

The Star Journal



March 2018



“Spirit of Christmas”



Copy Deadline for the Fall 2018 Issue is July 5, 2018
Please address all submissions to Sister JoAnn Bingenheimer, PGM
211 Virginia Ave,
Egg Harbor Twp., NJ 08234-9461
609-484-1460 – cjearle@comcast.net

The Star Journal



March 2018

Diane D. Affsa, Most Worthy Grand Matron
Emil Affsa, Most Worthy Grand Patron
Lynn C. Billingham,
Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron

Grand Chapter Office
111 Finderne Ave., Bridgewater, NJ 08807
Phone 908-725-0222 Fax 908-725-4053
email: njoesgc@optonline.net

The Star Journal Editor
JoAnn Bingenheimer, PGM
211 Virginia Ave., Egg Harbor Twp., NJ 08234
609-484-1460 email: cjearle@comcast.net

Co-Editors
Joanne Parsels, PGM
113 Breton Court, Ocean City, NJ 08226
609-391-8143 - email: wiljoanne@yahoo.com

Sharon Rosequist, RWGT
52 Maple Ave., Netcong, NJ 07857
srosequist@mtoliveboe.org - 973-527-4927

Web Site
www.njoes.com

New Jersey Eastern Star Home, Inc.
111 Finderne Avenue
Bridgewater, NJ 08807-3101
Phone 908-722-4140 Fax 908-722-9566

Eastern Star Charity Foundation of NJ Inc.
Fred Martin, PGO, President
2760 N. Congress Road, Camden, NJ 08104
H: 856.962.8198
email: frederickmartinjr@verizon.net

In This Issue

Most Worthy Grand Matron’s Message	3
Most Worthy Grand Patron’s Message	4
Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron’s Message	5
Right Worthy Grand Secretary	6
Right Worthy Grand Treasurer	7
Invitation to 148th Grand Session	8
Grand Chapter OES of NJ Membership Dinner	9
Pre-Registration Forms	11
Meal Plan Options	13
“Spirit of Christmas” Photos	14
Freedom Trail Trip	15
State Secretaries/Treasurers Club Meeting	16
Operation Shoebox of NJ	18
Grand Session Survey Results	19
Spring Fling Basket Auction	20
NJ Eastern Star Home	21
Christmas in Cape May	23
Grand Chapter Voluntary Donations (GCVD)	24
“Santa’s Workshop” Home Day	26
The Five Heroines of the Eastern Star	27

On The Cover

Back Row Left to Right: Sharon Rosequist, RWGT, Lynn Billingham, RWAGM, Joanne Byrne, RWGT, Jeannette Wallace, RWGT, Norma Hines, RWGC, Daria Hamm, RWAC and Gail Naia, RWG Treasurer. Front Row: Diana Affsa, MWGM and Emil Affsa, MWGP.



Most Worthy Grand Matron's Message



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It does not seem possible that time has gone by so quickly. We are now celebrating the year of 2018. I extend my appreciation and many thanks to our members for the wonderful support and encouragement you have given us. Your attendance and kindness at all our visitations has truly touched me. This is a year I will never forget.

We have made some changes this year. Our goal was to promote Eastern Star and energize our membership. We had hoped that by spreading good cheer, we will encourage our members to come out and speak up about our Order. We are our best salesmen for our Order. I encourage you to continue to go out and promote our Order.

We are grateful to all our State, District and chapter Chairmen who worked so hard on behalf of our Order to raise money for our charities. I thank all of you for your support for our service projects and fund raisers.

Our Halloween Hoot was a great deal of fun. We enjoyed a wonderful Christmas Concert by the Eastern Star choir and the Somerset Presbyterian Church Choir. We also enjoyed a relaxing "Christmas in Cape May" weekend. We had a great bus trip to Boston and a Caribbean Cruise in January. We have participated in Operation Shoebox, a great service project. We filled boxes with products which were sent to our troops stationed around the world. It is getting our Order out to the public – as a result one of our chapters was fortunate to get a new member. Promoting our Order does work. Our Chauffeur's party will be held in February. We will be honoring our Chauffeurs as well as forming our Club.

Our Shriners Hospital fundraiser will be on Friday, March 23, 2018 at Crescent Shrine Center. Tommy Zito, "The Piano Man", will be performing. It will be a night of fun, good food and fellowship. Our Spring Fling Tricky Tray will be held on April 7, 2018, at the Scottish Rite in Bordentown. There will be dancing and of course BASKETS. Don't forget Home Day "Santa's Workshop" on Saturday May 5, 2018. Bring the Family, it will be a fun time for all ages.

We are busy planning our Grand Session, "The Spirit of Christmas" for 2018. It will be held at Bally's Casino in May. We hope you join us for our Monday Night dinner, the Wednesday Grand Representatives Luncheon, and of course our meal plans. You never know what might happen at Grand Session.

To the Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons, I thank you for traveling this years. It was always my pleasure to present you. To Sister Lynn, RWAGM, I have enjoyed our last 6 years together. I look forward to your plans being revealed. I wish you the very best in your upcoming year as you serve in the Grand East.

To the elected line, I wish you the very best for your future on the line. It has been my pleasure working with you on Corporate Board for the last 7 years. Thank you for all your support.

To my Grand Staff, the Worthy Grand Officers. What can I say to you? You are the best. Each one of you were chosen for your position with a great deal of thought. I knew you would do your work with dignity and pride. You are the "Best of the Best", and I love you.

To my Worthy District Deputies, you are terrific. You have done an outstanding job in your districts. Thank you for a job well done. I love you too!

To all Grand Representatives, thank you for being faithful travelers. You have served this year well. I wish you safe, healthy and happy traveling.

To the membership, our sisters and brothers, I thank you for your love and support. I will forever treasure the memories you have given me.

Always Remember—The secret of Christmas is not the things you do at Christmas, but the Christmas things you do all year through. ❖

Merriest Wishes Always,

Diana D. Affsa

Most Worthy Grand Matron, 2017-2018



Most Worthy Grand Patron's Message



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Thank you, my sisters and brothers for this enjoyable year. Wherever the Grand Matron and I traveled, we were treated as though we were home. It was and continues to be a pleasant journey, due to you, our membership.

I wish to congratulate our officers for a job well done. Whenever we had a GO night, or Floral, the work was completed in a memorable fashion. Everyone did their part with feeling and precision, and gave our candidates a warm and friendly experience. To all the Grand Representatives who traveled this year, your presence was and is appreciated. I hope you had an enjoyable time with us.

Our Order of the Eastern Star is a wonderful organization, full of friendly individuals who donate their time and money to help others, both members and nonmembers. Our participation in fund raising for Shriners Hospitals, and in addition to our fund raising, our community time for Operation Shoebox, were very successful.

We all know we should increase our membership. So what can you do? Please wear our insignia when out with the general population, and show them what a great organization we are. The friendliness we show can be a magnet to draw in possible candidates. Then showing fellowship after initiation, will keep our members coming back, again and again. That simple approach worked on me, more than a quarter century ago.

I am looking forward to the rest of this year, meeting and greeting you, our members. Wherever the Grand Matron and I are visiting, please come over and say "hi". There are no strangers in the Eastern Star, only friends you haven't met as yet.

