

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

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October 2026 – Newsletter

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From the desk of the Worthy Grand Matron:

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

October is here, and as the leaves begin to change and the seasons turn, I find myself reflecting on how quickly this year is moving. It seems like just yesterday that we began this journey together, and yet here we are, already entering October.

When I look back over these past months, my heart is filled with gratitude. Brother Ray and I have been blessed to travel across our great state, visit your chapters, share meals, laugh together, and most importantly, make memories with so many wonderful Sisters and Brothers.

Every visit has reminded me that **Eastern Star is not simply an organization—it is a family.**

Looking Back at September

September was a month filled with fellowship, fun, service, and beautiful examples of our theme, **“Together in Perfect Harmony.”**

On **September 5th**, we enjoyed our **Tailgate Party**, and what a fun event it was! There was plenty of food, laughter, fellowship, and a little friendly competition as we cheered on our football teams.

Congratulations to our football game winners:

🏆 **1st Place — Elaine King, PM**

🏆 **2nd Place — Jane McDaniel, PGM**

🏆 **3rd Place — Donna Harrist, PGM**

But the real winners were the charities we were supporting. Through everyone's generosity, **\$277.75 was raised for each of the charities represented by our General Grand Chapter Committee Members.**

That truly touched my heart. We gathered together to have fun, but we also found a way to turn that fellowship into service. That is what our Star is all about—**having fun together, giving together, and making a difference together.**

It was also my privilege to honor **all of our General Grand Chapter Committee Members**. These Sisters and Brothers give their time, talents, and energy in service to our Order. Much of their work happens quietly behind the scenes, but their dedication does not go unnoticed.

To each of you who serves in this capacity, **thank you**. Your willingness to serve represents the very best of our Order.

I want to give a **very special and heartfelt thank-you to Sisters Susan Rabb-Williams, Donna Nelken-Baker, and Jo Schexneider** for all the time, thought, and love you put into making this event happen. I know that events like this take planning, preparation, and a lot of behind-the-scenes work, and I truly appreciate each of you for giving so generously of your time and talents.

Mid-Year Meetings & District 6

September 26th was another very special day as we gathered for our **Mid-Year Meetings** and then together the Official Visit for **District 6**.

A great day of meetings, the associations have new officers, Past Grand Officers installed, and Secretaries and Treasurers learning more about Grandview.

A heartfelt thank-you goes to **Sister Karen Young, District Deputy Grand Matron**, for all the work and preparation she put into making the Official Visit special. Karen, your dedication and love for your district were evident, and I am so grateful for everything you did.

I also want to extend a very special thank-you to **Daniel Ledet's Club** for preparing the meal for our Official Visit. The food was wonderful, but the love and effort that went into preparing and serving it meant even more. There is something special about sitting down together around a table, sharing a meal, sharing stories, and simply enjoying one another's company.

Thank you, District 6, for welcoming Brother Ray and me with such warmth. Your smiles, hugs, fellowship, and friendship are memories we will treasure.

Our Order is made special by the people who fill it—the Sisters and Brothers who open their hearts, give of their time, share their talents, and lift one another up. Whether we are gathered in a chapter room, enjoying a meal together, traveling to another Grand Chapter, or simply sharing a hug and a smile, these moments are what make our journey so meaningful.

Together in Perfect Harmony

Together in Faith.

Together in Love.

Together in Service.

Together under our beautiful Star.

Angela McNicoll

Worthy Grand Matron

Harmonizing our Future!

Birthdays for October

Oct 1 – Richard Porche, PGP

Oct 18 – Shirley Boone, GGCCM

Oct 11 – Keith Powell, GGCCM

Oct 30 – Dorothy Procell Grand Electa

Looking Ahead

October is shaping up to be a very busy and exciting month, and I am looking forward to every opportunity to travel, visit with our Sisters and Brothers, and share in the fellowship that makes our Order so special.

October 3rd — Official Visit, District 7

We will begin the month with our Official Visit in District 7. I am looking forward to being with our members, sharing fellowship, and enjoying a wonderful day together.

October 8th–10th — Alabama Grand Chapter

Traveling to other Grand Chapters is always a special experience. It gives us an opportunity to strengthen friendships, exchange ideas, and celebrate the beautiful bonds of our Order beyond our own state.

October 17th — Official Visit, District 5

Next, we will travel to District 5 for another Official Visit. I look forward to seeing the members of District 5 and sharing another special day together.

October 19th–22nd — Oklahoma Grand Chapter

Oklahoma Grand Chapter is another opportunity to share experiences with Sisters and Brothers from other jurisdictions.

October 24th — Official Visit, District 9

We will close out our Official Visits for the month in District 9 on October 24th. This will be an especially exciting day as we will also draw the winning ticket for our **Service Dogs fundraiser**. Remember, there are only 250 tickets available, so if you have not purchased yours, please don't wait!

October may be a busy month, but it is also filled with wonderful opportunities to connect, serve, and make memories. I hope to see many of you along the way. Every visit, every handshake, every hug, and every conversation reminds me of just how special our OES family truly is.

I look forward to sharing October with you—one visit, one friendship, and one beautiful memory at a time.

