

Fair Winds and Following Seas

Volume 24 No. 2

June 7, 2025

Grand Chapter of Maine, Order of the Eastern Star

Rebecca G. H. Thompson, Worthy Grand Matron

Jon R. Thompson, Worthy Grand Patron

Spirit of Traveling To Move You!

One of the most rewarding experiences in Eastern Star is traveling! When you visit other Chapters; in our State and beyond; you have the opportunity to meet new Sisters and Brothers, make new and everlasting friendships, and strengthen our fraternal bond. Travel forms may be obtained from your District Deputy or on the Maine OES website.

- Installed as a 2025 – 2026 officer in your Chapter(s) (single, dual or plural) – 10 points once, per Chapter
- Attend Maine's Grand Chapter Installation, May 21st – 50 points
- Attend your own Chapter(s) – 10 points per Meeting
- Attend another Chapter – 20 points per Meeting
- First or second signer on a Petition for the Degrees and/or on the Recommendation Letter – 50 points
- Participate in the Degrees on a real candidate (at any station) – 30 points per Initiation
- Attend the School of Instruction on May 31st – 40 points or First-time attendee at the School of Instruction on May 31st – 50 points
- Attend the Fall Event or the Spring Event – 30 points per Event
- Attend a Grand Family or a Grand Family Exchange – 50 points
- Attend the Grand Family Reception – 50 points
- Attend the WGM's Special Project – 30 points
- Attend the Maine-Maritime Exchange in Fredericton, N.B. September 2025 – 60 points
- Attend the All New England Exchange in VT, January 2026 – 60 points
- Attend Can-Am in Fredericton, N.B., February 2026 – 60 points
- Attend a Grand Chapter Session in another Jurisdiction – 70 points
- Participate in a 2026 Installing Suite for a Subordinate Chapter (vocalists/musicians, included) – 20 points per Installation
- Attend a Merger/Consolidation if you are not a member of either Chapter involved in the ceremony (to show your support and understanding) – 40 points per Merger/Consolidation
- Add 5 points for each person you take with you to any event

Reception

A reception for *The Rhythm of the Spirit* Grand Family will be held on July 19th 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 5th with checks for \$20 payable to Sister Linda Gray, 2226 Augusta Road, Bowdoin, ME 04287. Sisters Muffie Ellis and Linda Gray are the Co-Chairmen of this fun event celebrating the current Grand Family. It is open to all members and guests are welcome. Come and be part of this fun day.

Bus Trip to Sturbridge

September 17th through the 19th Maine OES will be sponsoring a bus trip to Old Sturbridge Village in Massachusetts. Pickups will be in Bangor, Augusta, and the Kennebunk rest area. The cost of the trip will be \$275 which includes the bus transportation, Publick House dinner, Village admission fee, and lunch at the Village. Trip reservations are limited to 55 people and the cut off date is August 1st. Please send your check made out to Sister Paula Nicholas, 167 Ferry Road, Chelsea, ME 04330.

The Holiday Inn Express in Sturbridge (508-347-8000) has set aside discounted rooms ranging between \$129 and \$159 a night. The block code is ESG and the reservations need to be made by you no later than July 25th. Your chapter secretary has the information as well as the form is on the Maine OES website.

Grand Family

Madonna Chapter #144, West Kennebunk will be hosting the second *The Rhythm of the Spirit* Grand Family on Saturday, October 4 at York Lodge #22, 159 Alfred Road, West Kennebunk.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. with a social hour from 11 a.m. until noon when the lunch will be served. The meeting commences at 1 p.m. The lunch is \$20 per person with checks made payable to Madonna Chapter #144 and sent to Sister Suellen Goodman, PO Box 115, Kennebunk, ME 04043. The deadline for the luncheon reservations is September 15.

The Call of the Loon

The hauntingly beautiful calls of the Common Loon echo across lakes and rivers, evoking feelings that range from peace to longing. Researchers have identified four distinct calls: the hoot, tremolo, yodel, and wail. Each one has a specific purpose—and each can inspire us to reflect on how we communicate with God and how He calls to us.

The loon's hoot is like a gentle check-in—a way of staying in touch. Parents use it with their chicks, and mates with each other. Likewise, our short, heartfelt prayers throughout the day keep us connected to God's presence. He also speaks to us through Scripture and the beauty of creation. Just as loons hoot to maintain contact, we're called to maintain connection—with God and with each other in the family of faith, encouraging one another regularly in our walk of faith.

