



Star Gazer



Kansas Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star

Volume 6

Spring 2020

Edition 4

Journey of a Lifetime

Worthy Grand Patron, General Grand Chapter Officer, General Chapter Committee Members, Past Grand Matrons, Past Grand Patrons, All Distinguished Guests, My Sisters and Brothers of the Grand Chapter of Kansas.

Little did I know that when I accepted an appointment from Pam Abel, PGM and Dick Short, PGP that it would be the start of an amazing journey. For the past five years I have been on the journey of a lifetime. This journey has been one of the most wonderful meaningful journeys anyone could ever take.

On this journey, I have been part of four Grand Families (Our Hands for God's Work, God's Gift of Friendship, Believe in God's Miracles and Spirit of Love and Aloha) that have all contributed to my love of our beautiful Order. However, I am most grateful for

the Blessings and Bee-Attitudes Grand Family. Each and everyone of you are a blessing and hold a special place in my heart.

Along with the Grand Officers, the Escorts, Special Pages, Grand Representatives, District Aides, Session Pages, Session Guards and all Grand Chapter Committee Members are an integral part of this Grand Family. My Escort, Susan Welborn, has given me her unending love and support during this journey. She has been my sounding block for which I am eternally grateful.

A big thank you to my two Special Pages, Sharon Wellman and Catherine Schnacker who have given me their love and support. To District #1 – A grateful thank you for your help along my journey to the Grand East. To Mayetta Chapter #383,



my home Chapter, thank you all for your love and for going the extra mile to help make this journey a huge success. To Meriden Chapter #399, my dual Chapter, thanks to you for your support and encouragement.

To the Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patron: Thank you for leaving your legacy as a guide for us to follow on our journey.

To the Kansas Membership: Thank you for inviting us to share your meetings, your work and of (Time Together continued on pg. 2)

In This Issue...

WGM's Page	2
WGP's Page	3
MWGM Letters	4
Adventures with Boaz	6
WGM Letters	8
KS-OK Exchange	10
Annual Reports	11
Kibble and Bingo	11
Did You Know...	12

Be looking for a special edition of the Star Gazer in just a few weeks!

Special Session to Come!

During this time of uncertainty, we have all missed being together for our annual Grand Chapter Session and we have shared your questions about what happens next

To help answer that, it has been determined that in order to move forward, the Kansas Grand Chapter must hold an election and installation for the elected officers. This cannot be accomplished until the Grand Chapter can be called to an *in-person Special Session* for the purpose of the election and installation of officers.

At this time, it is uncertain when

that may be accomplished.

The membership will be informed when the Special Session of the Grand Chapter will be called for the purpose of an election and installation of officers.

We hope to be able to provide updates as more information becomes available. In the meantime, please have patience and understanding regarding this manner as we all wait together.

Sister Garrie Oppitz
Worthy Grand Matron

Worthy Grand Matron



Garrie Oppitz

Our Theme

Blessings and Bee-Attitudes

Our Emblems

Hands and Cross

Motto

If you concentrate on counting
your blessings, you'll have little
time to count anything else!

Scripture

"Kind words are like
honeycombs, sweet to the soul
and healing to the body."
Proverbs 16:20

Our Flowers

White Lily, Red Rose

Our Colors

Red, Black, Gold, Silver

Our Charity

Service Dogs

Fun Symbols

Hugs and Kisses
(candy)

Songs

You Raise Me Up, The Prayer,
My Tribute, One Pair of Hands,
Count Your Blessings

Words of Wisdom

Attitudes are like bees,
some make honey,
while others leave a sting.

... Time Together

(Journey of a Lifetime continued from page 1)

course all your hugs, smiles, food, fun, and fellowship. It was a tremendous honor to be able to sit in each of your Chapter rooms and witness your love for the Eastern Star.

To Brother Ron: Thank you for saying yes to OES. We have truly created a lifelong friendship during these last three years. We have formed a partnership that represents our watchwords of kindness, respect and joy. We have shared our love for the Eastern Star with all the members of this Grand Jurisdiction. We hope that this love will spread across this great state. Most of all we have had fun! I want to thank Sister Doris for being our biggest supporter. Thanks, Doris for everything you did to help Brother Ron during our journey. I know that we felt honored to support KSDS service dogs as our charity this year. Thank you, Sister Wanda, for choosing Brother Ron to share this journey to the Grand East with me. This has truly been a most memorable journey one we will never forget.

