

Wisconsin O&S Newsletter



Vol VII, Issue 2 August 2024



*Worthy Grand Matron
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Greetings from the WGM:

Sisters and Brothers,
The Grand Chapter year is underway very quickly. As I reflect on our time so far, I am feeling very blessed and grateful. I am so pleased with the creative themes, ambitious schedule of events, and thoughtful planning to make meetings interesting for our members.

Our chapter leaders are rising to the challenge to help members engage. I am so proud of our Grand family. They attended a high percentage of the installations in June. They have also been present at every initiation since the Grand Chapter Session.

I ask Worthy Matrons to please send your term plans to me if you have not yet done so. I plan to visit every chapter this year and would like to bring officers with me. Please remember to ask for a dispensation if the circumstances of a meeting need to change from those stated in your by-laws. In addition, I would ask chapters to advertise any changes so visitors are not disappointed when they choose to travel.

Please compare your number of officers installed as compared to last year. I am hoping all chapters can

increase their number by at least one officer. I would also ask that you reach out to inactive members to see if you can increase your average attendance this year. I would love to see each chapter have a significant increase in their average attendance per meeting when we review your minutes next year. In many cases, this would be an additional 1-2 members at your meeting.

Remember to invite new members into our fold. Make them feel welcome so they will be active and engaged in our chapters. Perhaps their initiation will trigger more contacts or cause inactive members to attend so our chapters will be invigorated.

As of this writing, we will have completed all three Exemplifications and most of the Conductress classes. We hope you found them informative, and some help to you as you perform the work of our Order.

Our District Deputies are currently traveling for schools. I am pleased with the response to schedule schools and the reports from schools that have been completed. Chapters are continuing to adapt as needed so that members who are willing can serve as officers.

Official Visits start in September. The line officers and our Grand Sentinel are eager to visit your chapters. Our main objective will be to review your books and the work of the Order as per our code requirement. In addition, we look forward to meeting members and celebrating all the good that chapters do in our communities. I am always

inspired as I read the chapter minutes each year. We are indeed good people doing good work in our communities.

As we begin our travel season, I wish for all safe travels. COVID is flaring again, so be aware of how you feel and get rest if you need to. Wear a mask. Cover coughs and sneezes. Wash your hands often. Keep hand sanitizer available and use it liberally. Check in on members who are isolating so they do not feel forgotten. Our bond is stronger than any virus!

Until we see you on the Star trail, bee blessed!
Lori



More from the WGM

Looking for ways to advertise your chapter when you have promotional events? The Bethel in Bristol has a wonderful banner with pictures of members you may see at a meeting. Bristol chapter supports that Bethel, so I bet we can get a tip on how to buy these banners.

Michigan OES has acquired very nice-looking tablecloths with the current OES emblem. The source is SLI Custom Signs and Apparel found at 309 Dexter Street in Milan, Michigan. Their phone number is (734) 508-6330. The web address is slimilan.com

Roster corrections have been accumulated, so the roster will be reprinted this week. The WGM will notify members when the revised printing will be available via the Blast.

Are you missing music during your meetings? I just attended an entire grand session for the Order of the Rainbow that used recorded music throughout. The music was appropriate, beautifully arranged and well timed. All the selections added to the solemnity and beauty of the floorwork.

If you are not fortunate enough to have an organist or pianist in your chapter, we do have several chapters that have successfully transitioned to recorded music and they are willing to help. Please contact these Sisters:

Mitch Belke, Secretary at Martha Chapter
Janet Singer, Secretary at Everett Chapter
PGM Rosie Fiscus, Secretary at Janesville Chapter

Newsletter Deadline

DEADLINE for the September 2024 Newsletter is:
[August 20, 2024](#)

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

Upcoming Events

- Aug 6** –Ruth, La Crosse – Picnic Potluck -Noon
National Night Out – Oregon
- Aug 7** – Bristol - Refreshments and Social – 6:00 pm. - Baseball Themed Meeting – 7:00 pm.
– Collecting school supplies.
- Aug 8** – Kilbourn, WI Dells, District Deputy School – 7:30 pm.
- Aug 10** – All Member Learning Session – Trillium, Crivitz, 12:30 – 3:30 pm.
Northwest Area Club Picnic – Ellsworth
- Aug 14** – Janesville – Sports Night – 7:00 pm.
- Aug 19** – Oregon – Summer Fun Night w/Casual Attire – 7:00 pm
- Aug 20** – Ruth, La Crosse – Back to School Night – 7:00 pm.
- Aug 24** – Multi-State Exchange, Plainfield IN.
- Aug 23-25** – Jobie Jamboree, Green Lake, WI.
- Aug 24** – Union Grove – Casino Night – 5:00-9:00 pm.
- Aug 27** - Northwest – Clear Lake – Fab 4 Combined Initiation (if candidates) – 7:00 pm.
- Sep 13** – Foundation Meeting – 1:00 pm.



Congratulations

New Grand Representatives:

Bridget Briski	Martha	Colorado
Lorraine Café	Ruth	Pennsylvania

New Fifty-Year Members:

Carol Turner of Lemonweir, Chapter and Gail Piper of Starlight Chapter were presented with 50-year member pins by their chapters

Betty Bollinger of Ozaukee Chapter, Port Washington celebrated her 100th birthday on July 29, 2024.

Job's Daughters International Supreme Bethel 2024:

Grand Bethel Honored Queen Olivia Scharfenberger of Wauwatosa Chapter, Brookfield who participated in the Supreme Bethel Honored Queen event at Supreme Bethel.

Miss Wisconsin Job's Daughter, Atlas Heinz of LaBelle Chapter, Mukwonago who tested for Miss International Job's Daughter.

