# of Florida Official Publication of the Grand Chapter of Florida

# Wise-Kranz Grand Family



# On the Wings of Hope





# A Message From the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On behalf of Brother Bill and myself, we would like to thank each of you for the honor of serving as your Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron and we look forward to making this journey with you to the One Hundredth and Seventeenth "On the Wings of Hope" Grand Chapter Session.

Our Mission Statement for this year is 'Honoring Our Past, Preparing for Our Future". In 1958, Sister Beulah Malone wrote in Let There Be Light: "We know that an organization must grow to live; while the thread of Truth never changes, a development, a growth, an unfolding must continue to kindle the building in character, truth and love, a greater world." Using these words as inspiration, I am confident, working together we will not fail to accomplish our Mission.

Community awareness and recognition are important tools in the growth of our Order. Most communities have a local paper, when your Chapter has a special event, ask the local paper to report it in their next edition. You might be surprised by the positive response from your neighbors.

The Worthy Grand Matron's Special Project is "Fisher House Foundation". The Fisher House functions on the same mission as the "Ronald McDonald House" for the families of our Veterans who are being treated at a Veterans (VA) Hospital. As many of our members are Veterans and rely on these hospitals for their healthcare, we chose the Fisher House Foundation as a way to honor them and thank them for their service to our Country. Much time and effort has gone into planning events across the State to assist in our fundraising efforts. It is our hope that we will have a little fun and raise a lot of money while we're at it. Please check out the Flyers on the website www.floridaoes.org and make your plans to attend these events.

Lovingly and fraternally,

Sister Mickey Brother Bill Worthy Grand Matron Worthy Grand Patron

#### Grand Chapter of Florida Order of the Eastern Star

2022-2023 Session

"On the Wings of Hope"

Scriptures: Hebrews 6:19; 1 Corinthians 13:13

Honor Stations: Adah and Electa

Aim: To promote Charity and Loving-Kindness in

Emblems:

Celtic Tree of Life and Anchor of Hope

our Chapters and our Communities

Flowers:

Blue Hydrangeas, White Roses, Violets

Mission:

Honoring our Past, Preparing for our Future

Colors:

Shades of Blue, Gold, Silver, White

Worthy Grand Matron's Special Project Fisher House Foundation

# Meet the Wise - Kranz Erand Family!



On The Wings of Hope





# Michelle "Mickey" Wise Worthy Grand Matron



Sister Mickey, it is a pleasure to get to speak with you and congratulate you onbecoming the Worthy Grand Matron of the State of Florida! It must be so exciting for you to finally start your year as Worthy Grand Matron.

Thank you. I am excited to be part of the newest Grand Family!

### Can you tell us a little bit about you and your family life?

I was born in Orange Park, Florida and am the third child of four. My parents are Jim and Charlotte Moore. Growing up in Florida, my family and I enjoyed all the things Florida had to offer—camping, boating, and football, but most of all Masonic activities. I still enjoy all these activities today, especially Star Life.

My family moved to Kentucky when I was a sophomore. After I graduated high school, I earned my Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Western Kentucky University (Go Hilltoppers!). After working for two years in Kentucky, I relocated to Houston Texas, where I met and married my husband Leo. In 1995, we came back home to Florida.

# Were you in the International Order of Rainbow for Girls growing up?

Yes. I joined Titusville Assembly No. 99 in June 1970 at age 12. I became a majority member of not only the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, but Job's Daughters too. I served as Mother Advisor of Rainbow Assembly in Houston, Texas.

### When and where did you join the Order of Eastern Star?

I was initiated into Eastern Star in April 1976 in Symsonia, Kentucky just after my 18th birthday. I am a 4th generation member of the Eastern Star for 46 years.

After we moved to Houston, Texas, I served my first time as Worthy Matron in Chapter Bellaire No. 1021. I am also a Past Matron of DeSoto No. 201 Chapter in Riverview, Florida. It was my honor to serve as Grand Adah in the Mock / Hargrove Grand Family 2011-2012.

One of my fondest memories is the first time I served as Worthy Matron in Texas, my mother was Worthy Matron of her Chapter in Kentucky and my sister, Kelly, was Worth Matron of her Chapter in Florida.

Over the years, Eastern Star has provided a home and family wherever I happened to be living across the United States.

This organization is special to me because it provides opportunities for multiple generations to come together to fellowship and work for charitable purposes.

#### What other activities have you done with Eastern Star?

I have enjoyed being a member of the "Step Back in Time" Ritual Team for several years, serving as Martha. I also participated in other degree teams and play casts in support of various WGMs' Special projects and participated in the "Once a Rainbow always a Rainbow" Imitation last December for Sister Heather.

#### Do you have any words of advice to give our readers?

The words in our Ritual have meaning and when applied to our everyday lives, will enhance ourselves, our families and our communities.

#### What is your vision for the Order of Eastern Star?

To continue to be an organization where like minded women and men can come together to further the aims of Charity, Truth, and Loving Kindness for generations to come. Honoring the Past, Preparing for the Future.

#### Any last words for our readers?

Let the roots of all your dreams grow deep, let the hopes of all your tomorrows grow high and always, always reach for the Stars.

Thank you for the honor of serving as YOUR Worthy Grand Matron. I promise I will do my very best each day to fulfill the duties of this office, however, I know that I can not do this alone. I ask for your prayers for guidance and wisdom to make the correct decisions for the Grand Chapter of Florida. My prayer for each of you is good health, safe travels, kindness to and from others and peace in your heart. God Bless!

# Thank you for letting your readers know a little more about you!

It's been my pleasure.





# William "Bill" Kranz Worthy Grand Patron



Hello, Brother Bill! It's a pleasure to speak with you today. Congratulations on becoming Worthy Grand Patron. I imagine you and the Worthy Grand Matron are so excited about starting your year.

Thank you. Both Sister Mickey and I are looking forward to the coming year.

# Can you give our readers a couple of bullet points about you personally?

I was born and grew up in Richmond, Virginia Beach and Alexandria, Virginia. After graduating high school , I joined the Navy, met and married my wife, Carolyn. We are active members in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

#### You had an extended career with the Navy.

Yes, 32 years before retiring in 1995. My first tour of duty was in Argentina, Newfoundland, Canada, followed by sea tours on the USS Loeser (DE-680), USS Mount Whitney (LCC-20), USS Comte De Grasse (DD-974) and Naval Mobile Construction Battalion FORTY (NMCB40). I served shore assignments at the Bureau of Naval Personnel, Washington D.C.; Personnel Support Activity, Norfolk, Virginia; and Chief of Naval Education and Training, Pensacola, Florida. I also served overseas at Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily, Italy, Naval Air Station Rota, Spain, and Naval Station/Naval Base Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. A large part of my Navy career was in the Personnel field and I later moved on to the Command Master Chief program.

### You were still relatively young to retire. What did you do then?

I began a new career in federal civil service starting as a Naval Personnel Manning Officer at Commander, Naval Education and Training in Pensacola, Florida. Later positions included Manpower Officer for Naval Support Activity, Naples, Italy, Manpower and Force Personnel Officer for Navy Central Command/FIFTH Fleet in Manama, Bahrain, Manpower Officer and Resource Manager at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and Competitive Sourcing Program Manager at Naval Education and Training Command, Pensacola, Florida. Then I really retired in May 2006.

# Tell me about your Masonic life and how you became involved in the Order of the Eastern Star.

It was during my first tour in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, when I became interested in Masonry and was raised in an open-air degree on November 28, 1990, by the Caribbean Naval Lodge, F&AM. In 1992, I returned to Florida and affiliated with Santa Rosa Lodge No. 16 in Milton where I am still a member.

Carolyn and I joined the OES, Milton Chapter No. 189 shortly after I had affiliated with Santa Rosa Lodge. We both continue to be active members there. I have been Worthy Patron three times and also served as Associate Patron, Warder, Sentinel, and currently the Chapter's Treasurer.

It has been a pleasure to serve in Eastern Star. I have worked in a variety of positions in the Grand and General Grand level including the Credentials Committee and as a General Grand Chapter Special Appointment to the Property Committee during the recent triennium.

Now I am honored to serve as your Worthy Grand Patron!