Memories are made by surrounding oneself with people who are loving, willing to share of themselves, and who are devoted to the great truths and principles of the Eastern Star. So, to the Officers who have served so well this year, I thank you for your support you gave us, the love you have shared and for your devotion to the Order. I do truly love you all.

To my family: Lar Bear, Rich and Jo and Susan: Thank you all for your love and support you have given me during my journey to the Grand East. You all mean the world to me.

I want to take the time to recognize my parents, LeRoy and Thelma Jager. My Dad was a Past Master and made it possible for me to join the Eastern Star and my Mom who instilled her love of the Eastern Star in me. I miss them both.

*I'm so glad we had this time together,
just to have a laugh or sing a song,
seems we just got started and before you know it,
comes the time we have to say so long.*



Spread Kindness, Show Respect,
Share Joy and Always Bee Amazing.

Garrie Oppitz,
Worthy Grand Matron



Final Goodbye

I thank each of you for the confidence you bestowed upon me by electing me as your Worthy Grand Patron. I am very humbled for this great honor. This has been an amazing journey - from my appointment as Grand Sentinel by Sister Wanda Ryan, to this awesome year with Sister Garrie Oppitz and our "Blessings and Bee -Attitudes Grand Family. The time shared with each of you is a treasure which will always remain in my heart. My Grand Escort, Doris, and I appreciate the way we have been received and treated at each stop. Each one has touched our hearts and has truly been a blessing. Thank you to each member for every good deed and for every act of kindness bestowed upon me.

It is the duty of the Worthy Grand Patron to present the 50 and 75 year pins, but for me it has truly been an honor and privilege to present to members who decided early in their life to dedicate their lives to charity, truth, and loving kindness and to say "Yes to OES." I also say thank you to all of the chapters for hosting the WGP for Service Pin presentations. Thank you to all the Worthy Matrons, chapter secretaries and chapter members for their preparations and dedication in making each presentation unique. The members who were able to be present for the pinning's were truly an inspiration and inspired all present by sharing many wonderful memories.

What a blessing to serve with Sister Garrie and to share the East at nearly every Official Visit. As we traveled to your Chapter, we were so proud to receive the Grand Honors, but it is you, our most devoted members, that deserve these special honors. My heart was warmed when Chapters performed the Conductress-Associate Conductress lecture. Thank you to each Chapter that asked for an Official visit and thanks for making us feel so welcomed and for the fabulous, fun programs and the manner in which your officers exemplified the beautiful work of the Order.

I sincerely thank each Chapter that presented me an Honorary Membership. I do know that it is the highest honor that a Chapter can bestow upon a member. I truly cherish and appreciate each Certificate and will be proud to visit your Chapter in the near future.

To my wife, Sister Doris and my Grand Escort of 42 years, there are really no words to truly express my love and appreciation for ALL that you have done to support me in the journey of life. You have encouraged me, been my inspiration, my advisor and the one whose footprints I have followed in this Great Order. The footprints you left on the Stardust Trail were so clear and easy to find - for you walked in honor, justice and right and believed in those ties that bind. The many miles we have traveled to be with our OES friends and families have been short and all done with "miles of smiles."

This has been a remarkable year; full of blessings as we have enjoyed good health, safe travels and enjoyed being with each of you along the way. As I look back, I think of all the acts of kindness that you have bestowed upon me, your kindness, your friendships, your gifts, your honorary memberships and for the privilege of being in your chapters, or reading your kind notes of appreciation and I sincerely thank you. It is truly with Attitude of Gratitude that I leave you with my favorite scripture...Do not be afraid any longer, only believe.

Follow your dreams and enjoy the trip.
Just remember to say "Yes to OES."

Ron Kammerer,

Worthy Grand Patron

Worthy Grand Patron



Ron Kammerer

Our Aim

K - Keep Christ in your heart

I - Invite others to become members

S - Share your love of our order

S - Service to our communities

Our Watch Words

Kindness, Respect, Joy

Our Symbols

Bees, Teddy Bears

Motto

Just say "YES" to OES!
Follow your dreams and
enjoy the trip!

Scripture

"Let not your hearts be troubled,
believe in God, believe also
in me..." - John 14: 1-4

Our Honored Station

Every station is important!

Fun Symbol

Peanut M&M candy

Songs

I Walked Today Where Jesus
Walked, Holy City, There is
Sunshine in My Soul Today, I
Believe All People Are Good,
You'll Never Walk Alone

Words of Wisdom

Life isn't about waiting for the
storm to pass, it's about learning
to dance in the rain.

