



# Star Gazer



## Kansas Grand Chapter - Order of the Eastern Star

Volume 7

December 2020/January 2021

Edition 1

### !!The Star Gazer Is Back!!

Hi All!!

Well as you can see the Star Gazer is back up and running! I am FINALLY able to bring you the issue that you have all been waiting for since March/April.

It was a little hard to bring you a issue when the Chapters were unable to meet from March to August. Yes some Chapters started in July but did not do anything just had short meetings. With that being said other Chapters have not met as of yet, waiting for the numbers in their area to go down to keep membership safe.

I have heard of a lot of Chapters doing Zoom get together's and reading the information sent to them and discussing what they plan to do once they get back to having meetings.

The next 2 issues will be the catch up issues. The plan is to put

in everything I was unable to put in a nice issue. (that being more than 1 page) Printing cost are not cheap so it was better to wait until we could do 11-12 page paper so the cost would go down.

I would like to thank the Chapters who have sent items over the last 2 months. We will put in what we can and if you do not see your article in the paper this time...do not fear it will be in the next issue.

I have been brain storming about how and when it will be economical to put out a issue and I know the schedule is now messed up as to when you will receive said issue. Please just bear with me as I get back with printers and others who helped to put this out. (they may or may not have been shut down when we were)

As a group we all need to work together to be able to get back to see each other...I hope this is a start.

Thanks for your patience.  
Cindy

Note:

I am planning on starting on the next issue the end of February. Please if you have anything to send...send it. Also PLEASE send photos in a .jpg (which that is what the photo should already be in) Please do not send them in a Word Doc file. They come out looking fuzzy. If you have more than one photo you would like to send please contact me for my personal email so you can send them to me. Information is also in the itinerary.

Thanks  
Cindy

#### In This Issue.....

WGM's Page.....	2
WGP's Pag.....	3
Adventures with Boaz.....	4
Around the State.....	6
Fundraiser's.....	9
Covid information.....	10

Deadline for next issue is Feb. 22nd

### Kansas Specialty Dog Service

Washington, Kansas

29 years of training service dogs!



KSDS, Inc  
Assistance Dogs

## Worthy Grand Matron



Karen Monteith

Our Theme  
Wings of Friendship

Our Emblems  
Dove and Bible

Motto  
We are IN  
God's Service

Scripture  
And whatsoever ye do, do it  
heartily, as o the Lord, and not  
unto men, for ye serve The  
Lord Christ.  
Colossians 3:23-24

Our Flowers  
Red Carnations, Blue  
Snapdragons, Yellow Rose,  
Iris

Our Colors  
Royal blue, Red and Yellow

Fun symbols  
Planes, Postcards,  
Ice cream and Nuts

From the Worthy Grand Matron.....  
(first letter from October)

Such a year this has been!

Chapter elections were in early March, and here it is mid-October. The spring issue of the Stargazer is finally going to print, Chapters are meeting, and officers are learning their new stations. The Grand Family's schedule continues to be written in pencil, with a big eraser close by. Our masonic resiliency and adjustments have allowed us to "attend" Job's Daughters virtual Grand Bethel, and DeMolay's conclave in person. District Aides are completing their visits, Schools of Instructions are in progress, Official Visits and pin presentations are in full swing, and we have conducted a courtesy initiation with another scheduled in just a few weeks.

We are grateful to the Most Worthy Grand Matron Marianne Shenefeld for her guidance which has allowed us to resume activities while we navigate these uncharted waters as safely as possible. It has been so good to see each other again, even if it is from behind a mask.

A big thank you is extended to all who have been supporting our charity and Special Projects with their donations and purchases of itineraries, pins, and flashlights.

We look forward to seeing you during our upcoming travel and wish you good health and happiness.



From the Worthy Grand Patron.....

Hey, everyone, your Worthy Grand Patron here.

This has truly been a one-of-a-kind year!

I have enjoyed attending the events that have been able to be held during this crazy time. However, I have missed being able to see many of my sisters and brothers across the state and in other grand jurisdictions. I have been privileged to be able to present several service award pins and certificates this year. I know many recipients have been unable to attend in person, but for those who have been able to venture out - I have thoroughly enjoyed being able to meet you and hear your stories.