#### Any hobbies or other activities?

When I can find some free time, I enjoy traveling, golf, and woodworking. I also serve on the Police Retirement Board for the Milton Police Department.

#### Any last words for our readers?

Remember your obligation and steer by the Star.

# It has been a real pleasure chatting with you, Brother Bill! Good luck in your upcoming year.

Thank you. The pleasure has been mine.



# **Gail Jerrell**Associate Grand Matron



#### Welcome to the Wise-Kranz Grand Family, Sister Gail!

Thank you! It is indeed an honor and privilege to serve as the Associate Grand Matron for Florida and I thank the membership for their loving support.

#### Can you give us a snapshot of who Gail Jerrell is?

I was born in High Springs, Florida and still live in the country, just outside of the City of Alachua. I went to Santa Fe College and University of Florida (go Gators!). My working career began at Santa Fe College and I later retired from Alachua County School Board. In between work and Eastern Star, I was a devoted volunteer, advocate and County Coordinator for Special Olympics, which is very dear to my heart.

#### Can you tell our readers what else keeps you busy?

Well, I am very involved in my church, Forest Grove Baptist Church, as Sunday School Director, Church Treasurer, and am on the Board of Directors. My church, along with OES, doesn't leave me much time for anything else. But when I do have spare time, I enjoy reading and gardening.

#### What are your Eastern Star roots?

It all started with my parents. They were very active and devoted to Eastern Star and the Masonic Family. One of my

fondest memories is that as a small child I remember Star meetings were held upstairs over an old gas station near where I lived. I would sit on the outside stairs listening in to hear anything I could and wishing I could join and be a part of everything.

What a sweet memory! I hope you consider submitting it to the Stargazer under the "Tell Me a Story" section. I am sure our membership would love to hear more about that!

(smiling) I'll think about it.

### Tell me more about your Star life. I know you are very active.

Well, fast forward, I am a 50 year member of Santa Fe Chapter No. 105 and Eastern Star is my life. I served as Grand Esther with the Peters-Denman Grand Family in 2007-2008. I have served on various committees throughout the years and have been Grand Instructor twice. I look forward to serving with Sister Mickey as her Associate Grand Matron. It's going to be a busy year!

Thank you for sharing a little bit about yourself, Sister Gail. We look forward to hearing more about you in the upcoming Wise-Kranz Grand Family events.

My pleasure.



# Kevin Jordan Associate Grand Patron



### Congratulations on your election as Associate Grand Patron, Brother Kevin!

Thank you. I look forward to serving with the Wise-Kranz Grand Family.

# Can you let our readers know a little bit about yourself: family, work life, hobbies?

Sure. My wife, Shyre and I have been married for 40 years. We have two children, Michelle and James. We are proud grandparents to our three grandchildren: Liam who is six, Amelia is five, and our youngest, Madelynne, is three.

#### Challenging ages!

Don't you know it! I could go on and on about my grandkids! Anyway, I worked for Publix Supermarkets for 17 years as a Human Resources Director for Non-Retail Operations before retiring 2017. Prior to working with Publix, I was employed by PPG Industries for 20 years in the field of Human Resources in manufacturing facilities in Texas, Minnesota, Washington and Florida.

#### What about hobbies?

I love playing golf and pickleball and I'm a Corvette enthusiast. I've attended two performance driving schools and have tracked Corvettes at road race courses in Sebring, Daytona, Ohio and Nevada.

#### Pickleball?

(laughs) Yes. It's tennis, badminton, and ping-pong all rolled into one fun sport invented in 1965. You can play it in- or outdoors on a badminton-sized court or a modified tennis court. You use a paddle with a plastic ball similar to a wiffle ball and anyone, young or old at any skill level, can play it. Legend has it that the game was named after a dog named Pickles.

# Interesting! Maybe you should start some Eastern Star leagues!

Who knows?

# You and your wife have been OES members for 25 years?

Just about. Shyre and I have been members of the Order of the Eastern Star for almost 25 years and have served as officers in our local chapters every year for the past 23 years.

We were with the Gulf Beach Chapter No. 241 from 1997 to 2001 before joining Lakeland Chapter No. 26 in 2001. and I have been Worthy Patron eleven times: once at Gulf Beach Chapter and ten times with Lakeland Chapter.

I am Past Grand Representative of Oregon in Florida, District Chair for REST, as well as a member of the Credentials Committee.

# Impressive. So What makes Eastern Star special to you that you are willing to serve eleven times as Worthy Patron?

What I think is so special about Eastern Star is it is an organization that allows a husband and wife to serve alongside each other. It teaches us moral lessons based on Scripture, provides an avenue for us to serve our communities, and gives us the opportunity to socialize with some of the best women in the state of Florida.

# Brother Kevin, I appreciate you taking time out of your day to share yourself with our readers. Good luck in the Wise-Kranz Grand Family year!

Thank you. It's been a pleasure.





# Brenda Keepin Grand Secretary



# Congratulations on your reelection to Grand Secretary! Welcome to the Wise-Kranz Grand Family!

Thank you. I'm very happy to be able to continue to serve Grand Chapter and to join the Wise/Kranz Grand Family.

#### What do you want our readers to know about you?

I am a family oriented person. My husband and I have two girls and I've always been involved with their school activities. Both were in band and I was in charge of the concession stands. I just enjoy doing things like that. I now have five grandchildren, three girls and two boys, and have recently become a great-grandma. Haven't been able to hold him yet, but hope to soon.

Rich and I have been married for 45 years and he is very supportive and travels with me since he is retired. It makes the road trip fun.

I was born in Fort Knox, Kentucky, and raised an Army brat. During that time we lived in Kentucky, Colorado, Germany and Georgia. When my father retired, we moved to Wewahitchka, Florida.

I attended the University of West Florida in Pensacola, Florida and stayed in the area after I graduated. I met my husband, Rich when I started to work at Naval Air Station, NAS for short. We have been married for 44 years and home was wherever the Navy sent us. We raised two girls while traveling the world to our many different homes which included New Jersey; Norfolk, Virginia; Key West; Mayport, Florida; Scotland; England and Germany. We settled in Panama City once Rich retired. I worked for the Bay District Schools for the next 25 years, then I retired too..

#### What things do you like to do in your spare time?

I love to sew and watch movies. When I have some spare time, I spend it in my sewing room watching scary movies.

#### Was Rainbow part of your life?

I was not involved with Rainbow until I was an adult. My 2 girls joined Rainbow and I was a member of the Board. After the Mother Advisor left, I became the Mother Advisor until Panama No 18 closed. When Lynn Haven No 147 was formed, I joined the Board a few years later and have been working with them ever since.

#### What about your Eastern Star life?

I joined Wewahitchka Chapter when I turned 18. My first station was Martha. Next, I served as the Associate

Conductress, and was honored to conduct my Father when he was initiated. When I served as Worthy Matron for the first time, my Father served with me. During the time we were moving and raising the girls, I was not very active; but once we settled in Panama City, I have held a station every year. When I retired, I started working in the Grand Secretary's office for Sister Brenda Hendricks. When Sister Brenda resigned, Sister Heather appointed me to finish out her term. No one knew that the title pro-tem would stick for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  years.

### What is/are your favorite/fondest memories of Eastern Star?

I have always enjoyed attending our Grand Chapter Sessions and visiting other Grand Jurisdictions. It interesting to see how other states do the floorwork.

#### What makes Eastern Star special to you?

When I see these new programs that have been implemented in the last couple of years, such as Star of Hope, Tuition Grant, Community Outreach, it makes me very proud. We all should be so proud of our Organization being able to support the communities and really making donations that can make a difference to people.

#### What is it like being Grand Secretary?

Grand Secretary is a very challenging job, but I enjoy this position. I love the learning process and working with the Subordinate Chapter Secretaries. They work so hard for our Order and their Chapter. It is truly an honor for me to serve with them.

# Thank you for sharing with us. It has been wonderful getting to know you better. Good luck with your Grand appointment!

Thank you. You are certainly doing a very good job with the web-based Stargazer. I have enjoyed them.

#### Thank you for your kind words!



# Congratulations, Sister Margaret, on your reelection to Grand Treasurer. I understand you have held this position since 2001.

