

The Dove Tales

Volume 21 – No. 5

November 12, 2022

Grand Chapter of Maine, Order of the Eastern Star

Evelyn B. Cookson, Worthy Grand Matron

Russell E. Babb, Worthy Grand Patron

Greetings from the WGM and WGP

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It is hard to believe that I am writing this letter with Thanksgiving just around the corner. Brother Russ and I wish for everyone a blessed Thanksgiving.

Heavenly Father, On Thanksgiving Day, we bow our heads to you and pray. We give You thanks for all You've done.

Christmas is the season to celebrate our Lord, Jesus' birth. May everyone have a blessed Christmas and may all your wishes come true.

We hope your Christmas will be enjoyable and may the essence of Christmas remain always with you.

Merry Christmas

Star Love,

Evelyn B. Cookson, Worthy Grand Matron
Russell E. Babb, Worthy Grand Patron

Quickie Questions (answers on backside)

1. Are Grand Representatives introduced by the Worthy Matron or do they introduce themselves?
2. Are all Grand Representative appointments for two years?
3. Can any Past or Present Grand Representative join the GROMMET Association?
4. Can any Past or Present Grand Representative join the IGRA?
5. Do the Grand Representatives pass their badge on to the one who receives the appointment after them?
6. Do you have to be a WM, WP, PM, or PP to receive a Grand Representative appointment?

The GROMMET Association

The Grand Representatives of Maine making everlasting ties is what GROMMET stands for. It was formed in 1958 when the Grand Chapter Session was held in Portland and Gertrude Powers was Worthy Grand Matron and Owen M. Taylor was Worthy Grand Patron. Dues at that time was twenty-five cents and only current Grand Representatives could serve as officers.

The luncheon and meetings were to be held on Wednesday noon of the Grand Chapter Session. One of the main functions of the group would be to entertain the visiting Grand Representatives.

Membership is available for both past and present Grand Representatives. Today present and past Grand Representatives may serve as officers. The annual meeting is held on Tuesday morning during the GROMMET's breakfast held at Grand Chapter. Dues are annually \$5 or a Life Time Membership may be had for \$30.

For many years the GROMMET's have hosted the hospitality room during Grand Chapter. The GROMMET's donated \$150 to each of the following funds: Cancer, Heart, Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Grand Chapter Charity, and ESTARL.

The current officers are: Sister Barbara Robinson – President, Sister Heidi Hammerle – Vice President, and Brother Calvin Hall – Secretary/Treasurer.

Travel is a way to connect and spread the love of our beautiful Order. A commission as a Grand Representative gives a member the privilege of connecting with members throughout General Grand Chapter and the responsibility of spreading and protecting our Eastern Star love.

If you haven't paid your dues as a past or present Grand Representative, please remit your dues made out to the GROMMET Association and mail it to Brother Calvin Hall at 7 Skyview Drive, Presque Isle, ME 04769.

IGRA

The International Grand Representatives Association (IGRA) was organized in Dallas, Texas in 1964. Their purpose is to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas beneficial to the Grand Representatives; to work for the good of the Order, bringing love, happiness and enthusiasm to every Grand Jurisdiction recognized by the General Grand Chapter and to promote interest in the General Grand Chapter and support its officers.

All past and present Grand Representatives are entitled to membership in the IGRA. The cost is currently \$5 per triennium. The IGRA pin is emblematic of our purpose; "Clasped Hands in Friendship" and the cost is currently \$6. The IGRA Handbook is \$7.

You can find the application to join for the 2021-2024 Triennium by pointing your browser to www.easternstar.org and then navigate to Contact Us, then choose International Associations, and lastly choose International Grand Representatives Association.

You will find the following choices:

- IGRA Membership Application 2021-2024
- IGRA Dress Order Form and Information
- IGRA Bylaws
- IGRA Proposed ByLaws Change
- IGRA Newsletters which contains the June 2022 newsletter

The officers selected to serve for 2021-2024 are Johanna "JP" Swank, President, from South Carolina; Marilyn "Molly" Veile, 1st Vice President, from Arizona, 2nd Vice President, Sue Hussel, from West Virginia; and Vicki Hurley, Secretary-Treasurer, from South Carolina.

The appointed officers are Linda Kliethermos, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, from Kentucky; Neil Shepherd, Chaplain from South Carolina and Sarah Jane Schrodetski, PGM, South Carolina, Parliamentarian.

The President has shared the following for her term:

- Motto: On The Road Again
- Fun Emblem: Passport
- Symbol: Car
- Scripture: Hebrews 13:2 *Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.*
- Flower: Tulip
- Colors: Spring green and turquoise
- Favorite song: *Country Road Take Me Home*

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.

Some of the Jurisdictions

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

Arizona	Kansas	Ohio
Arkansas	Maine	Oklahoma
California	Massachusetts	Tennessee
Connecticut	Minnesota	Texas
Delaware	Mississippi	Utah
Florida	Missouri	Vermont
Georgia	Montana	Virginia
Idaho	Nebraska	Wisconsin
Illinois	Nevada	Wyoming
Iowa		

The next *The Dove Tales* will be posted only on the website as there are no statewide meetings in December.