I hope you have purchased at least one of our special project pins. (My pin is a replica of my real racecar!) Most everyone who gets to know me, knows how much I love to go fast and turn left. Don't forget to pick up a Service Dog flashlight to support KSDS. You never know when a little extra light might come in handy. Everyone - love and support each other and remember, don't ask God to direct your path if you're not willing to move your feet!



Photos from these two pages are from the Informal Reception on page 6

## Worthy Grand Patron



David Blocher

Our Aim  
Live each day as if  
the only person  
you work for is God.

Our Watch Words  
Live Well, Laugh Often,  
Love Much

Fun Emblems  
Race Cars, Trains, Popcorn,  
Kit Kat and Butterfinger

Scripture  
We can make our plans but the  
Lord determines our steps.  
Proverbs 16:9

Honor Station  
Chaplain and Warder

Songs  
On the wings of a snow  
white dove  
God will take care of you  
Count your blessings

Our Charity  
Mission Aviation Fellowship  
KSDS Assistance Dogs

## Adventures with Boaz – Part 2

At the end of July 2019, Jackie, Kim, and I headed to Arizona for the “Friendships Precious Memories” Grand Session. They held a Disney themed Honor Event for Sister Billie Bradfield, Right Worthy Grand Conductress. Kim dressed as John Darling from Peter Pan and people had a hard time recognizing her.



Sister Kim WG Ruth and Sister Marianne MWGM

They also had a separate Teddy Bear Picnic Event for Sister Sue Peterson, Worthy Grand Adah. We found out just how hot it can get in July.



Sisters Jackie and Kim show their style in Arizona at the Teddy Bear Picnic.

We took a Pedi-taxi to the Diamondbacks Stadium for a tour. Kim accidentally sat in the manager’s chair in the locker room - OOPS. We also visited a Native American Museum.

In August, Sister Kathleen Ferri joined Kim and me on a surprise visit to Wyoming. Kim want-

ed to surprise the incoming WGM and WGP for their installation. The really cool part was that even though just a few people knew we were coming, Sister Marianne had no idea until Kim was escorted to the East by Sister Julie, Worthy Grand Martha before the evening session.

We also attended the Kansas – Nebraska Exchange. The Grand Officers in both jurisdictions did a great job with the Initiatory Work! #Kansasproud Sadly, we had to take a break from our adventures because Kim was expected to go back to work – ugh!



Liz Granberg-Jerome and Sarah Short Past Grand Ruth’s of Kansas. Pauline Yockey, PGM and Past WG Ruth, and Kim Dellinger, PGM and WG Ruth

Once October arrived, we got ready to gear up for Oklahoma Grand Chapter in Guthrie. Sister Shauna Viele joined us on this trip for their “Returning to God’s Country” Grand Session. Here, we got to see many of our friends. Kim was honored to respond on behalf of General Grand Chapter Officers and Committee Members. This was an extra special trip because the Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Kathy Miller served as Grand Adah for Sister Kathy Stegall – PGM in 2012-2013. Sister Shauna Viele was Grand Adah for Kim that year and served with

Kathy Miller – Friendships are special!

December brought the GGC Officer Christmas Party in Washington, DC. Kim, Jolene, and me headed to Washington for fun, friendships, and sightseeing!

This was our first time to the International Headquarters – what an awesome sight! On our first morning in the Headquarters



George Washington’s Bible

we got to see George Washington’s Bible – the one he used as Grand Master. We also had the opportunity to visit the National Archives, tour the Capitol Building, walk through Union Station, go to the Newseum (very interesting), and ride on the subway.



Kim Putting the decoration on the tree at General Grand Chapter

As part of our time together, we placed an ornament on the Christmas Tree in the entry way of the Headquarters.

It was supposed to represent our jurisdiction. We chose one made out of barbed wire that also had a windmill, piece of wheat, and a sunflower on it.



(Top) Closeup of tree decoration from Kansas. (Bottom) Orniment on Tree

On the next to the last day, we headed to NYC to see the Rockettes Christmas Spectacular at Radio City Music Hall – AWESOME – and the Christmas Tree at Rockefeller Center - WOW!



Throughout the year we attended several of the receptions for our Grand Officers, special meetings and events, as well as Chapter meetings. We were always welcomed with open arms.

