

"Unexpected Possibilities"

Grand Chapter of Louisiana
Order of the Eastern Star

Donna M. Harrist
Worthy Grand Matron
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July, 2019 – Newsletter

From the Desk of the Worthy Grand Matron:

What a wonderful job was done by Nancy Hickman, DDGM and the members of District 9 to welcome everyone for their Official Visit. The tables were unique with great attention to detail and each Grand Officer had the opportunity to make new friends at their individual tables. Thank you District 9 for the fantastic kick-off of the Official Visits. For each person who took time to join us, we are truly touched by your dedication and support. You are truly individuals who are our most cherished Gifts.

Family fun in the "Feud" style was the game of the day for our "Family Reunion" with the members of Mississippi. Lynn Bankston, PGM, and her crew did a fabulous job of decorating and preparing the food to feel like a reunion. Lots of recipes were being exchanged. Some of us are not very good with geography, but Keith and the Grand Officers did an outstanding job of keeping our side close.

Our experience with the Wizarding World of Rainbow was a colorful experience during the 93rd Session of the Grand Assembly of Louisiana. It is always rewarding to observe these young ladies as they grow each year in leadership and poise. As a former Rainbow girl, I know what this order can provide for them. The next evening we joined our DeMolay for their state leadership conference and installation to observe those young men. They too are progressing in leadership and composure each year. I hope each of you will find an opportunity to support our youth and visit their meetings. Remember if you have a young person of the right age in your family, they could not find a more outstanding organization to develop leadership in than Rainbow or DeMolay.

An opportunity to "Celebrate Good Times" was enjoyed by thirteen Louisiana members as we visited the Grand Chapter of Georgia for their annual session in Macon. Helen Cox, PMWGM, was honored with the announcement of funds for a puppy named Helen to be trained as a service dog then given to someone with a medical or emotional need.

As we move into the heart of summer and celebrate the Fourth of July with vacations, hot dogs, snow cones and fireworks, let us find some time to be thankful for those forefathers who had the foresight to form this country where equality and freedom are the centerpieces of our foundation. As William Faulkner said, "We must be free not because we claim freedom, but because we practice it."

In Service and Love,

Donna M Harrist

Donna Harrist
Worthy Grand Matron

Do good for others. It will come back in unexpected ways.

July 27 – Honor Event following Official Visit - District 14 will honor their Past Grand Matrons, Past Grand Patrons, Elected Grand Officers, and District Deputy Grand Matron with an ice cream and cake social following the Official Visit.

July 28 – District 13 Official Visit - District 13 invites you to attend the Official Visit of Sister Donna Harrist, Worthy Grand Matron, and Brother Keith Powell, Worthy Grand Patron, accompanied by the Grand Officers at 2pm on Sunday, July 28, 2019, at Unity Lodge # 267 1029 Bayou Black Drive Houma, LA. Light Refreshments will be served following the meeting. Denise Bonvillian, DDGM (985) 868-3256.

August 10 – District 5 Official Visit of the WGM accompanied by the WGP and other Grand Officers at 3:00 p.m. to be held at Palestine Chapter No.55 located at 106 N. Beville St., Winnfield. Refreshments will follow the Official Visit. Gloria Folden, DDGM 318-302-1935

August 14-1 - Grand Chapter of Texas in Tyler, Texas

August 24 – District 10 Official Visit - District 10 invites you to attend the Official Visit of Sister Donna Harrist, Worthy Grand Matron, and Brother Keith Powell Worthy Grand Patron, and other Grand Officers at Eunice Chapter No 14, located at 4627 Church St, Zachary. Refreshments at 1:30pm with Meeting to follow. Kristin Morgan, DDGM, 225-266-1085. Housing Chairman, Jane McDaniel, 225-571-6594.

September 7 – District 7 Official Visit of the WGM accompanied by the WGP and other Grand Officers with refreshments at 1:30 with the meeting to follow. Located in the **Shrine Building** on the West Louisiana Forestry Festival Fairgrounds, 276 HM Stevens Blvd, Leesville. Directions: From Alexandria take 28 West to Leesville. Turn left at the traffic circle that is 171 South to the intersection of Nolan Trace. Turn right on Nolan Trace due West about two miles. Turn right on H.V. Steven Street, Leesville Fairground to the Shriners Building. From Shreveport take 171 South to Nolan Trace in Leesville. From Lake Charles take 171 North Turn left on Nolan Trace and continue to Leesville Fairground. Housing Chairman, Betty Gosewehr, PM, Phone: 337-353-8989. DDGM: Marie Finch Phone: 337-238-4156.

