

# The Star Journal



September 2024

*Love Makes the World Go Round*



*Live by Faith, Grow in Grace, Walk in Love*



# The **Star** Journal

September **2024**

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**Next Issue: January 5, 2025**

(For Cover Picture)

Sharon E. Rosequist, MWGM

Joseph F. Herx, MWGP

MaryElaine Guynn, RWAGM

**L-R Banner Bearers**

Rosalyn Strunk, Sadie Milone-Clapp,

Madeleine Sikorski, Lilina Sikorski,

Mackenzie Rosequist, Esther

**Emblem Bearers**

McKenna Struck, Emelia Milone-Clapp,

Emma Petersen

Sharon E. Rosequist, Most Worthy Grand Matron

Joseph F. Herx, Most Worthy Grand Patron

MaryElaine Guynn, Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron

### **Grand Chapter Office**

111 Finderne Ave., Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Phone: 908-725-0222 - Fax: 908-725-4053

Email: newjersey.oesgc@gmail.com

### **The Star Journal Editor**

JoAnne Bingenheimer, PGM

211 Virginia Ave., Egg Harbor Twp., NJ 08234

Phone: 732-600-2261

Email: cjearle@comcast.net

### **Co-Editors**

Joanne Parsels, PGM

109 Hippocrates Way, Burlington, NJ 08016

Phone: 609-234-7379

Email: wiljoanne@yahoo.com

Lisa Biczi-Helge, GO

67 Texas Road, Monroe, NJ 08831

Email: bizer81@aol.com

### **www.njoes.com**

### **New Jersey Eastern Star Home, Inc.**

Deborah Lynn LeDoux, GO President

348 Berkley Ave., Bloomfield, NJ 07003

debbie9011@gmail.com

### **Eastern Star Charity Foundation of NJ Inc.**

Lynn C. Billingham, PGM President

137 Westbrook Road, Feasterville, PA 19053

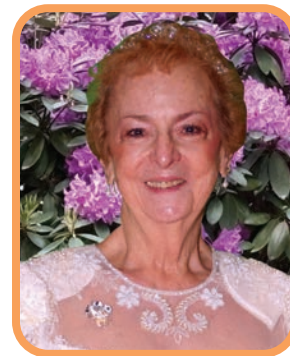
lcb137@msn.com

484-432-4714





# Most Worthy Grand Matron's Message



In remembrance of Sr. Gail Naia, it is with an attitude of gratitude that I stand before you as your Most Worthy Grand Matron. I promise to do my best to serve our beautiful Order with Dignity, Kindness, Wisdom, Fairness, Honesty, and Transparency. All great moral lessons learned from my years of service to the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and my almost 53 years of membership and service in the Order of the Eastern Star. Bro. Joe, aka, Flat Frank...Thank you for accepting to walk side by side with me this year, as we serve Grand Chapter. We have a few challenges ahead of us, but I know we are up to the task. With God's help, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!!

To the Officers and Members of Starlight Chapter, thank you for your many years of support and encouragement. I will do all in my power to make you proud of me.

To the members of the Forever Young 39th District, thank you for your support and for having faith in me. Each of the Chapters in our District have supported me over the past 10 years as I ran for Grand Trustee and was subsequently elected. I Love you ALL!!!

I am hoping we can work together with the Masonic Lodges to get some of the wives of your Lodge Brothers to join Eastern Star. I did my part helping the Masonic Order by getting my husband to join.... just saying.

To Sister Mary Elaine, my Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron. I look forward to this year as we travel the State serving Grand Chapter. I look forward to many fun filled nights as part of our Top 3. Good luck with your plans for your year in our Grand East.

To Sr. Patti and Sr. Michele, thank you for your willingness to help whenever I have questions. I truly appreciate it. Sr. Michele, thank you for picking me up when we have Corporate Board Meetings, and I promise to keep my lemonade under control....

To the PGM's & PGP's; thank you for your dedication and service to our beautiful order. Each of you have served and supported Grand Chapter, and your individual chapters for many years, and you continue your support. Each of you has left your mark on our Order and it is written in the annals of our History. Thank you for your words of wisdom, assistance, and encouragement. It is truly appreciated. To pay homage to you, our former leaders, I have incorporated snippets of either symbols, themes, or ideas from many of your years. I feel that I was able to pay tribute to many of you because you have left a lasting impression on my OES life. Just watch and see what materializes this year.

Sisters Dawn and Andrea, our North and our South. Congratulations as you assume your new stations. I look forward to working with you this year. Dawn, be careful of those potholes in the Wal-Mart parking lot!! Safe travel up and down the highways and byways of our State.

To Sr. Lisa Helge our RW Grand Trustee. Watch and observe this year and be like a sponge to absorb as much information as possible. I look forward to working with you as you begin your journey to the Grand East.

To our WG Officers, thank you for accepting your various stations. I know we are going to have a FANTASTIC AND FUN year!! To Sr. Kerry, I am so glad you are able to ride along with me on my Carousel this year. LOVE YOU!!

To my WDD's, enjoy your official families and the members of your respective Districts. Serve with dignity and pride. You are encouraged to assist in getting those members of your Districts who have not been out to Chapter Meetings or fund raisers, to come back out.

To the Grand Representatives, safe travels as you support New Jersey Grand Chapter traveling the State of New Jersey, and as you travel to your respective Grand jurisdictions. You are our goodwill Ambassadors. As such, you represent the Most Worthy Grand Matron when attending your Grand Jurisdictions. I wish you all Good Health and Safe Travels!!

They say it takes an entire village to raise a child. With that thought in mind, it takes an entire State filled with many dedicated, talented, and generous friends and Eastern Star members to jump in and assist. All I had to do was say, I need, and the task, however big or small, was completed. Thank you from the bottom of my heart to all who stepped up to the plate to pitch in and help.

Sr. Joan Smith, PGM, my MOM thank you for my beautiful Tiara and carrying box.

Sr. Alice Good, PGM & Sue Wells, PGM thank you for writing the Processional. It was perfect!!

To the WM Pages. Sisters, thank you for participating in honoring Bro. Joe and me, and for representing your respective Districts in the Processional. To our Emblem Bearers Sr. Abbey Wilkie, Sr. Inge Baum, Makenzie Rosequist, Sr. Sharon Buhner, Sr. Diedra Williams, and Sr. Millie Cox, and the Emblem Banner Bearers, Sadie and Emelia Milone Clapp, Emma Petersen, Madeline and Liliana Sikorski, and Roselyn and McKenna Strunk. Thank you all for accepting to be a part of this Installation. Each of you are very special to Bro. Joe and me and you have made this night very memorable. I hope it is a night you too will hold near and dear in your hearts.

Thank you all for your dedication and service to your individual Chapters, Lodges and those who are Rainbow Girls or DeMolay, thank you for supporting your Assemblies and Chapters. It is your dedication and service that is keeping our Fraternal Families going. We truly appreciate it.

Special thanks to Bro. Dan and Sr. Judy Brown for my Grand Floral and cutting out my carrying pieces. Sr. Ashley Zanellato drew the detail work on each of the horses. I painted the carousel horse with the help of Sr. Amy James, GO Sr. Dale Van Houten, GO, Sr. Tammy Wilkie, GO, Sr. Cathy Fusaro, WM & GO, and Sr. Lizette Priliszh, GO just to name a few, and a special thanks to Sr. Lizette for decorating, and helping me pack up and label the boxes, and cart them to AC for Grand Session. The Floral is truly a work of art and I am excited to unveil it at our first Grand Floral and subsequent GO Nights.



Bro. Charlie Carter, PGP, thank you for making the batons that my Conductresses and Marshal will carry and for making my gavel. They are just beautiful !! Bro. Charlie inserted my pin of the year in the ends of my gavel embedded in epoxy.

Sr. Elaine Parsens, thank you for your handiwork decorating my gavel, and the batons, and for making the tote bags for the batons. My Bible was a gift from Sr. Debbie LeDoux, GO, and Sr. Diane Schmolze, PGM, lovingly designed and decorated the Bible Cover. The Bible I used to take my Obligation was my mothers presented to her on June 7, 1957 at her Initiation into Pearl Chapter #79. My granddaughter Mackenzie held it when I took the obligation.

I also have a special thank you to Sr. Karyn Visscher for embroidering the Worthy Grand Chaplain's stole with Sr. Gina's name and making the banner for the Bible Emblem Bearer to carry.

Sr. Aki Decker, PGO, thank you for making the gorgeous Valentines that I was privileged to send to my officers, Committee Members, and Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons. They truly are a work of art, and everyone raved about how beautiful they are!!

Sr. Gayle Takacs, PGO, made the capes for the Emblem Bearers and Sr. Lynn Billingham, PGM, made the capes for the Worthy Matron Pages. Thank you both for sharing your sewing talents.

Sr. Jacki Mabey, Worthy Grand Private Secretary, my left and right hands, how can I thank you for the hours of work that you have put in, thus far, to make my year soooooo very special. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your friendship, kindness, and willingness to pitch in and do whatever needs to be done to help take the pressure off me. You are a true Sister and a blessing to our beautiful order!!

