

DECEMBER 2023

# The Twinkle



OLD WEST CHAPTER #642 • NEWHALL, CA



**Brother Scott Shepard** and **Sister Laura Kelley** pose with members of Job's Daughters Bethel 249 Newhall at our most recent installation in November.

## From the East

Dear Sisters and Brothers,  
Thank you for a beautiful installation. We enjoyed spending that special time with you.

As each one of us gathers together this holiday season, let us take a moment to appreciate God for all that we have and to think about how we can use our skills and resources to help the people around us. This could be through acts of kindness, charitable donations, or simply by giving someone a warm smile. This is an opportunity to communicate love in different ways!

We have many great events upcoming, so please be sure to check the calendar for all the fun!

Wishing you peace and happiness,

—*Laura Kelley and Scott Shepard*



## Calendar

Click here to view the upcoming events for Old West Chapter!  
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## Masonic Family

See what's happening with Job's Daughters, DeMolay, and the Lodge.  
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## Chapter News

View pictures of our Chapter members' and friends' latest escapades.  
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## Info Flyers

Event flyers that you can print and hang on your fridge as reminders.  
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## OES Old West Chapter #642

Old West Masonic Center  
19208 Avenue of the Oaks  
Newhall, CA 91321

Meetings: 2nd and 4th  
Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.  
(except for July)

For more information,  
contact Doug Kelley:

Phone: 661-678-0400

Email: [d\\_w\\_kelley@yahoo.com](mailto:d_w_kelley@yahoo.com)

## From the West

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving! It's hard to believe, but we're in December already and on our way to a new year.

Congratulations to the 2024 officers, who were installed in November! Laura and Scott have an exciting year planned.

Our annual Holiday Breakfast with Santa is just around the corner. We're still in need of servers and others to help out. Also, please don't forget to stay for clean up. We need plenty of help there too.

As we begin a new term, let's remember all of our Sisters and Brothers who may need comfort, and count our own blessings in life.

Please, if you know of someone who could use our help or comfort, contact me at [dhmatalas@gmail.com](mailto:dhmatalas@gmail.com).

—Diane Matalas



## From the Secretary's Desk

As a reminder, please do all that you can to turn in checks and cash to the Secretary, as well as receipts for reimbursement to the Treasurer, no later than the Tuesday before each meeting to facilitate proper recording of the Chapter's funds. Turning these items in just before our meetings make it less efficient for us and adds stress to our pre- and post-meeting time.

### Secretary Rules

1. Please use the email address [oes642secretary@gmail.com](mailto:oes642secretary@gmail.com) for all Chapter correspondence.
2. The Treasurer now receives original receipts for any purchases that require reimbursement. Receipts should be taped or pasted onto a blank sheet of paper with the member's name, what the purchase is for, and the total amount due. Please send a scanned copy to the Secretary's email address (above).
3. Any donated funds for fundraisers must be given to the designated finance person with your name, fundraiser name and date, and amount of cash or check. Do not give fundraising money directly to the Secretary.
4. The Secretary does not bring cash to the meetings and will not be able to make change.

—Judy Mook

## December Birthdays!

*We hope your day is as special as you are!*

**14: Judy Luskleet**

**20: Jennifer Brockman**

**20: Vickie Canfield**

**23: Jacqueline Reibsamen**



## Masonic Family News

### What's happening with Newhall's Masonic Groups

#### Job's Daughters Bethel 249 Meetings: 2nd and 4th Mondays



It's the start of a new term! Cathleen Kelley retired from Honored Queen, doing a wonderful job as Installing Honored Queen, and Aubrey McHorney has been installed as our new Honored Queen. We're excited, and again want to thank you for your warm words of encouragement and the sense of community you've provided to our girls.

The anticipation for the Secret Star reveal went so well, and everyone had so much fun! Once again, thank you for everything that you do for us and for being a shining example of what Masonic brotherhood and sisterhood truly means.

With sincere thanks and warm regards,

—Peggy Hill

#### Old West Lodge No. 813 Stated Meeting: 1st Tuesdays



The Lodge stated meeting dinner is the first Tuesday of every month and is \$15.

The Lodge is preparing to "step up" in office for next year. Installation will be Sat., Jan. 6, at 1 p.m., after which the Lodge will resume its busy schedule conferring degrees. I have been giving each of the 3rd Degree recipients (Master Mason) a petition to the Eastern Star.

As I mentioned last month, I attended a "class" given by Past Grand Master and PGP Art Weiss on how to talk to the Lodge members about Eastern Star. I gave a presentation to our Lodge Nov. 7. I think it led directly to the several Masons in attendance at our Installation on the 16th. I'm hoping to reach out to other Lodges in December.

