

The Piper

Volume 22 – No. 6

March 16, 2024

Grand Chapter of Maine, Order of the Eastern Star

Lorena M. Fenlason, Worthy Grand Matron

Peter A. Stinson, Worthy Grand Patron

Heart and Soul Grand Chapter

Sister Lorena Fenlason, Worthy Grand Matron and Brother Peter A. Stinson, Worthy Grand Patron have invited all members to attend the *Heart and Soul* Grand Chapter Session May 19-22 at the Cross Insurance Center, 515 Main Street in Bangor. All Subordinate Chapter Secretaries have the information and the forms are also located on Maine's Grand Chapter's website — maineoes.org

Meet the Candidates

The following Sister and Brothers have announced their candidacy to be elected a Grand Officer at the *Heart and Soul* Grand Chapter Session.

Brother Michael Nicholas is a candidate for Worthy Grand Patron. He has been a member of Mystic Chapter #69, Litchfield for twenty years. Sister Rebecca Johnson and Brother Larry Smith, honored him with an appointment as Grand Chaplain. He has served as a Star Assistant several times and was appointed Grand Representative of Kentucky. He has served his chapter often as Worthy Patron, Associate Patron, Chaplain, Warder, and Sentinel. He often substitutes in other chapters when visiting. His Masonic life has included serving as Master of Morning Star Lodge and continuing to be active in all aspects of the Lodge. He served as President of the Augusta Lions Club and was President of the Augusta Area Jaycees.

Sister Sandra M. LeClair is a candidate for Associate Grand Conductress. She has been a member of the Order for forty-four years. In 1998 she was honored to serve as Grand Electa. She served as a District Deputy Grand Matron in 1995 and 1996 and is currently serving again in District Eight. In 1991-1993 she was appointed as Grand Representative of Oklahoma. She has served as Worthy Matron several times in Fireside #103, Martha Washington #15, and Merrymeeting #64 Chapters. At this time, Sandy belongs to six chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction. She is a member of the Advisory Board of Waterville Assembly #21, International Order of the Rainbow Girls and has received the Grand Cross of Color.

Brother Brian Farrington is a candidate for Grand Sentinel. He joined Abenaki #116 Chapter in 1992 where he currently serves as Worthy Patron and is a dual member of Lily the Valley #157 Chapter where he serves as Associate Patron. He served as Grand Warder for Sister Evelyn B. Cookson and Brother Russell E. Babb. He supported his two daughters as they became Past Worthy Advisors for Waterville Assembly of Rainbow and his son as he served as State Master Councilor. He was a Dad Advisor and served on the Board in Auburn for the Knights of the Son DeMolay. He is a member of Temple Lodge #50 and Lafayette Lodge #48 serving both as Worshipful Master and a member of the Kora Temple currently serving on the Kora Craftsmen Degree Team. He has served as the District Deputy Grand Master for the 11th District.

Brother Calvin Hall is a candidate for Grand Sentinel. He joined Rose of Sharon Chapter #13 in Augusta in December of 1976. In 1996 he became active with Lunar Chapter #126 and over the years has served as Worthy Patron several times. He was appointed as a Grand Representative of Oklahoma and was appointed as Grand Chaplain by Sister Brenda Hall and Brother David Cole. He is Vice President of the GROMMET's Association and served four years as its secretary. He served as Worshipful Maser of Trinity Lodge and has been active in the York Rite bodies, and is a member of Anah Shrine having served in the Oriental Band and as President of the Shrine Club. He served on the Rainbow Advisory Board and was a Rainbow Dad. He holds the Grand Cross of Color.

Quickie Questions

(answers on last page)

1. The International Grand Representative's Association (IGRA) has guidelines that state *of* or *to* a Jurisdiction?
2. The President of the (GRA is always from what Jurisdiction?
3. How much is the IGRA dues?
4. May Past Grand Representatives be members?
5. The theme for the IGRA Luncheon that will be held on Sunday, October 27 in Myrtle Beach is?

Devotional Corner

Palm Sunday – To the Jewish people who lined the streets to welcome Jesus to Jerusalem, this was a day of indescribable happiness. Here was the Messiah, the King of Glory who was going to put their enslavement and their persecutions to an end. The power and the prestige of the Jewish nation was to be restored. No wonder their happiness knew no bounds as they strewed palm branches along the road to make this journey, his entrance into their lives memorable.

Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday is the day before Christ died. On this evening Jesus ate a special meal with his apostles. It was a meal celebrated by the Israelites every year called Passover. At this meal, the Jewish people relived all the events which took place among the Israelites when God led them from slavery in Egypt and guided them under the leadership of Moses toward The Promised Land. For Christians, we recall the Last Supper when Jesus gave us the new commandment.

We commemorate the death of Christ on Good Friday...the immensity of what Jesus was willing to do for us. On this day of days we remember the place Christ’s cross has in our lives as Christians so that we can accept the crosses we must bear in our lives. It was through Christ’s sacrifice, His willingness to die that eternal happiness should be ours.

Holy Saturday is marked by many Christians as by this day Christ was in the tomb. It was a day of sadness for the followers of the man they knew to be the savior of the world. The Jewish people observed the Passover Vigil this night during which the Hebrews “watched” for the Passover of the Lord through which they were freed from slavery to the Pharaoh, to the Egyptians. In churches that hold services this evening, the great things done by God for His people from their earliest day is recalled through Scripture.

Sadness gives way to joy as we celebrate the risen Christ. Those who were the followers of Christ, who witnessed his years of ministering and then his death on earth, might not have understood the empty tomb, but Christians clearly understand. The presence of the risen Christ in our lives helps us grow in our ability and willingness to serve and share in the happiness reserved for all who work in their lifetime to do the will and work of God, the Father, through Jesus Christ, His Son.

The Chaplain

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

Affection	Enlarge	Mankind
Altar	Faith	Merciful
Amen	God	Offense
Benefit	Grace	Petition
Beseech	Heavenly	Strength
Blessing	Honor	Truth
Brighter	Instruction	Uprightly
Chain	Lead	Void
Chaplain	Love	Wisdom
Devotions	Loving	Word

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

At Easter Time

The ceremony should begin with the playing of very soft music – Should the services of a soloist be available, the singing of the first verse of an Easter hymn will do much to create a mood appropriate to the occasion.

Adah approaches the East where a small table has been placed. She brings a piece of blue material of suitable texture and drapes it over the table to provide the background of the presentation and returns to her station following her speech and the other Star Points do likewise.

Adah: This blue cloth we reverently bring in commemoration of Christ's unwavering loyalty to right thinking and right acting. At this Easter time, we humbly dedicate ourselves to a new and greater loyalty to the tenets of our faith. Throughout the coming year we shall strive more diligently to keep from displaying disloyalty to the spirit of love that prompted the sacrifice made for our sakes. May we ever keep from departing from what we know to be right in His eyes.

Ruth approaches the East and places the word Forgive on top of the blue cloth ... could be printed on yellow paper or attached to a yellow piece of cloth, the color associated with Ruth.

Ruth: The golden compassion of Christ's words uttered at this sacred season have come down to us with undiminished luster. "Forgive them for they know not what they do." We are grateful for the comforting knowledge of That Great Spirit that surrounds each of us with understanding forgiveness of our transgressions. As we proceed into the days that lie before us, we do humbly dedicate ourselves to the task of associating with our fellow man in a spirit of understanding, love, and forgiveness.

Esther approaches the East and places a white cross in the middle of the drape.

Esther: We humbly set this cross in commemoration of Christ's pure, undefiled devotion to His Father's will. We do humbly place it in great awe and reverence for the spirit of innocence that was sacrificed for our sakes. We dedicate ourselves anew to the task of daily living in the radiance of the pure white light of His truth, wisdom, and everlastingness.

Martha approaches the East and places a wreath of fern or evergreen at the foot of the cross.

Martha: We bring this wreath, plaited of softest evergreen in memory of the crown of thorns which Christ humbly bore for our sakes. We humbly dedicate ourselves to the task of keeping ourselves from bringing heartache and further pain to Him who loved us so completely. We are deeply grateful for the gift of Life Eternal made possible through faith in the word of God as given to us by His only Son.

Electa approaches the East bearing a glass goblet filled with blood red substance and places it in front of and to the right of the cross. It is suggested that the the goblet have one of the dark red gelatins instead of liquid. This will give the appearance of liquid but will prevent any accidental spills and will permit Electa to walk gracefully while she carries the goblet.

Electa: We do humbly place this goblet in memory of God's Love for us which He manifested to us through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Each of us do humbly dedicate ourselves to making our lives a continuing testimony to the love that passeth all understanding.

After Electa returns to her position the organ or piano should softly begin "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" and if possible the first verse of the hymn should be sung by a soloist.