Mrs. Marianne R. Shenefelt
Most Worthy Grand Matron
Email: mshene8185@yahoo.com
Cheyenne, WY 82009



Andrea Stamp, PGM
MWGM Personal Secretary
Email: astamp@bresnan.net

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER

Order of the Eastern Star
Established November 1876

To be shared with OES Membership

April 8, 2020

- **Additional clarification of abbreviated Installation Ceremony**
- **Elections**

My Sisters and Brothers,

Abbreviated Installations

Grand Chapter Officers who are now serving, and will continue to serve (a year, several months, etc.) in accordance with the decision made by their leadership, do not have to be re-installed. The GGC Red Book states: "It is necessary to install **re-elected** officers." (GGC Red Book, Book of Instruction, Installation Ceremony, pg. 193); therefore, those who are now serving and will continue to serve do not have to be re-installed.

The installation of Grand Officers of Grand Jurisdictions whose leadership has made the decision to hold elections and will have new Grand Officers to be installed, the abbreviated Installation Ceremony as described in my earlier letters can be used, i.e., having the necessary Installation Prayer, the Obligation of Officers and the Proclamation of the Officers being duly installed. It is essential to do this without violating the current guidelines relating to the very serious COVID-19 pandemic that threatens the health and safety of the majority of our members who are classified as high risk. This abbreviated Installation Ceremony can be accomplished by conference call, video conferencing, a separate phone call to each individual Officer, or any other means that maintains social distancing. It is my intent to have a small measure of ceremony with the official portions of the Ritual, that must be performed, with no danger to the health and safety of those involved.

Elections

Election of Grand Chapter Officers, as well as Subordinate Chapter Officers, is a complicated issue during these challenging times. With Grand Chapters and Subordinate Chapters adhering to the COVID-19 social distancing guidelines as directed (thank you!) there are no meetings being held; therefore, elections cannot be conducted in person. Due to the restrictions in the duties and powers of the MWGM, it is not possible for me to become involved in the actual governance of a Grand Chapter or their Subordinate Chapters—this includes elections. I encourage you to follow your Constitution, Code of Laws, Law Book or similar source for your Jurisdiction as closely as possible; yet, in these unprecedented times it will be necessary to do so with practicality and with the understanding that it's possible none of the usual rules can be applied. These are drastic times. The world will not end if certain rules are not followed. What could end is our beautiful Order if we are not willing to be flexible enough to value our members instead of our rules. This is the most important thing to remember: **nothing** we do is worth putting any member's health and life at risk—no meeting, no gathering, no function or the immediate enforcement of a rule printed in a little book. I am asking you to do the best you can with fairness, compassion and honor.

"Always remember, you are braver than you believe; stronger than you seem; smarter than you think; and loved more than you know." --Winnie the Pooh

In friendship and love,

Marianne Shenefelt
Marianne R. Shenefelt
Most Worthy Grand Matron



General Grand Chapter
Order of the Eastern Star

TO BE SHARED WITH OES MEMBERSHIP

March 14, 2020

To: Grand Chapter Secretaries of the General Grand Chapter, OES
Deputies of General Grand Chapter, OES
General Grand Chapter 2018-2021 Appointments

My Sisters and Brothers,

I am sure you are well aware of the current world-wide pandemic involving the coronavirus (COVID-19).

I believe we have a responsibility to do our best to keep you healthy and safe; therefore, I have made an extraordinarily difficult decision. I am heartbroken to inform you that as of today, March 13, 2020, I am cancelling ALL of the scheduled Official Visits--the one visit in March and all of the visits for the three months of April, May and June. This decision is based on the World Health Organization (WHO) and CDC assessment that a high-risk group is older adults, in particular those suffering from serious chronic medical conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, lung disease and having compromised immune systems (cancer treatment patients, etc.). CDC has specifically stated that "...people over age 60 and people with chronic medical conditions—the two groups considered most vulnerable to severe pneumonia from Covid-19—to avoid crowds as much as possible." Unfortunately, my Sisters and Brothers, this describes the majority of Eastern Star members.

