



Star



Gazer



Kansas Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star

Volume 6

Fall 2019

Edition 2

Five State Gathering in South Dakota



Front row: David Salmon, AGM Carol Salmon, WGM Garrie Oppitz, Liz Granberg Jerome. Back row: George Abel, PGM Pam Abel - GGCCM, Carol Groth, PGM Wanda Ryan, PGP John Ryan.

Photo provided by Carol Salmon

A group of nine Kansas Grand Chapter members attended the Five State Weekend in Sioux Falls, SD from July 26-28. Approximately 100 Eastern Star members from Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, South Dakota, and Nebraska were present.

When we registered, we received a list of activities for the weekend. Some of us visited

Falls Park, which included numerous waterfalls on the Big Sioux River. The river flows through a rock channel in the narrowest area. There is also a café in the park which housed the generators for the hydro-electric plant that used to be there. The remains of an old mill, an observation tower, and several look-out areas along both sides of the river made it an interesting place to visit.

A trolley was available to take people from the park on a loop through the downtown area, allowing us to get off and on at one of the many trolley stops along the route.

Several of us rode the trolley to visit the Old Courthouse Museum

located downtown, the Arch of Dreams Sculpture, and to enjoy some shopping. Some of us in the group visited The Butterfly House and Aquarium, a nearby winery, and quilt shops.

Friday evening we had a banquet with introductions made by the Worthy Grand Matrons of the five states represented. PGP Deach Koch of South Dakota, (*Gathering... continued on pg. 7*)



From Left to Right: WGP Ted Kolb and WGM Brenda Goings of Missouri; WGM Lisa Russell and WGP Wayne Hoellein of South Dakota; WGM Garrie Oppitz; WGM Jean Koss and WGP Bruce Thomas of Iowa.

Photo by Liz Granberg

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Taking One for the Cause!



PGM Pam is a good sport when the Service Dog donations raised the most money.

Photo taken by Cathryn Harrison

Each year in August, the Masonic bodies of Emporia get together for a picnic in Soden Grove park. While the train in the park is running, the burgers cooking, and the sides brought by the members are standing by, the real fun for the day is well underway.

This year, the head of each body agreed to do something fun to raise money for their selected charity. As an incentive for members and their families to donate to the cause, (*Cause continued on page 7*)

Here's the Buzz

Worthy Grand Matron



Garrie Oppitz

Our Theme

Blessings and Bee-Attitudes

Our Emblems

Hands and Cross

Motto

If you concentrate on counting your blessings, you'll have little time to count anything else!

Scripture

"Kind words are like honeycombs, sweet to the soul and healing to the body."
Proverbs 16:20

Our Flowers

White Lily, Red Rose

Our Colors

Red, Black, Gold, Silver

Our Charity

Service Dogs

Fun Symbols

Hugs and Kisses
(candy)

Songs

You Raise Me Up, The Prayer,
My Tribute, One Pair of Hands,
Count Your Blessings

Words of Wisdom

Attitudes are like bees,
some make honey,
while others leave a sting.

This is to let you all know what I have been up to so far this year. Since the installation of the 2019-2020 Grand Officers, I have traveled across this Grand Jurisdiction and attended twelve receptions for the Grand Officers. I have had the privilege of visiting their home Chapters and learned a little more about each one.

Each of the Official Visits I have attended were unique and very much appreciated. There are some very creative members in our Chapters. I have also had the great honor to attend many Pin Presentations, where we were privileged to honor our distinguished 25, 50, 60, and 75 year members. What a wonderful group of dedicated members to our beautiful order.

It is always fun to rekindle our OES friendships, as I traveled to our neighbors to the north and attended the Grand Chapter of Nebraska. I brought greetings on behalf of the GC of Kansas OES at the Grand Bethel of Kansas Job's Daughters. The Grand Bethel Honored Queen was quite surprised when I gave her a petition to join OES when she turns 18. I sent representatives on behalf of the Grand Chapter to Rainbow Girls and DeMolay since I already had previous engagements.

The KSDS graduation in Washington, KS was fun and informative. This is where the puppy raisers present their dog to the new recipient. KSDS is our service dog charity. Please continue to support this worthwhile organization with your donations.

