



Worthy Grand Matron



**Wendy Cunningham**

**Theme:  
In God We Trust**

**Aims:  
Promote Brotherly Love,  
Relief and Truth**

**Watchwords:  
God, Country, Charity**

**Motto:  
Happiness Comes From  
Good Happenings**

**Scriptures:  
WGM:  
Matthew 17:20  
1 Corinthians 13:13  
Job 19:25**

**WGP:  
Psalm 133, Isaiah 40:31  
Matthew 7:7  
Ecclesiastes 12:1-7**

**Honor Stations:  
Chaplain, Martha, Electa**

**Emblems:  
Open Holy Bible  
Cup, Flag, Eagle**

**Colors:  
Red, White, Blue**

**Flowers:  
WGM:  
Iris  
Lily of the Valley  
Yellow Rose**

**WGP:  
Pink Carnations  
Pink Rose**

## **From the Desk of the WGM.....**

My Sisters and Brothers of Kansas,

Brother Dave and I have traveled across our beautiful state these past few months. People say that Kansas is flat, I beg to differ. Of course, there are some places that are flat, but there seems to be more hills, by far. I have seen the Seasons change from Spring, to Summer, Summer to Fall and now Fall to Winter. Crops growing and being harvested and unfortunately ponds drying up.

We have been welcomed into your Chapter rooms for Official visits and Chapter visits. Each one of these will hold a special place in our memories.

Your hospitality, the meals, "Welcome's", Good of the Order Ceremonies and friendship is greatly appreciated.

We accomplished what we set out to do with Chapter visits, with the assistance of our Grand Officers and sometime their Escorts, we filled in for an office, even if we had to scramble for our Ritual to refresh our memory, and help a Chapter open in form or the confer the Degrees, with a full slate of Officers. It is hard to do that when there are so many empty chairs and our Ritualistic work is not quite proficient. Might I suggest, that under Good of the Order, go over the Signs and Passes and Secret Work, Proving Chapter, Balloting, and the Prayer Circle.

Thank you for your support of our Charities, Passageways, KSDS, and Danny Hendricks Memorial Scholarship, we could not do this without your generosity.

Also, thank you for supporting the Advent Giving Calander to your local Food banks. When traveling and listening to Chapter Minutes, it is awesome how so many Chapters support local charities. Again, your generosity is to be commended. Keep up the good work.

As we approach the Holiday Season, please remember our Sisters and Brothers who have passed away and our Sisters and Brothers who have lost loved ones. There have been several of our Sisters and Brothers with health issues and have been in car accidents. We continue to pray for each and everyone of our members that have been affected in any way.

I wish each and everyone of you, my Sisters and Brothers, a Blessed Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!

"In God We Trust"

*Wendy Cunningham*

## From the Desk of the WGP....

Happy New Year! I hope that you and yours had a very Merry Christmas and I wish you the very best in 2024!

I am truly humbled and honored to be YOUR Worthy Grand Patron and to follow in my parent's footsteps! Your support has been truly amazing and words cannot express my gratitude to each and everyone of you.

October, November and December have been incredibly busy, and oh so much fun! The Flag Family Tour was in full force and at the time of this communication we have visited 38 of the 41 Chapters within this Grand Jurisdiction. I have worn a tutu, putted a golf ball with a plastic putter, learned about the history of our flag, witnessed a flag folding ceremony, trick-or-treated, learned Bible verses, participated in football trivia and became the King of Gnome Land, and so much more! I continue to be amazed at the talent of the members of our Order, whose creativity always continues to amaze me. Thank you for the warm welcomes, honorary memberships, gifts and donations that you have showered us with as we visited your Chapters. You are all truly amazing people and I am proud to call you Sister and Brother!

In October we attended the Grand Chapter of Oklahoma in Guthrie and in November we attended the Grand Chapter of Missouri, in Springfield where we renewed old friendships and made new ones. At both occasions Your Grand Officers showed up in force, outnumbering all the other Grand Officers combined. Thank you Flag Family for your continued support! We have yet to show up for an official visit or chapter visit where there hasn't been a Grand Officer present.

On December 15th I attended the Official Visit of Byington Chapter, my parent's home chapter. Although we weren't able to meet at the lodge hall in Leavenworth, sitting in my parent's chapter as the Worthy Grand Patron, was truly one of the highlights of my year. Thank you to the members of Byington Chapter for having my parents WGM and WGP portraits in the Chapter Room, it was a nice surprise! My parents were initiated into Heidelberg Chapter No.3, in Heidelberg, Germany on October 22, 1973, 50 years ago! It would have been the honor of all honors to have presented them with their 50 year pin! This year as I have presented pins, I have symbolically presented my parents with their pins, so I thank all the recipients for representing my parents for the evening, it has truly been my honor. I have been very fortunate to be able to present pins to so many deserving members, many of whom I have a special connection with. You truly are "Fairest Among Thousands Altogether Lovely!" Thank you to the Chapters who have asked me to present 25 and 60 years pins on their behalf!

