

NEBRASKA OES NEWS

“Faith in Unity”

Volume IX Number IX ~February, 2009



TRAVELING WITH THE HERD

I have a new friend—her name is Penny. We met at that Supervisor School of Instruction in Valentine. There were lots of important people there—seventeen District Grand Supervisors, lots of Grand Officers and Past Grand Matrons and Patrons. Penny and I got to sit right up front. The Past Grands opened the school—and Penny and I noticed that they seemed to make a lot of “mistakes”. We were worried, but eventually we learned that they had made mistakes on purpose—the Supervisors had to make a big list of all the mistakes they noticed and later in the school the Worthy Grand Matron asked them to tell what they saw and to explain to everyone how they would “fix” it. Some members of Minnehaha Chapter prepared the meals for the school. What good cooks they are—I know there was a lot more weight in the “car trunk” on our way home! I liked all the Supervisors that I met—they seemed to have such fun learning the Ritual and I know that they will see to it that every Chapter has fun too.

Now I am sitting by the computer again and the Worthy Grand Matron is typing away—she says she is getting ready for Grand Chapter. I hope I get to go there too! I don’t know why she starts so early—it isn’t until May 12, 13, 14th, but she says everyone had to order dresses and get ready—so I will too!

Pansy

Don’t Miss the Bus to Tulsa!



Information for the bus trip being planned for the 2009 Treinnial Assembly of the General Grand Chapter to be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma October 30 through November 5, 2009 will soon be mailed to those who signed up to receive information at the Area Visitations or who have called the Grand Chapter office to have their name added to the list. If you wish to receive this packet of information and you have not received it by February 15th please call the Grand Chapter Office. Sister Betty Kirby, PGM is serving as chairperson for this fun trip. Not often do we have the opportunity to attend an Assembly so close to home, so make this the one you attend!

Travel to Scotland~~~~

Bonita J. Benson, Grand Representative of Scotland in Minnesota is proposing a trip to Dundee, Scotland for their Grand Chapter, the second Saturday in April. If you’ve always wanted to travel to Scotland, this would be a wonderful opportunity. If you are interested please call the Grand Chapter office for details. Sister Bonita needs to have you signed up by February 28th if you are interested in going on this trip.

GRAND CHAPTER SESSION

Information and pre-registration forms for the “Faith in Unity” Grand Chapter Session will be in the mail to you soon. Please note: The Board of Grand Trustees has approved one complimentary ticket to the Pages, Warders, and Sentinels Banquet for each member who is participating at Grand Chapter as a Grand Page, Assistant Grand Warder or Assistant Grand Sentinel. If you are participating in this capacity be sure to write “comp” in the amount column for that banquet so that your reservation will be counted.

VISIONQUEST

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

“Take me to your leader”

Effective leaders can be found at every level in an organization including the Order of the Eastern Star.

Some people fall into the role of leader more easily than others. It is possible for most to develop the abilities to take charge, motivate others and make good decisions.

Top qualities that leaders possess:

- 1) Integrity and trust – Admitting mistakes and not blaming others; making sure their words and actions are congruent at all times and not when convenient; giving credit where credit is due.
- 2) High Achievers – Words like perseverance and determination describe high achievers--staying focused on goals but also keeping things in perspective and realizing there is always room for improvement; owning a sense of pride in the work you do in star ritual, fundraisers, committees and special projects.
- 3) Leaders make others feel important – Taking time to listen to other members, tuning into their needs and helping others.
- 4) Leaders willing to serve others – Good leaders believe in service to others. Contradictory? No! Think of words such as cooperate, help, work collectively and share.
- 5) Leaders are relationship builders – In the Order, the Worthy Matron needs members who can “run with the ball”, along with building and maintaining good team relationships.
- 6) Leaders communicate effectively – Communication is the foundation upon which successful teamwork and member relationships are built. It is no accident that members who can communicate effectively and assertively find themselves in leadership roles.

