

The Piper

Volume 22 – No. 4

October 7, 2023

Grand Chapter of Maine, Order of the Eastern Star

Lorena M. Fenlason, Worthy Grand Matron

Peter A. Stinson, Worthy Grand Patron

Exchange Grand Family

The New Brunswick-Maine Exchange Grand Family will be hosted by Irene Chapter #97 in Ellsworth on Saturday, October 21 at 1 p.m. All luncheon tickets have been reserved but there are many places to have lunch in the Ellsworth area. The fall foliage should be beautiful for the drive to Ellsworth.

This is an opportunity to view the New Brunswick's Grand Family perform the degrees and will be on an actual candidate. Come support the *Heart and Soul* Grand Family and meet with those from North of our border.

International Weekend in Vermont

So Happy Together is the theme for the 2023 International Weekend in South Burlington hosted by the Vermont Grand Chapter, November 3rd and 4th. The Hilton Doubletree is where the event will be happening and the deadline for all reservations is October 13.

Maine's website maineoes.org has the forms for making your reservations for the Friday night buffet and the Saturday night banquet as well as the required registration. This is a fun filled weekend for OES members and their guests.

Quickie Questions

(answers on second page)

1. May a chapter confer Life Membership on a member not affiliated with the chapter?
2. Is a motion necessary when granting a demit?
3. Who is in charge of the ballot box?
4. Where are copies of the chapter's Bylaws and the CR & R to be displayed?
5. Where is a member presented to receive a 50-year pin; how is he/she escorted to the East?

Heart and Soul Grand Family

All members are invited to attend the *Heart and Soul* Grand Family being hosted by Star Light Chapter #203, Westbrook on Saturday, November 11 at 1 p.m. Registration begins at 9 a.m. with light breakfast refreshments. The rehearsal for the Grand Family and the officers of Star Light Chapter is at 10:30 a.m.

The luncheon at 11:30 a.m. will be make your own sandwiches, salad, chips, beverage, and dessert for a cost of \$12. Reservations payable to Star Light Chapter #203 are to be made by November 1st with your check going to Sister Rebecca Bibber, 2 Independence Drive, Westbrook, ME 04092-4535.

Feztival of Trees/Anah and Kora

Place on your calendar the dates for the 2023 annual Feztival of Trees held at the Anah Shrine in Bangor and the Kora Shrine in Lewiston as both of these will be having an OES Grand Chapter *Heart & Soul* tree on display.

The dates for the Anah Shrine are November 16-19 and 24-26. Sisters Jane Ritchie and Brenda Rodgeron are Co-Chairmen for this OES tree.

The Kora Shrine have their Feztival the Friday prior to Thanksgiving through the Saturday after Thanksgiving and are closed on Thanksgiving Day. Brother Bernie and Sister Rheanne Frost are Co-Chairmen for this Feztival OES tree.

Both Anah and Kora Shriners have around 60 trees on display with other activities as space allows. It's a fantastic way to commence the Christmas season and support the Shriners.

Who's Wearing the MASK?

Halloween is just around the corner, since this is the month of October. There are many struggling with the fact that their children want to be out and about on Halloween night, trick or treating. To the little ones, it's just an innocent night for those goodies. At least, that's how it was when my own children were growing up.

Masks are everywhere on Halloween night - from the innocent ones that little children wear to the more elaborate ones that adults have for their parties. But there are "masks" you don't see - not on Halloween, or on any other day. These are the masks that people wear under the exterior of their outer beings.

What about that person you've wondered about - just down the street that you rarely see.

That lady at the grocery store - what's her name? She has a smile as big as a basketball every time you meet her, but do you really know what she's going through? Has she taken off her mask, so that you see the inner being?

Then there is the man dressed in his Sunday best, sits in the pew every Sunday morning. After all, this was how he was brought up - yet, you never hear him utter a kind word, or do a kind deed. Have you ever wondered why he's like he is - why he doesn't *put on a happy face* - as we always hear?

There are silent sufferers - the people that never let out their feelings. They hurt inside like those of us who are happy could never imagine. They are depressed, oppressed, and some are obsessed to the point that life is a burden to them. These are the ones with those masks you don't see. You see some of the problems - but not the mask - the way they deal with the problems.

Why not try to get to know the persons you are around, especially those that you perceive to have a problem. Maybe one of those persons you get to know better is one with a hidden mask. Perhaps you can bring a little peace and happiness their way, by showing them love and kindness.