Brad Bingheim of Vega Chapter, Milwaukee who was elected Associate Supreme Guardian at Supreme Bethel

PGP Doug Moorhouse of Kenosha Chapter, Kenosha who was elected Supreme Bethel Associate Guardian at Supreme Bethel.

Michael Allen of Wauwatosa Chapter, Brookfield who was appointed Supreme Inner Guard at Supreme Bethel.

From the Grand Secretary

I have received a message from General Grand that they are all out of Large Print Rituals. I have 3 on hand, but will not be able to get anymore until after General Grand as there are some proposed changes. I will order a supply as soon as I get word that we can order again. In the mean time they do have the small rituals or extra-large print if you need a ritual.

Annual Reports are coming in and I am working on them. Thank you, secretaries, for all your hard work in preparing them.

Secretaries remember to send me back your updated Rosters that I sent you. This is so I can update the database. I will resend you a current copy after I have received an updated roster from each of your chapters.

I will be out of the office Sunday, August 4 to attend the Amaranth Event, but I will be in on Saturday August 3 for a few hours. I will also be out of the office on the weekend of Aug 24-25 attending the Multi-State Exchange in Fairfield, IN.

The new phone system is now up and running and calls have now been coming to my cell phone again.

Just a reminder: If you need to contact me when I am not in the office you can contact me by email at secretary.wioes@gmail.com or call my cell which is 608-346-8435 and leave a message.

Jane M. Blackwood, PGM Grand Secretary

Individual Travel Award

Thank you to Paula Schwartz and Jill Thomas, the creative force behind this year's individual travel award.

Members you can earn the coveted individual travel award pin. In addition, look out for bees when you travel. We have several bees we would love to see buzzing around the state.

Stay posted for information about how to capture these bees. If you capture one, take it on an adventure. Document travels in the bee's journal. Take photos to share on our Facebook site website and future monthly mailings.



Membership



PGM Rosie Fiscus and Karen Larson have been busy representing Grand Chapter. They were present for two of our Exemplifications and presented a report. They have been present at several initiations around the state to present the new member and first signer pins. They are posting examples of events to promote our Order. Please contact them if you need membership materials, ideas or bees for your hive. We know chapters are doing things to earn bees. We hope the hives will be buzzing when they return to Grand Chapter next year.

Wisconsin OES Foundation



The OES Foundation was set up to aid our 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 aid 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
Orville Olson, President

WI OES Foundation update:

In June we met with the financial advisor that

manages our funds. We remain in good stead with our investment strategy, so we voted to stay the course. Officers were elected as follows:

- President: Orville Olson, WGP
- Vice-President: Alan Weir, AGP
- Secretary: Mary Olson
- Treasurer: Ruthann Watts

In June, we were able to provide help for three members. We appreciate the opportunity to help members when life challenges happen through no fault of their own. We are very fortunate that we have the funds to do this

Deadline for applications: September 1, 2024.
The next Foundation Meeting: September 13, 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.

Handbooks for Sale

Will your chapter have a first time Worthy Matron in the future or new line officers preparing for their turn in the east? Southeast Area Club has a Worthy Matron Handbook for sale.

The pages are 8-1/2 by 5-1/2 so it fits in the same size binder as the Red Book. The complete insert, which includes the Order of Business that can be used for preparing for meetings, is \$10.

If you only need the Order of Business pages, for those who have been to the east before, a set of 20 meetings is available for \$5.

If you are interested contact Jan Winget, j.winget0432@att.net. We will have the inserts available at Grand Chapter near the silent auction.

WGM/WGP Project

Thanks to all who are contributing to our project. We appreciate the donations from chapters, and your support when buying our term pins. We sold out of butterflies at our second Exemplification. Fear not, as we do have an alternative. For \$5, you can be the envy of your chapter by sporting one or more bees on your lapel. Several Grand Officers will have a supply as they travel, so please contact them.



If your community or area celebrates the National Night Out, this would be an excellent venue to discuss our project.

Please see the attachments in this mailing about our project, the symposium and the Guardian app to enhance the well-being of first responders in your community. Oregon chapter is a presence in their community's event every year so they could give tips on how to create a successful table.

Do you have lapel pins that need to be re-homed? We would like to donate pins that you may no longer need and offer them a new home? If we can get a significant number, we will have them at state-wide events. Please consider donating. We ask for a goodwill offering if you find a pin that speaks to you.

Please let Lori know if you need additional business cards, symposium flyers or help to contact a speaker. Members of LEDR are willing to come to chapters or area clubs to speak. Lori has been in contact with police and fire stations as she travels. She has found first responders to be very receptive to the information. She is also making connections with healthcare professionals. If we can prevent one suicide among our first responders, we will have accomplished something

Travel Bee Updates:

All of our bees have taken flight. We hope you are enjoying their adventures on the Wisconsin OES Facebook page. We are pleased to have a following from other Grand Jurisdictions too. We have an Iowa neighbor who wants to get her own bee to travel to Iowa events. Let's see if we can spot that bee too!

Queen Bee Lori remains with Starlight chapter. Since our last report, she has been busy attending events with our area Masonic lodges including a baseball game and a motorcycle ride. King Orville was captured by Alpha chapter at Dodgeville's Recent initiation.

Princess Judy is back from her Alaskan cruise and is at Honor chapter.

Prince Alan is currently enjoying a cruise as a stowaway in PGM Rosie's luggage.

Worker Bee Linda has just returned from Supreme Bethel in Nebraska. She can currently be found at Wauwatosa Chapter.

