

The Angelic Bears

Volume 20 – No. 2

July 1, 2021

Grand Chapter of Maine, Order of the Eastern Star

Catherine J. Wood, Worthy Grand Matron

Arthur C. Dunlap, Worthy Grand Patron

Travel Requirements For Ribbon

Attend:

Chapter meeting	10 Points
Chapter meeting with an OV	30 points
Chapter Installation of Officers	10 Points
DeMolay/Rainbow Meeting (Max 60 pts)	20 points
Fall Event Donation	30 Points
Grand Family	40 Points
Grand Family Reception	50 Points
Installation of Grand Officers 2020-21	50 Points
Spring Event	50 Points
Assist WGM's Special Project	50 Points
Visit Prospective Member and/or Shut-In	20 Points
Serve as Installing Officer/Assist in East	50 Points
Installing Chaplain, Marshal, Organist	40 Points
Star Point Ceremony at Installation	30 Points
Pro-Tem Officer (not in your own Chapter)	10 Points
1st signer on a petition for degrees	50 Points
2nd signer on a petition for degrees	10 Points
Drive 1.5 hours or more to any above	10 Points
Take someone with you to any of the above	5 Points
Submit your points to Brother Kieth Bennett, Grand Marshal, 34 Timber Lane, Mechanic Falls, ME 04256 with self-addressed, stamped envelope.	

Mergers

Following the anticipated votes two mergers are expected. On Saturday, July 10 Machias #83, Machias will merge with Rumery #46 of Jonesport which meets at 325 Water Street in Addison. The following Saturday will find Pythagorean #169 of Fryeburg merging with Mountain View #197 of Buckfield. whose address is 5 High Street in Buckfield.

The schedule for these mergers is a 10 a.m. registration with an 11 a.m. rehearsal for the Grand Officers and the officers of the chapter receiving the merging chapters. A noon luncheon for those invited, following by a 1 p.m. merger ceremony for any members desiring to attend.

129th Grand Chapter Session
May 15, 16, 17, 18, 2022
Augusta Civic Center

Special Project Needs You!

The work day for the Worthy Grand Matron's Special Project will be held on Monday, August 16 at the Auburn Masonic Hall at 1021 Turner Street in Auburn. Coffee and refreshments will commence at 9 a.m. with actual work starting at 10 a.m. This is a casual dress event and all are welcome to attend. Nancy Jacobs and Lynda Bell are the Co-Chairmen for this event with Jolene Farnsworth and Theo Heald as the refreshment committee.

Grand Family Reception

The *Angels Gather Here* Grand Family Reception will be held on August 21 commencing at 11 a.m. with a social hour and a noon luncheon at Jeff's Catering, 151 Littlefield Road in Brewer. Tickets are limited to the first 150 at a cost of \$18 each. Checks are to be made out to Teresa Potvin and mailed to her at 120 Augusta Road, Belmont, ME 04952. To register contact Sister Teresa at tspotvin2@gmail.com (930-0493) or Brother Michael Potvin at traldor@ymail.com (930-0492).

Schools of Instruction

Two Schools of Instruction will be held. Deering #59, Portland will host one at 573 Main Street in Westbrook on Saturday, August 28 from 9 a.m. through 3:30 p.m. Registration and coffee at 8 a.m. with a soup and sandwich lunch for \$7.

Irene #97, Ellsworth will host one on Saturday, September 11 at 21 Carriage Way with an 8:30 a.m. registration (coffee and juice available). The instruction will commence at 9:30 a.m. with a noon break for a bring your own picnic lunch. Drinks and dessert will be provided for \$5 with check payable to Sister Jerri Holt (PO Box 389, Ellsworth, ME 04605-0389). Reservations are due by September 7.

Quickie Questions (True or False answers on page four)

1. The current year is titled *Angels Gather Here*.
2. Adah was married twice.
3. Members assume the reverent attitude when the Chaplain leaves his/her station.
4. The story of Electa is found in Matthew.
5. *How Great Thou Art* should be the closing ode for all Subordinate Chapters.

Devotional Corner

Angels have fascinated many composers and lyricists, inspiring them to create popular songs about heavenly angels and angelic people alike.

