



Grand Chapter of Kansas Order of the Eastern Star

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Carol A. Salmon
Worthy Grand Matron
2021-2022

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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We know this past year was a most unusual year and is probably the first time that most of the Chapters in our Jurisdiction were not able to have ten meetings and do four exemplifications, but we know why. As line officers, it was never our intent to put Chapters down for not following the by-laws. We had a worldwide pandemic and we had no control over this. We also know that local restrictions varied widely from one area of the state to another while some Chapters were restricted due to edicts from the Grand Master closing Lodge buildings. While it was possible for some Chapters to meet, others were under more strict regulations, making it impossible for them to meet. We want to thank each of you for whatever work you were able to do. No Chapter should be penalized based solely on the events of 2020.

As more people are getting the vaccine, we hope things will be moving closer to what we know as "normal," but we do not know that for sure. Brother Dennis and I have made plans, knowing some may have to be changed, but we will proceed and adapt as necessary. We want to encourage you to make plans and move forward in the best way you can. Please know that we are here to assist you. All you have to do is ask.

Our Charities are KSDS (Kansas Specialty Dog Service) in Washington, KS and Children's Miracle Network in Wichita. Our District Aides will fill you in on those projects when they visit. The District Aides will also have some surprises for you when they visit your Chapters. We understand that we might have to make some changes to our events, but this is what we have scheduled through early September.

During May and June, we are planning to have our Grand Officer Receptions with social distancing and other precautions in place, based on local restrictions. The Alpha-Omega Sewing Day is scheduled for July 10th in Emporia, Kansas. Our Five-State Fun Weekend will be in Wichita on July 23-24 since our state is hosting this year. The Five-State Fun Weekend is for ALL members, not just for Grand Officers and we hope you will attend. Our Kansas/Nebraska Exchange is planned for August 27-28 in Goodland, KS and McCook, NE. Our first School of Instruction is scheduled for September 7th in Wathena. Be watching for details on these events.

Our Star FISH (**F**aithful **I**n **S**erving **H**im) Award guidelines are included in this mailing. The purpose of this program is to strengthen our fraternal ties, to encourage fun and fellowship, to make new friends, and to remember our sisters and brothers who are no longer able to attend Chapter meetings. Some of the activities involve attending meetings, but there are quite a few things which can be done from home if you are not comfortable attending meetings yet. Receiving a card or a phone call from a sister or brother can mean so much to a member who is homebound and those are things all of us can do from home.

With this mailing there will also be a letter from our Membership Committee which goes right along with our Star FISH Award objectives. We want to concentrate on gaining new members, but also on reinstating members who are no longer active.

We are both looking forward to seeing you at some of the summer activities we have planned.

Have a wonderful summer!
Star Love,

Handwritten signature of Carol A. Salmon in cursive script.

Carol A. Salmon
Worthy Grand Matron

Handwritten signature of Dennis Reed in cursive script.

Dennis Reed
Worthy Grand Patron