

Sister Bev Andres received her Grand Representative Commission of Kentucky in Saskatchewan by WGM, Sister Donna Rederburg at the February meeting.



Sisters Bev Andres, Grand Representative of Kentucky in Saskatchewan with Donna Rederburg, Worthy Grand Matron

Sister Bev is a long-time member of #4 and will be a great representative of Saskatchewan. We look forward to hearing from Sister Bev in regard to her counterpart and Jurisdiction by correspondence (or is she meets her counterpart in person).

Our next meeting will be March 2nd at which time we will be celebrating our 110th Birthday with cake and ice cream. At that time we will be electing and installing our new Associate Patron, Brother Robert Huisman formerly of #16. Currently, Brother Robert is the Master of the Lodge in Prince Albert. We do look forward to him joining our officer team in #4. In April we will be honoring our GRAND Officers and then we close in May for a month.

REGINA #7

Sister Marianne Woods, PM - Reporter

Regina #7 was in recess in January and February. On Saturday, January 20, 2024 our Chapter was given the opportunity to host the Luncheon for the Wa W Shriners AGM. Sister Donna Rederburg, WGM and Brother George Frederick, WGP were in attendance and presented our Sister Shirley Hill, Organist, with a Grand Representative Appointment to Nova Scotia in Saskatchewan.



Sisters Donna, WGM, Shirley, Grand Representative to Nova Scotia in Saskatchewan and Brother George Frederick, WGP

***Tribute to Sister Beth Hall, Past Matron
Sister Joan Thomas, Regina #7***

Sister Beth was not only a Sister and good friend to my Mom, but also the mother of my dear friend growing up. It was therefore very special to me to have her as the Associate Conductress who walked me through my Initiation. Beth is now living in a Care Home in Saskatoon, but I see her semi regularly and she and I were both thrilled that she was able to present me with my 40-year Certificate. Regina #7 and its history and its members remain a part of my Mom's legacy to me.



Sisters Joan Thomas and Beth Hall

We held our first meeting on our new date and time on Saturday, March 2 at 1:30 pm with our Worthy

Matron, Sister Mary Ann Couse, presiding. We were delighted to welcome Sister Lynne, AGM and Brother Ray Moffatt, AGP and PGP. Brother Ray was presented at the Altar. The Elected and Appointed Grand Officers and Grand Trustees of Saskatchewan were presented in the West, welcomed and escorted back to their seats: Sister Lynne Moffatt, Associate Grand Matron, Sister Mary Ann Couse, Grand Trustee, Sister Jean Thibeault, Grand Marshal, Sister Gilda Treleaven-Graham, Grand Martha.

Grand Representatives were presented in the West, introduced, welcomed, and escorted to their seats: Sister Marianne Woods, PM, Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Saskatchewan, Sister Shirley Hill, Grand Representative of Nova Scotia in Saskatchewan.

The Altar was draped in loving memory of our Sister Evelyn Colhoun, PM, who turned 100 years in 2023.



Sister Evelyn Colhoun, PM

Evelyn Bird was born on her Dad's farm, the second of 4 children. She attended school in Loreburn and then Business School in Moose Jaw. She worked for the Department of Education, Correspondence School until 1943 when she joined the Navy as a WREN (Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service) and two years later she met Mel Colhoun, also in the navy. Within a year they were engaged and married in 1946 following their discharges from the navy. They had 5 children, 8 grand children, 9 great grandchildren, and 4 great-great grandchildren. Evie joined Star Jan 23, 1954, and in our chapter held the offices of Marshal, Warder, Ruth, Chaplain, Associate Conductress, Conductress, Associate Matron, Worthy Matron (1978), and Esther.

Evie received a Grand Representative Commission to Alabama 1982-3. She served the Grand Chapter on the

organizing committee several times, on Credentials, and numerous times sang with the Grand Chapter Choir. She was District Deputy Grand Matron in 1996-7. She attended 3 General Grand Chapters, in the choir or as an usher or with the Grand Representatives Formations. She held a unique position in our chapter, in that she, her daughter and her grand daughter were all members at the same time!

