

Wisconsin OES Newsletter



Vol VI, Issue 8 March 2024



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

Greetings Sisters and Brothers – Time is flying by so quickly - I'm certain there aren't 24 hours in a day anymore.

We are going strong with visits, receptions, etc. these last couple months before Grand Chapter, but we are looking forward to greeting all of you in Stevens Point in May.

The secretary of your Chapter should have received all the information and forms that can be copied for those wishing to attend. Online registration should be up and running soon. We experienced a domain issue and our webmaster; Sister Marianne Totsch has been in contact with the company in getting it fixed.

There are several events coming up in March and April that we hope you will attend. Receptions for Grand Officers and/or Grand Representatives are always fun and the recipient is appreciative. These individuals are well deserving of our support as they represent Wisconsin OES. If you have any question on a particular invitation, contact the organizer or chapter listed. If all else fails, contact the Grand Secretary or Worthy Grand Matron.

Reminder the Worthy Grand Matron Accomplishment Award is due to Sister Debi Ahrens no later than April 10, 2024.

Sister Janet Andrews of the Necrology Committee has requested Chapter Secretaries to send any information on a deceased member of your chapter to her at her email janet.andrews69@yahoo.com no later than March 31 for the Necrology report.

As they say in Ireland – “May your troubles be less and your blessings be more, and nothing but happiness come through your door.” Until we meet along the OES trail, stay safe!!

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!!
Deb and LeRoy



Our charity for March will be CANCER. Unfortunately, this has touched just about everyone in some way. We will be donating to UW Carbone Center specifically toward a research project for Lung Cancer. The WGM's father and brother both passed from this and there is much more that needs researching about this specific form of cancer. If you are so inclined, please consider making a donation to the Cancer Fund on behalf of a loved one or person that has been or is affected with cancer in any form. Thank you.

Nominations for Grand Trustee and Elected Grand Officers

Please read the code on what is allowed in the nomination and rules concerning electioneering. Nominations are still allowed the morning of elections at Grand Chapter. Elections begin promptly at 10 am on Wednesday of Grand Chapter. If you have additional questions, please contact Debra Bower WGM.

SILENT AUCTION AT GRAND CHAPTER

Grand Chapter is fast approaching! We are asking our chapters and members to donate items for our Silent Auction. All proceeds will go to the WGM/WGP Fountain Project at Three Pillars in Dousman, WI.

Please contact, Cindy Ryan at 262.617.9922/email cindyryan_2000@yahoo.com or Shawn Opgenorth at 920.627.4296/email momsnoopy@gmail.com. Please include the description of the item, what it contains and who donated. We will be accepting donations starting from 1pm to 4pm on Sunday May 19, 2024.

The bidding will begin at 1pm on Monday, May 20, 2024 and all bidding will end at 4pm Wednesday, May 22, 2024, with the winners announced that night.

We will also be having a Share the Wealth which will support The Vest a Dog Program. Thank you in advance,
Cindy and Shawn

Newsletter Deadline

DEADLINE for the April 2024 Newsletter is
March 25, 2024

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



Tapered

Upcoming Events

- March 1** – Vega Chapter – Compass Night. Think Spring and wear your favorite Baseball Jersey
- March 2** – Finance Committee Meeting – 9:00 AM Zoom
- March 5** – Ellsworth, daytime potluck and meeting – Potluck 12:00 PM, Meeting 1:00 PM
- March 5** – West Allis Chapter – Fat Tuesday food drive and Potluck
- March 6** – Bristol Chapter – Birthday Night
- March 7** – Honor Chapter – Party to Honor Connie Skarvan, Grand Representative to Colorado after their stated meeting
- March 7** – Union Grove Chapter – 128th birthday with Bristol Chapter as their guests, Life Member recognition
- March 8** – Triwaukee Club - Hosted by Vega Chapter with meeting location at South Shore Lodge, 9023 S 27th St., Franklin, WI
- March 9** – Southeast Club – Kenosha
- March 9** – Northwest Club – Clear Lake
- March 10** – Combined Grand Representative Reception for Betty Miller, Marianne Totsch, Shirley Cogan and Marcia Earl, Brookfield Masonic Center
- March 11** – Willow River Chapter – WGM & WGP visit and Easter egg hunt with the Golden Egg.
- March 11** – Sou'westers Club – Shullsburg Chapter
- March 12** – Everett Chapter – Electa Night
- March 12** – West Allis – WGM & WGP visit
- March 13** – Janesville Chapter – WGM & WGP visit, Honoring Ruth, Esther, and Electa