Thank you. I am grateful to the members of Grand Chapter for the opportunity to serve as Worthy Grand Matron in 1997 and their support to continue serving as Grand Treasurer for the last 20 years. I am thankful that I have the accounting background and the knowledge to serve in this capacity. I take my responsibility seriously and will serve to the very best of my ability. I look forward to working with our Grand Secretary.

# I had a chance to review all your bio info you supplied me. All I can say is "Wow!" You could write a book!

(smiles) Not really. I just like what I do and love my family.

### How about some Cliff Notes on who Margaret Nathurst is?

Hmm. Born in Pensacola, raised mostly in Jacksonville, attended Florida Southern College in Lakeland, lived in Germany two years, lived in Fort Myers since 1957 except for four years spent in Tennessee. I married Lee Nathurst in 1955, had three children, lost two, and have one grandson who is the apple of his grandma's eye. I still work as an office manager for a veterinarian. Plan to work as long as possible. Got a pilot's license in 1969. Lee and I built the largest office supply business in Fort Myers and sold it in 1982 to a company who sold it to Office Max. Played bridge for years until the rules changed.

### What about your life with Rainbow Girls and Eastern Star?

I was a charter member of Temple Assembly No.46 in Jacksonville, I don't remember the exact date of but I think the charter was granted in 1951 or 1952. I served the stations of Patriotism and Love prior to being elected as Faith. My term as Worthy Advisor began in September 1953. I was honored to receive the Grand Cross of Color and was appointed Grand Representative to Oklahoma from Florida at Grand Assembly in 1954. Mama Leta McMinn was Supreme Inspector during those years. When I married in June 1955, I received my majority degree.

I was active for a number of years on the Advisory Board of Fort Myers Assembly No. 38. I served as Mother Advisor for three or four years and have attended many Grand Assembly Sessions. My oldest daughter was initiated in Fort Myers Assembly and served as Worthy Advisor and also received the Grand Cross of Color.

To my knowledge, I was the first Worthy Grand Matron of Florida who was a member of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. As a member of Temple Assembly, I grew up knowing many of our Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons. I am very appreciative of the guidance they gave to me and all the members of Temple Assembly. Their devotion, service and love for our fraternal orders were admirable.

I was initiated into Fort Myers Chapter No. 31 Order of the Eastern Star on November 4, 1963 and held different subordinate chapter offices including secretary for four years and held the office of Worthy Matron several times. My Grand Chapter appointments include Grand Representative of Kentucky in Florida 1970-1972, Grand Instructor 1972-1973, Grand Marshal in 1991 and elected as Associate Grand Conductress in 1994 and served as Worthy Grand Matron in 1997-1998 with Burton G. Brim, Worthy Grand Patron. I've been a member of many Grand Chapter Committees and chaired my share of Committees. As I said before, I have served and been reelected as Grand Treasurer since 2001.

#### What's your secret to such a long life?

The most important people in my life are my daughter, Sheryl, and grandson, Logan. I love them with all my heart and they fill my days with happiness and joy. Between family, work and Eastern Star, my life is full and every day is a blessing.

Some of the very important lessons I feel that I have learned is be tolerate and kind towards all, to be patient and understanding as we never know what trials others are going through in their life. All that can be asked of a person is to do the very best they can at a specific moment and to remember that sometimes our moments are not so good. If I could ever impart any words of wisdom they would be to "always love each other, treat each other with respect, and to love God with all your heart and soul." Life is so short – be happy, content and give cause for others to smile! Remember T.L.C. - Touch others with Love and Compassion.

# Thank you so much for taking time to share with us, Sister Margaret! It has been a pleasure.

Thank you. It's been all mine.



# **Debbie Rosenthal**Grand Conductress



Hello, Sister Debbie! Congratulations on your election to Grand Conductress. I know you have to be every bit as excited as I am to have a chapter sister join the Wise-Kranz Grand Family!

Thank you. I sure am excited. I am still riding the wave of "Wow, I can't believe it!"

#### Can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

The Cliff Notes are that I was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, graduated from Ursuline College with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1989, and worked in the Intensive Care Units of several hospitals for over 15 years. I loved nursing, but had to retire in 2004 due to health issues.

I married the love of my life, David, on November 11, 2007. We have two daughters, Jacqueline and Cynthia. We have five-year-old granddaughter, Sophia and our first grandson, Liam, who was born in September. David and I live in Orlando, Florida and are active members of Mount Dora Chapter No. 103.

# By the looks of your bio, I would say active is an understatement! When did your involvement with Eastern Star begin?

Being part of a Masonic family it was easy to get involved! I became active in the International Order of Rainbow for Girls Cleveland Assembly No. 2 in Ohio and served as Worthy Advisor in 1983, appointed as Grand Lecturer to District 3 West in 1984-1985 and received the Grand Cross of Color in 1985. I joined the Denison Chapter No. 436, Cleveland, Ohio, Order of the Eastern Star in June 1984. My mother, Jeanne Hastings, was Conductress for my initiation. In 1988, I served as Hostess for Denison Chapter in 1988 when my parents were Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron.

In 2004, I moved to Lehigh Acres, FL to be closer to my parents and joined Lehigh Acres Chapter No. 291. By this time, my parents, Jeanne and Bill Hastings, were 25 year members of the Order and were thrilled to see my future mother-in-law, Gerri Rosenthal, Past Grand Ruth, install me as Worthy Matron in 2006. Sadly, my parents passed away that same year, but I know they were smiling from heaven above when I became Grand Warder for the Covey/Earnhardt Grand Family in 2013/2014.

I served for seven years as Secretary at Mt. Dora Chapter

No. 103. 2012 was a busy year for both David and me. We served as Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron. David served as Worshipful Master of St. Petersburg Lodge No. 139 and I was appointed Grand Instructor for District 14. Additionally, I was the Treasurer for Past Grand Patron Carl Hargrove's support group, Carl's Clue Seekers."

I am not a stranger to working for the Grand Chapter. I was a member of the Stargazer Committee both in 2011/12 and 2018/19. After serving as Grand Warder in 2013/14 for the Covey/Earnhardt Grand Family, I served on the Grand Chapter Credentials Committee from 2014-2017, State Chairman for the Youth Committee in 2017-2018, and District Chairman of Perpetual Membership 2019-2021. I was also a Past President of the Florida OES Secretaries Guild. Since 2019, I have a plural membership with Pine Castle Chapter No. 321 where I am currently serving as the Starpoint Electa.

Other Masonic memberships I belong to include Daughters of the Nile, Amaranth, Ladies Oriental Shrine, and I served on the advisory board of Largo Assembly No. 86, I.O.R.G. for six years.

#### What is your vision for the Order of Eastern Star?

Two of my primary goals for the Order are increasing membership and membership retention. I grew up in a Masonic family and married into another. It has always been my belief that we need to reconnect with our Masonic Brothers to grow our order to return it to its former glory. Eastern Star is a way to involve your whole family in the Masonic fraternity and we also need to support our future, our Masonic youth.

# Thank you for taking time out of your busy day to speak with us!

It's been my pleasure!



# Sandy Leduc Associate Grand Conductress



Congratulations, Sister Sandy, on your election as Associate Grand Conductress. Welcome to the Wise-Kranz Grand Family!

Thank you. I still can't believe it's real and I've been so busy!

# I can only imagine! Can you give us a snapshot of who Sandy Leduc is?

I was born in Lowell, Massachusetts and am the youngest of four children. We moved to Nashua, New Hampshire when I was just 4 years old. I attended and graduated from Rivier College in 1984 with a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree. I started out as an Administrative Assistant for Lockheed Martin and worked my way up the chain to be a Contracts Manager.

I met my husband, Gerry, when I was 16. We married in 1965 and have been together for 56 years. We have two daughters four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

# Is it true you and your husband retired on the same day?

Yes. (laughs) Same place, same day. We both retired from Lockheed Martin on December 19, 2014.

#### Are you involved with Rainbow Girls?

Oh yes. When I moved to Orlando, I was Mother Advisor to Rainbow Assembly No. 9. I enjoyed working with the young ladies, who are grown women with children of their own today.