At the time of her death, Evie was a 70-year member. She enjoyed playing the piano and organ, especially with her husband, after their retirements. Evie passed to the Grand Chapter on High, February 27, 2024. She was an exemplary Star and we shall miss her.

Please keep Sister Donna Sanders, GGCCM, PGM in your prayers as she takes a break from Chapter Reporter and continues her chemo treatments at the Allan Blair Cancer Clinic. She has appreciated the phone calls, messages and cards that she has received which has helped her through this difficult time.

ASSINIBOIA #8

Sister Cheri Cowan, PGM – Reporter

Hey there to all our Star Sisters and Brothers. As you know, Assiniboia Chapter has our recess in January and February. We have moved our meeting days back to the third Thursday. We have a bag lunch before the meeting and begin our meeting at 1:00 o'clock. We love visitors, so call Sister Margaret Ann WM if you plan to attend so we can make sure to put out the welcome mat. In February Sisters Cheri Cowan PGM and Shirley Burgeson PM drove to Regina for an appointment and on the way home they stopped in Moose Jaw and had a lovely supper and time of fellowship with Sisters Margaret Ann Ferguson WM, Elaine Lucas PM and Joyce Noble PM. It was a great way to catch up on all the news.

Sister Cheri had an appointment with Sister Lynn Associate Grand Matron and Brother Ray Moffatt Associate Grand Patron on the following Tuesday and Sister Lynn invited Cheri to attend Mizpah's lunch at Smitty's. It was wonderful to touch base with Moose Jaw Members.

Cheri PGM was so excited to attend the fundraising Celidh celebration in Saskatoon on Friday February

23rd. We enjoyed a delicious supper catered by Thea Howe PGM and her crew. Bill and Cheri were happy to transport a beautiful basket filled with treasures from our members. Many thanks to those who donated. Cheri and Bill won two door prizes - a wonderful bouquet of roses and a lovely bottle of wine. There was fabulous entertainment from the Scottish dancers and a band that sounded like the Irish Rovers.



Grand Representative Appointments for Sisters Dorothea, Marg, May and Brother Rick

We also have a picture of the officers at that last meeting.



Prince Albert #16 Officers

PRINCE ALBERT #16

Sister Dorothea Herron, PM – Reporter

At the last meeting of Chapter #16, WGM Donna Rederburg and WGP George Frederick attended, and presented Grand Representative Commissions to WM Dorothea Herron, WP Rick Galloway, Electa Marg Dowling, and Secretary May Barr.

We sadly said goodbye to Brother Brock Karst when we draped the altar in his memory; he is very much missed.

On January 20, we held a celebratory banquet, featuring a pickerel meal with a special cake, held at the Temple building.



Celebratory Banquet for Prince Albert #16 Members

CORINTHIAN #89, GOVAN

Brother Bruce Farrer, PGP – Reporter

Except for a few days in January, we never had a real winter this year but usually Corinthian Chapter recesses in what normally are the two coldest winter months. Because of that we don't have many events to report on, although a number of activities took place at our December meeting.

Even though 2019 was the Year of the Pig, according to the Chinese calendar, for Corinthian it was our WM's *Year of the Pig*. Throughout 2023, the Chapter room was decorated with dozens of pig ornaments and the WP spoke each month about a famous pig featured in a novel such as Napoleon in Animal Farm, Wilbur in Charlotte's Web, or television personalities (or is it "pigalities") like Arnold from Green Acres, and Peppa, or cartoon characters such as Porky, Petunia, and Babe. As well, each month our members heard facts about pigs that we know are essential for everyone's complete education. We learned critically important facts like sows sing to their babies, if flowers are available pigs will decorate their pens, they can beat a chimp at video games and they absolutely love chocolate.

Occasionally a Grand Chapter organizes a Cruise but we're sure that all Corinthian members will recommend a boat trip to Pig Beach, a small island in the Bahamas inhabited only by pigs who each year are joined in their daily swims by thousands of tourists who want the unique experience of swimming with the pigs.

Corinthian's retiring WM Cheryle Svab, and WP Bruce Farrer, were presented with some theme related gifts. Sister Cheryle's pig blanket is shown here.



