



Star Gazer



Kansas Grand Chapter - Order of the Eastern Star

Volume 11

May/June 2022

Edition 1

Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron Grand Reception!



On Saturday, May 7th a Grand Reception was held for Sister Gale Masten, WGM and Brother Tony Anderson, WGP of the Grand Chapter of Kansas. The reception was held at the United Methodist Church in Haysville.

The reception began with a wonderful catered dinner before the meeting. Derby Chapter #493 and Ninnescah Chapter #423

Clearwater were the hosts for the reception and their officers filled the chairs. The officers took their stations, the bible was opened and introductions were performed. Then the FUN started!

First up was Sister Gale Masten, WGM.....The officers each read a short poem about light and lit a small candle that they placed in a tray that was presented to her. Gale was presented gifts from the chapter and a life membership.

The Grand officers from the "Love and Aloha" Grand family had a fun skit for Gale and presented her with a beautiful monarch butterfly quilt.

Then it was Brother Tony Anderson, WGP's turn. The Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron assisted by the Conductress of Clearwater proceeded to help everyone in the room get to know the WGP better. He was even decked out in KU t-shirt and hat, which made him cringe as he is a big WSU Shocker fan! The members of

Clearwater presented Tony with some cold hard cash to help him with his journeys this year. The Grand officers from the "Wings of Friendship" Grand family had a fun skit for Tony as well and presented him with an awesome quilt made with Wichita State University fabric.

Both Sister Gale and Brother Tony introduced their families and spoke about their plans for their year.

The meeting was closed as all present recited the Mizpah benediction. A fun time was had by all.



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Deadline for next issue is Aug 29th	

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Worthy Grand Matron



Gale Masten

Theme: Be A Light

Watchwords & Aims:

Love
Live our Values Everyday

Hope
Have Only
Positive Expectations
Faith
Forward All Issues To Him

Motto:
WGM:

Give it to God and Always
Say A Prayer

WGP:

You're braver than you
believe, and stronger than
you seem, and smarter
than you think.
Christopher Robin

Scriptures:
WGM:

John 14:27
Joshua 1:9
James 4:10

WGP:

Genesis 9:16
1 Corinthians 13:11

Emblem:

Four-sided square lantern



From the Desk of the WGM.....

The Be A Light year is off and running! We have enjoyed so many things already and have just begun. The reception of the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron were remarkable, and I cannot thank the Membership, Derby Chapter and Ninnescah Chapter enough for all their demanding work. Additionally, thank you for all the wonderful gifts. Some did not have cards and were a mystery as to the giver. Therefore, I thank everyone that was gracious enough to give.

The combined Appointed Grand Officer Reception, although warm, was extremely fun. It was so wonderful to see the different chapters and their personalities being shown and enjoyed by everyone.

The first School of instruction was held at Derby Chapter for District 7,8 and 9. It was a wonderful day of exploring our beautiful order and its rituals. I am looking forward to continuing these schools into June. Interacting with our membership is one of the most enjoyable aspects of my duties.

We will soon be into the summer with the Alpha Omega Day and our Kansas/ Nebraska Exchange. I am looking forward to all these adventures! Remember, your work is to discover who you are and then with all your heart give your light to the world.

Gale Maston

Worthy Grand Matron



From the Worthy Grand Patron....

As we look forward we have plenty to be thankful for. Grand receptions were conducted and each officer was honored with respect and honor. School of Instructions have begun and are an opportunity for Districts to unite and come together and prosper. Gale has planned a wonderful session where she focuses on making each member feel that they are important and that Chapter make allowances for Disabilities we have as we get older. Attend one today and get your special limited pin.

As summer arrives plan fun activities like picnics, baseball games, lake trips, get into the community and spread the word that Eastern Star is alive and ready to grow.

Remember to attend youth functions and learn from our young people. Their excitement and zeal can be the tools we need to increase our membership.

Remember the impressions we leave in the sand will be the directions other follow.