To the members of my family. Thank you for being here tonight to share this very special event in my life. You mean more to me than words can express. Love you all to the moon and back!!

Thank you to the Installing officers. The ceremony was absolutely beautiful and one that I will always cherish!

Bro. Bill, my Grand Chauffeur, and the love of my life!! Our paths were meant to cross. You and your family moved from Pennsylvania to Pennington, NJ, when I was residing in Ringoes. I moved to Netcong, and your family moved to Stanhope and then moved to Netcong, right next door. It surely was fate that we should meet, and I tease you that you chased me all over the state. Thank you for your support over the years, and for finally deciding to join the Masonic Fraternity and Starlight Chapter. I didn't think it was ever going to happen. Enjoy your year as WP of Starlight Chapter standing next to Sr. Alice. I am sooooo very proud of you.

If there is someone I have forgotten to thank, it was not intentional, merely an oversight.

At Installation, I closed one Chapter in my Eastern Star Book of Life and turned the page to begin a new Chapter. I invite all of you to hop on the OES Carousel and take a ride with Bro. Joe, Sr. Mary Elaine and me, as we serve this Grand body. Brother Joe, again, thank you for agreeing to walk by my side this year as we serve Grand Chapter. We have a huge task to accomplish this year. We need to try to find the spark to encourage our members to come back out and attend Chapter meetings. Bro. Joe and I challenge all our Chapters to initiate at least 2 new members this year. We have at least four (4) Chapters who are having difficulty making quorum. We will work with those Chapters who are in crisis and

struggling and reduce the quorum in an effort to keep your doors open, but it is a two-way street, and you need to work with us. I am reinstituting the Membership/Motivational Committee chaired by Sr. Norma Hines, PGM. I want those at-risk Chapters to send a request to invite the Membership/Motivational Committee to meet informally to find out what some of your issues are. The issues and results for each chapter will not be identical so the results will not be a one size fits all. The Membership/Motivational Committee will be prepared to assist with strategies in an effort to come up with possible solutions. First and foremost, I want each Chapter to reach out to those members who are not coming out. What can you do to encourage them to come out. Offer a ride, get them on a committee, make them feel like they are needed, and they are! It is easy to sit at home and not participate in Chapter functions, or fundraisers. If stairs are the issue, hold your meeting downstairs in the banquet hall. As long as you are in the Lodge, with your Charter present you can hold a meeting. Let's think outside the box about possible solutions. I know I am preaching to the choir, but we need to start somewhere. Each Chapters' needs are different, but our ultimate goal is to help you and strengthen your Chapter. If we don't start increasing our membership, we will become extinct. I would eventually like all chapters to invite the Membership/Motivational Committee to a meeting. At any given year any Chapter could face difficulty finding officers and run the risk of Merger. Let's all put forth the extra effort necessary to keep our beautiful Fraternal Order going and hopefully growing. To those Chapters needing immediate relief, please contact Sr. Jacki Mabey, Worthy Grand Private Secretary to receive special instructions and information. Sr. Norma Hines, PGM is the chairman for this committee.

Theme: "Love Makes the World Go Round"

Aim: Be Kind, be Fair, Be Honest, Be True and all these things will come back to you.

Moto: Live by Faith, Grow in Grace, Walk in Love

Flower: Dogwood

Colors: Raspberry, Blueberry, Aqua, Silver

Fun Symbol: MWGM - High Heel Shoes

MWGP - White Tiger

Charity: MWGM - Shriners Hospital for Children

MWGP - Lupus Foundation of America

Scriptures:

MWGM: Matthew 5:16- Let your light so shine before men, that they may see Your good works and glorify Your Father in Heaven."

MWGP: Psalm 115:1 - "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy Name give glory, for Thy mercy and for Thy truth's sake:

Remember in this Love Makes the World Go Round Year to:

Be Kind, Be Fair, Be Honest, Be True and all these things will come back to you as we, Live by Faith, Grow in Grace, and Walk In Love!

*In Star Love, Friendship and Humility,  
Sr. Sharon E. Rosequist  
Most Worthy Grand Matron*





# Most Worthy Grand Patron's Message



*Dear Sisters and Brothers,*

I want to thank all of you for your support as Sister Sharon's Most Worthy Grand Patron. It is an honor to be of service to our beautiful Order and to you, my Sisters and Brothers. I will endeavor to do all in my power and ability to fulfill my duties and to live up to the expectations you have for me. What a wonderful installation we had. It was spectacular. I truly wish to thank Sisters Alice Good, PGM, and Sue Wells, PGM, for the fabulous ceremony. The youth who assisted the emblem bearers: Sadie, Emma, McKenna, Emelia, Roselyn, Madeline and Lilliana were like angels, they looked like princesses and they already knew that they were !! The living carousel was unexpected and wonderful. The creativity was off the charts. I want to thank the music corner for the heavenly music that elevated the ceremony. A special acknowledgement to Brother Scott Banks for his song while I was at the altar.

My fun symbol is the white tiger. The tiger is a majestic and powerful cat, and the white coloring makes a striking sight. I see this as a symbol of our Order, a majestic, powerful living thing that strives to bring aid to those in need and peace and harmony to its members. And how beautiful is it to see Sisters and Brothers being together to share in the joys of Eastern Star. I know that every Eastern Star meeting I have attended has been a wonderful time of sharing and camaraderie.

My Bible Verse is Psalm 115, verse 1: "Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake." All of our deeds for our Order and for each other are to be lifted up to God, not used to swell our own self opinions. He is the wellspring of glory and grace. It is right to give unto the Lord the glory and praise and we shall enjoy His mercy.

The year has started fast and furious. There were many Receiving's and Homecomings, always a good opportunity to connect with the membership. The Smithville event was fantastic. The weather was good, the fellowship excellent and some very awesome baskets were raffled off. Kudos to Sister Jessica Walton, Chairperson, and her committee for another fabulous job. Also, many thanks to the Worthy District Deputies for the baskets. If you were not able to attend this year, I understand Mary Elaine is having it next year. Come out and support it.

Our Order needs all of us to work to find ways to grow. We need to reach out to the world to show the good that we do. We should not be shy to show how we help our local communities with food and clothing drives, supporting blood drives and raising funds for the needy in our locales. If people see what we do, they may want to be part of us.

*In Star Love and Friendship,  
Joseph Herr  
Most Worthy Grand Patron 2024-2025*



## Greetings from the Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron

*Greetings from the Wild, Wild West.*

It's only been a little over a month since our Grand Session and I still cannot believe I am sitting in the West. It seems like just yesterday we were in the midst of the Pandemic and only 25 brave OES souls convened for Norma and Danny's convention and usher in Daria and Bruce. Quiet and intimate, yet beautiful as we began to get our Order back on its feet again. We made it through some dark days and today can be proud that we preserved our Order and brought it through to shine again today.

I have spent the past 3 years meeting, greeting and eating around this beautiful state and getting to know everyone, listening to their concerns and hopes for the Order. I realize a truth that I have always known....we are here to serve this Order and not ourselves. We are here to promote this Order, make it grow and make it something we are all proud of. We want it to be something we can leave for generations to come.

It's not about what are we doing for this Order today, but what we are doing to guarantee it will be there tomorrow. When we go to the Home and look at all those photos of those that have come before us, will there be future generations looking up at us 100+ plus years from now. Will they know we had fun, that we loved to serve, and that we took care with each other?

Let's travel this road together and build a future Star that will shine brighter as each year unfolds.

Remember, no matter what path you may choose, whichever road you may wander, whatever Star Trek you travel, every direction will lead you to exactly where you were meant to be.

*ME  
RWAGM*

## From the Desk of the Right Worthy Grand Trustee



As your newly elected line officer, I place importance on YOU. And what it will take to get this Order into the future. There are many questions and concerns of the direction Our Order is going in and I look forward to being a part of this planning process. I plan to work hard for YOU and this Order. When I was elected, I was elated, excited and at no time frightened. I have watched, learned and waited for the opportunity to come where I would be needed to do the work that is required to be done. I love this Order, that was never a question I asked myself. I have grown from a naive Sister into a strong and willing participant in this Order. I know that I am not Wonder Women. Cannot work alone. I will need help as I take this journey. I do want to Thank those Sisters who already have stepped up and offered their services, you know who you are. Let us shine bright for all to see. Let us wear our OES shirts and jewelry proudly and let the world know who we are. Getting the word out is just the start.

*In Star Love and Friendship,  
Lisa Helge  
Right Worthy Grand Trustee*





# From the Desk of the Right Worthy

## Grand Secretary



*Greetings Sisters and Brothers!*

Congratulations on the Installation of all Grand Officers for this year!!! I am looking forward to seeing and working with all of you. Enjoy your year to the fullest and have safe traveling.

Once again it is my pleasure to serve as your Right Worthy Grand Secretary for another year. It has given me the opportunity to work with great Secretaries throughout the State, both past and present, and also afforded me the chance to renew friendships and gather new ones.

I would like to welcome the new Secretaries and congratulate them on their election. You have taken on a responsible job but remember if you have any questions, I am only a phone call away. I know your Chapters appreciate the service you are giving them.

