

Order of the Eastern Star  
Grand Chapter of Wisconsin

Reach for the Star  
113<sup>th</sup> Annual Session  
Park Plaza Convention Center  
Oshkosh, Wisconsin  
May 18, 19 & 20, 2004

Grand Officers:

Karen A. Carpenter, Worthy Grand Matron  
W. David Olson, Worthy Grand Patron  
Karen S. Stauffer, Associate Grand Matron  
Nicholas "Nick" Schultz, Associate Grand Patron  
Sharon Swartwout, Grand Secretary  
Patricia M. Jameson, Grand Treasurer  
Martha E. Swanson, Grand Conductress  
Helen Wheeler, Associate Grand Conductress  
Patricia Kollauf, Grand Chaplain  
Theda J. Andres, PGM, Grand Lecturer  
Carol Paynter, Grand Marshal  
Gail A. Gillmore, Grand Organist  
Lorene Bloomer, Grand Adah  
Kay Smith, Grand Ruth  
Diane Moore, Grand Esther  
Karla Menge, Grand Martha  
Margaret Jennerman, Grand Electa  
Matthew Ffredrich, Grand Warder  
Roy Skogen, Grand Sentinel

Grand Trustees:

Audrey J. Pavlik, PGM, Chairman  
Mary J. Traupmann, PGM  
Harley E. Bennett, PGP

Theme: Reach for the Star

Aim: Promote growth through enthusiastic participation.

Motto: One prayer, peace. One hope, harmony. One dream, understanding.

Watchwords:

E – Encourage enthusiasm  
N – No negative thinking  
J – Join in  
O – Overcome obstacles  
Y – You CAN do it!

Bible Verses:

WGM: “Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11 NIV

WGP: “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God.”  
Matthew 5:9 NRSV

Honored Stations: Adah and Chaplain

Fun Emblems:

WGM: Koalas

WGP: Red Farmall Tractors

Flowers: Violets

Colors: All shades of blue

Projects: Masonic Health Care Facility

Clubs: Karen’s Koalas, Dave’s Sodbusters

General Grand Chapter Committees:

Patricia L. Rasmussen, PGM, Chairman, Benevolence Committee

Wallace Lindholm, PGP, Chairman, Education Committee

Ronald D. Pete, PGP, Member of the Visioneer Committee

Lathora Slazas, PGM, Ambassador to Peru and Columbia

Tuesday Afternoon, 12:30 PM

Musical Prelude, Marcia Earl

Prologue, written and narrated by Susan Niggemeier

In the center of this Grand Chapter is an altar that holds the Holy bible. Within this precious book the Order of the Eastern Star will find the stories of the heroines in which our beautiful Order is founded. Each of these heroines makes us aware of the love that we share with each other and to God above. Each of us started here at the altar holding the Holy Bible in our hands as we took our Obligation. Now, as each of the beautiful rays circle the altar, let us Reach for the Star, Eastern Star.

Bible Presentation: Bible Bearer, Mary Olson, Bible Escorts, Harold W. Carpenter,  
Darrell Roblee.

Grand Chapter called to order by Theda J. Andres, PGM and Bill Swartwout, PGP

Invocation by Rev. Myron E. Christensen

Entrance of Grand Officers

As the Worthy Grand Patron was escorted to the East, Sister Kristen Anderson sang  
“Amazing Grace”.

As the Worthy Grand Matron was escorted to the East Brother Willard Gant sang a solo.

Opening Ode: Surely the Presence.

Flag Ceremony presented by the Triwaukee Club, written and Narrated by Donald P.  
Jensen Sr., organist, Ramona Vyvyan.

Introductions, Reports

Closing Ode: Brighten the Corner Where You Are.

Tuesday Evening, 7:30 pm

Musical Prelude by Emerson Kolda

Welcome and Introductions by June Bjorklund, PGM and Donald Haas, PGP. With the  
theme of “Reach for the Star,” astrology was used for the introductions.

Entertainment: Shear Delight

Wednesday Morning 8:00 am

Musical Prelude by Milton Vyvyan

Grand Chapter called to order by LaThora Slazas, PGM and William F. Kelly, PGP.

You have blessed me with friends and laughter and fun;  
With rain that’s as soft as the light from the sun.  
You have blessed me with stars to brighten each night.  
You have given me help to know wrong from right.  
You have given me so much,  
Please Lord give me too, a heart that is always grateful to you.