Moses Bee is flying around the chapters in the northwest. There is no telling what adventures he will experience there.

WGM Lori earned the first Individual Travel Award of the year. This pin has a compass and the words, "Trust in the Lord, He will direct thy path" on it.

Once you have earned your pin, turn in the form to a Grand Officer to receive your pin. Our hope is that the message will be relevant to you beyond this Grand Chapter year. We look forward to celebrating members who earn this award.



FAGO Association

This group is in need of resuscitation. We understand there is interest in keeping this group, and as Worthy Grand Matron, I support this work. Our Worthy Grand Patron is the current President. Sisters Marianne Totsch, Elaine Engelke and Linda Schreier are spearheading information gathering. At this point, we would like to survey members who would like to be in the group to see what the interest is. For example, would you like a luncheon at Grand Chapter? Would you be willing to work on a Grand Chapter project? What would you like to call this group? We are very fortunate to be able to learn from other jurisdictions as to what the past officer association does in their jurisdiction. Please watch for further information about this initiative.

Cancer & Heart Fund Donations for 2024-2025

Cancer:

Any funds collected this year will be sent to the Carbone Cancer Center at the University of Wisconsin. Orville and I have both been affected by cancer in our families. We are grateful for the care our family members received. In addition to raising funds, we would like to support our members fighting this terrible disease, and provide education, specifically for cancers of the prostate, ovary, and cervix.

Heart:

Any funds collected this year will go to the Department of Medicine at the University of Wisconsin. This project is of special interest to WGM Lori as her father died from heart failure. In his honor, we are asking chapters to consider being trained in CPR and/or learn how to use the defibrillator if your meeting place has one. Your local Red Cross or American Heart Association will have information on a variety of classes that will enhance the health of members.



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Heart Fund Update

I am pleased that my request to focus on heart health is resonating with members. I am hearing so many compelling stories from members about their symptoms and the circumstances that landed them in the hospital with a heart attack or stroke. My hope is that recognition of the signs/symptoms of either of these conditions will become common, and that members could recognize and intervene if presented with such an event.

When you go to an OES event, do you have your phone charged and available to use? Do you have a defibrillator in your meeting place? If yes, does anyone know how to use it? Is someone checking the batteries regularly?

Time is of the essence to have great outcomes for anyone who is experiencing symptoms of a heart attack or stroke. As I mentioned previously, I am interested in increasing knowledge and the health of our members this year. I appreciate the effort to provide lighter fares and healthy options at our events. Most of us are not coming in from the fields and need a hearty meal before meetings or heavy refreshments to tide us over on our way home as in past decades. Kudos to those refreshment committees for being creative and reasonable. We appreciate you!

Service Dogs Project

Thank you to the Triwauke and Southeast Area Clubs for another successful wine and cheese pairing. It was a lovely day. We did not have as many OES members as in years past, but the venue advertised and brought in customers who I feel enjoyed themselves and were curious about our organization. We had two dogs with us, which were also of interest to participants.

At our last Exemplification, these clubs presented two checks worth \$1900 each to the Service Dog project and for our World of Youth Scholarships. Well done! The clubs are hard at work to coordinate next year's pairing. Please consider joining us. Learning is fun and so is the fellowship.

Cheer Committee

This committee is already at work to coordinate our holiday events for the residents at Three Pillars. This year's event will be on December 6, 2024. We hope to visit to buildings to bring cheer. Our tea for the residents is always a pleasant afternoon. Please look for further details in the fall mailings.

ESTARL Committee

This efficient committee has found and ordered this year's ornament. We plan to have these available at our Official Visits this year. This year's ornament has a bee-utiful butterfly on it with our term theme. We hope it is an ornament that you will love to add to your home this holiday season.

Uniform Proficiency Committee

Names are being collected for members who desire to take the station and/or proficiency test. Once these members are identified, dates/times/locations will be determined and advertised. Members in need of study materials may contact PGM Laurie Budwick.

This year, the committee will be working on revising the Arrangement Committee chapter of the Grand Officer Handbook. We want to reflect on current practice recommendations and identify the most proper accountabilities for the work that needs to be done to make our Grand Chapter session run efficiently.

This year the WGM has asked for the creation of an Excel spreadsheet to identify members who know the initiatory work and are willing to travel to support chapters. It would be very helpful for Worthy Matrons to have protems at the ready. We are in particular need of members who are willing to be Organist, Worthy Patron, Associate Patron, Associate Conductress and Conductress.

The committee has also been tasked to consider methods to mentor members who desire to learn the Worthy Patron and Associate Patron work.

Throughout the jurisdiction, the number of men who know the work is dwindling.

World of Youth

The committee is doing a great job of identifying opportunities to support our Masonic Youth. Their activities will be advertised for our members to attend. The WGM has also reached out to each bethel and chapter to pledge our support. Wisconsin OES was well represented at Supreme bethel, local bethel installations, and at DeMolay Conclave. We will also be represented at Jobie Jamboree this year. Please watch the Blast and mailings for opportunities to support our youth.

All-Points Bulletin!



Are you scraping at the bottom?
Used up every little last quantum?
No need to cry at a bar,
Gail will take your empty jar
And refill that tasty treat
With more jam it is so good and sweet.

Contact: 920-933-2954; alan.weir8510@fvtc.edu

Bling It On!

Support our project. **Bling It on Sisters** is a hobby business owned by majority and past grand Rainbow Girls from California. They have gorgeous OES, Rainbow, and Jobie items (jewelry, bags, bumper stickers) for sale. I personally recommend the sheaf of wheat brooch, lily of the valley brooch, the OES, Rainbow, and Jobie crown brooches.