To those who have retired, I have enjoyed working with you these past several years. I know you will still be working for your Chapters, and Congratulations on a job well done.

I would like to commend all of the Secretaries for getting their reports in, in a timely manner this year. You cannot imagine how important it is to receive these reports on time as this information is need to help the Grand Chapter Office in preparing for Grand Session and updating our membership program.

The Grand Chapter Office has been kept very busy with the new membership program "Grandview" which has been a work in progress. With the rising cost of our former program "Etapstry", the Corporate Board asked Brother Bruce Zielinski who was on the Computer Committee to check out other programs. He came back to the Board with the new program called "Grandview", which is the same program that the Grand Lodge of New Jersey uses. With the help of Cheryl Morris and Bruce, this transition took place back in October 2023 and we have been working with Grandview for six months and the Secretaries are now learning this new program. Secretaries will continue to be trained during the summer months and will be able to input their own membership information.

Our Fall Secretaries'/Treasurers' Meeting will be held September 21, 2024 at Atlas Masonic Building at 10:00 AM. This meeting will be for handouts and questions that you may have on the new membership program. This will also be the same day as the Gown Boutique and PM & PP Association meeting and luncheon. The Spring Meeting will be held February 15, 2025, at 10:00 AM with place to be announced, so please mark your calendars. At this

meeting Annual reports for 2024-2025 and dues cards for the new year will be handed out.

Supplies will be available if anyone needs them, such as bibles, rituals, secret work and receipt books. Supplies are always available during the year, please reach out if there is anything that you need. The Grand Chapter Office continues to print labels for District Meetings, Receptions and honor nights. If you need labels please email Grand Chapter with this request. I will continue to help chapters save on postage by delivering them when we attend a special meeting in your Chapter or District, or even pass them on to your Deputy for delivering your items to you.

Here in New Jersey, we are down to thirty-five Chapters. We lost another Chapter last year with a merger, mostly due to loss of membership and not being able to have quorums to conduct our meetings. We carry so much in our pocketbooks and bags, we need to carry a petition with us, and invite family and friends to join our Order.

We continue to update our web-site, [www.njoes.com](http://www.njoes.com). Please take a moment to look at it. You will see all the happenings throughout the State, plus sickness and happy news. If there is anything that you would like posted, please send an email to Grand Chapter Office with the information.

The e-mail address for the Grand Chapter Office was changed several years ago and is [newjersey.oesgc@gmail.com](mailto:newjersey.oesgc@gmail.com) if you need to contact me. The old email is no longer in use.

To all Chapter Secretaries, I look forward to working with each of you. If there is anything you need or have any questions on, I'm only a phone call away.

Congratulations to Sister Sharon, and Brother Joseph as you serve this year in our Grand East.

Always "Sparkle from within" and "Remember to Let the Peacefulness of Snow and the Spirit of Christmas be with you always".

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



# From the Desk of the Right Worthy Grand Conductress

## *Greetings from the Grand South!*

As I take a next step in this Star journey the realization that this is the half-way point is so exciting while at the same time surreal that time's moving so fast. I'm honored this year to be conducting our new candidates thru their initiation and working together with the Grand Officers and Brother Joe, MWGP to make their first impression of our Star a memory they will always treasure among their years of membership. Congratulations to our Top 3 and all of the 2024-2025 Grand Officers, I know it's going to be a fabulous year!

Thank you to all who attended Grand Session, participated in the business that took place during Session and continue to support our activities both for Grand Chapter and individual Chapters. Your willingness to take part and give input is much appreciated and meaningful to those of us coming up the Elected Line. We're listening and are committed to making progress to help secure our future. Having the support of the membership to be open-minded and willing to try new ideas is what's most important and needed for progress. We know that not everything we may try will work but with that will strive to improve where something might have fallen short of expectations.

Among the many things taking place this year I am extremely excited for our new relationship with our OES Sisters of Oziel Prince Hall Affiliate. It was an honor to witness the historic moment of the signing of the Compact between our Orders and to once again take part in Oziel's Grand Session. I look forward building friendships and strengthening our bond with them. As individuals we can accomplish some.....Together we can accomplish more and see our way into the future for many years to come. On a personal note, I want to express my appreciation and heartfelt gratitude to all who have sent thoughtful wishes, offers of support and help in these past months. It's been a difficult year between the my condo fire and fall in April where I fractured my hand. Both will take time to heal but are coming along and moving in a positive direction.

I'm grateful and in awe every day of the kindness and love of our Sisters and Brothers. Your dedication and commitment to each other and our Order is beyond words and for which I'm forever thankful to be a part. Be well and stay safe.

*In Star Love and Friendship,  
Dawn Smith  
Right Worthy Grand Conductress*





# From the Desk of the Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress



*Dear Sisters and Brothers,*

Wow, here we are at the beginning of a new Star year. As I reflect on the year gone by, I can't believe I am writing this as the newly installed Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress.

I have been blessed to have traveled the state last year and see as well as feel the excitement in the chapters. The camaraderie and enthusiasm shared between everyone present was exhilarating. I love hearing the ideas the membership has shared with me. I look forward to working toward implementing these ideas.

I was honored to attend, for the second time, Oziel Grand Chapter, OES, Prince Hall Affiliation. There aren't words to describe the greetings we received. Everyone we met had nothing but smiles and warm welcomes to extend. If you get the chance to attend, take it, it is an experience to remember.

I can't thank everyone enough for the love and support extended to me. I look forward to sharing the North with you all as we ride the OES carousel this year.

To Sister Sharon Rosequist, MWGM, and Brother Joe Herx, MWGP I wish for you a very successful year where your hard work and planning come to fruition. Sister Mary Elaine Guynn, RWAGM, have a wonderful year in the Wild Wild West, I can't wait for your secrets to be revealed. Sister Dawn Smith, RWGC, I look forward to working with you as the caboose to your lead. Sister Lisa Helge, RWG Trustee, Congratulations and I look forward to working with you also, enjoy the year.

Sisters and Brothers, go out into the world wearing your OES gear, show them who and what we are, as well as the good we do.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Andrea McCollum,  
RW Associate Grand Conductress*



# From the Desk of the Right Worthy Grand Treasurer

## *Sisters and Brothers,*

As we begin riding our Carousel Horses around the State and beyond in this “Love Makes the World Go Round”, year, I am reminded of Sister Sharon’s Motto: Live by Faith, Grow in Grace and Walk in Love. In my year, I also walked with Faith and Love. I realize that our lives get busy and take many twists and turns, but we need to be reminded that behind it all, should be our Faith. God will lead us down many paths, He never promised us a rose garden, He DID, however, promise to Walk Side by Side with us and carry us, if needed. Don’t forget to put Faith in the forefront; you will then be able to Grow in Grace and thereby, Walk in Love. With this Love, we certainly can Help our Order to Grow.

I have been busy in the office working on your financial reports and getting the 990’s filed. I must say that you have been so cooperative in helping to get these financials done more accurately. For this, I am grateful. Please remember that I am willing to help you whenever a financial questions comes up. Please don’t guess. I am looking forward to seeing you out at our Secretary/Treasurers meetings. They are scheduled for Sept and Feb. along with Past Matrons and Past Patrons Assoc. Governors/Board of Directors meetings.

As many of you know, I am not able to travel very much due to job commitments. However, I am available via email and/or text messaging with any questions.

Always remember that “Together with Faith, we can Walk, Side by Side, Hand in Hand and help our Order to Grow!”

*In Star Friendship,  
Michele Hess, PGM  
Right Worthy Grand Treasurer*

*“Live by Faith. Grow in Grace. Walk in Love”*

## “I AM THE AMERICAN FLAG”

I was there.

Oh yes, I have been there from the beginning.

You couldn’t see me then but I was there.

In the early days I was with those great and noble men like Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, Madison, Hamilton, Adams and so many others.

And I remember the shot heard around the world because I was with them when it was fired.

But, as I said, you couldn’t really see me because in truth I’m not just some physical thing that can be touched or seen. I represent a spirit, an ideal, and a belief.

I looked different at first but in 1777 the Continental Congress passed the first Flag Act giving me official status.

Some of you probably think Betsy Ross, that kindly old Philadelphia seamstress, created me; however, some of you give that credit to Mr. Francis Hopkinson.

He was a Congressman from New Jersey and had signed the

Declaration of Independence.

None of you know for sure who designed me, how the colors were selected or what they represented.

Of course, I know the answer.

It was....well, I’d probably better not say.

I had thirteen stars on a blue field with thirteen alternating red and white stripes.

Both were to represent the colonies that became the thirteen original states.

The idea was to add a stripe and star for each new state.

I don’t think they had any idea how big this nation would become. By the time there were fifteen states adding more stripes became unworkable so I went back to thirteen and just added another star for each new state. Throughout the years I’ve changed as more states were added but what I really am has never changed.

Far more than just an assembly of colored cloth, I am truly the spirit of a free people, the spirit of America.





