



Star Gazer



Kansas Grand Chapter - Order of the Eastern Star

Volume 12

August/September 2022

Edition 2

Kansas Nebraska Exchange!



The Kansas and Nebraska 2022-2023 Grand Officers

What do Jayhawks, Wildcats, Wheat Shockers, Gorillas, Hornets, Ichabods & Tigers, all have in common? We all traipsed thru Kansas and up to Kearney, NE on July 15/16 for the Kansas/ Nebraska exchange and we all had a fab time in the central NE town of Kearney!

On the way to/from Kearney we passed under the world famous "The Archway"... built in 1999 to pay tribute to the pioneers who trekked across the prairie on the Great Plains River Rd. "The Archway" is 308 ft long and spans

I-80 near Kearney, NE. Inside the bridge is a museum where visitors can walk through and see exhibits heralding the history of the West. Over 20,000 vehicles per day pass under the Bridge. The Bridge/Museum pays tribute to the settlement of the West. In addition to being the home of "The Archway", Kearney is the Sandhill Crane Capital of the World. More than 600,000 of the 3ft tall birds fill the Platte River every year between Kearney and Grand Island.

The very dignified, beautiful &

well maintained Kearney Masonic Lodge building... on Friday the NE Grand Officers exemplified Degrees. On Sat, the KS Grand Officers practiced in the morning and then exemplified Degree work in the afternoon. Throughout the festivities...Grand Officers got to meet their counterparts in the other state and learn of differences in the Grand Jurisdictions. For example, the KS Grand Sentinel got to break bread with the NE Grand Sentinel and found out that in NE,

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Deadline for next issue is Nov 21st

If you would like to send a donation for the Star Gazer to help with printing and postage...Please send to the Grand Secretary.



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Worthy Grand Matron



Gale Masten

Theme: Be A Light

Watchwords & Aims:

Love
Live our Values Everyday
Hope
Have Only
Positive Expectations
Faith
Forward All Issues To Him

Motto:
WGM:

Give it to God and Always
Say A Prayer

WGP:

You're braver than you
believe, and stronger than
you seem, and smarter
than you think.
Christopher Robin

Scriptures:
WGM:

John 14:27
Joshua 1:9
James 4:10

WGP:

Genesis 9:16
1 Corinthians 13:11

Emblem:

Four-sided square lantern



From the Desk of the WGM.....

The adventures continue!

The Nebraska/Kansas exchange was wonderful. Nebraska made Kansas feel very welcome. Monarch butterfly murals were found in Kearney, Nebraska as an added surprise. There was also a car show and parade happening, and our members fought the urge to peruse the cars and did their degree work. Additionally, the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron of Nebraska asked for the butterfly stickers, and we all posed showing them off. Pay close attention as there may be a contest in the future regarding these stickers.

The Grand Officers carried our monarch butterfly to the five-state friendship weekend. We enjoyed the several attractions in Hannibal, Missouri and made many new friends and yes, we found Monarch butterflies in Hannibal as well. The Grand Officers skit celebrated all five states ending with Kansas. There was much laughter and enjoyment. We are looking forward to the future and some cooler temperatures.

During the next several months the Grand Officers will be visiting our chapters in Kansas. We appreciate all the arduous work and thought our chapters contribute to make us feel welcome. We will carry our light to the Grand Chapter sessions in Missouri and Oklahoma.

Keep your ritual and bluebook handy as they are the tools to succeed. The more you use them the easier it will become.

Remember to collect for the food pantries in your area, feed the dogs, and seek out new members! What did the dog do when he swallowed the lightning bug? He wagged his tail with delight!

Star love,

Gale Masten

Worthy Grand Matron



From the Worthy Grand Patron....

Worthy Grand Patron Reflections

It's September and the summer months have been busy and fun.

We have completed all the School of Instructions, visited all the youth groups Grand sessions, Alpha-Omega Sewing day, Nebraska exchange, and 5 State gathering. Thank all of you who attended with Gale and myself. August, September, and October is Official Visits, and Pin Presentations. I hope many of you plan to attend and show support to those members who have given so much in support of the Order.

Look for new Members, keep feeding our Dogs and remember those who need our support.

The friends we encounter in Eastern Star are like no others. Those Friends help us appreciate the Journey. At times we all need someone to carry us. We need not be ashamed. Remember those times you carried someone else. Attend Chapter meetings and events to leave Impressions.

