

Wisconsin OES Newsletter



Vol VI, Issue 6 December 2023 / January 2024



*Worthy Grand Matron
Debra Bower
409 Walnut St.
Sauk City, WI 53583
608-692-7775
sbnana98@gmail.com*

Holiday Greetings Sisters and Brothers -
We hope you all had your fill of turkey and trimmings, but we know we'll all be looking forward to doing it again real soon with the Christmas holiday right around the corner.

We want to take this opportunity to extend Happy holidays, whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Boxing Day, or Omisoka. Each has its own meaning and we hope you can share your beliefs with loved ones.
As Christians, we celebrate the birth of Jesus and the greatest gift we can ask to receive is being saved from our sins. Christmas is more than an occasion to decorate our houses and give presents. It is an opportunity to pause and give thanks for the love, hope and joy found in Jesus – our Savior.



Make a difference – get out of your comfort zone and extend a smile, a kind word, a good thought for this holiday season with someone you don't know – being kind to one another. And while you're doing that, enjoy a warm mug of hot chocolate, a fleecy sweater, a cozy blanket and a great bonfire or fireplace. Those cooler days are appearing more frequently!! But do it all before midnight on the 24th – we want all of you to get nice things the following day and not lumps of coal!!

All official visits are completed except for three that needed to be rescheduled. Our Grand Lecturer sent out letters to all the chapters with comments from the Elected and Appointed officer who visited. We hope the concept we tried this year is that any chapter can remain viable with the quorum officers and how they work together in the chapter room and the community. It is something different to continue where applicable and allows the adaptability we see to meet the needs of our members. Thank you for working with the WGM and WGP in their vision to again reiterate, working with the members we have in specific chapters and their community.

Worthy Grand Matron/Patron visits are coming to an end also. It has been absolutely wonderful coming into your chapters in a relaxed mode and just seeing the fun and hearing the laughter. Thank you for the courtesy of my bible being placed on

your altar and for signing it after your meeting. These signatures will be a precious memory of you as my "Faithful Dreamers and Bogey Brothers".

The month of December we have designated as Cheer Month. Do something in your community to bring cheer to an individual, family, school, or business. You can always send letters or cards to any of the OES members at Dousman. Paul & Kim Larson are the chairpersons for our Cheer Committee and I'm sure they would get them to the residents.

OUR VERY BEST TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU DURING THE HOLIDAYS AND INTO THE NEW YEAR!!

WGM Deb and WGP LeRoy



Newsletter Deadline

**DEADLINE for the February 2024 Newsletter is
January 25, 2024**

Please get your items in on time. Please send pictures (with descriptions) that you want included in the newsletter to secretary.wioes@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

- December 2** – Dousman Christmas Events with the Grand Officers.
- December 3** – All-State Christmas Party – Belvedere Supper Club, Marshfield
- December 8** – Triwaukee, Christmas Party – Maxim's, Brookfield
- December 11** – Northwest Area Club Christmas Party – Ready Randy's, New Richmond

- December 11** – Lemonweir Chapter – Friends Day, 1:00 PM
- January 24** – Dinner out with Starlight Chapter – Great Dane East
- January 25** – La Belle – Pajama/Slipper night
- February 1** – Honor Chapter – Honoring Esther with a speaker.



Congratulations

New Grand Representatives:

Manitoba – Ann Peterson – Ruth, LaCrosse

From the Grand Secretary

Things are starting to go smoother since most of the problems with our database have been fixed. I have spent extra time in the office over the Thanksgiving holiday working on the database and the newsletter. The next newsletter will be the February edition and if I have all the information needed by then you will receive information for the "Have Faith in Your Dreams" Grand Session.

Thank you to all those chapters that got your 990N into me on time. I do not want any chapter to be in trouble with the IRS.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year to you all.



**The Grand Office's address has changed. The new address is:
275 Sunset Dr., Dousman, WI 53118**

From the Grand Lecturer

Rescheduled Official Visits

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the official visit for three subordinate Chapters has been rescheduled to take place after Chapters return from their recess. Please note the new dates listed below. Contact Kris Gruber-Twardy, PGM and Grand Lecturer if you have questions (608-332-8281; krisoes2009@sbcglobal.net)

March 28: WGP to Kilbourn Chapter, Wisconsin Dells
April 1: WGM to Superior Chapter, Superior
April 2: WGM to Eagle Chapter, Eagle River

Proficiency Testing for 2023-2024

If you are interested in taking the proficiency test or testing for a station, please contact PGM Mary Barnett or AGM Lori Williams.