Always remember, "It is Love that makes Life's journey worthwhile." ❖

Fraternally,

Emil Affsa

Most Worthy Grand Patron, 2017-2018



GRAND CHAPTER ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR OF NEW JERSEY

111 FINDERNE AVENUE
BRIDGEWATER, NEW JERSEY 08807-3101
PHONE: (908) 725-0222 FAX: (908) 725-4053
E-mail: nioesgc@optonline.net

PRICE LIST FOR AD'S PLACED IN THE STAR JOURNAL Effective - 6/1/2017

OES Chapter Prices

Ads put in the Star Journal for one edition	
Full Page	\$75.00
1/2 Page	\$50.00
1/4 Page	\$32.00

Ads put in the Star Journal for two editions	
Full Page	\$100.00
1/2 Page	\$75.00
1/4 Page	\$50.00

Non-Eastern Star Advertisements

Ads put in the Star Journal for one edition	
Full Page	\$150.00
1/2 Page	\$100.00
1/4 Page	\$65.00

Ads put in the Star Journal for two editions	
Full Page	\$200.00
1/2 Page	\$150.00
1/4 Page	\$100.00



Greetings From the Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron



Dear Sisters and Brothers.

As I sit here writing my last article as the RWAGM I can't help reflecting on this wonderful Christmas season and the many blessings I have been given. First, is my wonderful husband, son, daughter in law and grandchildren who are the loves of my life. They and all of my family have been so supportive as I have taken this journey to the Grand East. Second, and equally as important is all of you . . . our membership, who have been with me along the way (we still have some time to go). The lessons I have learned from our Star Points and the Obligation taken when I joined has been my map. These have and will help guide me as I make the necessary and important decisions to lead our Order.

In a few months I will reach my goal of serving our membership as your MWGM. Yet, without the memberships' support we will not survive. The role as MWGM is not just one person but everyone working together for the betterment of our Star. Remember our Order of the Eastern Star is embodied in traditions and love that need to continue as we move into the future.

This is a busy time as I am about to send out Valentines (which will have been read when you get this Journal). I hope you will be happy with my choices. Please give them the support and respect they will need as they serve our Star during 2018 – 2019.

To Sister Diana and Brother Emil serving with you this year as part of the Top 3 has really been fun. Our friendship started many years ago and I know it will continue for many years to come. Have the BEST Grand Session ever. ❖

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:

Grand Session May 21 to 24, 2018 at Bally's
Receiving's in June, 2018 Dates to be announced
Golf Outing June 15, 2018

Reception MWGM/MWGP September 29, 2018 at Stone Terrace; Hamilton, NJ

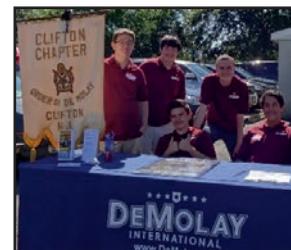
Southern Caribbean cruise January 6 -18, 2019

*In Star Dreams and Love,
Lynn C. Billingham
Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron*

Clifton Lodge #202 F&M



“Clifton Lodge #203 F&AM held their first flea market on Sunday, July 30, 2017. A very hot day but a great success with many Vendors and customers. The Lodge sold hamburgers, hot dogs, chili, soda and water inside the building. Peace Chapter's Worthy Matron, Shannon Brand and her daughter Rebecca reserved table space for their “treasurers.” Clifton Assembly #16 had a bake table along with brochures explaining Rainbow, and pictures of their many events. Petitions for membership was made available. Clifton Chapter DeMolay also had Petitions for membership available along with brochures. A great time was had by all.”



1. Shannon (WM, Peace #98) and Rebecca Brand
2. Clifton Assembly #16 bake sale: Geri Gucciardo, Cheryl Dearborn, Lydia Anderson-Dearborn, Victoria Hollis (Mother Advisor).
3. Clifton Chapter DeMolay: Mike Diaz, Daniel Gonzalez, Alex Blanus, Michael Hollis, Andrew Gonzalez.

Thanks, Janet Wells



From the Desk of the Right Worthy Grand Secretary

Happy New Year! to all Sisters and Brothers

I hope this year brings much happiness to all of you our members.

This year we had our two Secretary and Treasurer meetings at the OES Home and a workshop that was held at the Trinity Church, Runnemede NJ. The workshop was set up for the Secretaries that needed extra help with the eTapestry program. This was something that I felt was important as many questions and concerns were addressed.

The next Secretaries/Treasurer's meeting is scheduled to be held on February 3, 2018, at the Eastern Star Home. Etapestry instructions starting at 9:30a.m. followed by a light lunch and then the Secretary's meeting will follow. We will have some handouts which will include the Chapter dues cards and then we will be going over the Preliminary, Annual and Financial Reports. Remember, the Preliminary Report, with your per-capita, must be received in the Grand Chapter Office within a week after your Chapter elections and the Annual and Financial Reports by May 1, 2018.

Our Annual Luncheon/Meeting will be at Bally's on Tuesday May 22, 2018 at 12:00 PM. All information for a reservation is in the Star Journal plus it will be sent out



to the Chapters. I hope you will be able to attend. **THE LUNCHEON IS OPENED TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ORDER, NOT JUST SECRETARIES AND TREASURERS.** If you have any questions regarding the law, our Most Worthy Grand Matron will be happy to answer them. I am looking forward to greeting you all at this time.

Continue to take advantage of our email njoesgc@optonline.net also with our web site, www.njoes.com which continues to be informative. We continue to strive to make

sure you can see all the happenings throughout the state, including sickness, happy news, social events, etc.

To all Chapter Secretaries I look forward to working with each of you. It doesn't seem possible, but the elections are right around the corner, and I wish to thank those Secretaries who have dedicated years of Service to our Order, and I welcome those new Secretaries who will be taking over.

Congratulations to Sister Diana, and Brother Emil as you served during your "Spirit of Christmas" year. ❖

*Love with Happiness,
Patti L. Rhinesmith, PGM
RW Grand Secretary*

Happy 120th Birthday Stella Chapter #20
Submitted by Gloria Salleroli, Grand Representative of Alabama
Worthy Matron—Stella Chapter #20

We at Stella Chapter #20 are so proud to be celebrating our 120th Birthday we wanted to shout it from the rooftops and let everyone know that we are celebrating our 120th year as a Chapter!! We celebrated with a dinner at the Flaming Grill restaurant in Hawthorne, NJ, and enjoyed a LOT of good food and fellowship. Our fore-sisters and brothers would be very proud of us to be able to keep our Chapter going for 120 years.

Thanks to everyone who helped to celebrate and support this milestone with us!!





Right Worthy Grand Treasurer



Happy New Year 2018!

On this New Year's Eve afternoon, I realize how quickly our mild Autumn has quickly become a bitterly cold Winter and I am looking forward to warm ocean breezes in the Caribbean. In the meantime, I think of New Year resolutions in the past that I did not keep—losing weight

and cleaning out the garage! Today as I ponder what to submit for the Star Journal, I think of a favorite poem given to me years ago by an old friend. I think these are resolutions I can strive for.

If We Were Busy

Rebecca Foresman

If we were busy being kind,
Before we knew it, we would find
We'd soon forget to make a fuss
'Cause someone was unkind to us.

If we were busy being glad,
And cheering people who are sad,
Although our heart might ache a bit,
We'd soon forget to notice it.

If we were busy being good,
And doing just the best we could,
We'd not have time to blame some man
Who's doing just the best he can.

If we were busy being true
To what we know we ought to do,
We'd be so busy we'd forget
The blunders of the folks we've met.

If we were busy being right,
We'd find ourselves too busy quite
To criticize our neighbors long
Because they're busy being wrong. ❖

**love,*

Gail Naia,

Right Worthy Grand Treasurer

New Jersey Eastern Star Charity Foundation

As President of the Board of Directors of the Charity Foundation, I get to write an article for the Star Journal. I would like to start with some history.

Did you know that, OUR Eastern Star Charity Foundation has its roots in the creation of the "Eastern Star Home and Charity Foundation of New Jersey" in 1939. That Organization was charged with acting as "the agent of the Grand Chapter for the distribution of benevolences and charities", and "granting relief to distressed persons" as well as the management of the Eastern Star Home. In 1958 the Certificate of Incorporation was amended to create the OES Home Board as a separate entity (so it could raise money to build and govern the Home), but the purpose of the Charity Foundation to act as the Grand Chapter's "agent . . ." and give aid remained the same.