I have been with the countless men and women who fought to preserve me, giving them strength and courage. With tears, I have wrapped myself as a shroud around those who fell in battle for my sake and I comfort those left behind that the fallen did not die in vain. Those who truly understand know that I must always be safeguarded and defended. And it makes me sad to see that today so many just don't seem to understand anymore.

Back in the days when those brave men pledged their honor, their fortunes and even their lives to the cause of freedom by signing the Declaration of Independence there seemed to be a fuller understanding of the meaning and the price of freedom. They said that the birth of our nation and the freedom that was declared should be marked with luminaries filling the nighttime skies, the air filled with the music of military bands, the sight of soldiers marching in parade, and the solemn assembly of citizens united in prayers of thanksgiving. It was like that for a while. Even up through the end of WW I and WW II retuning soldiers were often greeted with parades, celebrations and tumultuous welcomes. But as time went on things began to change. Some here who may have returned from Korea were greeted with silent indifference and later those returning from Vietnam were greeted with outright hostility and abuse. Flags were burned as fellow citizens protested.

I should be respected.

Indeed, you owe me respect!

Stand when I come in the room and if I pass by in a parade, carried by those who honor me, remove your hat and hold your hand over your heart.

Display me properly and with pride.

Have you forgotten the Pledge of Allegiance you learned?

I certainly hope not because it is an affirmation of everything I stand for. Oh, I seethed with anger in 1971 when the radical city council of Berkeley, California threw me on the floor of the council chambers and declared that never again would I be displayed there nor would the Pledge of Allegiance ever again be recited.

How ironic that the liberties I represent allowed them to desecrate me so. They were a scurrilous and undeserving lot as are those who follow in their footsteps.

And how can it be that some would now strike out the words "under God" from your Pledge of Allegiance?

Time and again those great men who founded your country declared their belief in God and expressed it in nearly everything they did and wrote.

In spite of differences, that belief was like a binding force that gave them the will to create your nation.

Although those words weren't there originally, they were added in 1954 because people recognized that the belief in God is an essential part of their heritage, the foundation of their country and a landmark of everything I stand for.

And now they want to take those words out?

The very notion makes me cringe with disbelief.

Are they misguided or just ignorant of the fact that the belief in God was what gave rise to this great nation?

Mark well what I tell you.

Be ever vigilant for I must always be protected.

And if, piece by piece, the foundations of liberty are chipped away by those who do not cherish me then even the spirit I represent will be weakened.

Without your support I will become no more than colorful cloth who's meaning is but a distant memory to some before it is lost forever and I will no longer be

the American Flag.

Recently we have celebrated a number of special holidays: Flag Day (the Army birthday), Memorial Day and Independence Day. On these special days many people all across our land took a brief respite from their daily lives. Some may have attended a special ceremony of commemoration, others a service at their place of worship and others simply paused to reflect on those terrible events of 9-11. Many brought out the red, white and blue and proudly hung it from their front porch or the crook of a tree remembering what those days truly mean. Some others do that every day. Raising the flag each morning and reverently lowering it at sundown each evening to place it safely away. And still others have it proudly displayed with a light shining on it all day and night.

And there are some, unfortunately far too many, who went to some special place in their home to look upon a flag folded in a precise triangle and stored in a wood and glass case. Perhaps it was passed along to them by their mother or father, or perhaps sadly given to them by an officer at the funeral of their mother, father, husband, wife, son or daughter. A flag that was the final gift of warmth laid upon a fallen hero before they themselves were laid to rest. A bugler sounded Taps and seven riflemen fired three volleys of seven. The only time a twenty-one gun salute is fired for anyone other than a head of state. The flag is precisely folded thirteen times. Each fold with its own special meaning. And just before the last fold, one spent round from each volley is carefully placed inside. Many will tell you that the spent rounds

represent the cardinal virtues of a soldier but I am here to tell you that they are representative of the virtues of not only soldiers but of all good citizens like yourselves. Those virtues - DUTY... HONOR... COUNTRY... Duty... Honor... Country!

The American Flag does not fly because the wind moves past it ... The American Flag flies from the last breath of each military member who has died protecting it.

This is your flag. Treasure it always for it is as much a part of you as you are of it.

Modified from an email received – Author Unknown



## 37th District Honors 70 Year Member

### Sister Florence Staib - *Haddonfield Chapter #140*

70 Year Member. The Picture is of Sister Joanne Parsels, PGM, Fraternal Mother of Haddonfield Chapter, Sister Florence Staib, her daughter Sister Beth Seyer, Florence lives in Pitman Manor. Sister Sharon Mancill suggested that when we present the pin that we wear our white gowns, and I should wear my crown. Beth saw that her mother was also in a white gown.

The picture shows Sister Joanne reading the letter from the MWGM and on her lap is a beautiful frame that Sister Sharon (the photographer) had the certificate mounted in. Sister Sharon's Mother, the late Sister Joan Mancill, PGO, and Sister Florence were childhood friends. Sister Florence was an active member in Collingswood Chapter but in her senior years moved to Florida. She was a member of Haddonfield due to the merger of Collingswood into Haddonfield. It was a lovely ay topped off with Sister Beth bringing cookies that were enjoyed by the residents. They thought we looked so beautiful. Sister Florence enjoyed her special day.

I would like to continue celebrating our 50 Plus year members in the Star Journal but to do that SisterJoAnn Bingenheimer (Editor) needs your help. If any Chapter has one of these Special members receiving a pin from the MWGM, MWGP, or a friend PLEASE take a picture and send it to JoAnn, her email address is on the inside cover. Everyone knows something about these special people that you can write a note about. Yes, there are people we don't know, but don't forget them. We will post a photo and their name. Also let's not forget the ones who have moved away or can't meet with someone to receive their pin. Give JoAnn their name and years of service. JoAnn needs the Chapter Secretary's help. Please remember our MWGM's Motto as we remember the past.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joanne Parsels, PGM  
Co-Editor







## GS Memorial 2023-2024

### DISTRICT #31

#### **STELLA NO. 20**

Cassandra Henderson  
Jeanne B. Manista

#### **TILDEN #59**

Sharon Ballman  
Nellie Bauer  
Carol Feiler, PGO  
Edith Gilbert  
Robert Gill, PP  
Betty Hoehne  
Evelyn Kaufmann, PGO  
Barbara MacDonald  
Patricia Pasechnick  
Janet Schultz, PM  
June Seilheimer  
Jeanette Simons  
Edna (Penny) Star, PGO  
Betty Van Tassell, PGO  
Sidney Ulm  
Wilma Weglein  
Gloria Wyman, PGO

#### **LINCOLN NO. 95**

Agnes Capobianco  
Gladys Grasso  
Marta Reichenbecher  
Claire Rieser  
Gilda Tamburri  
Carol Weiss  
Betty Brodo  
Joan Fischer  
Patricia Adelman

#### **PEACE NO. 98**

None

#### **NUTLEY NO. 121**

Genevieve Cugini  
Catherine K. Smith  
Carol E. Ziegler

#### **JEPHTHA NO. 134**

John Hoc  
Karen Risch, PGO

#### **MOUNTAIN VIEW NO. 205**

Lynn Smith

#### **LITTLE FALLS NO. 224**

Ruth Hacker  
John Hoc  
Julia Vreeland

### DISTRICT NO 33

#### **LYDIA NO. 41**

Claire Christi  
Ruth Dane  
Molly Hoover  
Frances Mundock  
Kay Zadoorian, PGO  
Margaret Spille  
Mcaroline Schultz

#### **RARITAN NO. 58**

Shirley McLauthlin, PGO  
Barbara York, PM  
Nine Jane Persing, PM

### **ATLAS NO. 99**

Joan Loume  
Beverly Douglas  
Carol Feiler, PGO (dual)  
Muriel S. MacDonald

### **EMMAUS NO. 183**

None

### DISTRICT NO 34

#### **WALL NO. 143**

Sandra Bretall, PGO  
Dorothy Ekarius, PM  
Edward Ekarius, PP  
Calvin Hanson  
Joan Heldreth, PM

### **MOLLY PITCHER NO. 198**

Myron Biggar, PP  
Phyllis Bollmeyer  
John Carter, PGP  
Norma Scott

### **OCEAN NO. 214**

Marie Kinney  
Sandra Ayala, PM

### **MONMOUTH NO. 251**

Robert Cross, PP  
Gloria Ringwald  
Barbara J. Keller  
Florence Bennett  
Joan Anderson-Van Mater

### DISTRICT 35

#### **TUCKERTON NO. 54**

John W. Carter, PGP  
Dorothy Horner  
Janet Rhodes

### **GLORIA NO. 159**

Violeene Fagerlund  
Evelyn Herrmann  
Susan E. Percoski  
Roberta Klein  
Eleanor Kenselaar  
Florence Cox

### DISTRICT 36

#### **SHEKINAH NO. 82**

Margaret Coston, PM  
Robert Thornborough, PP  
Joan (Betty) Rebyak, PGO  
Doris Tomlinson, PM  
Margaret Morie  
Barbara Bakley

### **OCEAN CITY NO. 83**

Dorthea B. Williams  
Mary Ann Middleton  
Velma Pawline  
James W. Hines MWGP (dual)

