

Wisconsin OES Newsletter



Vol VI, Issue 9 April 2024



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



Greetings Sisters and Brothers –
WGP LeRoy and I are doing our final push of our travels, and we cannot say often enough what a FABULOUS time we are having being in your chapters, visiting and spending quality time with each of you in relaxed atmospheres. These are the dreams we will remember!

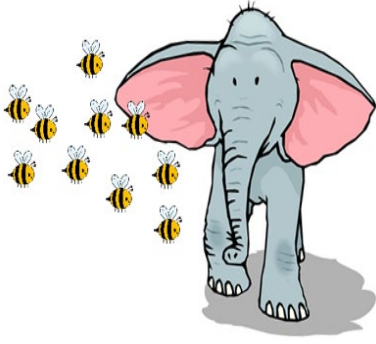
We hope you all enjoyed a relaxed Easter holiday. In regard to symbolism – I hope you all don't mind me sharing a couple things. Easter was originally a pagan symbol of fertility and rebirth. The tradition of Easter eggs came to symbolize the resurrection of Jesus. The eggshell represents the tomb in which Jesus's body was placed; opening the egg represents his rising from the dead. It is a special weekend for Christians as we celebrate. But let's also remember the fun of the holiday: 1) The Easter bunny legend began in Germany, 2) More than 1.5 million Cadbury Creme Eggs are produced every day, 3) Painting eggs originated in the Ukraine, so children had something fun to do, and 4) Easter candy sales are 2nd to Halloween.



April is supposed to be a more relaxed time – finishing up podium books, double checking plans and making sure all is ready for Grand Chapter. That is happening, but in all honesty, I can't say it's relaxing! We are making sure all is 110% ready for you – the members of this great jurisdiction – to enjoy 2.5 days of productive business and fun.

We know at the individual chapter level this time is important as well. You are gearing up for the election of your officers and we want to express our appreciation for those Faithful Dreamers and Bogey Brothers who have led this year. Your loyalty is what holds us together. There are many events happening this month also. Please look at the Important Events area of this newsletter and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at any of them.

As we finish up Grand Officer parties and other events, we look ahead to April 20 and Sister Lori and Brother Orville's big announcements. One door closes soon, but another opens just as quickly. We wish them the same success we have enjoyed!



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 May 2024 Newsletter is:
April 24, 2024

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



Finally, we look forward to seeing each of you, talking, laughing, giving and receiving hugs at Grand Chapter. All forms are available on the website, www.wioes.org. They are also available through your chapter secretary. Remember there is a convenience fee added to online registration.”

Our Worthy Grand Patron is also looking forward to golf courses opening. He was so excited with the warmer weather earlier BUT, Mother Nature has said - NOT QUITE YET LEROY!!!



Sisters and Brothers, continue staying safe, remember each other, and continue dreaming.
Deb and LeRoy

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.

Upcoming Events

- March 27** – Janesville Chapter – Compass night –
Wear your Easter Bonnet.
- March 27** - Wauwatosa Chapter - Elected Officers
Night. Wear you Easter Bonnet and join us
for some “Bunny Fun.”
- March 28** – Kilbourn Chapter – Memorial Service
for PGP J. Paul Tringleth at 7 pm followed by
OV with WGM Debra Bower.
- April 1** – Superior Chapter – OV with WGM Debra
Bower.
- April 2** – Ruth Chapter – Friends Night, Honor
Ruth and Food Drive and Bottle Auction.
- April 2** – Eagle Chapter, OV with WGM Debra
Bower.
- 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 4** -Union Grove – Initiation of a new member.
Meeting will start at 7 pm
- April 6** – Grand Sentinel Party, Fond du Lac.
- April 8** - Kenosha Chapter – Initiation. They will be
initiating Thomas Pierro. Meeting will start
at 6:30 pm
- April 11** – LaBelle Chapter – WGM & WGP visit.
- April 13** – Southeast Club – Bristol Chapter
- April 13** – Northwest Club – Kinnickinnic Chapter
Social at 10:30 am with meeting at 11 am-
potluck to follow.
- April 13** – WI/IL/MI Exchange,
Henry Palmer Lodge, Wauwatosa
- April 15** - Friends night and bottle auction.
- April 18** – Tychopera Club, Melody Chapter,
Middleton
- 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

