A Walk in the Woods

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Grand Chapter of Maine, Order of the Eastern Star

· Darcy R. Merrill, Worthy Grand Matron Calvin F. Hall, Worthy Grand Patron

Come Join the Adventure!

Maine OES is embarking on an exciting new adventure in support of Brother Richard A. Farnsworth III, PGP and you can become part of it! An informational meeting will be held on Saturday, October 24th at Noon at the Masonic Hall, 37 Water Street in Augusta.

Come discover what this special adventure is all about, hear the plans, and learn how you can be involved. There may even be a few surprises along the way! Casual dress is the attire.

A delicious lunch by donation will include: hot chicken and gravy sandwiches, a vegetable, and dessert. To insure enough food for everyone, please RSVP by October 22nd to Sister Kim Pettengill at 207-907-8205 or email her at mariners3336@gmail.com

"Mooses, Dragonflys & Ghosts... Oh My!"

Have a memorable time at the International Weekend on October 30-31 in beautiful Freeport. This year's theme, "Mooses, Dragonflys & Ghosts... Oh My!", promises a weekend filled with fellowship, fun, and special memories as we celebrate our international friendships.

The weekend headquarters will be the Hilton Garden Inn, Freeport. A block of rooms has been reserved at special rates for those attending. Please reserve your room under the group name "Grand Chapter of Maine." Room rates are $199 per night for Double, Queen, King, or King Deluxe. For reservations, contact the Hilton Garden Inn at 207- 865-1443..

Grand Chapter Session

The *Friendship, Love, & Kindness* Grand Chapter Session will be held at Sugarloaf on May 16, 17, 18, and 19th. As you do your fall cleaning remember to set aside gowns for the gown sale, jewelry for the jewelry table, and finish up some crafts for the craft table.

New Brunswick in Maine

Orion Chapter #45, Calais will be hosting the New Brunswick in Maine Grand Family Exchange on Saturday, November 21 at the Masonic Hall located at 10 Calais Avenue in Calais.

Registration (dues cards) commences at 9 a.m. with the rehearsal for the two Grand Families at 10:30 a.m. Lunch will be at 11:30 a.m. with the degrees at 1 p.m.

The menu is baked chicken, mashed potatoes, corn, peas, rolls, beverages and assorted cakes. The luncheon is limited to 100 people. Payment is required with the reservation with checks payable to Orion Chapter #45 and sent to Sister Angela Ramsey, 21 Cedar Street, Calais, ME 04619. Along with the $20 check please send your name, chapter, contact information and office if appropriate. The cut off date for reservations is November 7.

What do these words have in common?
(The answer is on the back page.)

banana	dresser
grammar	potato
revive	uneven
assess	

Devotion on Relationships

Scripture *Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.*
1 Thessalonians 5:11.

Eastern Star is about much more than meetings, offices, and ceremonies. At its heart, it is about people—building friendships, offering encouragement, and standing beside one another through life's joys and challenges.

Relationships are built one small act at a time: a smile, a phone call, a card, a listening ear, or simply making someone feel welcome.

Everyone who walks through our doors may be carrying something we cannot see. Someone may be lonely, worried, grieving, or simply in need of a friend. We don't always need the right words. Sometimes the greatest gift we can give is simply to be present.

Our chapters bring together people with different personalities, experiences, and opinions. We don't have to agree on everything to love and respect one another. Relationships are built through patience, kindness, forgiveness, and understanding.

Imagine if each of us made it our goal to make one person feel valued at every meeting. New members might feel welcome, those who are struggling might feel supported, and our chapters could become places where people don't simply attend—but truly belong.

So, ask yourself: Who needs a little encouragement from me? Who have I not spoken to lately? Is there someone I could welcome, include, or simply listen to? A kind word, a helping hand, a smile, a prayer, or a little patience may seem small—but those are the very things that build strong relationships.

The greatest legacy we leave in Eastern Star may not be the offices we held or the programs we organized. It may simply be the person who can say, "Because of Eastern Star, I found a friend who cared."

Quickie Questions (Answers on back)

1. What virtue is associated with Ruth in the Order of the Eastern Star?
2. What color is traditionally associated with Ruth?
3. What symbol is associated with the Point of Ruth?
4. Ruth is traditionally associated with which Biblical story?
5. What does the Point of Ruth primarily teach?