There was a great turn out for Alpha-Omega Sewing Day. The busy bees made 175+ tissue holders for the distinguished guest bags at Grand Chapter. We also had a delicious carry in luncheon of sandwiches and salads.

The 5-State fun weekend was held in Sioux Falls, SD this year. While there were only nine members attending from Kansas, we all had a great time visiting with our Eastern Star friends from Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri and South Dakota.

I enjoyed the Service Dog fund raiser in Lincoln, NE. The Salt Dogs of Lincoln played the T-Bones of Kansas City. What a perfect pairing for the fundraiser.

The KS/NE exchange was well attended. The Grand Officers of Kansas conferred the degrees in Hastings, NE and the Nebraska Grand Officers exemplified the degrees in Clay Center, KS.

The Schools of Instructions were all completed in September. Each SOI was tailored to each District so that your questions would be answered. It was good to see you all at your District School.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve this Grand Jurisdiction as your Worthy Grand Matron. I hope to see you in my travels across the State.



Star Blessings and Hugs

Garrie Oppitz

Fall Back

I hope everyone enjoyed the summer break. We are back to work this fall. Fortunately our 100 degree days are over with for another year. The Grand Officers completed their summer events including: Alpha-Omega sewing day, Five State Weekend, and the KS/NE exchange. We were pleased to bring in new members at the Kansas/Nebraska Exchange.

I would like to invite the Eastern Star membership to FALL BACK into the fall activities that we have planned for you. Some of you were able to get a participation point by attending one of the Schools of Instruction held during September. There are many other ways to earn points for the participation award.

The Grand Officers did a good job with the degree work at Meriden Chapter on September 14 and then we will exemplify the degrees at North Star Chapter on November 2. The Worthy Grand Matron and myself would love to see you at any of our OV/Pin presentations that you can make.

I also hope some of our members were able to attend the fall KSDS Dog Graduation on October 5. They invite everyone to attend each graduation held. They are pleased to provide a lunch for everyone following each ceremony. KSDS wants



This recent KSDS graduate team, Dana and Lacrosse enjoy showing others the great work that Service Dog teams can do.

Photo courtesy of KSDS

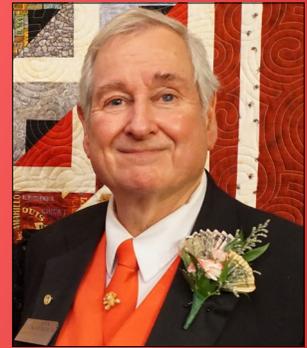
everyone to see first hand how independence is gained, hope is given for the future, and so many lives are touched through the work of an assistance dog. This is your Service Dog Charity for 2019-2020 and the official charity of GGC Eastern Star for every state. You will be amazed at the work KSDS is doing. They are changing lives one dog at a time.



Just Say Yes to OES.
Follow Your Dreams and Enjoy The Trip

Ron Kammerer
Worthy Grand Patron

Worthy Grand Patron



Ron Kammerer

Our Aim

- K - Keep Christ in your heart
- I - Invite others to become members
- S - Share your love of our order
- S - Service to our communities

Our Watch Words

Kindness, Respect, Joy

Our Symbols

Bees, Teddy Bears

Motto

Just say "YES" to OES!
Follow your dreams and
enjoy the trip!

Scripture

"Let not your hearts be troubled,
believe in God, believe also
in me..." - John 14: 1-4

Our Honored Station

Every station is important!

Fun Symbol

Peanut M&M candy

Songs

I Walked Today Where Jesus
Walked, Holy City, There is
Sunshine in My Soul Today, I
Believe All People Are Good,
You'll Never Walk Alone

Words of Wisdom

Life isn't about waiting for the
storm to pass, it's about learning
to dance in the rain.

Grand Receptions

Grand Marshal



Grand Marshal JoDean and her Escort, Karen
Photo by Liz Granberg-Jerome

On June 8, Olive Chapter #13, Fort Scott, hosted a reception honoring Grand Marshal JoDean Courtway at the Danny and Willa Ellis Family Fine Arts Center on the campus of Fort Scott Community College.

The dining and reception areas were decorated with bees and beehives. A delicious meal was served, catered by Great Western Dining Service.

WM Linda Engstrom, assisted by PGP Larry Swaim, WP and Grand Trustee, presided over the festivities and greeted the many guests with clever quips.

