

# Fair Winds and Following Seas

Volume 24 No. 1

May 21, 2025

Grand Chapter of Maine, Order of the Eastern Star

Rebecca G. H. Thompson, Worthy Grand Matron

Jon R. Thompson, Worthy Grand Patron

## School of Instruction

The *Rhythm of the Spirit* Grand Family will be holding a School of Instruction on Saturday, May 31 hosted by Ivy Chapter #16, 105 Camden Road, Warren with the registration commencing at 9 a.m. The actual school will begin at 10 a.m. Lunch will be at noon with the instruction resuming at 1 p.m. The attire will be a skirt or dress for the Sisters and a suit or sport coat and tie for the Brothers.

Lunch reservations are \$15 and checks should be made payable to Ivy Chapter #16 and received by May 29 and sent to Sister Ann Marie Leight, 298 Turkey Cove Road, Tenants Harbor, ME 04860.

All members are invited and will register with their current dues card. Items that would be helpful to bring are your ritual, CR & R and the Instructional Guide as well as questions.

## Grand Family

Millwee Chapter #198, Orrington will be hosting the first *Rhythm of the Spirit* Grand Family on Saturday, June 7 at the Ralph J. Pollard Lodge, 730 River Road in Orrington.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. with a rehearsal at 10:30 a.m. Lunch which is at 11:45 a.m. will be catered by Smokey's BBQ of Brewer and will be pulled pork, juicy pulled chicken, mac 'n cheese, cole slaw, cornbread, slider buns, beverage, and dessert. The cost is \$23 per person. Checks are to be made payable to Millwee Chapter #198 and sent to Sister Felicia Wiswell, 93 River Road, Orrington, ME 04474. The deadline for the luncheon reservations is May 31.



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2025-2026

## Reception

A reception for the *Rhythm of the Spirit* Grand Family will be held on July 19 at the United Lodge Hall, 65 Baribeau Drive, Brunswick hosted by Pioneer Chapter #11.

The social time is from 11 a.m. until noon with lunch at noon and the special program to follow.

The deadline for reservations is July 5 with checks for \$20 payable to Sister Linda Gray, 2226 Augusta Road, Bowdoin, ME 04287.

Sister Muffie Ellis and Sister Linda Gray are the Co-Chairmen of this fun event meant to celebrate the current Grand Family.

This event is open to all members and guests are welcome. Come and be part of this joyful celebration.

## Sailing in Storms

Have you ever had a day when everything fell apart at once? A day when suddenly all the careful plans you laid blew up spontaneously?

These days happen to all of us. Everyone who makes plans will, someday, see them fall apart. In our corrupted, imperfect world, nothing is permanent. Something will break. At times it seems Murphy's Law is as reliable as rain.

In sailing, often the best way to survive an awful storm is to lower the sails and ride it out. The same is true in life. Though it goes against our every instinct, in time of trouble we must lower our sails – whatever we seem to have control over – and ask God to carry us through the storm.

Take heart; God has not left you. He loves you, and He will not let you down. Remember that when He is at the helm of your life, you can ride along on His grace as He carries you through with smooth sailing.

## 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.

## Fair Winds and Following Seas

*Fair Winds and Following Seas* is the newsletter that will be published during the 2025-2026 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](mailto: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](mailto:corleybyras@gmail.com) and to receive the *Star News* please send your email address to the same email.

## The Loon

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

Arctic	Gravity	Red-eyes
Beak	Green	Red-throated
Bill	Habitat	Rudder
Calls	Haunting-Song	Runway
Chick	Hoot	Tremolo
Common	Landing	Underwater
Courtship	Loon	Wail
Diving	Molt	Wingspan
Eggs	Music	Yellow-billed
Feather	Nesting	Yodel
Flock		

## Quickie Questions (answers on page three)

1. Does the Chaplain hold the *Reverent Attitude* when entering or retiring from the Altar?
2. In the opening ceremony which two officers in answering the Worthy Matron as to where the next officer's station is do not end their answer by adding the words *Worthy Matron*?
3. When the Worthy Matron "closes" the Chapter, does she sound the gavel?
4. Does the Associate Patron and Associate Conductress take their seats upon entering the chapter room for the opening?
5. What's the difference between a merger and a consolidation?