Congratulations

New Grand Representatives:

Maine – James Goodman – Vega
New Hampshire – New Hampshire – Shullsburg &
Alpha
Scotland – Mary Borckardt - Kenosha & Union
Grove

*SISTER JANET FINN
REPRESENTING RHODE ISLAND
IN WISCONSIN
2021-2023*



*Please join Viroqua chapter in honoring
Sister Janet Finn
April 18, 2024,
Viroqua Masonic center
Following our 6:00 meeting
PROGRAM at 7:00 pm AND LUNCH TO FOLLOW*

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 Worthy Matron's,
Worthy Patron's and Chapter's name for 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

From the Grand Secretary

I have been busy with getting the program ready for the Grand Chapter session and with the new Roster Book. I will have sent the forms to be filled out after elections by each subordinate chapter secretary. I will need them back to me within 2 days of your elections. For those chapters with late elections please get to me no later than April 27. Roster book will go to the printers on May 6.

I hope that you are getting your registration in for the Grand Chapter Session and your meal reservations. I hope to see you there.

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

ESTARL Ornaments

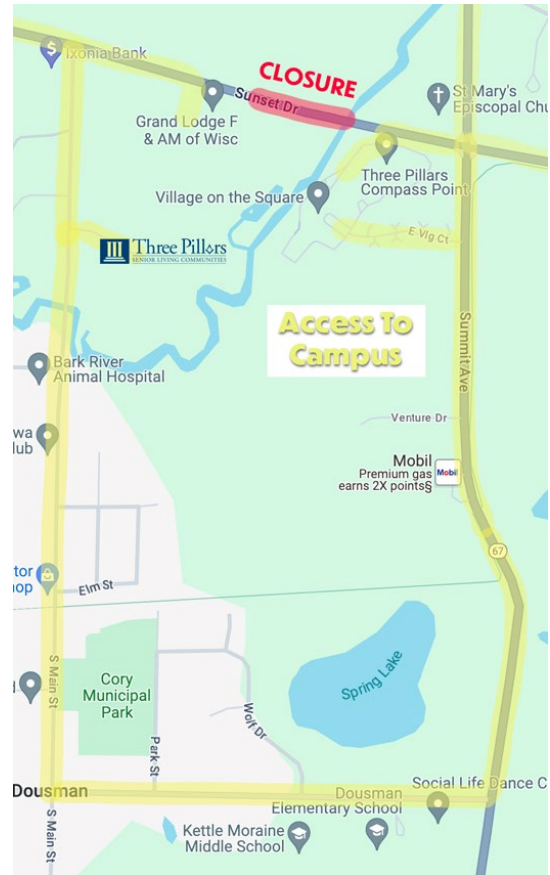
ESTARL Ornaments are on sale at for \$15.00 each. you may contact the Grand Secretary at secretary.wioes@gmail and she will make arrangements for you to get an ornament.



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Hwy 18 Construction

US 18 (Sunset Drive) is closed to 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.



Necrology Reports

Subordinate Chapter Secretaries:

Please get your Necrology report to Janet Andrews by May 1 to be included in the report given at the Grand Chapter Session. Janet's email is janet.andrews69@yahoo.com

Notice from Kenosha Chapter

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

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Notice from Fidelity Chapter

Fidelity Chapter is meeting at Neenah Masonic Temple, 241 E Wisconsin Ave, Neenah, WI 54926

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

Deadline for applications: June 1, 2024.

The next Foundation Meeting: June 7, 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.

Calling All Crafter!

