

“Love, Loyalty & Friendship”

Grand Chapter of Louisiana
Order of the Eastern Star

Susan Rabb-Williams
Worthy Grand Matron
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August 2023 – Newsletter

From the desk of the Worthy Grand Matron

On the Road!
We have started our traveling!!!!

July 8th found us in Shreveport for District 1's Official Visit. Fifteen of our Grand Officers were in attendance. The food was delicious, the purple, green, red, white and blue decorations were everywhere. Sister Theresa Stewart had an amazing display for Breast Cancer Research, selling pens and signatures for the square. The Krewe received a very special gift from our DDGM Carolyn Edgar, a red crab for the ladies and eagles for the men. We have been challenged to bring our mascots to all events or we must put up \$5.00; donations will go to our Veterans. *

Just wanted to thank Brother Donald Bordelon, PGP for his continued support of our Grand Chapter. Thank you to all who brought donations for the Foster Care Program sponsored by our LA Rainbow Girls. The bin was over flowing.

Thank you, Sister Carolyn and the members of District 1, for an amazing day.

I received notification that Supreme Assembly has appointed Sister Geneva Dolph, Supreme Inspector for our Louisiana Rainbow Girls. Sister Lea Ann Hawkins-Fisher has been appointed State Mother Advisor. Congratulations Sisters, Louisiana Rainbow for Girls is in wonderful hands.

On July 2, 2023, I had the honor to attend the installation of officers for Charles F Buck Chapter and the investiture of the New State Master Councilor, Order of DeMolay for Boys. Brother Rocky Schexneider, GGCCM and myself brought greetings on behalf of General Grand Chapter and our own Louisiana Grand Chapter. There were 3 Grand Officers, 1 GGCCM, 1 PGM, and several Sisters and Brothers. Congratulations to Brother Eian Dowden for an awesome year as State Master Councilor for 2022/2023. We wish our new State Master Councilor, Martin Reyes, for a harmonious coming year.

Our next stop was in Ponchatoula with District 9. Sister Joy Ledet had the Fellowship Area decorated with special Mickey & Minnie Mouse, flags.

Seventeen members of our Grand Family, along with their traveling mascots attended. Our “Sunday” meal was outstanding. Thank you, Sister Joy for my special shrimp mold. Many thanks to Sister Penny Hahn for shaking the pink bucket and collecting names on District 9’s square for the quilt. Thank you to all who brought can goods for the Daily Bread Food Bank in District 9. **

Arkansas Grand Chapter hosted the Multi State event in Fort Smith, Arkansas, July 21-23, 2023. Twelve members of our Louisiana Grand Chapter were in attendance. Cowboy attire was our dress code for the weekend. We even wore our pajamas to breakfast on Saturday morning. Brother Charlie and I brought greetings on behalf of our Grand Chapter, and added our pins to the traveling banner. We were both very proud to walk behind the Louisiana flag, carried by Sister Joy Carter, at the Saturday evening banquet. Next stop for the Multi State is Alabama in 2024. Mark your calendars – it is a fun event.

P.S. As you know, or don’t know, my mascot, Little Suzy Crab is missing. She did not make the trip from Shreveport to St. Rose following the Official Visit. I miss her; however, I have gladly paid my \$5.00 at District 9’s OV (all other Mascots were present). Mascots were present in Arkansas, (I paid my \$5.00). I also got \$5.00 from our Grand Secretary when her phone went off during the banquet. If anyone knows the whereabouts of Lil Suzy, please let me know.

“You’ll travel safely, you’ll neither tire nor trip...Because God will be right there with you; he’ll keep you safe and sound.” Proverbs 3:23,26

UP COMING EVENTS

August 2-4, 2023

Amaranth Grand Court
Denham Springs Masonic Lodge #297
313 Benron St N
Denham Springs, LA 70706

August 5, 2023

District 6 - Official Visit
Sister Regina (RJ) Steyerman, DDGM
Pine Hill Baptist Church, Activity Center
128 Pine Hill Church Road
Leesville, LA 71446
Meal at Noon meeting immediately following
Casual Attire-Ladies: Dresses/slacks (no jeans or shorts)
Gentleman: Suits/slack/polos (no jeans or shorts)
We will be collecting can goods for the
Districts local food bank.