“It is not the mountain we conquer, but ourselves.” -- Sir Edmund Hillary

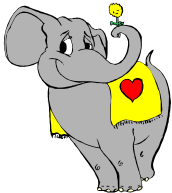
E. I. Honey S. J. Until we meet again

Enclosed with this OES News-----

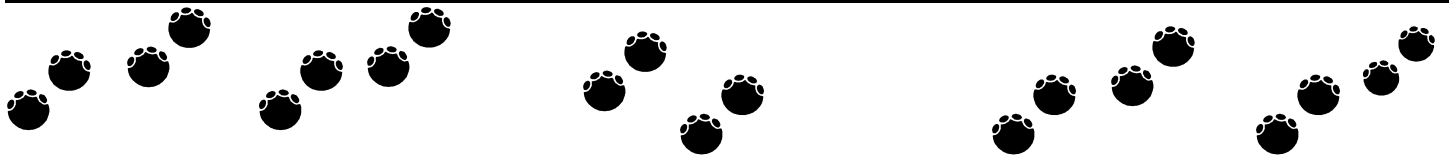
- ❖ The Scholarship Information packet. Remember the new program allows your Chapter to give \$1,000 in scholarships for an expenditure of only \$150 from your Chapter funds. You do not need to read the entire letter to your Chapter, but be sure your members understand this new program. Please send your scholarship funds when you send the Notification of Award form. The deadline is May 1, 2009.

Reminders -----

- ❖ The deadline for submitting resolutions or amendments to be presented at the Grand Chapter Session is February 11, 2009. They must be submitted to the Grand Secretary.
- ❖ District Grand Supervisors are now making plans for their visits to the Chapters. You can make your time with her productive and efficient by preparing for her visit. Why not check all of your Red Books before her arrival to be sure they are in order. The 2008 updates are on pages 27, 29 (Grand Chapter Bylaws); 40, 40A, (Bylaws Governing Subordinate Chapters). The 2007 updates are on pages 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 19, 21A, 26, 30 (Grand Chapter Bylaws); 35, 37, 43, 54, 57, 58, 59, 61, 63, 64, 65, (Bylaws Governing Subordinate Chapters); 17 (Book of Instruction). If these pages indicate in the lower right corner that they have been revised in those years, your book is up to date and should be ready for a quick inspection by the District Grand Supervisor. Remember also that a fine of \$5 is imposed for loss of the Secret Work and that the Grand Chapter office must receive the funds paying the fine before the Secret Work can be replaced. Please remember to request large or regular print and have any lost Secret Work replaced before the Supervisor's visit.



FOR THE GOOD OF THE HERD---Most of our Chapters have installed their officers and are beginning a new year. This month we want to honor all members who are serving as officers of their Chapters for 2009. At a recent visit to Wausa Chapter No. 159 to celebrate the consolidation of Nazarene Chapter No. 117 and Wausa Chapter No. 159, the addenda for the evening concerned "New Year's Resolutions". What a good idea--to make some resolutions for the "Good of the Herd" this year. Maybe it could be to have perfect attendance; to "Just Ask" a friend or relative to join the Chapter; to participate in a community event on behalf of the Chapter; to put a news article in the local paper. If each of the newly installed officers would make just one resolution and try hard to keep it, our entire Order would benefit. We also honor those members who came forward to serve as the Membership Committee for their local Chapter and the liaison to our Grand Chapter Membership Committee--we wish you the best as you work toward increasing numbers and participation in your own Chapter. Anything you can do for the benefit of your Chapter benefits us all. Thanks for your service to the Order.



KEEP UP WITH THE HERD --- OES MONTHLY CALENDAR

PLEASE SEND IN INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE MARCH OES NEWS BY February 15, 2009

- February 5-7, 2009 Grand Lodge, Kearney Holiday Inn.
- February 15, 2009 Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by Fontenelle Chapter No. 249, 2424 S. 135th Ave, Omaha. Call Cathy at 402-933-9095 for information.
- February 21, 2009 Annual 4-H Chili Supper, Masonic Eastern Star Home for Children, Fremont.
- March 15, 2009 Pancake Breakfast sponsored by AkSarBen Chapter No. 277, 2823 N. 83^d Street, Omaha. Call Jackie at 402-884-0571 for information.