- March 14** – Star Cruisers Club – Machine Shed, Appleton, WI – 11:30 AM. RSVP to: Karen Kaas, call/text: (920) 540-5882, email: kjkaas@new.rr.com
- March 16** – Grand Marshal & Grand Ruth Party, Oshkosh
- March 19**- Ruth Chapter - Initiation and Food Drive
- March 21** – Tychopera Club at Melody Chapter with Melody Chapter Hosting
- March 23** – Grand Chaplain, Grand Martha, Grand Electa Party, Wauwatosa
- March 27** – Janesville Chapter – Compass night
- April 2** – Ruth Chapter – Friends Night, Honor Ruth and Food Drive and Bottle Auction.
- April 3** – Bristol Chapter – Compass Night and elections.
- April 5** – Vega Chapter – Initiation. They will be initiating (Katherine - daughter and Robert Johnson - father).
- April 4** – Honor Chapter - Honoring Esther and a speaker
- April 6** – Grand Sentinel Party, Fond du Lac
- April 11** – LaBelle Chapter – WGM & WGP visit
- April 13** – Southeast Club – Bristol Chapter
- April 13** – WI/IL/MI Exchange, Henry Palmer Lodge, Wauwatosa
- April 20** – Announcement Party for 2024-2025 Grand officers – Wisconsin Rapids
- April 24** – Western Stars – Lemonweir Chapter with Viroqua Chapter hosting
- June 15** – Annual Wine and Cheese Tasting Event at Three Cellars



WGM 2024 Accomplishment Award

The deadline for submitting the WGM 2024 Accomplishment Award is sooner than you think. Please complete the form for your chapter and include a plate from your plaque and mail by April 10, 2024, to Debi Ahrens 107 County Road M, Star Prairie WI 54026.

Don't forget to include your chapter's name somewhere on the plate. If you need a new wooden plaque, please let me know ASAP. Looking forward to reviewing your forms.

Debi Ahrens (715.441.5477)
debiahrens56@yahoo.com

Marissa Couch (715-607-0681)
marissajcouch@gmail.com

Congratulations

New Grand Representatives:

Illinois – Ruth Keilly - Ruth
 Mississippi – Linda Christ – Trillium

From the Grand Secretary

I hope everyone has received the information for Grand Chapter, either by email or by mail. If you have not received it, please contact your Chapter Secretary.

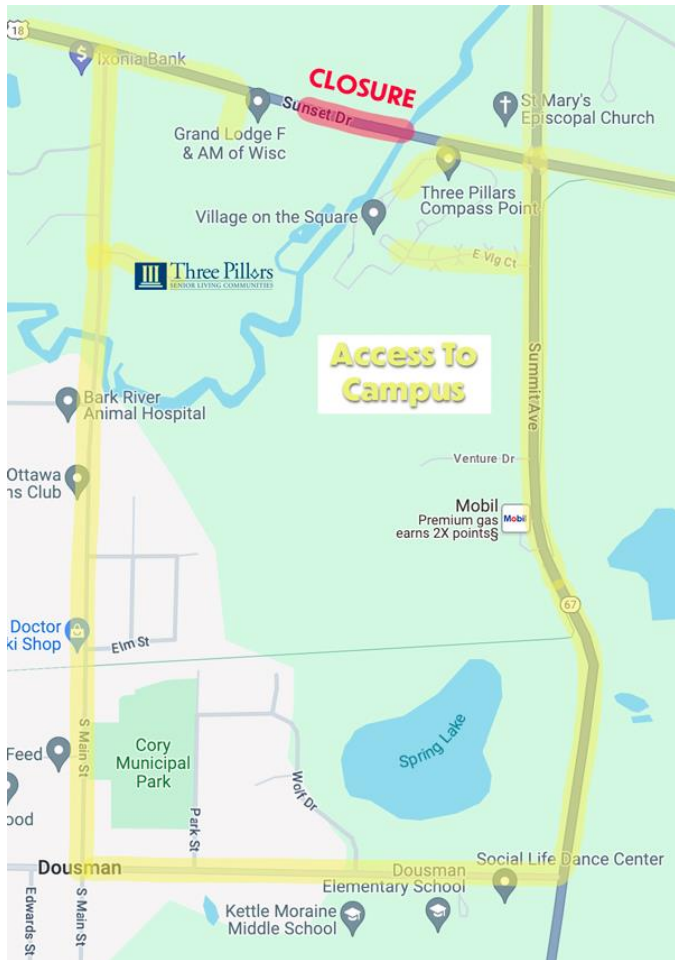
Please have patience with registering online. Our Webmaster has had domain problem and is in the process of getting it fixed. The website should be up and running soon.

