

# Wisconsin OES Newsletter



**Worthy Grand Matron  
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715-929-8008-C  
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## May 2026

Sisters and Brothers:

Our time in the Grand East is drawing to a close. It's hard to believe our term is almost finished and Grand Chapter is only a few weeks away. I feel very blessed to be a part of such a great organization. Alan and I have had the "best" Grand Family – both elected and appointed. They have worked hard and supported us, each other and our Chapters.

A special thanks to all my sisters and brothers for your love, support and encouragement these past few months while Dale has been ill. It meant so much to me.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at our Grand Session in Stevens Point May 18-21. If you haven't already registered, you can still do so online at [www.wioes.org](http://www.wioes.org).

Congratulations to Sister Linda and Brother Moses and their Grand Family. We'll find out the appointed officers' stations at the Kick-off Banquet Monday at Grand Chapter. Faith–Harmony–Service Grand Family, may all your wishes and dreams come true.

Continue to remember your Sisters and Brothers in your thoughts and prayers. So many are facing sickness. Prayers do make a difference and are answered!

AND Always remember you are unique like a snowflake and together we can, and did, make a difference and be a light to others.  
Judy and Alan

### **FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE for the June newsletter will be: May 26, 2026.**

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

Also, the Chapter Worthy Matron-Elect and Secretary packets will be at Grand Chapter and available for pickup after elections at a table in the hallway outside the Grand Chapter Room. **A representative of the chapter will be required to sign for whichever packet(s) they pick up for the chapter.**

Calling all Sisters and Brothers!  
Grand Chapter is fast approaching. We need all snowflakes, baskets, fireflies and books to meet us in Stevens Point.

If you are bringing a basket please let Cindy Ryan at [cindyryan\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:cindyryan_2000@yahoo.com) or Mary Borckardt at [maryborckardt@gmail.com](mailto:maryborckardt@gmail.com) know. We will also be collecting books for RAC. Bring a book(s) get a free raffle ticket.

Thank you to everyone for your donations and support for this year's project.

Cindy Ryan, Mary Borckardt

### **Membership News**

***Please remember to inform the membership committee when your chapter is hosting an Initiation or has voted to reinstate a member.***  
*Thank you, Bridget Briski, [bbriski17@gmail.com](mailto:bbriski17@gmail.com).*

Also make sure the Grand Secretary and Blast editor get your new member's email.

There are NEW membership brochures!! Contact the committee for your supply and then PLEASE, PLEASE TOSS OUT THE OLD BROCHURES.



Remember to check out the OES BLAST by EMAIL for more OES News, updates, and events. Subscribe at [jobiemom@wi.rr.com](mailto:jobiemom@wi.rr.com).

**Wisconsin OES Foundation**

Applications are available on the website ([www.wioes.org](http://www.wioes.org)). The next Foundation Meeting will be June 12, 2026. **Deadline for receipt of Applications is June 1, 2026 PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR MAILING APPLICATIONS and/or donations to the foundation: Mail to Grand Chapter Office, WISCONSIN OES FOUNDATION, 275 Sunset Drive, Dousman, WI 53118. All foundation mail MUST indicate OES foundation.**

A reminder for any donations to the OES Foundation, checks are to be made out to WI Eastern Star Foundation.

**Message From the Webmaster**

Send all updates to: [wioeswebmt@gmail.com](mailto:wioeswebmt@gmail.com)  
Please designate one (1) person in your Chapter to send updates to the webmaster. Remember, submission for the website **MUST** be approved by the WGM. Include your meeting nights each month along with the meeting time. Any other information that is pertinent as far as accessibility will be appreciated as well. Information received will be uploaded into our NEW format so that all members and visitors will be able to locate the needed information! The webmaster is also putting a link from our website to the Facebook page putting a link from our website to the Facebook page.



GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER PINS FOR SALE



These are the pins for Heart and Alzheimer's. Both are selling for the price of \$10.00 each. All money sold in WI stays in Wisconsin ❤️ Please see Terri Hundhausen, PGM, a member of the Heart Committee or Jane Blackwood, PGM, a member of the Alzheimer's Committee for them.