The following Official Visits are cancelled: Louisiana Grand Chapter; Florida Grand Chapter; Connecticut Grand Chapter; Tennessee Grand Chapter; Alaska Subordinate Chapters; Massachusetts Grand Chapter; Maine Grand Chapter; New Jersey Grand Chapter; Puerto Rico Grand Chapter; Alberta Grand Chapter; Indiana Grand Chapter; South Carolina Grand Chapter; and Washington State Grand Chapter.

I strongly urge all Jurisdictional leaders and members to be diligent in following the guidelines set forth by the WHO and CDC regarding the coronavirus. I encourage you to seek out additional information on their websites and make responsible decisions for the health and safety of all members.

CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

WHO website: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

In friendship and love,

Attested:

Marianne R. Shenefelt

Marianne Shenefelt
Most Worthy Grand Matron

Henry S. Martin

Henry S. Martin
Most Worthy Grand Patron

Alma Lynn Bane

Mrs. Alma Lynn Bane
Right Worthy Grand Secretary

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Adventures With Boaz

Welcome to the first of a two-part series as we follow Boaz the Service Dog tell us about his travels with Worthy Grand Ruth Kimberly Dellinger.

Bark, Bark! I have a lot to share with you! This past year has been full of exciting travels. After we met in April, I have had the opportunity to see many new places.

It all started in May when our Worthy Grand Ruth, Sister Kim, and I traveled to Nebraska for their ["Legacy of Service"](#) Grand Session. It was a nice trip. Thanks to Sister Carrie Turner for being our chauffeur.

Following Nebraska was a trip to Georgia to celebrate Sister Helen R. Cox's, PMWGM 90th Birthday! This was very exciting. They had ladies volunteer to wear several of the dresses she wore during her Triennium. Many of the dresses were gifts from the jurisdictions that she visited. One very special dress, her Session dress, was presented and is now on display at the [George Washington Masonic National Memorial](#) in Alexandria, VA.



Session dress of PMWGM Helen R. Cox (1985 -1988). The dress was modeled by PGM June Matthews, Georgia. The remaining dresses were sold via silent auction. The funds raised went to support the Service Dog Project so dear to Helen's heart.

After Georgia, Sister Jackie Strickland joined Kim and I on a fun filled trip north of the Border. We went to Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Their Grand Session was called *"Hugs and Happiness"* and boy did we share a lot of both! While there, we enjoyed celebrating with Sister Carol Girling, Worthy Grand Electa as they honored her with a special dinner and entertainment.

We had a chance to do some sightseeing at The Forks and



During a tour, Queen Elizabeth II was spotted hanging around in a Canadian Chapter Room by Sister Kim and Boaz.

learned why their license plates say, "Friendly Manitoba." Kim even had the opportunity to preside in the East while the WGM, WGP, MWGM, and MWGP went down to greet the 50 year members. What an honor! During a tour of a chapter room, we even saw the Queen!

In June, Kim and I headed out on a big adventure. We visited five grand jurisdictions. We started by heading to Minot, North Dakota for their *"Preserving Our Heritage"* Grand Session. This was their 125th



Boaz enjoyed visiting a statue of Hans Christian Andersen, dedicated to a teacher who encouraged her students to read.

session, so at different times during the session, the historian would share information from their history. It was very interesting. They were also presented with a special banner from General Grand Chapter.

We were honored to have the WGP pick us up at the airport – very cool! During our time, we also visited a Slav Church, like the ones in Norway. I even got my picture taken with [Hans Christian Andersen!](#)

From there we headed to Killington, Vermont for the *"Over the Rainbow"* Grand Session. We arrived in Burlington and had to drive to Killington in a heavy rainstorm. There was still a little bit of snow on the top of the mountain at the ski resort where we stayed. When we headed back to the airport, we found out that the road was right along a river and several lakes. It was beautiful in the daylight.

From Vermont, we were off to North Carolina to the *"Nature's Masterpiece"* Grand Session. This was held in Durham, NC. Kim had the honor of giving a response at the General Grand Chapter Luncheon.

We then toured the campuses of Duke University and the University of North Carolina. We also took some time with our GGC Sisters to tour the Botanical Gardens. Sister Donna Fagg, PGM and GGCCM – Registration, met us in North Carolina. We had a great time.

Kim and I then headed to Macon, Georgia for the “Celebrate Good Times” Grand Session. This included an Honor Event for Sister Jo L. Cullifer, Right Worthy Grand Trustee. She is a hoot!

At the close of each evening, the Grand Officers would dance around the floor to KC and the Sunshine Band’s “Celebration”. They also honored Sister Helen R. Cox, PMWGM with a service dog named after her.