Ideals are like Stars; you will not succeed in touching them with your hands, but like the seafaring man on the desert of waters, you choose them as your guides, and following them you reach your destination.

## The Star Guides Each of Us

The Heroines in the Bible and the lessons taught therein symbolize the Order of the Eastern Star which ties us all in one heart and one truth. No other Order in the world boasts such virtues and holds in such high esteem the teaching of these women. Such is symbolic of the trials that we face in life. The courage of these women offers us strength when our path is unknown and the future dark.

The Bible is the ultimate symbol of our existence and its blessings will always give the answers to the many questions that life brings. God's teachings are inscribed so simply; and given to us so freely. If we remember the sacred oath that each of us took at the altar, where our holy Bible rests, we will always remember the teachings of our heroines and we will always strengthen our Order and our lives.

Stars have always been God's messengers to bring love and honor, as well as light to us. Robert Morris, designer of our Order, chose the star to be the emblem of our Order. He gave us the virtues that are exemplified in the ritual of our Order – fidelity, constancy, loyalty, faith, and love – this makes a brilliant star and is composed of members who are interested enough to seek membership.

Adah's sword and veil allows us to follow her courage with eyes cast high to the heavens knowing that regardless of our faith the plan is God's. Faith is ours through Adah's lessons.

Ruth's sheaf of wheat proves her work, gathering the small amounts of wheat left behind by the harvest. If we work in one small way to make life a better place, our rewards of plenty will be great. One smile, one word of encouragement, one gift of friendship are tied together as a feast of life.

Martha's broken column symbolizes the loss of her beloved brother. Martha's faith teaches us that our belief must be strong no matter the trial. The death or sickness of our loved

ones pales in comparison to the joys of eternal life that awaits us all if our faith doesn't falter.

Electa's cup of charity is seen everyday in our fraternal lives. To give to one another and love unconditionally is the greatest joy that life offers. Electa's cup is the symbol of our generosity to one another. It may not always hold the sweet days that we cherish but with God by our side, we will always have happiness.

My Sisters and Brothers, the emblems of our star are in their places of honor as a constant reminder of our teachings. May the light of His star continue to guide each of us all the days of our lives.

## Quickie Answers

1. No. In fact no one holds the Reverent Attitude when the feet are moving.
2. The Warder and the Chaplain
3. Yes on the word *closed* - Page 47
4. When they go to their stations, they sit at the same time. Remember for a very short time, the Worthy Patron is presiding so he stands.
5. A merger has one chapter giving up its name and number and going into another chapter. A consolidation, both chapters give up the name and number and form a new chapter with a new name and number.

## 25, 50, 75, 100 Years Ago

2000-2001 Cynthia J. Lewis, WGM  
Carleton B. Beckmann, WGP  
*Blossoms of Peace and Love*  
Augusta Civic Center

1975-1976 Francis M. Smith, WGM  
Wesley G. Woodman, WGP  
*Spirit of 76*  
Augusta Civic Center

1950-1951 Gladys M. Stetson, WGM  
Thomas O. Peasley, WGP  
*Queen Esther Session*  
City Hall, Portland

1925-1926 Julia A. Vickery, WGM  
Henry G. Shaw, WGP  
Thirty-fourth Annual Session  
Corinthian Hall, Masonic Temple,  
Portland

## May

- 22 – Riverside #123, Orland, 7 pm, Honoring Mothers, Supper 6 pm
- 27 – Mt. Zircon #142, Mexico, 7 pm, Landmarks and Obligation, Supper 6 pm
- 27 – Madonna #144, West Kennebunk, 7 pm, Landmarks and Obligation Night
- 27 – Pondicherry #192, Bridgton, 7:30 pm, Shriners Hospitals, Potluck Supper 6:30 pm
- 27 – Millwee #198, Orrington, 7 pm, Ribbon Ceremony, Supper 6 pm
- 28 – Felicity Chapter #195, Orland, Honor Night, May Baskets, Supper 6 pm
- 28 – Beacon #202, Damariscotta, 7 pm, May Baskets

