

“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, PGM
Grand Secretary
P.O. Box 99
Mt. Hermon, LA 70450-0099**

December – Newsletter

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

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas and as of today, we haven’t carved the turkey! Everywhere you look you see store windows decorated with lights and tinsel, Santa and elves, and commercials trying to sell you, and your children, all the latest “Must Haves” for the year. Like so many other things, Christmas was so much simpler back in the day! Families gathered and celebrated the birth of Jesus with good food and attending church services together.

General Grand Chapter was very well attended from all over the globe. There were 21 Louisiana members in attendance. I want to congratulate our outgoing General Grand Chapter Ambassador and Committee Members on a job well done as well as our new slate of General Grand Chapter Committees for the 2024-2027 Triennium: Sister Shirley Boone-Benevolence, Sister Debbie Poche-Cancer, Sister Rovenia McDonald-Community Service, Sister Kay McCray-Credentials, Sister Susan Freeman-Service Dogs and Brother Wm. Keith Powell-Landmarks, Little Red School House. I also want to congratulate Sister Linn McNary, RWGT, PGM on her re-election to another term.

November ended with Official Visits in District 5 on November 9th and District 4 on November 16th. Thanks to the members of those districts for great visits! Sisters Adrienne Pedneau, DDGM District 5 and Susan Wilson, DDGM of District 4 did outstanding jobs making us all feel welcome.

On Sunday, November 10th, two new members were initiated into our order at HC & ME Duncan #161 in Pineville. I had the honor to serve as Worthy Matron beside Brother

Oscar Abshire, PGP who served as Worthy Patron for the initiation. Thanks to everyone who came out to assist HC & ME Duncan to welcome these new members.

I hope that you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and that as we go into the Christmas season, we will remember the reason that we celebrate. Jesus truly is the reason for the season, and it is OK to say Merry Christmas! Never forget that I love you all, but Jesus loves you more!

In the Spirit of the Star,
Donna Nelken-Baker, WGM

Clinton Ardis Mills Board: I have been honored to serve you on the Clinton Ardis Mills Educational Scholarship Board for the Southern Section. I am submitting my name for re-election. Elizabeth Sibley

THANK YOU - LA Eastern Star Members,

On behalf of myself, Linn McNary, RWG Treasurer and all of the General Grand Chapter Committee Members and Special Appointment, we would like to thank you for all of the courtesies and honors given to us these past 3 years. Many of us have just recently returned from the General Grand Triennial Session in Myrtle Beach, SC. It was great to see old friends and make new ones. The legislation that passed was interesting – you will be hearing more about that.

PGM's, Kay McCray, Susan Freeman, and Susan Rabb-Williams and WGM, Donna Nelken-Baker, along with their WGP's, honored us at their Official Visits and their Grand Sessions. Thank you DDGM's for making us feel special! WM's and WP's of many Chapters honored us with special honor nights and special meals and giving us gifts and making honorariums on our behalf. All are most appreciated and the memories will be sweet reminders.

We all especially thank you for the generous Love Gifts given at the Louisiana Breakfast at the GG Session. We felt your love and appreciation! Thanks to Donna for planning the breakfast!

I would like to say a special THANK YOU to the LA Delegation at the General Grand Session for the beautiful flowers that were placed on my Treasurer's desk. The white roses and lilies were just lovely and smelled wonderful. Many commented on them! It was such a nice surprise!

Linn McNary, RWG Treasurer
Jane McDaniel, Ambassador-Aruba
Oscar Abshire, Eastern Star Journal
Donna Harrist, ESTARL
John Wayne Harrist, Jurisprudence
Kathy Warmack, Service Dogs
Otto Beverly, Shrine Charities

Rocky Schexneider, Youth
Joy Beth Williams, Colorful Note-Co Chair
Diane Smith, Colorful Note
Terrie Castay, Colorful Note
Pamela Gill, Faithful Note
DeLores Woods, Page to RWGT

Note of Appreciation:

Fran Slay and family greatly appreciate the calls, Sympathy cards expressing sympathy and love, messaging and emails for the time that Mother, Helen Holmes, was sick in hospital and her passing on September 15th. The Memorial Service was held on Sunday, October 13, 2024 in Concordia Lodge F& AM, Vidalia. A special thank you to members of the Eastern Star who attended her service. Mother enjoyed her family and friends in Eastern Star. She was a 73-year member in the Eastern Star. Her 99 years and 22 days was filled with memories from both. Again, thanks for your love and prayers. Fran Slay

With permission of the Worthy Grand Matron:

My Dear Sisters, Brothers and loved ones,

With the holiday season approaching, many of us are reflecting on the year and all the things we are grateful for. This year, following our home explosion, I am grateful for the “miracle 5”. The 5 family members that survived this horrific event. Thank you, God, for seeing them through it. The unbelievable progress that they have made since that day is also a miracle. For this, my Sisters and Brothers I am grateful to YOU. Your love, prayers and support have aided them in so many ways, I can hardly express my gratitude. Thank you, with all my heart, thank you. Please continue to pray of my family. Miracles do still happen.

Beverly Brown, PM
Star of Magnolia #232

Sisters and Brothers,

The members of Star of Magnolia #232 appreciate all of your support for our Sister and her family. We cannot thank you enough. Please continue to pray for the Brown family. The recovery will be long and hard.

Delanie Cooley, Worthy Matron & Danny Dowden, Worthy Patron

From the Desk of the Grand Secretary:

Roster Changes:

Phone No. Correction: Pg.19 & 24 - Martha Jo Schexneider -337-274-4909 (Cell Phone Only)

ESTARL – Pg. 9 – Bennye Randall: 19 Billyday Ave., Kenner 70065-3101

Metairie Ridge #169 – Pg. 9 – Bennye Randall, Sec. – email: bsrandken@gmail.com

Mystic Star #108 – Stated meetings will be held in the Masonic Lodge #297, Denham Springs, on 1st and 3rd Thursday at 7pm. (With the exception that if any stated meeting falls on the eve of or a major holiday).

Sec/Treas Club – Pg. 27 – Susan Rabb-Williams, PGM, President; Sharon Powell, PM, Vice-President; Martha Jo Schexneider, AGM, Sec/Treasurer

Chapter Changes:

Electa Chapter #10 - Suspended for NPD – Caroline Baillio

Grand Representative Appointments:

Idaho – Ashley Ingram #108, 31193 Old River Rd. Denham Springs 70726 Exp. 8/1/26

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

Roster 2024-2025 - \$5.00 Each

Revised Book of Instruction - \$4.00 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,



Grand Secretary

laoesgrsec@gmail.com

Website: www.laoes.org