Who knows - You may be the key to that person's happiness by simply chatting with them.

Quickie Answers

1. No.
2. No.
3. The Associate Conductress under the direction of the Worthy Matron.
4. During a meeting on the Secretary's desk.
5. Behind the Altar and escorted through the labyrinth

Harvest Time

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

Acorns	Flannel	Pie
Apples	Foliage	Pumpkin
Autumn	Football	Rake
Chestnuts	Frosty	Reap
Cider	Gold	Red
Cornucopia	Harvest	Rustling
Cozy	Hay	Scarecrow
Crisp	Leaves	Squash
Crunching	Nippy	Sweater
Equinox	Nuts	Tailgating
Fall	Orange	

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.

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 Piper

The Piper is the newsletter that will be published during the 2023-24 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

One Among Many

One of the hidden meanings of our ritual work lies in the insistent admonition to build within ourselves the courage to be *one among many*. Every one of the Star Point Stations, by subtle innuendo, develops this concept in a slightly different fashion.

In the story of Adah and Jephthah, the story begins with Adah dancing out to meet her father. Accompanying him were thousands of men who had courage enough to wage a war and win a victory. It was deemed quite acceptable to have sacrificial substitution. It would have been entirely acceptable to have an equivalent sacrifice. But among all those legions there was not one man courageous enough to stand in the place of the brave slip of a girl. Alone, among the multitude of brave men, Adah courageously stood up to the challenges which life had brought to her. She was *one among many*.

Again, Ruth exhibited those characteristics which identify an individual who has the courage to be *one among many*. Naomi and Elimelech had emigrated to the land of Moab when their sons were still children. They lived there while the youngsters grew up to young manhood and eventually married the two young Moabites who had been converted to the Hebrew faith. When tragedy struck the family, the elderly Naomi wished to travel the thirty odd miles to her homeland. Travel was done mostly by foot. Further, the travelers would have to pass through territory which can best be described as a wilderness. There were no good roadways and travelers risked not only the possibility of losing their way but the possibility of attack from beasts and bandits. After years of neighborliness and friendship with the little family from Bethlehem, there was not one of the Moabite village men who would volunteer to accompany the sorrowing women. Only Ruth, out of all the Moabites who had associated with the family for so many years, would risk danger to herself for the sake of her friend. She also, had the courage to be *one among many*.

It is no wonder that the story of Esther continues to capture the imagination of its readers century. It is much like stories which filter back to us from countries that do not have a democracy. These are stories full of individual daring and almost insurmountable odds even as is the story of Esther. Imagine! Esther was a very young woman, probably just entering early adolescence when the story begins. She was only one of an enslaved nation. Her fellow citizens were weary, broken, and beaten by their long captivity and they submitted to tyranny with silent submission. But Esther, at the insistence of the wise old Mordecai, brought wisdom and justice to high places. Alone, in spite of her fear for her life, she protested the evils that were being perpetrated against her people. And she got results, too. After Esther took matters into her own hands, the merciless whip of the enslavers was stilled. All because Esther had the courage to be the *one among many*.

You would have thought when the very friends who had joined Martha and Lazarus and Mary in listening to the teachings of Christ would have welcomed a chance to say, "Yea, Lord, I believe," right along with Martha. Instead, when Christ came to Mary as she was standing before her brother's tomb surrounded by her friends and his, no voice save that of Mary's was raised. Through the deathly silence, only the clear voice of Martha was raised in sweet affirmation. Indeed, Martha had the courage to be the *one among many*.

Electa stands out in the history of the women of the world as perhaps the *one among many*. Consider what the situation was. The whole land was suffering and groaning under the Roman Caesar. Of the thousands of citizens throughout the land, only Electa had the courage to maintain her convictions in the face of certain death. Perhaps there were some who spoke a lie and renounced the Lord, but Electa was the *one among many* who refused to deny her knowledge of the right and truth.

Today, the world is crying out for individuals who have the courage to maintain their belief in right, justice, and human dignity. We need believers who refuse to ever tacitly give credence to false creeds. Are you the *one among many*?