We continue to have "After Dinner Amusements" on even months. We will be inviting the Mason's wives and prospects to stay afterwards, so please come out at support these events.

—Doug Kelley

#### Order of DeMolay Newhall Chapter Meetings: 2nd and 4th Fridays



DeMolay has several obligatory days; one of them is Dad Land Day, in which our youth are to memorialize the passing of Dad Frank Land (the founder of DeMolay) by raising money and donating to a charity. You may recall that in October at the Stated Meeting dinner, we announced that we were going to donate the proceeds to Fostering Youth Independence ([www.fyifosteryouth.org](http://www.fyifosteryouth.org)), a group that helps Santa Clarita foster youths that are aging out of the foster care system to get started on "adulting." Thanks to your donations, we raised \$200 for FY.I. and presented a check just before Thanksgiving. Nearly every member made it out for the presentation!

On the fun side, the Sunday after Thanksgiving a few of us went out to Place To Shoot and practiced shotguns and then did some pistols. Next up (maybe December during the school break)? Rifle practice.

Old West DeMolay normally meets second and fourth Fridays, but in November and December we only meet on the 2nd Fridays. Unfortunately, we've lost a couple of advisors, so we need your active assistance. Register to be a "Dad" (or "Mom"!), as well as recommending young men to our

Chapter. We really need YOU to step up and help! —Doug Kelley

# Calendar

## Upcoming events of Old West Chapter

### December 2023

**Sat., Dec. 9**

#### Ho-Ho-Holiday Breakfast

- 9-11 a.m. (Set up at 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8; Morning set up at 8 a.m., Dec. 9)
- Old West Masonic Lodge

Our traditional holiday breakfast is here! Come have a great big breakfast, have the kids meet Santa, visit our gift boutique, take some holiday selfies, and bid on our fabulous silent auction baskets! Adults and youth ages 10 and up, \$20; children ages 2-9, \$10; children under 2, free. All are welcome; for more information, for tickets, or to find out how you can help, contact **Sister Amy Hamaker** at [ajhamaker1@gmail.com](mailto:ajhamaker1@gmail.com), 818-389-9867.

**Sat., Dec. 9**

#### SFV OES Association Meeting

- Immediately following the Holiday Breakfast
- Old West Masonic Lodge

Right after our breakfast, our local association will have a meeting to talk about new ideas for how the association will function and what we want out of it. All OES members are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact **Sister Amy Hamaker** at [ajhamaker1@gmail.com](mailto:ajhamaker1@gmail.com), 818-389-9867.

**Thurs., Dec. 14**

#### Holiday Initiation Meeting

- Practice 6:30 p.m.; meeting 7:30 p.m.
- Old West Masonic Lodge

We'll have a short-form meeting with a practice with our new Deputy Grand Matron, **Sister Cathy Krailo**. Bring a holiday ornament with you for an ornament exchange, and we'll be doing a cookie exchange as well. (*See Flyer, p. 8*) Suggested dress is white for lady officers and suits for men officers. Refreshments: Amy Hamaker. \*Please note, this is NOT an anteroom meeting. We'll have a separate holiday party.

**Thurs., Dec. 21**

#### Holiday Light Viewing

- 6 p.m.
- Old West Masonic Lodge

We'll meet at the Lodge to carpool to see the beautiful holiday light displays in the Santa Clarita Valley. Hot chocolate and goodies will be had during our drive! Contact **Brother Doug Kelley** at [d\\_w\\_kelley@yahoo.com](mailto:d_w_kelley@yahoo.com) for more information and to let us know if you're able to drive or need a ride. (*See Flyer, p. 8*)

**Thurs., Dec. 28**

#### Pre-Eve New Year's Eve Party

- 7 p.m.
- Laura and Doug Kelley's home

Time for a party to ring in the New Year...a little early! Bring a pot luck dish to share and a white elephant gift to exchange. Please contact **Sister Laura Kelley** at [lewleu4444@yahoo.com](mailto:lewleu4444@yahoo.com) for address and event information. (*See Flyer, p. 8*)

### January 2024

**Thurs., Jan. 4**

#### Line Meeting

- 7 p.m.
- Zoom

**Tues., Jan. 2**

#### Old West Lodge Stated Meeting Dinner

- 6 p.m.
- Old West Masonic Lodge

You're welcome to join us at the Old West Lodge for dinner. Cost is \$15; the Job's Daughters will be serving this month.

**Sat., Jan. 6**

#### Old West Lodge Installation of Officers



## Calendar CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

- 1 p.m.
- Old West Masonic Lodge

Come and help celebrate the new year for our own Old West Masonic Lodge, where some of our Brothers are going in as officers! This event is formal, and there will be refreshments afterward.

