

NEBRASKA OES NEWS

“Make a Joyful Noise”

Volume X Number XII ~May, 2010

From our tree



Would you believe we are still packed away in that big plastic box? It won't be long I'm sure until we will be hauled off to that "Make a Joyful Noise" Session. We are anxious to get there—Billie says it's going to be a big party with hundreds of people. I hope all those people we saw at the Area Visitations will be there and that there will be lots of bells ringing and people singing.

The way we flew around all year we wondered when these Eastern Star people had any time to get anything else done, but we heard some conversations last week about all the good things the Eastern Star people in Nebraska have done this past year. **Christie heard someone say that the Grand Chapter reported that in the 2009-2010 fiscal year over \$263,000.00 was given to charities by contributions from members and Chapters and by funds given by the Grand Chapter.** Wow! That would buy a lot of birdseed—but I have to say we have also been well fed this year, thanks to the Eastern Star members who put out seeds in their feeders all year.

We have been a little concerned that there seems to be some other creatures flying around the neighborhood lately. They don't look like birds exactly, but they do have wings. So, we may be moving on and try to find a nice evergreen tree close to a new feeder—we want to do our part in sharing the things you provided for us this year—that's one of the things we've learned from traveling with you. Thanks for all your love and the courtesies you have shown to the whole family!

Curtis, Christie, Ring, Ding and Ling

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*“Where ever you go—  
 Go with all your heart.”*

## Last Reminder



**To file your Chapter's  
 990-N (E-postcard)  
 Check with your  
 Chapter Secretary to  
 be sure your Chapter  
 has filed the 990-N. It must be  
 filed online at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). It  
 must be filed electronically and  
 failure to file will cause the  
 Chapter to lose it's tax exempt  
 status.**

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE



### *What is in your Membership Tool Box?*

The last suggestion for your Membership Tool Box is your Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). When you take things out of your toolbox and re-pack it, your PPE should always be last in and first out.

These are the PPE items we suggest:

**Hard Hat** - Put this on to protect your head from people and ideas that are harmful to accomplishing what you want to accomplish with your Membership Program.

**Safety Gloves** - Put these on during planning and brainstorming meetings so you can pick through and sort out the pro-active ideas you want to include in your “let's give this a try” action list. Your gloves will protect you from getting adverse and cynical slime on your hands.

**Safety Boots** - Wear your steel toed boots so when things don't happen as you imagined and you “stub your toe”, the pain will be minimal and you can just keep walking on the path.

**Safety Glasses** - Use these to protect your eyes and to help give you clear vision when you have those inevitable creativity mental blocks.

**Ear Plugs** - Wear your ear plugs occasionally to silence the outside noise. Use these when you have a few minutes to set quietly and listen.

Listen to that inner voice within yourself and respond.

**Safety Harness and Tie Off Lines** - You will need these to protect you from that free fall of joy you will experience when your plan comes together and success is yours.

We encourage you to use everything in your Membership Tool Box and keep the lid up, so that your Tool Box will be ready to catch the next best new idea from those people who think “outside of the box”.

It has been my pleasure to write articles for the Membership Committee this past year. I hope something I have provided sparked something that got you started on the Three Rs: Retention – Recognition - Recruitment

Sue Terry (269), Membership  
 Committee

## PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

The Publicity Committee wishes to remind all Chapters:

(1) Send pictures and information for articles for the OES Journal or the Nebraska Mason to Merrie Edwards at:

[me10245@windstream.net](mailto:me10245@windstream.net).

Photos should be sent in jpg format or you may mail photos that are good quality so that Merrie can scan them into her computer for these publications.

(2) Send copies of any articles that you have published locally to Lorrie Bryant 8021 Preserve Lane, Lincoln NE 68516 so that she can continue compiling the Publicity Committee's Scrapbook.

Your Chapter has great projects and wonderful traditions—please share these good ideas with others!

## GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER PROJECTS

It is important for the membership to understand that **money raised for “General Grand Chapter Projects” stays in the state of Nebraska**. For example, Funds for Cancer and Heart go to the University of Nebraska Medical Center for their research. **Proceeds from the sale of the General Grand Chapter pins stays in Nebraska.** Funds raised for the Service Dog project will go to provide service dogs for people in Nebraska. Do continue to support these projects for the good our our whole state.



### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:**

The Scholarship Committee wishes to announce the winners of the Masonic Youth \$1,000 Scholarships for the 2010-2011 School Year:

#### **Job's Daughters:**

**Alicia VanWesten**, a member of Bethel No. 24, Plattsmouth, JDI.

#### **Rainbow for Girls:**

**Susan Hammons**, a member of Weeping Water Assembly No. 5, IORG

#### **Order of DeMolay:**

**Drew Applegarth**, a member of Alliance Chapter, DeMolay

The committee reviewed 12 applications for the three awards and reported that all were excellent applications.

### **ESTARL COMMITTEE:**

The ESTARL Committee is "ringing in" to report that at its meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup> it reviewed 28 applications and awarded 26 grants to those who are studying for a religious vocation. Total awarded was \$28,650.

One additional reminder from this committee—when you give

gifts to ESTARL, please specify if you want that gift to go to the Yount Endowment Fund (money invested, and dividends used to pay for grants) or to the Landeryou Fund (all funds paid out for grants.)

The committee wishes to thank the Chapters for helping us get the word out to the local communities and your churches about our ESTARL Program.

## **Enclosed with this OES News**\_\_\_\_\_

- ❖ Memorial Card for our Past Grand Patron, Brother James D. "Jim" Boshart. We extend our sympathy to our Grand Treasurer Sister Pam and the Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons for yet another loss this year.
- ❖ Packet of information for the upcoming Area Visitations. To be sure you won't lose this packet before your visitation we printed it on very colorful paper! Worthy Matrons should contact the other Chapters in your Area and start making plans for the visitations which will begin on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Watch next month for information on the projects and theme of the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron for 2010-2011.



### ***Grains from the Past Preserving the Past; Preparing for the future***— Volume X,

Number XII—the last issue of the OES News for this Grand Secretary. While this will not be an event of historic proportions that we will look back on one day, it is causing me to reflect on the many changes that have occurred over the past eleven years. But, this little "Grains from the Past" article was also meant to help our Grand Chapter "Prepare for the Future". As you reviewed the Proceedings with me over the year I hope you have been able to see the changes that have occurred in our past—our Ritual has changed;

our traditions and laws have changed. Have the changes been ones that we have influenced or directed? I'm afraid that some of the changes are those that we "just let happen"—like the decline in our membership. Others, like the increase in our financial stability and the increase in work done by our Grand Chapter Committees are changes that we did direct and worked hard to achieve. The events and projects that we can look back upon with real pride are events and projects that our members worked very hard to accomplish. Let this be the lesson for all of us—work. We must all do what we can—and we all can do something, to improve the condition of our Chapters. Evaluate what your Chapter needs to "fix". Maybe it is improvement in Ritual work, maybe it's the lack of attendance. Then set to WORK fixing the things that need it. May God Bless this Grand Chapter.

### **THE OES CARDINAL CALENDAR**

**Notice:** Due to the increased volume of information being sent to the Grand Chapter office for publication in this newsletter, the OES Calendar will now include only the events that occur on a state-wide basis. We are encouraging you to send a calendar of your Chapter's events to Gwen Hurst-Anderson: pengwensrule@gmail.com. She will see that your events will be included on the web-site's Masonic Calendar. That calendar can be viewed by all members of our Masonic Family, so will provide more visibility for your Chapter's events than this newsletter. We hope you will take advantage of that calendar. It's easy, just email Gwen with the date, time, location, cost etc.!

May 11-13 ..... 135<sup>th</sup> Grand Chapter Session, Pershing Center, Lincoln

May 23 ..... Reception for the Worthy Grand Matron, Worthy Grand Patron and Grand Officers, 2-4-pm, Papillion Masonic Center, 84<sup>th</sup> & Centennial Road, Papillion.

June 4-6 ..... Nebraska-Iowa Fun Weekend, Carol Joy Holling Retreat Center, Ashland

June 11-13 .... Nebraska Grand Assembly, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, Crete

June 16-19 .... Nebraska Grand Session, Job's Daughters International, Grand Island