August 11, 2023

Service Dog Fundraiser
Trip to Angola Training Facility
17544 Tunica Trace
Angola, LA

August 16-19, 2023

Texas Grand Chapter
Renaissance Hotel, Addison, TX

August 19, 2023

District 10 – Official Visit
Karen Porter, DDGM
Slidell Masonic Lodge
2222 Front St.
Slidell, LA 70458
Meal at Noon meeting to follow
Casual Attire-Ladies: Dress/slack
(No jeans or shorts)

Gentlemen: Suits/slacks/polos (No jeans or shorts)
We will be collecting can goods for the Districts food bank

Peace be with You!

Susan Rabb-Williams

Susan Rabb Williams

Worthy Grand Matron

- District 1 – Keynote: Singing – good or bad, with or without a piano. Opening and Closing Ode, especially the National Anthem. Make a joyful noise!
- ** District 9 – Keynote: Set up your Chapter for all meetings – it is part of the Ritual and reminds us who we are.

Hello everyone, I'm Ray Bedwell - Grand Sentinel 2023-2024. I started my Masonic journey in 1989 at William D. White Masonic Lodge #408, Gretna, Louisiana. I currently hold the office of Lodge Treasurer. I am also a member of the Valley of New Orleans Scottish Rite 32nd Degree Mason and Jerusalem Temple Shriner. My father, Dewitt Bedwell has been a member of William D. White for over 52 years.

On one bright Sunday morning around 30 years ago, I met my lovely wife, Nancy Curole Bedwell, in front of Munholland United Methodist Church on Metairie Road. I knew she was the one for me. I married her in that same church. We have two children, Bonnie and Stephen, and four Grandchildren, Isabella, Donald, Bella, and Jerry-Dewitt. We also have six cats. Nancy and I joined William D. White Chapter #141 in 1997. We wanted something we could do and share together. We had no idea what the Eastern Star was about. We were greeted with welcome arms. We soon found a strong relationship of sisterly and brotherly love.

My first Chapter appointed position was Marshal. I also served on several Chapter committees and positions. Nancy and I were elected Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron in 2003. We were installed by Sister Linda and Brother Ed Lamkin. It was a night I will never forget. I have been serving as Chapter Treasurer since 2015. I served as Grand Representative of Montana in Louisiana. 2016-2018. I was also District Chairman for Service Dogs 2019. I received my 25-year OES membership pin in 2022.

I retired in 2012 from the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office with over 33 years of service and was a small business owner. I also did consulting work in the field of General Traffic Accident Reconstruction.

I am going to plagiarize this quote from Sister Jerry Ann. She said it best. "Well, anyone who really knows me, knows that I love to travel." Nancy and I love cruise travel and hope everyone will join Susan's Crew Cruise on November 13, 2023. Hope to meet and greet everyone as we travel around the state attending Official Visits and Chapter Meetings.

Dedicated to Charity, Truth, and Loving-Kindness.

Brother Ray

From the Desk of the Grand Secretary:

Grand Representative Appointments:

Mississippi – Geneva Dolph (202) 9630 Wesso Circle, Shreveport 71118 Exp. 7/1/25

Chapter/Roster Changes

Janet Shook, PGM – 3412 Perman Dr., Mesquite, TX 75126

Virginia Fields, Gr. Ruth– 6737 N. Club Loop, Shreveport, LA 71107

Minden #53 & Greenwood #202 – Jennie Goodwin, PM, Sec.–New email: 3646jennie@gmail.com

Magnolia #232 – Suspended for NPD Kathy Craft, Casandra Savell, Lilly Vaughn, Bonnie Wier, Renae Young, Georgia Young & R.S. (Rod) Young

Shirley Boone, PGM (6,202)–130 Ken Lane, Paducah, Kentucky 42003 (318) 469-4489 (email-same)

Eldon Howell, PGP (53)-Northwest LA Veterans Home, 3130 Arthur Ray Teague Pkwy., Bossier City 71112

Mary Howell, PGM (53) – (318) 455-7039

Ed Lamkin, PGP (85) – Alpine Nursing Home, 2402 North Service Road E., Ruston, LA 71270

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

Roster 2022-2023 - \$5.00 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 blue) **NOW BACK IN STOCK**

Revised Book of Instruction, \$1.75

Constitution Pages Only, \$4.68

Constitution Revisions are available. They are as follows:

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

Constitution Revisions, 2019, \$.50

Revisions, 2021, \$1.00

Constitution By-Laws Revision, 2022, \$1.00

Constitution Revision, 2023 \$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,



GGCCM, Grand Secretary

laoesgrsec@gmail.com

Website: www.laoes.org