The concept was simple, and the Eastern Star Charity Foundation has, as YOUR, the membership's "agent", striven through the years to meet the challenge of "granting relief". The nature of "granting relief" is sometimes a difficult one. The Sister or Brother in distress does not need to be humiliated further in their hour of need, so the goal of the Foundation's Board is to keep the request and the granting of the aid "confidential" and a matter only between the Board of the Foundation (who are bound by an agreement to maintain that confidentiality) and the Sister or Brother in distress.

Therein is a dilemma - secrets (confidential matters) breed whispers, whispers breed misunderstandings, and raise concerns over how the resources of the Charity Foundation are spent.

To address these concerns in the membership, the Bylaws of the Board were revised and adopted at last Grand Session to provide for more transparency, and clearly state (a) what is considered "confidential" and (b) the rules under which any funds from the Charity foundation are distributed. To further clarify the process, your Board of Directors annually adopts policies that provide more specifics on how these Bylaws will be implemented during the year.

The Bylaws and Policies will be on line, along with summaries of the programs that are the responsibility of the Charity Foundation to administer. These programs, Scholarships, Life Skills Grants, Educational Loans, and Aid will also have summaries on line as well,

The Board is striving this year to ensure that the Membership knows what Your Charity Foundation does, and that it does it in an open and transparent manner. Come to a meeting, the first Wednesday of each month (in the Board Room of the Home in Bridgewater), and see for yourself.

The Charity Foundation receives no part of the per capita charged to the Membership, only your willingness to extend your hand in charity towards your sisters and brothers, provides the resources to enable Your Charity Foundation to be the "outward and visible sign" of the phrase in our obligation, to "so far as in my power give to my sisters and brothers . . . aid in their misfortunes."

In Star Service,
Frederick H. Martin, Jr., WP
President of the Charity Foundation 2017-2018



Invitation to "Spirit of Christmas" 148th Grand Session

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Order of the Eastern Star,

We look forward to greeting you at "Spirit of Christmas" 148th Grand Session. Once again our Grand Session will be here at Bally's Hotel, Atlantic City, NJ.

The price of the rooms will be \$69 base plus taxes for single and double rooms. Please make all reservations directly with Bally's at [1-888-516-2215](tel:1-888-516-2215) under the name of the Order of the Eastern Star group using code **SB05EA8**. Reservations can be made at: <https://aws.passkey.com/go/sb05ea8>

Please understand all reservations should be made by giving one Grand Chapter reservation code. By not using this Code, you will be costing Grand Chapter extra

money. Our meeting rooms for Grand Session are not free. A percentage of these costs are incorporated in our room rate and meal rates. So please register using our Code. Casino Comps may be applied to your room.

Proper attire is required at all times for admittance to Grand Session—Jeans or shorts will not be permitted.

The Hospitality Committee will be pleased to greet you.

We welcome all of you and hope to see you at our Membership Banquet on Monday evening May 21, 2018. Come join us for the "Spirit of Christmas" Grand Session.

Merriest Wishes Always,

In Star Love,

Diana D. Affsa

Most Worthy Grand Matron

Emil Affsa

Most Worthy Grand Patron

FREEDOM TRAIL BOSTON BUS TRIP on OCTOBER 17, 2017

On October 17th, 2017, 34 members and friends of Eastern Star embarked on our MWGM and MWGP's Boston trip (see page 15). We were joined by 9 other passengers of Senior Tours and made new friends by the time we returned home.

We enjoyed friendship and camaraderie as we toured Boston, Salem and Gloucester, Massachusetts.

Famous New England eateries included Longfellow's Wayside Inn, Cheers, and the Gloucester House, where we enjoyed New England Fare. We had the opportunity to visit Quincy Market and Faneuil Hall for shopping and lunch, and a tour of the USS Constitution.

A tour of Fenway Park (not necessarily the highlight for Yankee fans), Paul Revere's home, the Old North Church, and Salem were on the agenda. We were all more enlightened about New England and our forefathers' history. While in Boston we visited the Boston Library, an impressive building.

Activities on the bus included, Bingo, word games, and a comedic tape of out-takes from the Carol Burnett show. We had a return trip with an old friend as our bus driver Willard, drove us to Myrtle Beach in 2014. Our Escort Doug provided us with some of his historic knowledge and dry sense of humor.

We helped raise more funds for Voluntary Donations by passing around our booster sheet and running a 50/50. An addition to our fund raising was realized when a lobster claw photo op during our Gloucester House dinner took place. A good time was had by all and we look forward to Chapters 2 and 3 of our travel adventures with Sister Diana and Brother Emil. We returned to New Jersey on October 20th.

Proceeds from trip are as follows:

Boosters	\$33.00	Booster sheet and proceeds to Michele Hess, PGM
Photo Op	\$41.00	
50/50	\$140.00	
Return from Senior Tours	\$3,043.10	

TOTAL PROCEEDS \$3,257.10 Less \$33.00 for Boosters

Check to Treas. Vol. Donations \$3,224.10

Attached is the Summary Report from Senior Tours

Respectfully Submitted,

Travel Co-Chairmen, 2017-2018, Lorraine Altimus, PGO, Joan Smith, PGM, Diane Schmolze, PGM



Grand Chapter OES of New Jersey
Invites you to their annual

Gift of Service



Membership Dinner

Let's join our
Most Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Diana Affsa
And
Most Worthy Grand Patron, Brother Emil Affsa
At Bally's Atlantic City Hotel and Casino

On Monday, May 21, 2018
Social hour 6:00 PM– Dinner 6:30 PM
For a joyous and musical evening by
**THE FOGGY MINDED BOYS
AND THE FOGG-ETTES**

Dinner includes: Lettuce, Watermelon, Cheese with balsamic glaze,
Chicken Parmesan with Ziti, assorted rolls and butter, Crème Brulee,
coffee, brewed decaf, hot tea and iced tea
Cash Bar

Make reservations check payable to:
Grand Chapter OES of NJ

SEND CHECK TO:

RSVP BY MAY 12, 2018

JANE ANN FARISSIER, PGM
29 SPRUCE HILLS CT.
HAMBURG, NJ 07419
973-464-0832

COST: \$50.00 per person

PLEASE ENCLOSE



Name _____

Title _____

Chapter name _____ District # _____

Phone number _____ Total enclosed \$ _____



1870



2018

THE GRAND CHAPTER
Order of the Eastern Star of New Jersey
Cordially invites you to attend their
One Hundred Forty-Eighth
Annual Grand Session

May 22, 23, 24, 2018

At

Bally's Hotel
Atlantic City, New Jersey

Formal Opening, Tuesday, May 22, 2018
7:00 PM

Diana D. Affsa
Most Worthy Grand Matron

Emil Affsa
Most Worthy Grand Patron

Patti L. Rhinesmith, PGM
Right Worthy Grand Secretary
111 Finderne Avenue
Bridgewater, NJ 08807



PRE-REGISTRATION FORM FOR MEMBERS

THE GRAND CHAPTER
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR OF NEW JERSEY
148TH "SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS"
GRAND SESSION
May 22, 23, 24, 2018

ONE FORM PER PERSON — FORM MAY BE DUPLICATED
PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT AND RETURN WITH
REMITTANCE BY APRIL 30, 2018 TO:

Grand Chapter OES of NJ
Patti L. Rhinesmith, PGM, RWGS
111 Finderne Avenue, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
(908) 725-0222

REGISTRATION FEE OF \$15.00 PAYABLE TO
GRAND CHAPTER OES OF NJ

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Jurisdiction _____

Chapter No. _____ District No. _____

Title as of May 1, 2018 _____

Signature _____

Emergency Contact _____

Phone _____ Relation _____

NOTE: Registration Desk hours will be posted.