Star Points Word Search

J A S N A M O R E A P E R S C
U E S T H E R L A E R S I R O
D L P P U R I T Y F E P O H N
G E U H H M A R Y B A S C Y S
E C D A T H T U R T S I O E T
F T D G H H V O W I L J T J A
Y A K L T E A R A T S E M H N
E N O U O B S H Q H L A D R C
L B R Z N R H K T A I J U I Y
R A A O S E T I H P E E T T F
A O M U V W I N G R V W Y M W
B M I Z P E H G I O T R U E I
A T Y T L A Y O L A Z A R U S
H E C M A R T H A A I S R E P

Adah
Ammon
Barley
Boaz
Constancy
Cross
Cup
Duty
Electa
Esther
Faith
Fidelity
Hebrew
Hope
Israel
Jephthah
Jew
Joy
Judge
King
Lazarus
Light
Love
Loyalty
Martha
Mary
Mizpeh
Moab
Orpah
Persia
Purity
Reapers
Romans
Ruth
Star
True
Truth
Vashti
Veil
Vow

Web Site

The Maine Order of the Eastern Star's web site is: http://www.maineoes.org – this is the place to go to when you want information about our Order in Maine. Current Grand Officers, Chapters and addresses for them, various forms, and a listing of the meetings in Maine etc.

A Walk in the Woods

A Walk in the Woods is the newsletter that will be published during the 2026-2027 year and distributed by the Deputies shortly after Grand Families or statewide events about seven times a year. If you'd like items printed in it, email it to corleybyras@gmail.com or send it by snail mail to Sister Corley Anne.

Star News

Please email items to be posted on *Star News* to corleybyras@gmail.com and to receive the *Star News* please send your email address to the same email.

Building Friendships In Star

Worthy Matron: Let us think about something that is at the very heart of Eastern Star—not buildings, not titles, not even meetings, but friendships. A strong chapter is built much like a house. It needs a firm foundation, strong supports, and people willing to work together. Our five Star Points remind us of some of the qualities needed to build friendships that last.

Adah: A friendship may start with something as simple as a smile, a handshake, or a conversation. We don't have to know everything about someone to reach out and say, "I'm glad you're here." In Eastern Star, we have the opportunity to turn acquaintances into friends and friends into people who become like family. Let us never underestimate the power of simply being friendly.

Ruth: True friendships are not built only during the good times. Loyalty means standing beside someone when life becomes difficult. It means making the phone call, sending the card, offering the helping hand, and saying, "I'm here if you need me." Eastern Star gives us many opportunities to practice loyalty—not only to our organization, but to the people who have become our friends.

Esther: Sometimes it takes courage to build or repair a friendship. It takes courage to introduce ourselves to someone new. It takes courage to admit when we are wrong. It takes courage to say, "I'm sorry," or "Can we talk?" And sometimes it takes courage to reach out to someone with whom we have had a disagreement. Strong friendships don't mean that we never disagree. They mean that we care enough to work through our differences.

Martha: Friendships grow when we do things for one another. A ride to a meeting, a meal when someone is ill, a card on a birthday, or a helping hand when someone needs it can say more than a hundred words. Service tells another person, "You matter to me." When members serve one another, a chapter becomes more than an organization. It becomes a family.

Electa: Love is the foundation beneath everything else. We may have different opinions, different personalities, and different ideas about how things should be done. But we can still treat one another with kindness and respect. Love means giving someone another chance. It means forgiving. It means listening before judging and remembering that every person has value. When love guides us, our differences don't have to divide us.

Worthy Matron: Our five Star Points have given us five simple building blocks. These qualities are like the pieces of a beautiful building. Take one away, and the structure becomes weaker. Put them together, and we have something strong enough to withstand the storms of life. Our Eastern Star chapter is strong because of the friendships between its members. Let us welcome someone new. Let us reach out to someone who has been absent. Let us forgive when forgiveness is needed. Let us serve when someone needs help. And most of all, let us remember that every person is someone whose life we have an opportunity to touch. This is our challenge: Build a friendship. Strengthen a friendship. Mend a broken connection. Encourage someone who needs it. When we build friendships, we build Eastern Star.