Dee Ann Davis sang "Rainbow Connection," accompanied by Charlotte Swaim. Later in the meeting, JoDean was escorted to the star points and received kind words and gifts. PGM Shirley Palmer, Chapter Secretary, presented JoDean with a monetary gift from the chapter.

Has your chapter been doing something fun, raising money, visiting other chapters, engaged in a service project? Let us know, so we can share in celebrating what you do!

All enjoyed refreshments of homemade cookies, fruit, cheese, and crackers. It was a wonderful event!

Submitted by JoDean Courtway

Grand Esther

The top side of Kansas hosted the reception for Grand Esther Janine Baehler on May 31. The evening started at the Goodland United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall with a wonderful dinner.

After the dinner, we ventured up to the Goodland Masonic Temple for the reception. The chapter room was decorated in a



WGM Garrie, Grand Esther Janine, and WGP Ron.
Photo by Cathy Zimmers

garden theme, as Janine's favorite pastime is working in her flowerbeds. Over 100 people came to see what the "buzzzzz" was all about. What a great way to start the "Blessings and Bee-Attitudes" appointed officers receptions.

Submitted by Janie Baehler

Grand Chaplain

Virgil Vesterberg was honored on June 28 with a "Welcome to the Ranch" theme for the reception. The banquet was a Chuck Wagon meal complete with a Chuck Wagon. Everyone enjoyed brisket, baked beans, cole slaw, potato salad, rolls and giant cookies. WM Debra Buseman, Virgil's Special Page, introduced the head table:

Worthy Grand Ruth Kimberly D. Dellinger; PGM Pam Abel, GGCCM-Credentials and Grand Trustee; PGP John J. Ryan, GGCCM—Service Dogs and; Grand Chaplain Virgil Vesterberg and his wife and Escort Dawn; and WM Debra Buseman.

After dining, everyone went to the chapter room, which was done in a Western décor. Carol Anderson, Milbrook Chapter #108, played a prelude while members and friends gathered and pictures were taken. She also sang a special song to Virgil.

The officers took their stations and Debra welcomed all guests with special poems. After all guests were introduced, the chapter honored Virgil with a ceremony. He was presented with a monetary gift and a wooden plaque on which each star point placed a wooden word after sharing something from Virgil's life.

Submitted by Earl Dornburger



Grand Chaplain Virgil Vesterberg, Grand Chaplain
Photo by Liz Granberg-Jerome

Grand Martha

Jamie Ann Burdette was the honored guest at a luncheon and reception held on Saturday, June 1 in the 4-H building of the Grant County Civic Center in Ulysses, hosted by her home chapter, Ulysses #471.



Grand Martha Jamie and husband, Chris.
Photo by Christy Hard

Following a catered meal by Tate's Barbecue, guests went to the Masonic Lodge for the meeting and introductions.

Jamie was honored with a beautiful song from Shannon and Slater Heglin. She was then conducted to each of the star points, where she was presented a sign about a bee. Jamie was then presented with a beautiful gift from her Chapter.

Jamie expressed her gratitude to all present and introduced her family, parents Ronnie and Nancy Young, brothers Todd and Tim Young, sister-in-law Kristen Young, niece and nephew Andi and Clay Young, her Uncle Jim and Aunt Melanie Hickok, children Shiloh and Cooper Morgan and husband Christopher Burdette.

Jamie then ended with a quote about a bumble. A cake and punch reception followed.

Submitted by Jamie Burdette

Grand Adah

Grand Adah Twyla Bayless was honored with a reception hosted by Gladiola Chapter No. 459 on

Saturday, June 22, at the Roger E. Sherman Masonic Temple in Kansas City. A tailgate luncheon was served at noon by members of the chapter. The lunch consisted of grilled burgers and brats, baked beans, pasta salad, chips, veggies, and fruits and various dips and tulip cupcakes in the star point colors. Tables were covered in red tablecloths with Nebraska football themed centerpieces. The reception followed with words of welcome using the history of the Nebraska Cornhuskers as the theme.

In addition to the Worthy Grand Matron, Worthy Grand Patron, and the Blessings and Bee-Attitudes grand family, there were guests from across Kansas and Missouri.