#### When did you join Eastern Star?

In March of 1992, both of us joined the Order of the Eastern Star, Pilgrim Chapter No. 55 in Nashua, New Hampshire. I served in the station of Martha for several years.

When we moved to Orlando in 1997, Gerry and I joined Composite Lodge No. 293 which is now Orlando Chapter No. 131 and served in several stations there. I moved up the line and was proud to be Worthy Matron with my husband in 2016. I pluraled with Pioneer Chapter No. 99 and served as their Conductress in 2017. Later, I pluraled with both Mizpah Chapter No. 190 and Clermont Chapter No. 118.

I have been appointed to a few Committees for Grand Chapter and was appointed Grand Martha for the Strosnider-Williams Grand Family.

# We appreciate you for taking time to share a little about yourself with our readers.

It's been my pleasure. I am looking forward to the next step in my journey in the Order of the Eastern Star!



# Michael Clevens Grand Sentinel



### Congratulations on your election as Grand Sentinel, Brother Michael!

Thank you. I look forward to serving with the Wise-Kranz Grand Family.

# Can you let our readers know a little bit about yourself: family, work life, hobbies?

My wife Sandy and I live in Davie which is just outside of Fort Lauderdale in South Florida. We have two daughters and two grandbabies, both boys.

I am a branch manager for a commercial pest control company that handles a small territory covering Melbourne south to Miami.

#### What things do you like to do in your spare time?

Lately during my spare time, you can find me on the golf course or watching the Gators on TV.

### Tell us about your Masonic life and how you became involved in the Order of Eastern Star.

I honestly was not familiar at all with Masonry or Eastern Star prior to meeting my wife. I did discover that my grandfather was a Mason, but he died when I was 11 and my parents never talked about it. When Sandy and I were talking about marriage way back when she said I needed to become a Mason and then join the Eastern Star. (smiling) And as any smart man who enjoyed sleeping indoors would say, I simply replied "Yes, Dear." I was initiated into Eastern Star in 2001 into TriGate Chapter No. 276.

#### What are your fondest memories of Eastern Star?

Memories. There have been so many good moments and memories, but being able to travel with my wife Sandy as she spent her year as Grand Martha in the Hyslop-Marshall Grand Family was a fantastic experience. The people I was able to meet across the state made a significant impact and memories that will last a lifetime. This was my first real taste of travelling across the state and getting to meet the membership throughout Florida.

#### What has Eastern Star meant to you over the years?

I spent the good part of my Eastern Star "youth" getting to know the basics of Star and the members of our chapter. I did a little travelling within the district. Luckily my Chapter is very receptive to new members and encouraged me to try different stations and, above all, they were patient with the learning process.

#### Any closing thoughts?

The more I learn about how the Order is making a great impact on the lives of those within and without the Eastern Star it makes my heart happy and pushes me to be more involved. I would challenge the membership to ask questions and most of all come back to Grand Chapter. Encourage the new members to attend Grand Chapter to see what is going on firsthand.

It is going to take all of us if we are to continue moving forward in the future. There is something real special happening here and we need to continue to support it and nurture it for it to continue to grow. We can do this together!

# Thank you for sharing yourself with us. Good luck in the upcoming year as Grand Sentinel!

It's been my pleasure! I am looking forward to being part of the Wise-Kranz Grand Family.





# Appointed Grand Officers





# Brenda Hendricks Grand Chaplain



# Congratulations on your appointment of Grand Chaplain, Sister Brenda!. Welcome to the Wise-Kranz Grand Family!

I was so very surprised when the phone rang, and Sister Mickey was on the other end of the phone and she said that she and Brother Bill Kranz would be honored for me to become a part of their Grand Family. In December we were on the revealing cruise when I found out that I was to become Grand Chaplain. I started shaking and thinking what an awesome responsibility. But with God's help, I accepted the challenge. Being Chaplain for our Grand Jurisdiction is a huge undertaking.

### I understand congratulations are in order for your husband Howard.

Yes! Howard was installed as Worshipful Master this past December of Parker Lodge No. 142.

#### Can you tell us a little about yourself?

I was born in Panama City, Florida and I still reside there. I have four brothers and no sisters, and I am the middle child. My youngest brother became paralyzed from his neck down due to a fall due to an epilepsy seizure and passed away when he was just shy of his 18th birthday.

### My condolences. May light perpetual shine upon his soul.

Thank you.

#### What about your immediate family? Any children?

God has so richly blessed me to have a wonderful family. I married my high school sweetheart. In August 2022, we will celebrate our 52nd wedding anniversary. Although we have no children, we do love our two fur babies: Gabby who is 15 going on 16 years and Katie 16 going on 17. Both are miniature and toy poodles.

#### So what makes Brenda Hendricks Brenda Hendricks?

I have an accounting background, I started working when I was 12 years old cleaning motel rooms at a 30-unit motel at Panama City Beach. When I turned 16, I became the manager of the motel after school days and on weekends during the winter months until my senior year. I quit to enjoy my last year at school.

After graduation, I worked as a unit manager at a local bank until someone made me an offer, an offer I could not refuse! I

was to manage a 140-motel at the beach until I left my job to take care for my aging mother.

In 1991, I was elected as council member for the City of Parker and in 1993 I was elected Mayor in 1993 and have continued to serve as a strong form of government for 24 years.

#### So that explains your email address!

(laughs) Sure does!

# What do you like to do when your not serving Star and your community?

I love my family, my fur babies, and going to church. One of my favorite things is to go fishing with Howard and the puppies. I enjoy sitting outside and admiring our beautiful East Bay watching the waves and enjoying the beautiful sunrises and sunsets. It is so relaxing. I love to read Scripture, poems, recipes, cook ,and sew.

I also enjoy studying the Rules and Regulations of our Order and I always try to learn a new part of the ritual each year. I love our beautiful Order and I try to help wherever I can.

#### Tell us about your Eastern Star life.

I join Parker Chapter No. 96 in 2000. I first served as Esther, then went through the chairs and was elected to serve as Worthy Matron in 2005. I have served as Worthy Matron six times. I have served as Chapter Secretary for several years.

In 2016, I was Elected Grand Secretary and served until I had to resign due to damages from Hurricane Michael. I have been appointed to many Grand Chapter Committees. I was given a Grand Representative commission to Oregon in Florida in 2010 for two years.

I am so blessed by the many Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons who have guided me along my path in our beautiful Order, especially Sister Marion Walsingham. She is like a mother to me. She will always be in my heart for everything she taught me: how to be wise, graceful, meaningful, dutiful, diligent, and most of all loving and kind.

#### Any last words for our audience?

I am humbled to serve as Your Grand Chaplain. I love the Lord and I will do my very best to fulfill the duties of my office for which I have been appointed.

#### Thank you for taking time to speak with us!

My pleasure.





# **Rhonda Allen**Grand Marshal



# Congratulations on your appointment as Grand Marshal, Sister Rhonda! Welcome to the Wise-Kranz Grand Family!

Thank you so much! It is such an honor to be a part of this wonderful Grand Family. I still have to remind myself that I am not dreaming and that this is real!

# Can you let our readers know a little bit about yourself: family, work life, hobbies?

Kenny and I have been together for 31 years, married for 25. We don't have children of our own, but we have so many nieces, nephews, and honorary kids that help fill that void. We have two fur babies that we got from rescue groups: Bella is a 3 year old Chorkie (Chihuahua/Yorkie mix) and Tia is a 3 year old Chiweenie (Chihuahua/Dachshund mix).

I have worked for Walmart-Sam's for 29 years in various roles. Currently, I am the Market Assistant for Sam's Club. I do have a lot of hobbies (laughs). Kenny would say too many! I enjoy embroidery, crocheting, tumbler making, needlepoint, reading. The list really does go on! I enjoy watching NASCAR and college football; I am a huge Georgia Bulldog and Ohio State Buckeye fan, but orange is NOT in my color wheel!