This fall I have been given the privilege by Radiant, Loyal, Sunflower and Golden Rod Chapters to confer the degrees on their candidates and it was my honor and privilege to assist in initiating four young ladies to our order; Ryan Domsch, Tracy Fuller, Rilee Jordan, and Summer Wilson.  
Welcome ladies!

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## Worthy Grand Patron



**Dave Hendricks**

### **Songs:**

#### **WGM:**

**My Faith Looks  
Up To Thee**

**Proud To Be An  
American**

**Onward Christian  
Soldiers**

**Children of the  
Heavenly Father**

**Here I Am Lord**

**I'm Walking On Sunshine**

#### **WGP:**

**Crazy Train**

**Notre Dame Fight Song**

**Amazing Grace**

**How Great Thou Art**

**Fly Like an Eagle**

**God Bless America**

**On Eagles Wings**

#### **Just for Fun:**

#### **WGM:**

**Cats, Panda Bears**

**Sunflowers, KC Chiefs**

#### **WGP:**

**Anything Golf,**

**Notre Dame**

**Dallas Cowboys**

# Around the State!

## Queen City #138 Honors Long Time Worthy Patron



Brother Don Flickinger, PGP

It's not often that we can surprise our Worthy Patron, Don Flickinger, PGP, but on November 28, 2023, we did just that. While doing inventory in our basement earlier this year, Don commented that he'd like to turn one of our many extra signets into a wall hanging. Well, that was all he had to say for the chapter to take and run with it, and we could finally present him with it. To say he was

surprised may have been an understatement, and he was very touched that we did this for him. In his usual humble manner, he stated, "I'm just doing my job."

Don was initiated into Nightingale Chapter #424, Argonia, in 1968. Don served as Worthy Patron for the first time in 1971, with his beloved wife Marlene Flickinger serving as his Worthy Matron. He served multiple offices in that chapter and Worthy Patron twice. He served as a Grand Guard for the first time in 1972.

Many may be surprised to learn that Eastern Star was not on the radar for Don as his parents had been members of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs; however, when Marlene received a letter asking her to be the Grand Ruth in Past Grand Matron Pearl Gretz and Past Grand Patron Gilbert "Pat" Finlay's "Constellation" Grand Family, he hurriedly petitioned his Local Masonic Lodge, became a Master Mason, and joined the Order of The Eastern Star so that he could be Marlene's Grand Escort.

Don and Marlene moved to Wellington and transferred to Phoenix Chapter #159, where Don

served multiple offices again, including Worthy Patron nine times. While Don was in the Phoenix Chapter #159, he served numerous Grand Committees before being appointed Grand Sentinel in the "God's Garden of Love" Grand Family by Past Grand Patron Robert Ott and Past Grand Matron Lynne Hendricks. Don served our Order as Worthy Grand Patron with Nancy Zook, Past Grand Matron, in the "Spirit of Christmas" Grand Family in 2006-2007.

He was elected Grand Trustee in 2009 and served as a Grand Trustee for ten years. In 2012, Don was appointed the General Grand Chapter Committee Member for Cancer by PMWGM Barbara Browning White and PMWGP John E. Grobler.

In 2011, Phoenix Chapter #159 consolidated into Queen City #138, Winfield, where he immediately became our Worthy Patron and has served that office ever since, guiding many Worthy Matrons and chapter members.

To say that our chapter appreciates Don would be an understatement, as we are so Blessed to have his guidance.

## Silver Leaf #464 Hutchinson Christmas Parade

SEASONS GREETINGS!!

Sisters and Brothers another year has come and gone, leaving us to reflect on the last 12 months!

It has been an amazing ride and we just wanted to share a little of what Silver Leaf has been up to.

The end of the year is always full of holiday parties and gatherings!

This year Hutchinson changed their Christmas parade from a day time to a night time LIGHT UP parade, and we did just that. We got together and made this years float look like the Griswalds had taken over OES. With the help of our very own Laura who went

above and beyond making a lighted OES Star and huge letters to let everyone know just who we were, and a huge speaker to blast Christmas joy to everyone who lined the streets we had our very own dance crew and Scooter Patrol escort to lead the way. It was a chilly yet amazing night and the best parade yet!

We hope you have enjoyed your Christmas Season and that your Holidays are Merry and BRIGHT!

We received runner up for BEST USE OF LIGHTS!!!!