## June

- 2 – Mystic #69, Litchfield, 7 pm, New Beginnings (Grand Chapter Reports)
- 3 – Queen Esther #10, Augusta, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the AGM, Suppers begin at 5:45 pm. Our outside door will be locked at 6:50. Please call Kim's cell (207-907-8205) if you are going to be late.
- 3 – Star Light #203, Westbrook, 7:30 pm, Service Dog Program, Salad Potluck - Special guests, Bill Mitchell and Addie
- 4 – Messalunskit #170, New Sharon, 7:30 pm, Landmarks and Obligation Night
- 5 – Keystone #78, Solon, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the WGM
- 6 – Primrose #152, Belfast, 7:30 pm, Official Visitation with the GC
- 6 – Irene #97, Ellsworth, 7:30 pm, Industry (Building our Chapters through Supporting our Youth)
- 6 – Primrose #152, Belfast, 7:30, Official Visitation/Cancer, Potluck 6:30 pm
- 9 – Aldworth #39, Milo, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the AGM, Potluck Supper 6 pm
- 9 – Molunkus Valley #95, Sherman, 7 pm, Flag Day, light refreshments at 6 pm
- 9 – Fireside, #103, Clinton, 7 pm, Father's Day
- 9 – Pleasant River #159, Buxton, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the GC, Golf Putt and Sandwiches 6 pm, Ice cream social to follow meeting
- 10 – Lakeside #60, Wales, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the AGM, Potluck Supper 6 pm
- 10 – Elm Vale #105, Harrison, 7:30 pm, Star Point Ceremony

- 11 – Ivy #6, Warren, 7:30 pm, Official Visitation with the WGM
- 11 – Minerva #74, Madison, 7 pm, ESTARL, Honor Grand Martha and Grand Marshal, Potluck Supper 6 pm
- 11 – Lunar #126, Mars Hills, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the AGC
- 11 – Harbor View #136, Deer Isle, 7 pm, Flag Day Program, Happy Father's Day
- 12 – Martha Washington #15, Waterville, 7:30 pm, DeMolay Program
- 12 – Pine Cone #26, Auburn, 7 pm, Honoring Our Fathers, Social Hour 5:30 – 6:30
- 13 – Rumery #46, Addison, 7:30 pm, Flag Day/Father's Day
- 13 – Abenaki #116, Readfield, 7:30 pm, Honor Fathers/Official Visitation with the GC, Supper 6 pm
- 16 – Electa #2, Bowdoinham, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the GC
- 16 – Arbutus #19, Liberty, 7 pm, Celebrating Our Flag and Fathers Day, Supper 6 pm
- 16 – Tuscan #148, Bangor, 7 pm, Honor Men, Potluck Supper 6 pm
- 16 – Mountain View #197, 7 pm, Service Dog Program with Bill and Addy, Supper 6 pm
- 17 – Madonna #144, West Kennebunk, 7 pm, Stated Meeting
- 17 – Almeda #149, Guilford, 7 pm, Toys and Games, Potluck Supper 6 pm
- 17 – Lily of the Valley #157, 7:30 pm, Official Visitation with the GC
- 17 – Pondicherry #192, Bridgton, 7:30 pm, Food Banks-Bring Non-perishables, Dinner 6:30 pm
- 17 – Star Light #203, Westbrook, 7:30 pm, Father's
- 18 – Felicity #195, Orland, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the AGC, Supper 6 pm
- 19 – Pioneer #11, Brunswick, 7 pm, The Gift of Music
- 19 – Bethlehem #36, Pittsfield, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the WGM
- 19 – Lily of the Valley #157, Weeks Mills, 7:30 pm, Summer Days
- 23 – Orion #45, Calais, 6:30 pm, Official Visitation with the AGC
- 24 – Mt. Zircon #142, Mexico, 7 pm, Lord's Prayer, Supper 6 pm
- 24 – Millwee #198, Orrington, 7 pm, Hawaiian Luau, Supper 6 pm
- 25 – Beacon #202, Damariscotta, 7 pm, Mock Mason Meeting
- 26 – Riverside #123, Orland, 7 pm, Special Honor Night, Supper 6 pm