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM FOR GUESTS

THE GRAND CHAPTER
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR OF NEW JERSEY
148TH "SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS"
GRAND SESSION
May 22, 23, 24, 2018

ONE FORM PER PERSON — FORM MAY BE DUPLICATED
PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT AND RETURN WITH
REMITTANCE BY APRIL 30, 2018 TO:

Grand Chapter OES of NJ
Patti L. Rhinesmith, PGM, RWGS
111 Finderne Avenue, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
(908) 725-0222

REGISTRATION FEE OF \$15.00 PAYABLE TO
GRAND CHAPTER OES OF NJ

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Jurisdiction _____

Chapter No. _____ District No. _____

Title as of May 1, 2018 _____

Signature _____

Emergency Contact _____

Phone _____ Relation _____

NOTE: Registration Desk hours will be posted.

Robert E. Peterson, PGP, 2002-2003 Passed to the Grand Chapter on High January 1, 2018

He was a dedicated Master Mason, a true supporter of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Brother Bob started his service to the O.E.S. in Warren Chapter #128 in Belvidere, N.J. he served many times in the East of his chapters.

I recall him serving in Forestville Chapter #71 in Jersey City. That is where I saw him do the ritual work, with such grace and dignity, Brother Bob was a great ritualist!

It is with fond memories that I reflect on our year of 2002-2003 when we served together in our Grand East. "The Stepping In Time Year"

As we all know serving as Grand Patron starts out at the Rose Pinning. I always referred to my Grand Patron to be, as the Frog that will turn into a Prince. Brother Bob always said it was not easy Being GREEN! Brother Bob, Sister Sue, Brother Ron and I enjoyed each other's company and have wonderful memories of our outings, especially the ones in New York City! Our Cinderella Installation May of 2002. And the year that our membership gave to both of use, one I will never forget.

For Service is FUN, for F-is for Friendship, U is for Unity and N is for the Need of our service to our Star. As a licensed engineer Brother Bob was very handy, he could do just about anything from helping the

Eastern Star Home with much advice during the renovations to helping us ladies build a prop for our presentation. Brother Bob had two beautiful children Sister Karen and Sister Amy, that he was very proud of and I had the privilege to know and be with many times. One of life's greatest privileges, Grandchildren, Brother Bob loved Mary and Andrew McGuinness, they did light up his life. Brother Bob was a Gentleman and a Scholar a true asset to our Order and will be missed!

As Most Worthy Grand Patron Brother Bob's Bible Verse was: Psalm 13:1—"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

Until We Meet Again,
Jane Ann Edwards Farissier, PGM





You are cordially invited to join

The Traveling Stars

to

Celebrate the "Spirit of Christmas"

at the

**148th Annual Grand Session
Grand Representatives Luncheon**

Wednesday, May 23rd, 2018

12:00 PM

**Bally's Atlantic City Hotel & Casino
1900 Pacific Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ**

Subscription \$45.00

**Make Checks payable to: Kathy Zielinski
15 Saddle Drive, Mt Laurel, NJ 08054**

Name _____ Title _____

Address _____ State/zip _____

Jurisdiction _____

Deadline: May 9th, 2018 • No Refunds after Deadline



**148th "SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS" GRAND SESSION
MEAL PLAN**

BALLY'S, ATLANTIC CITY, NJ

MAY 22ND - 24TH, 2018

MEAL PLAN OPTIONS

OPTION ONE \$170.00



BREAKFAST- 3 Mornings- Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday

Assorted Chilled Juices, Oatmeal, Pastries/Donuts/Muffins, Low Fat Granola and Dry Cereals, Fresh Fruit Medley, Scrambled Eggs, Breakfast Potatoes, Toast, Bacon, Sausage, Coffee/Tea

Tuesday – French Toast.....Wednesday – Pancakes.....Thursday – Waffles

Dinner – 2 Nights - BUFFET- ENTREES – Tuesday - Salad Bar, Roasted Turkey and Filet Mignon with blue cheese and peppercorn sauce, vegetables, mashed potatoes, Dessert/Coffee/Tea

BUFFET – ENTREES – Wednesday – Marinated Pork Loin with Roasted Apples, and Seafood Catch of the Day, Vegetables and Potatoes Dessert/Coffee/Tea



OPTION TWO - \$95.00

Dinner – 2 Nights- BUFFET- ENTREES – Tuesday - Salad Bar, Roasted Turkey and Tenderloin Beef, vegetables, mashed potatoes, Dessert/Coffee/Tea

BUFFET – ENTREES – Wednesday – Marinated Pork Loin with Roasted Apples, and Seafood Catch of the Day, Vegetables and Potatoes Dessert/Coffee/Tea

OPTION THREE - \$85.00



BREAKFAST- 3 Mornings- Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday

Assorted Chilled Juices, Oatmeal, Pastries/Donuts/Muffins, Low Fat Granola and Dry Cereals, Fresh Fruit Medley, Scrambled Eggs, Breakfast Potatoes, Toast, Bacon, Sausage, Coffee/Tea

Tuesday – French Toast.....Wednesday – Pancakes.....Thursday – Waffles

PLEASE INFORM US OF DIETARY RESTRICTION AT TIME OF REGISTERING!

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: GRAND CHAPTER OES OF NJ

MAIL WITH BELOW REGISTRATION FORM TO:

Patti Rhinesmith, RWGS, Grand Chapter Office, 111 Finderne Ave, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS: April 24, 2018 – ONLY 1 FORM PER PERSON

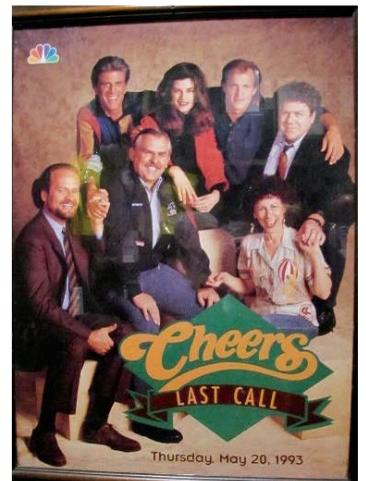
Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