Please see their Facebook site for images of their gorgeous items. You will also see me wearing items this year. Our project will receive a percentage of the items sold between May 23 and July 27.

Checks can be mailed to Stacey Taub, 26206

Rainbow Glen Drive, Newhall, California 91321.
Please document items ordered in the memo section
of your check. Ensure your correct mailing address
is on your check. I promise you will love, love, love
your items.



Grand Ruth is Ruthann Watts. She is a member of
Martha Chapter (Jefferson) and Wauwatosa Chapter
(Brookfield). Ruthann is known for her bee-utiful
quilts and embroidery as well as her travels in
search of gorgeous material. She is a woman of
many talents. She has been a huge help in the Grand
Chapter office over several years and well as keep-
ing our Foundation effective. Her escort is her hus-
band, PGP Ian Watts.

Your Grand Officers “The High Flyers” Our Grand Star Points



Grand Adah is Sheila Barber. Sheila is a member of
Ozaukee Chapter. She is a talented singer, plays
piano and likes to sew. She is very active in Job’s
Daughters. This is her first time as a Grand Officer.
Her husband Patrick is her escort this year.



Grand Esther is Yvonne Holtz. She is a member of
Oregon Chapter. This is her first time as a Grand
Officer. Yvonne likes to cook and sew. She is also
handy with tools and putting things together. Call
on her if help is needed. Her escort is her mom,
Bonnie Haugen.



Grand Chapter News



Grand Martha is Cindy Ryan. Cindy is from Union Grove Chapter (Union Grove). This is Cindy's first time as a Grand Officer. Cindy has over 40 years of experience in food service. She is also known for breaking out interesting head wear when the occasion calls for it. Her escort is her friend, Mary Borckardt.



Bridget Briski of Martha Chapter, Jefferson received her Grand Representative Appointment of Colorado in Wisconsin on July 13 at the Exemplification in Janesville.



Grand Electa is Brenda Konemann. She is a member of Rainbow Chapter in Wisconsin Rapids. This is her first time as a Grand Officer. Brenda is a worker bee. It is not unusual to find her buzzing around after she has found things that need to be done. Not only does she like to prep and serve snacks, she also likes to clean up. Her escort is Holly Swenson from LaBelle Chapter, Mukwonago. You will also see her traveling with companions, PGMs Terri and Tammy Hundhausen.



Lorraine Cafe, Ruth Chapter, La Crosse, received her Grand Representative appointment of Pennsylvania in Wisconsin at the All-Member Learning in La Crosse.





The Wisconsin contingent took over Louisville!! There were over 600 members for the 2024-2027 triennial orientation and having too much fun. Enjoyed our time at Churchill Downs seeing the races. The fifth race was named for our Triennial Session.

🥳 Terri, Jane, Laurie, Brenda, Mary, Tammy



Jan Winget of the South-East Area Club and Gail O'Connell of the Triwaukee Club presented a check for \$1,900 to both the World of Youth Scholarship Fund and to Occupaws Service Dog Project.



Installations



West Allis Chapter, West Allis



Ozaukee Chapter, Port Washington



Everett Chapter, Marshfield





Wauwatosa Chapter, Brookfield



Bristol Chapter, Bristol



Janesville Chapter



Oregon Chapter, Oregon



Vega Chapter, Milwaukee



Honor Chapter, Sturgeon Bay



LaBelle Chapter, Mukwonago



Lemonweir Chapter, Tomah

From the Chapters



Shullsburg Chapter presented Owen and Mary Demo with a gift for their dedication to Pheasants and Quail Conservation.



Congratulations and welcome to our new Sister Marisa Paynter. She is a 3rd generation OES. Her mom, Sister Pam walked with her.



Alpha Chapter, Argyle is very proud of our Brother Karl Gant. At Grand Lodge in June, Grand Master Dave Ritchie presented him with the Grand Master's Meritorious Masonic Service Award. The Masonic Journal article about the presentation stated "Brother Gant is known for his generosity and untiring work keeping many lodges going". They also noted he has been the Chaplain of Zor Shriners for many years. Brother Karl is also Alpha's Chaplain, and we are so pleased he has received this Award!



Ralph Behlke, Grand Representative of Montana in Wisconsin with his counterpart PGM Margo Hellickson, "Starlight Over the Waters" Grand Chapter session in Butte, Montana.





Gail Piper of Starlight Chapter, Madison receiving her Fifty-Year pin.



Daylene Bain was given a congratulations card for completion of her year as Grand Electa from Kenosha Chapter. A donation in her name was given to the Vest-a-Dog project.



Carol Turner of Lemonweir Chapter, Tomah receiving her Fifty-year pin.



Christina Wright was initiated into Lemonweir Chapter, Tomah, on July 8. She is the granddaughter of Don and Lesley Ross. Viroqua Chapter and Sparta Chapter took part in the initiation.

Memorial for Past Grand Patron Ronald D. Pete 1993-1994



Ronald D. Pete, 77 of Superior, died Thursday, July 11, 2024, at Essentia Health – St Mary’s Hospital of Superior.

Ron was born on March 15, 1947, the son of Leman and Ruby (Vokovich) Pete in Superior, WI. He graduated from UW – Madison with a master’s degree in Dairy Science. After graduating he returned home to continue building his herd of registered Brown Swiss cows, winning many awards at numerous national cattle shows. While milking cows, Ron also worked as a social worker for Douglas County in Superior, WI and later in Clark County Las Vegas, NV. He retired from Menards as their contractor salesman.