The star points honored Twyla with Winnie the Pooh quotes and each presented her with a honey pot. Lorene Prewitt presented her a momentary gift from the



Twyla's parents are proud of their daughter, Grand Adah Twyla. She is joined here by her mom, Nora and her dad and Grand Escort George.
Photo by Liz Granberg-Jerome

chapter. Reva Jeane Beard honored Twyla with a song. She was also surprised with a visit from Minnie Pearl who came because she wanted to know what a "reception" is. You had to be in attendance to know who Minnie Pearl was. Following the benediction all retired to dining room for refreshments of cookies and beverages.

Submitted by Twyla Bayless

Coming Events!

- Oct 20- 22 Oklahoma Grand Chapter Guthrie. Oklahoma
- Oct 24 - 27 Iowa Grand Chapter West Des Moines, Iowa
- October 27 Official Visit and Pins White Rose #297, Gridley
- November 2 GO Degree Work & Pins North Star #483, Wichita
- November 3 Grand Officers visit Kansas Masonic Home
- November 4 Official Visit Goodland #122, Goodland
- November 7 Pin Presentation Kent #117, Weir
- November 11 Official Visit and Pins Olive #13, Ft. Scott
- November 12 Official Visit and Pins Sunflower #464, Chanute
- November 14 Official Visit and Pins Derby #493, Derby
- November 19 Official Visit and Pins Wathena #413, Wathena
- November 26 Official Visit and Pins Queen City #138, Winfield
- December 5 Official Visit and Pins Ninnescah #423, Clearwater
- December 7 Grand Officer Christmas Party
- December 10 Official Visit and Pins Fidelity #38, Carbondale
- December 11 Official Visit Evangeline #162, Baldwin City
- December 13 Official Visit and Pins Byington #177, Leavenworth
- January 9 Official Visit and Pins Clay Center #180, Clay Center
- January 17 Official Visit and Pins Gladiola #459, Kansas City

Kansas Nebraska Exchange

August
23-24

Program

- 5:30 PM Banquet
Welcome
Blessing
Dinner
Officers and Grand Officers Gather in Chapter Room for photos
- 7:00 PM Exchange Ceremonies
Opening - Acacia Chapter #39 Officers
Ceremony of Initiation - Kansas Grand Officers
Introductions - Acacia Chapter #39 Officers
Remarks
Closing - Acacia Chapter #39 Officers

Fellowship & Refreshments following the meeting,
Lower Level Dining Room

Kansas/Nebraska Reunion
Conference Room of Comfort Inn

Paws UP!
Encouraging paws on Involvement
in our chapters and communities with our

Star Dogs

Hastings
Nebraska
Clay Center
Kansas

Gathering... continued from pg. 1

entertained us with several songs accompanied on his guitar.

Saturday evening we attended the Heritage Treasures Banquet. At this banquet we sat at the same table as our counterparts from the other states, so we could meet one another and visit. Everyone wore an Eastern Star shirt from their different states. At registration, we each received a Heritage Survey. We filled them out and returned the surveys. The committee then compiled the data from the survey and used it to award a number of door prizes.

The survey questions asked when you were initiated, how many generations in our family were OES members, what year were you first appointed to a grand family, how many consecutive grand sessions have you attended, etc. Door prizes were awarded based on the surveys.

Sunday morning there was a Prayer Service and Breakfast before everyone left to go home. We met lots of new friends and enjoyed visiting with some we had met before. If you haven't attended a five state weekend, make plans to attend next year. It is for all members and it's lots of fun.

Submitted by Carol Salmon

Cause continued from page 1

each leader agreed to take a pie in the face if they raised the most money that day.

PGM Pam Abel, Miriam Chapter's Worthy Matron this year, chose to donate the monies she raised to the Service Dog Project. The chapter members, family - *and the Shrine Club* - generously donated to the SD Project—enough to raise the most money for their charity that day!

PGM Pam was a good sport as she “took one in the face” to support service dogs.



The leaders of St. John Lodge (*Prince Hall*), Miriam Chapter, Emporia Lodge, and Neosho Valley Shrine Club (*Arab Temple*) show their Masonic spirit as they each get “pied” for charity!