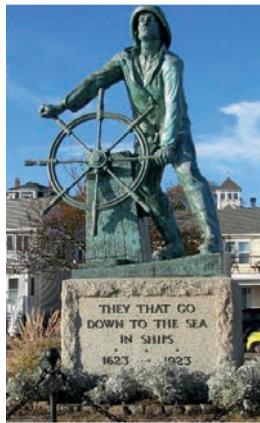
Phone _____ EMAIL _____

Spirit of Christmas



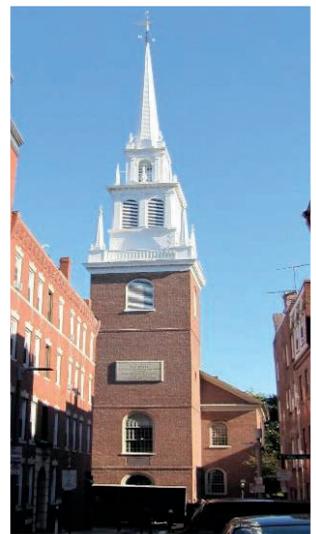
Freedom Trail

28

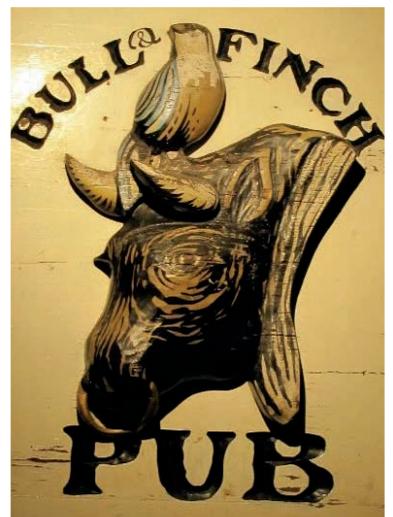
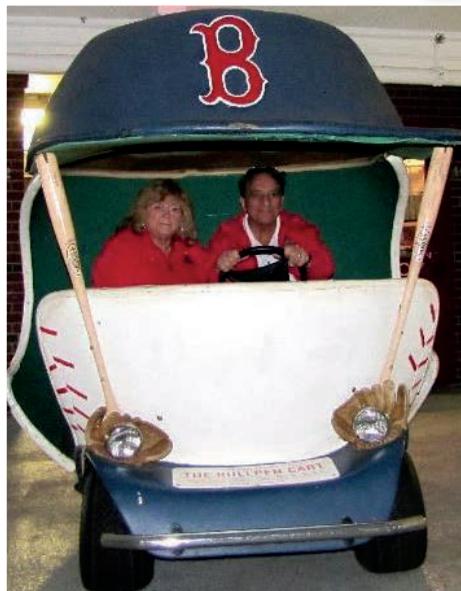


Bunker Hill Monument

Constitution Museum



North Church



Club Café



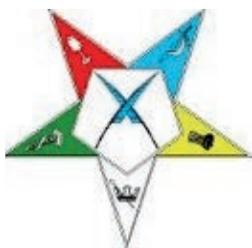
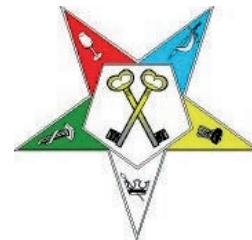
25



52nd ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON OF THE STATE SECRETARIES/TREASURERS CLUB

You are invited to join the State Secretaries/Treasurers Club and attend the Luncheon and Annual Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, May 22, 2018
LOCATION: Bally's Atlantic City | 1900 Pacific Avenue | Atlantic City, NJ
TIME: 12:00 Noon
PRICE: \$30.00/Person (Luncheon only) \$32.00 w/annual dues
MENU:



Minnesota Wild Rice Soup
Twin Croissant Sandwiches (Tune & Chicken Salad) with Pasta Salad
Dessert: "Hello Dolly"
(Layers of Chocolate, Coconut, Graham Cracker & Chocolate Mousse)
Beverages: Coffee & Tea (hot and cold)

PLEASE NOTE ANY DIETARY RESTRICTIONS ON YOUR RESERVATION

Please make sure your reservation(s) are in by the due date of May 1, 2018
Make checks payable to "**Michele Hess**" and mail your reservation to:
Michele Hess, PGM, Treasurer
PO Box 157
Stillwater, NJ 07875-0157
973-579-1975/973-390-1250
Hessm902@aol.com

This invitation is extended to all Past and Present Secretaries and Treasurers to join our club, stay for lunch and attend our Annual Meeting. Hope to see you there!



Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____ Email: _____

Chapter/District: _____

Luncheon: \$ _____ Dues: \$ _____

Secy: _____ Treas: _____

Fairview Chapter #219



makers! For the fourth year in a row, Members of Fairview Chapter #219 braved the cold to create beautiful grave blankets, swags and centerpieces for their annual fundraiser. The Chapter met several times over late November and well into December to assemble over 80 pieces of greenery! During this true "labor of love" you are sure to find at least a few festive outfits, more than one or two sing-a-longs, lots of laughs and the true spirit of Christmas amongst the "Sisterhood of the Greens"! Even in the cold, the Sisters and Brothers of Fairview Chapter #219 find warmth in spending time with each other and creating beautiful masterpieces of winter's finest greenery!

You always know when Christmas is right around the corner when Fairview Chapter breaks out their pruning shears and bow



GRAND CHAPTER ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR OF NEW JERSEY ANNUAL GRAND SESSION SCHEDULE

**Bally's Resort
Atlantic City, NJ**

Monday, May 21, 2018

Membership Dinner 6:00-9:30 PM

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

Processional Rehearsal 9:30 AM

State Secretary/Treasurer

Annual Meeting and Luncheon Noon

Memorial Rehearsal 2:00 PM

W.G. Fraternal Correspondent Rehearsal 3:00 PM

Evening Session

Opening Processional 7:00 PM

Informal Opening of Grand Session

Introduction of: Jr. Past Grand Master; Amaranth;

Rainbow; De Molay

Formal Opening of Grand Session

Receiving of: Visiting Worthy Grand Matrons and Worthy Grand Patrons

Receiving of: Visiting Associate Grand Matrons and Associate Grand Patrons

Presentation of: Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons of New Jersey

Receiving of: Visiting Distinguished Guests

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Business Session

Address of the Most Worthy Grand Matron 9:00 AM

Address of the Most Worthy Grand Patron

Report of the Right Worthy Grand Secretary

Report of the Right Worthy Grand Treasurer

Grand Representatives Luncheon Noon

Afternoon Session

2:00 PM

Report of Auditor

Charity Foundation Annual Meeting and Election of Directors

Election of Grand Officers of New Jersey

Necrology Report and Memorial

Evening Session

7:00 PM

Presentation of: Right Worthy Grand Officers

Worthy Grand Officers

Worthy District Deputies

All Grand Representatives

Report of the Worthy Grand Fraternal Correspondent

Grand Representatives Commissions

Thursday, May 24, 2018

Business Session

Greetings by Bally's Hotel 9:00 AM

Report of President of the New Jersey Eastern Star Home, Inc.

Voting on Restructured Law Book

RWAGM Rehearsal Immediately following morning session

Evening Session

7:00 PM

Presentations of Hostesses, Hosts, Hospitality Committee, Pages, Location Committee

OPEN Installation of Grand Officers, 2018-2019

** Committee Reports will be given during business sessions at the discretion of the Most Worthy Grand Matron.

Charity Foundation Message *Submitted Anonymously*

To my fellow members of the Charity Foundation, (and member, ALL members of Star are members of the Charity Foundation):

Consider if you will . . . Four members in need apply for aid from the Charity Foundation. Each can demonstrate that their requirement is for monetary assistance are real and urgent—their situations may be varied, but desperate just the same. It might have been a catastrophic illness, a fire, the death of a spouse, or the loss of employment. The Board of Directors, after reviewing all the required applications and supporting documentation, determine that the requests should be approved.

Now, Reader, we ask—which member should we help?? Because each year, the Charity Foundation, while doing all it can to provide aid to our Sisters and Brothers, has been receiving fewer donations to our General Fund, from which such aid is paid. If the current trends continue, the Board may find itself

unable to assist our members in need, having to pick and choose who gets assistance, and who doesn't. Think of the member to whom we have to say, "No, we're sorry, we know you have a legitimate need, but there is just no money available to help you."

This is a situation we never want to see happen. Won't you consider a donation to the Charity Foundation General Fund? All donations are tax deductible, and will be put to use giving to our Sisters and Brothers "aid in their misfortunes." When looking at your estate planning, please remember the Charity Foundation. Maybe make a donation in honor of a Grand Officer instead of a gift.

Please think about those members in need—HELP YOUR CHARITY FOUNDATION HELP THEM!

THANK YOU!



OPERATION SHOEBOX OF NJ

CALLING ON OUR MASONIC FAMILY (Lodge, Star, Rainbow and DeMolay) AND FRIENDS!
PLEASE JOIN DIANA & EMIL AFFSA, MWGM & MWGP



AT OUR
EASTERN STAR HOME
ON SATURDAY
MARCH 17TH, 2018
WE NEED YOU TO
HELP PACK BOXES FOR
OUR MILITARY

TIME: 8:00 AM TO 2:00 PM
(ANYTIME YOU CAN GIVE
WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED)

PLEASE CONTACT -ELAINE DUKIN, CO-STATE CHAIRMEN – OPERATION SHOEBOX 2017-2018
973-219-7174 OR AT DUKINOES@GMAIL.COM



Grand Session Survey Results are in!