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

Gently Used Formal Sale

There will again be a formal sale at "Have Faith in Your Dreams" Session at Stevens Point. Bring your formals along and hang them up by the clothes rack by the Registration table. It will again be an on your honor sale and each piece will sell for \$5 with proceeds to LLS (Leukemia and Lymphoma Society). If you want your formals back, make sure you pick them up on Thursday AM otherwise they will be donated.

PGM Rosie Fiscus, GGCCM



Plant the Seed (Idea) of Eastern Star this Spring for your Chapter (Garden)

HOW IS YOUR GARDEN GROWING?

Enrich your organization by embracing your current members.

Fertilize your Garden with smiles, hugs and love.

Spread the seeds of charity throughout your community.

Let the petals of love shine in your Chapter.

Hope the seeds you plant can endure the wind and rain.

Weed the negatives thoughts from your daily lives. Put the right plant in the right place at the right time in the right way - and you won't go wrong.

An ordinary favor we do for someone or any compassionate reaching out may seem to be going nowhere at first, but maybe by planting a seed we can't see right now it will flourish and grow.

Sometimes we need to just do the best we can and then trust in an unfolding we can't design or ordain.

Membership Co-Chairs
Rosie & Karen

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.



From Our Chapters



Jill Thomas of Willow River Chapter presented a check to Deb Geving for Love Baskets 2023. Love Baskets sees that the disadvantaged children in the New Richmond Area get gifts for Christmas.



Union Grove Chapter hosted Elected Officer Night. Prior to the meeting twelve music students, with the assistance of their band teacher, from Union Grove Elementary School provided a program of selections to be played at the local solo and ensemble contest. Parents of the music students were invited to attend the performance as well. At the conclusion of the program WM Jan Winget and WP George Winget presented the Chapter's donation to the Music Scholarship Fund which is used to assist students in attending music camps at UW-Madison and UW-Green Bay.

Grand Representative Party for Connie Skarvan, GR of Colorado in WI at Honor Chapter.



James Goodman, WP of Vega Chapter was presented with a Grand Representative appointment to Maine by WGM Deb Bower





Wauwatosa Chapter presenting Ardith Thomas with 50-year membership.



Sister Kay Daley uses the new lift at Kilbourn Chapter. Through the joint efforts of the Lodge, Chapter and a grant, the Masons of Dells Lodge worked diligently to get a new lift. Thank you to everyone involved for once again making the lodge accessible.



Grand Officer Party for Paula Ausloos, Grand Marshal and Mary Lubach Grand Ruth.



WGM & WGP visit to Janesville Chapter. Ruths, Esthers and Electas were honored.



Grand Officer Party for Mike Clinnin, Grand Chaplain, Lorin Christie Jones, Grand Martha and Daylene Bain Grand Electa.

Grand Representative Party at Wauwatosa Chapter for Betty Miller, GR of British Columbia, Shirley Cogan, GR of Tennessee, Marianne Totsch, GR of South Carolina and Marcia Earl, GR of Texas in WI



Dodgeville Chapter welcomed our WGM Deb and WGP LeRoy. We also welcomed the Iowa County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit – Sam and Fenix. Sam had on his vest that was donated through Vest-a-Dog.



PGM Esther Frazier receiving her Station Certification from AGM Lori Williams.



Grand Representative Party of Esther Van Steen, GR of Italy in WI at Kenosha Chapter

Grand Representative Party for Lenore Witt, GR of Vermont in WI at Martha Chapter.



At the WGM & WGP visit to West Allis Chapter WM Jessica Dudzik and WP Don Skarda sign the WGM's Bible.

Elected Officer Night at Ozaukee Chapter.



Mary Borckardt was presented with her Grand Representative commission to Scotland by Grand Electa, Daylene Bain at Kenosha Chapter.



WGM & WGP Visit to Alpha Chapter.



Ron Ingwell of Shullsburg Chapter presented with a Grand Representative appointment to New Hampshire by WGP LeRoy Kifer.



PGP George Winget receiving his 50-year membership at Union Grove Chapter.



Bristol Chapter celebrating their 118th birthday!