Just a reminder: If you need to contact me when I am not in the office you can call my cell which is 608-346-8435 and leave a message.

Jane M. Blackwood, PGM Grand Secretary
 Wisconsin Order of the Eastern Star (262) 965-2200, Ext 210

Hwy 18 Construction

US 18 (Sunset Drive) is closed to through traffic from WIS 67 in front of Three Pillars and the Grand Office for bridge replacement and other projects from mid-February to early summer of 2024.



From the Grand Lecturer

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

ESTARL Ornaments

ESTARL Ornaments are on sale at for \$15.00 each. you may contact the Grand Secretary at [secretary.wioes@gmail](mailto:secretary.wioes@gmail.com) and she will make arrangements for you to get an ornament.



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.

Deadline for testing is April 1, 2024.

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.

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.



KENOSHA CHAPTER INVITES YOU TO RECEPTION FOR ESTHER VANSTEEN GRAND REPRESENTATIVE TO ITALY IN WI

March 18th at 4320 Washington Rd, Kenosha (Unity Masonic Center)

Light dinner at 6 pm followed by introductions and program.

RSVP to Lu Ann Hansen
firewife1958@outlook.com or
262-763-6785

No later than March 9th.

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

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.

From Our Chapters



AGM Judy Paust presented Linda Christ of Trillium Chapter with a Grand Representative Appointment to Mississippi



Grand Esther, Rhonda Roalkvam with the three Grand Representatives from Ruth Chapter, LaCrosse, In the front row is Ruth Kielly – Illinois with Rhonda. In the back row are Mary Kumbier – Michigan and Ann Peterson – Manitoba.



Grand Esther, Rhonda Roalkvam presented Sister Ruth Keilly of Ruth Chapter, LaCrosse with her Grand Representative Appointment to Illinois.





LaBelle Chapter with Friends and Visitors on their Elected Officer Night



Tammy Hundhausen, PGM & Doug Moorhouse, PGP along with Rita Moorhouse, Jane Wiese and Terri Hundhausen present to the USO of Wisconsin the second payment on behalf of WI Eastern Star for a total donation of \$25,000 at the airport USO lounge. We met with the director Josh and a volunteer Joe Bob who gave us an explanation of how they help our soldiers and families. After the presentation Josh surprised Brother Doug and I each with a USO Challenge Coin.



AGP Orville Olson enjoying refreshments at LaBelle Chapter



Wauwatosa having lunch at Maxim's



Janine Coley, WM of LaBelle Chapter with Pound Auction item.



OES/Masonic potluck at Trillium Chapter, Crivitz



Winter gathering of Jefferson Lodge and Martha Chapter. More was learned about Vest a Dog. The total raised at the auction was \$715 and counting for Vest-a-Dog.



PGM Mary Barnett presenting Sister Denise Wuehr, and Deb Morgenstern, with their proficiency cards.



*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***

Wautoma Chapter, Loyalty Chapter
And
Fond du Lac Chapter

Cordially invites you to a
Reception Honoring

**Paula Ausloos, Grand Marshal
and
Mary Lubach, Grand Ruth
of Wisconsin**

Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024

Time: Social hour – 11:00 A.M.
Dinner and Program – 12:00 P.M.