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**PAGO (Past Appointed Grand Officers) PEARLS**

We are hard at work on the first email issue of PAGO Pearls which will be full of interesting articles having to do with PAGO History, PAGO highlights, PAGO Wish List, PAGO Memorials and everything PAGO. If you are interested in receiving this newsletter and HAVE NOT emailed or contacted Elaine at [engelm@tds.net](mailto:engelm@tds.net), please do so now. Also, please put [engelm@tds.net](mailto:engelm@tds.net) in your contact list so that the first PAGO Pearls doesn't get bounced to your SPAM! Thanks! Dues for joining the PAGO Association will be \$5, payable to Elaine Engelke, 400 North Main Street, Blanchardville, WI 53516 now or you may pay at Grand Chapter. Remember we are meeting in the banquet room on Monday, May 18, immediately following the Kickoff Banquet - look for me and Marianne Totsch

# Installation Information

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CHAPTERS/OFFICERS

Crivitz	6/2/2026	7:00 PM	Closed
Janesville	6/3/2026	7:00 PM	Open
Eagle River	6/2/2026	7:00 PM	Closed
Sturgeon Bay	6/4/2026	7:00 PM	Closed
Argyle	6/4/2026	7:00 PM	Closed
Plymouth	6/8/2026	7:00 PM	Closed
Tomah	6/8/2026	1:00 PM	Closed
Shullsburg	6/8/2026	7:30 PM	Closed
Willow River	6/9/2026	7:00 PM	Closed
Wisconsin Rapids	6/9/2026	7:00 PM	Closed
Fond du lac	6/10/2026	7:00 PM	Open
Milwaukee-Vega	6/13/2026	2:00 PM	Open
Kenosha	6/15/2026	7:00 PM	Open
Oregon	6/15/2026	7:00 PM	Open
Dodgeville	6/16/2026	7:00 PM	Open
River Falls	6/15/2026	6:30 PM	Closed
Wautoma	6/15/2026	TBD	Closed
Superior	6/29/2026	7:00 PM	Open
LaCrosse	6/16/2026	7:00 PM	Closed
Ellsworth	6/16/2026	7:00 PM	Closed
Port Washington			
Madison	6/17/2026	7:00 PM	Open
Union Grove	6/18/2026	7:00 PM	Open
Middleton	6/18/2026	7:00 PM	Open
Viroqua	6/18/2026	7:00 PM	Closed
Wauwatosa			
Brookfield	6/24/2026	7:00 PM	Open
Clear Lake	6/23/2026	7:00 PM	Closed
West Allis	6/23/2026	7:00 PM	Open
Wisconsin Dells	6/25/2026	7:30 PM	Closed
Mukwonago	6/25/2026	7:00	Open
Jefferson	6/27/2026	2:00 PM	Open
Neenah	6/22/2026	6:30 PM	Open
Marshfield	6/23/2026	7:00 PM	Closed
Bristol	6/28/2026	1:00PM	Open

## Occupaws News



On behalf of the Service Dog Committee and Service Dogs everywhere, thank you for the outpouring financial support this past year. Tucson is excited to tell you that we have collected over \$8,000 dollars this year for the raising, care, and placement of special pups in Wisconsin.

As our new Grand Chapter year begins, we will continue our support of Service Dogs in Wisconsin. Please check your Chapter Secretary's packet for more information.  
Kris and Jim Schoville

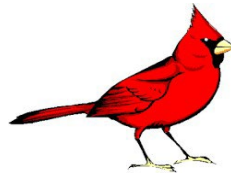




# Never Have I Ever...

**BEEN TO A GRAND REPRESENTATIVE PARTY  
HONORING VIRGINIA GOODMAN.**

**ON SUNDAY JUNE 14TH AT 5:00PM YOU WILL BE ABLE TO.**



**We will celebrate Sister Virginia for her appointment as  
Grand Representative of North Carolina In Wisconsin.**

**Eat a buffet supper of North Carolina favorites.**

**Learn more about the "Tar Heel State".**

**Have lots of fun**

**Casual Attire**

Members, Friends and Family are all welcome  
Please RSVP to [Vega76oeswi@gmail.com](mailto:Vega76oeswi@gmail.com) by June 4  
and we have plenty of livermush for all!  
(actually, we will probably skip the livermush)