The survey is in and below are the results. We thank the membership who elected to participate in the survey. This was an excellent way for the membership to voice their opinions on Grand Session and their experiences. It is a valuable tool for the Elected Line, assisting them in making decisions for future Grand Sessions. Part of the survey was a section that allowed the participants to comment and give their opinions. We have over 15 pages of typed comments to review and take under advisement. The Elected Line wants the membership to know that we hear you and are working to take your thoughts and feelings into consideration when we are making decisions for our Order.

As promised, a random participant was selected to win a gift card for participating. ***Congratulations to Elaine Meehan for being the survey winner!***

Survey Stats

Grand Session 2017 Survey

	<u>Totals</u>	<u>Percentages</u>
Membership Responses	86	1%
Surveys returned - undeliverable	5	0%
Surveys sent out via email and Star Journal-District with most reponses	6000	
Chapter with most reponses	#37 15	
	8	Atlas
	6	Fairview
	5	Dewey

Of the 86 surveys returned, below is the results

Overview Survey Summary

Question #	Topic	Average Response
Attendance		
1	First Grand Session	99% have attended before
2	How often do you attend	67% attend every year, 25% just last 5 years
3	What event most attended	Most: 95% Thursday night, 94% Thursday AM, 92% Wednesday morning, & 92% Fraternal Corr. Report
		Least: 59% Grand Rep. Luncheon, 33% Secretary/Tres. Luncheon & 31% Membership Dinner
4	Stay or commute	Stay: 94% stay Commute: 6% communte
4a	Reservations made with Gr. Chapter	Yes: 84% make reservations through Grand Chapter
		No: 16% don't make their reservations through Grand Chapter
Meal Plan Participation		
5	Meal Plan	Full Plan 21%
		Breakfast 7%
		Dinner 4%
		Don't Participate: 68%
Grand Session length		
6	Shorter Grand Sessions	Favor 19%
		Somewhat favor 6%
		No view 25%
		Somewhat against 22%
		Against 28%
Types of meals		
7	Dinners vs. Luncheons	Favor 31%
		Somewhat favor 7%
		No view 28%
		Somewhat against 15%
		Against 19%



OES of NJ

*Music By
D.J. Mike!*

Spring Fling Basket Auction!

*Themed Baskets
of All Kinds!*

Saturday, April 7, 2018

*50/50
Drawing*

Scottish Rite

Fun!

Valley of Central New Jersey

103 Dunns Mill Road, Bordentown, NJ

Time: 6:00pm - 11:00pm

Cost: \$25.00

*Sandwiches; Desserts; Soda, Water
(Beer and Wine available for a fee)*

Basket Tickets: \$10/sheet

For Tickets Send Checks to:

*Karyn Visscher, GO
18 Park Way
Morris Plains NJ 07950*

Make checks to:

*Grand Chapter Voluntary Donations
("Spring Fling" in the Memo Line)*



New Jersey Eastern Star Home

Greetings and Happy New Year,

I hope that everyone enjoyed a wonderful holiday season and that you were blessed with good health and good times with family and friends.

The New Jersey Eastern Star Home brought 2017 to a close with much success in many ways. Our rehab unit has been receiving excellent reviews from our patients. They absolutely love the accommodations, are very pleased with their therapy services and feel our staff goes above and beyond to address their care needs and comfort. Below are just a few testimonials representing the opinions and heartfelt gratitude of the individuals we have served.

- “I have had experiences with a lot of places because of my mother and I want to tell you this far exceeds what I have experienced. Solmayra is truly extraordinary”. (Sol-mayra is one of our nurses on the rehab unit.)
- “Wonderful environment. Clean and friendly. Your nursing assistants are absolutely compassionate and knowledgeable making residents feel relaxed and cared for. Best nurses I’ve seen”.
- “Very comfortable and well taken care of and felt safe the whole time of my stay here”.

I am very pleased to announce our next achievement. The New Jersey Eastern Star Home, for the first time

ever, will be able to offer admission to qualifying rehab individuals under the health insurance contracts listed below. Please be advised that because we have contracted with these companies does not mean that these insurance companies have approved us to be in all of their plans. You will still have to call the Home and speak with the Social Work Department to see if your plan is applicable here. Remember, insurance companies offer multiple plans. The largest insurance provider that we have engaged to date is Horizon. We are continuing to work toward obtaining more contracts so that we may serve more individuals. Again, below are the contracts we have currently.

Amerigroup, AmeriHealth Cigna Healthcare, Clover, Consumer Health Network (CHN), Horizon BCBS, Intergroup Services Corporation, MultiPlan-PHCS

One last bit of news. We have had our new “Tree of Life” installed in our lobby across from the Main Dining Room. It is beautiful!!! Please be sure to take a look when you come to visit. We’ll be taking some photographs soon so that we can put them in the “Star Journal” for you to enjoy.

As always, please feel free to stop in for a visit. our sisters and brothers love your company!

*Sincerely,
Diane Baldwin, Administrator*

In Memorium Kaye V. Stiles

Kaye V. Stiles
Most Worthy Grand Matron
1997-1998
Laurel Springs Chapter No. 227
District Nine

*Forever is too far to see from where we stand today,
But loved ones who have reached a higher view
Have found a perfect home where every sorrow goes away,
And there they wait to welcome me and you...
And though they go ahead of us to that Eternal Land,
We can be sure they've found a happy place,
And someday in the future, at our own life's journey's end,
We'll greet each other gladly face to face.*





New Jersey Grand Representative Association

Happy New Year to everyone. I hope you had a great holiday.

It is my pleasure to bring you greetings from the Grand Representative Association of New Jersey. It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as President of this Association over the past year, and I thank everyone for the help and support given to me. I would like to give a special thank you to Sister Carolyn Howard for the excellent job she does in seeing to it our Newsletter is put together and sent to our members. This is a big job and we thank her for her continued support of our Association.

I extend congratulations to all newly appointed Grand Representatives, and hope you will join our organization and participate in its functions. To all GRANJ members, please extend an invitation to all Grand Representatives, new or former to join us. Our dues are \$5.00 per year and we have two meetings a year, October of February. Our February meeting will be held on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at Starlight Chapter, Rt. 46 & International Drive S, Budd Lake, NJ 07828. Please make your reservation with Sister Ella Kovach, PGM by February 16th, the cost is \$15.00, checks made payable to GRANJ.

Each year in October we invite the Rainbow Girls to join us and we plan something special for them. This past year we celebrated "Christmas in October". We even had a visit from Santa.

I want to thank our Ambassadors for the job they did in collecting dues. This year we had a Brother who served as Chaplain, Brother Joe Herx who did an excellent job seeing to it our members received cards when a member was ill or in distress.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to my Officers, Ambassadors, and Committee Chairmen for all the help and support you have given to me over the past year. As we approach a new year for our Association, I would extend my best wishes to Sister Candy Walling and her staff of Officers for a most successful year.

Being a Grand Representative is a great experience and one you will never forget. If you are asked to serve, please seriously consider saying "yes", you will never be sorry.

I look forward to greeting all of you at our February meeting and will see you as I continue travelling around the State.