When a loon feels threatened, it lets out a tremolo—a cry of alarm or protection. In the same way, we cry out to God in our struggles, fears, and moments of crisis. Scripture gives us many examples—Job, the Psalmists, and even Jesus, who called out to God in His anguish. God never turns a deaf ear to our cries. He invites us to bring our pain to Him, trusting in His comfort and rescue.

The yodel warns others to stay away—it's a declaration of territory. We humans do something similar when we defend opinions or resist differing views. But the call of Christ is to love, to listen, and to seek unity in the Spirit. The yodel reminds us to check our tone and motives. Are we standing firm in faith—or just staking our ground out of pride? We're called to speak the truth in love and listen with humility.

Perhaps the loon's most iconic sound, the wail asks, "Where are you?" and is answered by a reply of "Here I am." That question echoes through Scripture. When God called to Adam, Abraham, Moses, Samuel, and others, He wasn't just seeking their location—He was inviting them into mission. In our Order, we see this echoed in the lessons of the Star Points. Each woman answered God's call with courage and faithfulness. Each was entrusted with a mission, an opportunity to serve God faithfully. Like them, may we listen when He calls—and be ready to say, "Here I am."

God's voice comes to us in many forms—through Scripture, through prayer, through the beauty of creation, and sometimes even through the call of a loon. Each of us is called to respond, not just in words, but with our lives.

The Grand Family

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

Callahan	Izzi	Potvin
Carter	Kennedy	Precourt
Farrington	LeClair	Quinn
Ferguson	Leight	Roy
Fitts	Lowe	St.Pierre
Frost	McLaughlin	Stone
Getchell	Merrill	Thompson
Gray	Noonan	Ward
Hall	Pettengill	Wilcox
Hammerle	Plummer	Williamson
Hewins		

Quickie Questions (answers on page three)

1. Which is the correct way to write it – ESTARL, E.S.T.A.R.L. or Estarl?
2. What does ESTARL stand for?
3. For a \$100 chapter contribution, how many stars does a subordinate chapter receive?
4. Do you need to be a member of the Order of the Eastern Star to receive an ESTARL Scholarship?
5. Are E dollars being collected in 2025-2026?

Caution

At a recent Grand Family the lovely melody *Edelweiss* from *The Sound of Music* was used with other words. Please be advised that this song has a special copyright that makes it illegal to use the melody in any way other than how the composers had written it.

"The *Edelweiss* tune from *The Sound of Music* has been adapted by some Christians to be sung with a benediction, such as *May the Lord, mighty God, Bless and Keep You Forever*. However, the tune is copyrighted, and the rights holders prohibit its use with other lyrics. Richard Rodgers and Hammerstein also stated they would take legal action against anyone using the *Edelweiss* melody with altered words, and the current rights holders honor this wish."

Time For Our Heroines

When you were a small child one of the often asked questions was *Mother, what time is it?* You learned to watch the hands of the clock as they turned to each hour of the day. What a wonderful time for us to honor the heroines of our Order as we travel around the clock of our teachings.

As we begin our travels, we arrive at seven o'clock, where the daughter, Adah stands to greet her father with music and dancing as he arrives from the battle. She is so beautiful in her gown and veil of blue. Time for her stood still that fateful day. Ever faithful to her moral obligations she remained true to her father's promise by the great sacrifice of her life.

Next we travel on to nine o'clock and we see a weary traveler as the widow Ruth makes her way to a new home. Dressed in gold for the harvest, she gleaned in the fields of Boaz. She provided for herself and her aged mother-in-law, Naomi. Ruth's spirits were lifted by the friendship of Boaz. Ruth remained true to Naomi's family and belief. She remained faithful to the demands of honor and justice.

As we travel on, the hands of the clock carry us to twelve o'clock. There we see a beautiful Jewish maiden, Queen Esther, clothed in her queenly attire of white, with her magnificent beauty destined to become the wife of the king, to save her people from extermination. After learning of the evil plan and before approaching the King with her request, Esther and her servants and family fasted and prayed that her people would be saved from destruction. Her fidelity to kindred and friends is the commendable virtue of Queen Esther.

Time leads us on as we approach the three o'clock time on the clock. There we see Mary and Martha, the sisters, torn with grief for their only brother, who had died. They busily prepared for the visit of Jesus. Martha hastily put on her dress of green and ran to meet Jesus, telling Him of her love for her brother, who had died, and the hope of his resurrection at the last day. But Jesus returned Lazarus to life, fulfilling Martha's trustful faith of hope and immortality.