### **DEWEY NO. 155**

Fay Bisciegla  
Humy Seufert, PGO  
James Day, PP  
James Hines, MWGP  
Alma Mitchell, PGO  
Thelma Good

### DISTRICT NO. 37

#### **PENNS GROVE NO. 86**

Linda Amme, PGO  
Georgia L. Cowan, PGO  
Doris S. Downer, PM  
Yvonne Ewing  
Katherine Heverin  
Barbara Lloyd  
Judy Maurer  
Candy Moore, GO  
Linda L. Myers  
Olga Pool  
Doris K. Ryan  
Betty Sickler  
Judy Watson  
Jean D. Williams

### **HADDONFIELD #140**

Elaine Alspac  
Louise Brill, PM  
Muriel Ketcham, PGO  
Katherine Kreis  
Shirley Love  
Ruth McManus  
Candy Moore, GO  
Dorothy Wolfe  
Dorothy Wooster

### **WILLIAMSTOWN NO. 149**

Candy Moore, GO  
Russell Fuscina, Jr.  
Nancy Cary

### **ATHENE NO. 201**

Linda Colman  
Ruth Elton, PGO  
Catherine, PM  
Janice Knodel, PGO  
Candy Moore, PGO  
Nina-Jane Persing, PM  
Dorothy Schimpf  
Shelly Florence

### **FAIRVIEW NO. 219**

Elizabeth A. Peters  
Paulette Montgomery  
Janet Davis, PM  
Carl Milley, PGP  
Josephine Staub  
Janet Griffith, PM

### DISTRICT NO. 38

#### **MORNING STAR NO. 22**

Elaine Jones  
Evelyn Sipler  
C. Duane Durbin, PGO  
Doris Anthony  
Thomas Hickman, PP  
Eleanor Updike, PM

### **MOUNT HOLLY NO 147**

Eleanor Boyd  
Marilyn Brewer, PM  
Louise Cawthra, PGO  
Dawn Croshaw, PM  
Doris Kammerer  
Eleanor Kirby  
Rose LaPierre  
Margaret Reynolds

### DISTRICT NO. 38

#### **BORDENTOWN NO. 257**

Margaret Dotson, PGO  
Virginia Lindquist  
Margaret Kohler, PM  
Gladys Puerling  
Linda Szathmary  
Jean Miller  
Delors Wiedmann, PGO  
Dorothy Britton  
Sharon MacDermid

### **BEVERLY MAQUEDA NO. 276**

Tracey Jamerson, PGO  
Ruth Reed

### **MEDFORD NO. 287**

Humy Cramer Seufert, PGO  
Grace Hunt, PM

### DISTRICT NO. 39

#### **NORTHERN NO. 38**

Margaret Borstad, PM  
Florence R. Constatine  
Steven Mitchell  
Freida M. Phipps, PM  
Joan G. Romaine, PM  
Leonard Drache, PGO

### **DELAWARE NO. 50**

Jeanne Wyker  
Shirley Feilbach  
Dorothy Wadhams  
Rose Lightcap, PM

### **HOBART NO. 63**

Carole A. Alexander  
June Miramontes, PGO  
Carol A. Quimby, PGO  
Jane O'Donnell  
Eugene Bridge  
Susan Tinnes

### **STARLIGHT NO. 107**

Jane C. Adams  
Maryellen Milone  
Merle Walter, PM  
Eleanor Ward  
Rev. Marie Burger, PM  
Janet Amidon, PGO  
Marianne Matyola  
Florence Constantine  
Margaret Dannehower  
Paul Werner, PP  
Elizabeth Beegle  
Judith Johnson, PGO  
Betsy Decker  
Anna Z. Shotwell  
Mary Ritzer  
Harold Buchanan, PP  
Beverly G. McDougal

### **STEWART NO. 166**

Lavinia T.O. Trimmer  
Frank Klemm  
Nancy Myers  
Gladys Niper  
Teresa Puha  
Goldie C. Rey  
Ann Ehrlich



## MESSAGE FROM THE EASTERN STAR CHARITY FOUNDATION

I am happy to be writing once again for our Star Journal, this time as the President of the Board of Directors of your Eastern Star Charity Foundation. I will begin my message by stating our Mission Statement, as this is our goal as Board of Directors and “you” our membership. It states, “to live our obligation by providing aid to members in their misfortune and educational support for the future.” Through the generosity of donations made by the Membership, either to Rays of Caring or individual donations to our Scholarship or Educational Loan Funds. All these donations enable the Board to continue to meet our mission statement. Along with those previously mentioned, we are able to give Life Skill Grants and to our Eastern Star Home Residents Fund. It is important to remind you that no money from the annual per capita that is paid by the membership is received by the Charity Foundation. With this in mind the Charity Foundation is an “outward and visible sign” of how we can truly put the obligation taken when you joined to work.

I would like to thank the entire Board for their time and service in order that the Charity Foundation can continue to be successful. I look forward to working with each of you this year. A big welcome to the newly elected Board members for your willingness to serve. I am sure you will find this a meaningful experience in your Eastern Star life. There is a lot that needs to be accomplished this year and I know everyone is ready to get to work. Each of you are an intricate part of the Board and without you we could not succeed.

To our entire Eastern Star Membership, you are also members of the Charity Foundation and I invite you to attend our meetings. We meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month at the OES Home, as well as on zoom. If you need to attend by zoom, please contact Sr. Buni Williams, Secretary, and she will send you the link. Board meetings will be posted on the OES website, as well as listed in the Official List Book.

We have embarked on a new Star Year. Let us keep an open mind remembering to “embrace the future” as we move forward on this Eastern Star journey.

*In star love and service,  
Lynn C. Billingham, PGM/President*

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## STATE 50/50 2023-2024

It was a great honor to run the State 50/50 this year. Sister Joanne Byrne, Jr. PGM graciously offered her Worthy District Deputies to help with this project. They all did a great job helping me sell them all over the State. Cannot express my gratitude enough to all the Master Masons who were all so generous in their donations to this project. I know you are waiting to hear who won the State 50/50 Round 2, the ticket was pulled at the Membership Dinner, Wednesday, May 22nd down at the Tropicana during Grand Session. The winner received \$2,180.00 and the winning ticket belong to Brother Miguel Arroyo-Colon of Durand Lodge in Pt. Pleasant, NJ. The winner of the beautiful, handmade Quilt by Sister Denise McCarthy was Sister Katherine Robinson, Grand Representative. With the generosity of all our Sisters, Brothers and the Master Masons, the total this project was able to give to Voluntary Donations was \$4,795.00.

*Respectfully,  
Lisa Helge, RWG7  
State 50/50 Chair*



## A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

On a beautiful Saturday afternoon, April 20, 2024, several of us from Northern Chapter # 38 in District 39, made our way from the Lodge in Branchville, through the beautiful woods of Sussex County to spend several hours at the home of our special member, Wanetta Fountain, as she celebrated 104 years.

She spent hours regaling us with memories of her early Eastern Star days, having us laughing until tears ran down. She certainly has some wonderful memories. We enjoyed cake (and she wasn't about to turn that down), drinks, laughter and some gifts. She had beautiful flowers and an all around great time.

The Lord certainly has been good to our Sister and we miss having her at Chapter, but getting out and about is not as easy as it once was. So, this was our joy to be able to share this day and enjoy some quality time with our very special Sister.



In the picture, from left to right sitting around Wanetta is Michele Hess, PGM, PWGT, Worthy Matron; Ann Wright, PGO; Linda Pettenger, PGO, Secretary; Kennedy Drake, Assoc. Matron; Judy Decker; Ellen Mason, WDD #39; Tammy Drake; 90+ yr old Organist, Mary Sutphin. Taking the picture is our Worthy Patron, George Mason.

## Past Matrons and Past Patrons Association



Greetings from the Past Matrons and Past Patrons Association of NJ. The annual meeting was held on May 11, 2024, at Musconetcong Lodge (Starlight Chapter) in Budd Lake, NJ where a new slate of officers were elected. Sister Stephanie Bowen, PGO, President; Sister Judy Wood, GO, 1st Vice President; Brother Bruce Zielinski, PGP, 2nd Vice President.

The organization is made up of Past Matrons and Patrons striving to help those in need, not only our OES members but the general public.

You may not know but our funds are generated from Dues, State and District Fundraisers, and donations. Each District is assigned a governor that oversees a District Fundraising Project and collects dues from the past matrons and past patrons of the chapters in the district. The 2nd Vice President is tasked to do a State Fundraising project. Thank you,

Brother Bruce, for taking on this task. (The project will be announced later).

If you are a Past Matron or a Past Patron and are not a member, please consider joining. Dues are \$4.00 a year. For more information, contact your Governor or the President.

Support your district project whether you are a member of the organization or not. This organization is committed to helping those in need and we require the funds to do that.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors, Governors & Committee members for the dedication and support of our organization.