Website

The Maine Order of the Eastern Star's website is 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.

The Dove Tales

The Dove Tales is the newsletter that will be published during the 2022-23 year and distributed currently through *Star News* and when Grand Family events are held it is given to the DDGM's. 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

Honoring a Grand Representative

Worthy Matron: Sister Conductress you will escort _____ to the East.

Sister/Brother _____, the members of _____ Chapter are very proud of you as you travel and bring the greetings of _____. You are a Goodwill Ambassador. One of the first duties of every traveler before they leave on a journey is to pack their bag. We must pack the right thing for every need; something for every occasion. And that's what we are going to help you do tonight.

First, I will provide the container to carry your items and sincerely hope that your journeys are packed with happiness. And then Sister Conductress will you escort _____ throughout the Chapter Room?

Conductress: My job here in the Chapter is to guide. I lead new candidates to our bright light. I present this little light so you may be guided whenever you are in strange surroundings. I also remind you to *let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven.* (flash light or night light)

Chaplain: I present to you the word of God, the Bible. No matter where our travels take us as long as we stay close to God and His teaching, He will guide us. (small Bible)

Treasurer: As keeper of our Chapter's funds I remind you that a penny saved is a penny earned. I give you something to carry your pennies in. (change purse with a few pennies)

Organist: (It depends upon where the Organist is where this goes in the program.) Always carry a song in your heart and whistle a happy tune. I present these to remind you never to offend anyone as you sing the praises of our Order. (breath mints)

Electa: I present this item of red to remind you of love. Always remember that at the end of your travels you will return to the ones who love you and also let it remind you to show your great love for this Order and all its Sisters and Brothers. (red nail polish)

Martha: I present this item of green, to remind you of hope. Hope takes dark and rainy days and turns them into sunny ones. Where there is despair and defeat, hope brings encouragement. With hope in your heart you know God is in control. (green mouthwash)

Associate Patron: We all know that traveling can be arduous and I hope this Tylenol will help relieve some of the headaches and make you ready for fun at the end of the road. (small bottle of Tylenol)

Esther: I present this item of white to remind you of kindness. *Be ye kind one to another.* White brings gentleness, thoughtfulness, politeness, and consideration. It will remind you to always travel that extra mile. (Q-tips)

Warder: I present these band aids with the sincere hope that you never need to use them. but we also want you to be prepared if you should ever have to patch things up We want you to return to us safe and sound after your travels. (band aids)

Sentinel: I present this deck of cards to you. We Sentinels outside the door sometimes get a little lonely and bored and we don't want that to happen on your travels. Take these cards and find friends to play with to relieve the loneliness and boredom. (deck of cards)

Associate Conductress: I present a penny for luck in all your travels and a thermometer for you to gauge the temperature of your surroundings. New friends always create warm feelings. (penny and thermometer)

Ruth: I present this item of yellow to remind you of peace. Peace takes away the strain and stress from our lives and brings order and beauty. All who know you appreciate the peace you bring. (yellow soap dish)

Adah: I present this item of blue to remind you of fidelity. Be faithful to your duties and to your Sisters and Brothers who send you forth as their ambassadors. (bar of blue soap)

Secretary: My job here in the chapter is to record the happenings of our group. I present to you my best pen and a journal, so that you can record your journeys and keep record of all the new friends you make. (pen and journal)

Marshal: I present our flag, a recognized symbol of this great Country. Be proud that you represent Maine and the Grand Chapter of _____ wherever you travel. (small American Flag)

Worthy Patron: I present these mints for your journey and I am sure you will spread sweetness and joy in all your travels. And Sister Conductress, will you escort _____ back to our Worthy Matron? (peppermint candies)

Worthy Matron: Last but not least, may I place a Guardian Angel in your bag with a reverent prayer that God will watch over you. (angel and prayer)

The Lord bless thee and keep thee.
The Lord make his face to shine upon thee
And be gracious unto thee.
The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee
And give thee peace.

