



The Star Gazer

Year 10, Volume 2

Grand Chapter of Saskatchewan, Order of the Eastern Star

September 2023

FROM THE EDITORS

Happy September! I am sharing some beautiful photos that were taken by one of the artists the Organization of Sask. Arts Councils is touring this fall– they were taken at Orchard View Bed and Breakfast, just outside of Moose Jaw. Just spectacular and shows how gorgeous our province is!



Star Love, Marianne and Jean

FROM THE WORTHY GRAND MATRON AND WORTHY GRAND PATRON

Brother George and I hope that all Eastern Star members have had a great summer full of time spent with family and friends on summer vacation or cabins at our beautiful Saskatchewan lakes, gardening, working, farming, and enjoying our summer weather.

In mid-July, Brother George had hip replacement surgery that was very successful, and his recovery has been quite remarkable. He is back to being his old fun-loving self again – no more severe pain, walker, or cane for our Worthy Grand Patron!

I have been busy working and spending time with my brother and sister-in-law from Mexico who were here visiting their friends and family this summer.

On our way to the International Peace Garden Pilgrimage, we bumped into Sister Kathy Blackstock PGM and her sister, Tami Scott, at a restaurant in Estevan. It was wonderful to see them both and Sister Kathy was happy to see the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of

Saskatchewan OES in Estevan supporting a local restaurant.

Brother George and I were very pleased with the turnout of our Eastern Star members to the International Peace Garden Pilgrimage. Although Alberta (30) and Manitoba (26) had more members attend the Pilgrimage, Saskatchewan was a very close third with 23 members. Our member turnout at the Pilgrimage was very impressive and something we all should be very proud of.

The Pilgrimage was a great weekend of fraternal fellowship with Eastern Star members and Masons from Canada and the United States. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sisters Sue Butz Associate Grand Conductress and Barbara Webb PGM Grand Lecturer for giving us a tour of the International Peace Garden that highlighted our Saskatchewan OES Picnic Shelter by the river, Peace Chapel and new 9-11 Monument. I was very impressed by the beauty and peacefulness and encourage all members to visit the International Peace Garden, if they have an opportunity to do so.



It was also a real privilege and honour for all Eastern Star members in attendance to meet and talk to our Most Worthy Grand Matron, Glenda Winchester, and her Special Pages from South Carolina. Talk about great Southern hospitality!



Our International Peace Garden Pilgrimage pictures are posted on our Facebook page and website.

Brother George and I would also like to thank all members for their support and participation at our Spring and Summer Official Visits, Spring Schools of Instruction, Alberta/Saskatchewan OES Exchange, and those who attended the International Peace Garden Pilgrimage. We are also looking forward to ***a great September Round of Official Visits that will end with Our Homecoming on September 30th in Saskatoon.***

Donna Rederburg
Worthy Grand Matron

George Frederick
Worthy Grand Patron

Worthy Grand Matron Favorite Fall Quote
"I hope I can be the Autumn leaf, who looked at the sky and lived. And when it was time to leave, gracefully it knew life was a gift." Dodinsky

SERVICE DOGS REPORT
LLYNNE LAMBERT, GGCCM,
CANADIAN CHAIR

I hope that everyone is enjoying the last few "Dog Days" of Summer. As we approach the changing of the seasons, many plans are gearing up for our fall and thoughts of creative fundraising ideas have begun. Thank you sincerely for your generous donations and support of our primary charity of OES, Service Dogs. You are making a difference in the lives of others as we work towards sponsoring a service dog, so that they are able to navigate their world with newfound confidence and safety.

The Dog Guides of Canada have just announced that applications are now open for the following:

- a Facility Support dog guide for professional agencies that assist individuals in traumatic situations. These dogs are trained to provide on-scene support when requested to those most vulnerable in the community.
- and a Seizure Response dog guide to assist people (10+ years) with epilepsy. For more information on applications, please visit www.dogguides.com

It is with great sadness that we lost two of our hard-working members, Sister Vivian Shipanoff, PM and Brother Gordon Yarde, PGP. Their efforts on behalf of Service Dogs and dedication to our fundraising will be greatly missed. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets, and supported Vivian and Gordon as they worked tirelessly for our Grand Chapter Service Dogs Committee.

I extend wishes for a "Bon voyage" to all our Saskatchewan passengers that will soon be sailing off to Puerto Rico, San Juan and the Eastern Caribbean ports in early November aboard the Carnivale Service Dog Cruise. "A great adventure for a great cause!"

To our members, travel safely wherever your journeys may take you, stay "Pawsitive" and have a bountiful harvest.

GRAND CHAPTER SERVICE DOGS
COMMITTEE
CAROLE-ANNE WILSON, PM - CHAIR

In this past year, our meetings as a committee were by e-mail and phone calls. We are all doing our best to sell Service Dog's products. We would like to thank Sister Llynne Lambert, PGM, General Grand Chapter Committee member on Service Dogs – Canadian Chair and Sister Thea Howe, Grand Secretary, PGM for their assistance. This year I was pleased to be able to raffle a painting by Gretha Botes from Wakaw, SK, the draw took place at Grand Chapter. Thank you to Brother Jack Smith for your donation to Service Dogs through selling your tatting. The total raised this past year was \$5,551.00 with Chapter Donations, Member

donations, selling of Service Dog products, tating sales and SLGA from 2022 raffle. From this year's painting raffle tickets, we were able to raise \$205.00. Plus, we had donations of \$70 and \$500.00 toward the Service Dogs. Thank you to Llynne Lambert for her sales of t-shirts, jackets, etc. to go towards the Service Dogs.