District #31 – Cheryl Butler, GO, #59

District #33 – Roberta Russell, PGO, #99

District #34 – Jeanne Gionfriddo, PGO, #214

District #35 – Anna Tews, PGO, #54

District #36 – Jeannette Wallace, PGM, #82

District #37 – Dawn Shellock, GO, #140

District #38 – Heather Shoppas, PGO, #276

District #39 – Lisa Couch, GO, #107

In Fraternal Love and Friendship

Stephanie Bowen, PGO, President





# *A Night of Wine and Roses*

## *Saturday, November 23, 2024*



*Jumping Brook Country Club*  
*200 Jumping Brook Road, Neptune*

*6pm to 10pm*

*\$65 per person*

*Cash Bar*

*Dinner Choices (order that night)*  
*Sauteed Breast of Chicken - Sliced Roasted Top Sirloin -*  
*Salmon w/ Pineapple Salsa*

*RSVP No later than November 9, 2024*

*Elizabeth Young*

*601 Elsinore Ct. Princeton Jct., NJ 08550*

*609-371-0153*

*Checks payable to Voluntary Donations*

*Name\_\_\_\_\_*

*Title\_\_\_\_\_*

*Phone\_\_\_\_\_*

*Chapter and district\_\_\_\_\_*



# *Wine and Roses Charity Ball Ad Book*

## *November 23, 2024*



- ☐ Full Page...8 1/2 X 5 1/2.....\$65
- ☐ Half Page...4X5 1/2.....\$45
- ☐ Quarter Page...2 X 5 1/2.....\$25

Email ads to Sister Jeannette Wallace - [jayimzadi@comcast.net](mailto:jayimzadi@comcast.net)

Make checks payable to Voluntary Donations (in memo write Ad Book)

Checks mailed to:

Cathy Fusaro

1241 B Thornbury Lane

Manchester NJ 08759

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Size ad \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline: October 23, 2024





Starlight Chapter #107 and Gloria Chapter #159  
cordially invite you to attend the reception of

Sharon E. Rosequist  
Most Worthy Grand Matron

Joseph F. Herx  
Most Worthy Grand Patron



Jumping Brook Country Club

210 Jumping Brook Road

Neptune, NJ 07753

(732) 922-8200

September 14, 2024

Time: 12pm

\$50 per person

Appetizer: Penne Vodka

Luncheon:

~ Roast Pork

~ Chicken Franchise

~ Salmon with pineapple salsa

Dessert: Warm apple crisp with vanilla ice cream

RSVP to Sister Dale VanHouten, GO

2316 Oak Knoll Drive, Toms River, NJ 08757

(732) 644-8993

Make all checks payable to: Gloria Chapter #159

\* Choose your lunch that day. For any dietary restrictions, please let the county club know that day

\* For directions, please contact Sr. Cathy Fusaro (732) 598-8738 or Stacey L. Osherhoski (201) 875-8290

Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_





*You are cordially invited to*

**GRAND MASON/GRAND CHAPTER MASTER MASONS' NIGHT  
CELEBRATING SISTERS IN OUR SERVICE**

**Saturday, September 7, 2024  
5PM – 9PM**

Masonic Fellowship Center, 1114 Oxmead Rd, Burlington, NJ 08016

207 Main House Salad, Choice of Lemon Chicken or Sliced Top Sirloin,  
Roasted Potatoes & Fresh Vegetables, Assorted Breads & Rolls  
Assorted Pastries, Coffee, and Soda

**PRESENTERS:**

SISTER DIANA BROWN, COLONEL, CHIEF OF STAFF, AIR  
NATIONAL GUARD

SISTER SHANNON NEVILLE, COMPANY COMMANDER, USCG,  
TRACEN, CAPE MAY

SISTER MARGARET BRESCIO, COLONEL, ARMY NATIONAL  
GUARD, JOINT BASE MCGUIRE DIX

MUSIC BY RW BROTHER DONALD R. TUTTLE, GRAND MUSICIAN

**\$45.00** to be made out to "Voluntary Donations"

**No Later than August 24, 2024**

Mailed to Lisa Helge, PGO, 67 Texas Road, Monroe, NJ 08831

**DRESS CODE: LADIES** Semi-Formal, Cocktail dresses or dressy pantsuits **MEN**  
Business suits. **NO POLO SHIRTS OR JEANS**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

FOOD CHOICE: \_\_\_\_\_ CHICKEN \_\_\_\_\_ TOP  
SIRLOIN

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_





June 1, 2024

Dear Eastern Star Community,

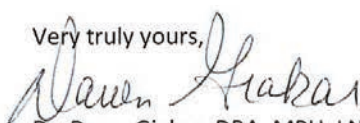
It is always a privilege to provide an update to the membership via the Star Journal. I would like to share a summary of the recent events at Home. National Skilled Nursing week was recognized during a week-long celebration in May. This week recognizes our dedicated staff from all departments. Our HR Manager/Administrative supervisor Lori Patullo, along with Assistant Administrator Shelretha LaSure and Activities Director Simone Rudich orchestrated a spectacular week of festivities. We held events such as a "Sock Hop" with '50's themed music, decorations and food, a staff appreciation breakfast, Bingo, raffles, vendor giveaways, and Star Search. Staff felt appreciated and enjoyed the week. Family members and vendors generously supported the annual week-long celebration.

I would like to focus the remainder of this update on requesting that all Chapters help spread the news about our Home. The attached flyer may be used for distribution at your Chapter meetings and to groups and individuals that you think would be interested in our services. As you know, New Jersey Eastern Star Rehabilitation and Nursing is a beautiful facility that offers both short term rehabilitation as well as long term care and respite/temporary care. Each of these services is described, in detail, on the marketing flyer.

Along with the services offered, please remind prospective referrals that our quality is second to none! We are a US News and World Report Best Nursing Home for both Short Term and Long-Term Care. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has rated us as a 5-Star facility, which attests to the high-quality care that we provide as evidenced by inspection results and quality measures. Additionally, we are a preferred provider of the RWJ Hospital system.

Word of mouth is the most important and effective way to advertise our facility and we are asking for your assistance in spreading this information. Increased referrals and admissions to the Home help both the individuals in need as well as the Home...a win-win situation.

Thank you for your anticipated support and it was great seeing many of you at the Grand Session. Have a healthy and safe Summer!

Very truly yours,  
  
Dr. Dawn Giakas, DBA, MPH, LNHA, CALA, FABC  
Administrator





W: [Njeasternstar.org](http://Njeasternstar.org)  
T: 908.722.4140 F: 908.722.9566  
111 Finderne Avenue, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

"At New Jersey Eastern Star Rehabilitation and Nursing, we prioritize compassionate care, innovative therapies, and personalized attention to ensure the well-being and comfort of your loved one."

## New Jersey Eastern Star Rehabilitation and Nursing: Excellence in Sub-Acute Rehabilitation, Long-Term Stay, and Respite Care

### Sub-Acute Rehabilitation:

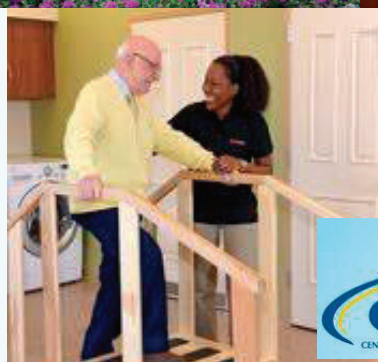
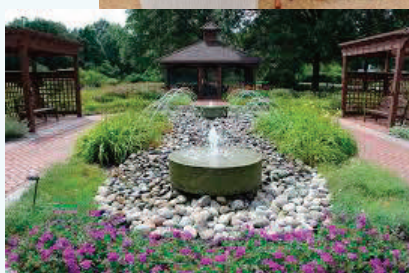
At New Jersey Eastern Star Rehabilitation and Nursing, our Sub-acute Rehabilitation program stands out for its personalized care and comprehensive approach to recovery. With a team of skilled therapists and medical professionals, we tailor rehabilitation plans to meet each individual's needs, ensuring a swift and successful recovery. Our state-of-the-art facilities and advanced equipment further enhance the rehabilitation process, allowing patients to regain independence and mobility effectively.

### Long-Term Stay:

Choosing New Jersey Eastern Star Rehabilitation and Nursing for long-term care ensures a nurturing and supportive environment for residents. Our compassionate staff provides round-the-clock assistance and personalized care plans to meet the unique needs of each resident. With comfortable accommodations, engaging activities, and a warm community atmosphere, residents feel at home and valued as part of our extended family.

### Respite Care Stay:

For individuals in need of temporary care and support, New Jersey Eastern Star Rehabilitation and Nursing offers respite care stays that provide peace of mind for both caregivers and loved ones. During their stay, guests receive attentive care from our dedicated staff while enjoying all the amenities and services available to our long-term residents. Whether for a short break or recovery from an illness or surgery, our respite care program offers comfort, safety, and support.



For further inquiries or to schedule a tour, please contact  
Director of Admission at 908.722.4140 Ext. 3581





Dear Family and Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well. First off, on behalf of the residents as well as myself we would like to thank everyone for their generous donations to contribute to our monthly boutique as well as our community.