*Fraternally,
Ruth Ann Hoyt, GO
President-Grand Representative Association
2017-2018*



Halloween Hoot Party

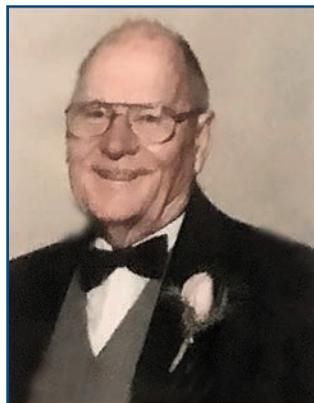
On Saturday, October 28 2017 the Scottish Rite Central Valley in Bordentown NJ was transformed into a spooky venue for our Halloween Hoot! The front hall was transformed into a graveyard, the dining room became a pumpkin decorated hall filled with costumed sisters and brothers! Music for all sorts of dancing (and even a conga line) was provided by DJ Mike Juskus; and there were 13 Halloween Themed baskets were available in our Spooky Basket Auction.

Thanks to the entire 'Hoot' committee for all they did to make this event a success!!





In Memory of David Gaehring, PGP, 1982-1983



Dad loved a challenge no matter how impossible it seemed by others around him, He loved to find a solution and to teach others through the challenge.

He needed to put a roof on a new fire house he was helping to build but the struts would not hold an adult so he sent his sons ages 5 and 7 up on the roof (they knew how to handle hammers and nails) to do the Job. He had them help dig out the basement of a building to create a meeting area. He needed to retrieve some wires in a wall so he held his daughter by the feet and lowered her into the wall because she was the only one to fit. The children learned to wire, plumb, and build by the time they were 10 years old because they were always doing things with him at home and at church

He never threw anything he felt was of value to be used in a project later. The children straightened the nails as nothing could be wasted. Several cans of nails were found when his workshop was cleaned out. Boards were labeled and stacked according to the size for storage. He loved to salvage wood and other scraps from builder's recycling dumpsters to be used for walls in Pedricktown

Baptist Church, centerpieces and favors for Eastern Star, and other needs of friends.

If he saw a need for something he found a solution and taught his children the importance of giving with their God given talents.

He loved to have the last laugh! One time he presented a Grand Officer In Eastern Star (who by the way loved lighthouses) a bag with a block of wood and a carving knife made of wood to carve her own lighthouse. He had actually made her one which lit up which he later presented to her. Even in death he got the nurses. They removed his bottom teeth and attempted to remove the top. To their surprise, they were his real teeth and couldn't get them out. The nurse told us that she never had a patient at that age with real teeth.

Dad loved to travel. On a trip to New Zealand a post card of he and Mildred was sent to the family. The expressions on their faces showed boredom, only to find out on their return that they were heading up to the top of the mountain to hang glide down to the valley Both of them were in their eighties.

Dad loved his Eastern Star friends and meetings. He loved to travel to the chapters and greet the members. In fact he passed away the night of Penns Grove's meeting. He loved to share his stories of his travels with his sisters and brothers.

What a legacy of Christian Love and volunteering he left us throughout his life of 97 years.

CHRISTMAS IN CAPE MAY

Submitted by Lorraine Altimus, PGO & Diane Schmolze, PGM, Co-Chairs



Our Christmas in Cape May was attended by 62 people; unfortunately, due to the weather, a few who had planned to attend were unable to make it. For those present, it was a wonderful casual weekend; casual being the operative word.

The Hotel provided a hospitality room where snacks and beverages were abundant for the entire weekend.

A special thank you goes out to Sr. Karyn Visscher, WG Marshal, for helping to make the room a composition of Christmas décor.

On Friday night the snow enhanced our trolley ride by making it feel like a white Christmas. There were two trol-

leys where one guide recited the classic "A Visit from St. Nicholas", also known as "Twas the Night Before Christmas", and the other guide had everyone singing Christmas Carols. The lights on houses, Inns, & Hotels were beautiful and it seemed that Cape May was decked out more than usual for our pleasure.

Saturday night after a wonderful dinner we had a visit from Santa. Santa gave out gifts from our MWGM Diana Affsa & our MWGP Emil Affsa and festive Christmas music was played for our pleasure.

A great time was had by all.



GRAND CHAPTER VOLUNTARY DONATIONS (GCVD)

By: Rosalinda Frascati, PGO

Joan Kelly-Witzig, PGO

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

As you are reading this issue of The Star Journal, during our MWGM s and MWGP s Spirit of Christmas year, we hope you had a Blessed Christmas and we wish each and every one of you a Healthy, Happy, Peaceful, and Prosperous New Year.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the membership for mailing in their GCVD envelopes and participating in raising funds which go toward the MWGM s and MWGP s Charitable Distributions at the end of the year.

In the event you didn t receive (or you misplaced) your donation envelope, please feel free to remit your donation to us at the address listed below. There is still plenty of time and every donation is important and deeply appreciated.

KINDLY PRINT OR USE A RETURN ADDRESS LABEL

Make checks payable to:

Your name _____
Your address _____
Chapter: _____ District: _____

Grand Chapter Voluntary Donations

Mail to:

Joan Kelly-Witzig, PGO

or

Rosalinda Frascati, PGO

16 Oaklyn Lane

Aberdeen, NJ 07747-2102

*For those of you who have so graciously sent their contributions in already, perhaps you would **consider** joining Sister Rosalinda and I in a little **extra** giving project a shortened version of a New Year s Blessings Tax for our Spirit of Christmas year. If you play along Sister Rosalinda and I would be most pleased to **help you count your blessings** and joyously add them to GCVD for the MWGM s distribution. **This is totally voluntary**, but we do hope some of you find it in your hearts to participate and have some fun as well.

New Year s Blessings Tax

ITEM	FEE	TOTAL
I live in a house	\$1.00	_____
I am retired	\$0.50	_____
I have __ pets	\$0.25 ea.	_____
I have __ Christmas tree ornaments	\$0.01 ea.	_____
I have __ grandchildren	\$0.10 ea.	_____
I bake __ kinds of Christmas cookies	\$0.10 ea.	_____
I sent __ Christmas cards	\$0.05 ea.	_____

Kindly remit your New Year s Blessings Tax to the address above and make check out to GCVD.



United Grand Chapter of Australia Sixteenth Biennial Session

Attending the United Grand Chapter of Australia Sixteenth Biennial Session for us was a wonderful experience. The Sisters and Brothers we met were so very friendly and gracious. There is no way I could name everyone as all I came in contact with fit that description. We observed differences in the way the ritual work was done, the way the Chapter was set up and some of the floor work, in the end, the work and its meaning are the same.

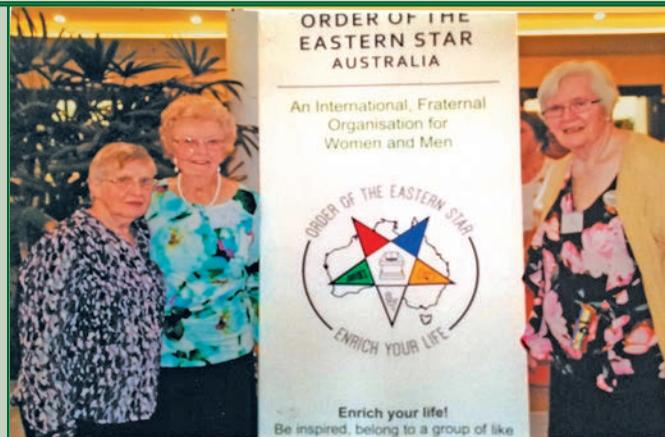
The banquets were delightful. The installation banquet was over the moon!! I must say the Sisters and Brothers of Australia know had to have fun. Many fond memories of the session we will share of the Session and all the people we met.