Photo taken by Cathryn Harrison

A request from the Worthy Grand Matron—

If you are posting invitations on Facebook...please remember that not all members are on Facebook. This includes the Worthy Grand Matron, Worthy Grand Patron and the Associate Grand Matron. Please either email the invitation and/or drop the invitation into the mail.

There has been a problem with getting the invitations to the proper people, so they know what is happening. Understand that we all love the way technology works and email and Facebook has brought us all closer together. Some members and some Chapter Secretaries, do not use some of the latest technology. So please be mindful when sending out invitations.

Thank You,
Sister Garrie Oppitz, WGM

KSDS Wish List

Whelping Supplies

(for the newborn puppies)

- Paper name tags (wristband style)
- Rubber gloves
- Heating pads
- Whelping mats
- KY Jelly

For the Dogs

- Dog Shampoo (Black Pearl)
- Dog Tooth Paste
- Dog Toys (Souper Nylabones, Black & Red Kongs, Galileo Bones, Big Chew Bones, Jolly Balls)
- Dog Toys (Puppy Toys, Zanies Hard rubber toys, Kong Tug Toys, Nobbly Wobbly II)
- Dog Enrichment Toys (food puzzles, treat dispensers, etc.)

Pins Presentations for Years of Service

80 Years Celebrated

Dorothy (Meyer) Nelligan was pleased to attend the May 9 meeting of Clay Center #180 with her son and a niece, where she was honored by the chapter with a lovely pin celebrating her 80 year membership in OES. Following the presentation, the chapter was also pleased to salute her with Grand Honors.



WM Debra Buseman and WP Virgil Vesterberg are with Clay Center Chapter's new 80 year member, Dorothy Nelligan. Photo provided by Earl Dornberger

Then she was off to Belleville to visit more family and friends. Dorothy showed us all that she is a very spry 100 years young. Originally a Riley native, she joined Riley Chapter #292 in 1939 and now lives in Rockville, Maryland.

Submitted by Earl Dornberger

75 Year Pin at 97 Years

Eleanor Lundquist, originally from Marquette, KS, received her 75 year pin on her 97th birthday.



Eleanor is pictured here with WGP Ron and WGM Garrie as her service record is shared. Photo provided by Gary Ayers

Enjoying her special day, those who attended were pleased to discover that she was sharp as a tack and told some good stories.

Eleanor joined Marquette Chapter back in 1944, then later transferred to Lindsborg.

50 Years and Going

Adda Chapter honored 60, 50, and 25 year members at their meeting on June 12. Amongst those honored was Mary Keffer, who received her 50 year pin.

Other members receiving pins/certificates that evening were: Sheryl Todd—25 years
JoAnn Hasemeier—50 years
Pat Shroder—50 years
Willie McCallum—60 years.



PGM Mary Hayselden enjoyed photobombing the picture, with WGM Garrie, Mary Keffer, and WGP Ron, who celebrated Mary Keffer's 50 year pin.

Photo provided by George Bayless

Many members of the Spirit of Love and Aloha grand family also came to surround Mary with love and congratulations on her special evening! Everyone who attended was pleased to celebrate the many years of service being honored on that special night.

Union Chapter Celebrates

On June 19, Union Chapter, Ottawa was pleased to celebrate their pin recipients, with a fun evening for all who attended. PGP Mike Towner was honored



Pictured L to R: WM Pat Murray, WGM Garrie, Margaret Dalrymple, June Butler, and PGP Mike Towner. In front, Marci Gentry.

Photo taken by Liz Granberg-Jerome

to present each of the ladies with their pins:

Margaret Dalrymple—75 years

June Butler—50 years

Marci Gentry—50 years

Some memories were shared, and yummy refreshments were enjoyed following the meeting.

A Fun, Full Day

Alpha-Omega Sewing Day is always a busy and fun day. This year's group also had the chance to celebrate a pin presentation.

Miriam Chapter's AM Nancy Crumb had been unable to attend the OV and pin presentation held earlier in the spring. So, surrounded by the Grand Officers, WGP Ron presented Nancy with her 50 year pin. PGP Tom Fowler then presented her a life-time membership from the chapter.



Nancy gets a little kiss from her husband after he puts on her 50 year pin.

Photo taken by Jan Brooks

Raising Money for Service Dogs

Many of our chapters are going to the dogs helping to raise money for the Service Dog Project this year!