It was smiles all around as Boaz made a new friend, Grand Ruth Michelle, when he got to Grand Chapter for Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, Canada

The last week of June Kim and I spent in York, Pennsylvania. We arrived in Philadelphia and drove through the Pennsylvania Dutch country to York. This was their 125th “Do You See What I See” Grand Session. They had a life-sized Veterans display including all branches of the military.

While we were there, we went on a tour to a clock/watch museum and to the Turkey Hill Ice Cream factory. We even got to make our own ice cream blend – delicious!

July allowed us to travel to the Great North again. This time we went with Kim’s sister, Jolene, to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. This was a fantastic trip!

We arrived in Halifax, Nova Scotia – Canada on July Fourth and even got to see some fireworks as we flew over the northern part of the U.S.

We arrived early because we had been invited by Sister

MWGM Marianne to join her and her husband for the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo. This was AMAZING! There were groups from all over the world that performed to the theme The Power of Peace!

We toured the city on a FROG, walked along the boardwalk, toured a battleship, and grabbed a snack at Tim Hortons. We also walked from the coast up, and I mean UP to the top of the Citadel which is a fort in Halifax. We then headed to Truro, NS for the “Treasured Memories” Grand Session but not before we sampled some poutine. While in Nova Scotia, we saw our friends Lillian and Lyle Fry from Oklahoma.

Next, we drove to Fredericton, New Brunswick – Canada for the “Celebration of Stars” Grand Session. While we were in Fredericton, we were escorted into the banquet by a bagpiper. We also ran in to Gloria Chaney, PGM of Missouri. She served in their Grand East the same time as Kim in 2012-2013.



Sister Kim discovers the “Ruth gleaning” statue at the famous Hay House in Macon, Georgia

While in Georgia, we visited the [Hay House](#), aka the Palace of the South. Inside this Italian Renaissance style mansion is a beautiful statue of Ruth. We also found PGM Hazel Robinson from Oklahoma while we were there.

Georgia shared their southern hospitality, pecan pie, and collard greens – YUMMY! Afterwards, Kim and I headed home for about a week, only to find that a micro burst had hit Kim’s home – what a mess!



Family and new friends get together before the evening festivities in New Brunswick, Canada.

Photos in this article are provided by Sister Kim!

Be on the lookout for more “Adventures with Boaz” in the Star Gazer 2020 Summer Edition.

Grand Chapter of Kansas



*Grand Chapter of Kansas
Order of the Eastern Star*

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320 SW 8th Street Floor 2
Topeka, KS 66603-3912

March 18, 2020

A Message from the WGM:

As we continue to deal with the Covid-19 virus please be mindful of your health and safety and the health and safety of your Sisters and Brothers. Practice proper hand washing and social distancing. This may mean that you need to confine yourself to your home. For the health and safety of everyone, this year Installations and all other activities may be postponed until the end of April. After this time we will reevaluate the situation. We are continuing to work on plans for Grand Chapter. Know that Grand Chapter may not be the same as it has always been.

Star Blessings and Hugs

Garrie Oppitz
Worthy Grand Matron



Greetings!

Please share with your memberships that we have decided to cancel the 5 State Exchange to be held in Iowa in July. My Worthy Grand Patron and I

discussed this at length, but finally decided to cancel. It was not an easy decision, but we decided even if the meeting size limits were lifted, people would be nervous about traveling and finances might prevent some members from traveling to the event. I pray this finds you all in good health and that your good health continues! Keep washing your hands and stay close to home if possible.

In Star Friendship,

Polly M. Miller, Worthy Grand Matron
Grand Chapter of Iowa

**125th Anniversary and
Pin Presentation!**

*June 14 2020 - Yates Center
2:00 p.m.*

We have discussed and discussed about the upcoming OES events and decided that we would send a save-the-date notification for our June 14 125th Anniversary and 50 Year Pin Presentation so that you all are aware of what's going on — but that it may be limited to the number attending. The date is also subject to change, if current circumstances persist.

The celebration will begin at 2:00 p.m. with finger foods following the meeting. You who have been here before will know that there will be plenty to eat!!



*Grand Chapter of Kansas
Order of the Eastern Star*

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320 SW 8th Street Floor 2
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March 26, 2020

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has strongly recommended "Social Distancing" be implemented. Social Distancing means that all meetings or gatherings of more than 10 people should be cancelled for a few weeks. This is very important for our Order since many members are in the high-risk population, especially those over the age of 60 years.

