

“Peace, Love and Harmony”
**Grand Chapter of Louisiana
Order of the Eastern Star**

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July 2024 – Newsletter

From the desk of the Worthy Grand Matron:

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I know that you have all been busy in your chapters, celebrating Father’s Day and Flag Day in June. It was a busy month with Schools and District Deputy Grand Matron meetings. I hope that you all took full advantage of every opportunity to ask questions and that you all learned something that you did not know or had forgotten. It really is true that “if you don’t use it, you lose it.”

The Rainbow Girls met in Denham Springs for their Grand Assembly June 6th though the 9th. Brother James and I had the honor of attending the banquet and bringing greetings on Friday night. We were so pleased to be able to present a certificate to Alonna Ingram who was a recipient of the Artis Mills Educational Scholarship. She is the daughter of Ashley Ingram, WM of Mystic Star Chapter and the granddaughter of Brother James. What a special memory for them to share!

June 12th, Sister Kristina Donovan, Grand Marshal and I took a trip to Columbus, Georgia for their Grand Chapter. I had the honor of bringing the response on behalf of the Worthy Grand Matrons and Worthy Grand Patrons from other Grand Jurisdictions. We were joined by Sisters Mindy Myer, GGCM for Service Dogs, Laura Doxey, Grand Representative of Georgia in Louisiana and Martha Bea Woods who is Grand Representative of New Hampshire in Louisiana.

The first Official Visit was held on June 15th in Denham Springs. Sister Mary Berthelot DDGM did an outstanding job! Thank you for everything that you did to make this a memorable day for Brother James and me. We were entertained by Maxine who gifted Brother James and me with dogs that had “showed up at her house”. Praise the Lord, they were invisible, and we don’t have to feed them! To District 8, thanks for the Honorary Memberships that were presented to us. We will cherish them for many years to come.

On Monday night, June 18th, Brother James and I attended a Courtesy Visit to Eunice Chapter # 14 in Zachary. If you see a naked Peacock, his feathers are in Zachary!! We enjoyed a delightful meal and a program that began with sister Susan Freeman, PGM giving us a history of the chapter and ended with the members asking Brother James and me questions to get to know us. Thank you, Eunice Chapter for a lovely evening.

On Tuesday night, Brother James and I attended a Courtesy visit at Central Chapter # 23. Again, we were greeted with smiles and hugs and a delicious meal. The program was about Penelope Peacock searching for a suitable companion. Would you believe that she found the perfect Little Yorkie to fill the bill! Sister Melanie Jackson, Grand Electa and Sister Christina Cohea, DDGM District 9 joined us for the evening.

June will finish up with the Official Visit in District 2, with Dianne Sutton, DDGM on June 22nd. I know that it is going to be fabulous and that the Spirit of the Star will be present. I am looking forward to seeing everyone there!

As we go into July, we celebrate our country’s independence on July 4th. I am looking forward to hot dogs and fireworks! However you celebrate, keep safety first and foremost in your mind. Firecrackers are fun and exciting but can also be dangerous if not handled correctly.

We will have two Official visits in July. On July 20th, we will be in District 11 and on July 27th, we will be in District 9. I hope that you can join us for these meetings. I know that we will certainly have a great time in Ponchatoula and Gretna!

Looking ahead to August, if anyone is interested in joining us at the Ark/LA/Miss Friendship in Crossett, AR on August 3rd. It will just be a one-day event, but it will be a fun filled day! Let’s see how many people we can bring from Louisiana! Also, in August, we will be going to Texas Grand Chapter in Waco. The dates are August 6th

through 11th. I will be arriving August 7th and departing August 9th. Please let me know if you want to go!

Continue to be in prayer for Brother James as we travel around the state. He really enjoys the cards texts and phone calls! We have several other Sisters and Brothers around the state that need our prayers as well. Pray for our Order, our country, our service men and women and our first responders. Be sure to thank these special public servants when you see them. A kind word and a simple “thank you” are priceless! Remember that I love you, but Jesus loves you more!

In the spirit of the Star,

Donna Nelken-Baker, WGM

A Special Note of Appreciation:

My wife, Diane, and I would like to extend a special thank you to all who have called, sent texts, emails and to those who have sent such beautiful cards to me. I am still being checked, treated, taking tests, etc. but doing much better since surgery on April 10th. Thank you for your thoughts and continued prayers; I love you all.
Fraternally, Charlie Smith, PGP

UP Coming Events:

July 20, 2024: Official Visit of District 11 will be held at William D. White Chapter # 141 with a meal served at noon and the meeting to follow. DDGM is Sister Nancy Bedwell. Address: 501 Amelia Street, Gretna, LA

July 27, 2024: Official Visit of District 9 will be held at Rachel Jackson Chapter # 241 with a meal served at noon and the meeting to follow. Sister Christina Cohea is DDGM. Address; 286 E. Pine Street, Ponchatoula, LA.

August 3, 2024: Ark/La/Miss Friendship Exchange will be held at the first Baptist Church Multia Ministry Building at 703 Pine Street, Crossett, AR. The meal will be served at noon.

From the Desk of the Grand Secretary:

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

Revised Book of Instruction - \$4.00 Each

Roster 2023-2024 — \$5.00 each

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

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

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. 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

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