

Wisconsin OES Newsletter



Vol VI, Issue 5 November 2023



*Worthy Grand Matron
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Sisters and Brothers – fall has certainly arrived which means bonfires, falling leave cleanup and warm cider. Sit back and enjoy all of it before that white stuff starts appearing!

Elected and Appointed Official visits have just about finished. The Grand Officers have enjoyed meeting each of you in your respective chapters and we know each memory made will last for all. We want to take this time to thank each chapter thus far for the warm hospitality and courtesies extended to our officers. We also hope that what has been shared at these visits has been a learning experience and a wonderful evening. WGP LeRoy and I are recovering from our Official Visits, as well as our traveling to other Grand Jurisdictions to spread congratulations to our counterparts, wishing them every success in their year. We have had the privilege to attend Illinois Grand Session, Michigan Grand Session, Amaranth Grand Court, and Iowa Grand Session. It was really great to arrive at these and see several members of Wisconsin there as well and we know they had as much fun as we did.

Our bus trip to the Smokey Mountains, via Indianapolis, Gatlinburg, Ashville, NC and Louisville was absolutely FABULOUS!! We could not have had better weather and the color in the mountains were breathtaking. Many individuals have shared pictures on Facebook – please look for yourselves as they are spectacular.

November has been designated as Service Dog and Re-obligation Month. When you repeat your obligation at a meeting this month, do not just say the words – think about their meaning and live each day with it.

We also want to bring attention to our veterans this month. Get out of your comfort zone and either as a chapter or individually, support a veteran's organization in some way. It does not have to be much – just try to do something for them. Remember Veteran's Day is for honoring anyone who served in the armed forces. Their action brought about our freedom. THANK YOU VETERANS for a job well done.



We are looking forward to the Minnesota/ Iowa/ Wisconsin exchange is being held on Saturday, November 4 in Dodgeville. Will be a wonderful time socializing with our neighbors. And even though I don't look forward to the snow and winter weather, we are getting excited for December with our Christmas activities with the residents at Dousman on December 2 and our All-State Christmas Party on December 3. Information concerning this party is provided a few pages back in this newsletter.

Lastly, let us give all praise, glory and thanks to God for the bounties he gives us daily as we look forward to Thanksgiving. The day itself may be challenging for some, while joyous for others, but remember the good and let go of the pain as best as you can for yourself and/or family.
HAPPY THANKSGIVING ALL – DON'T EAT TOO MUCH

WGM Deb and WGP LeRoy



Newsletter Deadline

**DEADLINE for the December/January Newsletter
Is November 25th**

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

Upcoming Events

- November 4** - MN/IA/WI Exchange in Dodgeville
- November 6** - Sparta Chapter will meet at the Morrow Home Chapel at 1 PM. Life members will be honored. Chapel is located at S. Water Street, Sparta.
- November 6** – Superior Chapter – WGM Visit
- November 7** – Eagle – WGM Visit
- November 8** – Fond du Lac – WGM visit
- November 9** – Kilbourn - WGM Visit
- November 11** - SE Club at Union Grove – 8:30 AM
- November 13** – Martha – Meeting at Three Pillars, in the community room – 7 pm
- November 16** – Union Grove, Honor Past Matrons & Past Patron – WGM Debra Bower Visit
- November 16** – Tychopera Club at Melody with Oregon as hosts – 6:30 PM
- November 17** – Ozaukee - Fish Fray
- November 20** – Sparta, WGM & WGP Visit
- November 29** – Western Stars Club at Tomah – Holiday Celebration – 6:00 PM

Notice from Kenosha Chapter

Kenosha Chapter's building up for sale, until further notice starting November 13th they will be meeting at Unity Masonic Lodge at 4320 Washington Rd, Kenosha.

Congratulations

New Grand Representatives:

- Indiana – Mariellen Haen – Honor, Sturgeon Bay
- Nevada – Carl Wussow – Eagle, Eagle River



From the Grand Secretary

Things are starting to go smoothly in the new office and I am slowly getting to know the people from Three Pillars that have offices down the hall.