October

5 – Mystic #69, Litchfield, 7 pm, Keeping Yourself Busy (Sharing Hobbies)
6 – Star Light #203, Westbrook, 7:30 pm, Grand Star Point Night
6 – Queen Esther #10, Augusta, 7 pm, Honoring Grand Representatives, Past and Present, Potluck Supper 5:45 pm
7 – Messalunskit # 170, New Sharon, 7:30 pm, Happy Halloween
8 – Pine Cone Chapter #26, Auburn 7 pm, Honoring the Conductresses, 5:30 pm Social Hour
8 – Annette #184, Saco, 7:30 pm, Official Visitation with WGM
9 – Rumery #46, Addison, 7 pm, Halloween Fun, Potluck 6 pm
9 – Abenaki #116, Readfield, 7:30 pm, Halloween, Star Point Night
12 – Aldworth #39, Milo, 7 pm, Past Matrons and Past Patrons, Potluck Supper 6 pm
12 – Molunkus Valley #95, Sherman, 7 pm, Service Dog Program, Supper 5:30 pm
12 – Fireside #103, Clinton, 7 pm, Holiday Trivia by Alice Stinson and Newcomb Stevens
12 – Pleasant River #159, Buxton, 7 pm, Official Visitation, OES Games, 6 pm Potluck Supper
13 – Lakeside #60, Wales, 7 pm, Thanksgiving, District Deputy Grand Matron Honor Night, Potluck Supper 6 pm
13 – Elm Vale #105, Harrison, 7:30 pm, Mission Working Dogs, Donation Tucker House Bridgton, Supper 6:30 pm
14 – Ivy #16, Warren, 7:30 pm, Harvest Cookie Swap
14 – Minerva #74, Madison, 7 pm, Landmarks and Obligation Night, ESTARL Dinner 6 pm
14 – Harbor View #136, Deer Isle, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the DDGM
15 – Pioneer #11, Brunswick, 7 pm, Honor our Masons
15 – Bethlehem #36, Pittsfield, 7 pm, Honoring Star Points, ESTARL Potluck Supper at 6 pm
15 – Lily of the Valley #157, Weeks Mills, Past Grand Matrons and Patrons, Grand Star Point Night
16 – Irene #97, Ellsworth, 7 pm, ESTARL Supper 6 pm, with Service Dog Speaker
19 – Electa #2, Bowdoinham, 7 pm, Grand Representative Night and Halloween Celebration,

Official Visitation
19 – Arbutus #19, Liberty, 7 pm, Honor Night for Past Grands and Present Grands, ESTARL Supper 6 pm
19 – Tuscan #148, Bangor, 7 pm, Halloween Boo, Potluck 6 pm
19 – Mountain View #197, Buckfield, 7 pm, International Headquarters, Supper 6 pm
20 – Madonna #144, West Kennebunk 7 pm, Honoring Life Members, Potluck Supper 6 pm
20 – Almeda #149, Guilford, 7 pm, Annual Apple Festival when a new Apple Queen is chosen, 6 pm Potluck
20 – Pondicherry #192, Bridgton, 7:30 pm, Service Dog Program, Donation Maine Paws for Veterans, Potluck theme: Casserole Dish
20 – Star Light #203, Westbrook, 7:30 pm, Halloween
21 – Felicity #195, Orland, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the Worthy Grand Matron, 6 pm Supper
24 – Informational meeting at noon luncheon at Augusta Masonic Hall
27 – Mt. Zircon #142, Mexico, 7 pm, Honor Veterans, 6 pm Supper
27 – Millwee #198, Orrington, 7 pm, Halloween, 6 pm Supper
28 – Beacon #202, Damariscotta, 7 pm, Feed The Hungry/Halloween