Fraternally,

Tony Anderson

Worthy Grand Patron



Worthy Grand Patron



Tony Anderson

Fun Emblems:
WGM:

Monarch Butterfly

For fun:

All things Harley
Davidson and Peanut
butter cookies

WGP:

Jet Ski

Honor Station:

Romans 2:11
For God shows no partiality.
We are all equally important

Colors:

Black, White, Silver,
Orange and Red

Flowers:

Seasonal Flowers,
Marigolds, Red Roses

Songs:

Session:

Be a Light

WGM:

Humble and Kind
You Raise me up
Girl On Fire

WGP:

Pontoon
Wipeout
Rainbow

(Please refer to the Itinerary
for the Artists)

Around the State!

Grand Treasurer Honored



Sisters Rosemarie Geisdorf Special Page, Deb Lindsten Grand Treasurer, and Marlene Moore Escort

North Star Chapter #483 honored Sister Deb Lindsten, Grand Treasurer, on Wednesday, June 15th at a Regular Stated Meeting. Sister Deb was honored during the Good of the Order.

She was taken to each Star Point and given things that would help her during her service as Grand Treasurer.

From each Star Point she received: Sister Adah: Paper, ink pens, pencils. Sister Ruth: Pencils, Erasers, White Out and note pads. Sister Esther: Pencil bag, White out, Pencils, Sticky Notes. Sister Martha: Post it notes, Paper Clips, Pencils, Calculator. Sister Electa: Life Savors Candy, post it notes, and Pencil's.

For her gift a donation was given to the Service Dogs in her name.

Clearwater Goes to the Ball game!!

On June 24th Ninescah Chapter #423 Clearwater went for a night out at the ballpark.



Seventeen Members and a friend enjoyed a night out at Riverfront Stadium watching the Wind Surge.

After having dinner at Braum's everyone headed to the stadium. Our seats were on the west side above the home dugout. We were recognized on the video scoreboard screen as being in attendance.

We had fun not only watching the game...which some watched a little closer than others....but the fireworks after the game were awesome!



~ MEMBERSHIP CORNER ~

DON'T FORGET THIS YEARS' MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE:

If your chapter has a new member,

please contact the Membership Committee,

we will recognize your Chapter, and the new member HERE!!

Grand Representative(s) from Kansas and Australia

Sister Lorraine Rayner, Grand Representative of Kansas in Australia, and Sister Sharri Dalton, Grand Representative of Australia in Kansas, met in Wichita on July 8.

They attended the Kansas Rainbow Grand Assembly on July 8 & 9. Sister Lorraine is the Australian Rainbow Supreme Deputy.

She attended the Amaranth Supreme Sessions July 12 -14 in Tulsa.

Sister Lorraine and the OES Sisters who traveled with her from Australia did some sightseeing and visiting with other American friends for a couple weeks.

She was in Oklahoma City

July 29 & 30 for Rainbow Supreme Assembly.

The Australian Sisters flew home August 4. It is 13 hour non-stop flight from LAX to Sydney; then an additional 2 hour flight to Adelaide where Sister Lorraine lives.



Sisters Shari Dalton Grand Representative of Australia in Kansas and Lorraine Rayner Grand Representative of Kansas in Australia

Around the State! (Continued)

90 Years Young!

New Member at Clay Center

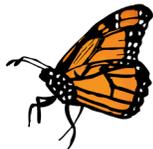


Sisters Garrie Opitz PGM & Grand Trustee, Kathy Johnson PGM, Sharon Blair WM, Lily Lagerman and Brother Robert Hess PGP & WP

Sharon Blair, Worthy Matron, and Robert Hess, PGP, also Worthy Patron presided Wednesday evening, July 13, 2022, at Clay Center Order of the Eastern Star #180 as Lily Lagerman of Riley, was initiated into the Chapter. Lily currently is Miss Kansas of Job's Daughters of Kansas.

Kathy Johnson, PGM and Garrie Oppitz, PGM and Grand Trustee, were also present.

There were several Grand Officers, Grand Representatives, District Aides, and Grand Committee members present to help celebrate our new member.



Star Gazer Information

The Star Gazer is published quarterly, normally in June, September, 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 is the responsibility of the Communications Committee of Kansas Grand Chapter OES.

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

cindy@smithlawoffices.net

All articles and pictures are subject to editing and approval prior to publication. Please include names of individuals in photos when submitting for publication.

On July 3, a 90th birthday reception was hosted by her children at the Methodist Church in McLouth.

Sister Elsa, a long time Eastern Star member has served our Grand Chapter many times in different ways. I'm sure many of you remember the times that Elsa and her husband Herb sang at Grand Chapter. There are many of us that have the books she has written with programs and poems for Eastern Star.

Sister Elsa served as Grand Adah for PGM Darlene Mack. We were in the same district and then same chapter for many years.

The picture was taken by her grand daughter-in-law.