Our monthly Boutique is a social event our residents are always looking forward to attending. You are all truly making a difference for the residents and community here at New Jersey Eastern Star.



Here at New Jersey Eastern Star Home we aim to develop various programs, that encourage and allow our residents to strive in growth and their personal capabilities and cater to their diverse interests. Thanks to your contributions,



our residents have had the opportunity to create festive holiday decorations to display in their rooms and throughout our facility. Moreover, your donations have enabled our residents to make and supply much-needed beds and blankets to our local animal shelter. These activities, exemplify just a fraction of the positive impact of

your generosity.

I am reaching out to see if you would be willing to help me spread the word around the community to see if anyone would be interested and willing to



our monthly boutique.

Below is a list of items our residents have expressed interest in seeing at our next monthly boutique.

As always, any donations are greatly appreciated.

Thanks for your time.

Kindly,

*Simone Rudich*

*Director of Activities*

New Jersey Eastern Star Home

111 Finderne Ave Bridgewater, NJ 08807

908-722-4140 ext. 3527

[srudich@njeasternstarhome.com](mailto:srudich@njeasternstarhome.com)



# Boutique and Donation Items List

- Womens Clothing sizes Large, Extra Large, and up
- Men's Clothing sizes Large, Extra Large, and up
- Hand wipes
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Dove Soap preferably in bars
- Cubed Tissue Boxes
- Batteries
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Perfume
- Cologne
- Watches
- Pencils
- Yarn
- Crocheting Hooks
- Reading Books in (Polish and Spanish Translation)
- Pens
- Wallets
- Jewelry for men and women
- Shoes
- Word puzzle books
- Granola Bars
- Graham Crackers
- Chips
- Doritos
- Toothpaste
- Nail polish
- Colored pencils
- Pencil sharpeners
- Hats with a rim
- Mini Hershey bars
- Fruit Snacks
- Diet Sodas
- Vegetable Juice
- Pencils
- Pens
- Cookies
- Milanos
- 100 calorie packs
- Chips
- Dark Chocolate
- Pringles (Small canister w. closeable lids)
- Any donations are appreciated.



## *Let Eastern Star Animate Our Lives*





# Love Makes the World Go Round





### Grand Representatives On the Move

Once again, I was able to travel to the Grand Jurisdiction of Vermont for their Grand Session. This was my third trip to the Green Mountain State to visit the Sisters and Brothers of this wonderful State and my Vermont friends. This time I traveled not as a Grand Representative but as Right Worthy Grand Trustee, however that did not matter to them what title I had. I was Miss New Jersey to them. I could hear some of the Sisters say, "I don't know her name, but I know she is from New Jersey." I took great pride in that title. That I made such an impact on these Sisters and Brothers. I was able to spend time with the Grand Representative of New Jersey in Vermont, Winfred Pike. We sat together at some of the dinners and during some of the session. The highlight of my trip was to find out that my friend, Michele T. Bushey, was selected and installed as Grand Lecturer. She will be my counterpart as we both ascend to our respective Grand Easts. I encourage all the Grand Representatives, if you can travel to your respective jurisdictions, to enjoy every opportunity that may come your way. You never know, you may find you will also be known as "Miss New Jersey".



Lisa Biczi-Helge, RWG Trustee



From March 4th through March 8th, 2024, the largest group of OES Sisters and Brothers to date invaded the Woodloch Pines Resort in Hawley, PA for a fantastic time of fellowship and relaxation! Those of us who have been fortunate enough to travel to Woodloch best describe it as a "Land Cruise" - you can do as much or as little as you want, there are activities, games, and entertainment

planned each day, and they feed you like it's going out of style! A highlight of the stay was the Go Cart challenge issued by Judy "Speed Racer" Brown to the WG Sentinel, Bryan Wallace, and the subsequent Grand Sentinel Grand Prix, where those Brothers who had served as Grand Sentinel raced each other! Some attending also took advantage of the spa at the nearby Lodge at Woodloch or paid a visit to the local winery. I can only speak for myself, but I am so happy at Woodloch, or paid a visit to the local winery. I can only speak for myself, but I am so happy that Lynn and Ken Billingham introduced us to Woodloch, and I'm looking forward to visiting again!

*Jeannette Wallace*





## ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR OF NJ PRESENTS

### Niagara Falls & Toronto

**\*\* You Must Bring a Valid U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card for this Tour**

#### INCREDIBLE PRICE INCLUDES:

- ◆ Motorcoach transportation
- ◆ 4 nights lodging in the Niagara Falls area
- ◆ 8 meals: 4 breakfasts and 4 dinners
- ◆ GUIDED TOURS OF NIAGARA FALLS & TORONTO
- ◆ A Journey to The Falls on a "HORNBLOWER NIAGARA CRUISE"
- ◆ Gaming at FALLSVIEW CASINO
- ◆ A visit to NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE & QUEEN VICTORIA PARK
- ◆ A visit to CASA LOMA; Canada's most magnificent castle

and much more

# \$825\*

**5 Days 4 Nights**

\*PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

**(Mon - Fri)  
Sep 30 - Oct 4  
2024**

**Departure: Masonic Fellowship Hall,  
1114 Oxmead Rd, Burlington, NJ @ 8 am**

**Day 1:** Depart your group's location in a spacious, video and restroom equipped motorcoach as you head for your destination: captivating, awe-inspiring Niagara Falls! This evening, you will have Dinner and check into your Niagara Falls area hotel for a four night stay.

**Day 2:** Start the day with a Continental Breakfast before you begin a Guided Tour of the Niagara Falls area. Visit an engineering marvel, the Welland Shipping Canal and beautiful Queen Victoria Park – home of one of the world's largest Floral Clocks. You'll have Dinner this evening at a local restaurant.

**Day 3:** Enjoy a Continental Breakfast before departing for a Guided Tour of the beautiful cosmopolitan city of Toronto, Ontario. You will also visit Toronto's majestic castle estate – Casa Loma! Later, you will dine at a local restaurant.

**Day 4:** Start the day with a Continental Breakfast before enjoying one of Niagara's most popular and breath-taking attractions, a boat ride on a "Hornblower Niagara Cruise." Sail near the base of the Horseshoe Falls and enjoy a truly awe-inspiring view of the mighty Niagara. Then, you'll take a tour of historical Niagara-on-the-Lake, one of the prettiest towns in Canada and full of 19th century charm. Later, enjoy Dinner and a visit to exciting Fallsview Casino and get in some gaming action before returning to your hotel.

**Day 5:** Enjoy a Continental Breakfast before departing for home... a perfect time to chat with your friends about all the fun things you've done, the great sights you've seen and where your next group trip will take you!



**World's most famous Falls**



**Magnificent Casa Loma  
Castle in Toronto**



**Gaming at Fallsview  
Casino**



**Visit beautiful Queen  
Victoria Park**

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**Trip Interruption<sup>1</sup>:** This covers the unused portions of your land or water travel arrangements, plus the additional transportation costs paid, if you must interrupt your trip due to a covered reason, such as the following:

**Sickness, Injury or Death** to you, a traveling companion, a family member, or a business partner

**Jury Duty** or being required to appear as a witness in a legal action

**A Strike** that causes your common carrier to cease operations for at least 18 hours

**Losing Your Job** where you have worked for at least 1 year

**Terrorist Attack or Hijack**

**Inclement Weather** that causes your common carrier to cease operations for at least 18 hours

**Natural Disaster or Burglary** that causes your home to become uninhabitable

**Getting into a Traffic Accident** on your way to your trip's departure point

<sup>1</sup> Please note that the covered reasons for Trip Cancellation coverage are not identical to the covered reasons for Trip Interruption coverage, and additional terms apply to all covered reasons.

**You are covered for the "single supplement" surcharge if your roommate cancels or interrupts for one of the above reasons.**

QUESTIONS? CALL 1-855-376-2037
<b>2 EASY Ways to Signup:</b>
<b>INTERNET</b> - Signup at <a href="http://www.travelconfident.com">www.travelconfident.com</a> (Internet signup is not available to residents of the State of New York.)
<b>MAIL</b> - Give a check to your Group Leader in the amount indicated by the table made out to "Travel Insured International"

Trip Cost (per person)		Travel Confident® Cost (per person)
Up to \$500	=	\$38
\$501 - \$600	=	\$48
\$601 - \$700	=	\$62
\$701 - \$1,100	=	\$72
\$1,101 - \$1,500	=	\$96
\$1,501 - \$2,000	=	\$132

RECEIVE THIS BENEFIT!
<b>ACT NOW</b> so you are eligible for a <b>PRE-EXISTING CONDITION</b> waiver! You must purchase the travel protection plan within <b>14 days</b> of the date of your initial payment or deposit.
Review the complete terms in the exclusion section of your plan document.

**Baggage and Personal Effects - Up to a maximum of \$1,000!** If your baggage is lost, stolen or damaged!

**Medical Expense - Up to a maximum of \$5,000!** If you are injured or become ill on the trip. You also are covered for up to \$750 in emergency dental treatment.