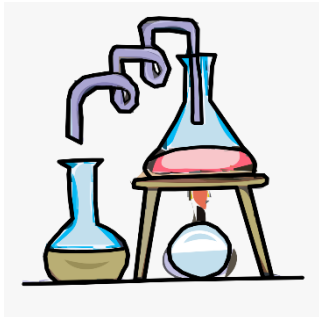
WP Marv made and presented Brandon his quilt of honor for his military service.

Enroll in the

Grand Sentinel Party for

9
F 92
U 7
N

Brother Alan Weir



15
P 18
Ar 73
T 39
Y



Saturday April 6th

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

57
La 5
B

Begins 11:30 (Social and activities)

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

1:00
your: **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.*

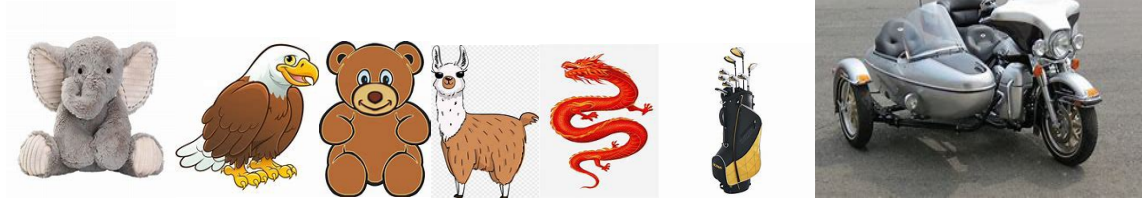
Lunch Money \$15.00 per tray

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): _____

Memory Care Fountain



Sisters and Brothers,

We are pleased to invite you to attend a dedication of the WGM/WGP Memory Care Fountain project that all of you have contributed to so well for Riverside Lodge, Three Pillars.

This dedication will take place on Saturday, May 11, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at Riverside Lodge, Three Pillars, Dousman WI.

After the dedication, a small reception is planned to mingle with residents, families, and staff. We hope to see as many as possible.

Thank you again for your support of this project.

Deb, WGM
LeRoy, WGP

P.S. The rendering is for visual purposes only. Some features may be slightly different or not available at time of dedication.



Chapters **Start your Engines** for Membership

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

The Race is on!

We have had reports from some of the Chapters, we took the liberty of moving some cars on the track when we knew they had dual members or met some of the requirements. You can see the 30 and 40 point chapters are ready for bumper cars!

Get your membership activities to us, the race is on until May 15.

Chapter number 18, Sparta Chapter is in the lead with Chapter 80, Kinnickinnic Chapter in second place.

Please provide the names and addresses of any new members you have initiated since last Grand Chapter, we want to invite them to our session before the registration and meal deadlines.

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. General Grand has the Triennial session information on its website.

We have approximately 30 members who have indicated an interest in going to General Grand Chapter. Let me know if anyone is looking for a roommate. There was not enough interest in a bus trip, so members will need to make their own travel arrangements.

I am looking at an ocean front grille & rooftop bar for our Wisconsin get together. We would order off the menu, separate checks with a 20% gratuity included. If the weather permits, we would sit outside overlooking the ocean. There is free parking.

We need to consider what we want to wear to let folks know we are from the great State of Wisconsin. At previous sessions we have worn red blazers. Let me know if you have any ideas.

PGM Rosie Fiscus GGCCM

Oesrosebud@charter.net

608 692-0530



*Take the Bait,
Join us to Celebrate!*

WGM/WGP Party

Lori Williams & Orville Olson
Hi Point Steakhouse
6900 County Rd HHH
Ridgeway WI



Cost: \$35 per person



June
2024

2

11 am Social
Noon Buffet
1 pm Program

RSVP by May 22 to: Beth Wroblewski,
223 Parador Pl, Cottage Grove, WI 53527
Checks Payable to Starlight Ch. #283.

Please include names and titles.





Let's "Spring" into action and schedule a "Tee Time" to learn about Eastern Star of Wisconsin.

It would be a par-tee having you join us!!

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