

"Unexpected Possibilities"

Grand Chapter of Louisiana
Order of the Eastern Star

Donna M. Harrist
Worthy Grand Matron
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March 2020 – Newsletter

From the Desk of the Worthy Grand Matron:

Mardi Gras surrounds my neighborhood as I begin this, my last newsletter, as Worthy Grand Matron. The music from the carnival rides, bands performing on stage, roving vendor carts, endless street barriers, smoking barbecue, expectant children, excited crowds, marching bands, colorful floats, sirens with lights and of course those very coveted beads and throws. What a mixture of sights and sounds all within a block of home. It conjures many memories of family gatherings, shared experiences and a celebration of life all in preparation for Lent. An experience that is unique to our area.

How does this relate to Eastern Star? Our Order is a mixture of events and experiences that are filled with ceremonies and traditions all for the purpose of sharing with those who share our values while enjoying the companionship of others who are dedicated to our charitable purposes. As with Mardi Gras, we should seek unique ways to share in service, gather with excitement and celebrate the unique individuals that make up this fraternal family. Let us bring light and color into our chapters while creating memories around our traditions.

There was a full house for the Central Section Workshop. Thank you, Oscar Abshire, PGM for leading it with the support of members of the Committee on Work and Ritual. For each member of the committee I want to express my appreciation for your guidance at the workshops and the time you each committed to working with the members. Your support of the Officer Excellence Awards and the work you have heard, allowed this program to work for those members who participated.

Sisters and brothers, your Grand Chapter is almost here. With your smile and commitment to participate, it will be a successful experience for all. If you would like to do something extra, I am sure there will always be a place you can volunteer. There is still a need for Assistant Sentinels and Assistant Warders. How wonderful it would be to have every chapter represented.

Members of the Grand Representatives Association, the Distinguished Guest committee is looking forward to working with you in the only hospitality room we will have this year. I hope you will read the notice below and be a part of the welcome committee. Whether a Present or Past Grand Representative, you are the ones who build and strengthen our fraternal ties beyond our state boundaries.

I am looking forward to all the possibilities we may discover together as we gather for our Grand Chapter Session in Alexandria in just a few days.

In Service and Love,

Donna M Harrist



Worthy Grand Matron

Growth is the process of responding positively to change. Paul Harvey

Note from the Worthy Grand Patron:

My Sisters and Brothers, Grand Committee Chairpersons and committee members are working hard to get the Grand Session, "Unexpected Possibilities" ready for your attendance. Please make plans to attend this fine Session that is being prepared for each Chapter member. They will put many volunteer hours devoting their time to our great Order for you to be provided with friendship, Orderly love and appreciation of being part of this Session.

We will have the honor in hosting the General Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star, MWGM Marianne Shenefelt and MWGP Henry Martin, along with members of their Grand Family including our own RWG Treasurer and GGC Committee Members. This will be a life time memory, so come to show our guests the Louisiana style of hosting our Out-of-State guests with, "Laissez les bon temps Rouler!"

Look for me to get your hug of appreciation!
With Brotherly Love,

William Keith Powell, Sr., WGP

APPRECIATION:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my Sisters and Brothers who offered up their prayers, sent cards and letters and words of encouragement during this past year when I was being treated for lymph node cancer in my throat. My doctors have now given me a clean bill of health and I am so grateful for that, but Willie and I will never forget the support that I received from so many that helped us through this very difficult time. Thank you again - and I love you all.

Willie and Terrie Castay

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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

May 2, 2020 - Grand Officers Reception, Cenla Shrine Club, 1100 Vandenburg Drive, Alexandria, La. Time: 12:00 Noon until 2:00 p.m. See invitation

Hospitality Room

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. District Deputies please have items from your District delivered before or by Friday to the committee. Thank you so very much for your donations.

Grand Representatives (past & present), please bring two 2-liter soft drinks if your last name is **A-G** bringing Dr. Pepper, Diet Dr Pepper; **H-M**, Coke, Diet Coke; and, **N-S**, Sprite/7UP: **T-Z** please bring packaged crackers. If you will be available to greet our guests, please contact Pamela Gill at 337-257-4301 or pamgill921@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.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTMENTS:

California – Sandra Rogers, PM (204) 2521 Hwy 112, DeRidder 70634-7058 Exp. 12/31/21

Illinois – Cheryl Cannon, PM (55, 244) 200 Virginia Ave, Winnfield 71483-2536 Exp. 10/1/21

Manitoba – Esther Weatherford, PM (161) 7613 Hickory Grove Loop, Deville 71328-8210 Exp. 2/1/23

Minnesota – Timothy Sibley, PP (105) 339 Bear Cub Lane, Pine Grove 70453-1926 Exp. 12/31/21

Nebraska – Carlton Conway, PP (59) 107 Boswell Dr, Slidell 70458-1421 Exp. 10/1/21

New Jersey – Walter Thibodeaux, PP (242) 651 Moss Bluff Dr., Lake Charles 70611 Exp. 9/30/21

Committee Change:

Registration of Louisiana Members: Polly Baker, PM has replaced Jean Tucker, PM as Chairman

Grand Officers Reception

Saturday, May 2, 2020

Cenla Shrine Club, 1100 Vandenburg Drive, Alexandria, La.

12:00 Noon until 2:00 p.m.

Come join us for an Island Picnic (barbecue)

to welcome the new Grand Officers for 2020/2021

Dress is casual and please RSVP the number attending from your Chapter as the food will be catered and we want to be sure and have enough for everyone. Call or text Kay McCray, 318-308-5641 or Teena Satcher 318-776-5157 home, text 318-613-5209.

If you would like to make a presentation to the Grand Officer in your Chapter or District, we

encourage you to do so at this event, please let us know so it can be on the agenda.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GRAND SECRETARY:

Friendship Chapter #210 - Suspended Iris Odell Bailey Bushnell for NPD

CHAPTER CHANGES:

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 ¾ – 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