I would like to thank everyone that handed DoG Dollars to Sister Kim at the meetings we attended. I would remind you that while these dollars are separate from the funds deposited with Grand Chapter, ALL MONEY COLLECTED STAYS IN KANSAS. We plan to continue to collect DoG Dollars this next year so keep checking your change so that we can make a difference in the life of someone that needs a Service Dog from KSDS. Thank you all again for your generosity and we look forward to seeing you along the OES trail!



Here are some extra Photos of Kim and my travels!!  
(We had SO MUCH FUN!!)



Look!! I found a pretty Grand Piano!  
Do you think Sister Shauna Viele can help me play it?



I meet some new friends in my travels!



Tree at Rockefeller Center

# Around the State... We have been busy! Even with COVID-19!

## Informal Reception

A small gathering was held on Saturday May 2, 2020 to celebrate the appointments of Adrienne White, Grand Esther and Deb Westerman, Grand Warder. Location was the Braum's parking lot in NW Wichita. Location is referred to as the 'Conference Center' because that is where Karen & David held a lot of planning meetings.

WGM & WGP presented each sister with a potted yellow tea rose. WGM presented WGP with his gift

of a brief case. Inside was safety gear in case a car needs to be repaired when traveling. (Orange safety vests and Tyvek coveralls.) Ann & Kim presented Karen with her Square & Compasses.

Also present: Kim Dellinger WG Ruth, Ann Kolarik Escort to WGM, Catherine Blocher escort to WGP, Chris Westerman escort to Grand Warder, Roberta McGrew Special Page to Grand Warder & Boaz.



Adrienne White, WGM Karen Monteith, WGP David Blocher and Deb Westerman

## Derby Pins

On Thursday September 10th Derby Chapter # 493 held their Official Visit and Pin presentation.

Sister Kathryn L. Johnson, PGM received her 50 year pin that evening. When she arrived she did not notice that a special guest was there to help with the presenting. Her WGP was hiding behind a door to help with the presentation. Brother Rick Stripling, PGP surprised Sister Kathy and help present her pin and also pinned her 50 year pin on her.

Also traveling with Brother Rick was his mom Pat Stripling-Brown and Sister Susan McGinnis, PGM.



To the Left: Karen learned how to sashet to become an honorary Miss Kitty.

## Dodge City Official Visit

St, Bernard Chapter #97 had their Official Visit on Sept. 26, 2020. They welcomed the Grand Officers who performed the degree work on a new member. Her name is Cheryl Mattingly. When you registered you were given a skelton arm (elbow to hand) to be able to shake hands with other members or pat them on the back. The centerpieces were lovely decorations with hand sanitizer in the middle for your hands. Attendees were served a wonderful lunch of a hamburger casserole, green beans, salad and assorted desserts by members of the Chapter.



David learned how to mosey on his way to becoming an honorary Marshall.



Brother Rick Stripling, PGP Pinning Sister Kathy Johnson, PGM with her 50 year Pin

# Dodge City

# Lorraine Chapter #39



Shauna Viele and Adrienne White in their mask!

Shauna had the privilege of attending the degree work with Adrienne White, Grand Esther. We were excited to get a picture of this grand family in formal wear since this is the first time we have been together in "formal mode".

This year has certainly been one fraught with challenges for all of us. As RN's, Sister Adrienne and I feel strongly about masks, hand washing and social distancing! I have to say we definitely had anxiety about this meeting. But so far no reports of anyone having been ill, so we are very thankful.

Thinking of all our sisters and brothers and praying for good health for all.

Bottom pic is of Sister Adrienne's husband Steve on his motorcycle behind us on the way home from Dodge City.



YES! Lorraine Chapter #39 of Medicine Lodge meeting in Kiowa was bound and determined to have the Official Visit of Karen Monteith, WGM. And we did it after extraordinary measures to get into the lodge. For some reason, none of our keys would unlock any door. We even have a locksmith as a member and he was befuddled. Several Brothers of the Lodge arrived and started working on the back door.



The hammer didn't hold up. A crowbar wasn't enough.



Almost two hours later, our wonderful Lodge Brothers gained access. Good thing we got there about 5:30 pm. Many Thanks to Sisters and Brothers of the Grand Family and Anthony Chapter and ALL those who visited for their patience.