**Medical Evacuation and Repatriation of Remains - Up to a maximum of \$20,000!** Should a severe illness require immediate care and a local hospital cannot meet your needs, this covers the cost to transport you to the nearest hospital where you can receive appropriate treatment. A toll-free call to 1-800-494-9907 starts the arrangements. If you are traveling alone, you are also covered for the air fare of a companion to join you at the hospital (additional terms apply).

**24/7 Non-Insurance Assistance Services Included:** Lost Baggage Retrieval • Prescription Drug/Eyeglass Replacement • Medical or Legal Referrals • Emergency Cash Advance • Translation Services • Payment to the Assistance Company is Your Responsibility.

#### **\*\* TIPS FOR TRAVELERS \*\***

- Cancel with your Group Leader as soon as you are aware of the need to cancel.
- In the event you need to file a claim, contact Travel Insured International at 1-855-376-2037 as soon as possible. Be prepared to provide proof of payments for all portions of your trip, including the travel protection plan.
- Get detailed medical statements from treating physicians where and when an accident or sickness occurred. Save your receipts, proof of all payments and proof of coverage.
- If you have purchased the Travel Confident Protection Plan, for medical evacuation call the Assistance Company at 1-800-494-9907 or collect at 1-603-328-1707. Be sure to call before you incur any expenses!

\* This advertisement contains highlights of the plans, which include travel insurance coverages underwritten by United States Fire Insurance Company under form series T7000 et. al., T210 et. al. and TP-401 et. al. The Crum & Forster group of companies is rated A (Excellent) by AM Best 2020. C&F and Crum & Forster are registered trademarks of United States Fire Insurance Company. The plans also contain noninsurance Travel Assistance Services provided by C&F Services through Active Claims Management (2018) Inc., operating as Active Care Management. Coverages may vary and not all coverage is available in all jurisdictions. Insurance coverages are subject to the terms, limitations and exclusions in the plan, including an exclusion for pre-existing conditions. In most states, your travel retailer is not a licensed insurance producer/agent, and is not qualified or authorized to answer technical questions about the terms, benefits, exclusions, and conditions of the insurance offered or to evaluate the adequacy of your existing insurance coverage. Your travel retailer may provide general information about the plans offered, including a description of the coverage and price. The purchase of travel insurance is not required in order to purchase any other product or service from your travel retailer. Your travel retailer may be compensated for the purchase of a plan. CA DOI toll free number: 800-927-4357. MD Insurance Administration: 800-492-6116 or 410-468-2340. The cost of your plan is for the entire plan, which consists of both insurance and non-insurance components. Individuals looking to obtain additional information regarding the features and pricing of each travel plan component, please contact Travel Insured: 855 Winding Brook Drive, Glastonbury, CT 06033; 855-376-2037; customercare@travelinsured.com; California license #0113223.

For Exclusions Please See Reverse Side

AH3277



Unless otherwise shown below, these exclusions apply to You, Your Traveling Companion, or Family Member scheduled and booked to travel with You.

**The following exclusion(s) appl(y)(ies) to the Trip Cancellation and Trip Interruption and Medical Expense.**

We will not pay for any loss or expense caused due to, arising or resulting from:

1. a Pre-Existing Medical Condition, as defined in the certificate.

**The following exclusions apply to the Medical and Dental Expense benefits.**

We will not pay for any loss or expense caused due to, arising or resulting from:

1. routine physical examinations or routine dental care;
2. traveling for the purpose or intent of securing medical treatment or advice;
3. Alcohol or substance abuse or treatment for the same;
4. Normal pregnancy (except Complications of Pregnancy) or childbirth, or elective abortion;
5. a Mental, Nervous or Psychological Condition or Disorder unless Hospitalized or Partially Hospitalized while the certificate is in effect;
6. Your participation in Adventure or Extreme Activities, riding or driving in races, or participation in speed or endurance competition or events, except as a spectator;
7. Your participation in an organized athletic or sporting competition, contest, or stunt under contract in exchange for an agreed-upon salary or compensation. This does not include athletes participating in exchange for a scholarship or tuition.

**In addition to any applicable benefit-specific exclusion, the following general exclusions apply to all losses and all benefits.**

We will not pay for any loss or expense caused due to, arising or resulting from:

1. suicide, attempted suicide or any intentionally self-inflicted injury of You, a Traveling Companion, Family Member or Business Partner booked and scheduled to travel with You, while sane or insane;
2. being under the influence of drugs or narcotics, unless administered upon the advice of a Physician as prescribed;
3. activities, losses, or claims involving or resulting from possession, production, processing, sale, or use of marijuana, illegal drugs, alcohol or substances are excluded from coverage;
4. war or act of war, including invasion, acts of foreign enemies, hostilities between nations (whether declared or undeclared), or civil war;
5. the commission of or attempt to commit a felony or being engaged in an illegal occupation by You, a Traveling Companion, Family Member, or Business Partner;
6. directly or indirectly, the actual, alleged or threatened use, discharge, dispersal, seepage, migration, escape, release or exposure to any hazardous biological, chemical, nuclear radioactive weapon, device, material, gas, matter or contamination;
7. piloting or learning to pilot or acting as a member of the crew of any aircraft;
8. a loss or damage caused by detention, confiscation or destruction by customs;

**The plan also contains exclusions specific to the Baggage and Personal Effects Benefits.**

**MEDICALLY FIT TO TRAVEL EXCLUSION:**

We will not pay any expense as a result of You having been advised in writing that You, Your Traveling Companion, or Family Member scheduled and booked to travel with You are not Medically Fit to Travel at the time of purchase of coverage for a Trip, as defined in the certificate.

If coverage for a Trip is purchased and it is later determined that You, Your Traveling Companion, or Family Member scheduled and booked to travel with You were not Medically Fit to Travel at the time of purchase of coverage for Your Trip, as defined in the certificate, the coverage is void and premium paid will be returned.



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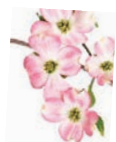
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1/16/25 Departs Bayonne, NJ  
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1/21/25 Castries, St.Lucia  
1/22/25 Bridgetown, Barbados  
1/23/25 Basseterre, St.Kitts  
1/24/25 At Sea  
1/25/25 At Sea  
1/26/25 At Sea  
1/27/25 Arrive in Bayonne, NJ





# September 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<b>1</b> 10¢ for every pair of shoes you own 	<b>2</b> 1¢ for every hamburger or hotdog you ate today or this past weekend! <b>HAPPY LABOR DAY!</b> 	<b>3</b> 10¢ if you have the MWGM's Pin of the Year. 25¢ if you don't.	<b>4</b> 10¢ if you attended the Zoom Eastern Star Charity Foundation Meeting. 25¢ if you didn't	<b>5</b> 5¢ for every door in your home	<b>6</b> 25¢ for every TV in your house.	<b>7</b> 10¢ if you attended the State Master Mason Night  25¢ if you didn't	
<b>8</b> 5¢ if you went to church today (in person or virtually). 25¢ if you didn't	<b>9</b> 5¢ for every room in your house	<b>10</b> 25¢ if you have a birthday this month 	<b>11</b> 10¢ if you have a computer in your home. 25¢ if you have more than one.	<b>12</b> 10¢ if you have the MWGP's Pin of the Year. 25¢ if you don't.	<b>13</b> 50¢ if you ate takeout any night this week 25¢ if you didn't	<b>14</b> 25¢ if you didn't attend the MWGM & MWGP's Reception today 	
<b>15</b> 5¢ if you went to church today (in person or virtually). 25¢ if you didn't	<b>16</b> 10¢ for every pet you own 	<b>17</b> 5¢ for every window in your house	<b>18</b> 10¢ for every grandchild you have	<b>19</b> 25¢ if you went to see a doctor this month. 50¢ if you didn't.	<b>20</b> 25¢ if you have a cell phone and know how to use it. 	<b>21</b> 10¢ if you called a shut-in to let them know that they are being thought of 25¢ if you didn't	
<b>22</b> 5¢ if you went to church today (in person or virtually). 25¢ if you didn't	<b>23</b> 1¢ for every card you sent this month to let someone know that they are being thought of 25¢ if you didn't	<b>24</b> 5¢ for every door in your home	<b>25</b> 25¢ If you have a Wedding Anniversary this month! 	<b>26</b> 5¢ for every cabinet door in your kitchen	<b>27</b> 10¢ if you binge watched any TV show this month. 25¢ if you didn't	<b>28</b> 10¢ for every closet in your home	
<b>29</b> 5¢ if you went to church today (in person or virtually). 25¢ if you didn't	<b>30</b> 10¢ if you are going to Niagara Falls with the MWGM  25¢ if you didn't	Thank you for supporting the Good Works of the NJ Eastern Star Charity Foundation! <i>Please make checks payable to the:</i> <b>NJ Eastern Star Charity Foundation, Inc</b> <i>Please mail checks to:</i> <b>Diedre "Buni" Williams, PGO</b> <b>743 Estates Blvd., Apt #2</b> <b>Mercerville, NJ 08619</b>					

*To Live Our Obligation by Providing "aid to members in their misfortunes" and Educational Support for the Future*

## 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.

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# The New Jersey Eastern Star Home