Tony Anderson

Worthy Grand Patron



Worthy Grand Patron



Tony Anderson

Fun Emblems:
WGM:

Monarch Butterfly

For fun:

All things Harley
Davidson and Peanut
butter cookies

WGP:

Jet Ski

Honor Station:

Romans 2:11
For God shows no partiality.
We are all equally important

Colors:

Black, White, Silver,
Orange and Red

Flowers:

Seasonal Flowers,
Marigolds, Red Roses

Songs:

Session:

Be a Light

WGM:

Humble and Kind
You Raise me up
Girl On Fire

WGP:

Pontoon
Wipeout
Rainbow

(Please refer to the Itinerary
for the Artists)

Appointive Grand Officer's Grand Reception



The Be A Light
Grand Family

The Appointive Grand Officers were honored at their reception held at Miriam Chapter Room in Emporia, Ks. Colleen Anderson introduced Gale Masten, WM and Tony Anderson, WP. The Appointive officers were introduced.

Each chapter took time to honor their honored members with a skit to reflect their character, interests or talent. Following the skits by

their chapters, each officer was given a chance to respond and introduce family members present. Each was presented a gift from sister Gayle and brother Tony. Refreshments were served in the game room where each appointive officer had a table to receive gifts from those attending.

Appointive officers:
Chaplain - Mike Strickland
Marshal—Catherine Blocher
Organist –Danni Altman-Newell
Adah –Ronna Kimbrell
Ruth—Ruth Ann Staton
Esther– Melissa Squires
Martha - Jacqueline Kremer
Electa - Sharon Harrison
Warder.-Nancy Young
Sentinel - David Ahlstrom



Grand Adah
Sister Ronna Kimbrell

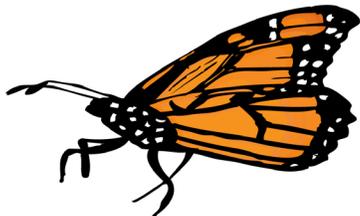
School of Instruction District 1, 2 & 3



District Aides of Districts 1, 2 & 3
with Sister Gale Masten, WGM

The district school was held at Adda Chapter in Lenexa on June 4, 2022 at 1:00PM. There were 80 in attendance. It was a fun day with grab bags to go when the meeting was over.

Congratulations to the Worthy Grand Matron and District Aides for planning a fun day.



Around the State!

~ MEMBERSHIP CORNER~

REMEMBER GALE AND TONY'S
MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

The person who signs as
a sponsor
The most petitions

Before Grand Chapter will have
their choice of a
Lenovo Laptop
Or
A Beautiful Quilt

Second Place will be
Awarded the remaining item.

“Let The Games Begin”

Plan a fun Chapter Event for
July or August

Such as a Game Night or
Movie Night.

It will be a great time to catch up
and a great event to invite
prospective members.

Don't forget to invite
your local Masonic Lodge
Members and their Ladies.

As they are prequalified for
Eastern Star membership!!!

International Temple

Just a big thank you to Kansas and Colorado chapters that donated to the International Headquarters Committee fundraiser. Sister Linda Hyatt (the chairperson) reports that enough money has been raised to fund the first project. They will be installing solar film on the windows, at a cost between \$17,000- \$20,000

to reduce the amount of heat coming in through the windows. Hopefully the A/C won't run all the time then. The Red group which Kansas and Colorado are in has raised \$1709 more than the next group!

Thanks a bunch for your efforts. If anyone needs IHQ pins let me know.

Mike Edwards, GGCCM

Thank You!

From Sister Carol and Brother Dennis

Sisters and Brothers,

Thanks to each of you who helped in any way with our "Faithful In Serving Him" Grand Chapter Session. We can't even begin to list all the tasks that had to be done in order to have the session, but you made it happen and we are so grateful to you.

Harmony was one of our Watchwords this year and all of you embodied that word as you worked together for a common purpose.