Ron started his masonic journey as a DeMolay, receiving the degree of Chevalier. He next joined the masonic fraternity in 1965 where over the years he served as Master of the Acacia –Itasca Lodge & Barnes Lodges (Ancient Landmark). He was a member of York Rite, the Scottish Rite where he was a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor. He was also past Potentate of AAD Shrine of Duluth.

Ron was a member of Superior Chapter and Northwest Chapter, Clear Lake of the Order of the Eastern Star. He served Grand Chapter as one of the first male District Deputies. He was appointed Grand Sentinel by Sister Barbara Bollinger, PGM and Brother David Zluticky, PGP in 1991. He served as Worthy Grand Patron with Sister Joan Smith PGM in the “God is Glorious” Grand Family 1993-94. He served as a Grand Trustee and Chairman of the Finance Committee. He was a General Grand Chapter Committee member and past Grand Organist of the General Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star.

Ron was presently the Chairman of the Board for the town of Superior, serving the town for over 20 years. He was a member of St. George Serbian Orthodox Church, Duluth. Ron was preceded in death his parents, Leman and Ruby; and brother-in-law Maris Freiman. He is survived by his sister, Joanne Freiman, nieces Jamie (Tom) Carlson, Jeanne Salvesson, and Julie (Bill) Conner, 4 great nieces/nephews & 7 great-great nieces/nephews.

The services were at Downs Life Celebration Center, July 20, 2024. Burial was at the Greenwood Cemetery, Superior.

From Brother Ron’s Worthy Grand Patron Report in 1994.

When I am old and weathered
And the landscape I do mar,
I’ll still enjoy the letters
From good ol’ Eastern Star
And if I get to Heaven
And find the gates ajar,
I think I’ll ask St. Peter
“Is there any mail from Eastern Star?”

Memorial for W. David Olson, Past Grand Patron 2003-2004



W. David Olson passed away on July 13, 2024, at Skaalen Home in Stoughton, WI. He was born to William D Olson and Marion Soli on August 27, 1945, in Whitefish Bay WI. He married Mary Jefferson in 1968.

David graduated from Stoughton High School in 1963. He was a very good wrestler in high school and for 2 years on the UW squad. Farming was his passion from the time he could reach the gear shift on a Farmall tractor. He had a Poultry Science degree from UW-Madison and raised hogs for more than 30 years.

David was Swine superintendent at Dane County Fair and was also Poultry superintendent at Stoughton fair. He was instrumental in creating the current concession trailer and supporting trailers that operate at the Stoughton fair and the Dane County fair. David enjoyed collecting and restoring Farmall tractors. He worked for Arnold Farms for the past 20 years.

He was initiated a Mason in Waucoma Lodge, Cooksville where he served as secretary and later transferred membership to Kegonsa Lodge, Stoughton he was also secretary.

When he purchased the Ray Norin farm, he and Mary received petitions to Venus Chapter OES Stoughton. He served as Worthy Patron and at the time of his death was a member of Oregon Chapter, Oregon.

W. David served Grand Chapter as a District Deputy and was appointed Grand Sentinel by Sister Jean James PGM and Brother Bill Swartwout PGP in 2001.

He served with Sister Karen Carpenter, PGM as Worthy Grand Patron in the "Reach for the Star" Grand Family 2003-23004. Their joint project was the Health Care Center at Dousman including the canopy at the entrance. He served as a Grand Trustee and a General Grand Chapter Committee member.

David is survived by his wife, Mary; son Brian (Evelyn) and their children Kian, Adeline and Asher; daughter Katey (Andrew Judd) and their children: Delaney and Finn. He is further survived by his brothers Ted and Steve, and his sister Becky. David is preceded in death by his parents.

An Eastern Star and Masonic Services was held July 23, 2024. Burial was on July 24, 2024, at the Cooksville Cemetery.

Formation of a New Committee:

Per the request of a motion passed at Grand Chapter, I have assembled a committee to evaluate our needs regarding scheduling future Grand Chapter sessions after our current contract expires.

I have asked PGM Brenda Gaulke to chair. The other members are PGP Craig Wepprecht, PGMs Bobbi Jo Clark, Rosie Fiscus, Terri Hundhausen and Sister Marianne Totsch. I have asked the group to consider the following:

1. Should we meet at a different time of year?
2. Should we meet on different days of the week?
3. Should the session length be changed?
4. Is our current location still central?
5. If we keep our current venue, are they able to provide the services/amenities we think we need?
6. What can/should be done to encourage attendance by our members?
7. What can/should be done to encourage attendance by guests from other jurisdictions?
8. What can/should be done to encourage attendance by our affiliated Masonic organizations?
9. How can we increase the number and variety of vendors?
10. How will any proposed changes affect our by-laws and fiscal year?

I would also like this group to develop a template to use when considering alternative sites. I would ask that we consider accessibility for members with mobility challenges not only for Grand Chapter, but for any state event. We should also identify the services we need at our events. The use of a sound system is one of many services we ask for at our venues.

If you have information, you feel would help this group in their work, please contact PGM Brenda Gaulke. This group will present a report of their findings at our Grand Chapter session in May of 2025.

Hello Sisters and Brothers,

I had the honor to attend the workshop and breakout sessions for our upcoming General Grand Chapter Triennial. I was appointed to serve as the Co-Chair of the Historical Landmarks International Peace Garden Chapel Committee. So first let me bring you all up to speed on a big change of standing committees. All the Historical Landmarks: International Headquarters Belmont House, International Peace Garden Chapel, The Rob Morris House and the Little Red School are now one. We have one Chairman and then a co-chair of each of the landmarks. Why the change? Funding is needed for all but the International Headquarters Belmont House; much of the funding comes from those jurisdictions that are in proximity to the landmark.

