

# The Piper

Volume 22 – No. 5

January 7, 2024

## Grand Chapter of Maine, Order of the Eastern Star

Lorena M. Fenlason, Worthy Grand Matron

Peter A. Stinson, Worthy Grand Patron

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### Merger – February 3

Josiah H. Drummond Chapter No. 91, Unity will merge with Primrose Chapter No. 152, Belfast on Saturday, February 3 at the Belfast Masonic Hall, 17 Wight Street in Belfast.

Registration commences at 10 a.m. with rehearsal for the Primrose Officers and the Grand Chapter Officers at 11 a.m. The merger ceremony is at 1 p.m. and all Eastern Star members are invited to attend. The snow date is February 10.

### *Heart and Soul* Grand Family

All members are invited to attend the *Heart and Soul* Grand Family being hosted by Bethlehem Chapter No. 36, meeting at Meridian Splendor Lodge on Saturday, February 17 at 1 p.m. Registration begins at 9 a.m. with the rehearsal for the Grand Family and the officers of Bethlehem Chapter at 10:30 a.m.

The luncheon at 11:30 a.m. will be soup, sandwiches, chips, beverage, and desserts for a cost of \$15. Reservations payable to Bethlehem Chapter No. 36 are to be made by February 9th with your check going to Sister Bonnie Tweedie, PO Box 249, Palmyra, ME 04965.

The address for Meridian Splendor Lodge is 265 Moosehead Trail, Newport.

### *General Grand Chapter*

Most Worthy Grand Matron Glenda Winchester and Most Worthy Grand Patron F. Lon Lowery are inviting all members to attend the 51st Triennial Assembly *Worldwide the Family of God Marches Together* to be held in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, October 24th through November 1st. Information may be found on the General Grand Chapter website [www.easternstar.org](http://www.easternstar.org)

### Announcement Luncheon

Sister Jolene D. Farnsworth, Associate Grand Matron and Brother James F. Wakem, Associate Grand Patron cordially invite you to join them for the announcement of the members of the 2024-2025 *Rooted in Faith* Grand Family on Saturday March 16th at the Morgan Hill Event Center, 82 Morgan Hill Lane in Hermon. The social hour commences at 11 a.m. followed by a noon luncheon with the announcements completing the afternoon.

The menu will consist of soup, salad, sandwich, beverage, and dessert at a cost of \$19 per person. Reservations with checks are to be sent to Richard A. Farnsworth, III, 15 Fuller Road, Unit 202, Augusta, ME 04330-5911 and must be received by March 6.

### Spectacular Spring Event

Saturday, March 23 is the date for the Spectacular Spring Event which will be held at the Bangor Masonic Center, 294 Union Street in Bangor.

You are encouraged to bring your *classy*, *glam*, and *sassy self* dressed as your favorite celebrity – musicians, athletes, Movie/TV Stars, whoever ....

Tickets are \$25 each with all proceeds to benefit Maine Rainbow and DeMolay. Reservations are to be made by March 15th with the Mother-Daughter Duo – Sisters Deanne P. Merrill, 78 Elm Street, Milo, ME 04463 or Sister Darcy R. Merrill, 13 Foxcroft Center Road, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426.

The dinner will be at noon with the event commencing at 10 a.m. and ending 2 p.m. (ish) You are welcome to bring nonmembers as your guests.

## Devotional Corner (found on Facebook)

My dad has bees. Today I went to his house, and he showed me all of the honey he had gotten from the hives. He took the lid off a 5-gallon bucket full of honey and on top of the honey there were three little bees, struggling. They were covered in sticky honey and drowning. I asked him if we could help them, and he said he was sure they wouldn't survive....casualties of honey collection.

I asked him again if we could at least get them out and kill them quickly, after all he was the one who taught me to put a suffering animal (or bug) out of its misery. He finally conceded and scooped the bees out of the bucket. He put them in an empty yogurt container and took the container outside.

Because he had disrupted the hive with the honey collection, there were bees flying all over.

We put the three little bees in the container on a bench and left them to their fate. My dad called me out a little while later to show me what was happening. These three little bees were surrounded by all of their sisters (all of the bees are females) and they were cleaning the sticky nearly dead bees, helping them to get all of the honey off of their bodies. We returned later and there was only one little bee left in the container. She was still being tended to by her sisters.