#### When did you join Eastern Star?

My grandparents were members of many Masonic organizations, including Eastern Star. I grew up in a different state, but often heard about how much they loved these groups. When Kenny became a Master Mason, I was excited to learn that I could now join this organization that brought my grandparents so much joy! I didn't realize that I could have joined years earlier through my lineage. No one had ever shared that with me, even when I would mention that my grandparents were members. Kenny and I were initiated on April 2, 2014 at Green Cove Springs Chapter No. 45, and put to work at the next meeting!

#### Tell us more about your Star life.

Shortly after my initiation, I was installed as Esther and I have served as an officer ever since. I have served as Star Points, gone through the line, and served in my favorite station, Marshal. In addition to being Grand Marshal, this year I am serving as Secretary at Orange Park No. 226 and Ruth at Wesconnett No. 247. My favorite memory is my installation as Worthy Matron. My mother was still alive and was there to see me go into the East. While she wasn't a member, she

understood and supported my desire. The photo of her standing beside my husband and me is one of my most cherished possessions.

#### Are you involved with Rainbow Girls?

If my parents had remained in Ohio after getting married, I would have been a member of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls and my Masonic journey would have begun much earlier. Of course if they had, I probably wouldn't be here in Florida! (laughs)

My involvement with the Rainbow Girls started three years ago when I was asked to be on the Advisory Board for Wesconnett Assembly No. 84. I became the Pledge Mom and now I am the Mother Advisor for an amazing group of girls. They bring me so much joy. (smiles)

#### What makes Eastern Star special to you?

There are so many things. First, being a member of an organization that meant so much to my grandparents makes me feel even closer to them. I know that they would be proud of me. Second, I love that Eastern Star is something that I can share with my husband. I feel like he and I both have evolved into better people since we joined. Finally, the sisters and brothers that I have met since joining Eastern Star and the relationships that we have formed are amazing. I love that we all come from different walks of life but share a common bond.

#### Do you have any advice to give our readers?

For the newer members I would advise to don't be afraid to ask questions about how something is done or WHY things are a certain way. Don't be afraid to make suggestions. Be active, even if you are not installed in a station. Visit as many chapters as you can. Talk to your sisters and brothers about riding together to meetings or events outside of your area. For the older members, remember what Star Life was like for you when you first joined. You were probably nervous and excited and had no idea about what was going on. Share your knowledge and be the example.

# Thank you for sharing with us. It has been wonderful getting to know you better.

Thank you! I appreciate you and the members for all of the warm welcomes and well wishes for this year. Being a Grand Officer is truly an honor, and being a part of the Wise-Kranz Grand Family is an amazing opportunity. I truly hope that I make my chapters and this Grand jurisdiction proud.



# **Sheila Potts**Grand Organist



# Welcome to the Wise-Kranz Grand Family, Sister Sheila!

Thank you! I am very excited to be a part of the Wise-Kranz Grand Family.

#### What do you want our readers to know about you?

I am married to Phillip Potts. We have five children, fifteen grandchildren and one great-grand child.

I retired from State of Florida Department of Health after 33 years of service.

My husband retired from US Navy with 20 years of service and also retired from Santa Rosa County Tax Collector Office.

#### What do you like to do in your spare time?

I am active in our church programs. I volunteer two days a week at the church food pantry and clothes closet.

I enjoy working in our yard and taking care of my plants. My favorite thing to do is spending time with my family.

#### When did you become involved in Eastern Star?

I was initiated in Eastern Star in 1985. I was Worthy Matron in 2004 and 2020 and have been organist with my chapter for many years.

Eastern Star has been a big part of my life. My dad was a Mason, but I am the only one in my family to be in Eastern Star. I love my Easter Star Sisters and Brothers and have a lot of good memories with them over the years.

#### Any closing thoughts you would like to share?

Love my Grand Sisters, Brothers, Mama and Papa. I am so happy to have had this opportunity to be Grand Organist. Thank you, I love you all!

Good luck with your appointment as Grand Organist! It's been a pleasure finding out a little more about you. Thank you for sharing your time with us today.

The pleasure has been mine!



# *Debra Burdick*Grand Adah



Congratulations on your appointment as Grand Adah and welcome to the Wise -Kranz Family, Sister Debra! Thank you.

#### Can you give us a snapshot of who Debra Burdick is?

Well, I was born and raised in a small town in West Virginia. I came to Florida in 1977. I am the mother of two daughters and a son, with a bonus daughter in law, plus three grandchildren.

I worked 10 years for Sea Ray Boats in Merritt Island and Palm Coast where I was a upholstery seamstress. 7 years with Rockwell at Goddard Space Flight Center, Maryland and Kennedy Space Center, Florida where I worked in the Back Shop building flight thermal tiles and blankets for the Shuttle Program and for the last 17 years I've been a business owner and agent as a limited Surety Agent "AKA" Bail bondsman.

#### What things do you like to do in your spare time?

I enjoy sewing, upholstery and jigsaw puzzles. Arts and crafts. And of course my church.

#### When did you join Eastern Star?

I started my Eastern Star journey on June 26, 1990 at Cocoa Chapter No. 35 where I am currently The Worthy Matron. I also hold the office of Marshal at Canaveral Chapter and Adah at Harbor City. Grand Representative of West Virginia in Florida 2019-2021 and Grand Instructor 2021-2022. I have so many fond memories of my sisters and brothers. The Eastern Star is a way of life to me and my family.

#### Thank you for taking to time to share yourself with us.

Thank you, it's been a pleasure sharing with you a little about myself and I look forward to being a part of the Wise-Kranz family.



# Pat Cooper Grand Ruth



Congratulations on your appointment as Grand Ruth, Sister Pat. Welcome to the Wise-Kranz Grand Family! Thank you.

# What can you tell our readers about you and your family?

Well, I was born in Canton, Ohio and the youngest of four sisters. After working for 33 years at the Timken Roller Bearing Co., I retired and moved to Naples, Florida in 2006. My husband Guy and I have been married for 48 years. We have one son, John and daughter-in-law, Christine. we have a step- granddaughter Chloe and a new granddaughter, LilyAnn Minnie. I enjoy singing karaoke, photography, and golf.

### When did you transition from Rainbow Girls to Eastern Star?

I was active in Rainbow. I was inspired by our advisors to join Eastern Star when I was old enough. My first station was Ruth and that was the same year I received by 25 year pin. I have been in a station every year since. I've been Worthy Matron six times.

#### What other activities have done with Eastern Star?

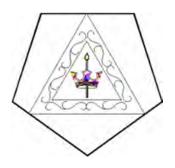
I've been Grand Instructor which was a learning experience for me as well as the members of the district. When I was on the REST Main Committee, I learned that our Grand Chapter does care about our members who are in need of our help.

As Grand Representative of Mississippi in Florida, I was not able to go to Mississippi's Grand Chapter but I did meet the Worthy Grand Matron and Patron at Multi State. As part of the Photography Committee, I enjoy going to the different events and capturing our sisters and brothers as they were interacting with each other.

Now I am Grand Ruth and will be traveling around the state. I hope to meet many more sisters and brothers and form more friendships. As a 51 year member, I really enjoy the friendships that I have had over the my years in Eastern Star.

# It's been wonderful getting to know you a little better. Good luck with your Grand Ruth appointment!

Thank you, it's been my pleasure. I look forward to being part of the Wise-Kranz Grand Family.



# Cynthia & Burke Grand Esther



# Congratulations Sister Cindi on your appointment as Grand Esther. Welcome to the Wise-Kranz Grand Family!

Thank you! I am so excited and it is still hard to believe!

#### What do you want our readers to know about you?

Well, I was born in Twin Falls, Idaho. and When I was six years old, we moved to Davis, California where my sister and I grew up. She now lives in Oregon. Stephen and I married in 1971. We have two children. Our son lives in St. Petersburg, FL with his two boys. Our daughter is in Port St. Lucie Florida and has; three sons and a daughter. Her oldest son is in the Air Force.

I was a medical EKG tech for 25 years and retired for seven years. Sometimes time I wake up asking myself "what is today?"

#### I know what you mean! Every day is Saturday!

Sure is!

#### What about hobbies?

I enjoy Sewing, tole painting , and working in the garden. I love watching things grow and playing with grandkids as much as possible. I also love to travel. It was my favorite thing to do when I was in Rainbow and now I get to travel as Grand Esther!

