

## EXPLANATION OF DIFFERENT PROJECTS AND COMMITTEES

To define each current project and explain the scope, here is a brief outline that may help members:

**1. General Grand Chapter Committee Service Dogs Committee.** Current member is **Judy Wehrbein**. At the 2015 Triennium of the General Grand Chapter, support of Service Dogs was designated as the primary and permanent identifying charity of the Order of the Eastern Star

- a. Is identified as a member of the General Grand Chapter Standing Committees called the Service Dogs Committee. This is a three-year appointment.
- b. Is the liaison to the General Grand Chapter Service Dogs Committee Chairperson and reports on all of the activities that are taking place in the Jurisdiction, including fundraising projects, Grand Chapter involvement for that jurisdiction, and plans and objectives of the Jurisdiction regarding service dog activities.
- c. Provides support and acts as a good will ambassador to those involved throughout the Order in the promotion of Service Dogs, both inside Nebraska and also to other Grand Jurisdictions.
- d. Proceeds of her sales of pins, magnets, etc., are used at her discretion, but will stay in the Jurisdiction and are used to promote service dogs projects within the Jurisdiction.

**2. WGM and WGM "Paws Up Project".** Organized by **WGM Karan Birdsall** and **WGP Bruce Baker**.

- a. This is the special project and, under normal circumstances, would only have been for one year. However, this will be an ongoing project until May 2021, because of the cancellation of Grand Chapter in May 2020.
- b. Funds raised by this special project will be used to support the service dogs philanthropy, and the distribution of the funds will be determined by the WGM and WGP.
- c. The sales table items that are displayed at visitations, receptions, etc. provide the means of raising funds for these projects. Also, the proceeds of the silent auction at Grand Chapter go towards the WGM and WGP special project.

**3. Grand Chapter Service and Therapy Dog Committee.** Current members are **Lorrie Bryant, Chairperson, Nan Rix, Dian Larsen, Betty Kirby, and Tammy Gass**.

- a. This is a Standing Committee of the Nebraska Grand Chapter. It always will have five members serving who work their way up to the Chairperson in the 5<sup>th</sup> year of service.
- b. This Committee works with the Worthy Grand Matron and the General Grand Chapter Committee member assigned to the Nebraska Grand Chapter in advocating for the Service and Therapy Dog philanthropy of the Order, utilizing the guidelines established by the General Grand Chapter.
- c. The Committee raises funds through various projects as determined by the Committee. Funds are used to support organizations that train service and therapy dogs, to assist in expenses of dogs that have been placed, and to support any other project that has been determined by the committee to be of value to the promotion of Service and Therapy Dogs.
- d. Members of the Committee act as advocates to all Nebraska Chapters and their members in promoting their support of the Service and Therapy Dog Project.

**4. Star Dogs of Nebraska, Inc.** Current Board members are: **Betty Kirby, Chairperson, Cyn Norman, Vice Chairman, Nan Rix, Secretary, Lorrie Bryant, Treasurer, Judy Wehrbein, and Dian Larsen**. **Karan Birdsall and Bruce Baker are ex-officio members of the Board of Directors**.

- a. Star Dogs of Nebraska Inc. is independent of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska and operates as a 501(c)(3) public organization, as recognized by the IRS.
- b. Contributions to the 501(c)(3) can qualify as tax-deductible
- c. Contributions can be solicited from parties and organizations outside the Grand Chapter of Nebraska.
- d. Will be engaged in actively seeking wills, bequests, corporate donations, etc., to further advance the promotion of Service and Therapy Dogs.