

NEBRASKA OES NEWS

“Faith in Unity” ~~~~Volume IX Number II

July, 2008



TRAVELING WITH THE HERD

I have learned so much about the herd this month. Sometimes they sit me by the wishing well; sometimes they sit me by the microphone; always my “Faith in Unity” Grand Family sits me where I can see everything and it seems that everyone wants to hug me. We are a close herd, that’s for sure.

Most of us went to the Breakfast for “Make a Wish” in Papillion. There I learned that it takes about \$3,000 to grant each wish for those very special girls and boys that are chosen by the Make a Wish Foundation of Nebraska. Wow, with that breakfast we only have about \$500 more to go and we will already have raised enough money for one wish! I’ll get busy selling those “Make a Wish Pennies” that’s for sure.

I also learned about the “car trunks”—they are not a bit like mine! My Grand Family put me in the “car trunk” right after that breakfast and we went out to Franklin to help celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Franklin Chapter No. 213. Congratulations to Franklin for being a part of the herd for 100 years now.

Along with all of those Area Visitations we also visited the Rainbow and Job’s Daughters—more hugs! How lucky I feel to be part of this herd! I love it and will be anxious to get your hug where ever I might be.

Love,
Pansy



DID YOU—file your 990-N (E-Postcard) ?
If not, go to

www.irs.gov/efile and do it now! If you need help call the Grand Chapter office.

RITUAL UPDATES

Several changes in our Law Book have been required due to the passage of resolutions at our last Grand Chapter Session. Updates for the five copies of the Law Book issued to each Chapter by the Grand Chapter have been mailed. These books are issued to the Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Matron, Conductress and Associate Conductress of each Chapter. Those officers should be sure to check with the Chapter Secretary to obtain the updates and should put them into the Red Books as per the instructions sent with each set of updates. Your District Grand Supervisor will be very happy if you take care of this immediately so that your books will be correct and up to date when she checks them next year.

Updates for those members who own their own books will be mailed directly to them and if you have not received them yet, you will soon.

Because of one of the resolutions passed at our last Session, a new Red Book will soon be issued by the Grand Chapter to the Associate Patron of each Chapter. It will be mailed in July to the Chapter Secretary who will have the Associate Patron sign a receipt for it.

MAKE A WISH

Thanks to those who helped with the Make a Wish Breakfast and Craft Boutique at the Papillion Masonic Center. We now have raised a total of \$2,437.59 for this project, so we are off to a great start. I will have a craft table for Make a Wish at Trinity Chapter’s “Star Spangled Stuff Sale” in Omaha on July 5th and have several other events lined up. Please call me at 402-592-8608 if you have crafts to donate. Please let me know if I can help you plan an event for Make a Wish in your area.

Margaret McCall
Make a Wish Chairperson

Congratulations Brother Ben

Ben Harvey, Administrator of the Masonic Eastern Star Home for Children will retire as of July 31st. In his honor a reception is being held on July 27th from 2 to 4 p.m. at the K. K. Watts Education Center. Please come and thank Brother Ben for his years of service at the MESHC.

VISIONQUEST

BY MIKE DONHAM

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

As I have traveled around the state with Visionquest presentations, I have learned what some of our Chapters are doing to increase membership.

Membership is our focus for this triennium. I will relate how these Chapters are forging ahead setting super examples for the rest of us to follow.

One Chapter initiated 16 new members in 2005 (Hey, that was in the last triennium, but who’s counting.) and has added five more to date and recently read a petition for yet another new member.

A second Chapter held a Friendship dinner with a Masonic lodge that shares the same building and handed out 11 petitions. I do not know the status of those petitions, but hopefully all eleven will be returned and will be investigated and initiated.

Another Chapter, over the past year, has six Sisters and Brothers who are eligible to receive their Visionquest apel pin for being a first or second line signer on six petitions for membership.

One Chapter that was considering consolidation has decided to continue by putting on a new face and attempting to do some different things. This follows some of Past Grand Matron Betty Garwood’s “Thinking out of the box!”

Remember Sisters and Brothers think positive - keep the negative vibes at bay and “Never Give Up!”