"The Flight Of Lorraine Airways #39" departed from Kiowa-Dega Airport with only a "slight" delay. With stops in Titusville for the "Antique Warships Airshow", Dayton, OH to visit the air museum and Lincoln, Alabama, home of the Talladega Super Speedway. Our Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron flew home to Kiowa-Dega Airport! Our Great Pilot, Captain Monteith, guided us safely home through a hail storm. (Actually they were fluffy balls.) After disembarking from the big red aircraft and crossing the finish line, we were served the most delicious airline food. No kidding! Thank you one and all for flying Lorraine Airways Flight #39.



Lorraine Chapter Officers and attending Grand Officers

The members of Lorraine Chapter surprised Sister JoAnn Wortman with a program to honor her appointment as Grand Martha where she had to go to the doctor's office for lab work, an exam and of course, the billing office. Her chapter presented her with a generous gift of gas money for her travels.



# Golden Rod Chapter is Keeping the Tradition Going

Trying to beat the incoming storm, members of the Golden Rod Chapter of the Eastern Star and Masonic Gilead Lodge were joined by some members of the YCHS FFA as they put out their memorial flags.



The Yates Center cemetery is an impressive sight during memorial weekend with the memorial flags marking the graves of former members. It is a labor of love to keep this tradition alive.

The Eastern Star have been decorating their members' graves for well over 50 years. Secretary Jana Goebel remembers helping her mom when she was little when they just attached a colored ribbon to a stick and placed it beside the grave markers. Many members of today have those memories of helping their folks just as kids and grandkids show up to help now. Some yellow flags were put out for a few years before the blue flags with the emblems were purchased that they use today.

Keeping a record of the location of all of the markers has been a process over the years. Some of the earliest mapping was done by OES member Adah Rich; it was done on some old brown paper grocery sacks. They were then transferred to index cards before they were updated to the current method of computers to store the information.

Members Pete and Sondra Peterson and Linda Call spent many hours moving the information over from the notecards to the

more permanent computer system. Before we had the maps, members had to walk around looking for the metal star markers, hoping they wouldn't leave anyone out. "I love taking care of the flags and getting them organized and bundled for the next Memorial Day," said Past Grand Patron Pete Peterson. "It is a lot of fun," he added. Pete has been taking care of the flags since the 90's. He has them divided into sections and grouped for the volunteers that come to help place them each year.



Things don't always run smoothly or turn out perfectly, as one year a huge wind storm blew in and the flags were everywhere. Several were broken but have been replaced. A high tech solution came about to keep that from happening again as an old wooden clothespin is now attached to each marker to keep the flag in place.

In 2008, the Masonic Lodge joined the OES sisters in recognizing their members. It is a process locating and mapping the specific grave sites. Each one receives a metal flag holder to mark their location. Members of the Gilead Lodge were able to complete the process in 2013 and have been placing them with the Star each Spring.

The flags always get out; there have been years the volunteers were few, the weather was hot, raining, or windy, but they are always put out.

This year, it was so great when a group of the local FFA arrived to assist the members: "It was awesome," said Pete, "They really made it go fast." The American Legion also has markers to recognize the heroes of the many wars through the years, and they put flags out, as well.

Now when you are walking through the cemetery and see a metal marker adorning a grave site, take a minute to straighten it if it has fallen over, as they are reminders of the many men and women who have given their time to service organizations over the years, and especially to the many who have served and passed protecting our country and our freedom.



## 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](mailto: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.

# News from the Spring Fundraiser Committee

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Chapter Secretaries, this letter is coming to you to notify your Chapter and your members about our Spring Fundraiser on Saturday March 13th hosted by Sunflower Chapter #147 in Chanute KS. The theme will be, "I Joined the OES Adventure" which relates to Osa and Martin Johnson, who back in the 1930's traveled in Africa.

We are requesting each Chapter to donate \$50 or a basket, which would possibly relate to Adventure, such as animals or items that would have been found by Osa and Martin in Africa. Any Eastern Star items or any combinations of these ideas that you would wish to have auctioned off to raise money for our Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron's Charities.