Our new raffle is for 3 prizes. 1 - Box of "Love and Kindness" items 2 - Calvin Cornish print 3 - Necklace by Betty Gibbons

Draws to be made at Grand Chapter Session - April 27, 2024.

Tickets will be available at the Homecoming for WGM Donna Rederburg and WGP George Frederick with the Service Dog Committee members. **You will find the poster at the end of the Star Gazer.**

MIZPAH #1, MOOSE JAW

Brother Lloyd Pethick, PGP – Reporter

Worthy Matron Sister Lynann Pethick & Worthy Patron Brother Ray Moffatt send their greetings to all the Chapters and their members and hopes that they have had a great summer.

Our "All Members Summer BBQ" was held on August 14th with a wide variety of salads and desserts. A wonderful time of fellowship was enjoyed by all.

It was great to have our New Initiate Sister Joan Paquin & our recent Affiliate Sister Andrea Klassen & her husband and daughter join us as well to visit and get more acquainted.

"Congratulations" to Sister Kay Ogilvie who was presented with her 65-year pin



Sister Dorothy Mittelholtz was presented with her 45-year certificate in June



Our members continue to meet the second Tuesday of each month for a luncheon and socializing.

Rose bowls are delivered to our shut-ins and to any member who has been in hospital or who is celebrating a special occasion.

Our Chapter was greatly saddened by the passing of a dear and dedicated member, Sister Greta Smith at 98 years.

Upcoming Chapter activities / events are:

-Mizpah Christmas Raffle tickets, \$2 each or 3/\$5.

Draw for a Classic Vase



and Homemade Quilt



Contact Sister Cheryle Svab @ 306-631-4598 or
Sister Dianne Sanborn @ 306-631-6474.

-Baking Walk on December 2nd at St. Andrew's
United Church from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come and get
your Christmas baking.

-December 4th - our last regular meeting and the
Installation of 2024 Officers.

Special Wishes to Sister Hazel Herd turning 99 on
September 14th and to Dan & Maxine Olmsted
celebrating their 40th Anniversary on October 8th.

**Nothing is Impossible
the word itself says "I'm possible"**

ACACIA #3, BIGGAR

Sister URLA TYLER, PM -REPORTER



June 20th Official Visit of the WGM and WGP

l-r: WM Carol Fowke-Burns, PM,
WGM Donna Rederburg,

60-year member Sister Gladys Wood
and 60-year member George Wood,

WGP George Frederick and WP Eric Rann, PGP

Brother George and Sister Gladys were each presented
with their 60-year pins and certificates at the June 20
Official Visit



The officers of Acacia #3 at June 20 Official Visit



The Grand Family who attended Acacia #3's Official Visit in Biggar



Sister Elizabeth McMahan, Grand Esther along with other Acacia members who attended Vermilion's Official Visit on June 23 as part of "Hands Across the Border" session in Vermilion and Lloydminster



Sister Bonnie Busch, PM received her 60-year membership pin and certificate from Grand Chapter representative and PGM Sister Bev Otsuka



During the "Hands across the Border" session in Lloydminster, several Acacia members visited Sister Dorothy Elliott, PM, at her home in Lloydminster.

l-r back row. PGP Gordon Yarde, PM Linda Ard, PGM Bev Otsuka, PM Marion Kelly, Grand Esther Elizabeth McMahan and PM Urla Tyler, front row: PM Dorothy Elliott and PGM Idella Barr



Official Visit at Lloydminster #76



Happy 64th anniversary to PGP Gerald and Bonnie Busch, PM

Sisters Elizabeth McMahon, Grand Esther and Urla Tyler, PM attended the Official Visit at Govan #89 to find out the experience that everyone talks about. It did not disappoint as we had a delicious lunch and heritage chapter room atmosphere, what a treat!

SASKATOON #4

Sister Bev Otsuka, PGM - Report

Saskatoon hosted the Northern School of Instruction in June of this year after which we enjoyed a light lunch before the official visit of Saskatoon Chapter #4.

This was a special meeting on a Saturday which encompassed only the minimum of the usual work. Along with the WGM and WGP, we had a GGCCM, 3 PGMS, 2 PGPs, and a full array of Grand Officers.

We are pleased to have the WGM from our Chapter as well as Grand Adah, Sister Carla Simsic and Sister Mary Lee Cunningham, Grand Trustee.



Grand Officers and Special Pages



Saskatoon #4 Officers with the WGM and WGP and Grand Chapter Officers



Sister Marilyn Peters receiving her 40-year Certificate from the Chapter

Our last meeting before our summer break was a week later when we presented the WGM, Sister Donna with an HLM to the Chapter.



Sister Donna, WGM receiving an Honourary Life Membership

June marks the half-way part of our year as we are closed for July and August. Our two remaining Circles had their 'end of year' gathering in June.

Fidelity Circle (Mary Lee Cunningham – Captain and Carla Simsic as Secretary-Treasurer), met in Mary Lee's home and enjoyed a lovely potluck luncheon and a short meeting to end this part of the year.

Centennial Circle (Patricia Meddins – Captain and Carole-Anne Wilson as Secretary-Treasurer), met at the home of Merle Sawatsky with a BBQ and short meeting. No Pictures from Fidelity Circle – a couple from Centennial showing the fun that they were having.



It is our hope that everyone had a happy and restful summer. We look forward to 'regrouping' and seeing everyone on the Star Trail in the fall – for those who met during the summer months, we hope you had both a good turnout and a great time. We will be starting back on the third Monday of the month (September 18th at 7:30 pm)