We will provide you with study materials and work with you to schedule a testing date that works for you. The Red Book and ritual are very good resources to study from as well. Please do not hesitate to contact either of us if you have questions.

Mary Barnett
608-873-5527
mbarnett041248@gmail.com

Lori Williams
815-275-0323
WiQueenbee2425@gmail.com
Ljacksonrncnd@aol.com

Notice from Kenosha Chapter

Kenosha Chapter is meeting at Unity Masonic Lodge at 4320 Washington Rd, Kenosha until further notice.

Reminder From Our WGM

Remember to turn in your individual travel "Find a Word" award or bring with you to our All-State Christmas party.



Wisconsin OES Foundation

Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

The OES Foundation was set up to assist Sisters and Brothers who belong to the Wisconsin Order of the Eastern Star. We are sustained by the contributions of our members and Chapters. This past year only six Chapters donated to the Foundation and we want to remind you to add the Eastern Star Foundation to your Charity budget for the upcoming year. Our purpose is to assist our Eastern Star members in their time of need. Members can also donate through memorials and estate allocations. Again, your help is needed to sustain the Foundation. We thank you in advance for your generosity and kindness.

Star Love
LeRoy Kifer, President

Ruthann Watts, Treasurer

Deadline for applications: March 1, 2024.

The next Foundation Meeting: March 9, 2024 Applications are available online on our website which is www.wioes.org

Applications for assistance should be sent directly to: Mary Olson, Secretary, 293 State Road 138, Stoughton, WI, 53589.

Donations should be sent directly to: Ruthann Watts, Treasurer, 1361 Mockingbird Drive, Oconomowoc, WI, 53066.

Friends Day at Lemonweir

Lemonweir Chapter, Tomah invites everyone to our Friends Day on December 11 at Tomah Masonic Center.

There will be a soup and sandwich lunch at 11:30 AM followed by our regular meeting in short form at 1 PM. If you will be attending the luncheon, please RSVP to Rhonda Roalkvam at rdroalkvam@yahoo.com.

We will have an auction after the meeting with proceeds going to WGM/WGP projects. We hope to have many of our sisters and brothers join us for an afternoon of fellowship.

Rhonda Roalkvam, Worthy Matron
Jim DeVoe, Worthy Patron

HWY 18 Construction

Please be aware there are ongoing construction projects affecting travel around Three Pillars.

The first is on HWY 18/Sunset Drive, which will be closed to through traffic from Waukesha/Jefferson County line to WIS 67 through late November of 2023, and then again from mid-February to early summer of 2024.



Display Case for Sale



The display case in the Grand Chapter needs to find a new home. It will go to person or organization that makes the best offer.

It measures 72 in. wide, 39 in. high and 23 in. deep and has storage underneath. Who ever has the best offer by December 31, can make arrangements to pick it up. They must have their own vehicle and help to move it.

Contact the Grand Secretary at (608) 346-8435 by text or at secretary.wioes@gmail.com by December 31, 2023, with your offer.

ESTARL Ornaments

ESTARL Ornaments will be on sale at the All-State Christmas party on December 3, for \$15.00 each.

If you are not available to attend the Christmas party, you may contact the Grand Secretary at secretary.wioes@gmail.com and she will make arrangements for you to get an ornament.



Youth Events

December 9 - Jobs Daughters' Grand Bethel Exemplification, 2 pm at Ozaukee Lodge in Port Washington. It is open to ALL who wish to attend. It will be followed by a mystery trip.

December 16 - DeMolay: D-Prom, \$25 per person at Crowne Plaza, Oak Creek. Doors open at 6:30 pm and dance begins at 7 pm Registration is on Wisconsin DeMolay website www.widemolay.org

Have you ever made a dreamcatcher?



Buy a feather from any Grand Officer and help us make one for Grand Chapter. You can write on this feather a word about dreams, faith, an inspiration, goal, name of loved one you want protected by the dreamcatcher – anything that makes you happy or creates a memory!

Our webbing and band will be colorful, so coloring your feathers is optional. Return it to a grand officer and at Grand Chapter we will have them all collected in at least 1 dreamcatcher to collect all your thoughts, prayers, love, and memories. We hope you can have fun with this and maybe if you dream it for us, it will come true for you!!

Each feather costs \$1.00 and the proceeds will benefit the WGM/WGP Project.

