

"Unexpected Possibilities"

Grand Chapter of Louisiana
Order of the Eastern Star

Donna M. Harrist
Worthy Grand Matron
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February, 2020 – Newsletter

From the Desk of the Worthy Grand Matron:

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Everything in our Order is based on the principles of our heroines and at the center of all is our Faith with Truth as our guiding strength. Without these principles, our Order cannot and should not continue to exist. As we embark upon a new year in our Chapters, let us all recommit ourselves to those very ideals with steadfast loyalty to one another and a determination to make a difference in the lives of others.

Grand Chapter preparations are well underway. Your reservation should be made directly with the Holiday Inn Downtown (318) 541-8333 under the code OES. This hotel is connected to the Riverview Convention Center by an air-conditioned hallway. We also have a block of rooms at the same price with the Hotel Bentley which attaches to the Riverview Convention Center via a second-floor air-conditioned skywalk.

Remember the pre-registration is due by March 6 to Joy Beth William, PGM, Chairman of Credentials. If you hold one of the top four offices with a chapter vote, you must be registered under that chapter to receive the ballot. Deadline for Banquet tickets is also March 6 and goes to Terrie Castay, PGM.

Our Grand Warder, Louella Marze, and Grand Sentinel, Gary Hinckley, are in need of volunteers to assist them on the doors during the sessions. Please consider assisting them for a great opportunity to speak with all your friends.

Apparently, no one is proud of their district winner in the “Dog Show” for Service Dogs since I have not received any photos to post on Facebook. You can always just text the photo from your phone.

When one searches for the history of Valentine's Day, you find that how it began and when is not clearly documented. It is generally recognized that some form of expressing affection during February goes back as early as the 1400's. In an organization that emphasizes fidelity and devotion with a charitable purpose, we should all take this opportunity to share our affection and caring with others. I hope that each of you realize that you are important to me as individuals and you are appreciated more than words can express. You will "Owl"-ways have a special place in my Heart.

In Service and Love,



Donna M Harrist
Worthy Grand Matron

Some gifts are big, others are small, but the ones from the Heart are the Best Gifts of All.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

February 8 – Central Section Workshop 10:00 am to be held at Lafayette Chapter No. 46 located at 101 Carl Street, Lafayette.

February 9, Sunday - District 10 Sweetheart Tea – From 2 pm to 4 pm at Eunice Chapter # 14 at 4627 Church Street in Zachary. Please see invitation below.

March 7 – Annual Fish Fry & Auction, 10:00 a.m. Till 2:30 p.m. at the Community Center located at 26356 Hwy 15, Ferriday, LA. Great food and great items to purchase! All new ways of buying those great treasures. We will have tables of items for purchase at different prices and a "make an offer" table. Start buying when you walk in. Auction will be the same but fewer items and only the best picks. Donation of \$15.00. For tickets or information contact Kay McCray, Fran Slay, or Teena Satcher.

March 21 – Keep Reaching for Your Star Banquet honoring our **GGC Officer & GGCCM**

March 22-25 - One Hundred and Twenty First Annual “Unexpected Possibilities” Session of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, Alexandria Randolph Riverfront Center

SERVICE DOGS REMINDER:

The “Dog Show” final will take place during Grand Chapter. Please submit your district winners to Jim Josker or Jessica Canning (our addresses are in the roster). We need the winners by February 24th if possible so we can be ready for Grand Chapter. Notify us if you cannot meet the February date.

APPRECIATION:

By courtesy of the Worthy Grand Matron, I am sending an abundance of gratitude and thank you's to my sisters and brothers for all of the prayers, cards, and messages over the last few months. Starting this year, I was diagnosed with Severe Aortic Stenosis. My wonderful Cardiology team here in Lake Charles fought through several denials of insurance coverage and were finally able to replace my heart valve with the less invasive Trans catheter procedure (TAVR) Dec 3rd. I am pleased to say I am 500% better and should be fully recovered

by the end of December. I am looking forward to what life has to bring and many Grand Chapters! – Jo Schexneider, Grand Treasurer

INVITATION:

On Sunday, February 9, 2020 at Eunice Chapter # 14 at 4627 Church Street in Zachary, LA a Sweetheart Tea will be held from 2 pm to 4 pm to honor Sister Donna Harrist, WGM, Brother Keith Powell, WGP, Sister Linn McNary, RWGT, Brother Roy Bankston, GGCCM, Benevolence, Sisters Alna Abbott, Lynn Bankston, Janet Shook, Jane McDaniel, Debbie Poche', PGMs and Brothers Guy Jenkins, Joe Stroud, Gene Cagle, PGP's, Sisters Susan Freeman, Gr Conductress, Ruth LeCompte, Gr. Ruth and Kristin Morgan DDGM of District 10. You are cordially invited to share this time with us.

THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE is looking forward to receiving your creative homemade donations for our Distinguished Guests. Each chapter is to provide 10 items, to be given to the DDGMs. Don't know what to make; perhaps a drawstring bag for shoes or a small bag for glasses, cosmetics, or jewelry; Louisiana themed items or even Christmas ornaments. District Deputies please bring in items collected in your areas (needed by Saturday). Thank you so very much for your donations.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES, please bring two 2-liter soft drinks with A-G bringing Dr. Pepper, Diet Dr Pepper; and H-M bringing Coke, Diet Coke; and, N-S, Sprite/7UP. Grand Representatives T-Z please bring packaged crackers. As representatives from Louisiana are ambassadors to the other jurisdictions, we would like to have the Representatives available to greet our guests. Please contact Pamela Gill at 337-257-4301 or pamgill1921@outlook.com to sign up for a time to assist us. The hospitality room is open from Sunday after ESTARL service thru Monday. Thanks for all your help. Questions or Suggestions, please call Pamela Gill, GGCCM, Chairman Distinguished Guest at 337-257-4301 or Delores Woods, PM, Chairman Distinguished Guest Special/Hospitality at 318-558-2682.

REMINDERS:

District committee chairmen, please contact your chapters and compile the information for your District then forward it to the State Chairman to be included in the Grand Chapter report.

Those earning the **Be Part of Solution Personal Achievement Award** need to turn their forms into the Chapter Secretary who will forward the names to Violet Rhymes, State Chairman.

SECRETARIES - Reminder

The **Chapter Activities Annual Report** is a TWO PAGE report this year. Be sure you fill in the back. I want to personally thank the Chapter Secretaries. Your diligence is most important in the operation of the Chapters and the Grand Chapter. Our records and communication depend on your cooperation at a very busy time of the year. You are appreciated.

LINE OFFICER CORNER:

From Susan's Krewe:

February 29, 2020– Susan's Krewe Meeting – Bunco is how we roll. We'll eat, we'll laugh, and there's prizes to win. Meal \$8.00, To Play - \$20
1:00 pm at Metairie Lodge, 2122 N. Causeway Boulevard.,

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTMENTS:

Alabama – Joy Ledet, PM (252), 31027 Torres Drive, Lacombe 70445-2929

Puerto Rico – Elaine King, PM (10) 116 Wilderness Dr. Boyce 71409

Saskatchewan – Brenda McDaniel, PM (53) 1141 Middle Rd, Minden LA 70155

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GRAND SECRETARY:

CHAPTER CHANGES:

The consolidation of Pinehurst Chapter No 33 and Rosepine Chapter No. 204 was completed on Saturday, December 14, 2019 with the remaining chapter being Rosepine No 204.

Guiding Star #66 – Suspended for NPD – Mr. Jackie Gunter

SECRETARIES - Please include your **Name and Chapter Number** on all correspondence to the Grand Secretary; i.e. emails, texts, phone calls, etc.

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

New 2019-2020 Roster now available - \$1.50

New Rituals –Large spiral bound - \$26.00 each (5 ¼ x 8 ¼ - navy blue or white)

New Ritual – Extra Large spiral bound **NOW AVAILALE** - \$36.00 ea. (7 x 10 3/4 – purple

Revised Book of Instruction, \$1.75

Constitutions are available. They are as follows:

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

Constitution Revisions, 2019, \$.50 (If you want to update your 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