November

- 14 – Aldworth #39., Milo, 7:30 pm, Being Thankful/Honoring Veterans...6:15 potluck supper. Landmarks and Obligations (food cupboard donations)
- 14 – Molunkus Valley #95, Sherman, 7 pm, *Honoring Our Veterans*, street dress
- 14 – Fireside #103, Clinton, 7 pm, *Honoring Veterans*
- 15 – Golden Sheaf #114, New Gloucester, 7 pm, *Happy Thanksgiving*, pie auction
- 15 – Mt. Zircon #142, Mexico, 7 pm, *Honoring Martha*
- 15 – Madonna #144, West Kennebunk, 7 pm, *Thankful for Rainbow and DeMolay*, supper at 5 pm
- 15 – Star Light #203, Westbrook, 7:30, *Celebrating Thanksgiving*
- 16 – Ivy #16, Warren, 7:30 pm, *Star Point Night*
- 16 – Felicity #195, Orland, 7 pm, Landmarks and Obligation Night, toys for BCC
- 16 – Beacon #202, Damariscotta, 7 pm, *Celebrating Veterans*
- 17 – Pioneer #11, Lisbon Falls, 7 pm, *Giving Thanks*
- 17 – Bethlehem #36, Pittsfield, 7 pm, Stated Meeting, ESTARL potluck supper
- 17 – Riverside #123, Orland, 7 pm, Stated Meeting, *Giving Thanks*, 6 pm charity supper (Ham)
- 17 – Lily of the Valley #157, Weeks Mills, 7:30 pm, Veteran's/Thanksgiving with ESTARL supper at 6:15 pm
- 21 – Electa #2, Bowdoinham, 7 pm, *Happy Fall*, Bring hats and mittens to donate to the Bowdoinham Community School
- 21 – Arbutus #19, Liberty, 7:30 pm, Honor Veterans and those who serve, turkey dinner
- 21 – Tuscan #148, Bangor, 7 pm, *Give Thanks*

December

- 2 – Irene #97, Ellsworth, 7:30 pm, Christmas program and gift exchange
- 2 – Keystone #78, Solon, 7 pm, Christmas music, potluck supper at 6:30 pm, bring donations for food cupboard
- 5 – Mystic #69, Litchfield, 7 pm, Maine-ly Harmony
- 6 – Queen Esther #10, Hallowell, 7 pm, *The Spirit of Christmas*
- 6 – Star Light #203, Westbrook, 7:30 pm, Stated Meeting
- 7 – Messalunskit #170, New Sharon, 7:30 pm, holiday card exchange, 6:30 pm potluck supper, Landmarks and Obligation Night
- 8 – Martha Washington #15, Waterville, 7:30 pm, *Ugly Sweater Night*
- 8 – Pine Cone #26, Auburn, 7 pm, *Music is a Gift*, Honoring Organist
- 8 – Somerset #80, Stratton, 7:30 pm, National Letter Writing Day, National Cotton Candy Day, Write a short note to a classroom student, 6:30 pm supper
- 9 – Rumery #46, Jonesport meeting in Addison, 7:30 pm, Christmas, gift exchange
- 9 – Abenaki #116, Readfield, 7:30 pm, *Christmas Night*

- 12 – Fireside #103, Clinton, 7 pm, Christmas Party
- 13 – Lakeside #60, meeting in Wales, 7 pm, Christmas Celebration. Bring a special ornament
- 13 – Tillikum #99, Ashland, 7 pm, Christmas ornament auction, potluck refreshments after the meeting
- 13 – Elm Vale #105, Harrison, 7:30 pm, Christmas Exchange with donation to the animal shelters
- 14 – Minerva #74, Madison, 7 pm, bring an ornament for our tree, potluck dinner at 6 pm
- 14 – Josiah H. Drummond #91, Unity, 7:30 pm, *Merry Christmas*, Ugly Sweaters
- 14 – Lunar #126, Presque Isle, 7 pm, Christmas Party, Yankee Swap, 6 pm potluck
- 14 – Harbor View #136, Deer Isle, 7 pm, Christmas Celebration
- 15 – Pioneer #11, Lisbon Falls, 7 pm, *Celebrating Christmas*
- 15 – Bethlehem #36, Pittsfield, 7 pm, dinner at Anglers in Newport
- 15 – Lily of the Valley #157, Weeks Mills, 7:30 pm, *Merry Christmas*
- 19 – Electa #2, Bowdoinham, 7 pm, Christmas sweater night with Christmas Bingo
- 19 – Arbutus #19, Liberty, 7:30 pm, Christmas Program, gifts for children
- 19 – Tuscan #148, Bangor, 7 pm, ornament exchange
- 20 – Golden Sheaf #114, New Gloucester, 7 pm, *Merry Christmas*, cookie swap
- 20 – Mt. Zircon #142, Mexico, 7 pm, Honor Electa
- 20 – Madonna #144, West Kennebunk, 7 pm, Honoring Star Points, Yankee swap after the meeting.
- 20 – Star Light #203, Westbrook, 7:30, *Merry Christmas*
- 21 – Ivy #16, Warren, 7:30 pm, *O Holy Night*
- 21 – Felicity #195, Orland, 7 pm, *Merry Christmas*, cookie sale
- 22 – Riverside #123, Orland, 7 pm, *Celebrating Christmas*, refreshments after meeting and cookie sale
- 28 – Beacon #202, Damariscotta, 7 pm, Landmarks and Obligation Night

Quickie Answers

1. They introduce themselves.
2. No. About 90% of them are ... but some jurisdictions give three year terms, or you receive an appointment to fill an unexpired term.
3. Yes, by paying dues.
4. Yes, by paying dues.
5. No
6. No, but must be an active member for at least ten years.