Place: LaSure's Banquets Hall
3125 S Washburn St
Oshkosh, WI 54904

RSVP by: March 1, 2024

To: Carol McAllister
983 Majestic Trail, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Cost: \$30.00 per person (non-refundable)
Checks made out to "Wautoma Chapter #198"

Please include names and titles when making reservations.

Wearing of the green is encouraged!



ELEPHANTS NEVER FORGET LET'S REMEMBER TO CELEBRATE:

MIKE CLINNIN, GRAND CHAPLAIN

LORIN CHRISTIE-JONES, GRAND MARTHA

DAYLENE BAIN, GRAND ELECTA

DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024

CASH BAR AT 11 AM, LUNCH AT NOON, PROGRAM AT 1 PM

LOCATION: ALIOTO'S

3041 N. MAYFAIR ROAD, WAUWATOSA, WI 53222

COST: \$30.00

MENU: CHICKEN PARMESAN WITH MOSTACCIOLI

TENDERLOIN TIPS ON NOODLES

BAKED COD WITH POTATO AND VEGETABLES

ALL MEALS INCLUDE: SALAD W/DRESSING, BREAD, COFFEE, MILK, TEA AND CAKE

ELEPHANTS ON PARADE RAFFLE TO BENEFIT VEST-A-DOG

ALL CHECKS MADE OUT TO: UNION GROVE CHAPTER #71

PLEASE RSVP WITH FEE AND FOOD CHOICE BY MARCH 2ND TO:

CINDY RYAN 951 MAIN STREET 201 UNION GROVE, WI 53182

PRINT NAME/TITLE: _____

GUEST _____

MENU CHOICE: _____

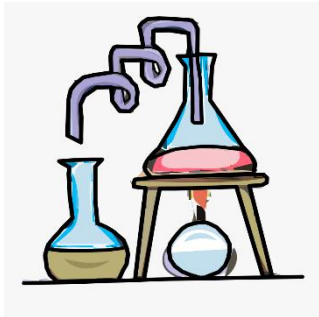
GUEST CHOICE: _____

Enroll in the

9 92 7
F U N

Grand Sentinel Party for

Brother Alan Weir



15 18 73 39
P Ar T Y



Saturday April 6th

Fond du Lac Masonic Center
500 W. Arndt St, Fond du Lac

57 5
La B

Begins 11:30 (Social and activities)

*Perform Outstanding, Incredible,
Spectacular, even edible experiments!*

1:00 your: 71 7 6 1
Lu N C H and Program Bring
White Lab coat, Safety
Goggles and Protective Gloves!

You really don't need them, but won't it be fun to dress up?

Class Registration by April 1st and that's not
"Fooling Around." *Late will be accepted, just not too late.*

Lunch Money \$15.00 per tray

Check Payable to: Fond du Lac Chapter #289

With: Name, Chapter and Titles

Send to: Gail O'Connell, N7819 Lakeshore Dr, Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Questions: alan.weir8510@fvtc.edu or 920-933-2954



WE'VE GOT THE CLUBS, WE'RE READY TO HOP ON THE HARLEY, HIT THE ROAD AND TOUR!!

Join us in the sidecar on **SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024**, as we roll into Milwaukee for the WI/IL/MI exchange.

Itinerary: Tour National Bobblehead Museum
 Tour Great Lakes Distillery
 Tour The Famous Harley Davidson Museum and Campus

Meet at hotel 10:45 am, leave on a chartered motorcoach at 11:00
 After tours, return to hotel to freshen up and leave on bus at 5:00 for
 H.L. Palmer Lodge, 4315 N. 92nd St., Wauwatosa, WI 53222
 for dinner at 5:30 followed by jurisdictional skits & introductions

Accommodations are at Springhill Suites by Marriott
 N91 W15901 Falls Parkway, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051
 King and double queen rooms are \$134.00/nt plus tax. Rooms can accommodate up to 4 in kings and 6 in dbl. queens, as all have a pullout couch with a trundle bed.

For reservations, please use the following link.

[Book your group rate for EASTEN STAR](#)

If you have issues call (262) 509-9100 and ask for the "EASTERN STAR BLOCK" and the dates you are staying (Friday, April 12 and/or Saturday, April 13).