Many of our out-of-state visitors remarked to me that

everyone was so friendly and made them feel very welcome at our session. That was exactly the atmosphere we wanted to create and we thank you for that.

Finally, we want to thank you for your generosity in supporting our Charities and Special Projects. When everything is decided, we will let you know how the money was divided among our Charities and other projects.

Carol A Salmon, PGM
Dennis L Reed, PGP

From Michigan

They say in life the third time is a charm and I believe that to be a very correct statement. I would never have imagined that this Michigan girl would have visited Kansas Grand Chapter three times in her life time. I have been blessed to receive the appointment of the Grand Representative to Kansas in Michigan, able to attend your Grand Chapter and meet both of my counterparts; Deborah Gregory and Chip Marcy. Furthermore, they both attended Michigan's Grand Chapter. Chip spends a few days in the summer in Michigan, and has managed to keep the friendship going by seeing both of his counterparts. The fact that he has done this during the pandemic is also amazing.

This year he and Melanie went above and beyond, when they drove to Michigan at the end of February for a GOEX and honoring of which I and four others were the guests of honor. There are not enough words to say how deeply touched I was to have them there.

It gets even better. I was so moved when he asked me to be his special page for your Grand Chapter this year. I was already planning on attending, but this was quite the honor. Who gets to do this? I wish to thank everyone for your hospitality and kindness you bestowed to myself and my

travel companion, Barbara Hulse while we were there. Since I had no idea what I was doing, you all made sure I felt right at home and fit right in. My thanks to Carol Salmon for allowing me this privilege. I was able to surprise Deborah Gregory and talk to her (ever so briefly) and got to see her husband Jessie as well.

The icing on the cake was seeing Bill Kennedy, (the current Grand Representative to Kansas in Michigan) receive his Grand Honors and of course his wife Dottie. It was special for them to see a couple of familiar faces when they arrived to check in.

Why Kansas? I have no idea as never in my dreams had I planned on visiting. I have some speculations but that's for another time. Each visit has led to some sightseeing and very special memories. Kansas will always hold a special place in my heart.

Star Love,
Marilyn Ivey-Crook



Up Coming Events!! Mark your Calendar!

NOTE: Due to Covid restrictions
Please know some of the
Chapters may require a mask.

June 18th
School of Instruction
District 10
Goodland

June 25th
School of Instruction
District 11
Dodge City

July 8th
Rainbow Grand Assembly
Wichita

July 9th
Alpha-Omega Sewing Day
and Grand Officer Practice
Emporia

July 15th and 16th
Kansas/Nebraska Exchange

July 22nd to 24th
5 State Fun Event
Hannibal Mo

September 7th
Official Visit and PIns
Lenexa

September 8th
Official Visit and Pins
Derby

Star Gazer Information

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

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

cindy@smithlawoffices.net

All articles and pictures are subject to editing and approval prior to publication. Please include names of individuals in photos when submitting for publication.

Getting to Know your Grand Family.....

Grand Chaplain.....Mike Strickland

I was initiated into OES in 1996 by the grand officers of the Sherrell Heft (WGM) and Don Hendricks (WGP) grand family during a special meeting in Arkansas City. Jackie and I live in Clearwater. We have been married 36 years. I am the retired Director of the Environmental, Health and Safety Department at Wichita State University.

We have two children: Our daughter Rachel is 35 and our son Andrew is 33.

My dad was in the Navy, so as a kid I traveled around the country a lot. I lived in California, Hawaii, Midway Island, Rhode Island and Washington. I moved to Kansas when I was 10 years old. I have been to 46 states and 88 of the 100 largest cities in the United States. Jackie and I love to travel and have visited Alaska, Mexico, Australia and New Zealand. In 2019, our son Andrew and I traveled to Japan. We spent several days in Tokyo and Kyoto. While in Japan, we climbed to the summit of Mt. Fuji.