Once again we look at the hands of time on the clock. It is now five o'clock and we see the mother, Electa dressed in her scarlet robes, preparing to help others in need. Her household had been readied. As the daylight approaches, she offers a cup to the poor. She resisted the soldiers when they demanded that she give up her religion. Her great love of the Lord is shown by having her household always open to extend help even when persecuted for her belief in God. Her fervency should be a reminder to all who are engaged in the service of love.

Be mindful of time as it is played out in your lives. When you were children, time stood still. Now as adults, time moves at a faster pace. You have been reminded of the heroines of our Order and the beautiful colors which make up our Eastern Star. We can share the stories of our heroines and remember to love one another.

Quickie Answers

1. ESTARL
2. Eastern Star Training Awards for Religious Leadership
3. One
4. No, only need to be recommended by a Maine member
5. Yes, please give them to the Chapter Secretary who will forward them to the Grand Secretary.

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 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.

June

- 9 – Aldworth #39, Milo, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the AGM, Potluck Supper 6 pm
- 9 – Molunkus Valley #95, Sherman, 7 pm, Flag Day, 5:30 pm supper, Degrees on three candidates
- 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 by Sister Rheanne Frost, DDGM #3
- 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
- 12 – Annette #184, Saco, 7:30 pm, Honoring Star Points with the Grand Star Points invited
- 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
- 2 – Messalunskit #170, New Sharon, 7:30 pm, District Deputies Night
- 4 – Primrose #152, Belfast, 7:30, Landmarks and Obligation/Heart, cold Potluck 6:30 pm
- 8 – Lakeside #60, Wales, 7 pm, Celebrate Independence Day, Potluck Supper 6 pm
- 8 – Elm Vale #105, Harrison, 7:30 pm, Finnish Music, Supper 6:30 pm
- 9 – Ivy #6, Warren, 7:30 pm, Patriot Program with an Ice Cream Parlor
- 9 – Minerva #74, Madison, 7 pm, Summer Olympics, Potluck Supper 6 pm
- 9 – Harbor View #136, Deer Isle, 7 pm, Guest Officers Night, Happy Birthday USA
- 11 – Rumery #46, Addison, 7:30 pm, Meaning of Our Colors
- 11 – Abenaki #116, Readfield, 7:30 pm, Beach Fun/Past Grand's, Supper 6 pm
- 14 – Aldworth #39, Milo, 7 pm, Celebrate Our Independence, Potluck Supper 6 pm
- 14 – Molunkus Valley #95, Sherman, 7 pm, Landmarks and Obligation Night
- 15 – Almeda #149, Guilford, 7 pm, Celebrating the 4th of July, BBQ 6 pm
- 15 – Pondicherry #192, Bridgton, 7:30 pm, Grand Star Point Ceremony, Clarinet Choir, Potluck ESTARL Dinner 6:30 pm
- 15 – District Two and Three ESTARL Supper, Pondicherry #192, more information to follow
- 16 – Felicity Chapter #195, Orland, ESTARL Supper 6 pm, Silent Auction to benefit ESTARL
- 17 – Lily of the Valley #157, Weeks Mills, 7:30 pm, Picnic Supper, Official Visitation with the AGM
- 19 – Pioneer #11, Brunswick, *The Rhythm of the Spirit* Grand Family Reception
- 21 – Arbutus #19, Liberty, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the AGC, Supper 6 pm
- 21 – Mountain View #197, 7 pm, Official Visitation with the WGM, Supper 6 pm
- 22 – Millwee #198, Orrington, 7 pm, Official Visitation, with the AGM, Supper 6 pm
- 23 – Beacon #202, Damariscotta, 7 pm, Service Dogs
- 24 – Riverside #123, Orland, 7 pm, Honoring the Marshal, Supper 6 pm
- 30 – Pleasant River #159, Buxton, Dinner at the 390 Maine Street Restaurant, Gorham

July

- 1 – Queen Esther #10, Augusta, 7 pm, Christmas in July! (For Our Snow Birds) 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.

August

- 1 – Primrose #152, Belfast, 7:30, Ruth Night/Autism, BBQ 6:30 pm
- 2 – Pondicherry #192, Bridgton, Hosting Grand Family

The Rhythm of the Spirit
Grand Chapter Session
May 17-20, 2026