

“GOD’S CHANNEL OF BLESSING”

Grand Chapter of Louisiana
Order of the Eastern Star

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May 2022 – Newsletter

From the desk of the Worthy Grand Matron

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Bible Verse of the Month: Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Hymn of the Month: Pass It On.....The first line of “Pass It On”.....

**It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing;**

Our Bible Verse of the Month and Hymn of the Month go hand in hand. A card, email, phone call, text, a short visit are sparks that encourage our inactive members and remind them of the loving warmth of the Order of the Eastern Star. This loving warmth is not limited to only our members but includes their families and the members of the local lodges.

The projects for this year are the sparks to reach out to our inactive members, family members, members of the Masonic bodies and encourage them to join our warm, encouraging membership which glows in the community and starts a fire of charity and lovingkindness.

Sooo, plan that Progressive Dinner and invite your family; Prepare a Meal for the Masons; take Cake, Cookies, Coffee to inactive members. Be the spark that gets a fire going.

Progressive Dinner option:

The chapters meet at one lodge. Each chapter provides one course: appetizer, entree, vegetable, dessert, drinks, etc.

A chapter sets up the first course; everyone eats, the chapter cleans up; sing a song or play a game between courses.

Next chapter sets up the next course; everyone eats, clean up that course, sing or play a game. Continue until each chapter has provided a course or assisted with a course. Chapters in large districts may want to work in pairs to prepare a course.

Cake, Cookies, Coffee Project: Who has reached out to inactive members, family members of Master Masons? While this information is to be included in the Quarterly Report, I plan to include the information in the monthly newsletter and the OES Friendship.

The Mississippi Grand Chapter Session was attended by at least 21 members from Louisiana. The Sessions Main Banquet was a Hawaiian Luau complete with a ukulele band for entertainment. Hawaiian attire was the dress for the evening. A great time was held by all.

Disaster Relief Helping Hands Committee: Sister Angela McNicoll, PM, Chairman
Hurricane Season begins June 1 and while the southern part of the state is directly affected by these storms, even the central and northern sections can suffer some damage. Let's prepare now.

Sister Angela suggests gathering items and having them available - Examples of these items: water, ready to eat canned food and toiletry items. Think of the non-perishable items you need daily and are difficult to come by when a disaster strikes.

I am asking every Worthy Matron to appoint a member to serve as the Helping Hands Chairman for the chapter; send the name and contact information for that person to me. The chapter will need to decide where the items will be stored until needed. I know storage space is limited at our lodges; however, what a **blessing** it will be to have enough water and ready to eat canned food items available for a family of four.

The goal is be ready to roll when a disaster strikes. Sister Angela is getting a plan together and the information will soon be on the OES Friendship Line and will be included in the June newsletter. Of course, some details will have to be worked out at the last minute; but let's be prepared. Hope for the best but be prepared for the worst.

I want to thank those who served in the Hospitality Room during the Jewels of the Sea Grand Chapter Session. Sister Kay & Brother Johnny, thank you for appointing such a capable crew. They graciously welcomed our guests, kept the tables clean and filled with snacks. I also want to thank those who provided the snacks. When a few do a little, it adds up to so much.

Speaking of the Hospitality Room, I would like each chapter to donate at least 12 homemade items. Yes, I know in the past it was 10; however, we need to replenish our supply. My pages will collect these items at the Official Visits.

I was informed after the calendar went to print that, due to extenuating circumstances, 4 official visits must be rearranged as follows:

Changes to the Calendar (Please mark changes in your Calendar)

District 12 OV - July 23 - Sister Penny Hahn, DDGM
District 11 OV - July 24 - Sister Kristen Sibley, DDGM
District 1 OV - Nov 5 - Sister Lisa Byrd, DDGM
District 4 OV - Nov 6 - Sister Dora Kaylor, DDGM

OES Friendship Line: If you have information you post on the Friendship Line, please send it to me, Susan Freeman, Worthy Grand Matron, and I will contact Sister Carroll Holmes. Sister Carroll is also requesting that you email her with your name, address, phone number and email address. She is in the process of rebuilding the OES Friendship list after her computer crashed.