I was an Environmental, Health and Safety professional for over 30 years. I have a bachelor of

science degree in biology/chemistry. I also have two Masters degrees.

One in Healthcare Administration and one in Environmental Science. In 2010, I was selected as the National Safety Professional of the Year by Occupational Health & Safety Magazine. In 2011, I was awarded the Green Corporate Citizen Award for my efforts to reduce environmental impacts while working at Collins Bus Corporation. When I was the EHS Manager for Sherwin-Williams paint manufacturing facility in Andover, we were awarded the Sherwin-Williams Corporation 5-Star Safety Award for our efforts to reduce workplace injuries.

I enjoy traveling and exploring. I am an Eagle Scout and I still love to go backpacking and camping. I love art and going to art museums. I do oil painting and make mobiles.

I am also a veteran of the United States Air Force where I was an electronic intelligence analyst. For my service while in the Air Force, I was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal.

In Eastern Star, I have served Ninesciah Chapter as the Worthy Patron four times with Jackie as Worthy Matron. I have served my chapter as an officer every year I have been in Eastern Star. I was Grand Representative to Australia and Grand Representative to Saskatchewan. I have also served on several Grand Chapter committees over the years. I was Jackie's escort when she was Grand Marshal in the "Stars Across Kansas" grand family.



Grand Marshal.....Catherine Blocher

I am so honored to represent this amazing organization as Grand Marshal. My Masonic roots go deep. I was the gift bearer in December of 1969 when my grandmother was installed as WM of Queen City Chapter in Winfield. I am a proud Majority member of International Order of Rainbow for Girls, and a member of The Grand Cross of Color. I was initiated into Eastern Star in December of 1983 with my husband's parents presiding in the East. We have been active in 2 chapters since 1999 and have seen both our children and our daughter-in-law be initiated into this beautiful Order.

Family means everything to me.

I have a daughter and son and 3 beautiful granddaughters. Stop me for even a second, and like any good grandma, I'll be happy to show them off! My husband, David, and I have been married for 42 years and enjoy supporting each other in our separate pursuits. His love is in fast and loud race cars but I enjoy the slower and quieter world of crafts.

I am an avid yarn enthusiast and with his assistance and support have owned my own yarn and craft shop for the last 16 years, where I can knit and crochet to my heart's content. You will rarely see me without my project bag. I am also learning to weave on a loom

passed down from my great aunt. I love to teach others about my passions.

I look forward to serving this Grand Jurisdiction and hope that when all is said and done, you will be able to look back and know that I did my best to serve with dignity, respect, and love.

Photos Provided for this issue by:

Carl Anderson
Mike Strickland
Danni Altman-Newell
Cathy Ahlstrom
Marilyn Ivey-Crook
and Mary Keffer
Poem Taken from Facebook

Grand Organist.....Danni Altman-Newell

I am the kind of person who will burst into laughter over an event that happened the previous day... or even two years ago.

In my mind, normal is overrated and weird is good, so I choose to be weird. And I'm pretty sure I discovered the meaning of life years ago but forgot to write it down.

I'm Dannell Altman-Newell but I'm more often called Danni, the nickname my best friend blessed me with over 30 years ago. I've been a member of Eastern Star since 2003, initiated into Sherman Chapter in Kansas City, and now a member at Beatrice Chapter in Shawnee. My husband, Danny (yes, I actually married a Danny!), and I met because of Eastern Star. That's a story for another time, however, and one I'll be glad to tell you about if you want to know.

So who am I? I'm still trying to figure out what I'm going to be when I grow up, but I'll share

with you what I've discovered so far. Laughing and being silly are some of my favorite things to do. I have tons of different interests but spend most of my non-work time on genealogy, scrapbooking, and volunteering at the National World War I Museum and Memorial in Kansas City. I'm a history fanatic and have goals of visiting every country and world heritage site in the world and every state and national park in the U.S. Lofty, I know.