October

- 9 – Aldworth #39, Milo, 7 pm, Something Special, Halloween, 6 pm pot luck supper
- 9 – Molunkus Valley #95, Sherman, 7 pm, Landmarks and Obligation Night and Fall Fun, street dress
- 9 – Fireside #103, Clinton, 7 pm, Membership Night
- 9 – Pleasant River #159, West Buxton, 7:30 pm, Official Visitation with the AGM, pot luck supper, 6:30 pm
- 10 – Lakeside #60, Sabattus, 7 pm, ESTARL Supper at 6 pm with \$5 donation, Ribbon Ceremony
- 10 – Elm Vale #105, Harrison, 7:30 pm, Friendship Reminders
- 11 – Ivy #16, Warren, 7:30 pm, Honor Night, 6:15 ESTARL Supper
- 11 – Minerva #74, Madison, 7 pm, Boo! To You, 6 pm pot luck supper
- 11 – Josiah H. Drummond #91, Unity, 7:30 pm, Halloween Pumpkin Parade
- 11 – Lunar #126, Presque Isle, 7 pm, Landmarks & Obligation
- 11 – Harbor View #136, Deer Isle, 7 pm, Halloween Fun Night - Honoring Past Matrons and Patrons, 6 pm supper, Honoring Star Points
- 12 – Martha Washington #15, Waterville, 7:30 pm, Official Visitation with the GC
- 12 – Pine Cone #26, Auburn, 7 pm, Honoring Grand Representatives
- 12 – Somerset #80, Stratton, 7:30 pm, Landmarks and Obligation, Dinner is pulled pork, chili, gumbo, 6:30 pm
- 13 – Rumery #46, Addison, 7:30 pm, Halloween
- 13 – Abenaki #116, Readfield, 7:30 pm, Official Visitation
- 16 – Electa #2, Bowdoinham, 7 pm, Honoring our Masons, wear something pink for Breast Cancer awareness or Silver for Dyslexia awareness month

- 16 – Arbutus #19, Liberty, 7:30 pm, Worthy Patron Program
- 16 – Mountain View #197, Buckfield, 7 pm, Honoring Grand Representatives, 6 pm supper
- 16 – Tuscan #148, Bangor, 7 pm, Chaplain and ESTARL Night with a Speaker, presentations and instruction with Cake Walk following
- 17 – Golden Sheaf #114, New Gloucester, 7 pm, Reap What We Sow
- 17 – Madonna #144, West Kennebunk, 7 pm, Life and 25 year Members, Star Point Ceremony
- 17 – Almeda #149, Guilford, 7:30 pm, Annual Apple Festival, 6:15 Supper
- 17 – Pondicherry #192, Bridgton, 7:30 pm, Halloween
- 17 – Star Light Chapter #203, Westbrook, 7:30 pm, DDGMs' Night, Honor Norma Manning, DDGM #2
- 18 – Felicity #195, Orland, 7 pm, Landmarks & Obligation, Charity supper (collecting non perishable food for local food pantry)
- 19 – Pioneer #11, Lisbon Falls meeting in Brunswick, 7 pm, Landmarks and Obligation Night, bring canned food or \$ donation for food pantry
- 19 – Bethlehem #36, Pittsfield, 7 pm, Honoring District 9 Night - ESTARL pot luck supper at 6 pm. Meetings will continue to be held at Meridian Splendor Lodge until further notice.
- 19 – Lily of the Valley #157, Weeks Mills, 7:30 pm, Harvest/ESTARL supper, Invited Guest, Sister Rebecca S. Bibber, PGM and General Grand Chapter Committee Member for ESTARL
- 24 – Mt. Zircon #142, Mexico, 7 pm, Halloween - for the children, Shriner's Program
- 24 – Millwee #198, Orrington, 7 pm, Eastern Star Headquarters Presentation, ESTARL Supper/International pot luck
- 25 – Beacon #202, Damariscotta, 7 pm, Ghostly Things
- 26 – Riverside #123, Orland, 7 pm, 6 pm ESTARL supper