When we had a chance to gather and breakdown the process of what we needed to do we had objectives:

1. We would need a Mission Statement

Here is the first attempt: **To promote and raise awareness about the Historical physical landmarks of the Order of Eastern Star and with the goal of financial assistance to the same.**

2. We would need to determine a fair and reasonable way to fundraise and distribute fund to each landmark

After much discussion, here is the split: *55/15/15/15*

3 We would need a Pilgrimage to each Landmark

Little Red School House Saturday, November 1, 2025, Richland, Mississippi

International Peace Garden, Chapel Saturday, August 22, 2026, Boissevain, Manitoba

Rob Morris Home Saturday, August 14, 2027, LaGrange, Kentucky

International Headquarters Belmont House TBD

I feel that our Mission Statement is clear, but you probably have questions about the split. So here is the skinny on that. Donations can be made directly to any landmark that is a 501 3.c; however, we would like to receive more funding. We are putting out a challenge, **\$10.00 per member, \$100.00 per chapter and \$1000 per jurisdiction**. This is totally attainable to many. How would we define the split, so as funds are made... in the memo line you state your main landmark, that landmark will get 55% of the donation and the remaining ones will get 15% each. What if you state nothing in the memo line.... the charity that has the greatest need will receive 55%. Now, we will be drafting a new donation form for each chapter to use, and you would treat this like any other donation that is sent to the Grand Chapter. From the Grand Chapter Office, the funds will be sent to the General Grand Chapter Office and distributed from there. We will not be selling pins...but we hope to have some made that would be a "Thank You" for your donation. Everybody loves a chance for a big prize...the monies donated thru General Grand would be eligible for a "Private Party" at the Belmont House for the largest donation. There will be other prizes and levels too! With anything regarding these changes, they do not take place until General Grand Chapter this October 24th – 31st, 2024.

Happy reading and if you have any questions, please just ask me!

Brenda Gaulke, PGM

Historical Landmarks International Peace Garden Chapel Co-Chair.



What's All the Buzz about OES

What is Eastern Star? When asked that question, are you ready with a reply?
BEE enthusiastic in your reply!

How about:

We are a group of women and men who belong to this wonderful organization that is worldwide. Our purpose is to promote fellowship, engage in charitable activities and help our communities in service projects. The Service Dog project is our main charity, but we also support many local and State Charities. We are Good People Doing Good Things for Good Reasons.

A Fraternal Organization is a brotherhood or a type of social organization whose members freely associate for a mutually beneficial purpose such as for social, professional, or honorary principles.

We know there has been a steady decline in fraternal organizations in the last 25 years. We need to continue to promote our order.

Besides using our social media and word of mouth, a Membership Display in your Lodge or at any event is a wonderful way to bring attention to our order.

Your display needs to be engaging and informative. What message do you want to convey to visitors?

Design your display, use display boards, frames, or glass cases to organize and present items.

The Membership committee has three small posters to loan and one large poster.

Use small pocket Kleenexes to hand out with a contact person on it.

Hand out a card with smartie candy saying, "Be a Smartie, Join Eastern Star."

Wear clothing and buttons with the Eastern Star logo on them.

The membership committee has Water Bottles to hand out.

The membership committee has Honeycomb Cereal in a bag to put your Contact info on.

Use our brochures and project information.

Promote Service Dogs as our permanent Worldwide project.

Use some photos of your Chapter having fun or at a fund-raising event or past memorable events.

BEE Proud to be a member of the Order of Eastern Star

BEE looking for new opportunities to share your love of the Order

BEE able to eliminate negative thoughts, complaints and excuses

BEE expecting good things to happen, and they will

BEE-LIEVE IN THE ORDER OF EASTERN STAR

**A few responses if a non-member is considering and asked,
“What’s in it for me”?**

1. Fraternal Bond: OES provides a sense of community and fellowship. Members often form close friendships and connections with other Masons and their families.
2. Service Opportunities: OES chapters engage in charitable and community service activities. Members can take part in volunteer work, fundraising, and support for various causes.
3. Personal Growth: OES encourages personal development through educational programs, leadership opportunities, and public speaking. It’s a chance to learn and grow within a supportive environment.
4. Symbolism and Ritual: OES rituals and ceremonies are rich in symbolism, providing members with a unique and meaningful experience. These rituals often emphasize moral and ethical principles.
5. Social Events: Chapters organize social gatherings, dinners, and events. These occasions allow members to connect, celebrate, and enjoy each other’s company.
6. Support Network: OES offers emotional support during challenging times, such as illness, loss, or personal struggles. Members rally around each other, providing comfort and aid.

It is Time to Renew



July 2024-June 2025

Electronic newsletter: Free

Paper (mailed) newsletter - \$25.00.

If you receive the newsletter via US Mail and would like to continue receiving it for the coming year, please renew your subscription by sending your name and \$25.00 (payable to WI Grand Chapter OES). If you have been receiving it by email (which is free) but would like to start getting it in paper copy, please remit your name, \$25.00 subscription fee, and a note that you want to change how you receive the newsletter. The form below is provided for your convenience to renew your subscription or begin subscribing to the printed version. Subscriptions end June 2025 edition.

To renew your subscription or start receiving a paper copy:

Complete the form and send with \$25.00 payable to
Grand Chapter O.E.S. of WI

Mail to: Grand Chapter OES, 275 Sunset Drive, Dousman, WI 53118-9349

Name: _____

PGM/PGP: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Renewal: _____

Message/Note:

Best of the Hawaiian Islands

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR GROUP TRIP



FEBRUARY 24 TO MARCH 5, 2025

Group space has been held on the Globus escorted tour.