#### Was Rainbow part of your life?

Yes. My father was responsible for getting me into Rainbow and it was a huge part of my life for six years. I went through every station except for four. I was in all the Bow Stations and went through the line up through Worthy Advisor. Doing floorwork was my favorite thing about being in Rainbow.

#### When did you join Eastern Star?

I'm a late bloomer. After I reached majority in Rainbow, I got married and raised my children. I didn't join Eastern Star until about fifteen years ago. My family on both sides were Masons and Eastern Star. My mother was Rainbow, but not Eastern Star and my father was DeMolay but not Mason.

#### Tell me more about your Star life.

I was Worthy Matron three times and I always have gone through the line. I have served as Martha and Marshal, so being appointed Grand Esther came as big surprise. I was appointed Grand Representative of Manitoba—my term just ended. So I was unable attend Manitoba's Grand Chapter because of COVID.

#### What makes Eastern Star special to you?

I just love to sit and talk to other members who remember what Eastern Star used to be like and hearing about the differences in other states.

### How has Eastern Star played an important part of your life?

I like the structure and discipline. When you dressed up in your formal, you present yourself in a beautiful way. I like the way ladies turn into "Southern Belles' when they are dressed up.

Whether you are dressed in white to attend a chapter meeting or in a formal gown, you always know you are beautiful and special when you are with the Masons and other Star members. The ritual work goes hand-in-hand with the beauty and formality of being an Eastern Star member.

I think the younger generation don't appreciate these ideals. I think if they understood we are more than just pretty dresses and discipline, that we have a giving nature. Maybe if they understood that, they might want to become part of us.

#### Any closing thoughts?

I enjoy the friendships I have had with Eastern Star members and love being with the Wise-Kranz family.

# It's been a pleasure getting to know you, Sister Cindy! Congratulations again!

Thank you. It's been wonderful getting to know you as well!



# *Sylvia Walsingham*Grand Martha



# Congratulations on your appointment to Grand Martha, Sister Sylvia! Welcome to the Wise-Kranz Grand Family!

Thank you! I am so excited to be a part of the Wise-Kranz Grand Family. When I received the call it was a complete surprise and shock. Never could I have imagined such an honor.

# Can you give us a snapshot of who Sylvia Walsingham is for our readers?

Well, I'm a mother to two sons, Jeffrey Walsingham and Allen Walsingham. Grandmother to six beautiful girls, Justina, Emily, Elizabeth, Abigail, Madison and Shelby. Great-Grandmother to five very bright great-granddaughters, Stella, Lilly, Sarah, Olivia, Ella and one handsome great-grandson, Nolan. I am caregiver to two Aunts who live with me. I worked in our family business for 34 years before retiring.

#### What about hobbies?

When I have time I like to quilt, cook, bake and I love to decorate for events and spend time with my family. I also love to garden and propagation of any variety of plants.

#### When did you join Eastern Star?

I began in Eastern Star when my Mother-in-law, Marion Walsingham approached me to join her chapter, Lynn Haven Chapter No. 262 after my husband Bill passed. I had always admired her dedication to The Order and loved to look through her photos of different events. I was initiated and

I've never looked back. I can't imagine myself doing anything else. I am devoted to our beautiful Order of the Eastern Star and I take my responsibilities seriously.

Currently I'm serving as Worthy Matron for the second time in my primary Chapter, Lynn Haven Chapter No. 262, I have also served as Adah, Esther, Electa and Associate Matron. I also serve as Conductress In Parker Chapter No. 96.

#### What makes Eastern Star Special to you?

I would have to say the many sisters and brothers that have become a part my family over the years and the good works that make up the Eastern Star as a whole. I'm blessed to be a part of it and to have so many good memories.

#### Any last words for our readers?

Only to say that I am very proud to be a part of The Wise-Kranz Grand Family! I don't know how I was so fortunate to receive such an honor as this, but I'm thankful every day. I will work hard and do my part for our beautiful Order.

# Thank you for taking to give our readers know a little more about you. Again, congratulations on your appointment!

Thank you, it's been a pleasure sharing this part of my life with you!



# **Susan Sebelist**Grand Electa



Congratulations, Sister Susan on your appointment as Grand Electa. Welcome to the Wise-Kranz Grand Family!

Thank you!

#### What do you want our readers to know about you?

I was born Susan Laura Shoemaker on March 9,1948 in Woodbury, New Jersey to Harvey and Laura (Corson) Shoemaker. I have one brother, Bill who now lives in Kentucky.

I grew up in Gibbstown, New Jersey where I lived for 62 years. I went to the same Methodist Church as my parents, grandparents, and great grandparents. I attended the same schools as my father. I attended the same elementary schools with many of the same kids growing up. While I was in Paulsboro High School, grades 9 through 12, I enrolled in College Prep courses. After attending Jersey City State College for one year to become an art teacher, I decided that teaching was not for me and got married. We had two children. After divorcing my husband, I attended Gloucester County College and earned an Associate Degree.

I worked as the Office Administrator for 25 years for the County of Gloucester Medical Examiner Office in New Jersey and retired from the office in 2003.

I married again to Kenneth Hickman who had one daughter. We adopted each other's children. After 30 years of marriage, Kenneth passed away. Thirteen months after Kenneth died, I met Dennis Sebelist, and we were married on June 20, 2015, Dennis' birthday, by the Mayor of Gibbstown, a life-long friend.

Dennis and I are a blended family with seven children and their spouses. We have 19 grandchildren (one is now an angel); three great-grandchildren, and a great-grandson who is due in September.

# What about hobbies, besides being with all your grand and great-grand children?

I love to crochet and make all kinds of things: doilies, afghans, clothes, animals, people, angels. Just about anything you can name, I can crochet. I love to read just about anything,

especially about old England and the area. I am also involved in genealogy. It's fun to find long lost relatives that you knew nothing about. I haven't found any real crazy people or any bizarre events so far, but you never know! I enjoy riding on the back of the motorcycle with Dennis. It is amazing what you can see that you don't notice in a car.

#### Was Rainbow part of your life?

I was a Rainbow Girl many years ago in New Jersey. I joined Woodbury Assembly No. 70 as a charter member when it was instituted on May 12, 1962. I thoroughly enjoyed my Rainbow years.

#### What is your experience with Eastern Star?

I joined Eastern Star in February 2008. My cousin was supposed to initiate me, but unfortunately died before she could. Her husband, as Worthy Patron, initiated me. After the initiation, he presented me with my cousin's beautiful Eastern Star ring. When she knew she was dying, she decided she wanted me to have it. I still wear it proudly and think of both of them each time I wear it.

I have held the offices of Marshal, Electa (now in Mandarin), Associate Conductress, Conductress, Associate Matron, Worthy Matron, and filled in at other stations when needed.

As Worthy Matron, the Chapter held monthly dinners for the Masons, collected food items for Barnabas, items for Cat's Angels, had a "friends" dinner of homemade shish kabob to order, did shish kabobs for Amelia Lodge Ft. Clinch degree, had two official dinners of filet mignon and chicken cooked by Dennis at home instead of at the Chapter or a restaurant.

Committees I have served on are the Service Dogs, ESTARL, Worthy Grand Matron's Special Project, and REST.

# Thank you so much for sharing a little bit of your story with us! It has been wonderful getting to know you better. Good luck with your Grand appointment!

It's been my pleasure. I look forward to being part of the Wise-Kranz Grand Family!



# Barbara Moore Grand Warder



Congratulations, Sister Barbara Moore on your appointment as Grand Warder and welcome to the Wise-Kranz Grand Family!"

Thank you. I am so excited!

#### What do you want our readers to know about you?

I am so proud to be a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and absolutely love meeting all my sisters and brothers. I am both humbled and honored to be a member of the Wise-Kranz Grand Family and to serve as Grand Warder of The Grand Chapter of Florida, Order of the Eastern Star, Inc. Never in all my wildest dreams did I think I would be so blessed to be a member of a grand family. It is very special to be considered let alone asked.