Sisters Dee Smith, PGM and Elsa Edmonds

Goodland Chapter

Goodland Chapter #122 presented scholarships to Emma Lehman Goodland High School and Calley Stubbs Wallace County High School.

Goodland has been giving this memorial scholarship since 1989, honoring former members Betty Short, LizzieMae Ferrell, Pearl Abbott, and Marie Mogge.

Pictured with the girls are Sarah Short and Peggy (Short) Hennick.



Up Coming Events!! Mark your Calendar!

NOTE: Due to Covid restrictions Please know some of the Chapters may require a mask.

Official Visit and Plns

September

7th.....Lenexa
8th.....Derby
12th.....White Rose, Gridley
15th.....Kent, Weir
19th..Golden Rod, Yates Center
20th.....Beatrice, Shawnee
23rd.....Gladiola, Kansas City
24th.....Anthony 4:00 pm
26th.....Miriam, Emporia
27th.....Fidelity, Carbondale
28th...Evangeline, Baldwin City

October

1st.....Beulah, Topeka
5th.....Union, Ottawa
6th.....Ninnescah, Clearwater
13th.....Clay Center
20th.....Valley Center
24th.....Ft. Scott
25th.....Queen City, Winfield
27th.....Felicity, Lindsborg

November

3rd.....Silver Leaf, Hutchinson
8th.....St. Bernard, Dodge City
15th.....Haysville

Official Visit

September

18th.....Meriden
25th.....Lakin

October

3rd.....Martha Washington, Atchinson

November

7th.....Goodland

Grand Chapter

Oklahoma.....October 15-18

Photos Provided for this issue by:

Carl Anderson, Dee Smith, Sarah Short, Sharon Blair, Shari Dalton, David Ahlstrom, Ronna Kimbrell, Melissa Squires and Cindy Smith
THANKS

Getting to Know your Grand Family.....

Grand Adah.....Ronna Kimbrell

I was initiated into Cyprus Chapter #255, Harper, Kansas in January of 1993. However, my Masonic journey started much earlier than that. My grandparents had a huge part in raising me and were heavily involved in Masons, Shrine and Eastern Star. Some of my earliest memories are coloring in the dining room during Eastern Star meetings while my grandparents were in the chapter room and attending the annual Shrine picnic at Joyland in Wichita. Because of this background, it was never a question of joining Eastern Star.

In 2018 my membership was transferred to Queen City #138 in Winfield where I was quickly appointed to Adah. Wanting to help my chapter the relieve the women who were having to trade

the office of Worthy Matron back and forth, I decided to go through the line. I am proud to currently serve my chapter as Worthy Matron for the first time.

My husband and I have been married since 1995 and have two grown sons, Shane (31) who is married to our lovely daughter-in-law Megan, and Jacob, (24). We have two Weimaraner's and two cats, all of which frequently cause chaos in our household. We live outside of Sedan, Kansas on a little farm.

I believe my favorite part of OES is traveling to other chapters and meeting new people. So far as Grand Adah I have had a blast meeting new people and seeing other chapters. Degree work in Nebraska was nerve rattling and I was terrified that I was going to

drop the sword or fling my veil off but getting to see the differences in the two jurisdictions was incredible.

I feel so honored to serve the Grand Chapter of Kansas as your Grand Adah this year and will strive to do my best to make Kansas, and Queen City, proud.



Grand Ruth.....Ruth Ann Staton

I am a member of Derby Chapter # 493. I grew up in Ft. Smith Arkansas in a family with two younger brothers. I always enjoyed camping with the family, church activities, school and Girl Scouts.

I met John in my first class in college. We got engaged mid-semester and married at Christmas break. Over the next few years we graduated from college and started a famiy. We moved to the Wichita area so John could take a job at Boeing. I later went to work also and enjoyed a career working with computers and system design

retiring in 2012.

We have three daughters and a son. My fondest memories are of when our children were small and we were busy with all of their activities. We are blessed with a daughter-in-law, 2 son-in-laws and 5 grand children. We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary December 2021.

We enjoy visiting family and working in our flower and vegetable garden. We are also spending time working on projects around the house here in Derby and in Arkansas. We enjoy traveling, genealogy and Masonic activities with Derby Lodge and

Eastern Star in Derby, Wichita York Rite and Social Order of the Beauceant.

I am enjoying my year as Grand Ruth and am happy to renew old friendships and meet new "Stars."



Donations to the Star Gazer are always welcome!

Please send to: Grand Chapter Office

221 SW 33rd St., Suite 300

Topeka, KS 66611-2379

Write Check to Grand Chapter of Kansas

in the Memo put Star Gazer Donation

This will help with postage and printing cost!