Thank you to all the Chapter's that have gotten their 990-Ns into the Grand Office before the due date of November 15th.

I would like to thank Sister Kris & Brother Paul Twardy for the donation of a Curio Cabinet to put our prized historical items in. It will look wonderful once we get all the items into it.



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

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: November 20, 2023.

The next Foundation Meeting: December 1.
Applications are available online at 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.

Display Case For Sale



This display case in the Grand Chapter is for Sale to whomever makes the best offer. It measures 72 in. wide, 39 in. high and 23 in. Deep. Who ever has the best offer by December 1, can make arrangements to pick it up. They must have their own help to move it.

Contact the Grand Secretary at (608) 346-8435 by text or at secretary.wioes@gmail.com by December 1, 2023, with your offer.

Area Construction Projects To Affect Travel

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.

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.

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ESTARL Ornaments

Estarl Ornaments will be available for sale at the All-State Christmas party in December for \$15.00 each. If you are not available to attend the Christmas party contact the Grand Secretary at secretary.wioes@gmail and she will make arrangement for you to get your ornament.



Grand Chapter Happenings

Minnesota/Iowa/Wisconsin Exchange



Potosi



Fennimore

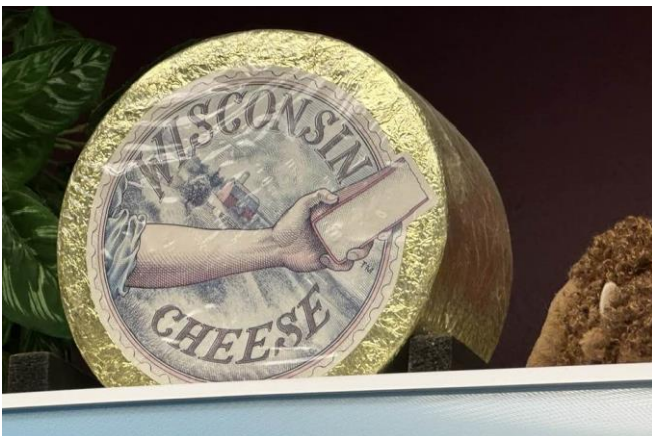




Montfort



Highland



Dodgeville Masonic Center

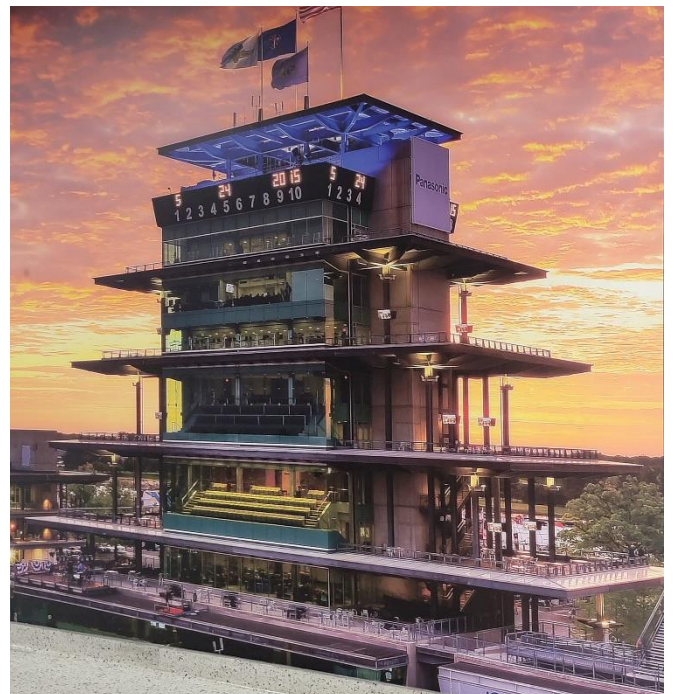


Worthy Grand Matron's & Worthy Grand Patron's Trip From Galena IL to Ashville NC (Photos by Sister Mary Borckardt)