# Around the State! (Continued)

## Sheri Babb's Trip to Road Island

I have the honor of being chosen for Grand Representative of Rhode Island in Kansas. I was afforded the opportunity to travel to their Grand Chapter this year. It was a wonderful experience. I flew out of Kansas City EARLY Thursday AM. (6 AM). I arrived in Tampa FL at 8:30. Due to tornado warnings (yes tornado warnings in FL. Can't seem to get away from them) So my connecting flight to Providence Rhode Island was delayed and did not board until 3:50 PM! So thank goodness for a tablet to play games on! I arrived in Providence in time to join the Grand Officers Reception and to meet some very fun sisters and brothers.

I learned some very interesting facts about OES in Rhode Island. One they only have 5 chapters! You can travel from one end of the state to the other in less than 2 hours. Which affords the Grand Family the opportunity to visit each chapter multiple times a year. One PGM told me that when she served she visited every chapter each month as none of them met the same night.

Care bears was the theme of the 2022-2023 session with the colorful bears gracing each station and the podium.

Snoopy and Woodstock assumed their duties at the Caring Among the Stars Grand Chapter Session held Saturday. We had some excitement during the WGP's installation. Fire Alarms at the Crowne Plaza caused us all to have to retreat to the parking lot until we received the all clear. Newly installed WGM Judy was prepared with her drink in hand!

The fire department was very efficient and got us back in the building quickly and the rest of the installation went smoothly.

I did not sign up for the Saturday night banquet. So I went to the hotel restaurant for dinner where I met 3 lovely ladies from Connecticut. We shared dinner, laughs and conversation that I feel will be the basis of a long lasting friendship. The trip home was uneventful. Just the way I like it. I got to spend the night with my daughter in KC and spend a few hours at a local Cider Mill.



## Anthony #187



Anthony Chapter #187 collected enough stuffed animals to take to the hospitals in Kiowa, Medicine Lodge and Anthony. We also had enough to give to the ambulance services

## From the Desk of the WGP.....

Continued from page 3

It has been a pleasure connecting with our members and I look forward, with great anticipation, to the upcoming visits and events. Thank you for all that you do for Kansas Eastern Star and we look forward to seeing you down the Eastern Star Road!

Fraternally,

*Dave Hendricks*

Worthy Grand Patron

## Up Coming Events!! Mark your Calendar!

**(With Covid and the flu still around  
Please be mindful of your Sisters and Brothers)**

January 11th  
Derby #493  
Official Visit & Pins

January 25th  
Queen Esther #32  
Lyons  
Chapter Visit

February 5th  
Martha Washington #215  
Atchinson  
Official Visit  
(Rescheduled from Dec18th)

February 23rd & 24th  
Kansas/Oklahoma Exchange

March 9th  
Spring Charity  
Hutchinson

March 15th & 16th  
Grand Lodge

March 23rd  
4 State Gathering  
Golden, Colorado  
(KS/CO/NE/WY)

April 8th  
WGP Homecoming  
Emporia

April 9th  
WGM Homecoming  
Chanute

April 25th, 26th & 27th  
Grand Chapter  
Topeka

Thanks to all who provided photos for this issue!

Too many to name!

# Around the State! (Continued)

## Union #15



JoAnn Duvall presentation to Williamsburg Kansas Blessings Box for Union Chapter #15 for Wendy and Dave's Advent Calendar.

## St. Bernard #97



Some of the items that were collected and distributed to the local food bank by St. Bernard Chapter #97, Dodge City for the holiday season.

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One of the fun things that was done was a raffle for a quilt. With the proceeds being split and going to each states WGM Projects of choice. Sister Cheryl Beckius PGM of Nebraska was the winner!

## Clay Center Initiation and Scholarships

On April 15th Jean Wells was Initiated into the Order of Eastern Star. Her husband, Roger Walls, is the Chapter Chaplain. After the initiation a luncheon was enjoyed by all.



Sister Debra Buseman WM, Sister Jean Walls, and Brother Robert Hess, PGP, WP of Clay Center #180

Clay Center Eastern Star has announced scholarship recipients for the 2023-2024 school year.

Brenden Buseman will be attending Tabor College in Hillsboro, Kansas. He plans on becoming a Physical Therapist.

Sheyenne Kelsey will be attending Central Christian College in McPherson, Kansas. Se will be majoring in Business with a Minor in Ministry.

Lily Lagerman is studying at the University of Nebraska. She is Majoring in Phychology with a Minor in Human Rights and Humaniterian Affairs.

Paden Taylor will be at Manhattan Vo-Tech. His plans are to become a Mechanical Engineer.

