

Chickadee Chatter

Volume 19 – No. 15

September 1, 2020

Grand Chapter of Maine, Order of the Eastern Star

Brenda L. Hall, Worthy Grand Matron

David M. Cole, Worthy Grand Patron

Tribute to Martha

Ralph Waldo Emerson once wrote "what lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."

It is those qualities "within" that makes Martha a woman, who by example, teaches us to have faith in God and in life eternal. She was a woman of warmth and hospitality, action and faith.

In the Gospel of Luke, we learn that Jesus was a friend and a frequent visitor to the home of Martha and her sister, Mary. Blessed with the gift of hospitality, Martha welcomed Jesus in her home in Bethany, located near Jerusalem. The scripture reveals that Martha *made Jesus feel quite at home before being pulled away by all she had to do in the kitchen.*

We all admire hardworking individuals and most are not comfortable sitting down while someone else is working. We tend to think that work comes first, followed by conversation and/or entertainment.

Like Martha, you faithfully serve your Chapter, shouldering responsibilities, often working behind the scenes. You extend the hand of hospitality and friendship as you greet visitors. Following Martha's example, you offer a warm welcome to your Chapter's guests.

Martha was also a person of action. Unlike her sister, Mary, when Martha heard that Jesus was drawing near, she immediately *got up and went to him.* You, like Martha, are doers – women and men of action, contributing to the success of your Chapter.

Most important, Martha was a woman of faith. Her forthright statement of faith proclaimed in

her Star Point lecture, goes beyond anything her sister, Mary, would later verbalize.

Martha's faith in Jesus was expressed before – yes, before Jesus raised her brother from the dead. Her *trustful faith* stands as a sterling example for us to follow daily.

Give me Lord, the faith of Martha.
Faith in God's eternity
Give the blessed reassurance
Of the deathless lives to be.

Face to face we shall behold Him
Just like Martha let us be.
Face to face the Lord will tell us
Of our immortality.

Quickie Questions on Martha

(Answers on page three)

1. In what book of the Bible is the story of Martha found?
2. The shortest verse in the Bible is found in this story. What is it?
3. What was the name of the town where Martha lived?
4. Who spoke the words that make up the pass of this degree?
5. What does the color of this degree symbolizes?

The Three W's

1. Wash your hands
2. Wear a mask
3. Watch your distance

International Weekend
information on page
three

Virtues Of Our Heroines

In Genesis we read *God created the heaven and earth*. Nature that God put on earth is in itself beautiful – the soil, the grass, the trees, the fields, the flowers, streams, mountains, birds – all placed here for us to enjoy. Over all he placed the blue sky then hung the moon and stars. One star is especially important to us – the Star in the East which has been our faithful guide for more than a hundred years. The lessons have helped us on through the labyrinth of life. They have been stepping stones on the paths of charity, truth, and loving kindness.

There is a blue glow from Adah's station which teaches us the lesson of fidelity. God is beyond the blue, but his love and his spirit surrounds us. He is ever guiding and watching over His own. Adah laid down her life to fulfill a sacred vow and save her father's honor. A great sacrifice for a young girl and an only child. The blue veil stands for fidelity, one of the finest virtues a person can possess. The sword stands for justice.

The story of Ruth is one of the most beautiful ever written and brings to us a life of constant devotion. Yellow symbolizes the golden grain from which our bread is made. Material food is necessary to sustain our bodies. *Break thou the bread of life*. Ruth has shown us that lowly service to others is not lowly in the sight of Him whose star we have seen. Responsibilities and duties are something we all have – be they great or small. The sheaf teaches us to be steadfast, constant, and true.

Esther, a courageous and brave Jewish girl who became queen of Persia had a great part in the teaching of true nobility, by her great sacrifice to save her people from death. Her courage and thoughtlessness of self gives us a needed lesson of loyalty and patriotism. Few of us will be required to make such a huge decision but daily we need to choose to be loyal to ourselves, our neighbors, our country, and our God. The crown and scepter united serves as an emblem of royalty and power. It's an emblem of joy and light.

Martha teaches us the lesson of faith. The experiences of life arrive thick and quickly and give the soul growth. To meet these experiences and conquer them and to rise above them – we must be led by the word of God and retain our faith. There is a power in faith which above all

else enables us to endure and triumph over the ills of both body and soul. The broken column reminds us we must have faith in God and faith in His eternal grace.

In Electa's time being a Christian could cost you your life. She was subjected to severe trials and bitter persecution. But she put into practice the second great law of Christ by her generous hospitality and loving kindness to the poor and distressed. *Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself* – which gave her the title of *elect lady*. The cup reminds us to be charitable to all.

If we would live the virtues taught by these five heroines we must forget ourselves and live our obligation and strengthen the ties of golden friendship.

Every life has a scale by which to live. To hang perfect, scales must balance. There is no better level by which to live and mold our today's and tomorrow's, than the Bible: Book of Books and Word of God – God's promise of Eternal Life. It teaches us how to balance God's scale.