On March 24, 2020 the Council of Administration along with the Jurisprudence Committee met to determine the fate of the 2020 Session of the Grand Chapter of Kansas. For the health and safety of all of our members, it was decided that the Grand Chapter session to be held on April 16-18, 2020 in Topeka, Kansas be suspended.

If you have hotel reservations at the Ramada hotel there is no need to call the housing chairman or the hotel as the hotel has cancelled your reservations. With approval of the Grand Trustees, your registration, meals and association fees will be refunded to you.

All Regular Meetings, Special Meetings, Social Activities and Fund Raisers of the Grand Chapter of Kansas and its subordinates are suspended until further notice. The Chapter Worthy Matron, Secretary and Treasurer may conduct Chapter business, such as paying bills, during this time. On the date of the regular meeting, the secretary will post in her minute book, "No meeting held due to the current Coronavirus (Covid 19) Pandemic." This will be part of your permanent Chapter minute records. Missed meetings during this time will not be counted against your Chapter. No dispensations are needed during this time. Please file this letter with your Chapter's minutes. If your Chapter has held elections but was not able to hold installation, "With the powers vested in me as Worthy Grand Matron, I proclaim the officers of your Chapter for the ensuing year, regularly installed as of March 31, 2020." However, if your Chapter has not held elections your Chapter must hold an election and install your Chapter's officers. The Triplicate Report is due to the Grand Secretary by April 30, 2020.

We will monitor the situation closely and provide your Chapter with any new information or changes as soon as it is made available.

Star Blessings and Hugs,

Garrie Oppitz, Worthy Grand Matron

Kansas Specialty Dog Service

Washington, Kansas

29 years of training service dogs!



Kansas - Oklahoma Exchange



Little did everyone know that when they gathered on February 28 in Bartlesville, OK and on February 29 in Independence, KS for the annual KS-OK Exchange, that it would be the last of the official duties for the "Blessings and Bee-Attitudes" Grand Family. The weekend began in Bartlesville with the Oklahoma officers opening chapter. The Kansas Grand Officers then assumed their stations for Exemplification of the degrees. The meeting was closed by the Oklahoma Grand Officers. Everyone was ready to head to their hotels and rest before continuing the event the next day.

The event continued on Saturday with the Kansas part of the exchange; hosted by Queen City Chapter #138, Winfield, and assisted by Eva Chapter #18, Independence. The Oklahoma Grand Officers practiced that morning followed by a covered dish lunch for the Grand Officers of Kansas and Oklahoma, their Escorts, and the members of Queen City and Eva Chapters.

Photo were taken at 1:15 p.m., with the meeting opening at 2:00 p.m. The Kansas Grand Officers filled the stations for opening and Introductions. The Oklahoma Grand Officers assumed their stations for Conferring of Degrees.

The candidate was Rick Kimbrell, husband of Ronna Kimbrell, Queen City Chapter. Ronna was pleased to be able to walk with her husband.

The Oklahoma Grand Officers showed their proficiency and did a great initiation. Liz Granberg-Jerome stated, "It's quite interesting to see how each grand jurisdiction interprets the same ritual work differently. Meeting and spending time with our counterparts is always fun."

The meeting was closed by the Kansas Grand Officers. A reception of cookies, punch, and coffee was enjoyed following the meeting, before everyone left to go home after a great weekend!

Welcoming New Members



We are pleased to welcome Rick Kimbrell of Queen City Chapter, Winfield. Standing with Rick are WM Pat Lundy and PGP/WP Don Flickinger in the photo on the left.

In the picture below are new members, Laila and Liam Jones of Zenith Chapter, Hiawatha & family.



Star Gazer Information

The Star Gazer is published quarterly, normally in June, August, December, and March. Actual publishing dates may vary, depending on circumstances.

Distribution of the newsletter is primarily through electronic means. Paper copies of the newsletter are available upon request.

The Star Gazer is a publication of the Grand Chapter of Kansas. Production of the newsletter is the responsibility of the StarGazer Committee of Grand Chapter.

Articles and pictures may be submitted for inclusion by sending them to the editor at:

ks.oes.stargazer@gmail.com

All articles and pictures are subject to editing and approval prior to publication. Please include names with submission of photos.

Kibble, Bingo, Hot Dogs and Fun!



