



Order of the Eastern Star Wisconsin Grand Chapter

*Fifty-Second Annual Session of
the*

*Grand Chapter Order of the
Eastern Star of Wisconsin*



*Civic Auditorium
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
October 6, 7, 8, 1942*



The Ruth Session

Worthy Grand Matron
Worthy Grand Patron
Associate Grand Matron
Associate Grand Patron
Grand Secretary
Grand Treasurer
Grand Conductress
Associate Grand Conductress
Grand Chaplain
Grand Lecturer
Grand Marshal
Grand Organist
Grand Adah
Grand Ruth
Grand Esther
Grand Martha
Grand Electa
Grand Warder
Grand Sentinel

Ruth M. Kitchen
C. J. Coldren
Irma Sedlmayer
Henry E. Steinbring
Ottillie S. Brunke
Ina J. Reid
Grace Stearns
Irma Durrant
Gussie Buchmann
Maxine Stenerson
Isabel Black
Florence Clasen
Louise Morrow
Mildred Carter
Lela Kind
Mary Humphrey
Florence Stearns
Pauline Newman
Fred S. Walch



1942 Grand Family

Reverence, Understanding, Truth and Happiness

Prayer:

Our Father's God, from out whose hand
 The centuries fall like grains of sand,
 We meet today, United, Free and Loyal
 To our land and Thee.
 We thank Thee for the year now done,
 And trust Thee for the opening one.

Tuesday 1:00 PM: Simplicity in decoration was the key note of the Ruth Session. The little white home, yellow trimmed, and with autumn leaves fallen on the yellow roof, formed the setting in the East. The daintily curtained window was gay with red geraniums, and a service flag bearing three stars and presented anonymously by "A Friend", was later hung in the window in honor of the three sons of the Worthy Grand Matron serving our country. The white mailbox at the door was lettered "OES Mail".

A huge basket of all flowers placed in the East bore greetings from Martha Washington Chapter of Green Bay, home chapter of the Worthy Grand Matron.

Great sheaves of golden barley tied with wide yellow ribbon were placed on the

floor and flood lighted in the East, West, South and North. The altar was draped with the lovely snowy-white Altar cloth from Vega Chapter of Milwaukee.

At one-thirty a trumpet fan-fare echoed through the auditorium and into the chapter room filed 58 chairmen of the Red Cross Units, each in her white uniform with blue veil. Led by an escort carrying the Red Cross Flag they formed a large double V around the Altar. The Vega Chapter choir entered singing "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" and took their place in the north east. The escorts and Grand Pages entered forming a K and C between the Altar and the East. As the choir sang "Bringing in the Sheaves, Worthy Matrons dressed as Ruths of old carrying sheaves of barley entered and took places in the East on the north and south, where later they presented corsages to all distinguished guests.

When all on the Grand Chapter floor had retired, the Grand Officers in simple canary yellow floor-length dresses entered and remained standing at their stations for the Invocation.

While the Grand Conductress attended at the Altar, "The Holy Bible" was sung by Sister Norma Henschel of Wauwatosa Chapter. The opening ode was "Faith of our Fathers".

Worthy Grand Matron:

It is time for the harvest to be brought in, gathering the sheaves like Ruth of old,
We've gleaned our best and now the harvest is over.
We meekly submit the fruits of our toil, If it gladdens your hearts we'll not ask
for more.

We plan and build for the future without hope for personal gain.
Bury all that is selfish within us that our Order may achieve and attain.

Just a year ago the gavel of authority for the Grand Chapter was placed in my hands for which this year of experience has made me more appreciative and more grateful to you.

I may not have taken from the sheaves, but my hands are filled with the gleanings of the year, which you have gardened well, and now you gladden the hearts of us all.

October 14, I was privileged to attend the Diamond Jubilee Session of the Grand Chapter of Michigan held in Grand Rapids. February 17, I attended the Tennessee Grand Session, where we enjoyed Southern Hospitality.

October 18 – my Home Chapter which always means just a little more to me, gave a reception and dinner in my honor in our Beautiful Masonic Temple.

Nothing was left undone. November 6, attended a reception and banquet given by Honor Chapter No. 1, Sturgeon Bay honoring their Sister Florence Stearns, our Grand Electa. April 21, Golden Anniversary of Queen of Sheba Chapter, Reedsburg. May 22, Golden Anniversary at Dodgeville Chapter. July 11, attended the Official Visit of Sister Rebecca Parker, Worthy Grand Matron of Illinois at Rockford Chapter, Rockford, Illinois.