Grand Family, Saturday May 4th

The final *Heart and Soul* Grand Family will be held Saturday, May 4th at 250 County Road in Waterville. Registration begins at 9 a.m. with the Grand Family rehearsal at 10 a.m. Lunch will be at 11:30 a.m. with the degrees commencing at 1 p.m.

The \$25 luncheon will be from Silverton BBQ and will consist of pulled pork, smoked pulled chicken, Hawaiian rolls (for sliders), macaroni and cheese, red potato salad with dill, coleslaw, cornbread, and assorted pies for dessert. Checks should be payable to and mailed to: Alice Stinson, 1088 Hill Road, Clinton, ME 04927. If you have questions, contact Sister Alice at 313-9936 or alicemstinson@gmail.com

The number of meals is limited to 100 and must be paid in advance. Tickets will be available that morning at the registration desk. Cut off date for reservations is April 24th.

March

- 15 – Fireside #103, Clinton, 7 pm, Installation of Officers
- 22 – Keystone #78, Solon, 7 pm, Installation of Officers
- 27 – Pioneer #11, Lisbon Falls meeting in Brunswick, 7 pm, Installation of Officers
- 29 – Tuscan #148, Bangor, 7 pm, Installation of Officers, open
- 29 – Messalunskit #170, New Sharon, 7:30 pm, Installation of Officers
- 30 – Ivy #116, Warren, 1 pm, Installation of Officers
- 30 – Irene #97, Ellsworth, 7:30 pm, Installation of Officers
- 30 – Mt. Zircon #142, Mexico, Noon luncheon with 1 pm Installation of Officers
- 30 – Lily of the Valley #157, Weeks Mills, 7:30 pm, Installation of Officers

April

- 5 – Minerva #74, Madison, 7 pm, Installation of Officers
- 6 – Electa #2, Bowdoinham, 7 pm, Installation of Officers
- 6 – Queen Esther #10, Augusta, 7 pm, Installation of Officers
- 6 – Pine Cone #26, Auburn, 2 pm, Installation of Officers
- 6 – Madonna #144, Kennebunk, 2 pm, Installation of Officers
- 6 – Millwee #198, Orrington, 1 pm, Installation of Officers
- 6 – Star Light #203, Westbrook, 2 pm, Installation of Officers
- 8 – Aldworth #39, Milo, 7 pm, Installation of Officers, pot luck 6 pm
- 8 – Pleasant River #159, West Buxton, 7 pm, Installation of Officers
- 9 – Lakeside #60, Wales, 7 pm, Stated Meeting with Installation of Officers
- 9 – Elm Vale #105, Harrison, 7:30 pm, Installation of Officers at their meeting, 6:30 pm, supper
- 11 – Martha Washington #15, Waterville, 7:30 pm, Installation of Officers
- 12 – Ruth #14, Sanford, 7:30 pm, Installation of Officers
- 12 – Bethlehem #36, 7 pm, Installation of Officers. Meetings will continue to be held at Meridian Splendor Lodge until further notice
- 15 – Mountain View #197, Buckfield, 6 pm supper, 7 pm, Installation of Officers at their meeting
- 16 – Golden Sheaf, #114, New Gloucester, 7 pm, Installation of Officers along with meeting
- 16 – Alameda #149, Guilford, 6:15 pm pot luck supper followed by 7:30 pm meeting with Installation of Officers
- 16 – Pondicherry #192, Bridgton, 7:30 pm, Installation of Officers at their meeting
- 27 – Lunar #126, Presque, 2 pm, Installation of Officers

at the Mars Hill Masonic Hall on Main Street in Mars Hill

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 with Jeff's Catering.

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 20th 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.

Maine Maritime Exchange

The Maine Maritime Exchange is being hosted by the Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island Grand Chapter. It is being held on Saturday, April 20 at the Mill River Resort at 180 Mill River Resort Road, Route 136, Woodstock, Prince Edward Island. The night before there will be a Meet and Greet with finger foods and fun commencing at 7:30 p.m. Saturday morning is filled with registration and rehearsals and following the luncheon the meeting will open and degrees will be performed. All Subordinate Chapter Secretaries have further information.

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

Quickie Answers

1. Of and they illustrate it with the word oven
2. The Most Worthy Grand Matron's Jurisdiction
3. Five Dollars for the three years
4. Yes, it's for current and Past Grand Representatives
5. On the Road Again

Heart and Soul Grand Chapter Session
May 19-22, 2024