\$500 DEPOSIT IS JUST Hawaiian Islands

Click here to register now!

groups@burkhaltertravel.com

Call 608-833-5218

Ask for our Travel Coordinator, Lauren Lindley.

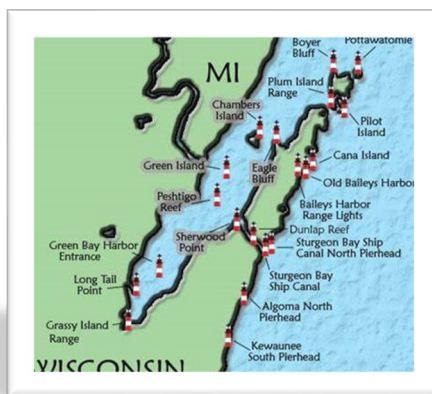
PER PERSON LAND PACKAGE: \$5,199 DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$1,980

ASK US ABOUT AIR PRICING!



Buzzin' Around Door County



WGM Lori and WGP Orville invite you to join them on a motorcycle/vehicle trip "Buzzin' Around Door County".

Friday, September 6 and Saturday, September 7.

Our headquarters hotel is the AmericInn, 622 South Ashland Avenue, Sturgeon Bay.

Rooms are double queens at \$224 plus tax per night, 920-743-5898.

Eastern Star 2024 is the name of the block. Rooms must be booked by August 6, 2024.

The trip will include a Poker Run as a fundraiser. We will also do a type of scavenger hunt for the sights on our travels.

On Friday night we will gather at the hotel for social and games. Saturday morning at 8am we will distribute the route map and bless our vehicles and head out by 8:30am.

Saturday morning at 8 am we will distribute the route map, draw the first card of the Poker Run 50/50 fundraiser (proceeds to WGM/WGP project), bless our vehicles and head out by 8:30 am. We will head north on the east side of Door County and then cross over and return to Sturgeon Bay via the west side. Regardless of the weather, we will see beautiful views and visit many interesting places. We will stop for a cash lunch in Sister Bay, probably splitting up into smaller groups for the restaurant of your personal choice. We will have menus available to help you decide what you prefer for lunch. All restaurants are close to the beautiful Sister Bay Beach and we will have a map with locations/addresses.

At four of our stops, we will draw the remainder of our cards for the Poker Run fundraiser. When we return to Sturgeon Bay, our dinner will be hosted by Honor Chapter No. 1, at the Henry S. Baird Masonic Center, 31 South Third Avenue and after dinner we will name the Poker Run winner, socialize with Honor Chapter, and have games.

Registration for our Door County trip is \$20, which includes one entry into the 50/50 Poker run fundraiser, water and snacks during the Saturday trip, and the dinner with Honor Chapter. Checks payable to Elaine Engelke, 400 North Main Street, Blanchardville, WI 53516. Please join the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron for this great trip around Door County.

Questions to Marv and Elaine at engelm@tds.net or 608-523-4134.

Souper Crafty Festival



Saturday September 28th 11:30am to 2:30pm

1235 E Howard Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53207

(enter the parking lot off of Clement Ave – ADA accessible)

Bowl of Soup	\$6.00
3-Cup Soup Flight	\$10.00
Side salad	\$2.00
Crafts & Bake Goods per the table*	

*Proceeds will be for those selling those items

Sponsored by West Allis Chapter & Vega Chapter



Order of the Eastern Star



All Masonic Organizations are welcome to have a selling table at no charge, if funds are collected for a Masonic related charity. Private vendors pay \$20. Please contact Dawn Wenzell at 414-254-2187 or vega76oeswi@gmail.com

Chapters **BEE** ready for another year with the hope that we can **BEE** inventive, **BEE** resourceful and **BEE** creative in the hopes of getting new members, bringing members back and putting our name out there so that all you hear is.

What's all the buzz about?

This year each chapter will receive a *beehive*, *bees*, and pins. The following instructions will show how to get the *bees* on the hive.



Category One (I) **Informed**

Each new member
Each member brought back
Each NEW dual member



Category Two (I) **Active**

Event with Masons
Event with another Chapter
Membership Event
Fundraiser Event
Water Bottles (request for Hand-outs)



Category Three (I) **Visible**

Signage (Town or City, on the Masonic Center, etc.)
Buttons/Shirts (group)
Parade (group)
Facebook
Display- Hand-Outs
Newspaper Articles

Bee Ready!

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

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

2024 Official Visit Schedule (any changes need to be approved by WGM)

Revised 7/24/24

Date	WGM	WGP	AGM	AGP	GC	AGC		Sentinel
9/3	Trillium							
9/4						Bristol		
9/5					Alpha	Union Grove		
9/9	Shullsburg		Fidelity 6:30pm			Kenosha		
9/10	Everett 6pm potluck							
9/11		Wauwatosa						
9/16	Kinnickin- nic				Sparta			Superior
9/17			Ruth					Eagle
9/23			Willow River					
9/24			Northwest	West Allis				
9/25	Janesville							
9/26	LaBelle							
10/3				Melody				
10/7			Wautoma					
10/8					Rainbow 1:30 mtg			
10/14	Lemonweir 1pm							
10/15	Ellsworth							
10/16		Starlight						
10/17				Viroqua				
10/18		Vega						
10/21						Oregon		
10/22						Ozaukee		
10/24				Kil- bourn				
11/5	Dodgeville							
11/7				Honor				
11/11		Martha			Joint Loyalty & Fond du Lac At Fond du Lac			