Opening Ode: “Morning Has Broken”

Worthy Grand Matron’s Report: The Bible on the Altar was given to me at Installation  
by Worthy Grand Patron W. David and his wife, Sister Mary. I have carried it with me  
as I visited the many chapters in this state. I was pleased to have the Worthy matrons and  
Worthy Patrons of those chapters sign my Bible. It is a constant reminder of the  
wonderful hospitality of the members of our chapters.

I have traveled to the following Grand Jurisdictions: Illinois, Iowa, Michigan and  
Louisiana. I attended the Grand Bethel Installation in Wisconsin Dells. I attended Jobie

Jamboree where I was surprised to be given my majority. I was also a guest at Grand Lodge in Milwaukee, a guest at the York Rite annual communication in Green Bay, Installation of the Order of the amaranth, Installation of Daughters of the Nile in Green Bay, and Rainbow Girls Grand Assembly in Oshkosh.

This year our project was the Masonic Health Care center. With the help of Marcia Earl and her husband, GE donated three Dinamap instruments and the Grand Chapter donated a canopy for the main entrance.

Three chapters celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversaries: Sheboygan Chapter, Waupun Chapter, and Ozaukee Chapter, Port Washington. Charles A. Lawton Chapter in Green Bay celebrated their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Glenwood Chapter, Glenwood City consolidated with Royal Chapter, Clear Lake and they became Northwest Chapter, Clear Lake.

The Grand Officers exemplified their work four times: Janesville Chapter, Martha Washington Chapter, Green Bay, Acadia Chapter, Brookfield and Ruth Chapter, La Crosse.

The Star Power Award was given to many members.

The Worthy Grand Matron's Award was based on what the chapters do to promote Eastern Star in their communities, and a summary was prepared.

Worthy Grand Patron's Report: I must thank Past Grand Matron Sister Jean James and Past Grand Patron Brother Bill Swartwout for appointing me as Grand Sentinel, and to the Sisters and Brothers for electing me. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Some of the things that I have been able to do this year: Install officers in several subordinate chapters, attend Grand Guardian Council of Job's Daughters, Rainbow Grand Assembly, Grand Lodge Annual Communication, 100<sup>th</sup> anniversaries, Official Visits, Christmas with Dousman, the All State Christmas Party, the Chicken BBQ at Dousman, the Eastern Star Foundation, the Finance Committee, our Exemplifications, special nights at chapters, and the Grand Officer parties.

I represented Wisconsin at the General Grand Chapter in Portland, Oregon. I also had the great pleasure of initiating new members in Lodi and Palmyra.

To the Star Makers (arrangements) you have given your time, talents and money and have created a beautiful Grand Chapter. I know that you have used all of your creativity to incorporate both the Koala and the beautiful red tractor. Thank you for everything that you have done to make this Grand Chapter a successful and beautiful one.

One day I was asked if this is all worth it. I thought for a couple of seconds and I replied that it was worth it because if I had not done this I would not have met all of these Sisters

and Brothers that I call friends, both in Wisconsin and throughout the country. I am richer for having all these new friends.

Elections:

Grand Treasurer, Mary Olson  
Associate Grand Conductress, Laurie Twardy  
Grand Trustee, Harley Bennett

Memorial Service presented by Western Stars Area Club, written by Judy Bessinger, organist Kay Scafe, Hymn "How Great Thou Art" sung by Members of the club.

Picture this scene of a loved one going to Heaven. It won't even come close to the real thing, but come journey with me.

I am standing upon the seashore.  
A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze  
And starts for the blue ocean.  
She is an object of beauty and strength.  
I stand and watch her until at length  
She hangs like a speck of white cloud  
Just where the sea and sky come  
To mingle with each other.  
Then someone at my side says,  
There, she is one.  
Gone where?  
Gone from my sight. That is all.  
She is just as large in mast and hull  
And spar as she was when she left my side  
And she is just as able to bear her load  
Of delivering freight to her destined port.  
Her diminished size is in me, not in her.  
And just at the moment when someone at my side says,  
There, she is gone,  
There are other eyes watching her coming  
And other voices ready to take up the glad shout,  
Here she comes.

Song: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Wednesday Afternoon, 1:00 pm

Musical Prelude by Kay Scafe

Grand Chapter called to order by Phyllis O. Eklov PGM (by Patricia L. Rasmussen, PGM) and Dale Gillings PGP

## Opening Ode: For the Beauty of the Earth

Life Member Tribute by the Madison Area Club. Written and narrated by Kris Engbring, organist Shirley Storkson.

One of the most pleasant traditions at Grand Chapter is to honor our Life members. We greet you on this springtime day and welcome our Life Members here. What a glorious group you are to behold, our wishes are most sincere.

