The Star Gazer
Year 12, Volume 3 Grand Chapter of Saskatchewan, Order of the Eastern Star January 2026

FROM THE EDITORS

Dear Sisters and Brothers, thank you for your patience in receiving the Star Gazer. Going forward, we will be moving the December Star Gazer to January in order to accommodate the busy month of December.

Happy New Year!
Star Love, Sisters Marianne and Jean

.MIZPAH #1, MOOSE JAW

Brother Lloyd Pethick, PGP - Reporter

Mizpah Chapter #1 has had another great year. Our three major fundraisers, the Wheel of Fortunne, the Bakeless Bake Sale and the Christmas Raffle, were very successful, although challenging and somewhat stressful for the limited few that are able bodied workers.

A number of members attended the 90th Birthday Celebration for Sister Shirley Burgeson which was held in Assiniboia on September 7th.

Everyone enjoyed a good time of visiting. Worthy Matron Sister Cheryle Svab presented Sister Shirley with her 55-year member Certificate.

Congratulations Sister Shirley!

Our Chapter has been saddened this past year by the loss of two Members; Sister Elizabeth Ross and Sister Donalda Noble. Also, the loss of 6 members by Demits.

Our monthly 2nd Tuesday Luncheons have been a great time of fellowship and get-together for all our members and will continue in the coming year. It is an hour or so outing for those unable to attend our nightly meetings.

The Installation of Incoming Worthy Matron Sister Gillian Moffatt and her new core of Officers took place on December 13th at 2:00 pm.

Mizpah Chapter is in recess for January and February with our next regular meeting to be held on March 16, 2026.

Worthy Matron Sister Cheryle and Worthy Patron Bro. Stuart "Thanked" their Officers and the Chapter members for their unending support during the past year and Congratulated Sister Gillian & her Officers for a great year in 2026.

ACACIA #3, BIGGAR

Sister Urla Tyler, PM – Reporter

Article provided by Helena Long
Freelance Reporter – Town of Unity

Unity and the local Royal Canadian Legion honoured decorated veteran and community leader Silas "Si" Campbell by dedicating a newly revamped sitting area on Main Street as Si Campbell Park during a ceremony Sept. 20 to kick off National Legion Week.

A good crowd, estimated at about 100, was waiting near the park for the legionnaires to arrive for the dedication. Over 20 people were part of the legion parade which marched from the legion to the park. Bagpiper Ian Malcolm and drummer Hobie Campbell provided the beat for the marchers.

Accompanied by bagpiper Ian Malcolm, drummer Hobie Campbell and two RCMP officers in formal red serge, members of the Unity branch of the Royal Canadian Legion and others march south on Main Street in Unity to attend the dedication of the Si Campbell Memorial Park, Sept. 20. **Helena Long - photographer**

Lt. Col. Ryan Kean addresses Legion members and others at the dedication of the Si Campbell Memorial Park. **Helena Long photographer**

Special guests and spectators at the dedication included members of the Campbell and Thiessen families, peacekeepers, several Unity firefighters in dress uniform and Lt. Col. Ryan Kean from the Canadian Air Force base in Cold Lake, Alta.

Unity Legion president Lorne Kohlman and Unity Mayor Bob Abel made a few opening remarks before the plaque was unveiled. After the unveiling, Kohlman said, "Si, this is for you. … This is now known as Si Campbell's Park."

Helena Long - Photographer

Si Campbell's wife, Irene Thiessen-Campbell thanked everyone for attending and said Si was "a wonderful man who loved everybody and I hope that you'll always remember him when you come here."

Formerly from the 419 squadron – Campbell's original squadron, since disbanded – and now with 410, Kean participated in the march from and to the legion, as well as addressing the crowd at the park. Kean's first introduction to Campbell was when he received the request for a fly-past for a Flying Cross member's funeral. Looking into it, he realized Campbell was actually a member of his own squadron, 419, a bombing squadron during the Second World War. Although the planes were not able to drop down over Unity due to the late winter storm on the day of the funeral, Kean said "I'm sure Si could see us."