Angels in the Bible never appear as cute, chubby infants! They are always full-grown adults. When people in the Bible saw an angel, their typical response was to fall on their faces in fear and awe, not to reach out and tickle an adorable baby.

Angels are mentioned at least 108 times in the Old Testament and 165 times in the New Testament.

For the truth about angels we must turn to the God who made them—and made everything else as well. And what He says is found in His Word—the Holy Bible. What, then, does the Bible actually say about angels?

What are angels? They are envoys sent by God to bring the truth, especially the big truths, to specific people in critical situations. The biggest truth (the one that Jesus Christ was living, dying proof of) is that God is with us and for us, and angels are sent here as a part of that. God's message can be a warning, or be a comfort in times of danger and fear. Many tasks have been assigned to them in Jewish and Christian tradition, in folklore, and folk theology.

People have been guessing at it for 4000 years, probably longer. There's more going on than the careless eye can see, so God sends a messenger to point it out. Since God is way too much for us to take, the messenger is sent in God's stead, like a diplomatic envoy. What happens then is between humans and the Lord. God chose this way (among other ways) to keep in touch with us and not be a far-off Deist god.

Friends are angels sent to us on the wings of a blessing.

Friends are the closest things to angels this side of Heaven.

Only angel kisses are as sweet as butterfly kisses from a child.

When someone dies, an angel is there to meet them at the gates of Heaven to let them know that their life has just begun.

Angels

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

Afraid	Guardian	Michael
Celestial	Halo	Rejoice
Cherubim	Harp	Seraphim
Cherubs	Heaven	Servants
Cloud	Heavenly	Sing
Duties	Immortal	Supernatural
Flying	Invisible	Trumpets
Glow	Messenger	Wings
God		

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.

The Angelic Bears

The Angelic Bears is the newsletter that will be published during the 2021-22 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.

The Angel Degree (Chapter Closed) By Sister Barbara Redburn, PM, Irene #97, Ellsworth

Worthy Matron: Angels are a part of heaven, which is perhaps why we think of them as Angels on High. We picture them attired in flowing robes of pure white, who look over us and guide us on our way in life and death.

Tonight, the Angels of _____ Chapter, our officers, with the musical assistance of all Sisters and Brothers, who will be known as the Choir of Angels, will confer the Angel Degree upon two special members of the Order of the Eastern Star.

The Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron will preside as Angels in the East, while the Associate Matron and Associate Patron will be known as the Angels in the West. Sisters Secretary and Treasurer, who work together in the Chapter, are named the Angel of Intelligence and the Angel of Security. Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress are Angels of the South and North. Angel of the Word of God is the Chaplain. Marshal is the Angel of Direction, and our Organist is the Angel of Music.

The Warder and Sentinel are Angels of Peace and Protection, who tend the pearly gates to _____ Chapter.

Sister Adah is the Angel of Fidelity, Sister Ruth is Angel of Constancy, Sister Esther is Angel of Loyalty, Sister Martha is Angel of Faith and Sister Electa is the Angel of Love.

As the Worthy Matron, the Angel in the East, I now ask Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, Angels in the South and North, to approach the pearly gates of our Chapter, and determine if there are Sisters and Brothers who want to receive The Angel Degree.

(They march to the anteroom door -music *Star in the East* is played while they march to all stations – look out, turn, and Conductress says to Worthy Matron)

Conductress: Worthy Matron, Angel of the East, Sister Associate Conductress, as the Angels of the South and North, we find members who would be honored to receive The Angel Degree in _____ Chapter.

Worthy Matron: _____Warder and _____Sentinel, Angels of Peace and Protection, you will allow these members to pass through the pearly gates, to be escorted to our Chaplain, the Angel of the Word of God, and as they pass by the Angels in the West, the light from their stations will reflect a heavenly glow upon them throughout The Angel Degree.

(Conductress and Associate Conductress escort them in front of the West, and then go to the Chaplain.)

Chaplain: (stands and says) The Angel Degree is inspired by our ritual, The Star in the East, and the Holy Bible which rests upon the altar. The Bible speaks of the New Jerusalem and our ritual contains words recited by our Worthy Patron, an Angel in the East, which refer to the New Jerusalem, the Eternal City.