September 14 – District 6 Official Visit

September 20-22, Four State Friendship, Hot Springs, Arkansas

September 27 – Myrtle Celeste Luau

Sept 28 – District 12 Official Visit

September 27 – District 11 Official Visit

Calendar Correction: Oklahoma Grand Chapter - October 20-23

Northern Section Schools of Instruction

District 2-August 3

Magi No 85, Ruston-1:00- Susan Hinckley, DDGM

Officer Excellence Awards:

The Work and Ritual Committee is ready to give the Officer Excellence Award tests for the Conductress (both Conductress & Associate Conductress openings & initiatory lectures), Chaplain (long opening and four prayers) Star Points (long opening & all of their part in initiation), Worthy Patron. You do not have to be installed in an office to earn the Award. Committee members are

Rovenia McDonald, PGM, Chairman

Gene Cagle, PGP

Oscar Abshire, PGP

Anita Fields-Gold, PGM

Lynn Bankston, PGM

Kath Warmack, PGM

Appreciations:

Thank you all, my Sisters and Brothers, for the many cards, phone calls and especially all the prayers for me during my surgery. Surgery went well and I am recovering on schedule. Your love and concern was felt through it all. I still have a ways to go before I am back to normal, but I am working on it.

Faithfully, Marilyn L Abshire, PGM

Line Officer Corner:

Susan's Krewe will celebrate The 4th of July and have a planning meeting for the club. The planning for Susan's Krewe meeting will be held June 29, 2019. We will meet at Square and Compass Lodge, 600 Daniel St. Kenner, La., from 1:00 until 3:00pm. Lunch will be served. Please join us to begin the plans for our Grand Chapter 2023. Fraternaly, Susan Williams, A.C

From the Sweet Peas: Is your closet overflowing with OES formals and page dresses? How many times have you thought "What can I do with all of these dresses?" Help is on the way!

We are asking for donations of freshly cleaned ready to wear formals and page dresses that you no longer wear. Please include the size. You may contact one of us to make arrangements to get the dresses.

Susan Freeman, Grand Conductress 225/937-7023, Lynn Bankston, PGM, Norma Jenkins, Norma Cagle, Mary Berthelot, Judith Duncan, Carmen Higgins or Paulette Spedale

UPCOMING EVENTS:

July 6 – District 3 Official Visit of the WGM accompanied by the WGP and other Grand Officers to held at Guiding Star Chapter No. 66 located at 401 E Jefferson St., Oak Grove. Refreshments will be served at 2:00 p.m. with the Official Visit to follow. Marion Hicks, DDGM 318-267-9805.

July 6 – Celebrating 100 years - Vidalia Chapter No. 37 Immediately following the Official Visit of District 3, we will recognize this milestone with the members of Vidalia Chapter for cake and a short presentation. Please join us after the Official Visit in the dining room in Oak Grove.

July 12-14 "Be Our Guest" Multi State, Tallahassee, Florida

July 20 – District 1 Official Visit of the WGM accompanied by the WGP and other Grand Officers to be held at the Creswell Street Masonic Temple, 1805 Creswell Avenue, Shreveport, LA 71105 at 3:00 p.m. The meal will follow the meeting. Angela McNicoll, DDGM 318-773-3878

July 27 – District 14 Official Visit of the WGM accompanied by the WGP and other Grand Officers to be held at Alberta Retif Chapter No. 252 located at 1105 Lebeau Street, Arabi LA. Meal will be served at 2:00 p.m. with the Official Visit to follow. Gail Dupree, DDGM 504-234-4703, Housing Chairman : Bonnie Johnston 504-452-1950

Grand Representative Appointments:

Iowa, Geraldine Barr, 5461 Fennwood Dr, Zachary 70791-2439 Exp. 2/1/21

Quebec, Vernie Kennedy, 179 Avis Road, Leesville LA 71446-7811 Exp. 1/1/2022

South Carolina, Monica Baradell, 40078 Burr St, Ponchatoula 70454-5488 Exp 2/1/21

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GRAND SECRETARY:

New Book of Instruction – Correction – Please add the following to the very bottom of Page 45 if not visible on your copy:

be pinned on by the Conductress(es).

<<<<<<<< AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE >>>>>>>>

There will be no Rituals available until after General Grand prints new ones. I will let you know when they are available.

Revised Book of Instruction – **NOW AVAILABLE** - \$1.75

Rosters, 2017-2018, \$1.50

Constitutions are available. They are as follows:

Constitution Revision **2019** – **NOW AVAILABLE** - \$1.00 (If you want to update your Constitution)

Constitution Revisions, 2018, \$1.00 (If you only want to update you Constitution)

Constitution Pages Only, \$4.68 (You have your binder and tabs but want new updated pages)

Constitution Tabs, \$3.62

Constitution Pages and Tabs, \$8.10

Constitution Binder, \$6.00

Secretaries and Members, Please make all checks payable to **The Grand Chapter**. Thank you.

Fraternally,



Diane Smith, PGM
Grand Secretary

Website: www.laoes.org