### **Thurs., Jan. 11** **Re-obligation Meeting**

- 1 p.m.
- Old West Masonic Lodge

This long-form meeting will feature our short but beautiful re-obligation ceremony. Dress suggestion is business casual; refreshments: Rochelle Haller.

### **Thurs., Jan. 18** **Blanket Making**

- 4:30 p.m.
- Old West Masonic Lodge

We're making fleece blankets for Project Linus and Young Survival Coalition. Bring a snack to share!

### **Sun., Jan. 21** **All Member Instructional (AMI)**

- 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Place TBD

Have you ever wondered why we do things the way we do in Eastern Star? This is your chance to learn how all the stations function! Please contact **Sister Laura Kelley** at [lewleu4444@yahoo.com](mailto:lewleu4444@yahoo.com) for more information.

### **Wed., Jan. 24** **Dine Out Fundraiser**

- All day
- Panda Express online only

Our popular dine out fundraisers are back this year! Dheck the January Twinkle for more info!

### **Thurs., Jan. 25** **Sports Night/Initiation Meeting**

- 7:30 p.m.
- Old West Masonic Lodge

Wear your favorite team gear and play Super-bowl Bingo after the meeting! If all goes well, we'll also be initiating some new members too—hooray! Refreshments: Denise Weed.



*Best wishes from all of us at  
the Twinkle to all of you, our  
Eastern Star family!*

*Here's to a happy holiday  
season and a wonderful 2024!*

### **Calendar Information?**

To add Chapter events to the Twinkle, please contact **Sister Amy Hamaker** at [ajhamaker1@gmail.com](mailto:ajhamaker1@gmail.com).

## Chapter News

### Members and friends in and around the community



Selfie time at Installation!  
From l to r: **Sister Sue Reese**, Cond., Channel Islands; **Sister Amy Hamaker**, Cond., Old West; **Sister Peggy Hill**, A Cond., Old West; **Sister Lee Anne Kallan**, WM, Conejo Valley.



**Sister Beverly Graham** (right) brought tooth hygiene items, collected during our November meeting, for our local Santa Clarita Valley Family Promise, an organization that helps house families in transition who need housing and assistance. We'll be collecting items for them next year as well—check your calendar!!

Meet the **officers and members of Old West Chapter #642!** We had a wonderful time at our Christmas-themed installation on Nov. 16. Hope you can be with us at our next event!



Fluffy, cuddly animals are waiting for Santa to introduce them to their new best friends at our annual Holiday Breakfast on Dec. 9!



(Right photo) Our new Worthy Matron **Sister Laura Kelley** (third from left in the back) posed with some of her 2024 associates at the recent installation for the Channel Islands Chapter, held at the Ventura Masonic Center. The installation was special, but the real hit for **Sister Laura** and **Sister Amy Hamaker** was the homemade tacos (left photo)!

### Have an image to share?

If you have pictures of Old West members at events you'd like to share for The Twinkle, please send them to **Sister Amy Hamaker** at [ajhamaker1@gmail.com](mailto:ajhamaker1@gmail.com).



## Info Flyers

*Printable information on Chapter and OES events*



**Cookie Exchange**

Would you like to have an assortment of cookies for your holidays?

We're having a cookie exchange!

Each participant will bring 6-12 homemade cookies for each participant of the exchange.

(Depends on how many people join in, no more than of 12, so max of 6 dozen cookies)

We'll have the exchange after our meeting on Thursday, December 14.



Please let WM Laura know if you want to participate.

Deadline to sign up is 12/8.

## Info Flyers CONTINUED

### Holiday Lights Driving Tour

Love all those home Christmas light displays? Come along as we carpool and follow Tour Guide Doug's sure-to-be-dazzling plan to see the best light displays in Santa Clarita!



Date: Thursday, December 21, 2023

Time: Meet at Old West Masonic Center at 6pm

We'll tour for a couple hours and top things off with a hot beverage at Starbucks.

Please RSVP to WM Laura by 12/17.



Please let us know if you are willing to share in the driving, and if so, how many passengers your car can take.

## Happy New Year!

### New Year's Pr'Eve Party



Ring in the new year (a little early) with our Pre-Eve Party!

Thursday, December 28, 2023, 6pm

At the home of Laura and Doug Kelley

24371 Crestview Drive, Newhall CA 91321

Please bring an appetizer to share and one (wrapped) white elephant gift per attendee!

RSVP to Laura at [lewlw4444@yahoo.com](mailto:lewlw4444@yahoo.com) or text 661/400-2686 by 12/23.