It costs between \$2.00 & \$2.10 per issue

Save the Date:

Trip to Branson MO

June 26-29, 2023

To see the Show

Queen Esther

and other shows.

More information to follow!

Grand Esther.....Melissa Squires

Born and raised in Hutchinson, I am married to Adrian Squires for 12 years now and as a whole we have 5 beautiful daughters ranging in age from 20 to 9. I work as an accounts manager for a local garage door company called Door Medic which allows me to go and do what Mom duties are called for and I couldn't be happier. For fun I'm a professional powerlifter holding records from the state level up to world records and love taking people with me to the gym.

Star is a family affair for us with both of my parents introducing me to it and us bringing in my younger brother and soon my husband.

We stay busy between star travels now with the Grand family and Jobies for the kids and also as

a Demolay advisor for the 2nd year.

I am very blessed and can't wait to meet more people and see the star world.



Kansas/Nebraska Exchange Continued from Page 1

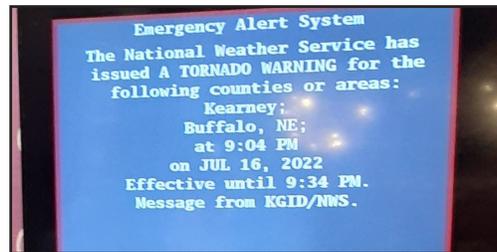
it is a 4 year journey to Worthy Grand Patron because the NE Worthy Grand Patron begins his journey to the Grand East as the Grand Sentinel then Grand Marshal.

There was lots and lots and lots of fellowship and really fabulous food.

The Kearney Masonic Lodge is in downtown Kearney and on Sat afternoon...there was an antique car parade that passed in front of the Lodge...some members, who will remain nameless, had to be asked to stop watching the parade and come inside for dinner.

Formal wear for the Grand Officers of both states during the degree work. The Ladies looked elegant in their gowns and the men were just plain ol' handsome in their Tuxedos.

On Saturday night there were tornado warnings for the Kearney area. Not to worry...members of the Kansas delegation who had gathered in the hotel lobby for fellowship fearlessly remained on watch in the hotel lobby, ready to take photos of any encroaching tornados for posterity. The Worthy Grand Matron sheltered with a family from Wisconsin, reassuring them that they would be safe.



The KS Worthy Grand Matron has a Monarch Butterfly as her fun emblem. Somehow the KS Grand Sentinel – David Ahlstrom – morphed into a Monarch Butterfly while in Kearney, NE as the pix attests.

On a closing note, it was remarked by several attendees this author heard... that NE & KS Eastern Star groups seem to mesh together very, very well. Never a truer statement was made.



PASSAGEWAYS
PROVIDING HOPE FOR OUR MILITARY VETERAN HEROES

THE CATHERINE CHALLENGE!

Catherine and her daughter came by the Outreach Center to donate some dishes she hoped a female Hero could use. They also brought two sets of new silverware and some body wash. As we were talking, Catherine said she was going to change the meaning of the acronym BOGO from "buy one get one" to "Buy One, Give One".

Catherine is a member of Eastern Star. She heard us speak at their club meeting in Emporia last month. She was so excited to learn that Passageways was their chosen charity this year (and next year, but that is another story).

Catherine is taking it upon herself to rally people to think about BOGO meaning "Buy One, GIVE One." We thought this was such a great idea we decided to share it. If everyone adopted the idea of buying one extra item to give away each time they shopped, our Heroes would be set!

Will you join the CATHERINE CHALLENGE?

PASSAGEWAYS' OUTREACH CENTER
GREATEST NEEDS

- Pots & Pans
- Dishes
- Bakeware
- Toilet Paper and Paper Towels
- Saran Wrap and Foil
- Coffee and Coffee Filters
- Microwaves

***These are just a few of the items we need.*
Visit www.passagewaysltd.org/helpfulitems

- Clearwater Fall Festival
- Saturday October 15, 2022
- 9 am to 4 pm
- Elementary East Building Gym
- Ninnescah Chapter #423
- will have a booth
- come see us!!

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C/O Cindy Smith
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Surprising History of OES.....
Ruth - Ruth 2:4-6
The Opening and lecture has stayed the
same since 1895!
From the book Symbolism of the Eastern Star:
Ruth represents the Ideal Widow because she cher-
ished the family, faith, and inheritance of her husband
above her every personal ambition, her original native
allegiance, and her originally heathen religion.
Meaning of the name: Ruth means Friend
Color: Yellow represents "constancy," "exalted,"
and "richness."
Flower: The Yellow Jasmine is dedicated to Ruth be-
cause it has a associated meaning of "humbleness."