November

2 – Mystic #69, Litchfield, 7 pm, Honoring our Nation (Historical Trivia)
3 – Star Light #203, Westbrook, 7:30 pm, Honor Past Matrons and Past Patrons, Potluck 6:30 pm
3 – Queen Esther #10, Augusta, 7 pm Landmarks and Obligation Night, Honoring Our Veterans, Potluck Supper 5:45 pm
4 – Messalunskit # 170, New Sharon, 7:30, Happy Thanksgiving
5 – Keystone #78, Solon, 7 pm, Trivia Program by Erin Fitts, ESTARL Supper 6 pm
6 – Ruth #14, Sanford, 7:30 pm, Collection for ESTARL, 6 pm Potluck
6 – Primrose #152, Belfast, 7:30 pm, Honoring Veterans, G.C. Charity, 6:30 pm Turkey Dinner
9 – Aldworth #39, Milo, 7 pm, Giving Thanks (bring food/monetary donation), Potluck Supper 6 pm
9 – Molunkus Valley #95, Sherman, 7 pm, Stated Meeting, Refreshments 5:30 pm
9 – Fireside #103, Clinton, 7 pm, Holiday Trivia by Jim Owens PGP
9 – Pleasant River #159, Buxton, 7 pm, Rob Morris Program, 6 pm Potluck Supper
10 – Lakeside #60, Wales, 7 pm, Honoring Our Veterans, bring $$$$ Donations, Potluck Supper 6 pm
10 – Elm Vale #105, Harrison, 7:30 pm, Veteran's Day, Donation Christmas Kids, Harrison, Supper 6:30 pm
11 – Ivy #16, Warren, 7:30 pm, Veterans Day
11 – Minerva #74, Madison, 7 pm, Veteran's Program, 6 pm Potluck
11 – Harbor View #136, Deer Isle, 7 pm, Happy Thanksgiving, Turkey Supper with all the fixings
11 – Pondicherry #192, Bridgton, 7:30 pm, History of Dr. Rob Morris, Donation Veterans Home in South Paris, Potluck theme: Family Favorite
12 – Pine Cone Chapter #26, Auburn 7 pm, Honoring Veterans, 5:30 pm ESTARL Potluck Supper
12 – Annette #184, Saco, 7:30 pm, Our raffle drawing
13 – Rumery #46, Addison, 7 pm, Giving Thanks, Potluck 6 pm
13 – Abenaki #116, Readfield, 7:30 pm, Giving Thanks
16 – Electa #2, Bowdoinham, 7 pm, Giving thanks with the food pantry and Festival of Trees Donations
16 – Arbutus #19, Liberty, 7 pm, Program by Teresa Potvin, Knights Templar, Gifts for children, 6 pm Supper
16 – Tuscan #148, Bangor, 7 pm, Pie Auction/Giving Thanks, Potluck 6 pm
16 – Mountain View #197, Buckfield, 7 pm, Thanksgiving, Supper 6 pm
17 – Mt. Zircon #142, Mexico, 7 pm, Thanksgiving, Supper 6 pm
17 – Madonna #144, West Kennebunk 7 pm, Stated Meeting
17 – Almeda #149, Guilford, 7 pm, Stated Meeting, 6 pm Potluck
17 – Star Light #203, Westbrook, 7:30 pm, Thanksgiving
18 – Felicity #195, Orland, 7 pm, Giving Thanks, Honoring Veterans, Toys for Kids, 6 pm Supper
18 – Beacon #202, Damariscotta, 7 pm, Honor Veterans
19 – Pioneer #11, Brunswick, 7 pm, Honoring our future, program by Lewiston Assembly #14 at 6:30 pm
19 – Bethlehem #36, Pittsfield, 7 pm, Stuffed Animal Donations
19 – Riverside #123, Orland, 7 pm, Give Thanks, toys and food for BCC, 6 pm, Charity Supper
19 – Lily of the Valley #157, Weeks Mills, Honoring Veterans
20 – Irene #97, Ellsworth, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the WGM, Refreshments 6 pm
21 – New Brunswick in Maine at Orion #45, Calais
24 – Millwee #198, Orrington, 7 pm, Give thanks and Read Charities, 6 pm Supper

Quickie Answers

1. Constancy
2. Yellow
3. The Sheaf
4. Naomi returning to her nativity
5. The duty of obedience to the demands of honor and justice

Words Have In Common Answer

If you take the first letter and put it at the end of each word, and then spell the words backwards, it will be the same word. banana, dresser, grammar, potato, revive, uneven, assess