

*“Peace, Love and Harmony”*

**Grand Chapter of Louisiana  
Order of the Eastern Star**

**Donna Nelken-Baker  
Worthy Grand Matron  
164 Vienna Bend Dr.  
Natchitoches, LA 71457-2829**

**Diane Smith, GGCCM, PGM  
Grand Secretary  
P.O. Box 99  
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**May 2024 – Newsletter**

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**From the desk of the Worthy Grand Matron:**

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

April showers bring May flowers! I hope that you all will take time to stop and smell the flowers and enjoy God’s beauty. I have had beautiful pink Azaleas and red roses blooming in the flower beds at my office. It won’t be long until the Hummingbirds are buzzing around their feeder right outside my window!

May is the month that we celebrate our mothers. I lost my mother eight years ago, but her memory is always with me, as I am sure that you mother’s memory remains with you. For those of you who are blessed to have your mother with you, I hope that you do something very special with her to celebrate her special day.

My mother was a very creative woman, lovingly called “Muzzy” by her grandchildren. She was always ready to help them with school projects and other activities that they were involved with. Her sense of humor was refreshing, until she managed to get to the phone first. She would answer the phone saying, “this is the cook, the bakers are gone, and the kitchen is closed. How can I help you? Of course, the person on the other end of the line hung up and she was standing there laughing. She could never tell you who called...thank goodness for caller

ID! My mother loved to write poems, and I want to share with you for Mother's Day, the last poem she wrote.

Master of Light  
Guide our actions as we walk through life,  
That we may reflect thy goodness  
Bringing warmth and comfort to our brothers.  
You are always with us  
In times of joy and times of sorrow.  
Shadows flee when you are near.  
At journey's end bring us safely home  
That we may become part of your Light.

Sisters and Brothers, we are getting into the season of District Deputy Grand Matron visits and Schools of Instruction. I encourage you all to attend these meetings, they are for you and are opportunities for us all to ask questions and to learn. Remember, there really is no dumb question, so speak up! Others may have the same question, and everyone benefits from the answer. Your Deputy and your Supervisor are there to assist you in learning your work and to help us all to do our work to the best of our ability. So please take advantage in these learning opportunities.

I wish you all a Happy Mother's Day and that you spend it with those that you love! I look forward to seeing you all soon!

In the Spirit of the Star,

*Donna Nelken-Baker, WGM*

### **Upcoming Events:**

**May 4, 2024:** You are cordially invited to the Homecoming of Jane Zaruba, Grand Worthy Advisor of Louisiana Rainbow for Girls. The event will be held at Denham Springs Masonic Lodge (313 Benton St. N). High Tea will be served at Noon, followed by a Nature Walk. RSVP to Jane McDaniel, Mother Advisor at 225-939-0465 or [mimimacdaniel@gmail.com](mailto:mimimacdaniel@gmail.com)

**May 11, 2024:** You are cordially invited to the Homecoming of Donna Nelken-Baker, Worthy Grand Matron and James Duncan, Worthy Grand Patron to be held at Eastern Star Lodge in Winnfield (105 N. Beville St.) from 2 to 4 PM. Attire is church dress, please.

**May 18, 2024:** You are cordially invited to join Baton Rouge Chapter No 163 and Fidelity Chapter No 160 om Celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary on May 18, 2024 at 2 PM at West Baton Rouge Presbyterian Church. (640 Florida Blvd, Port Allen, LA) Attire is church dress, please.

**May 19, 2024:** You are cordially invited to join HC & ME Duncan # 161 as they celebrate their 100th Birthday on Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 2 pm. Address: 2191 Hwy 28E, Pineville, LA

**May 24-26, 2024:** Multi-State Exchange Visit in Prattville, AL

**Note to Chapter Secretaries and Treasurers:**

If your chapter receives a letter from the IRS concerning your tax-exempt status telling you that your chapter has not filed taxes for a past year, please make yourself a copy of the paperwork and forward all the contents of the envelope to the Grand Treasurer.

If your chapter's bank contacts you about your tax ID number, it is on the 990-N form we gave to you. Your banking is not Grand Chapters business and you will need to take care of that yourself.

Remember, please keep the 990-N form copy in your possession for at least 7 years.

Please keep this note in your paperwork for reference.

Fraternally, John Wayne Harrist, GGCCM, PGP, Grand Treasurer

## From the Desk of the Grand Secretary:

**Mt. Carmel No. 3** – (Florien Lodge – 154 West Port Arthur Ave., Florien 71449) – By-Law change - Meeting has changed to the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, Effective 1/12/2024 (except November & December – will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month). Meeting at 6:00PM – No meal is served. Effective 3/28/24, Mt. Carmel #3 will be in District 6.

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

**Revised Book of Instruction – Now Available - \$4.00 ea.**

Roster 2023-2024 – \$5.00 ea.

Ritual–Extra Large spiral bound-\$36.00 ea. (7x10 ¾ - blue)

Ritual – Large Spiral Bound - \$26.00 each (5 ¼ x 8 ¼ - Green or white)

Constitution Pages Only, \$4.00

Revisions, 2021, \$1.00

Constitution By-Laws Revision, 2022, \$1.00

Constitution Revision, 2023 \$1.00

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](mailto: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, PGM, Grand Secretary

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Website: [www.laoes.org](http://www.laoes.org)