We would hope by March that we will be able to hold this event in person and everyone will be able to come and enjoy the day in Chanute. You can tour the Martin and Osa Johnson Safari Museum, or spend some time visiting Howard's Toys for Big Boys (Old cars), we will make arrangements at our Holiday Inn Express for rooms and a meal will be served in the afternoon. Registration would be required for the meal.

This event will be held at: Sunflower Chapter #147, Cedar Lodge  
102 N. Highland, Chanute KS.

If it is not possible for this to take place in person, we would do like last year and request that pictures be taken of your items and there will be an online auction.

This is just a reminder now to think about and get ready with further details to follow.

Just remember, "The comeback is always stronger than the setback" – unknown.

Sincerely,

Spring Fundraiser Committee -

Merrill and Wendy Cunningham, Sunflower Chapter #147 Chanute

Ruthann and Ted Boatwright, Sunflower Chapter #147 Chanute

Teresa Ryan, Fidelity Chapter #38 Carbondale

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## Ninnescah Chapter #423, Fundraiser

**Custom OES Buttons! You can sew on multiple things! 4 Buttons \$5.00 includes Shipping**

**Personal Protection Kit: Includes: 2 Face Mask, 2-OES Buttons and 9 antiseptic Toweletts (hospital grade) \$10.00 Includes shipping.**

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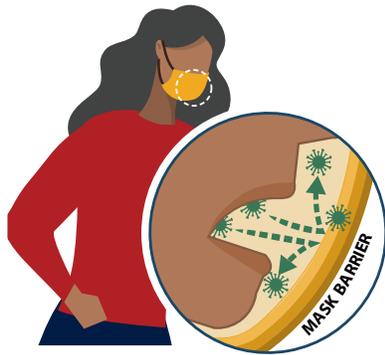
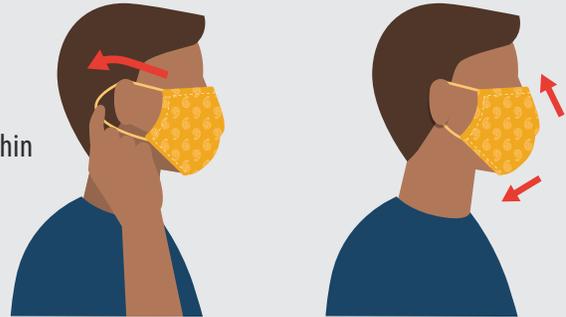


# How to Safely Wear and Take Off a Mask

Accessible: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

## WEAR YOUR MASK CORRECTLY

- Wash your hands before putting on your mask
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily
- Do not place a mask on a child younger than 2



## USE A MASK TO HELP PROTECT OTHERS

- Wear a mask to help protect others in case you're infected but don't have symptoms
- Keep the mask on your face the entire time you're in public
- Don't put the mask around your neck or up on your forehead
- Don't touch the mask, and, if you do, clean your hands

## FOLLOW EVERYDAY HEALTH HABITS

- Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Wash your hands often, with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds each time
- Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available



## TAKE OFF YOUR MASK CAREFULLY, WHEN YOU'RE HOME

- Untie the strings behind your head or stretch the ear loops
- Handle only by the ear loops or ties
- Fold outside corners together
- Place mask in the washing machine
- Wash your hands with soap and water



**Personal masks are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators, both of which should be saved for health care workers and other medical first responders.**

For instructions on making a mask, see:

[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

# COVID-19: Quarantine vs. Isolation

**QUARANTINE** keeps someone who was in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 away from others.



**If you had close contact with a person who has COVID-19**



- Stay home until 14 days after your last contact.



- Check your temperature twice a day and watch for symptoms of COVID-19.



- If possible, stay away from people who are at higher-risk for getting very sick from COVID-19.

**ISOLATION** keeps someone who is sick or tested positive for COVID-19 without symptoms away from others, even in their own home.



**If you are sick and think or know you have COVID-19**



- Stay home until after
  - At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared **and**
  - At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and**
  - Symptoms have improved



**If you tested positive for COVID-19 but do not have symptoms**



- Stay home until after
  - 10 days have passed since your positive test



If you live with others, stay in a specific “sick room” or area and away from other people or animals, including pets. Use a separate bathroom, if available.



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