On February 22, Valley Center Chapter #237 hosted a Kibble and BINGO event to raise money for Service Dogs.

fine young man by the name of Kason (age 8). He chose the food prize and before he left, he told us that he was going to take the



Chili, chili dogs, and hot dogs were on the menu. Everyone also had the opportunity to buy chances to win one of two stuffed dogs. The afternoon proved to be fun!

prize to [ACARE](#) (Allen County Animal Rescue Facility) in LaHarpe and donate it to dogs waiting for adoption. What an awesome thing to do!



Kason was so excited to win a Bingo prize and be able to help care for rescue dogs too!

Following lunch, several games of BINGO were played. Prizes included gift cards, bone and paw print sugar cookies, cash prizes, mugs, and pet blankets. The Blackout Prizes included a \$50 photo shoot with your pet and an \$80 prize of canned and dry dog food, chew toys, collars, and a gift certificate. Several of the cash prizes were donated back to Boaz.

The first person to win the blackout prize was a



Boaz was ready to greet everyone as they came to enjoy dogs and bingo! He was excited about the amount that was raised to help Service Dogs and wants to thank everyone who donated prize money back to help service dogs!

No Need to Fear... Annual Reports!

Annual Report was due January 15. These words strike fear in the hearts of subordinate chapter secretaries state-wide! Each chapter has only one (1) report to do. The Grand Chapter office was getting ready to receive 54 of them! (Two were still missing at the time of this writing.)

I was blessed to have a work crew comprised of these amazing sisters: Carolyn Irvin, Nola Vice, Carol Hamblin, (who drove all the way from WESTERN KANSAS), Carla McKinney, and WGM Garrie Oppitz. We split up the tasks that needed accomplished.

Sister Garrie compared the membership rosters from 2019 and 2020, making sure additions and deletions matched up with the report. Sister Carol read the synopsis of chapter activities, making note of number of meetings held, opening in long or

short form, and how many times degree work was performed. Address changes were entered into a spreadsheet by Sister Carolyn. Sister Nola checked the recapitulation page to make sure the math was correct when calculating the current number of members in each chapter at the end of the year.

Sister Carla was our "accountant" and made sure that the correct amount of per capita tax was submitted, with portions going to General Grand Chapter, the Kansas Masonic Home, and the Grand Chapter general fund. Funds are also received for the International Headquarters fund for each new member to a chapter's roll.

It was a great day of food, fellowship, and hard work. I am so appreciative of these ladies and their willingness to do whatever it took to help. They

worked for doughnuts and pizza!!

Of course we were not able to get through ALL of the reports on that particular work day, but we did get closer. Thank you so much to the secretaries who get their reports in on time, which in turn allows me to get my reports done on time!

*Submitted by Christy Hard,
Grand Secretary*



WGM Garrie and Sisters Carol Hamblin and Barbara Rake are hard at work going over reports and compiling information to help get it all done!



Star Gazer Newsletter
Kansas Grand Chapter OES
2375 Ave X
Sterling, KS 67579
(temporary change of address)

Place
Stamp
Here

Forwarding Service Requested



Mail this form to:
Star Gazer
Grand Chapter of Kansas
320 S.W. 8th Ave.
Topeka, KS 66603-3912

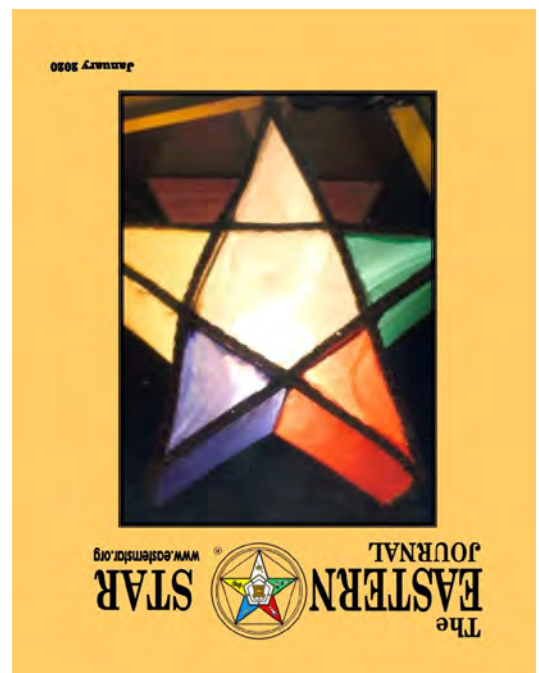
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