There are still WGM & WGP pins available for sale, along with roster books. Ask ANY Grand Officer to purchase your items.



Calling all crafters!!!

Do you have the love to make crafts or attend and shop the craft fairs? The Arrangements Committee needs your help! How can you help, attend a craft fair, find something you love... would others love it too....?

So, if you could grab an email address, or other contact information from them that would be great. Pass it on to me, and I will reach out to them. Thank you in advance for your assistance with finding vendors!

One last thing, if they are within one hour of Stevens Point, that is best as they are more open to participating.

Brenda Gaulke
brendagaulke59@gmail.com

Chapter Happenings

Sparta Chapter



Worthy Grand Matron/Worthy Grand Patron visit to Sparta Chapter on November 20th





Sparta Chapter #18 OES honored its Life Members on Nov. 6th. The Chapter's longest serving members are Jean Evans (since 1944) and Beverly Laufenberg (since 1947). The following Life Members were also present: Creg Scafe, Mary Moen, Phyllis Eklov, Susan Fox.



Southeast Club

Monroe County Local History Room and Deke Slayton Memorial Space & Bicycle Museum Jointly Present...

**100 Years A Landmark:
Celebrating the History of the Former
Sparta Masonic Temple Building**



The Museum Building turns 100! Join the staff of both museums and representatives from the Sparta Masons and Eastern Star to hear about the history and past use of this local landmark listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



The Southeast Club collected items for the Racine County Foster Care program.

Public History Program & Tour

Cake & Refreshments to Follow Program

7:00pm Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2023

Monroe County Local History Room & Museum
200 West Main St., Sparta, WI

For More Info Call: 608-269-8680 or visit Facebook.com/MCLHR



Union Grove Chapter



Union Grove Chapter decorated the hall at the Union Grove Masonic Center



Union Grove Chapter has bagged 253 lbs of turkey for the turkey dinner in February



Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron visit to Union Grove Chapter

Ruth Chapter



Congratulations to Ann Peterson on receiving a GR Appointment to Manitoba given by Sister Gladys Peterson, Grand Warder.



Congratulations to our new sister Emma on her initiation into Ruth Chapter. It was also nice to have WGM Mary Riecks of Iowa in attendance.

Martha Chapter



Sister Mary Mock receiving her 50 yr. membership.

Ellsworth Chapter



Ellsworth Chapter members had a great time serving up food samples at Nilssens Grocery for their annual Holiday Open House.





A Christmas Wish

May your Christmas time be magical
and may your heart be filled with light.

May the soothing voice of angels
Bring a spiritual delight.

May you feast with fun and laughter
and toast with festive cheer.

Open gifts of love and friendship
and rest with loved ones near.

And when the old year closes
and the New year does arrive,
may you be filled with inspiration
passion, fire and drive.

This Christmas wish is sent to you
that all your dreams come true.
And let the joy of festive cheer
be yours throughout the coming year.

Debra Bower, WGM LeRoy Kifer, WGP
The Have Faith in Your Dreams Grand Family of Wisconsin



IN MEMORIUM
Brother J. Paul Trigleth
Worthy Grand Patron 2017-2018 of Wisconsin



John "Paul" Trigleth, age 81, passed away suddenly on Sunday, October 22, 2023, in Galena, IL with his wife by his side. He was born in Vandalia, IL on November 8, 1941, to Irwin and Mary (Mitchell) Trigleth. Paul was a graduate of St. Elmo High School in Illinois and then enlisted into the United States Navy. He met the love of his life Margaret, and they were married on November 2, 1963. From this union, they were blessed with two children, Paula, and Michael.

Paul spent his 20-year career in the Navy traveling the world before retiring to Baraboo in 1979. He was a member of several fraternal organizations which included the Baraboo and Middleton Masonic Lodges; the Baraboo, Wisconsin Dells and Middleton Order of the Eastern Star; and was a Past Grand Patron of Wisconsin Order of Eastern Star. In addition, he was active in various local Veteran's organizations throughout the area. In his free time, he enjoyed watching the Packers and NASCAR. He also loved traveling and spending time with family and friends. He will be truly missed by his family and friends.

Paul was appointed Grand Sentinel by PGM Sister Joanne Freiman and PGP Brother John Dorsey. He presided with PGM Sister Mary Barnett at the "Golden Chain of Friendship" session. In his farewell at that session, Brother Paul said "I am not sure how or if I will be remembered but I hope it will be with kindness. But to borrow a phrase from Jerry Lewis – I know I will never walk alone." Brother Paul will be remembered with love by the members of his chapters and the Grand Families he was part of.