BLOCK WILL EXPIRE March 16, 2024 – PLEASE RESERVE IMMEDIATELY!!!

NOTE: YOUR HOTEL RESERVATION NEEDS TO BE MADE IMMEDIATELY AS COUNTRY SINGER

LUKE COMBS IS IN CONCERT IN MILWAUKEE THAT EVENING AND ROOMS ARE BEING SOLD OUT EXTREMELY FAST.

Cost for HD Tour - \$12.00 Cost for Bus - \$26.00 Cost for Dinner - \$20.00

Send your remittance for tours, bus and/or dinner, payable to Grand Chapter of Wisconsin to:
 Vicki Kuharske; 3125 N. 102nd Street; Wauwatosa, WI 53222, 414-975-2203 no later than March 27, 2024

Name: _____ Title if applicable _____

Jurisdiction _____ Reserving for: Tour _____ Bus _____ Dinner _____



COME FLY WITH US

At Lori and Orville's Announcement Party!

Saturday April 20, 2024

We encourage you to dress as you would for your dream travel destination.

Departing From (Party Location):

Ridges Golf Course and Banquet Facility
2311 Griffith Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Gate (banquet room): West Wing

Boarding Time (social time with cash bar): 11:00 am

Departure/In flight Meal Service (buffet lunch): 12:00 pm

Airfare: \$28 per person (non-refundable)

Please "book your flights" with Bridget Briski no later than 4/10/2024.

Bridget Briski, 624 Cole Street, Watertown, WI 53094

Make checks payable to: WI OES Tychopera Club



Name: _____ Chapter(s): _____

Title(s): _____

Name: _____ Chapter(s): _____

Title(s): _____



Chapters **Start your Engines** for Membership

All Star 200 here at **OES Dream Way** in Wisconsin

There are quite a few “Chapter Cars” that have not made it to the track. Review the forms and get your activities to the membership co-chairs so we can get you in the race.

Looking ahead – in spite of all this snow and cold weather Spring is coming.

Spring Membership Theme Ideas

Help Us Grow

Be a Part of Our “Bunch”

Join the Star Team (baseball theme)

Hit a Home Run – Join Our Team

Plant Your Seeds In Our Star Garden

Every Member is a Treasure (pirate theme)

Easter Parade

March Madness

Make your Chapter the fun place to be!

HOLD A MEMBERSHIP EVENT! Your Chapter can receive a \$35 reimbursement Membership Event expenses by submitting your request to Rosie Fiscus, PGM, GGCCC, Membership Co-Chair

If you need any help with ideas or planning for a membership event, or advice for mentoring your new members, or if you have any comments or suggestions for us, please contact us.

Membership **Pit Crew,**

Rosie Fiscus
oesrosebud@charter.net
608-692-0530

Karen Larson
kare4uall2day@gmail.com
608-444-4536



“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.

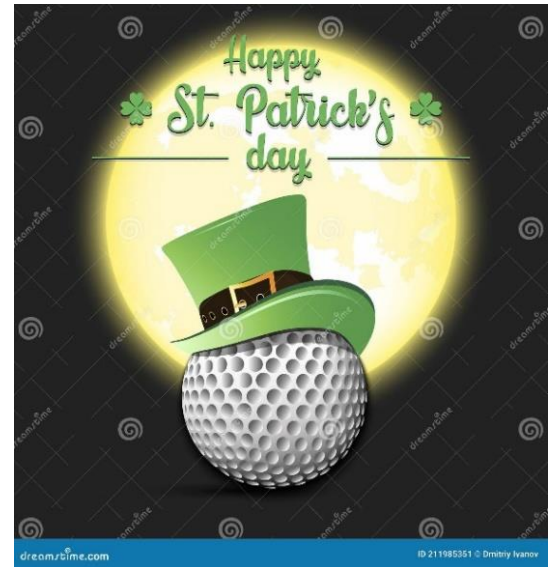
PGM Rosie Fiscus GGCCM

Oesrosebud@charter.net

608 692-0530



May the luck of the Irish be with you all
and may Eastern Star of Wisconsin be just
as lucky to have you join us!!



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