

Our Grand Chapter of Nebraska structure allows for great efforts and dedicated hard work at the committee level to be ongoing and beneficial for our jurisdiction's chapters and members.

Those dedicated to our success include:

Board of Grand Trustees

Section 17 of our Bylaws governing our Grand Chapter define: The Grand Trustees shall consist of five (5) members of whom at least two (2) shall be Sisters. The Grand Trustees must be Past Matrons or Past Patrons of a Subordinate Chapter. Each year one (1) member shall be elected, by majority ballot, for a term of five (5) years.

Our Grand Trustees work diligently to guard, guide and direct our budget, insurance and financial transactions. Their leadership is dedicated to our ongoing good health and service as a Grand Chapter.

Grand Chapter Standing Committee for Jurisprudence

Section 26.(4) of our Bylaws governing our Grand Chapter define: The Jurisprudence Committee shall consist of five (5) members who shall be Past Grand Matrons or Past Grand Patrons, and of whom at least three (3) shall be Sisters. The Worthy Grand Matron shall appoint one (1) member for a term of five (5) years, but no one can be appointed to the Jurisprudence Committee after being elected a Grand Trustee until after the term of Grand Trustee is expired.

Our Grand Chapter Standing Committee for Jurisprudence diligently serves our WGM in all questions, documents, papers, decisions of law and its usage. They shall examine all Bylaws and Amendments submitted by Chapters and approve or disapprove the same. They shall consider all resolutions affecting legislation, including the revision or amending of the Constitution and Bylaws and report thereon in writing.

From our Board of Grand Trustees

Greetings all,

Wow, what a year! As Chairman of the Grand Trustees, I am including these brief words to you at the request of our Worthy Grand Matron. My best wishes for your continued success.

We are living in unprecedented and perhaps somewhat troubling times, but we can confidently be assured that the leadership of our Grand Chapter has indeed risen to the occasion. They have reached out to our entire state with wonderful, exciting and engaging activities. I really feel like we will look back on these times as ones of growth for our Chapters—reaching out to one another in love and service.

The Grand Trustees consist of five members, at least two shall be Sisters who must be Past Matrons or Past Patrons of a Subordinate Chapter. Each year one member is elected by a majority ballot for a term of five years.

They exercise a general supervision over the financial affairs of Grand Chapter.

They prepare and submit to the Grand Chapter for action an itemized budget, together with the comparative budget for the preceding year.

Star love and our support,

Cyn Norman, PGM, Chairman of the Grand Trustees
Wayne Andreasen, PP
Bruce Raddatz, PGP
Cheryl Beckius, PGM
Pam Brhel, PM

From our Grand Chapter Standing Committee for Jurisprudence

JURISPRUDENCE GREETINGS SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION
February 20, 2021

Good Afternoon!

What a year this has been in many aspects. Whoever would have believed there would be a Pandemic in 2020, let alone it shutting down most normal activities. As with each of you, I miss my Eastern Star friends. Don't let it be said, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks" because thank goodness, we have learned. We have enjoyed the Saturday morning Zoom Coffee Chats and then the Virtual Celebration 1/1/21! Thank you to those talented members who were able to make this happen.

As stated in the **Nebraska Grand Chapter Constitution, Article 3, Section 3 Emergency Session**, "..... the current Grand Officers shall remain in their present offices until the next annual Grand Chapter Session." The **Enduring Hope** Grand Family continues as do the members of the Jurisprudence Committee.

Who are the members of the Jurisprudence Committee? There are 5 members on the Committee. The WGM appoints one Past Grand Matron or Past Grand Patron for a term of 5 years and the senior member serves as the Chairperson. (The current members will, in fact, serve 6 years due to pandemic this past year.). At least three (3) members of the committee must be Sisters.

What does the Committee do?

For the Subordinate Chapters -- If a Chapter wishes to amend their bylaws, please refer to the law and procedure of **Section 65 in the Bylaws governing Subordinate Chapters**. Obtain the proper form from the Grand Secretary's office and then completely fill out the form in triplicate and send to the Grand Secretary who then forwards them to the Committee. If no conflict with Grand Chapter Bylaws, they are approved and a copy returned to Chapter, one to the Grand Secretary and one for the Committee. If after review the committee felt a change needed to be made, the requests are returned to the Chapter with advice if needed.