2024 - 2025 Individual Travel Award Points

Once you have accumulated 125 points, turn your sheet into any Grand Officer to receive your Individual Travel Award Pin.

		maximum points	points earned
1	Attend Grand Chapter 2024	5	5 _____
2	Attend a Masonic Installation	3	6 _____
3	Purchase Worthy Grand Matron or Patron Pins	3	9 _____
4	Accept Office in Home Chapter	5	5 _____
5	Accept Office in Dual / Plural Chapter	5	10 _____
6	Earn or hold a proficiency card or station certification	3	6 _____
7	Be a First or Second Line signer on a petition	2	6 _____
8	Attend Worthy Grand Matron / Patron Party	5	5 _____
9	Attend Grand Officer Party	5	10 _____
10	Attend Grand Representative Party	5	20 _____
11	Attend Grand Chapter Christmas Party	5	5 _____
12	Attend Another Chapter Installation	2	10 _____
13	Be an Installing Officer in Another Chapter	3	6 _____
14	Attend your Area Club Meeting	2	10 _____
15	Attend 5 Meetings in your Home Chapter	2	10 _____

16	Attend 5 Meetings in you Dual/Plural Chapter	2	10	_____
17	Visit or Send Cards to Homebound Members	2	10	_____
18	Attend a Red Book School / Review	5	5	_____
19	Serve on a Committee in Your Home/Dual/Plural Chapter	3	6	_____
20	Be a Pro-tem Officer in a Meeting (not in own chapter)	2	6	_____
21	Make a Personal Donation to Worthy Grand Matron / Patron Project	5	5	_____
22	Assist with a Chapter Fundraiser	5	5	_____
23	Visit Another Chapter List dates/chapters visited on the back	2	10	_____
24	Attend Grand Officer or District Deputy Visit in Home/Dual Chapter	5	10	_____
25	Capture one of the "Traveling Bees" and document travels in their "Passport"	5	10	_____
26	Post a picture of your travels with the Traveling Bee on the Traveling Bee Facebook page	5	10	_____
27	Write an Article for the Newsletter or Facebook	5	15	_____

**Total
Points: _____
225**

Member name / Title

Date

Chapter

Program Planning for Worthy Matrons

I have had requests to know what charities will be focused on throughout the year.

If your chapter is dark during a particular month, please consider moving the activity to a time you do meet. Activities might be more feasible during a social rather than a business meeting. If you bring in a speaker, please advertise this so we can all learn.

July - Member Retention/Recruitment. Please contact the Membership Committee.
August- CPR/Defibrillator training.
September- Support Our Youth
October- Cancer Awareness
November- Service Dogs
December- Cheer
January- Re-obligation
February- Heart Fund, heart health
March- ESTARL
April- Leader Training Resources
May- OES Foundation

WGM/WGP Project

The image contains two promotional cards. The top card is blue with white text and a circular logo on the right. The logo features a map of Wisconsin and the acronym 'LEDR'. The text on the card reads: 'WI Law Enforcement Death Response (LEDR) Team', '(866) 410-LEDR (5337)', and 'www.wiledr.org'. The bottom card is also blue with a white header box. The header box contains the text 'WILEGuardians App' and 'Free Wellness Tool'. Below the header, there is a list of features: 'Statewide Peer Support Resources • Training • Get Help Now', 'Vetted Mental Health Providers • Veterans Resources', 'Statewide Chaplain Resources • On-Duty Tools', and 'Wellness Topics: Sleep, Nutrition, Physical Health, Resiliency...'. At the bottom of the card, there are four icons: a QR code, the Google Play logo, a logo with wings, and another QR code next to the Apple logo.

FRONTLINE WORKER MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS SYMPOSIUM

Join us for a two-day
symposium offering tips, tools,
and resources to help Refresh,
Recharge and Revive.

\$50 Registration Fee

Deadline Oct 11, 2024



*Frontline Workers: Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, District Attorneys,
Dispatch, Corrections, Probation & Parole, Healthcare...*

Key Discussions & Takeaways

- ✓ Resiliency Skills
- ✓ Dealing with Trauma
- ✓ Self Care
- ✓ Mental Health Resources
- ✓ Leadership skills
- ✓ Tips to Reduce Stress



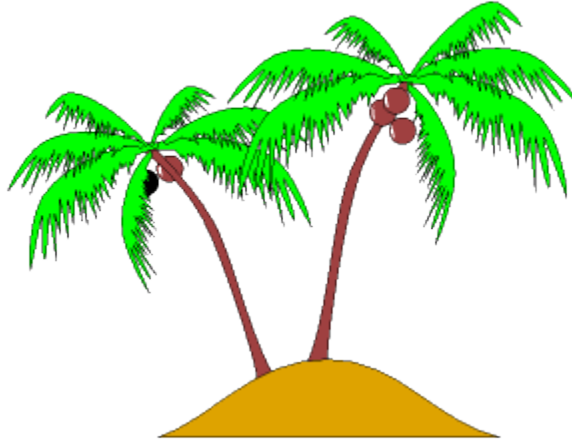
Paul Butler

Master of Ceremonies

**KI CONVENTION CENTER
333 W MAIN ST
GREEN BAY, WI**

**October 29th - 30th
2024**

Register here www.wiledr.org



The Indiana Grand Chapter, OES

Cordially Invites you to the

Luau - Indiana Style

Multi-State Weekend

Saturday, August 24th, 2024

Embassy Suites Plainfield / Indianapolis Airport

6089 Clarks Creek Rd, Plainfield, IN

Cash Bar: 5:30pm

Dinner: 7:00pm

See Registration Form for Payment and Hotel Information

RSVP with remittance by July 23rd