Brother George Wilkinson, PGP has entered the gates of Heaven. Please remember Sister Juanita Wilkinson, PGM, and their family in your prayers and with cards.

May Birthdays

May 4 Bro Ed Lamkin, PGP
May 8 Bro Jeff Freeman, WGP
May 24 Bro George Woolman, PGP
May 29 Sister Pam Gill, GGCCM, PGM
May 31 Bro Roy Bankston, PGP

Upcoming Events

Mother's Day	May 8
Tennessee Grand Chapter	May 9 – 13
William D White 100 th Anniversary 501 Amelia Street, Gretna, LA at 1:00 P.M.	May 14
District 9 Official Visit 4627 Church St., Zachary: 12:00 Lunch; 1:30 Program; 2:00 Meeting	May 21- Eunice Chapter (Plains Lodge #135)
Memorial Day	May 30
Louisiana International Order of the Rainbow for Girls Grand Assembly	June 4 - 5
Georgia Grand Chapter	June 9 - 12
Father's Day	June 19
District 14 Official Visit	June 25
District 13 Official Visit	June 26

June Birthdays

June 10 Sister Martha Jo Schexneider, Associate Grand Conductress
June 15 Sister Mary Berthelot, Grand Adah

If you need to speak with the Worthy Grand Matron, you must call her number, 225- 937-7023, not the Worthy Grand Patron's number.

Don't forget to plan Cake, Cookies and Coffee visits; a Progressive Dinner and Prepare a Meal for the Masons. Use these opportunities to be "God's Channel of Blessing" which sparks a wildfire of enthusiasm for the Order of the Eastern Star.

We love you,
Susan Freeman, WGM & Jeff Freeman, WGP

Worthy Grand Patron's Trip to Branson:

The Worthy Grand Matron has put me in charge of the Fun Trip for this year so we are calling it the Worthy Grand Patron Trip. We have chosen a Branson Show Extravaganza thru Vacations by Design with our tour guide being Nannette Gwaltney. Nannette is an OES member in Texas who has done many trips for Louisiana OES. We will leave Alexandria, La. at 8:00 AM on Monday October 3 and return on Saturday October 8. Trip includes 6 shows including "Jesus" at the Sight and Sound Theatre.

The total cost is \$702 per person - double occupancy. \$100 deposit due on signup with balance due by 7/27/22. More information will be on our website "laoes.org".

If you have any questions, please contact one the following:

Jeff Freeman - jgfreemans@gmail.com - 225-324-3726

Nannette Gwaltney - vacationsbydesign@hotmail.com - 210-373-5580.

From the Desk of the Grand Secretary:

Resolution No. 2 – Please note change: Should have been Section “2”. Approved as amended Article Six, Sect 2, p. 18a, No. 10 to read: A Committee on the Grand Chapter Web Site, composed of the Web Master (chairman) and two members to assist in presenting the information of Louisiana Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star in a timely and accurate manner. The cost of the web site will be a budgeted item and a notation on the home page will designate the site as the “Richard Shaw Memorial Web Site.”

Chapter/Roster changes:

Johnny Byrd, PGP – Please note his new address as follows: 574 Brunswick Gardens, Haughton, LA 71037

Jo Schexneider, AGC – Please note correction in phone numbers: (Cell) 337-274-4909 and (home) 337-429-5454

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

Roster 2021-2022 – \$2.00 each

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

Ritual–Extra Large spiral bound-\$36.00 ea. (7x10 3/4 purple) OUT OF STOCK

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 Revisions, **2021, \$1.00 – NOW AVAILABLE**

Constitution Tabs, \$3.62

Constitution Pages and Tabs, \$8.10

Constitution Binder, \$6.00

Please contact the Grand Secretary at the following email address only: laoesgrsec@gmail.com. Also, please include your chapter name and number.

Secretaries and Members, please make all checks payable to “**Grand Chapter of Louisiana, OES**”. Thank you.

Fraternally,



Diane Smith, PGM
Grand Secretary
laoesgrsec@gmail.com