I aspire to be independently wealthy one day but, until that happens, I work at a nonprofit membership association for storytellers. I don't claim storyteller status but I take care of the organization's daily business and plan their conferences.

I'm blessed with a crazy family. My husband and I got our foster care license a couple of years ago and that's taken our lives from calm and boring to chaotic

and lively! We currently have two foster kiddos (Pagan, and William) in addition to our menagerie of two Siberian Huskies (Maverick and Wyatt Earp), one feral cat (Genghis Khan), and two rats (Mad Mardigan and Rasputin) and my son (Johnathan) and daughter-in-law (Kiah) joined our household temporarily along with their dog and two cats.



HOW DID I KNOW...?

Written by Kit Wells, PGM 1991-92 from Washington State

How do I know we love Eastern Star?
Because of the hours we spend in our cars.
We go to receptions, honor nights, and schools.
There's some who might say "We're Eastern Star fools!"

We spruce ourselves up and go to our meeting
Let's see who is here, who's arranged the seating?
Officers march 'round and 'round in circles and squares
Eventually they get to their places and chairs.

It's run by a woman, the meeting and all
Sits up in the East, she's having a ball
She bangs with the gavel like her life is at stake
While the guy at her side seems to be barely awake.

I thought for a while we were having confession
Then the Matron declares, "This Chapter is in session"
And that's when it happened, you never would guess
It's called introductions, and boy, what a mess!

First this one, then that one, they acknowledge applause
First this one, then that one, there's hardly a pause!
They get up, they sit down, like some sort of dance
You think for sure they have ants in their pants.

I want to sneak out - on panic I border
Then all of a sudden, it's "Good of the Order!"
Most of you have seen it, now this takes the cake
Those seated in the East - a little speech they must make!

But when they are through, whew, the meeting is done
And I have to admit, it has really been fun!
We put away stuff and paraphernalia
We take off our jewels and other regalia

If you think for a minute that I don't like Eastern Star
Sisters and Brothers, how very wrong you are!
I poke fun, because I believe in laughter
But I've found in the STAR what I've sought after.

Fun and fellowship with others, that's right
And I can hardly wait till the next meeting night.



PASSAGEWAYS
PROVIDING HOPE FOR OUR MILITARY VETERAN HEROES

Meet Jackson

Jackson came to Passageways in the spring of 2019. His only possessions were the clothes he was wearing. He looked ragged and beaten and his voice mimicked that emotion. He wouldn't even make eye contact with us. We got him settled into a freshly cleaned bed with a brand-new pillow. He slept for 14 hours straight. When he woke up, we met with him to discuss his next steps. He told us he was grateful to have been able to sleep with both eyes closed. "You see," he said, "I have lived near the riverbank for 3 years. I had to sleep with one eye open to protect my area. Bad thing is, other homeless folks stole my stuff anyway."

Within a few days, Jackson was talkative, made eye contact, and excited about the possibilities that lay in front of him. Jackson, like all our Heroes, created his personal goals. With our help, he accomplished his goals, graduated from our program and is living the life he only dreamed was possible.

We could tell you story after story of the over 100 Heroes who have graduated from our programs. In almost every case, the Hero lacked any sense of hope. The programs we offer at Passageways, help them navigate life in a positive manner. We empower our Heroes to uncover their hidden self to find meaning and purpose in order to envision and accomplish the steps needed to have a happier and more satisfying way of life.

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Surprising History of OES.....

Adah- Judges 11: 1-40

The Opening and lecture have stayed the same since 1895!

From the book Symbolism of the Eastern Star:
 Adah Represents the Ideal Daughter because her sense of duty and her devotion to her father so guided her actions that, by her deeds, she exemplified the highest type of filial obedience.

Meaning of the name: Adah means Ornament.

Color: The Clear blue of the cloudless skies. It is a symbol of fidelity, loyalty and intelligence.

Flower is the Violet dedicated to her because it is associated with meekness and humility.