

November, 2015

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It's difficult to believe that it is nearly November as I write this letter and that later this month, one half of the Grand Chapter year will be over. We have really crammed a lot of events and miles into these six months, but now you'll have some time to sit back and relax—if you can do that while still getting ready for the holidays!

Don't forget our last four Grand Officer parties in November—the Grand Warder party on November 7 and the Grand Sentinel party on November 8. The following week end is the party for our Grand Organist and Grand Esther on November 14 and our final party for Grand Adah on November 15.

The South and North Carnivals were very successful and I thank all those individuals and chapters who contributed gifts for the silent auctions. Your support means a great deal to both our Worthy Grand Patron and to me. We both hope to raise a lot of money for our projects, the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Foundation and the Wisconsin School for the Deaf.

Several of your Grand Officers traveled to Illinois Grand Chapter and to Iowa Grand Chapter. All those who attended had a great time and it was fun to meet our counterparts from those jurisdictions. Many Wisconsin members will also be at General Grand Chapter in Pittsburgh when you receive this letter. We wish for them a safe trip and hope that they will bring back some new ideas for recruiting new members. Several chapters have contacted me about the possibility of consolidation and it's so sad to think that we will celebrate our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary with fewer chapters. I ask that all chapters who are having problems to please contact Sister Rosie Fiscus, chairman of our Membership Committee, before you decide to “throw in the towel.” She would like an opportunity to help you get some new interested members in your chapters before you make that final decision. There are no guarantees, but wouldn't it be better to make one final attempt to gain some new members before you decide to close your chapter?

Don't forget the All-State Christmas party at the Kettle Moraine Golf Club on December 5. There will be a silent auction that day, too, so plan to bring something we can bid on, not only to raise money for the charities, but to brighten our homes for the holidays. The day after the party we will head for “Christmas in Branson.” I believe that Sister Marianne Totsch may still have a couple seats available on the bus.

Once we return from Branson, the next scheduled event will be the Illinois/Wisconsin exchange night which will be held in DeKalb, IL, on Saturday, March 5. More details to come on that in future mailings. Meanwhile, don't forget to

Let YOUR Light Shine!

Joanne Freiman, Worthy Grand Matron