Leaving Galena, IL



Indianapolis Motor Speedway



The Tourist



Boone Tavern Hotel, Berea, KY



Our WGM & WGP



Mary Borckardt & Cindy Ryan



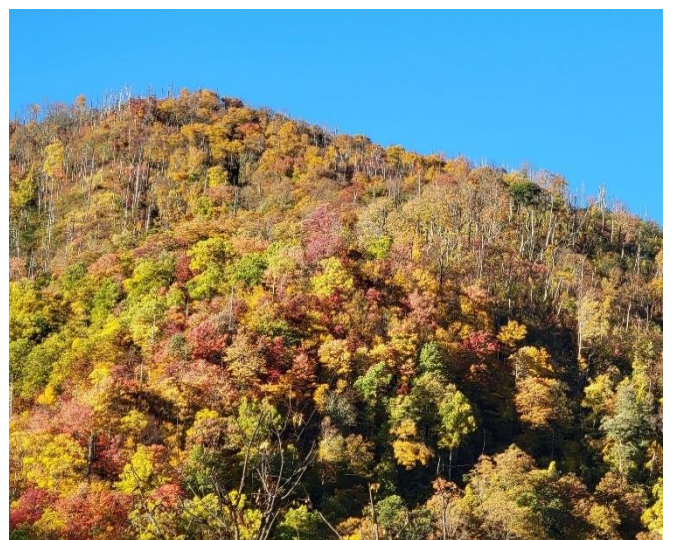
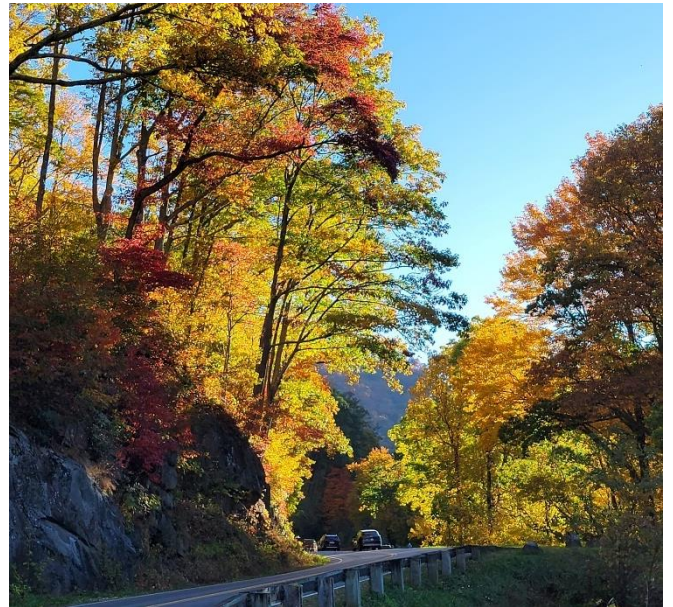
Tennessee