Sister Cheryle with her Pig Blanket

In addition to an apron and tea towel Brother Bruce was given some jars of spices, which, in keeping with Sister's Cheryle's theme he promises to use whenever he cooks pork chops or a pork roast.



Brother Bruce ready for the kitchen

Sister Janet Haryett, Junior Past Matron assembled a team of Installing Officers from Saskatoon, Regina, Wadena, Drinkwater and Moose Jaw. Soloist, Marianne Woods, sang 'Happy Xmas' written by John Lennon and Yoko Ono.

Our W.M. for 2024 is Sister Merle Sawatsky and our first time (for us) W.P is Brother Gerald Griffiths.

Thumper from Wal Disney's Bambi is our "mascot. A "Thumper Addendum," prepared by Sister Kayla Ingram, was performed by our retiring W.M. and the five Star Points.



Thumper Addendum by the Star Points

After our Open Installation ceremony, our members, some of the Installing team and special guests adjourned to the Govan Hotel for a Christmas dinner, followed by a choice of a variety of homemade pies, donated by various members.

As they usually do, a few of our members went South for the winter. The Sawatsky's were in California, although they came back for Christmas, and Sister Merle spent a few days in February visiting in British Columbia and then West Edmonton Mall with some of the grandchildren.. Sister Cheryle Svab had a short holiday in Las Vegas, visiting her cousin. We were all very disappointed, however, that she didn't win enough money to share her winnings with all the Corinthian members. Sister Jeanie is in Mexico, and Sister Donna Sanders also spent some time there after Christmas before she began chemotherapy sessions at the Allan Blair Cancer Clinic. Most of us know about the challenges the various treatments present, and Donna has said how much she appreciated the phone calls, messages and cards that she received which has helped her through this difficult time.

In January Sister Janet, our AM, on behalf of the Chapter, presented Sister Margretta Murney with her Honorary Life Membership. Sister Margretta is still able to get out to local Saskatoon events but finds the rides to our meetings at Govan too hard on her back.



Sister Janet presents Sister Margretta with her Honorary Life Membership

In the summer of 2023, many Corinthian members celebrated with Hazel Chute Mollison her 100th birthday. Early in January we joined her large family and even larger number of friends to say farewell to her. We knew that Sister Hazel was a gifted musician but many of us didn't know the extent to which her family inherited that talent, which was so evident at her funeral. We were honoured to be able to perform the Eastern Star Memorial service as part of what has to be termed an uplifting ceremony. It was evident that Sister Hazel played a significant role in the planning of her funeral.

YORKTON #92

Sister Ruby Lee, PGM – Reporter

As I write this, today is February 29, 2024 – not quite deadline day – and we are experiencing another winter storm. The sun is shining brightly but the wind is blowing fiercely, and the snow is blowing – forming all kinds of shapes of designer snowbanks! Looks very pretty from the warmth and comfort of my living room, but not very pleasant outside.

Since the December report, many things have happened in Yorkton Chapter. We have installed, well almost installed, a complete crop of officers and we have a first time Worthy Matron, Sister Kathy Gordon and a first time Conductress, Sister Lorraine Poitras. This is so exciting for a Chapter that struggled for many years. It is delightful to attend a Chapter

meeting where the Officer chairs are filled and there are members on the sidelines.



Yorkton Chapter Officers

Our members were surprised and delighted when our Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Donna Rederburg attended our December meeting and witnessed the Ceremony of Installation of Officers.



Sisters Donna, Kathy and Brother Roderick

Yorkton Chapter does not meet in January, so our first meeting of the New Year was held in February. We meet for lunch and a social time prior to each meeting. This is a great time to catch up on the news from our members who reside in Yorkton, Saskatoon, Esterhazy, Russell and Foam Lake. Our members from Oxbow, Kamsack and Canora were unable to attend this meeting.

We were once again honoured to have our Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Donna, in attendance. She was delighted to present several Grand Representative Commissions – Michigan to Sister Kathy Gordon, WM, Georgia to Sister Ruby Lee, PGM, Wyoming to

Brother Roderick Lee, PGP, and Utah to Brother Earl Greiner, PP. Commissions were, also, presented to Sister Cathy Toth, PM - Delaware, Sister Judy Stone, PM - New York and Sister Nancy Leson, PM - Oregon. Our Chapter is very honoured and surprised to have so many Grand Representatives.