When it was time for me to leave, we checked one last time and all three of the bees had been cleaned off enough to fly away and the container was empty. Those three little bees lived because they were surrounded by family and friends who would not give up on them, family and friends who refused to let them drown in their own stickiness, and resolved to help until the last little bee could be set free.

We could all learn a thing or two from these bees. Bee kind always.

## Quickie Questions True or False

(answers on last page)

1. It takes nine members for a quorum.
2. A meeting isn't legal without minutes of the previous meeting.
3. A Brother must always be present to hold a chapter meeting.
4. The correct spelling for the office is Marshal.
5. Maine Grand Chapter is held in May.

## Kindness Attributes

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

Affection	Gracious	Respect
Benevolence	Heart	Smile
Care	Helpfulness	Sympathy
Compassion	Hug	Understanding
Concern	Kindness	Unselfishness
Friendliness	Love	Warm
Gentleness	Mercy	
Grace	Nice	

## 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

## Love Throughout the Star Points

*Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.* 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

The heroines of our Order, the Star Points are role models of Eastern Star, teaching us about love. Our first heroine is Adah, who honored her father's vow. Jephthah went to battle and vowed to God that if he was victorious in battle, he would sacrifice the first to greet him when he returned home. He was victorious, he won the battle, and who came exuberantly dancing to welcome him home? His precious, beloved daughter, Adah, his only child. In this story, both Jephthah and Adah demonstrate their unshakable love and trust in God. Adah demonstrated her love for her father by fulfilling his vow giving up her life to preserve his honor. This story personifies love and loyalty. Loyalty is fidelity and fidelity is a major component of love. Adah's emblem is the sword and veil united. The sword was used to end her life and Adah threw the veil off her face because she was not afraid to die.

Our second heroine is Ruth, who gave up her national heritage, her kindred and her friends to follow her husband's mother to Bethlehem. There in a strange land, in poverty, Ruth gleaned the fields for barley, a lowly, menial labor that barely supplied the sustenance to keep them alive. She loved and cherished her mother-in-law. She believed it was her duty to assist in Naomi's maintenance and history rewarded her, for Ruth became the Great Grandmother of David, Israel's greatest king. Jesus was of the house and lineage of David. Ruth was faithful, she was honorable, she was trustworthy. All these words mean constancy and constancy means love. Ruth's emblem is the sheaf, and we are reminded of the hours of patient industry it takes to gather a handful of spilled grain to supply the food needed to care for our elderly loved ones.

The story of Esther, our third heroine is a story of a Jewish girl in captivity who became the queen of the Persian Empire. As a Queen, she could have basked in her powerful position, but when informed of the plot to destroy her people, she approached her king under penalty of death, because women did not approach their king

unsummoned, especially when he was on his throne during Grand Council. However, he absolved her by extending his scepter as she approached. Her people were saved. Esther had deep convictions, she put her trust in love, she believed that right and duty would be served, she was loyal to her people, she saved them from destruction. Convictions, trust, right and duty are loyalties, and loyalty is love. Esther's emblem is the crown and scepter which represents royalty and power.

We learn from Martha our fourth heroine, a lesson of faith and hope of immortality. Jesus befriended this family of Martha, her sister, Mary, and her brother Lazarus. While Jesus was away, Lazarus sickened and died. Martha believed with her heart, her mind and her soul that Christ was the Resurrection and the Life. But he didn't return until the fourth day after Lazarus' death. Things looked dark and discouraging, but Martha remained faithful and loyal to Jesus. "Were you here, Lord, you could have saved my brother," she said. Well, Jesus did save Lazarus, he raised him from the dead. Martha had proof positive of eternal life. Martha demonstrated her faith in the Master. Faith is trust, hope, belief, confidence, and devotion. All of these words, especially faith, mean love. The emblem representing the story of Martha is the broken column which depicts the uncertainty of human life.

Our final heroine, Electa, was reared a Pagan and converted to the Christian religion. She gave of herself, answering the needs of those who passed her door. She took the poor into her home and ministered to them, sharing all her material possessions. The Roman Emperor issued an edict that all followers of Christ should renounce their faith or die. When the soldiers demanded that Electa trample a cross under her foot, she couldn't defame that precious emblem of her Saviour's death. She pressed the cross to her heart and her persecution ended in death. Electa was filled with love for her fellow man. This love was demonstrated in her charity and hospitality, her mercy and compassion, and in her service to others. The emblem representing Electa's hospitality and charity, her service to those in need, is the cup. This cup is a reminder to us to extend aid to those who are victims of poverty and distress.