Martha Washington Chapter, Atchison got the ball rolling early when they set up a booth during Atchison's monthly 1st Friday community event.



The booth, complete with baked goods and the raffle bucket, helped raise money for Service Dogs.
Photo taken by Christina Woolard-Reedy

At the booth they were selling puppy treats, human treats, and tickets for a raffle. The raffle prize was awarded that day to a great young family. They received a bucket full of useful household goodies!

St. Bernard Chapter of Dodge City took donations the service dog project at the table set up by the chapter at the mall craft show held during the annual Dodge City Days event. The chapter will be continuing to sell raffle tickets for the beautiful



St. Bernard Chapter selling chances on the quilt made by Sister Nola, at the craft show.
Photo courtesy of Carol Salmon

quilt through spring. If you would like to see the quilt in person, it can be seen at the Birds of a Feather Quilt Shop in Dodge City. (509 N 2nd Ave, Suite 9 – the old Eckles mall).

Raffle tickets are \$5.00 each. The drawing for the quilt will be held in early spring 2020. Tickets can be purchased at the Quilt Shop or through a member of St. Bernard Chapter.

Not to be outdone, *Sunflower Chapter*, Chanute raised money for Service Dogs by raffling off a Master Built 30-inch digital electric smoker. Tickets sold for \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

On October 11, the smoker was delivered to the father of the winner!



Sunflower Chapter members enduring the weather at the Chanute Artist Alley to sell raffle tickets and raise money for Service Dogs.
Photo courtesy of Wendy Cunningham



School supplies gathered by the members of Golden Rod Chapter #163 Yates Center were presented to Woodson #366 Elementary School in Yates Center. The donation was accepted on behalf of the school by Principal Eric Busteed, pictured here with by PGP Francis "Pete" Peterson and his wife, Sondra.

Fundraising Ideas!

Here are a few ideas that other groups have used to help raise money for Service Dogs!

- Clothing Resale
- Bakeoff
- Barbecue or Cooking Contest
- Board Game or Card Tournament
- Book Club Fundraiser
- Bowling Event
- Bonfire Cookout Party
- Car Detailing & Wash
- Carnival
- Chili Cook-Off or Dinner
- Darts or Pool Tournament
- Dog Bakery
- Dog or Cat Sitting/Walking
- Kiddie Dog Show
- Fundraising Walk
- Golf Tournament
- Hayrack Rides
- Haunted House
- Hog Roast
- Movie Night
- Music Festival
- Recycle Drive
- Restaurant Event
- (Restaurant donates portion of proceeds on a specific date)
- Scrapbook Party
- Scavenger Hunt
- Silent Auction
- Theme Dinner Party
- Treasure Hunt
- Trivia Night
- Walk-a-Thon

Star Gazer Information

The Star Gazer is published quarterly, normally in June, August, December, and March. Actual publishing dates may vary, depending on circumstances.

Distribution of the newsletter is primarily through electronic means. Paper copies of the newsletter are available upon request.

The Star Gazer is a publication of the Grand Chapter of Kansas. Production of the newsletter is the responsibility of the StarGazer Committee of Grand Chapter.

Articles and pictures may be submitted for inclusion by sending them to the editor at:

ks.oes.stargazer@gmail.com

All articles and pictures are subject to editing and approval prior to publication. Please include names with submission of photos.

Crosses for BAK Participants

Friday, June 12 was the “early start” from the Colorado border for the 45th year of BAK (Bike Across Kansas). Registration for the event included participants from 28 states besides Kansas.

The scenic ride across Kansas included overnight stays in several towns. But Atchison, in northeast Kansas was the ending site, where participants enjoyed a catered “celebration picnic” and the traditional “dipping of the tires” in the Missouri River.

As hands and crosses are emblems of this Grand year, the officers of Martha Washington Chapter starched 841 crocheted cross bookmarks. Each cross was placed in a zip-lock bag with an OES Star label affixed to it.

This community awareness service project was done to mark the riders completing their journey across Kansas by giving them a memento to take home.

One member shared by the following encounter: “While handing out crosses, I came across a gentleman wearing an Ambucs shirt. When he saw the ‘star’ on the bag, he said ‘I was there at the big meeting’ and elaborated on his experience. Then he asked me, ‘Were you there?’ Realizing he was talking

about Grand Chapter, I said “Yes, I was.”