Kean added he was able to take Campbell's medals flying with him on the last fight of the 419 squadron and pointed out the Distinguished Flying Cross was not a medal given out lightly. Cut Knife – Turtleford MLA James Thorsteinson spoke, noting not only Campbell's war service but also his contributions to the community of Unity afterwards. He concluded by saying, "Thank you, to the late Silas Campbell for leaving behind a lasting legacy in Unity and to all veterans and current members of the Canadian Armed Forces for your steadfast service to your country, your province and to your communities."

Kohlman read remarks from MP Rosemarie Falk, who described Si as a "respected veteran, community leader and long-time contributor to the community."
Norbert Glatt flew his 1942 Tiger Moth over the crowd gathered at the park.

Malcolm played *The Lament* and everyone observed a moment of silence before the legionnaires marched back to the Legion. Legion members extended an open invitation to everyone to join them for snacks and drinks at their hall. Kohlman said Campbell was always the first to greet someone who came in the door at the legion and said "I extend that same invitation to anyone … My hand is always out … he was my mentor and I will follow his steps."

Abel was one of the first to speak at the dedication ceremony, but one of his statements provides a fitting conclusion to and description of the day's event: "a great dedication to a great man." The dedication helped kick off National Legion Week, which runs Sept. 21 to 27.

Our October meeting was Friendship afternoon and it was wonderful but sadly, no visitors.

Acacia Chapter #3 Unity members in November donated colouring books and pencil crayons to the residents of Unity Long Term Care Home.

l-r: Carol Fowke-Burns, Laraine Wood, Irene Thiessen-Campbell, LTC staff, Marion Kelly and Edith Wallace with an LTC resident.

Biggar members of Acacia #3 Order of Eastern Star gathered at Biggar long term care to present the activity dept with colouring books and pencils crayons for the residents.

l-r: Donna Foster, Elizabeth McMahon, Les White, Myrtle Robinson, (resident), Linda White, Urla Tyler, and Florame Gallardo, (LTC staff)

On December 6, seven members from Acacia travelled to assist Saskatoon #4 officers with Installation of Officers.

Front row, l-r: Anita Ingram, Carole-Ann Wilson, WM, Joe Zbeetnoff, WP, Bev Otsuka, PGM

Back row, l-r:: Carol Fowke-Burns, Irene Thiessen-Campbell, Patricia Meddins, Debbie Robinson, Idella Barr, PGM, Merle Sawatsky, Urla Tyler.

On December 8, the Open installation of Acacia chapter #3, Biggar was held.

Front Row, l-r: Bev Otsuka, PGM, Associate Matron, Carol Fowke-Burns, Worthy Matron; Morley Ries, Worthy Patron

Second row, l-r: Elizabeth McMahon, Bonnie Busch, Carla Simsic, Marion Kelly Debbie Robinson, Laraine Wood, Linda White, Les White; back row Nancy Stewart, Linda And, Idella Barr, Donna Foster and Urla Tyler.
Missing: Cheryl Rann, PGM and Eric Rann, PGP

We had a full day - meeting at 11, installation at 12:30 and delicious turkey/ham banquet following. Business included annual donations, investments, Official Visit date, Bakeless Bake Sale was a success, more items added to our collections of used stamps, eyeglasses, cases and lenses and pop can tabs, recycled jewelry and star dishes are still available.

Sick and Visiting reported on members in Unity, Saskatoon North Battleford and Biggar, for the most part all are doing fairly well or need our good thoughts. Coffee parties are continuing with Unity members bi-monthly.

Worthy Matron Carol Fowke-Burns and Worthy Patron Morley Ries cut our 112th Anniversary cake.

Some Acacia members and friends have been going to Masonic suppers that we have been invited to attend prior to their meetings which are wonderful by the way, those guys can cook!! We are developing good friendships with the fellas that we don't really know, and who knows maybe they'll be wanting to join us!!! Fingers crossed!

We hope you all had a Merry Christmas and wish you a Healthy and a Happy New Year!