Devotional Corner

There is an old hymn with this chorus:

*In my heart there rings a melody,
There rings a melody
Of Heaven's harmony;
In my heart there rings a melody
There rings a melody of love.*

It's sung in the key of E and this is the key in which we need to work together.

The key of E has four sharps and they are most significant to our Order. The first sharp is F which is faith. Faith must come first or we will falter midway with doubts and misgivings.

The second sharp is C which stands for charity. Our Order was founded upon being charitable and works done by unselfish love can be counted as being worthy.

The third sharp is D and we associate this with devotion to duty. On again, off again folks accomplish very little. We must be constant and persevere.

The fourth and last sharp is G. This is for our God in whose name we have faith, charity, and devotion to duty and whom we have chosen to follow, led by the star He sent to show us the way.

International Weekend

Putting All the Pieces Together will be the theme of the 2020 online International Weekend and Membership Forum which is being hosted by the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire on October 30th and November 1st.

Sister Marianne Shenefelt, Most Worthy Grand Matron, will bring greetings on Saturday!

The agenda for the weekend is:

- Friday Night – Jurisdiction vs. Jurisdiction Online Games
- Saturday Morning/Afternoon – Online Membership Forum Seminars
- Saturday Evening – Online Entertainment
- Sunday Morning – Online Vesper Service

The banner from last year will be awarded to the Jurisdiction with the most attendees. Join us for some fun and educational topics. Continuation of last year's successful Membership Forum with new topics.

To register by mail with a personal check please make the check out to the Dream Builders and send to Kristen Fuller, 3 Piper Road, Holderness, NH 03245.

To register online and pay using PayPal the form is located on New Hampshire's Grand Chapter website under *Events*.
<http://www.nheasternstar.org/events.php>

The registration deadline is October 16 and the cost is \$20 which includes a pin.

Questions may be directed to
IntlWeekend2020@gmail.com

- M** Stands for *Martha*, trusting and fair, makers of real homes, where truth enters there.
- A** Stands for *aroma*, fragrant and sweet, so was the food that Jesus did eat.
- R** For *reality*, which she did feel; proven by Jesus – that life is real.
- T** Trustful *faith*, which Martha possessed; may you all have it and ever be blest.
- H** Stands for *home*, – a sacred abode where dear ones all help us, to carry our load.
- A** Stands for *all* – each, every one, into your hearts may the Christ Spirit come.

Sister Martha

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

Believeth	Faith	Martha
Bethany	Fern	Mary
Brother	Grave	Resurrection
Christ	Green	Risen
Column	Grief	Sorrow
Death	Immortal	Triangle
Duty	Jesus	Trust
Eternal	Joy	Uncertainty

Quickie Answers

1. The Gospel according to St. John, the Eleventh Chapter
2. *Jesus Wept* (St. John 1:35)
3. Bethany.
4. Jesus Christ (St. John 11:26)
5. Eternal Life

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. Sister Kathy Williamson is the Web Administrator and her email is kackyw@gmail.com.

Chickadee Chatter

Chickadee Chatter is the newsletter that will be published during the 2020-2021 year and distributed currently through *Star News*. If you'd like items printed in it, email it to corleybyras@gmail.com or send it by snail mail to Sister Corley Anne Byras, 72 Smith Street, Unit 4, Augusta, ME 04330.

Star News

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

Match Up the Musical Terms

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Place of residence | accent |
| 2. A reflection on character | air |
| 3. Describes an unaffected person | bar |
| 4. Found on a bicycle | bass |
| 5. What a watch tells you | chord |
| 6. What you want when you are tired | clarinet |
| 7. Used to tie a bundle | counter |
| 8. Bottom of a triangle | drumstick |
| 9. Not blunt | flat |
| 10. Used in all stores | key |
| 11. What may betray one's nationality | lines |
| 12. Found on a fish | natural |
| 13. What lawyers belong to | notes |
| 14. Used in climbing | pedal |
| 15. Used in driving horses | phrase |
| 16. Fits a lock | rest |
| 17. What makes a check good | scale |
| 18. What we breath every day | sharp |
| 19. A part of a sentence | signature |
| 20. What boys and girls write to each other in school | slur |
| 21. Large bone of a chicken's leg | staff |
| 22. A girl's name and a devise for catching fish | time |

Answers:

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 11. accent | 11. accent |
| 10. counter | 10. counter |
| 9. sharp | 9. sharp |
| 8. bass | 8. bass |
| 7. chord | 7. chord |
| 6. rest | 6. rest |
| 5. time | 5. time |
| 4. pedal | 4. pedal |
| 3. natural | 3. natural |
| 2. slur | 2. slur |
| 1. flat | 1. flat |
-
- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 22. clarinet | 22. clarinet |
| 21. drumstick | 21. drumstick |
| 20. notes | 20. notes |
| 19. phrase | 19. phrase |
| 18. air | 18. air |
| 17. signature | 17. signature |
| 16. key | 16. key |
| 15. lines | 15. lines |
| 14. staff | 14. staff |
| 13. bar | 13. bar |
| 12. scale | 12. scale |