As described in the Revelation of St. John, the Eternal City is built upon the Foundation Stones. These beautiful stones are associated to jewels which represents the officers of the Eastern Star. The Star in the East is mentioned in the book of Matthew, contained within the pages of the Holy Bible upon the sacred altar.

Also, found in the fifth Chapter of Matthew, are the Beatitudes, which have been associated with the five heroines of our Order.

Angels of the South and North, you will present these members to the stations of the Star Points, the Angels of _____ Chapter, who will tell them their blessed words.

(Conductress and Associate Conductress go across East to Adah)

Conductress: Sister Adah, the Angel of the Word of God has instructed us to come to your station for the blessed words of the first Star Point Angel.

Adah: As the Angel of Fidelity, I bring you the blessed words of the Sixth Beatitude: *Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.*

Worthy Matron: Sisters and Brothers, with music played by the Angel of Music, let us all sing as the Heavenly Choir of Angels, *I Will Be True.*

(Adah then steps back, picks up her emblem and stands beside her chair while all sing. After they

leave, she returns her emblem to the pedestal, and then is seated. The same goes for all Star Points. The Conductresses go to the next Star Point.)

Conductress: Sister Ruth, we await your blessed words.

Ruth: As the Angel of Constancy, I give the words of the third Beatitude: *Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.*

Worthy Matron: Let the heavenly Choir of Angels now sing, *Bringing in the Sheaves.*

Conductress: Sister Esther, may we hear from you?

Esther: Yes, Angel of the South, as the Angel of Loyalty, I offer the words of the seventh Beatitude: *Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the Children of God.*

Worthy Matron: The Heavenly Choir of Angels will sing *Will There Be Any Stars in my Crown.*

Conductress: Sister Martha, we invite your words to these members.

Martha: I, as the Angel of Faith, saith unto you, the words of the second Beatitude: *Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.*

Worthy Matron: *Faith of our Fathers* will be sung by the Heavenly Choir of Angels.

Conductress: Sister Electa, we would now like to hear from you, the fifth Star Point Angel of _____ Chapter.

Electa: I am the Angel of Love, and lastly bestow upon you, the eighth Beatitude from the Holy Bible, as requested by the Angel of the Word of God: *Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

Worthy Matron: *Onward Christian Soldiers* will be sung by the Heavenly Choir of Angels, after which these members, who have passed through The Angel Degree, will be presented to the heavenly East.

(Conductresses take them to the East.)

Worthy Matron: (stands and says) You are the first honored members to receive The Angel Degree in _____ Chapter. The Angel of the Word of God, our Chaplain, has outlined for you the inspiration for this degree, and has spoken about the Foundation Stones of the Eternal City.

So that you may always remember The Angel Degree, I would like to present each of you with your very own guardian angel pin to wear upon shoulders. One is set with a light green stone, the color of jasper, which is the first Foundation Stone. It is also the stone associated to the Worthy Matron. The other, a blue sapphire, is the second Foundation Stone, which is associated to the Worthy Patron. May these guardian angel pins always watch over you and guide you safely through your journey of life

Angels of the South and North, you will present these members to the Angel of Direction, our Marshal, after which you may escort them to their seats.

Marshal: (stands and says) In my warm Southeast spot in this chapter room of heaven, I have planted a garden for you to enjoy before you go out into the cold world again. My garden is a raised triangular shaped garden which is built with the Foundation Stones of the Angel Star Points blue sapphires, yellow topaz jewels, white diamonds, green emeralds, and red rubies. Within this garden wall there are violets, jasmine, lilies, ferns and roses. In the center of my garden, there are special flowers that will remind you of your Angel Degree. I have planted angelica and angel-wing begonias just for you. A bird of paradise sings here every day, and sips from a cherub fountain of pure water which also waters the colorful flowers in my sweet-smelling garden. I sometimes serve angel food cake and ambrosia for those who visit my garden of sweetness and flowers, and give them red roses of fraternal love.

Thank you for stopping by my Angel Garden, and a good night to you.

Quickie Answers

1. True
2. False
3. False
4. False
5. False