Hatfield & McCoy's Dinner Feud



Smokey Mountain National Park





**Gene, our tour guide,
Linda, our Smoky
Mountains National Park tour
guide,
James, our bus driver**

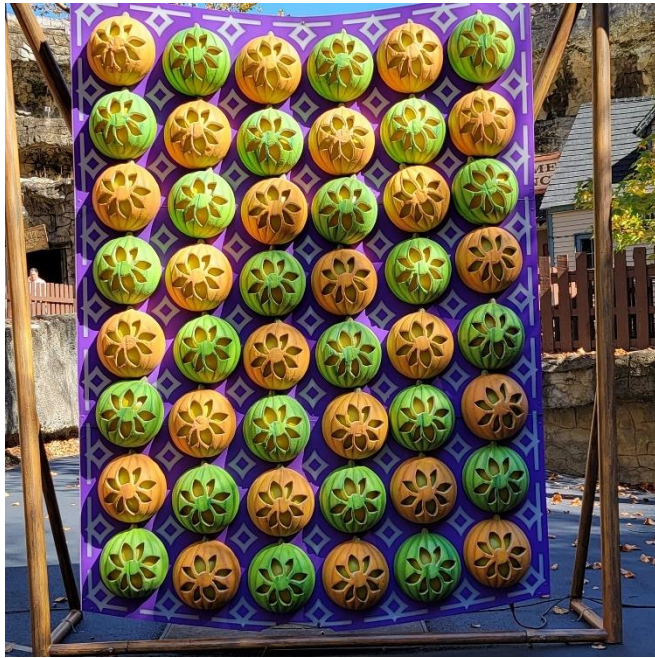


Dollywood



Dollywood's famous Cinnamon Bread





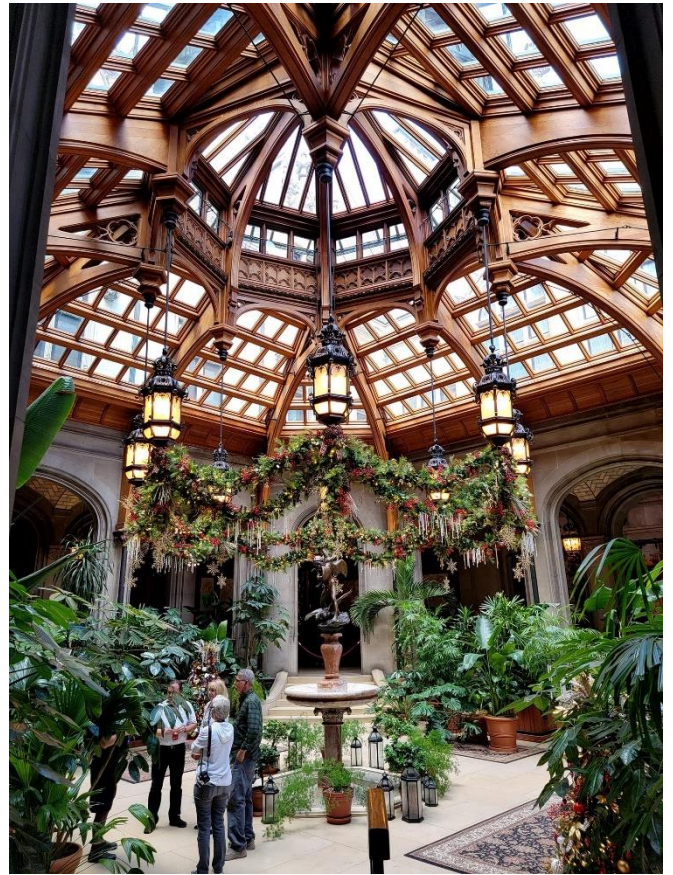
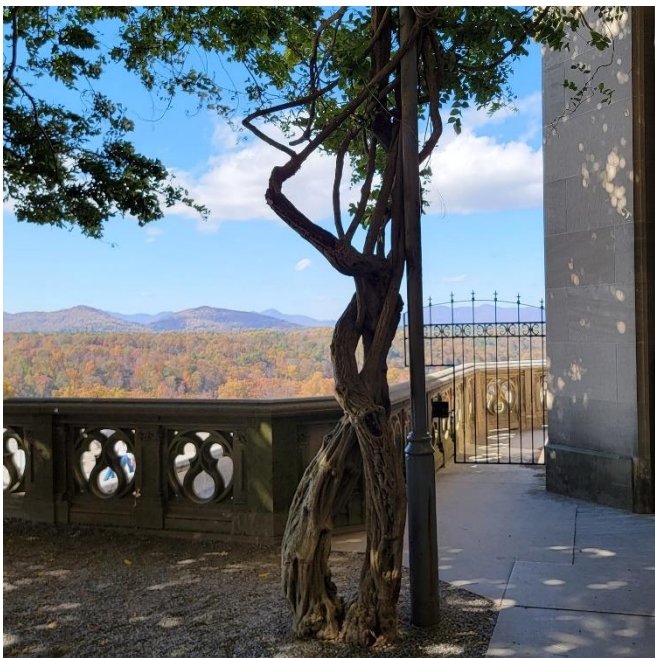
Island at Pigeon Forge



