

# *Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of Wisconsin*

Mary Barnett, Worthy Grand Matron  
1225 Lincoln Avenue  
Stoughton, WI 53589  
608-873-5527(H) 608-206-9767(C)  
[mbarnett041248@gmail.com](mailto:mbarnett041248@gmail.com)



J. Paul Trigleth, Worthy Grand Patron  
S7559 Highway 12, Lot N13  
North Freedom, WI 53951  
608-643-6252 (H) 608-393-6745 (C)  
[pama824@aol.com](mailto:pama824@aol.com)

Greetings from your Sisters and Brothers in the Grand Family,

As we prepare for Fall this month, we are coming up on the busiest time of the year in our beautiful Order. We begin our District Deputy Schools and reinforce what we have learned in our Ritual and Red Book. We have had several initiations and welcome new Sisters and Brothers into our Order. We congratulate these new members and look forward to meeting you. We hope that you will enjoy the new friendships and comradery among us. We all need to open our hearts and minds to new things. Remember that if the new things do not work, we will need to work harder to keep our chapters going. New members will bring new ideas and we need to give them a chance to find out if they will work before we go back to "we have never done it that way." Change will come as we welcome the new members whether we want it or not. If we don't try, we will never know if it would have worked.

As I write this, we are on a trip with some of the Grand Family and more members and some who are not members. We attended this weekend because the Most Worthy Grand Matron, Helen Westmoreland, and Most Worthy Grand Patron, Robert Penoyer, were there for their triennial pilgrimage. We met and ate with them and went to several other functions including a Vesper Service on Friday evening and church on Sunday. The garden was beautiful because of the rain we have had this year. The indoor desert and tropical areas were wonderful with many cacti and orchids in gorgeous bloom. We stayed in Bossevain, Manitoba, Canada for two nights and Duluth, Minnesota on the trip there and back. There are several places you can stand with one foot in North Dakota and one foot in Canada. There will be another chance in three years to go again and take in the beauty and the tranquil atmosphere. Sister Marianne Totsch is our Tour Guide and the Most Worthy Grand Bus Driver is Mark Slocum. They made our long trip very enjoyable and the time passed quickly. We did not hear any negative comments.

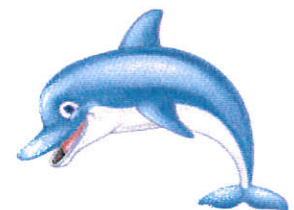
School will be starting soon and the days are getting shorter. Soon Fall will be here and the leaves will be turning, but we have pledged ourselves to Constancy. We need to rededicate ourselves to the principles of our Order and we hope you will do that as your hear the Obligation in your schools.

To use a phrase from Sister Joan Smith, Past Grand Matron, "Remember, God loves you and so do we."

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