November 7th – Little Red Schoolhouse – Richland, MS

November 14th – Official Visit, District 1 – Creswell Masonic Temple, Shreveport, LA

♥ Praying for Our Members

As we move into October, I also want to ask each of you to remember our members in prayer.

There are Sisters and Brothers among us who are carrying burdens that we may never see. Some are facing illness, loss, loneliness, family concerns, or difficult circumstances. We may not know every need, but **God knows every heart.**

Please keep our members in your prayers.

And don't stop with prayer alone. **Make the phone call. Send the card. Send the text. Give the hug.**

Sometimes the smallest gesture can make the biggest difference to someone who is hurting.

Let us make sure that no Sister or Brother feels forgotten.

When one of us hurts, let us surround them with love. When one of us needs strength, let us lift them in prayer.

And when one of us has a reason to celebrate, let us celebrate with them.

That is what family does.

🐕 Supporting Service Dogs

I am so excited to remind everyone about **Sister Susan Freeman's Service Dogs Raffle**. This is another wonderful opportunity for us to come together and support a cause that makes a real difference in the lives of others.

Tickets are only \$5.00 each! —and there are ONLY 250 tickets available!

That means **when they are gone, they are gone!** So please don't wait and hope there will still be tickets later.

You can purchase your tickets from **any Grand Officer, your District Chairman, or the State Chairman or Co-Chairman for Service Dogs.**

And mark your calendars because the **winning ticket will be drawn on October 24th at the Official Visit for District 9!**

But please don't just read this announcement and think, *"I'll get a ticket later."* **Let's take action now!** I am asking each of you to help make this raffle a success. **Get your ticket, encourage another Sister or Brother to get one, and share this opportunity with your family and friends.** Imagine what we can accomplish when 250 tickets are sold in support of this wonderful cause!

Five dollars may seem small, but when we all come together, those small gifts can become something truly meaningful.

Let's make this raffle a tremendous success in honor of the important work being done to provide service dogs to those who need them.

Don't wait! Find a Grand Officer, District Chairman, or Service Dogs Chairman and get your \$5 ticket today!

Only 250 tickets. \$5 each. One great cause.

Let's sell every ticket, support Sister Susan, and show what Louisiana Eastern Star can do when we come together!

Buy your ticket. Share the opportunity. Encourage someone else to participate. And together, let's turn \$5 into a whole lot of hope, independence, and love.

This is **"Together in Perfect Harmony"** in action—one ticket, one heart, one purpose, and one beautiful opportunity to serve.

From the Desk of the Grand Secretary:

If you only need the newsletter and attachments in email form, please email laoesgrsec@gmail.com and I will remove you from the hard copy list.

Upcoming Events

Oct 3rd – Official Visit District 7

Join the Saints who will be marching into Eunice Chapter, for the Official Visit of the WGM, Sister Angela McNicol & WGP, Brother Ray Bedwell, October 3, 2026. They will be accompanied by their Saintly Grand Officers. We will teach the World to Sing in Perfect Harmony at Eunice Chapter #14 which is located at 4627 Church Street, Zachary. Shining Stars will cruise to the tables at 12:00 noon for a meal. At 1:00 pm the eagles and tigers will gather in the chapter room for the Official Visit. Beth Holden, DDGM 225-931-6214 madelinelamotte77@gmail.com.

Oct 17th – The Members of District #5 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, Official Visit District 5 - Saturday, October 17, meal at 12:00PM, meeting at 1:00 PM. Location is DeRidder Lodge, 320 Shirley St, DeRidder. DDGM – JoAnn Gibbs,

Oct 24th – Official Visit District 9

The Members of District #9 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, Oct 24, 2026. Meal will be served at 12:00 PM, with meeting to follow. Pearl River Chapter #237, 64468 LA-41, Pearl River. Lorraine Munlin, DDGM, 985-264-9704, munlinw@bellsouth.net.

Nov 14th – Official Visit District 1

The Members of District #1 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, Nov. 14, 2026, location Masonic Temple, 1801 Creswell Ave. Receiving line at 11:30 AM, lunch at 12:00 pm with meeting to follow. Rovenia McDonald, GGCCM, 318-294-4515, roveniaoes2@yahoo.com.

Grandview Rollout:

You should have received an email from Grandview to create an account. If you have not, please send me an email (to laoesgrsec@gmail.com) and I will add you as an admin for your chapter. If you need the link to the training recorded along with some step-by-step PDF's, send an email to me for the link. We know this is a slow process. Please at least get the current membership adjusted in your chapters. Remove those that have demitted or died and add those that have joined.

Reminders for Secretaries: Know your duties.

Page 53 in Constitution, Article 5, Section 4 (k) Where concurrent jurisdiction exists, it is the duty of the Secretary of each chapter to notify all other chapters having concurrent jurisdiction, of the name, residence, and occupation of each applicant for membership, within three days of the reception of the application.

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.

Proceedings for Grand Chapters 2021 through 2024 are printed and cost \$5. Please order by emailing laoesgrsec@gmail.com. Send an email with the proceeding year you want.

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".

Fraternally,
Rocky Schexneider, PGP, Grand Secretary

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