## SAVE THE DATE!!

Spring Charity  
MARCH 9, 2024  
At the Cosmosphere

Another fun filled  
Branson trip,  
June 18 - 20, 2024.

If you missed out on seeing Queen Esther or want to see it again here's your opportunity. All other shows will be different with time for shopping.

More information to follow

## ~ MEMBERSHIP CORNER ~

Always have a petition available when asked. Print updated petitions from the Grand Chapter website, or see your Chapter Secretary.

Don't hesitate to ask someone to join. A "No" doesn't cost you a thing but a "Yes" can be a priceless gift of love, loyalty and friendship.

## FAGO Information

Fast Approaching Gigantic Objects; no, that doesn't sound right. Fabulous Antiques Get Oiled. Hmmm. Nope.

How about Former Appointive Grand Officers. That's IT!

Each year, there are ten appointive grand officers. And the organization that gathers all the former appointive officers together is FAGO. Each year, at Grand Chapter, we have a luncheon to enable us to swap stories, share experiences and reflect on the joy spent serving the Grand Chapter. We also make a donation to the WGM's and WGP's Special

Projects and assist the Grand Representatives in the Grand Chapter Hospitality Room. But we want to do more. That is where you, the other former appointive officers come in. We want you to join us at our luncheon at Grand Chapter and bring ideas about what other things we could do.

The current serving Appointive Grand Officers are invited to attend our luncheon because on that last day you are just hours away from joining our ranks. What better way to feel the warm hug of friendship than at a meal with friends.

# Kansas/Oklahoma Exchange

## WISDOM FOR THE WALK

KS/OK Exchange

Come join the Oklahoma and Kansas Grand families in Claremore, OK for a weekend of fellowship, fun, and an opportunity to see the differences between the Initiatory work of our Beautiful Order.

All events will take place in Claremore Oklahoma

*TENTATIVE Program –*

### FRIDAY FEB 23

Dinner & Exemplification of the Kansas Initiatory Work by the Kansas Grand Officers

### SATURDAY FEB 24

Breakfast (included in Hotel)

Social Outing to include Will Rogers Museum, Victorian Tea, and/or other Entertainment

LUNCH

Afternoon Exemplification of the Oklahoma Initiatory Work by the Oklahoma Grand Officers

Fun, Games, Social Time between our Membership

DINNER

Dismiss to return home.

### HOTEL INFORMATION:

Either Room Rates \$109 + tax

**Booking must be made by 8 Feb 2024**

**Facilities are side by side, very close to Cracker Barrel and Los Cabos**

Breakfast is included and they also have a "Gathering Room" if you want to eat breakfast together let them know and they will set that up for you. You can eat in either Hotel.

TownePlace Suites (918-376-4400) – 10 King Studio Suites (King Bed + Sleeper sofa) available  
9355 N Owasso Expressway, Owasso, OK 74055

Holiday Inn Express (918-376-4415) – 20 Double Queens  
9321 N Owasso Expressway, Owasso, OK 74055

Ronna Kimbrell

[Ronna.Kimbrell@yahoo.com](mailto:Ronna.Kimbrell@yahoo.com)

316-209-9358



# PASSAGEWAYS

PROVIDING HOPE FOR OUR MILITARY VETERAN HEROES

Here is a list of items that Passageways is in need of:

### Greatest Needs

Sweat Shirts and Pants  
Medium to XL  
Blankets Full and Queen Size  
Men's Socks  
Shampoo and Conditioner  
Hair Brushes (New)  
Laundry Soap  
Beard Trimmers  
\$15.00 Gift Cards  
From  
Dillons, Quicktrip  
Sonic, WalMart

### Other Needs

*New & Nearly New*

Pots and Pan sets  
Baking Pans  
Vacuum Cleaners  
Microwaves  
Queen Sheet Sets

Also on the Website  
is a WalMart Registry

For a full list of items visit  
[passagewaysltd.org/helpfulitems/](http://passagewaysltd.org/helpfulitems/)

### *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](mailto: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.

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!  
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**WHAT IS AN EASTERN STAR?**

A member of the ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR is a Sister or Brother who realizes that into the midst of the darkness of selfishness and despair, the bright light of the STAR OF BETHLEHEM shines to dispel all shadows and gloom. Believing firmly in Charity, Truth, and Loving Kindness, a member of the Order never falters when confronted with the challenge; is accompanied wherever she goes with the determination to help those in need; affirms constantly by the way in which she lives, to the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man, and the Sisterhood of Woman; and is loved and respected by her Sisters and Brothers in the Order, and shows that love in service and sacrifice in behalf of others.

Following the Guiding Light of the Eastern Star, a member is best followed by looking upwards and away from self and ever towards God.