

“Peace, Love and Harmony”

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

**Donna Nelken-Baker
Worthy Grand Matron
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February 2025 – Newsletter

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From the desk of the Worthy Grand Matron:

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

January is rolling quickly into February! We have had some winter weather, I guess that is expected this time of year. I don't know about you, but in my opinion, if the temperature is going to be in the 20's and 30's, I need to see some snow!

January brought new leadership to our Chapters. Thank you to everyone who has taken these roles to serve your Chapter and our Order. Being Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron in a Chapter is a big responsibility that many people have taken on multiple times and others are not willing to accept, but if our Chapters are going to survive, these positions are critical. I hope that as the year goes forward, our Chapters will work toward getting members comfortable and ready to step up and serve in one of these positions. Mentoring our members and helping them learn the ritualistic work is critical to growth. I am assuming a position in my Chapter this year that I have not filled in many years, but I have reached out to someone who has filled it multiple times to work with me so that I can refresh my knowledge and do the best job to my ability. That doesn't mean that I will not make mistakes, but we all learn from those mistakes.

Secretaries, please get your reports completed and sent in to the Grand Secretary in a timely manner. Please send your names for the Personal Achievement awards and Chapter Excellence Awards to me as soon as you can.

Please encourage your members to attend Grand Chapter. I know that it I often difficult to attend for those of you that work, I have had that issue in the past. It is an honor to be able to go and represent your Chapter for the annual meeting where the business of the Grand Chapter is carried out. Your voice matters and so does your vote!

Continue to be in prayer for our Order, and for our members with health issues. We have had many members undergoing cancer treatment and other debilitating illnesses. Pray for them daily and for their caregivers. We have members who have lost loved ones and need our prays This is a critical time in the history of America. Pray for our sisters and brothers who are still trying to put their lives back together after the storms in October and for those who are being displaced by the fires in California. Pray for those affected by the New Year's tragic incident in New Orleans and that safety measures are in place as New Orleans readies for Mardi Gras and the Super Bowl.

As we prepare for February's cold weather predictions, please make sure that you have everything that you need if we do have record temperatures and precipitation. Check on your homebound members to make sure that they are safe and have food, medications and supplies on hand to get through a week. In Louisiana we think of emergency preparedness in relation to hurricanes, but it also pertains to other weather emergencies. Take care of each other! Remember that I love you, but Jesus loves you more!

In the Spirit of the Star,

Donna Nelken-Baker, WGM

Note of Appreciation:

With the permission of the Worthy Grand Matron, the John McDonald family wishes to express their thanks for the kindnesses shown to us during John's illness and death. Your prayers and words of encouragement were heart felt and appreciated.

Rovenia McDonald and family

Upcoming Events:

March 1, 2025: Fish Fry fund raiser for AGM and AGP at the Cenla Shrine Center at 1100 Vandenburg Dr., in Alexandria from 10 am until 2 pm. You may purchase your tickets from 2025-2026 incoming Grand Officers and DDGMs, or at the door. Cost is \$20. Please mark your calendar and come out for a delicious meal and great fellowship. Sister Jo and Brother Arthur will be introducing their Grand Family. Bring your items for the auction and your \$\$\$!

March 23-26, 2025: 125th Grand Chapter “Peace, Love and Harmony” Session at the Alexandria Convention Center 2225 N. MacArthur Dr., Alexandria, LA. You may make your hotel reservations at the Four Points by Sheraton hotel by calling the hotel at 318-619-3300 and mention Eastern Star 2025 Conference. Group room rates \$119.00-\$149.00 for dates from Saturday March 22- Thursday March 27, 2025. Last day to book is Saturday, March 8, 2025. You may use the link below to make your reservation or you may call the hotel at 318-619-3300.

[https://urldefense.com/v3/ https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1729179049942&key=GRP&guestreslink2=true_!!Fi7UdqZSpg2tHQ!dO9DNckPQyXMfaqjvpmWHAdXvNfsad0g8nZN2dsr7UCeWKvS01OQnnUQ7PCWk0D17mXlf67gEL4oVApz45Ls-6Tz1R0RD8w\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1729179049942&key=GRP&guestreslink2=true_!!Fi7UdqZSpg2tHQ!dO9DNckPQyXMfaqjvpmWHAdXvNfsad0g8nZN2dsr7UCeWKvS01OQnnUQ7PCWk0D17mXlf67gEL4oVApz45Ls-6Tz1R0RD8w$)

From the Desk of the Grand Secretary:

Fern Leaf #24 – Suspended for NPD – Nancy J. Wiginton Gerlaugh

Ringgold #131 – Suspended for NPD – Margie Wimberly

Moss Bluff #242 – Suspended for NPD – Sherry Meck-Horswill

<<<<<<< **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) IN PRINTING BY GGC

Ritual–Extra Large spiral bound-\$36.00 ea. (7x10 ¾) IN PRINTING BY GGC

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,



PGM, Grand Secretary

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Website: www.laoes.org