For Grand Chapter -- The Committee meets and reviews all resolutions to be presented at Grand Chapter to ascertain they are in proper form. The Parliamentarian may be contacted regarding Roberts Rules of Order. Remember, any member may present a resolution. Per **Section 175 of Bylaws governing Subordinate Chapters**, the

resolutions must be received in the office of the Grand Secretary ninety (90) days before the opening of Grand Chapter. Each Chapter received notification via the OES News that the deadline for 2021 Grand Chapter was **February 10, 2021**.

After General Grand Chapter -- Our law states that any change in General Grand Chapter law is effective immediately in our own Grand Jurisdiction. This Committee then codifies this law with all areas that are affected by these changes. These are then distributed to the Chapters for insertion into the current "Red" Book. The next General Grand Chapter will be held in Salt Lake City on October 29 – November 5, 2021.

For the Worthy Grand Matron --The Committee is always available to assist the WGM in all matters pertaining to law and its usage. This year with the restrictions, after discussions with the committee, the WGM has sent decisions regarding Chapter meetings to every Chapter.

To every member in this Grand Chapter -- We wish to thank you for remaining steadfast to your Chapter, Grand Chapter and for the benevolent purposes of our Order.

I leave you with this thought *"Every day is a new beginning, take a deep breath and start again"*.

Thank you from the Jurisprudence Committee,

Beverly Donham, PGM, Chairperson

Billie Mattern, PGM

Betty Garwood, PGM

Gary Brhel, PGP

Jeanine Bryceson, PGM

Words of Encouragement and Wisdom

from our Grand Chapter Standing Committee for Jurisprudence

EXCELLENCE

Excellence is doing ordinary things extraordinarily well. – John W. Gardner

Thoughts

We are what we do repeatedly. Excellence is a habit. It is the result of always striving to do better. The habit is developed in little matters; then you can achieve excellence in the big things.

Excellence is being able to perform at a high level over and over again. If you can do that consistently, that is excellence.

When a team learns to have confidence in the team, excellence becomes attainable and a reality.

SERVICE

Always render more and better service than is expected of you, no matter what your task may be. – Og Mandino

Thoughts

You can find joy and happiness in being of service to others. It gives you a sense of purpose in life. Everyone has a unique talent to share with others. When you combine that talent with service to others, you experience a deep satisfaction in achieving a significant goal.

Some of our best work comes through service to others. Going above and beyond to provide extraordinary customer [client] service is what sets successful companies and organizations apart from all the others.

INNOVATION

Learning and innovation go hand in hand. The arrogance of success is to think that what you did yesterday will be sufficient for tomorrow. – William Pollard

Thoughts

Change calls for innovation and innovation leads to progress. Society is constantly changing. The needs of our clients are constantly changing. Without change there is no innovation. Adapting to change requires innovation. Change is inevitable. Those who initiate change have a better chance for growth and managing their future.

Bringing it Home

Innovation is not easy. You cannot have a fear of failure and be innovative. It requires perseverance and a willingness to try new things. It requires constant analysis and feedback. Innovation requires creative thinking. Innovation is about every day, every week, every month, making something a little bit better.

REFLECTION & HOPE

Without reflection, we go blindly on our way, creating more unintended consequences, and failing to achieve anything useful. – Margaret J. Wheatley

Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning. – Albert Einstein

Thoughts

I chose two words to think about today as we arrive at the end of a _____ (you fill in the blank) year. It is a time to reflect on the passing year and to look forward with hope to a new year.

I remember something I heard from a grocery store employee early on in the days of COVID. He said, “Do you know what the best thing about 2020 has been? The Chiefs won the Super Bowl!” (Sorry if you are not a Chiefs fan, but I had to agree with him at the time and in my circumstances then.) Does that seem like a long, long time ago, or what? And things did not get a lot better after that.

Even if you found 2020 to be the worst year ever, don't forget it. We came a long way in 2020. Think about the achievements and advancements and all that we learned. We learned we are able to survive, adapt, and make positive changes and improvements. When I listened to the news last night, a Nebraska State Trooper was talking about road conditions and traffic yesterday. He said one of the positive things about COVID was that because more people were able to work from home, it reduced the number of cars on the roadways and snowplows were able to be more effective clearing the roads. Think about positive things that happened in your life as a result of the chaos of 2020. Then, keep the old year in the rear-view mirror, and move forward, with hope to a new and better year.

Bringing it Home

How will you remember 2020? I personally will remember it as a year of significant change and an opportunity for much learning. What do you hope for in 2021? I hope for a milder winter and early spring. I hope for great success with the vaccine and a rapid farewell to the number of COVID cases being the headline for the daily news. . I hope to be able to meet and get together with family and friends again. I hope we will continue to make useful achievements and to never stop questioning how we can improve.

No matter what you hope for, may you all have a healthier, happier New Year, filled with abundant blessings.

From Billie Mattern, PGM

THE WISDOM OF CHARLES SCHULTZ

Shared by Gary Brhel, PGP

Snoopy says: Have you ever noticed what a great Nurse you are?

Snoopy says: Faith is... Holding on tight when the going gets windy.

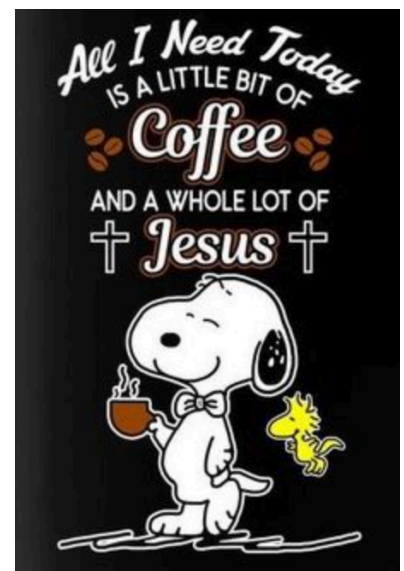
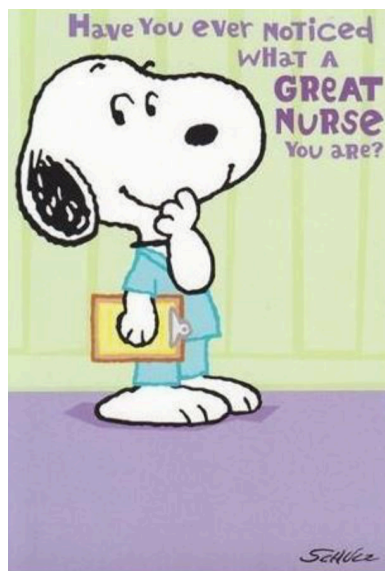
Snoopy says: All I need today is a little bit of coffee and a whole lot of Jesus!

Snoopy says: When my arms can't reach people who are close to my heart..... I always hug them with my prayers

Snoopy says: Sometimes God out us in the dark to show us He is the Light.

Snoopy says: No matter how stressed you are, remember how blessed you are!

Snoopy says: C.O.F.F.E.E. – Christ Offers Forgiveness For Everyone Everywhere



Eastern Stars are like a piano.

Grand, Square, Upright – But no good if not in tune.

So keep in tune with one another even if we have to be apart.

Take time to laugh, it is the music of the soul and is a smile that bursts! Keep smiling!

You and I are advertising Eastern Star

so remember everything you say and everything you do advertises something about Eastern Star. Make it a good ad!

Hello! Welcome to flight 2021.

We are prepared to take off into the New Year.

Please make sure your attitude and blessings are secured and locked in the upright position. All self-destruction devices should be turned off at this time. All negativity, hurt and discouragement should be put away. Should we lose attitude under pressure during flight, reach up and pull down a prayer. Prayers will automatically be activated by faith. Once your faith is activated you can assist other passengers. There will be no baggage allowed on this flight. The captain Karan, and co-captain, Bruce have cleared us for takeoff.

Destination – Grand Chapter 2021.

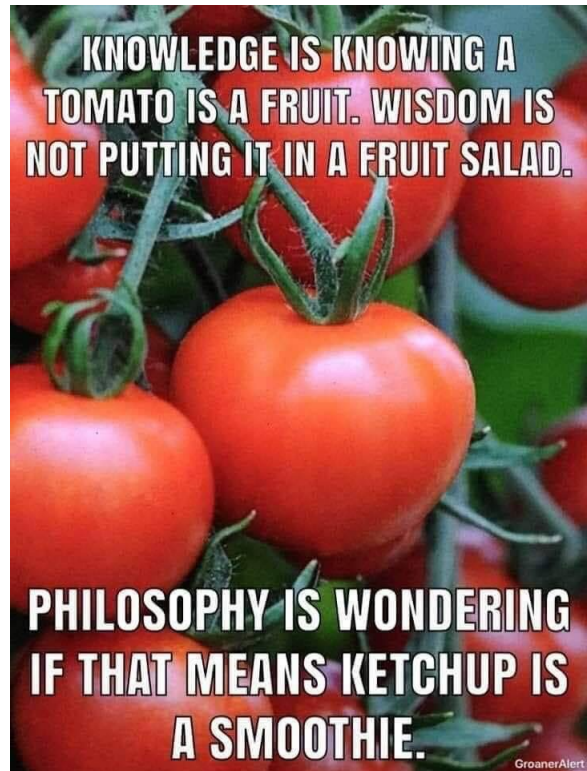
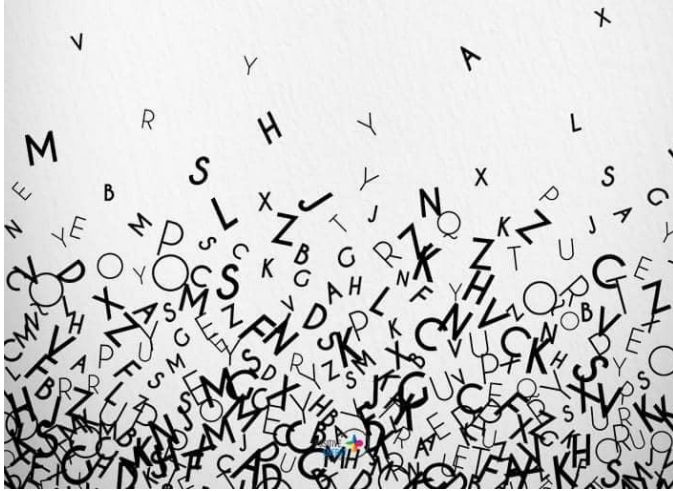
Star love,

Jeanine Bryceson, PGM

Wisdom and Encouragement for our Chapters

Shared by Betty Garwood, PGM

If "Plan A" didn't
work, keep your cool.
The alphabet has 25
more letters.



Remember the Be-attitudes.... and may we hang on to this one:

Blessed are the FLEXIBLE!

For they shall not break!

Star love, Betty Garwood, PGM

Wisdom and Encouragement for our Chapters

Shared by Bev Donham, PGM

Chairman: Grand Chapter Committee of Jurisprudence

I do not know if you are familiar with Garth Brooks song, *The River* but the words of this song have a lot of meaning in our everyday life and the separation that 2020 has caused for all of us.

**You know a dream is like a river
Ever changin' as it flows
And a dreamer's just a vessel
That must follow where it goes
Trying to learn from what's behind you
And never knowing what's in store
Makes each day a constant battle
Just to stay between the shores...and**

**I will sail my vessel
'Til the river runs dry
Like a bird upon the wind
These waters are my sky
I'll never reach my destination
If I never try
So I will sail my vessel
'Til the river runs dry**

**Too many times we stand aside
And let the waters slip away
'Til what we put off 'til tomorrow
Has now become today
So don't you sit upon the shoreline
And say you're satisfied
Choose to chance the rapids
And dare to dance the tide...**

Our dream is to get our lives and our OES Chapters back to "normal". We cannot just sit by "on the shoreline and say we are satisfied" but we must "choose to chance the rapids" and when we can, jump right in and get our chapter vibrant again. There has been some "rough water" but with the love of family and friends, and the guidance of the Order of the Eastern Star, we can overcome and return the ENTHUSIASM to our Chapter.

"I always wondered why somebody didn't do something about that, then I realized I was somebody." -Lily Tomlin

May you never allow what you can't do to interfere with that you can do.

In the crazy quilt of life, I'm glad you're in my block of friends.

Our lives are like quilts – bits and pieces, joy and sorrow, stitched with love.

Star Love,

Bev Donham, PGM

Additional Standing Committees
of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska
Serving our needs and excellence as we lead and serve.

BENEVOLENCE

Shall investigate and approve all applications for relief of members of the Order of the Eastern Star and/or their families referred to them, and forward their recommendations to the Board of Grand Trustees for approval.

EDUCATION LOAN

Shall investigate and approve all qualified loan applications of the members of the Order of the Eastern Star in Nebraska, their relatives or legal wards and make appropriate decisions regarding their disposition.

ESTARL

ESTARL funds are to be used to assist persons preparing for a religious vocation.

MEMBERSHIP

Shall work in promoting membership in this Grand Jurisdiction.

PUBLICITY

Shall work on matters concerning public relations and publicity in this Grand Jurisdiction.

SCHOLARSHIP

Shall receive applications for the Masonic Youth Scholarships and other scholarship programs that may be implemented which would require an application process, determine the recipients of such scholarships and see that proper presentations are made to the recipients.

SERVICE AND THERAPY DOGS

Shall work with the Worthy Grand Matron and the General Grand Chapter Service Dog Committee member in advocating for the Service and Therapy Dog philanthropy of the Order, utilizing the guidelines established by the General Grand Chapter.

YOUTH

Shall work on matters concerning the youth in the state of Nebraska. Where Masonic Youth Groups exist, the Committee shall work with their Leaders; in areas where Masonic Youth Groups do not exist but Eastern Star Chapters do, the Committee shall work with the Chapter(s) to establish and sponsor Masonic Youth Groups; and finally, where neither an Eastern Star Chapter nor a Masonic Youth Group exists, the Committee shall assist in programs that provide services to the community at large such as Scholarships, Band Camp, Leadership Conferences, Chip Events, etc.

Additional Standing Committees
of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska
Serving our needs and excellence as we lead and serve.

- ★ As a chapter, please engage with the work, support, and efforts of these Standing Committees of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska. Their benefits to your chapter and your community can only be an impact if you engage with them.

- ★Additional information and tools of these Standing Committees are included in the **CHARITY** (green tab) section of this notebook.

- ★Communications are offered each month in our OES NEWS to assist in sharing opportunities provided by and through these committees. Please consider their suggestions, efforts and information. Include them in the life and communications of your chapter.

- ★Our website can also provide additional access to these Standing Committees. Forms and information can be downloaded and printed to share with your members and encourage their knowledge and participation.

- ★Share and implement these projects to bring greater value to your members. AS we give, so shall we receive.

- ★Your chapter has in its possession a HANDBOOK defining these committees and sharing contact information for them.

- ★Our Standing Committees contain five members each, serving five year terms. They serve with dedication to increase your ability to serve and participate in our projects.

Special Committees of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska

Section 27 of our Grand Chapter Bylaws: The Worthy Grand Matron may appoint such other special committees as may seem advisable or necessary.

Over the past few years in our jurisdiction, special committees have been appointed and empowered to hear the voices more clearly of our Nebraska members. Grand Chapter has reached out through these committees to hear your perspectives on a variety of issues including membership eligibility, Grand Chapter events and scheduling, ritual and ceremonies, and the unique and basic needs of your chapter in your community.

Thank you for welcoming these committees, their surveys, their conversations and their work on your behalf.

★At the General Grand Chapter Triennium meeting in October of 2021 in Salt Lake City, a resolution has been presented addressing the issue of membership eligibility. It reflects the desires of our members and our Nebraska Delegates will have the opportunity to vote your voice.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication and communication. It is our privilege to serve you.

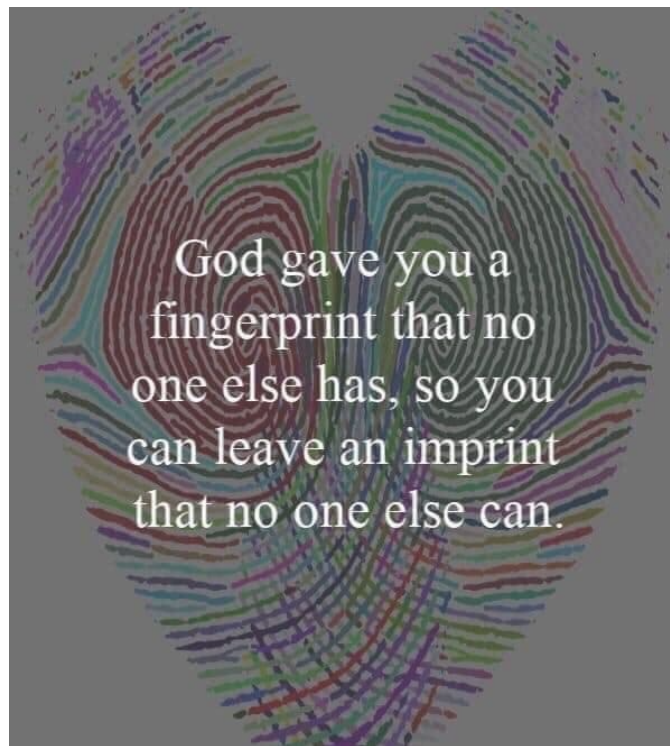
“C and C”
Care and Compassion Committee
Special Committee of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska

Betty Garwood, PGM, Chairman

This special committee is engaged in hearing each chapter’s perspective of their own health and effectiveness and then providing care and compassion as they can benefit each chapter’s individuals’ needs and desires.

In our unique challenges of 2020-2021, we encourage you to reach out and include the benefits and abilities of this special committee to meet your chapters’ needs and desires.

*They are here to serve you!
They offer their experience, wisdom, courage and encouragement to meet you where you are and find paths to move forward together.*



*We are here to serve you and assist in your ability to leave your chapter’s unique imprint on the lives of your members and your community.
May we love and serve, Betty Garwood, PGM*