Survivors include his wife, Maggie, of 60 years; children: Paula (Terri DeFliger) and Michael; grandchildren: Michael (Brittney and family), Steven (Megan and girls), Darien (Tyler), Aaron (Xavier); brothers: Ken (Linda), Don (Nina) and Tim (Barb); and many nieces, nephews, family and other relatives and friends.

Funeral Services for Brother Paul were conducted October 31, 2023, at Trinity Episcopal Church. Burial with Military Honors was at St. Michaels Cemetery on Terrytown Road in Baraboo.

Debra Bower, Worthy Grand Matron

LeRoy Kifer, Worthy Grand Patron

Jane M. Blackwood, PGM, Grand Secretary

WE'RE HAVING A



Grand Officers, Escorts, Sisters and Brothers, bring a white elephant gift, wrapped in paper, bubble wrap, plastic bags, whatever and play along with us to see what exciting gifts you can take home just for fun!! A game will be played at your individual tables.

DECEMBER 3, 2023

BELVEDERE SUPPER CLUB

203530 WI-97; MARSHFIELD, WI 54449

Social – 11:30 Buffet Lunch @ 12:30 Cost \$30 Per person (sorry no refunds)

Menu: Beef Tips and/or Roast Turkey, Cole Slaw, Cranberry Fluff, Mixed Vegetables, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Stuffing, Christmas Cookies.

Cash bar Available!

RSVP to: Cindy Ryan 951 Main Street #201, Union Grove, WI 53182 by 11/24/23.

Checks payable to: Grand Chapter OES of Wisconsin



We'll be having a SILENT AUCTION with "REAL" Christmas gifts which will benefit the WGM/WGP project. Our Grand Officers will be selling the ESTARL Christmas Ornament and a

"SHARE THE WEALTH" drawing will be held.

DRESS IS CHRISTMAS ATTIRE!!

*Come join us for a combined
Grand Representative Reception!*

We will be Honoring
*Sister Betty Miller, British Columbia and Yukon
Sister Marianne Totsch, South Carolina
Sister Shirley Cogan, Tennessee
Sister Marcia Earl, Texas*



On
March 10, 2024
Social: 1pm
Reception: 2pm



At
Brookfield Masonic Center
4350 N. Pilgrim Rd
Brookfield, WI 53005



***RSVP: Denise Koehler (414) 588-6187 or
Denise.Koehler@marekgroup.com no later than February 20, 2024***



"By The Shore in 24"

General Grand Chapter will be held in Myrtle Beach, SC October 24th through November 1, 2024.

We hope to have a great Wisconsin turnout.

AGM, Sister Lori has asked me to coordinate our Wisconsin get together during the session. Information will be shared from the General Grand website when it is available.

1. Please let me know if you are thinking of attending. This is not a commitment; I just need an idea to make plans with the restaurant.
2. We need to determine if there is any interest in planning a bus trip during this time.

You can email or text me with "yes" thinking of attending and "yes" interested in a bus trip.

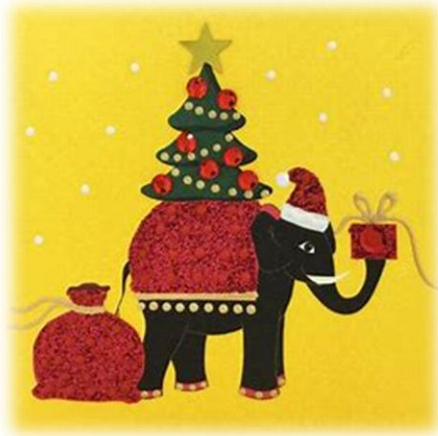
Please notify me by March 1st so I can finalize a tentative number with the restaurant.

PGM Rosie Fiscus GGCCM

Oesrosebud@charter.net

608 692-0530

OUR CHRISTMAS ELEPHANT IS HELPING DELIVER PACKAGES,
BECAUSE IT LOOKS LIKE SANTA GOT DISTRACTED



WE WISH FOR ALL A TRULY MERRY CHRISTMAS
HOLIDAY. ALWAYS HAVE FAITH IN YOUR DREAMS AND
REMEMBER THE REASON FOR THE SEASON.



Happy holidays from Wisconsin Order of the Eastern Star

