

NEBRASKA OES NEWS

Volume 14 Number 1 ~June, 2013

"Stars across the Prairie"



Jottings from Jan

Don't forget you can download
Newsletters in color and find lots of
information on our Web-site:
<http://neoes.org>

Getting to know our Worthy Grand Matron

This is difficult for me to sit down and tell you about me. There is a lot to cover over the last seventy years.

I was born November 28, 1942 at my Grandmother's house on the farm at Broken Bow, Nebraska. I was the oldest of three children. We had a great life growing up on the farm and attending rural school for kindergarten through 8th grade. I could drive the tractors and rake hay. I even have broken horses to ride, can't say that was easy. In 1961, I graduated from Broken Bow High School and in 1964 from Methodist School of Nursing (now Nebraska Methodist College). I have always worked in Surgery at Methodist Hospital except for the time that Mike was stationed in Florida in the US Navy and served a tour of duty in Viet Nam. While he was overseas, I lived in Broken Bow and worked there. I returned to Methodist Hospital in 1970 and continue to work two days a week, now at a computer scheduling surgery procedures.

Mike and I were married in December 1963. We have three children, David, Mark and Kimberly. We have 5 grandchildren ranging in ages from 21 years to 2 ½ years.

I am a Past Honored Queen of Bethel No. 20 in Broken Bow. In 1972 Mike joined the Blue Lodge and in December of that year, I joined Trinity Chapter No. 299 in Omaha. I held my first office in 1974. I have served as Worthy Matron three times (1980, 1998 and currently). I served as a District Supervisor (before

they had Grand in their title) for 6 years and served as Grand Esther in the "Stairway to the Stars" Grand Family in 1981-82. I have served as a Page Coordinator and as March Director from 1993 – 2012. As a matter of fact, I have attended every Grand Chapter since 1976 and have served in some capacity every year since 1980.

In 1980, I began my service with the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls on the Advisory Board of Westside Assembly in Omaha. Currently I am a member of the Nebraska Grand Executive Board and for the past two Supreme Assemblies have served as Arena Coordinator.

I have been a member of Daughters of the Nile Patrol for 35 years and served as Queen of Sat-ra Temple No. 59, Daughters of the Nile in 2008. I am a member of the Social Order of the Beauceant in Omaha.

In 2012, I was elected as AGM and now am pleased to serve as your Worthy Grand Matron for the "Stars across the Prairie" year. Thank you for the honor and I look forward to seeing many of you this year.

Let's become "ENTHUSIASTIC" about our beautiful Order and rejuvenate our chapters. What a great opportunity to re-ignite our current members and to share our friendship by inviting others to join. Star Love, Beverly "Bev" Donham

Getting to know our Worthy Grand Patron

It is an honor to serve with Sister Beverly Donham, WGM, and PGP Brother Mike Donham, in the "Stars across the Prairie" grand year. Born and raised in Denver, CO and graduated from Westminster High School, played Semi-Pro and Minor league baseball for 6 years. Employed at Borg-Warner for 12 years as Shipping Forman and worked Union Construction for 16 years as pipe fitter for fire protection (sprinklers). Sherrie and I were married on February 5, 1989. We have our own Accounting & Tax Corporation. I

have learned the accounting business from my own private and personal Professor.

Joined Wheat Ridge Lodge #187 and Peace Chapter #151 OES in 1986. Master of Wheat Ridge Lodge #187 and also Albert Pike Lodge #117 both in reciting one letter key or cypher cover to cover with no errors. Served Grand Lodge of Colorado as District Lecturer for 5 years until Sherrie was appointed Grand Adah in 1993. I have been honored to serve as Worth Patron 12 times in Colorado and 4 times in Nebraska. I was Sherrie's Grand Escort for 10 years and am an escort emeritus in CO. I also was a Grand Escort for a Grand Treasurer in 1987. Sherrie appointed me Grand Representative to NE in 1997 and served with two great NE Sisters in that position. I was appointed Grand Chaplain in CO in 2003-2004.

Sherrie and I bought our home in Kearney in 2002 and moved here permanently in 2006. We are members of Tuscan Chapter #35 in Kearney and I belong to Rob Morris Lodge #46 in Kearney. I was appointed Grand Chaplain of NE by Sister Billie Mattern and Brother Bruce Raddatz in 2009-2010, Grand Sentinel 2010-2011, Grand Marshal in 2011-2012, AGP 2012-2013. Jim Dusch, Worthy Grand Patron

WGM/WGP Special Project

Alzheimer's Association is the special project for the 2013-2014 year. Please note the 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's disease. 1. Memory changes that disrupt daily life. 2. Challenges in planning or solving problems. 3. Difficulty completing familiar tasks. 4. Confusion with time or place. 5. Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships. 6. New problems with words in speaking or writing. 7. Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps. 8. Decreased or poor judgment. 9. Withdrawal from work or social activities. 10. Changes in mood and personality.



Wheeee, what a wonderful time Alvin had at the "Spirit of the Stars" Grand Chapter session in Kearney. I have watched him scurrying around the state this past year. I won't be able to 'scurry' around as he has done, but I know that I will be whirling as another busy year has just begun. I will be kept busy with the changing winds as the "Stars across the Prairie" Grand Officers begin their travels across this state.

First, they will be in Kearney to assist with the Masonic All Star Band and to enjoy the Shrine Bowl Parade and game. Then the wind will change and they will be back in Omaha for the combined Reception for the OES Grand Officers and the Grand Lodge Officers.

Then they will be off on the first Area Visitations.....AND THEN.... To the Grand Sessions for the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls and Job's Daughters International. I will be kept busy with the changing winds from Crete in the eastern part of the State to North Platte in the West. My legs will stay quite firmly in the ground but boy will my "Wheel" be spinning.

Come and visit with the Grand Family as they 'blow' into your area! See you later, "Windy" (aka Windy the windmill)



Thank You's

Thank you to everyone that participated in the the basket auction by donating baskets and for purchasing baskets. Thanks also for all the donations of miscellaneous items and for those that shopped to support our youth the special project. Thanks to Wanda Fisher PGM, for the donation of the beautiful quilt for the quilt raffle. Because of your generosity \$4665.00 was raised for our youth!

Thank you to the Masonic Home for furnishing donuts, cookies and coffee once again at Grand Chapter!



THE "PRAIRIE" CALENDAR



**(As space permits in the newsletter - I will try to list your Chapter Events)
PLEASE SEND INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE JULY NEWS BY JUNE 15**

- June 1 10:00 am Shrine Bowl Parade and Shrine Bowl in Kearney
- June 2 Reception honoring Grand Officers of NE Grand Chapter and Grand Lodge Officers, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m., 2424 South 135th Ave, Omaha
- June 9 Cornerstone Ceremony dedicating the new Grand Lodge Office building, 2:00 pm, 301 North Cotner Boulevard in Lincoln. Reception and open house to follow.
- June 14-16 Rainbow Grand Assembly in Crete
- June 19-22 Jobs Daughters Grand Bethel in North Platte
- June 23 Elizabeth Chapter No. 250, 100th Anniversary, Weeping Water
- June 23 Vesper Chapter No. 9 open house to celebrate 120th Anniversary 2-4pm, 601 Grant in Beatrice
- July 4 Independence Day
- July 26-28 Five State Friendship Exchange in Omaha, Embassy Suites, 555 S. 10th, RSVP to Dee Schuetz, PGM, 18406 Peterson Road, Plattsmouth, 68048, schuetz01@windstream.net
- July 28 Fontenelle #249 Corn Feed 11:00am-2:00 pm, 2424 S 135th Ave, Omaha
- Aug 10 4-H Achievement Day at Children's Home in Fremont
- Aug 11 Corner Stone Laying & Open House at Masonic Home in Plattsmouth, 2:00 p.m.
- Aug 23-24 NE/KS Exchange at Trinity in Omaha and Rose Dale Lodge in Kansas

Enclosed with this OES News:

- ❖ Letter from the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron and sample invitation & program
- ❖ Grand Officer & Companion List