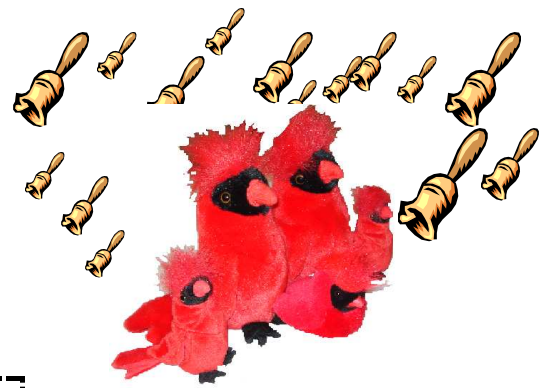




NEBRASKA OES NEWS

“Make a Joyful Noise”

Volume X Number II ~July, 2009



VISIONQUEST

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

Participation and Fellowship

Why people join organizations: They join

- o To be with others of the same mindset and kind
- o To be of service to others
- o Because they are followers and need leadership and guidance
- o Because they are leaders and need followers to lead and guide
- o To feel wanted and part of something worthwhile (O. E. S.)

The word that describes the above is **“Participation”**. Keep people active - put them on a committee. Many people feel that committees are a waste of time. (“A camel is a horse designed by a committee”!) But, given purpose and meaning a committee can fill the needs of an organization.

The Worthy Matron has the responsibility of placing the work of the Chapter in the hands of its members. Remember, members can be appointed to more than one committee.

Refreshment and food committee - many members look forward to refreshments after the meeting so this committee has a special importance.

Information committee - is vital in the education of the members. Providing short talks during the good of the order can enhance a meeting with an endless variety of subjects.

Special events committee - This is an area that many Chapters do not take advantage of—just having fun and getting together to socialize. It is especially important to plan events that include non-members, husbands and wives.

Long range planning committee - They need to plan year to year activities by supplying ideas that make attending Chapter meetings a priority.

Calling or Greeting committee - Many members are older and cannot attend meetings. This committee can make calls and visits to let those members know that the Chapter has not forgotten them.

The above can be summed up as **“The lost art of Fellowship”**.

Keep working on different ideas, listen and encourage others. Make your meeting interesting --give the members a reason to attend.

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



SALVATION ARMY FUND

When you donate clothing and other tangible items to the Salvation Army, be sure to ask for a receipt. Please also show “Order of the Eastern Star” after your name and tell the volunteer that you are donating for the Eastern Star Salvation Army Special Project. Give the receipts to your Chapter Secretary. Chapter Secretaries, please send the receipts from your Chapter members, to the Grand Secretary. Please send the gray contribution form to indicate “Tangible Contributions to the Salvation Army Fund”. Please be sure all receipts are sent by the close of the Grand Chapter fiscal year, March 31, 2010.

Thank you to all the Chapters for your participation with our special project last year and to all those who participated during Grand Chapter.

From Junior Past Grand Matron, Wanda and Junior Past Grand Patron, Lowell.

**Buy a Bell for a Buck—
be part of Billie &
Bruce’s Bell Choir--
the largest bell choir
in Nebraska**



Are you proud of your family? I’m learning that you have a “Chapter” family and a “Grand Chapter” family, a “Church” family—you Eastern Star people just have lots of “Sisters and Brothers”! I’m proud of my family! I’d like you to meet my wife Christie and my three little ones, Ring, Ding and Ling. We are a loving family, just like all of your families and we are going to be at the Area Visitations to meet you. In fact we even got to go to that very first Visitation in Wayne. They followed the Worthy Grand Matron’s “KOES Radio” theme and had lots and lots of antique radios and radio parts. What fun to see them all. And talk about a “Joyful Noise”! The “Double Eagle Chorus” from the Yankton, SD Scottish Rite sang some joyful songs. My whole family enjoyed the evening. The kids even stayed fairly quiet through the whole thing. There will be other visitations for me to tell you about before the month is over as well as a 100th anniversary party for Clara Chapter in Callaway. Wow! 100 years! Congratulations Callaway!

Are you proud of your family? You should be!

Joyfully,
Curtis, Christie and the kids

Notes from Grand Chapter Committees

Note: Contact information for all members of Grand Chapter Committees is in the new “Grand Officers and Committees” booklet.

PUBLICITY: As members of the Order of Eastern Star, we strive to promote positive public relations and inform the public about the worthwhile charitable and educational work we do in our communities, state and nation. We know that Chapters may have news articles included in their local newspapers as well as Masonic publications. In an effort to inform our own members of the work of other Chapters, the Publicity Committee requests that you send any published news articles to a member of the Grand Chapter Publicity Committee anytime during the upcoming year. We then plan to prepare a display of these articles to be on display at Grand Chapter next year. THANK YOU!

Enclosed with this OES News-----

- ❖ **The 2009-2010 Grand Officers and Committees Booklet**—Contact information for the new Grand Officers, General Grand Chapter appointees and all Grand Chapter committees. Contact the Grand Chapter office if you want additional copies.
- ❖ **Secretaries will receive updates for the Red Books** (changes approved at our last Grand Chapter Session). There will be six copies—one for each of the books issued to the Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Matron, Associate Patron, Conductress and Associate Conductress. If your Chapter has purchased additional Red Books, the updates for them are also enclosed in the Secretary's envelope. **Updates for Red Books purchased by individual members will be sent directly to them within the week.**
- ❖ **Invitation to the Kansas/Nebraska Exchange**—reservations due August 15.
- ❖ **Notice from the Board of Grand Trustees concerning the hiring of an office assistant for the Grand Chapter office.**



GRAINS FROM THE PAST

Our Grand Chapter Proceedings Books carry a wonderful history of our Order. To help us toward this year's goal of "Preserving our Past" we will be sharing with you notes from past copies of our Annual Proceedings Books. We hope you will join us in preserving our past this year by reading these "Grains from the Past" at your stated meetings.

June 14, 1893: Rev. H. A. Guild, Grand Secretary, made recommendation in his report that a uniform "code of laws" for Subordinate Chapters be prepared and adopted and that their "allegiance and observance be obligatory upon all Subordinate Chapters." **June 5, 1894:** Brother Guild recommended in his report that "the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, together with the Rules and Regulations for the government of the Subordinate Chapters be published in a volume by themselves." As we update our Red Book this month it is interesting to note how it evolved into a book of several sections—our Book of Instruction was the last section added to that volume when it was included in the new Red Book in 2005.

THE OES CARDINAL CALENDAR

PLEASE SEND IN INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE AUGUST OES NEWS BY JULY 15, 2009

- June 28, 2009..... Ruth Chapter No. 119, North Bend—The Waffleman will be serving from 7:30 to 10:30 am at the Masonic Lodge, 1041 Locust Street. This is a fundraiser for scholarships.
- July 1, 2009..... Reservations due for the Annual Five-State Event in Sioux Falls, SD, August 14-16th.
- July 10, 2009..... Area 13 Visitation: Masonic Center, 322 Norris Avenue, McCook, 6:30 pm. Call Barb at 308-882-5725 for reservations by July 1st
- July 11, 2009..... Area 14 Visitation, Masonic Center, 810 N. Washington, Lexington. 12 noon. Reception honoring Susan Gray, Grand Martha following the Visitation. Call Joni at 308-324-4578 for reservations by July 6.
- July 10, 12, 2009..... DeMolay Conclave, Sandhills Convention Center, North Platte.
- July 16, 2009..... Luna Chapter No. 169, Elkhorn—"Ladybug Ball" Ice Cream Social, 7:30 pm, 300 Hooper St., Elkhorn
- July 16, 18, 2009..... Narcissus Chapter No. 269, Omaha—"Trash to Treasures" Rummage Sale. 8 am – 4 pm. Call Karen at 402-455-5183 for details.
- July 18, 2009..... Reception honoring Worthy Grand Patron Bruce Raddatz and all 2009-2010 Grand Officers. 2-3:30 pm. Holdrege Country Club, 314 W. 18th St., Holdrege. Call 308-995-5744 for information.
- July 26, 2009..... Fontenelle Chapter No. 249, Omaha—Annual Corn Feed with Centennial Lodge, 11 am to 2 pm. 2425 S 135th Ave., Omaha.
- August 19, 2009..... Oshkosh Chapter No. 264, Oshkosh—Annual Polish Luau, Oshkosh City Park. 5-7 pm. Adults \$6. Call Wanda at 308-772-0184 for information.
- August 22, 2009..... Luna Chapter No. 169, Elkhorn—Garage Sale. 9:00 a.m., 300 Hooper St., Elkhorn
- August 29, 2009..... AkSarBen Chapter No. 277, Omaha—German Dinner, 83rd & Maple, Omaha. 4-7 pm. Call Jackie at 402-884-0571 for details.