June 7-11, 2017, in Perth, Australia three New Jersey Eastern Star Sisters attended the United Grand Chapter of Australia's Sixteenth Biennial Session. Grand Representative of Australia, Sr. Jeannette A. Vreeland of Starlight Chapter #107 in Budd Lake, NJ and Sr Adonis Dean, PGO also of Starlight Chapter #107 and Sr. Jean Babilya of Gloria Chapter #159 in Toms River, NJ followed the way to Perth. We attended the Grand opening and the Installation of the 2017-2019 Grand Officers.

The graciousness of the officers was superb. We were so comfortable meeting everyone-like long lost cousins. Plus the fact I actually felt like I made new friends - and I hope we continue. One thing I noticed that the Masons were very involved helping to work with the Ladies in all their endeavors. What a wonderful time to have an Aussie and Yankee get together next year in Orlando, FL. It would be GREAT.

As the Grand Representative of Australia in NJ 2015-2018, I am enjoying the extended pleasure of traveling and meeting our Sisters and Brothers in our OES World. Some members I have met in Canada and at General Grand Session for the past thirty years. A wonderful experience that makes my life enriched.

OES Friends bring enrichment to many and for years. In 1996-98, I was the Grand Representative of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, 22 years later I am glad to say I am an Honorary Member of that Jurisdiction and return each year to be with



them. I would like to do that for UGCA, but it may not happen as finances and time in years of life may limit this wish, but it would be nice. My been blessed to have Sr Carolyn Galley Card be my first counterpart and now I have Sr. Mel Hall, PGM. I haven't met her face to face, but we did talk on the phone for over an hour. I was glad to meet Sr. Mel's Chapter sisters and we did chat a lot and enjoyed their company and warm greeting.

"Enrich Your Life" I have, and it is the watch words. I hope all members extend themselves to enjoy the offerings of our STAR. The joy and happiness one receives is also shared. Sr. Margaret Down I met in Quebec, she met the Jersey Girls and added herself as PLUS1. Here in Australia I rekindled this acquaintance and now Br. Sidney in Plus 3 and me Plus 2. We hope to visit again in Orlando in 2018. How about that!

This is good, maybe I'll reunite more with others from the other Jurisdictions I have visited. Where Have I been? All the General Grand Sessions since 1998 in Florida and the Jurisdictions of the following: Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Maine, Vermont, Quebec, Connecticut, New Mexico, Minnesota and now Australia.

Sr. Helen Westmoreland, MWGM of General Grand encouraged me to write about my adventures in STAR and I am pleased to do so.

Sr. Jeannette A. Vreeland, Grand Representative of Australia
Starlight Chapter #107, Budd Lake NJ.



Santa s Workshop Home Day May 5, 2018



Greetings from the North Pole!
After a busy time preparing for Christmas 2017, we want to continue spreading Christmas love by celebrating with all of you at the Eastern Star Home of New Jersey.

Pictures with Santa will be available for a fee.
Fill out and send in the REGISTRATION below for a chance to win prizes!
Come see what our State Chairpersons and District Chairpersons have dreamed up for you.
Sugarplums? White dresses? Boxes with ribbons?
Boxes with bows?



Lic# 5029 **OES Home Day** ID#56-4-34278
Registration
Benefit: New Jersey Eastern Star Home
Saturday May 5, 2018 8AM-3PM
111 Finderne Ave., Bridgewater, NJ
Winners Need NOT be Present to Win
Donation \$5.00
Make checks payable to: Eastern Star Home
Mail to: Ella R. Kovash, PGM
90A Chatham Drive
Monroe Twp., NJ 08831 \$5

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Chap. _____ Dist. _____

Buy a “Santa’s helper” duck (or bear) for \$2 from your Chapter Chairperson and bring the coupon you are given to exchange it for a free coffee at the CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST booth, **OR** 50¢ off at the ICE CREAM SUNDAE booth.

In the event you have not received your OES Home Day Registration , please feel free to use this one to send in your \$5. You are permitted to send in MORE THAN one registration. This will increase your odds of being a winner!



The Five Heroines of the Eastern Star Written by Bro. Martin Bogardus

For your reading pleasure, I'd like to submit for your consideration two poems that talk about the five heroines of the Eastern Star—Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha and Electa, who each reflect the Masonic relationships of Daughter, Widow, Wife, Sister, and Mother.

*Here is a story of the grand, old time,
A tale of virtues, tender, yet sublime.
Inscribed on sacred page to give us faith
In woman's constancy, in life and death;
Here, in God's book, the bright narration see.
And five brave hearts make up the history.*

*Adah, great Jephthah's daughter, soul of truth,
Ruth, flower of Moab, humble, pious Ruth,
Esther, the crowned, and worthiest of a crown,
Martha, His friend, whom saints and angels renown,
Electa, strong the martyr's cross to bear—
These are the heroines of the Eastern Star.*

*Fairest among ten thousand deathless names,
How altogether lovely do they glow!
Time's annals yield no brighter, nobler themes,
No purer hearts the ranks of heaven know;
Here, then. Oh! Sisters, sister-virtues trace,
And light from these your lamps of truth and grace.*

*Rob Morris - Masonic Poet Laureate and
Founder of the Eastern Star
From Rosaries of the Eastern Star, 1865.*

Now, I'm sure each of you will recognize the names of the five heroines mentioned in the preceding poem—these are all great women of stature and renown whom our ritual inculcates or impresses upon our minds so greatly to emulate. Each of our five heroine's represents respectively the Masonic relationships of Daughter, Widow, Wife, Sister, and Mother.

We are told then that as Adah, the Mason's Daughter, who died to preserve the honor of her father, so should every Master Mason's Daughter guard jealously the Masonic faith of her father, her own Masonic adoption being involved in his integrity. The sword and veil represent Adah, and the virtue of "obedience to duty."

That as Ruth, the Mason's Widow, was obedient to the voice of her dying husband, and sought for the land of Israel and the people of God, counting all things but dross in the comparison with religion, so should every Master Mason's Widow exemplify perfectly in her life the revealed faith in which the salvation of her soul and a final reunion with beloved departed ones are involved. And whatever Mason's Wife, Sister or Daughter justly emulates the character of RUTH—she is our sister and our friend. A sheaf of barley represents Ruth, whose virtue is adherence to "religious principles."

That as Esther, the Mason's Wife, was obedient to the demands of friendship and relationship, cheerfully imperiling her crown and life that she might preserve her people and the laws of God from utter extinction, so should every Master Mason's wife stand firmly to the doctrines and aims of Freemasonry even, if need be, to the death; assured that in them, the welfare of her children and friends are secure. The crown and scepter represents Esther, who embodies the "virtue of loyalty."

That as Martha, the Mason's Sister, preserved full assurance of faith amidst the darkest hours of her disappointment and distress, so should every Master Mason's Sister approve herself in the divine trust on which alone can our present and future happiness be based. The broken column represents Martha, and the virtue of "endurance in trial."

That as Electa, the Mason's mother, Grand Master's Wife, the Christian Martyr, who resigned all things—home, husband, children and life, bearing the utmost extremity of the scourge and the cross in vindication of her religious convictions, by having first proved by a life-time of good works her title as the friend of the friendless, so should every Master Mason's wife, being in affiliation with the Great Architect in the Celestial Lodge above, make her life fragrant with good works and her end glorious. Though not mentioned directly by name in the Bible, the name Electa was chosen, because the gospel of Second John was addressed to "the elder to the elect lady and her children." The "golden cup" represents Electa, and the virtue "endurance of persecution."

The New Jersey Eastern Star Home



Important Information for Submissions:

Digital photos need to be high resolution. (If not, they will be used in a limited fashion.)
Articles need to be submitted in Microsoft Word.

**Grand Chapter
Order of the Eastern Star of N.J.
111 Finderne Avenue
Bridgewater, N.J. 08807**

PRE-SORT
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PD.
PENNSVILLE, N.J.
PERMIT NO. 89