# Can you let our readers know a little bit about yourself: family, work life, hobbies?

I have been working for the same company for 40 years and am currently a Project Manager. I have the best husband and life partner ever – Jim. For those that know Jim, you are aware of his wit / humor, exceptional work ethic, and ability to get things done. Our family includes four children along with one dog and seven cats. We have many front yard pets – squirrels, birds, ducks, and even peacocks and a turkey once. Our children refer to our home as the Animal House.

#### When did your involvement with Eastern Star begin?

My Eastern Star journey began while attending Jim's (Nitram No. 188 F. & A. M.) lodge's Installation of Officers. Jim was being installed for another term as Secretary. I was sitting next to a sister, who asked me if I had heard of the Order of the Eastern Star that both wives and husbands could join and be active together. Hence the journey began.

I have been an active member of OES Bethlehem Chapter No. 169 in St. Petersburg for over 21 years. I have been honored to serve our Chapter as Worthy Matron four times along with other officer positions throughout the decades.

#### What things do you like to do in your spare time?

Daily, I walk to look at and listen to all the nature around our neighborhood. I am always amazed how 30 minutes can provide such a calming start to my day and provide me with a blessed start to my day. I love to buy books at bookstores and enjoy reading books at home. To me, it is a very restful activity. Sudoku puzzles challenge my mathematical skills, which are quite good. I do enjoy watching movies of all genres. Music is something that provides a relaxing reprieve and transports me to recall certain joyous memories in my life.

#### Were you involved with Rainbow Girls?

I was never involved with Rainbow Girls in my youth. I was unaware of any Masonic organizations. It was only through Jim's Masonic history, DeMolay and Masons, that I became aware of youth organization. Jaclyn, my daughter, was a Job's Daughter.

I am currently Secretary of the Advisory Board of Rainbow Largo Assembly No. 86. Even though I have been involved for less than a year, I am enjoying learning everything about Rainbow. I recently saw my first Rainbow Sunday service and Initiation. What a truly spiritual day all due to Rainbow!

#### Any closing thoughts?

In closing, I am hopeful that throughout this year, many Sisters and Brothers will give me the opportunity to meet them and get to know them. It is my desire to be a loving and kind Grand Officer and to perform my duties to honor those officers who came before me, currently serve, and will serve in the future in our great Order.



Grand Chapter News



# WGM & WGP Homecoming

You are cordially invited to cruise aboard the

### USS Journey of Life

As we celebrate the Homecoming of

Michelle "Mickey" Wise & William "Bill" Kranz
Worthy Grand Matron Worthy Grand Patron

# April 23, 2022

Port: Showman's Club 6915 Riverview Drive Riverview, Florida 33578

Boarding: 5:30 P.M. Dinner: 7:00 P.M. Attire: Formal

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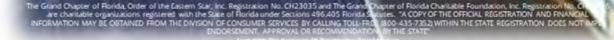
Dinner Ticket: \$ 23.25 + \$1.75 (tax) = \$25.00 RSVP to: Katie Mason, PGElecta 3325 South Forbes Road Dover, FL 33527 (813) 454-5809 RSVP by April 15, 2022

#### 工事工事工

Escorts: Gerri Rosenthal. PG Ruth (352) 267-7147



Hotel: Holiday Inn Express
226 Teco Road
Ruskin, FL 33570
Phone (813) 922-4561
Price per night \$119.00 OES Rate
Deadline for reservations
April 15, 2022





# USS Journey of Life: Homecoming for WGM & WGP

#### April 2022

What a great Homecoming for our WGM Michelle "Mickey" Wise and WGP William "Bill" Kranz! Lois Casaccia, GGC Co-chair Appeals & Grievances Committee, PGM and Carl Hargrove, PGP did an excellent job as MCs.

There was wonderful entertainment from a great band with a singer from a local school for entertainment, plenty of beautiful

baskets to raise funds for the WGM Project, and as always delicious food.

It was great seeing so many of our Sisters, Brothers and guests in attendance.

– Gerri Rosenthal, PG Ruth Stargazer Reporter





Pat Cooper, Photographer



# **Grand Chapter Highlights**

April 2022

#### **Grand Officers Installed April 7**

It is always special to see our new Grand Officers installed.

The Installation was lovely and it was wonderful to see so many in attendance. I know our WGM Mickey was delighted to have her Mom and Dad, James & Charlotte Moore, in attendance along with several other members of her family. The opening Addenda was beautiful.

After the Installation a lovely reception followed for our newly elected AGC Sandy Leduc and Grand Sentinel Mike Clevens.

The breakfast for the new Grand Family in the morning was great.

– Gerri Rosenthal, PG Ruth Stargazer Reporter



Grand Officers With Their Escorts

April 2022

#### **District 12 Members Attend Grand Chapter**

What a nice turnout of some of the members who attended Grand Chapter from District 12. We only have three chapters in our District. There were several others who attended but missed being in this group photo.

District 12 has several distinguished members:

- Linda Rae Every PGM, is on the Youth Committee of GGC and a member of Leesburg Chapter No. 84.
- Michelle" Mickey" Wise, WGM, is a Plural Member of Mount Dora Chapter No. 103.
- Carl Hargrove, PGP, is a member of Mount Dora Chapter No. 103.
- Debbie Rosenthal, Grand Conductress, is a member of Mount Dora Chapter No. 103.
- Sandy Leduc, AGC, is a member of Clermont Chapter, No. 118.

- Gerri Rosenthal, PG Ruth Stargazer Reporter





Pat Cooper, Photographer



### **Grand Officers Schools of Instruction**

#### Desoto Chapter No. 201 Hosts First Grand Officers School of Instruction

April 2022

On April 22, Desoto Chapter No. 201 had the honor to host the first Grand Officers School of Instruction for the coming year. The dining hall was full, and a lovely dinner was made by Brother Daniel Allen, Sister Dawn Allen and Sister Katy Mason. The meal was served by the DeMolay boys from

Walter Fishback Chapter. Prior to the School, there was good food, fun and fellowship. 108 members attended who witnessed the beautiful floor work by the Grand Officers.

We would like to thank you everyone that came out and made the evening special.

> Michelle Wilson, Associate Conductress Stargazer Reporter











#### Parker Chapter No. 96 Hosts Second Grand Officers School of Instruction



May 2022

Parker Chapter No. 96 hosted the second Grand School of Instruction on May 7. It was an informative school as well as fun. I also had fun as the traveling companion for Grand Conductress Debbie Rosenthal!

– Gerry Rosenthal, PG Ruth Stargazer Reporter

















#### Orlando Chapter No. 131 Hosts Grand Officers School of Instruction May 28



























# Florida OES Worthy Grand Matron, Mickey Wise, Brings Greetings to Florida Grand Court of the Order of the Amaranth "Angel of Love" Session

#### May 2022

WGM Michelle "Mickey" Wise brought greetings on behalf of Florida Eastern Star at the Informal Opening of the Grand Court of the Order of the Amaranth.

WGM Michelle "Mickey" Wise and WGP Bill Kranz were seated on the Throne. They were accompanied by several Grand Officers and other OES members who attended. Grand Royal Matron Roslyn Heath, PG Adah and Grand Royal Patron John Stinchcomb, PP, are both members of Wesconnett Chapter No. 247.

– Gerri Rosenthal, PG Ruth Stargazer Reporter





OES Community



# Chapters Celebrating One Hundred Years!

#### Belleview Chapter No. 122 Marks 100th Anniversary April 30, 2022

April 2022

Many of our Grand Officers were in attendance. Our WGM Mickey Moore Wise gave remarks following a lovely meal. Eva Dick served five times as Worthy Matron an Richard Domine served ten times as Worthy Patron. They were presented a cup from WM Donna Gann.

Gerri Rosenthal, PG Ruth Stargazer Reporter













#### Orlando Chapter No. 131 Celebrates 100th Anniversary June 12, 2022

June 2022

#### **Planting Seeds of Friendship**

After a delicious lunch, Orlando Chapter No. 131 presented a lovely program themed with planting seeds. The chapter room officer chairs were filled by attendees sneakily designated at lunch with a flower!

Sister Loretta Dow, PGO, entertained everyone with her beautiful music during interludes between speeches. The Worthy Matron had different members speak about how much Orlando 131 meant to them over the years. She presented all attendees with a small memento of flower seeds and encouraged everyone to plant seeds of friendship throughout Florida.