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And so the eyesight is no good, and climbing those stairs is bold.  
Remember each and every day, there are blessings to behold.  
Like springtime flowers, and budding trees, and prayers at the close of each day.  
And friends to share this journey with, to help us on our way.  
Remember Adah's fidelity, Ruth's constancy supreme  
The loyalty of our good queen, bright sunshine like a beam.  
Of Heaven and things yet to come, the faith of Martha true  
Electa's love to all mankind, these are all reflected in you.  
We thank you for your many years, of guidance, faith and love.  
Through all the stages of our life, we ask for blessings from above.

We're thankful for our past and pray for you, our golden friends, peace and love to last.

Fifty-nine Life Members were escorted to the microphone in the East. Years of service ranged from 50 to 72 years.

Cheer: In addition to presents at the annual Christmas party, new coffee warmers were bought and delivered on St. Patrick's Day. Also, each Eastern Star Sister at the home was given a certificate on their birthday for a complimentary shampoo and set, and the Brothers for a haircut.

ESTARL: As of March 31, 2004, \$6,410.46 was given by chapters or individuals.

Cancer: A total of \$3,721.42 was collected by the chapters in Wisconsin.

Heart: A check for \$3,000 was given to the Wisconsin Heart Association.

Knight's Templar Eye Foundation: \$2,700

World of Youth:

Four - \$400

Five - \$300

Four - \$225

Five - \$175

Four - \$125

Total - \$5,225

Wednesday Evening 7:00 pm

Musical prelude by Kristen Anderson

Grand Chapter called to order by Audrey Pavlik, PGM, and Elmer J. Janka, PGP

Opening Ode to the tune of You are My Sunshine:

You are my sunshine  
My Eastern Star shine.  
You light our pathway day and night.  
You'll never know just  
How much we love you -  
Keep our sunshine,  
Our Star, shining bright.

Adah Ceremony written by Lorene Bloomer.

Chaplain's Ceremony written and narrated by Zelda Bruun, presented by Sou'Westers Area Club.

Every morning when they waken,  
Every night before they rest.  
They do the kind of exercise,  
That suits their lifestyle best.  
They can do their kind of work out,  
Almost anywhere they please.  
Standing, sitting, lying down,  
Or even on their knees.  
It doesn't take a lot of time,  
But pays off every day.  
For their favorite kind of exercise,  
Is just to stop and pray.  
Author unknown

Worthy Grand Matron's Accomplishment Award: 57 chapters received the award. Members worked at elections, Red Cross blood drives, flu clinics and rang bells for the Salvation Army. Members fought hunger with community food pantries, the Salvation Army, Boy Scouts, St. Vincent's and US Postal Service. They also served community meals and worked in soup kitchens. Members visited the VA, area hospitals, senior centers, nursing homes, Dousman, and shut-in members. Members assisted with Relay for Life, Cancer Walk, Hospice care, blankets for Project Linus, Mitten Tree, Channel 6 coat drive, Hope House, Ronald McDonald House, Armed Forces in Iraq, taking members to doctor appointments, and doing chores. Members made holidays happy by sending cards to Veterans, furnishing pumpkins and candy for Halloween parties, hiding eggs and candy for Easter, preparing and serving Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinner

and hosting Christmas visits with Santa for children and at nursing homes. Members manned booths for numerous community events and held numerous fund raisers and collected money for education.

Closing Ode: Evening Prayer

Thursday Morning, 8:00 am

Musical Prelude by Karen La Court

Grand Chapter called to Order by Betty Krist, PGM and Jerrold W. Gant, PGP

Opening Ode: Sing, Sing a Song

Hospitality Committee  
Escorts to WGM and WGP  
Arrangements Committee  
Grand Escorts – who told what they learned this year in the form of jokes!  
Grand Pages, Grand Ushers, Collectors and Tellers  
Assistant Grand Sentinels  
Nurses

Grand Officer's Farewell: Sister Karen and Brother W. David were seated on two wheel chairs that were decorated to resemble tractors and were taken on a journey down memory lane.

The 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star of Wisconsin was closed in Ritualistic form. The flag was retired in form.

Badge Ceremony written by Evelyn Prunuske and Richard Prunuske, narrated by Evelyn Prunuske, organist Karen La Court. The Grand Officers each carried a battery operated lighted candle to the altar and formed a circle. As their name was read they placed their badge on the altar, turned off their candle and returned to the circle. After the ceremony they returned to their stations.