Dinner at Pigeon Forge

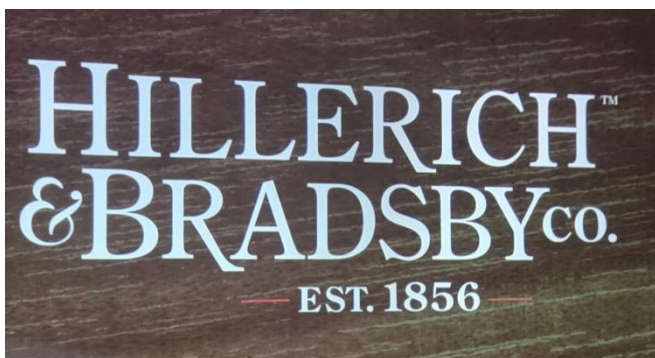


Biltmore Estate, NC





**Louisville Slugger
Museum and Factory**



Iowa Grand Chapter





Illinois Grand Chapter





Chapter Happenings

Sports Night at Starlight, Madison with a guest speaker from the Dane County K-9 unit with his dog, Lord. We were given a demonstration of how these dogs are used to find explosives.



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.





If you need a festive buffet fitting the night's theme, Robert Dorsey is your guy.



Dodgeville Chapter participated in Trunk or Treat! Elise Lindeman decorated her car.



Honor Chapter, Sturgeon Bay participated in the Destination Sturgeon Bay Halloween Parade and handed out candy to children.



The groups that meet at the Fond du Lac Masonic Center joined in during Trick or Treat. They handed out candy and had promotional materials. We even had yard spiders!



Brenda Konemann, GR of California attended their Grand Chapter with others from Wisconsin.



**Traveling Twins at
West Virginia Grand Chapter**



Union Grove Meatball Dinner





SISTERS, BROTHERS, FAMILY

Father, we thank you for the love of family, and for the food and other bounties. May we never take them or your love for granted.

May every day be filled with God's uncountable blessings, memorable moments and happiness. May your feast be plentiful and your blessings abundant.

Thanksgiving is the time to count our blessings. Thanksgiving is a time to remember and embrace those who enrich our life. May you celebrate Thanksgiving Day with love in your heart, prosperous vision in your mind and gratitude in your being. Gratitude offers us a direct connection with the powers above. Today, let us remember that no matter how difficult our lives may feel, we can always find something to be thankful for.

Faith, laughter, and love are my prayers for you as you celebrate Thanksgiving.

To each of you - my family and friends! Be thankful for what you have and have a joyous thanksgiving surrounded by the ones you love and cherish.

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!!





START YOUR ENGINES

Chapters need to work together as a TEAM!

What does TEAM stand for? **T**ogether **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore

As you are working on your membership plans, remember not to dampen enthusiasm with some of the statements below:

- That isn't MY responsibility.
- You'll never get anyone to do it.
- It will cost too much.
- There is too much work involved.
- You can't teach an old dog new tricks.
- That's not MY problem.
- Say nothing – Complain later.

Try something new, exciting, and fun in your Chapter in the upcoming months.

Need ideas? Contact the membership committee.

Rosie Fiscus, Karen Larson, Membership

oesrosebud@charter.net

kare4uall2day@gmail.com



We've got room at the table,
love to have you join us!

For information contact (262) 965-2200 or secretary.wioes.com.
All Master Masons and their female relatives are free to join.



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