It's been my privilege to inspect 68 chapters officially. The good fellowship in every effort made by the Worthy Matrons, Worthy Patrons, Officers and members to make these eventful evenings of pleasure and inspiration; the courtesies extended and the material expressions of your esteem are never to be forgotten.

Worthy Grand Patron:

We have gathered here to renew our faith in those eternal principles upon which our Order was founded. "Service Above Self" has been our Worthy Grand Matron's motto for this year.

There are special years that stand out in everyone's life and tower above the level of ordinary events. Such a year has been given to me. It has been a year that will always be cherished in my memory. My life has been enriched by this wonderful experience, and my outlook on life henceforth will be of a broader nature.

Even though it seems that evil forces are supreme in their hold upon the world in which we live today, we are assured by faith in God that the universe is tilted towards the good. We go on in the confidence that goodness will ultimately triumph although at present there is great enmity among the nations of the world so as an Order founded upon the principles of love and service, we must pray for tolerance and understanding.

When told that if he took a certain stand in a political campaign he would be defeated in election, Abraham Lincoln said, "I am not bound to be elected, but I am bound to be true."

I am justly proud of the subordinate chapters in their purchase of war stamps and bonds, as well as giving of their time for war relief, civilian defense and the Red Cross.

In this great drama that faces American, let us be ever mindful of those that are giving their all and pledge ourselves 100 percent. So that when peace is again restored in the world it will be found that the Order of the Eastern Star has contributed much toward the peace and harmony of the world.

Since October I have visited 91 chapters, besides my own chapter, the

Milwaukee County Club and receptions.

When Brother Coldren had completed his report, Sister Henschel sang to him a rollicking parody on "Yankee Doodle" beginning, "When it comes to Patrons, Grand, Our Chauncey is a dandy." This was enthusiastically seconded by the assemblage.

The balance of the evening was devoted to a very beautiful and colorful pageant depicting the Biblical story of Ruth, Book, Lyrics and Music were written by Fred Clitheroe, Associate Patron of Kenosha Chapter and it was presented by members of Kenosha Chapter.

Sister Maxine Stenerson, Grand Lecturer:

My year has been a very pleasant one, often strenuous, yet attended with many pleasures. My badge is the book and torch within the pentagon. I have, to the best of my ability, endeavored, as the torch bearer, to instill in the hearts of the loyal members the joy of giving "Service above Self", and have directed my efforts toward a better and more beautiful Order.

In the chapters visited I have found sincere cooperation, recognition of the beauty of well-ordered words in our ritualistic ceremonies, a desire for instruction, patience under discouragement, and promptness in counting every meeting as of consequence. "Enthusiasm is the genius of sincerity and truth accomplishes no victories without it."

The smaller chapters, working often under difficulties, were to me an inspiration. I found in them a desire as sincere, a purpose as earnest, and a determination as strong as in the larger chapters, to maintain our high ideals, our standard of equality in membership and our program of constructive activities.

I made official visits in 87 chapters.

Red Cross Report: 387,590 hours of service reported. Sisters and Brothers serve as Grey Ladies in hospitals and clinics, Home Front Nurse, Nurse's Aid, Staff Assistant, Canteen Worker and Production.

International Temple Fund: \$1,593.66

In September, the Grand Secretary attended the Golden Jubilee Session of Colorado Grand Chapter.

Masonic Service Bureau: Transportation furnished, legal service rendered, medical service rendered, fuel supplied families, rents paid, sick visits made, flowers sent, Thanksgiving baskets provided, Christmas baskets provided,

clothing furnished.

A year ago this month, a widow of a Mason from Michigan came to the Bureau with her fourteen year old daughter who was suffering with a double curvature of the spine and asking us to help her finance a cure. The Bureau appropriated \$150 and the girl was taken to Columbia Hospital for treatments. We also contacted the Wisconsin and Michigan Grand Lodges. This Bureau later contributed another \$50.00 and persuaded the hospital to reduce their bill 25%. The doctor gave a reduction of 50% leaving the widow to pay \$100, which she wanted to assume. I am happy to state that after two operations an examination provided the spine to be normal again after having been in a cast for many months.

270 Chapters

46,310 Members