

**Together in Perfect Harmony
Grand Chapter of Louisiana
Order of the Eastern Star**

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July 2026 – Newsletter

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From the desk of the Worthy Grand Matron:

July is a month filled with celebration, gratitude, and patriotism. As we gather with family and friends to celebrate the Fourth of July, let us give thanks for the freedoms we enjoy and remember the sacrifices made by those who came before us to secure those blessings. May we continue to be thankful for our country and strive to be examples of love, kindness, and unity in all that we do.

Brother Ray and I have been blessed to begin our official visits across our great state, and what a wonderful beginning it has been! On June 13th, we had the pleasure of making our first official visit to District 10, which holds a special place in our hearts as Brother Ray's home district. We were greeted with such warmth and hospitality by Sister Jerry Ann Butters, District Deputy Grand Matron, and the members of District 10. The warmth did not stop at the door but continued throughout the meeting room as Sisters and Brothers gathered in friendship and fellowship. The delicious food, joyful laughter, and the love shared among everyone present truly reflected our theme, **"Together in Perfect Harmony."**

A very special highlight of our District 10 visit was the presentation of a 50-year membership certificate to Sister Lisa Cotham, Associate Grand Matron. Sister Lisa, congratulations on this remarkable milestone. Fifty years of faithful dedication, service, and commitment to the Order of the Eastern Star is a legacy to be honored and celebrated. Thank you for your love and devotion to our Order.

Our journey continued on June 27th as we traveled to District 3 in Winnfield. Once again, we experienced the warmth and love that makes our Eastern Star family so special. Sister Eva Gates, District Deputy Grand Matron, did a wonderful job preparing for the visit, and her dedication and hard work were evident in every detail. The food was delicious, the fellowship was abundant, and the members and visitors present enjoyed a truly memorable evening together.

Sister Eva and Sister Jerry Ann, thank you both for your leadership, your commitment, and your faithful service to our Order. You each demonstrated the spirit of Eastern Star through your kindness, hospitality, and the love you showed to everyone in attendance.

As Brother Ray and I continue our travels throughout our Grand Jurisdiction, we look forward to sharing more special moments with our Sisters and Brothers. Each district we visit reminds us that although we may come from different communities and walks of life, our hearts are joined by the principles we hold dear. When we work together, support one another, and serve with love, we are truly **"Together in Perfect Harmony."**

May God bless each of you, keep you safe in your travels, and grant you and your families a joyful and blessed Independence Day.

With much love and appreciation,

Angela McNicoll
Worthy Grand Matron
Harmonizing our future!

Birthdays for July

July 5 - Diane Smith, PGM

July 9 - Molly Cervantes, Grand Organist

July 28 - Martha Porche, GC

July 30 - Juanita Wilkinson, PGM

July 6 - Susan Rabb-Williams, PGM

July 25 - Rovenia McDonald, PGM GGCCM

July 28 - Otto Beverly, PGP

July 31- Donna Nelkin-Baker, PGM

Upcoming Events:

July 11th – Official Visit – District 8

The Members of District #8 Order of the Eastern Star cordially invite you to attend their Official Visit of Ms. Angela McNicoll, Worthy Grand Matron, accompanied by Mr. Ray Bedwell, Worthy Grand Patron, and Other Grand Officers, July 11, 2026, at 1:00 PM, Rachel Jackson, 241, 286 Pine Street, Ponchatoula. A meal will be served at 12:00 PM.

From the Desk of the Grand Secretary:

Reminders for Secretaries: Know your duties.

Page 52 in Constitution, Article 5, Section 4 (b) The Secretary of a chapter must place the seal of the chapter on all communications.

(c) The Secretary must give immediate notice to the Grand Secretary of all rejections, suspensions, and expulsions, with the dates thereof.

For items available to purchase, please check out the Grand Secretary's page on the Richard Shaw Memorial Website at www.laoes.org

The Roster and the Book of Instruction are available and will be with me at each official visit. If you would like to order extras for your chapter, and have them mailed, please send orders for each to laoesgrsec@gmail.com. Please DO NOT text or call, I need a record in email. The revised Constitution is ready for print, \$8.00. Not updates but the completely revised Constitution. The cost for updates would be more expensive. Please email your order. These are printed on demand, and I usually do not print more than one or two extras. I may have one or two with me at OV.

Roster changes:

Tara Greene, email address is metairie_rnbo@yahoo.com (the Roster has a dash but should be an underscore.

Johnny Byrd, new mailing address. 110 Lem Weathersby Road, Mendenhall, MS 39114.

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,

Rocky Schexneider, PGP, Grand Secretary

Check out the Richard Shaw memorial website at: www.laoes.org.