Lake Masonic Center  
235 E Howard Ave.  
Milwaukee WI 53207

off street parking, ADA accessible, Air-conditioned

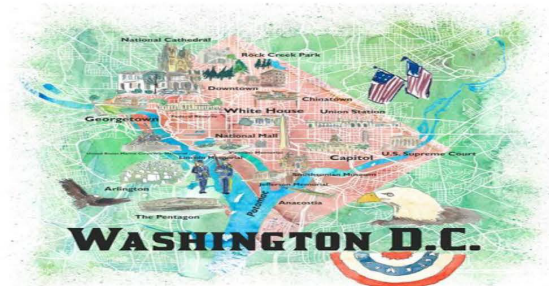


# LET'S HAVE A PICNIC

Viroqua Chapter invites you to join them at a  
Grand Representative Party honoring  
Sister Betty Ross-Representing Pennsylvania in WI



Brother Paul Jones-Representing District of Columbia in WI



When: July 19th-Lunch 1:00 program to follow

Where: Westby City Park-Davidson Street

Casual Attire

If you would like to bring a lawn chair to sit outdoors

RSVP to Phyllis Eklov,

405 Ramsland St., Westby, WI 54667

608-606-0041

Email-beephy1328@gmail.com



## More Snow is expected before Grand Chapter in May.

Please contact [dawnwenzell@gmail.com](mailto:dawnwenzell@gmail.com) to make sure all your new members are added to bury Judy and Alan in the snow.

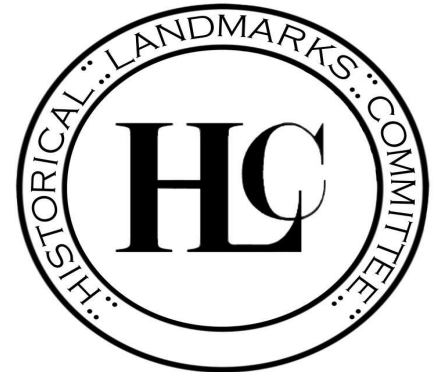
Include all new members since Grand Chapter last year (May 23, 2025).

Indicate if your person was reinstated, transferred from another state or part of the new sponsorship program.

PGM Sister Brenda Gaulke is posting this information in conjunction to the above posting from MWGM Billie and MWGP Mike.

PGM Brenda also is informing all that a bus trip is being planned through Sister Marianne Totsch and further information will be forthcoming, this is just a **“SAVE THE DATE”** at this time.

## **International Peace Garden Pilgrimage August 14-15, 2026**



January 2026

### **TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE ORDER**

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

We are excited to invite you to join us for the International Peace Garden Pilgrimage of our Most Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Billie and Most Worthy Grand Patron, Brother Mike. It will be held on August 14<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> 2026. This is a casual weekend no glitz, bring your jeans, capri, shorts and Star shirts. Our gathering this year will be based out of Minot, North Dakota and out of Boissevain, Manitoba and our schedule of events is listed at the end of this letter. A registration/meal form is included with this letter. Please ensure that each Star member completes a form (one form per person). Should you be travelling with a non-member, that person is most welcome to join us. You can order meals for that person on your form (just request 2 of the meals you want).

The Airlines for Minot Airport, hotels and other information is listed in the pamphlet. You must make your own hotel booking. If you are flying, please fill out that information on the registration form. If you are driving, there is a fee to get into the Peace Garden so please be prepared.

Day Pass	\$10.00 per person per vehicle
Military Day Pass	\$8.00 per person
Annual Membership	\$50.00
Shuttle Van	\$100.00 (max 20 people)
Tour/Coach Bus	\$225.00

We have contracted buses for those staying in Minot who wish to use it. To reserve a seat, simply include it on your registration form. The bus fee includes admission to the Garden.