When the first charitable organization received their large award, he said he started to see stars. He thought perhaps \$100-\$500 would be the presented amount. He went on to say he was dumbfounded. They were deeply grateful for the donation. He is still overwhelmed with the generosity of our group and kept repeating again their gratitude.”

A special “Thank You” goes out to Arlene Kuhnert for designing and providing the labels for our crosses.

It took many hands and many crosses to accomplish this project. Kudos are extended to the chapter officers who helped. There are not enough words to express how much your time and labors of love have meant.

We regret not being able to give a bookmark to each participant. We seek the help of our Sisters and Brothers across the state to find those who participated from your area or district to see if they received a cross. If not, please contact us with their information so we can mail one of our crosses.

*Submitted by Carol Groth
cgroth645@gmail.com*

Keeping Kids Safe



L to R: Kim Weaver, WP Chip Marcy, WM Melanie Marcy, Mark Wanklin, Sandy Wanklin, and Gary Hartman - Kearny County Sheriffs office.
Photo provided by Charles Marcy

Lakin Chapter #244 formally presented a check to Kearny County Sheriffs office on August 24, to help with the purchase of an EZ Child ID kit. In the first 30 days of use, the equipment has served 75 children.

There is no charge for parents to make use of the service. The parents get: a flash drive, with digital fingerprints, picture of children’s height from all four angles, and a video of their child, with voice recognition.

A small envelope is provided to parents who may choose to store their child's DNA from a hair sample/fingernail clippings.

EZ Child has a phone Ap that parents can use that contains their child's information. Plus, the parents get a paper copy of the information to carry with them.

Kansas Specialty Dog Service

Washington, Kansas

29 years of training service dogs!



Wrapping Things Up



On July 4th, my parents presented the second OES Quilt of Valor from last year when they visited my baby brother in Georgia. He had just welcomed my newest nephew into the world. A fitting tribute to my hero on Independence Day. Thank you to the amazing quilters of Kansas.

Submitted by PGM Mary Hayselden

On October 25 at the Sand Creek Station Golf Course, AMBUCS will host their fall event. At the event, an individual will be presented with the Amtryke purchased from the funds raised during the Spirit of Love and Aloha Grand year. The tryke will have a tag on it showing it was donated by the KS Grand Chapter OES. The generosity of our members continues to abound, changing peoples lives along the way.



**The A B C s of
TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS**

Your Chapter can help local kids and teachers, and raise awareness of the charitable goals of Eastern Star in your community.
It's as easy as **A B C**:

A: Adopt a school, classroom or teacher. Ask how you can help.

B: Buy supplies that teachers often have to furnish themselves. Bring them to the school as a gift/donation from your Chapter.

C: Continue to monitor the needs of your school, classroom or teacher throughout the year. Call often, to offer assistance.

Support the educators in your area by supplying Tools for Schools!

It's as easy as **A B C**.

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND SECRETARY!

How to Write a Check to Grand Chapter!

1. Make the check out to:
Grand Chapter of Kansas
2. Date check correctly, especially the year.
3. Numeric amount **MUST** match the written amount *exactly!*
4. If not using a contribution form:
Designate the special fund on the Memo line *only*. It is located in the lower left corner of the check.
5. Checks older than six (6) months cannot be deposited.

Our bank reviews each check individually. If anything is amiss, the check cannot be deposited. It is important to send checks after writing them. Checks often have to be re-written because it is too old or contains errors in how it is written.

Thanks for helping!



Star Gazer Newsletter
 Kansas Grand Chapter OES
 320 Southwest Eighth Avenue, Floor 2
 Topeka, Kansas 66603-3912

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Did you know....

Dogs need homes!

They are called Career Change Dogs.

KSDS trains and places Guide Dogs for the blind and visually impaired and Service Dogs for the physically disabled. The dogs used for the program are screened and tested on their physical qualities, trainability, how well they adjust to new environments and temperament. Some dogs will not pass these entire tests, they are released and made available for adoption. Other dogs available for adoption can include a retired Guide or Service dog. These dogs are all in need of a stable and loving home.

If you are interested in adopting one of these dogs, applications can be found on the KSDS website: ksds.org