SASKATOON #4

Sister Bev Otsuka, PGM - Reporter

Sister Beverley Andres, PM, Grand Representative of Kentucky in Saskatchewan, has been enjoying many communications with her Kentucky Counterpart, Sister Deloris (Dee) Kindred, PM

Sister Deloris, her husband Brother Terry, PP and their daughter, Sister Pam, PM are members of Goel #104 Chapter, located about 10 miles East of Owensboro, Ky. Sisters Deloris and Pam recently attended their Grand Chapter, and they really enjoyed their time together. It was very good this year with lots of out-of-state members. They met two sisters from Canada, Sister Milly Hartley, Grand Representative of Kentucky in Alberta, and Sister Angela Oleskiw, GGCCM Eastern Star Journal.

Sister Beverley feels blessed to have Sister Deloris as her Grand Representative counterpart. They have developed a friendship which will go on.

Sisters Deloris & Pam

Sister Deloris said she was honored to present the Saskatchewan Flag

Submitted by Beverley Andres, PM, Saskatoon #4

Saskatoon Chapter #4 had the pleasure of providing entertainment for the WGM/WGP's homecoming in October. (All of the committee came from #4) The Fashion Show Committee headed by Sister Merle Sawatsky put on a 'mock fashion show' which included many 'original' outfits. I don't personally believe that Laura's Canada will be in any danger! But who knows? Just a few pictures of the evening's entertainment from the Fashion Show Committee…..

Elections happened in November with the following taking office in 2026 with Installation on December 6 at 1 pm

WM: Carole Anne Wilson
WP: Joe Zbeetnoff
AM & AP: Anita Ingram & Rick Galloway
Secretary & Treasurer: Carla Simsic
and Janet Haryett
Conductress & Associate Conductress;
Phyllis Byers & Mary Lee Cunningham

Installing Officer: Bev Otsuka PGM (4)

Assisting Officers: Acacia #3 and
Saskatoon #4

Saskatoon Chapter #4 hopes that everyone had wonderful holiday, a blessed Christmas and a much-needed rest; and of course, the very best for the New Year!

REGINA #7

Sister Donna Sanders, General Grand Chapter Ambassador to Quebec and
Sister Marianne Woods, PM – Reporters

On November 11th, Sister Marianne Woods, WM had the honour of placing a Remembrance Day Wreath at the Victoria Park Cenetaph in Regina.

Prior to the Ceremony, Marianne struck up a conversation with the representative of the War Amps of Regina, who was also placing a Wreath. I found out that the War Amps had been the Special Project of Sister Cannida Coventry and Brother Ernie Butz's year. Another happy coincidence revealed that Sister Sue and Brother Ernie's granddaughter was also at the Ceremony who I was introduced to! Below are photos from the Remembrance Day ceremony as well as a photo of Sisters Sue and Cannida, Brother Ernie, their Granddaughter and Angie taken at the Opening of Cannida and Ernie's Grand Session.

Remembrance Day at the Victoria Park Cenetaph, Regina

Angie and Marianne

Thank you to Sister Cannida, PGM for the photo from the 2016-2017 Grand Session.

How exciting was the season of Advent! Preparing for Christmas Day with shopping for presents and special foods, baking goodies and celebrating the lighting of the Advent candles while singing carols! It fills my heart with such love and calmness! Merry Christmas my Sisters and Brothers, may the love of Jesus fill your life!

Sister Donna Sanders GGC Ambassador to Quebec attended a fundraiser in Winnipeg for the WGM of Manitoba. She performed as Queen Elizabeth the Twoth. While there she bumped into an old friend Bro Jeff Marchetti, Associate Grand Patron of South Dakota who says hi to all!!

Sister Donna and Brother Jeff

We affiliated two members and welcomed the increased numbers to our monthly attendance. We are so grateful to Sisters Cheri Cowan GGCCM, PGM and Cheryle Svab PM for their caring for No 7! Thank you!

Our Installation was held December 6 with only five officers missing. Sister Marianne Woods sang beautifully for Sister Donna Sanders the new WM. She will share the East once again with Brother Rod Stafford as WP. Following the meeting we enjoyed a wonderful catered meal gifted to us by Sister Marianne Woods the outgoing WM. It was a lovely way to end the year!

Regina #7 Officers

A lovely day was spent with Corinthian Chapter No 89 on December 15th, where members from No 7 Sisters Jean Thibeault and Marianne Woods, helped with the Installation of Officers. A lovely lunch was enjoyed by all following the meeting!

A time of fellowship following the Installation