Please join us for a time of friends, fellowship and fun!! Let's "Dream, Imagine and Believe" in the grandeur of the International Peace Garden and our wonderful Peace Chapel.

Shine on Stars,

Your Historical Landmarks – International Peace Garden Chapel Committee

Brenda Gaulke (WI), Co-Chair

Karen Tuttle (NH)

Darlene Spooner (ND)

Cheri Cowan (SK)

Maralice Blagden (MB)

# *Pilgrimage of the Most Worthy Grand Matron and Most Worthy Grand Patron*

## **Sister Billie Bradfield and Brother Michael “Mike” Berry Canadian hotel information - Boissevain, Manitoba**

Accommodation has been blocked for members wishing to stay in a hotel in Canada. A block of 19 rooms at the **Canadian Wilderness Inn in Boissevain** and additional rooms have been blocked at their sister hotel in Killarney (approx 15 minute drive from Boissevain). Booking for either location can be made through the Boissevain contact information. Please say that you are booking in the **Eastern Star** block. The price of rooms varies from \$115 to \$130 per night plus applicable taxes. This is based on whether you need a room that has 1 queen, 2 queens, 1 king and beyond to a family room with a queen and bunk beds.

Contact: Canadian Wilderness Inn Boissevain, 306 Mountain Road, 1-204-534-7155

Alternate accommodation: **Boissevain** is available at the **Home Hotel**. Rooms are not blocked however the hotel can be reached at 1-204-534-3221  
**Brandon** is approximately 1 hour’s drive from the Peace Garden. Multiple hotels are available in Brandon.

Surveyors for the Canadian Pacific Railway were impressed with the Turtle Mountain region and noted it would become a chief point of settlement in the coming years. The site of the town of Boissevain was decided in 1885 and by 1886 there was a blacksmith shop, a post office and two grain warehouses. Landmark buildings include St. Matthew’s Anglican Church, built with locally found granite walls and St. Paul’s United Church built with local sandstone. Like many towns in the west, Boissevain’s prosperity came with the railway. Since that time the town has grown to a population of 1,577 (2021). Points of interest include:

**Murals** - more than 20 different murals have been professionally painted on the sides of buildings throughout the town. These can be viewed either by walking or driving in the downtown area .

**Tommy Turtle** is a 28 ft, 10,000 pound Western Painted Turtle statue located across from the Wilderness Inn. It symbolizes the town’s link to turtle mountains and includes a picnic area.

**Irvin Goodon International Wildlife Museum:** A collection of 300 full-mount animals from North America and New Zealand set in interactive, natural scenes. Open 10:00am to 6:00pm (7 days/week) tickets Adults \$7. Located at 298 Mountain Street (just East of Tommy Turtle). For group tours, tel: 204-534-6662.

**Nine Hole golf Course** 3km south of Boissevain. To book a round, tel:204-534-2365

**Lions Campground:** For those who prefer to camp, the Boissevain Lions campground is open mid-June to the end of August. Sites can be booked at 204-534-6192. Rate with hydro, water and sewer \$30/day. There is also a campground in the Peace Garden. Information is available at tel: 1-204-534-2510. Power & water \$38.50/day, electricity only \$33.50/day.



## 2026 INTERNATIONAL PEACE GARDEN PILGRIMAGE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**FRIDAY AUGUST 14<sup>th</sup> 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.** Meet and greet at the Granville Community Center where you can pick up your Registration Package . Granville is about 30 mins from Minot, ride share please. Supper will be offered courtesy of the White Buffalo Bar & Grill, Owners Darnell PGM and Doug PGP Woodall (ND).

**STAYING in CANADA** – Stay tuned for an informal get together in Boissevain on Friday evening.

### **SATURDAY AUGUST 15<sup>th</sup>**

**YOU MUST HAVE YOUR PASSPORT or ID** Without this you will not be able to return to your home country!

**MINOT 8:00am SHARP:** Buses and private vehicles will load and leave Minot and head to the Peace Garden. This is just a bit over 2-hour commute so bring a snack & beverage for on the bus. You will also want to wear the most comfortable shoes you own.