November

- 1 – Messalunskit #170, New Sharon, 7:30 pm, Honor Veterans, 6:30 pot luck
- 2 – Keystone #78, Solon, 7 pm, with 6 pm ESTARL Supper, Program by Grand Star Points
- 3 – Genesta #73, Bath meeting in Brunswick, 7 pm, Honoring Veterans, Service Dog Program, 6 pm supper
- 3 – Irene #97, Ellsworth, 7:30 pm, Ribbon Ceremony, 6:15 pm ESTARL Supper and Collecting Non Perishable items for local Food Pantry
- 6 – Mystic #69, Litchfield, 7 pm, Our Brothers...
- 7 – Queen Esther #10, meeting in Augusta, 7 pm, Honoring Our Veterans
- 7 – Sarah Orne Jewett #176, South Berwick, 7:30 pm, Honoring Star Points
- 7 – Star Light Chapter #203, Westbrook, 7:30 pm, Star Point Night - Honor Janis McLaughlin, Grand Esther
- 8 – Ivy #16, Warren, 7:30 pm, Christmas Party
- 8 – Minerva #74, Madison, 7 pm, Thankfulness, 6 pm pot luck supper
- 8 – Josiah H. Drummond #91, Unity, 7:30 pm, Giving Thanks This Holiday Season
- 8 – Lunar #126, Presque Isle, 7 pm, Happy Thanksgiving
- 9 – Martha Washington #15, Waterville, 7:30 pm, ESTARL Supper at 6:30
- 9 – Pine Cone #26, Auburn, 7 pm, We Are Thankful, ESTARL pot luck Supper, Honoring Veterans
- 9 – Somerset #80, Stratton, 7:30 pm, Organist Night, Dinner Thanksgiving with family invited, 6:30
- 10 – Rumery #46, Addison, 7:30 pm, Veteran's Day
- 10 – Abenaki #116, Readfield, 7:30 pm, Honor Veterans
- 10 – Harbor View #136, Deer Isle, 7 pm, Happy Thanksgiving - 6 pm ESTARL supper, Jerri A. Holt PGM speaker
- 11 – Star Light #203, Westbrook, 7:30 pm, Thanksgiving
- 13 – Aldworth #39, Milo, 7 pm, Being Thankful/Honoring Veterans, Landmarks and Obligation, 6 pm pot luck supper
- 13 – Molunkus Valley #95, Sherman, 7 pm, Honoring our Veterans, 7 pm, street dress
- 13 – Fireside #103, Clinton, 7 pm, ESTARL District 8 and 9 supper
- 13 – Pleasant River #159, West Buxton, 7:30 pm, Landmarks and Obligation Night, pot luck supper, 6:30 pm
- 14 – Lakeside #60, Sabattus, 7 pm, Honoring Our Veterans, bring \$\$\$ donations
- 14 – Elm Vale #105, Harrison, 7:30 pm, Honor Veterans
- 15 – Felicity #195, Orland, 7 pm, Being Thankful, Honoring Veterans, 6 pm supper (collecting toys)
- 15 – Beacon #202, Damariscotta, 7 pm, Those That Keep Us Free
- 16 – Pioneer #11, Lisbon Falls meeting in Brunswick, 7 pm, Honor Our Veterans
- 16 – Bethlehem #36, Pittsfield, 7 pm, Thanksgiving Program. Meetings will continue to be held at Meridian Splendor Lodge until further notice.
- 16 – Riverside #123, Orland, 7 pm, Giving Thanks, 6 pm Charity supper, toys and food for BCC
- 16 – Lily of the Valley #157, Weeks Mills, 7:30 pm, Let's Give Thanks
- 20 – Electa #2, Bowdoinham, 7 pm, Landmarks and Obligation Night, Donations for Kaydenz Kitchen Food Pantry, wear something purple for Homelessness awareness month
- 20 – Arbutus #19, Liberty, 7:30 pm, Honor Veterans and those Who Serve
- 20 – Tuscan #148, Bangor, 7 pm, Marshal Night instruction with pound auction following, proceeds for food baskets for adopted families
- 20 – Mountain View #197, Buckfield, 7 pm, Thanksgiving/SPCA, 6 pm supper
- 21 – Golden Sheaf #114, New Gloucester, 7 pm, Happy Thanksgiving
- 21 – Madonna #144, West Kennebunk, 7 pm, Be Thankful, pot luck supper 6 pm
- 21 – Mt. Zircon #142, Mexico, 7 pm, What are you thankful for?
- 21 – Almeda #149, Guilford, 7:30 pm, Electa Honor Night, 6:15 pm, ESTARL supper with Aldworth Chapter
- 21 – Pondicherry #192, Bridgton, 7:30 pm, Landmarks and Obligation, Give Thanks
- 21 – Star Light Chapter #203, Westbrook, 7:30 pm, Thanksgiving
- 28 – Millwee #198, Orrington, 7 pm, The Promise of Thankfulness