderful things are happening in Eastern Star Chapters all across the state. Yes, it is the holiday season which prompts Chapters to send boxes to our servicemen, fill shoe boxes with school supplies and candy for needy children across our globe and to contribute to the local food pantry. It is also the time that prompts us to be thankful for the love given by each member of our Chapter and to thank those that have guided us through another Eastern Star year. Chapters are joining together for dinner out or a nice pot luck meal before their December meetings; they are nominating and voting on a "Star of the Year" to honor someone who has "Stepped Up" to that top step this year. This month we give thanks to over 10,000 Eastern Star members in Nebraska for the variety of things they have "Stepped Up" to accomplish this year. Don't let the holiday season pass without "Stepping UP" to someone in your Chapter and saying "Thanks"—for friendship, love and charity—for keeping Eastern Star alive in your community.

Don't forget the **Ritual Assistants List** when planning for your Chapter's Installation of Officers—our Sisters and Brothers are ready to help you have a special installation. Email the date of your Installation to nebraskaoes@msn.com and we will list it in the January NEWS



TRAVELING WITH THE STARS --- OES MONTHLY CALENDAR

(Information for the Jan. NEWS must be in the Grand Chapter office by Dec. 15th.)

December 15	Deadline for Purple Ribbon Club donations.	
January 11	Installation—Vesta No. 6, 83 rd & Maple Street, Omaha 7:30 pm	
January 12	 Installation—Papillion No. 114, 84 th & Centennial, Papillion, 7 pm	
January 17	Installation—Narcissus No. 269, 5903 Maple St., Omaha, 7:30 pm	
January 20	Installation—AkSarBen No. 277, 2823 N. 83 rd St, Omaha, 2 pm	
January 20-23	School of Instruction for District Grand Supervisors, Hastings.	
January 25	Installation—Fontenelle No. 249, 2424 S. 135 th Ave., Omaha 7:30 pm	
January 26	Installation—Adah No. 52, 84 th & Centennial, Papillion, noon.	
January 26	Installation—Alpha No. 325, 1908 Franklin, Bellevue, 4:30 pm	