**PEACE GARDEN CHAPEL 10-11am** Registration package pickup

**CHAPEL 11am,** Church service will be held in the Chapel. The Chapel is small but there will be lots of extra seating outside under a canopy/tent.

**After Church** pick up your box lunch and eat it anywhere you prefer in the Garden.

**The early afternoon** is open for you to tour the Garden. There are so many wonderful spots to see and the flower beds are outstanding. Listen to the Carillon bells and pause to see the 9-11 tribute. The north side of the Garden is less developed (tour by car or bus) and gives opportunities to see native wildlife such as moose and deer.

**4:00pm Saturday afternoon** Buses leave for Boissevain, Manitoba which is about a 15 minute drive from the Garden. Tour the many murals around the town and arrive at the Royal Canadian Legion.

**4:30pm** social time

**5:00pm** dinner followed by fun and ends with a vesper service and farewells.

# OES Pilgrimage - International Peace Garden

August 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 2026

## AMERICAN MEMBER REGISTRATION

**Deadline: July**

**30, 2026**

- NOTES: 1. DON'T FORGET YOUR PASSPORT** If you do not have a passport you will need: driver's license, birth certificate, marriage license or Nexus card (CA).  
**2.** You are required to make your own hotel reservation – please see the hotel information  
**3. A Separate Registration form is required for each person attending**

Name:	Jurisdiction
OES Title	Phone
Address:	City
State/Province	Zip/Postal Code
Email	Your hotel

How are you travelling: Car  Bus  Air  Do you need pick-up/drop off: Yes  No

LANDING IN	Arrive Date/Time	Depart Date/Time	Arrival Dep	Flight #
Minot				
Other				
Other				

	No Tickets	Price /ticket	Cost
Registration <i>(includes both days)</i>		\$20	
Bus fee <i>(for members staying in Minot)</i>		\$35	
Friday evening in Granville <i>Brisket sandwich and trimmings</i>		\$25	
Saturday noon: Box lunch: <i>Sandwich: Ham or Turkey (circle one) Cheese: Yes No (circle one) veggies, cookie, water</i>		\$20	
Saturday dinner (buffet) <i>roast beef, chicken breast, vegetable, salads, bun, dessert, tea/coffee</i>		\$25	
<b>TOTAL</b>		//////////	

Allergies/Food Intolerances: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration & meal payment by cheque mailed or by etransfer to the appropriate email address

Send to: Darlene Spooner 312 8<sup>th</sup> Ave N, Casselton, ND 58012 USA  
 Email: [darfromthestar@gmail.com](mailto:darfromthestar@gmail.com) Phone: 701-361-8661



**Wisconsin Order of the Eastern Star Group Cruise  
7-Night Western Caribbean Cruise  
Royal Caribbean – Independence of the Seas  
February 14–21, 2027**

Set sail with fellow members of the Wisconsin Order of the Eastern Star for a week of fun, fellowship, and unforgettable adventure! Enjoy the exceptional entertainment, dining, and activities while exploring beautiful ports and relaxing at sea.

Hosted By:  
Linda & Moses

**Registration & Details**

Deposit: \$250 per person\*\*

Visit the link below for full trip details, pricing, and to reserve your cabin:

<https://www.hbtrips.com/GroupRegistrations/passengers/135596>

Pricing and availability are subject to change.

\*Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include all taxes and port fees.

Balconies: \$1452.01 Oceanview: \$1112.01 Inside: \$992.01

**inerary**

Miami → Nassau → Day at Sea → Georgetown → Falmouth → Labadee → Day at Sea →  
Miami

Don't miss this special journey!

Reconnect with friends, meet new ones, and enjoy a memorable OES travel experience.

Contact Heidi Behlke at 262-269-1522 or [heidi.behlke@cruiseplanners.com](mailto:heidi.behlke@cruiseplanners.com)