* Brothers Roderick, Earl, Sisters Ruby and Kathy receiving their Grand Representatives Appointments

Some members of our Chapter were pleased to be able to attend the Celtic Celidh which was held in Saskatoon on February 23, 2024.

Our next meeting is on Saturday, March 9 at 2:00 pm. We will gather for lunch at 12:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you in Yorkton during this year!



ACCESSION #96 - MELFORT

Sister Florence Bott, PM – Reporter

Accession Chapter was happy to contribute a monetary donation to our North Central Health Care Foundation. The funds will go towards surgical equipment purchases.



Accession #96's donation to the North Central Health Care Foundation



Sister Ollie Rumberger PM, receiving her 65-year certificate from Sister Donna and Brother George

This will be the last time reporting to the Star Gazer...our Stars are fading, and Accession Chapter is amalgamating with Regal #132. We've made this decision with heavy hearts, all the best to our members who amalgamated with Regal #132 on Monday February 19th.



Accession #96 – Melfort – Last Social Gathering

Where Did the Years Go?

We often ask at moments such as this....
And then we take some QUIET time to
dream and reminisce.

To think about the lessons learned,
the love we gave and got.

To ponder challenges we faced and insights
that we brought.

We recollect how, all in all, we rose to every test-
And, suddenly, we realize we did our very best.

May we look back on the past years with
pride and contentment,

May we look ahead to change that comes
with hope and excitement.

We all feel blessed to have belonged to this beautiful Order.

REGAL #132 – SASKATOON

Sister Thea Howe, Thea Howe, GGCCM-IHQ,
PGM, Grand Secretary – Reporter

Regal Chapter continues to be busy with catering jobs to help out with our assessment (rent).

Our Worthy Grand Matron has attended our meetings and presented several of our deserving members with Grand Representative commissions.

Rhode Island - Donna Gudjonson PM
Maryland - Ron Reiersen WP
Scotland - Angela Bothner PM

BC and Yukon - Heather Jackson PM
Minnesota - Karen Catterall PM
Idaho- Vivian Skuce PM
New Jersey - Eva Dinkel PM
California- Barbara Hoffman PGM
Ohio - Lucille Eddolls PM

We congratulate them all.

We were extremely pleased to welcome the members of Accession Chapter No 96 (Melfort) into our Chapter. As sad as it is to close your chapter it is nice to be embraced by another group.

Sister Lizbeth Hernandez Ronquillo has become our newest member as we had an Initiation Ceremony on Monday night. We look to initiate another member at our April meeting.



l-r: Sister Jennifer Whalley WM,
Sister Lizbeth Hernandez Ronquillo,
Brother Ron Reiersen WP

We look forward to seeing your smiling faces at Grand Chapter in April where we will support our own Brother George WGP and continue our support for Sister Jenny and Brother Dave as they continue on their journey to the Grand East.

We are extremely grateful that the Temple Company has done some renovations to the ladies' washroom and hope it is completed before we have you join us for next year's Official Visit.

CHAPTER REPORTERS

Mizpah #1, Moose Jaw-Lloyd Pethick, PGP
Acacia #3, Biggar-Urla Tyler, PM
Saskatoon #4-Bev Otsuka, PGM
Regina #7-Donna Sanders, GGCCM, PGM &
Marianne Woods, PM

Assiniboia #8-Cheri Cowan, PGM
Prince Albert #16-Dorothea Herron, PM
Lloydminster #76-Deborah MacDonald
Corinthian #89, Govan-Bruce Farrer, PGP
Yorkton #92-Ruby E. Lee, PGM
Accession #96, Melfort-Florence Bott, PM
Regal #132, Saskatoon-Thea Howe, GGCCM-IHQ
Thanks for the articles and pictures. Members, please contact your Chapter Reporter with news.

The Star Gazer is a publication of the Grand Chapter of Saskatchewan and is designed to enhance communication within the Order by providing timely, interesting, and educational information. **The Star Gazer** will be emailed to Chapter Secretaries (or to another Chapter member if the Secretary does not have email access) on March 15, 2024
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