E. I Honey S.J.
(Until we meet again)

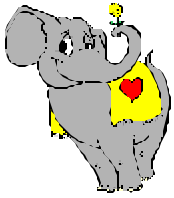
DO IT NOW—

“Imperfect action is better than perfect inaction.”

Harry Truman

Enclosed with this News-----

The booklet listing Grand Officers and Committees of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska
Invitation to the Kansas/Nebraska Exchange—note deadline for reservations is August 20th



FOR THE GOOD OF THE HERD

(A place to report on members and Chapters that are “committed to the herd”—let us know how you or someone you admire is committed to the Eastern Star and Masonic Family Herd)

Brother Ben Harvey is committed to the herd—and has been committed to loving and caring for children for 28 years. We congratulate him on his retirement and thank him for his service to Nebraska Masons and Eastern Star members through his service at the Home. All members of Nebraska Grand Chapter wish Ben and Chalice a wonderful retirement. At the same time, we welcome Ron Giesselmann, who will begin his duties as Administrator of the Home on August 1st. Ron has served for eight years as the Director of Child Care at the Home and will do a fine job as its new administrator.

Our web-master, Brother Alvin Benemerito has been committed to the herd and its website for about eight years now. Brother Alvin is currently serving as Worthy Patron of Bethany Chapter No. 113 in Ainsworth. Through the years he has worked quietly behind the scenes to create one of the most beautiful web-sites of any Grand Jurisdiction. Visit that web-site—<http://neoes.org>. Use the calendar to post your Chapter's events and take advantage of the work Alvin does for us. Thank you Brother Alvin, we are so proud of our web-site!

KEEP UP WITH THE HERD --- OES MONTHLY CALENDAR

Call the Grand Chapter office (402-727-8644 or 800-832-9320) for information on Area Visitations.

- July 1, 2008DEADLINE..... for reservations for the 5-State Event in Kearney.
- July 5, 2008Star Spangled Stuff Sale, 2424 S. 135th Ave., Omaha; sponsored by Trinity Chapter No. 299. 8:00 am to 3:00 pm; Buy a table for \$25 and sell your stuff; donate your stuff; buy stuff; eat stuff too!
- July 7, 2008DEADLINE for registration for Iowa-Nebraska Exchange.
- July 11, 2008.....Area Visitation at Trinity United Methodist Church, 511 North Elm, Grand Island; 5:00 pm; Cost of meal \$12; Call Harriet at 308-382-7730 for reservations.
- July 12, 2008.....Area Visitation at Auburn Eagles Club, 1017 Central Ave.; 5:00 pm; Cost of meal \$12; Call Jere at 402-856-2988 for reservations.
- July 17, 2008.....Luna Chapter Ice Cream Social; 7:30 pm, Elkhorn Masonic Lodge; Call Sue 402-672-8603 for details.
- July 18-19.....DeMolay Conclave, Lincoln.
- July 20, 2008.....Annual Corn Feed, Fontenelle Chapter No. 249; 2424 S. 135th Ave.; 11 am to 2 pm.; Tickets are \$9 for adults; Call Mike Horton 402-681-3639 for tickets.
- July 20, 2008.....Reception honoring Carl Plants, Grand Sentinel; Scottish Rite Temple, 332 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln; 1:30-3:30 pm.
- July 22-26.....All Star Marching Band Camp, Lincoln.
- July 24-25, 2008.....Iowa – Nebraska Exchange; This is for all members! Lots of fun activities.
- July 27, 2008.....Reception honoring Brother Ben Harvey on his retirement ; MESHCH Education Center; 2 to 4 pm.
- August 1-3, 2008Annual 5-State event hosted by Nebraska at Kearney.
- August 8-10, 2008Trip to International Peace Gardens. Deadline for registration: July 1st
- August 14, 2008.....Friendship Night—Friendship Chapter No. 122, 109 North Main Hooper, 7:30 pm.
- September 5, 6, 2008Kansas Nebraska Exchange, McCook NE, Atwood KS—details enclosed with this newsletter—DEADLINE for reservations is August 20th
- October 18-19, 2008Third Triennial Youth Conference, Kearney