Gerri Rosenthal, PG Ruth Photographer



# Official Visits and Inspections

# Union Hill No. 246 Holds First Official Visit May 3 for Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron

#### May 2022

Union Hill Chapter presented a really fun courtesy "On the Wings of Hope" which took Sister Michelle "Mickey" Wise, Worthy Grand Matron and Brother William "Bill" Krantz, Worthy Grand Patron around the chapter room at their first official for the 2022-2023 year at Union Hill Chapter, Bonifay, Florida on May 3, 2022.

Sister Gerry Garney, Worthy Matron and Brother Charlie Bell, Worthy Patron welcomed everyone!

– Millie Stoker, PG Adah Stargazer Reporter





Bill Krantz, WGP; Mickey Wise, WGM, and Sister Ruth McGowan, Electa





#### Tallahassee Chapter No. 119 Welcomes Worthy Grand Matron and Worth Grand Patron for Official Visit on May 6











# Branford Chapter No. 112 Welcomes AGM Gail Jerrell and AGP Kevin Jordan for Official Inspection May 3











#### Niceville Chapter No. 254 Holds Official Inspection



May 2022

Niceville Chapter No. 254 was delighted to welcome Sister Debbie Rosenthal, Grand Conductress, as Deputy to the WGM for her Official Inspection on May 5. It was wonderful to have Sister Debbie in the Panhandle!

– Millie Stoker Stargazer Reporter



Sister Debbie Rosenthal, Sister Theresa Mouer, WM, Brother Rick Mouer, WP and Brother Billy Williams, PGP









#### Pioneer Chapter No. 99 Welcomes Gail Jerrell, Associate Grand Matron for Official Inspection May 13

May 2022

Thank you Pioneer Chapter for the wonderful official last night. A wonderful meal, good fellowship and cute courtesy.

- Gail Jerrell, AGM





















### Southside Chapter No. 326 Welcomes Debbie Rosenthal, Grand Conductress for Official Inspection May 25











May 2022

What a wonderful evening I had at the Ocala Chapter No. 29's Official Inspection. The Star Warts courtesy was so cute and I even got all the trivia questions correct! The officers did an outstanding job.

- Debbie Rosenthal Grand Conductress









# Mulberry Chapter No. 57 Welcomes Associate Grand Conductress, Sandy Leduc to Official Inspection June 3









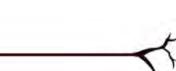








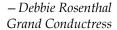




# Ocala Chapter No. 29 Honors Grand Conductress with Star Wars Courtesy at Official Inspection June 3

#### June 2022

What a wonderful evening I had at the Ocala Chapter No. 29's Official Inspection. The Star Warts courtesy was so cute and I even got all the trivia questions correct! The officers did an outstanding job.











# Deltona Chapter No. 326 Welcomes AGM Gail Jerrell and AGP Kevin Jordan for Official Inspection June 7









## Mulberry Chapter No. 57 Celebrates 109th Birthday

#### April 2022

Mulberry Chapter No. 57 celebrated their 109th birthday on April 28 with a review of the Chapter's history and a traditional birthday party!!!

– Lacey Glenn









### District 15 Raise Funds for 2021-2022 WGM's Special Fund

Mar 2022

Doreen Hilts, District 15 Chairman for the Worthy Grand Matron's Special Fund, organized Cookie Crawl Bingo held at Clearwater Lodge to raise funds for the 2021-2022 Worthy Grand matron's Special Fund.

Chapter Members of District 15 had a lot of fun supporting and participating in this event.

– Janice Renn



### Bethlehem Chapter No. 169 Install 2022-2023 Officers

On March 19, 2022 Bethlehem Chapter No. 169 held their Installation of Officers for 2022-2023. Barbara Moore and Jim Moore were installed as Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron respectively. Everyone enjoyed themselves.

- Janice Renn







## Crestview Chapter No. 203 Presents "Friendships are Golden Membership" Award

#### May 2022

On Thursday night, May 5, 2022, in Crestview, on behalf of Donna Schrock, Past Grand Matron, Sister Heather Earnhardt, Triennial Other Assembly Committee Member and Assistant to the Right Worthy Grand Conductress of the General Grand Chapter and Past Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of Florida, presented Sister Sayron Fowler, Secretary of Crestview Chapter No. 203 (for over 20 years) with a "Friendships are Golden Membership Award" for outstanding service in the promotion of the Order of the Eastern Star for volunteering her time and resources to community, district and chapter. Sister Sayron, in tears, was very surprised and thankful.

– Millie Stoker, PG Adah Stargazer Reporter



Heather Earnhardt, TOACM & ARWGC; Sayron Fowler, Secretary; and Jennifer Ludemann, WM

### Belleview Chapter No. 122 Adopts Emerald Shores Elementary School

#### April 2022

Belleview 122 OES has adopted a class at Emerald Shores Elementary School. We have also adopted the school itself. Some of our ladies are volunteering at the school. They help out with the Book Fairs, Health Screenings, Popping popcorn for rewards, and whatever else the school's volunteer coordinator needs them to do. We recently purchased and donated a new Popcorn Machine to the school.

- Nancy Brandlein, PM



Left to right: Lillian Gunn, Peyton Delatorre, Luke Rushing, Mr. Rowe (Assistant Principal), Tony Martin (Worthy Patron), Donna Gann (Worthy Matron), and Nancy Brandlein (Past Matron).



May 2022

## Sister Shirley Ramsey Receives Life Membership Award

Shirley K. Ramsey received a Life Membership Award from the members of Fernandina No. 55, Order of the Eastern Star.

Ramsey was born in 1935 in Roanoke, Virginia. Her OES journey began when she was initiated into the Radiant Chapter No. 13 in Salt Lake City, Utah, in 1973. Eventually she moved to the Fernandina Beach area where she became a member of Fernandina No. 55, in 2004. During her time as a member of this chapter Ramsey served as Worthy Matron, Chairperson of several state committees, and The Grand Representative of Maryland in Florida.

Chapter members remember her most as she served as their secretary for the last eleven years. Kim Grubbs expressed, "What would we have done without Shirley!" With good reason, the members voted to award Ramsey with a Life Membership in Fernandina No.55.

"Now I can attend meetings without having to take minutes," expressed Ramsey. But on a more serious note Ramsey said, "Star has enriched my life. Thank you so much for honoring me with this award."

- Norma Storms



Joy Feit, PGM; Shirley K. Ramsey, Kim Grubbs, WM

June 2022

#### **Project Angel Boxes Continues**

Members from Fernandina Chapter No. 55 make baby dress to put in Angel Boxes for stillborns. The material used is from wedding dresses donated by local residents of Fernandina. Kim Grubbs, Worthy Matron, thanked all those who have donated.

This is an ongoing project and all are welcome to donate any wedding dresses. Contact Kim Grubbs at kimgrubbsoes@yahoo.com for more information.

- Norma Storms



Lucy Hickox, Dawn Beebee, Anna Kerns, Becky Stuart



April 2022

#### **Bonnets and Bows Competition**

Bonnets and Bows for Easter at Mandarin Chapter No. 292 in Jacksonville. Worthy Matron Rosann Parr got everyone in the Easter Spirit by encouraging our Sisters to create and wear an Easter Bonnet for the social time after our stated meeting on April 19. The Brothers were challenged to wear colorful Bow Ties. There was stiff competition for the Most Glamorous and the Most Creative. It was a pleasure to have a candidate petitioning for membership participate in this fun event.

Gale Ruskosky, Worthy Patron



April 2022

#### **Chapter Supports Mandarin Garden Club**

Mandarin Chapter No. 292, Order of the Eastern Star, Jacksonville, FL had a busy weekend supporting the Mandarin Garden Club and local community by selling pulled pork lunches on April 29 and 30. The weather was beautiful and everyone enjoyed working together and meeting our neighbors. Participants included Dennis Sebelist, Associate Patron, Susan Sebelist, Grand Electa, Janice Bowers, Marshal, Suzie Ruskosky, Past Grand Esther, Jean Starke, Grand Representative of Washington in Florida, Rosann Parr, Worthy Matron, