

NEBRASKA OES NEWS

"Make a Joyful Noise"

Volume X Number VIII ~January, 2010

Salvation Army ~ ~



Thanks to all of you who participated in your community's bell ringing campaign. We hope it created some good exposure for your Chapter in your community as well as providing much needed support to your local Salvation Army. You might be interested to know that monetary funds which have been donated for the Salvation Army to date (Dec. 15) total \$3,751.50. Just a reminder to keep sending copies of your receipts for tangible goods given to the Salvation Army to the Grand Chapter office. We will try to give you an update on the value of those items in the coming months. Remember to send pictures and information about what your Chapter is doing to promote this project. The Grand Secretary will pass those along to us.

Cathy and Laurel, Co-Chairpersons

From our tree



Thanks Eastern Stars for the food and water you put out for us! It was a cold December for us, but as we said, we are staying in Nebraska this winter—we don't want to miss any events while we have this opportunity to travel with you. We will be attending as many of your Installations as possible this month and also plan to attend that "School of Instruction". Your Worthy Grand Matron told us that the people who attend that school are dedicated and loving Sisters and Brothers, so I know we will have a great time. Trinity Chapter in Omaha will be hosting that school, so we know we won't go hungry and after this past month that will be a relief and a blessing! HAPPY NEW YEAR everyone!

Curtis, Christie, Ring, Ding and Ling

VAMAFLONT

VAMAFLONT is an organization of Metro area Past Matrons and Past Patrons. Our mission is to visit any

OES member who is hospitalized in the Metro area. We need to let the Nebraska Chapters know that we will gladly provide this support to the outstate members. In this day and age, when folks do not have lengthy stays in the hospital, it is necessary to contact us as soon as possible.

Isobel Taylor, President 402-493-2854
jtaylor@tconl.com

Becky Baker, Secretary 402-734-1810
beckystar@cox.net

FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

✓ The primary focus of the Fraternal Relations Committee is to enhance relationships between all organizations in our Masonic Family. There are many opportunities for us to interact with other organizations within our Masonic Family—fund raisers and community projects, "family" picnics, and other events highlighted with fun activities for all ages. Enclosed with this newsletter is a questionnaire asking you to share with us what your Chapter does to foster good Fraternal Relations among the Masonic Family in your community. Please take a couple of minutes to fill it in and return to:

Jerrie Wilcox, Chairperson
PO Box 27171
Ralston NE 68127

This committee would appreciate pictures and news articles indicating what your community's Masonic Family is doing. The Grand Chapter office will forward any that it receives to this committee.

JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE:

Deadline for submitting resolutions to be considered at the next Grand Chapter Session: FEBRUARY 10, 2010.

ESTARL COMMITTEE:

✓ Remember to disburse your ESTARL brochures in January—the deadline for applications for ESTARL for the 2010 year is March 1, 2010. This program is primarily for post-graduate students who are enrolled in seminary or for part-time or "course of study" students who are gaining additional education for a religious vocation.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:



What is in your Membership Tool Box?

Look at everything you have put in your tool box during 2009:

- ✓ Name and contact information for your State Membership Committee members.
- ✓ Elevator talks that have helped you learn how to talk about Eastern Star.
- ✓ Your Chapter Assessment and the follow up actions you have taken.
- ✓ Your Spring Cleaning Action Plan that has prepared the Chapter for new members.

AND by now you have written and added a Membership Action Plan for 2010

For January, let's add this resolution to our Membership Tool Box:

In 2010, we will practice the three R's of Membership, and we will JUST ASK.

Recruitment - We will JUST ASK people to join and offer the gift of membership.

~~Challenge your members to ask two people each month.

~~Keep track of how many people were asked.

~~Keep track of how many petitions were signed by those who were asked.

Retention - We will JUST ASK members who are not attending, to come back.

~~Contact members who have not been attending meetings or functions.

~~Arrange to get them to a "Back to Chapter Night" with some special activities.

Recognition - We will JUST ASK our Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons to present awards at special functions where "we talk loud and draw a crowd."

~~Present 50 year pins, Rob Morris pins, and other chapter awards or recognitions at special meetings like Area Visitations, PM and PP nights, Youth Organization visitation meetings, initiations, any other meetings that would create a larger audience to witness presentations honoring our members.

IT'S 2010 ! JUST ASK !

!!!!!!!

TIME TO SET
YOUR MEMBERSHIP
GOALS!

YOUTH COMMITTEE:



Here is a great opportunity to support our Youth: Judy and Gene Wehrbein, Chairpersons of the Silent Auction Committee of the Grand Lodge invite any Chapters or Individuals to donate items for the

Silent Auction to benefit our youth groups. The auction will be held during Grand Lodge in Grand Island at the Midtown Holiday Inn, Thursday and Friday February 4, 5, 2010. Call Judy or Gene at 402-298-8192 if you have questions.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE:



Remember to send your email address to the Grand Chapter office if you wish to receive your newsletter via email.
nebraskaoes@msn.com

Enclosed with this OES News-----

- ❖ Fraternal Relations Questionnaire—please take one minute to fill out and return this to the committee as per the article above. This is an important step this committee is taking to assess what it can do to help the Chapters in Nebraska. Please help our Committees as they work for you!
- ❖ A hard copy of the application for the Rob Morris Membership Jewel. You may make copies. Secretaries, remember to make a list of all members who have signed petitions since November of 2006 as points in the previous triennium also count toward receiving a jewel (or a bar for those who already have the pin). PLEASE DO NOT USE APPLICATION FORMS FROM FORMER YEARS.



Grains from the Past

Preserving the Past; Preparing for the future— One of the things I like to be sure every new visitor to the Nebraska Masonic Home sees are the beautiful stained glass windows in the Chapel there. In the Proceedings book of 1954 I learned a little more about the part the Grand Chapter of Nebraska Order of the Eastern Star played in those windows becoming a reality. From the report of the Worthy

Grand Patron, 1954, Brother Frank Burbridge: *“At the completion of the Fall Visitations it was found that we were a considerable amount short of the money need for the completion of the Chapel Windows.....The Omaha Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons sponsored a benefit dance.....We not only had a very good time, but the sum of \$724.78 was added to the fund.....The balance needed was contributed by my Chapter, Liberty Chapter No. 273....The windows cost approximately \$6,500, the amount contributed by Eastern Stars of Nebraska being \$5,500....The Chapel windows were dedicated on May 11, 1954.”*

It is my prayer for the year 2010 that in reading of all the good works done by our organization in the past that every Chapter will “Dream Big” for what you can accomplish for your communities and for our Order in the coming new year. Happy New Year to you all and keep a positive attitude about what you will accomplish in 2010!

THE OES CARDINAL CALENDAR

PLEASE SEND INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FEBRUARY NEWS BY JAN. 15, 2010

- Jan 2ndVesta Chapter Installation, 3 pm, 2823 N 83rd St., Omaha
Jan 4thDeadline for Hotel reservations for those attending School of Instruction.
Jan 8thDeadline for meal reservations for those attending School of Instruction.
Jan 9thMartha Washington Chapter Installation, 1 pm, 4430 North 70th St., Lincoln
Jan 15-17Nebraska OES School of Instruction, 2424 S. 135th Ave., Omaha. Host Chapter is Trinity No. 299.
Jan 15thOES Annual Reports and per capita dues due in the Grand Chapter Office.
Jan 16thAlpha Chapter Installation 2 pm, 1908 Franklin, Bellevue
Jan 20thStarcraft Chapter Installation, 7 pm, 2645 B St., Lincoln.
Jan 21stNarcissus Chapter No. 269 Installation, 7:30 pm, 5903 Maple St., Omaha
Jan 22ndFontenelle Chapter Installation, 7:30 pm, 2424 S. 135th Ave., Omaha
Jan 23rdPapillion Chapter Installation, 2:00 pm, S. 84th St. & Centennial Rd, Papillion
Jan 23rdLuna Chapter Installation, 1:00 pm, 300 Hopper St, Elkhorn
Jan 29thAkSarBen Chapter No. 277 Installation, West Omaha Masonic Temple, 2424 S 135th Ave.
Jan 30thNOTE CHANGE OF DATE: Herman Chapter No 216 Installation of Officers, 2 pm, Hwy 75 & 5th St.
Jan 31stAdah Chapter No. 52 Installation, 2 pm, 84th & Centennial, Papillion
Feb 3-6Grand Lodge, Holiday Inn, Midtown, Grand Island—take an item for the Youth Silent Auction!!
Feb. 10thResolutions to be presented at the 2010 Session due in the Grand Chapter Office.
Feb. 21stFontenelle Chapter Spring Breakfast, 8 am-1 pm, 2424 S 135th Ave., Omaha. \$7.00 adults; \$4 children