In the Bible we find God's revelation of Himself and His will to mankind. Some of the stories were

recorded verbatim by memorization for over 1,400 years before the written word. This Holy Book is the foundation for our beloved Eastern Star. In it we find these words about love. "Jesus said to the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders, there is no commandment greater than this, you shall love the Lord with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength, and you shall love your neighbor as yourself." Mark 12: 30 31 and First Corinthians 13:13, "So faith, hope, love abide, these three, but the greatest of these is love."

## January

- 8 – Fireside #103, Clinton, 7 pm, Game Night with Potluck at 6 pm
- 8 – Pleasant River #159, West Buxton, 7 pm, Honor Secretary and Treasurer, Potluck at 6 pm
- 11 – Pine Cone #26, Auburn, 7 pm, Honoring Sideliners
- 12 – Abenaki #116, Readfield, 7:30 pm, Surprise Night
- 15 – Tuscan #148, Bangor, 7 pm, New Beginnings
- 16 – Madonna #144, West Kennebunk, 7 pm, Landmarks and Obligation Night
- 16 – Star Light Chapter #203, Westbrook, 7:30 pm, Stated Meeting
- 18 – Pioneer #11, Lisbon Falls, 7 pm, Snowman Meeting, at the Brunswick Masonic Hall
- 18 – Bethlehem #36, Pittsfield, 7 pm, Landmarks and Obligation. Meetings will continue to be held at Meridian Splendor Lodge until further notice.
- 23 – Mt. Zircon #142, Mexico, 7 pm, Fun facts about January, Where does that name come from?

## February

- 1 – Keystone #78, Solon, 7 pm, Landmarks and Obligation, Sideliners Night
- 2 – Irene #97, Ellsworth, 7:30 pm, Honoring our Sideliners, Fill Shut-In Baskets, Ribbon Ceremony
- 5 – Mystic #69, Litchfield, 7 pm, Valentine Party
- 6 – Star Light Chapter #203, Westbrook, 7:30 pm, Degrees
- 6 – Sarah Orne Jewett #176, South Berwick, 7:30 pm, Landmarks and Obligation Night
- 8 – Martha Washington #15, Waterville, 7:30 pm, Ribbon Ceremony
- 8 – Pine Cone #26, Auburn, 7 pm, All Love Is a Gift, Honoring Star Points
- 9 – Rumery #46, Addison, 7:30 pm, Valentine's Day

- 9 – Abenaki #116, Readfield, 7:30 pm, Slipper Night (red for Valentine's)
- 12 – Fireside #103, Clinton, 7 pm, Valentine's Bags
- 12 – Pleasant River #159, West Buxton, 7 pm, Be My Star Valentine, Potluck 6 pm, Landmarks and Obligation Night,
- 15 – Pioneer #11, Lisbon Falls, 7 pm, Hearts and Love, meeting at the Brunswick Masonic Hall
- 15 – Bethlehem #36, Pittsfield, 7 pm, Hawaiian Night! Meetings will continue to be held at Meridian Splendor Lodge until further notice.
- 19 – Electa #2, Bowdoinham, 7 pm, Honoring the heart of our Order the Star Points, Wear your favorite star points colored gown
- 19 – Tuscan #148, Bangor, 7 pm, Protom and Master Mason Night honoring our own
- 20 – Golden Sheaf #114, New Gloucester, 7 pm, Happy Valentine's Day
- 20 – Madonna #144, West Kennebunk, 7 pm, Annual Heart Auction
- 20 – Star Light Chapter #203, Westbrook, 7:30 pm, Presidents' Day
- 27 – Mt. Zircon #142, Mexico, 7 pm, Honor Libraries, Book Nite.
- 27 – Millwee #198, Orrington, 7 pm, The Promise of Love

## The New Year

Ring out the old, ring in the new  
 We'll make this year the best  
 By careful planing, faith and love  
 It should stand every test.

And if we all will do our share  
 Our chapter will excel  
 Not only now or just this year  
 But other years as well.

So please remember Chapter nights  
 And plan to all be here  
 For good attendance means so much  
 To make a happy year.

## Quickie Answers

1. False ... only seven.
2. False ... only if your bylaws state a Brother must be present
3. False ... minutes could be read at the next meeting
4. True
5. True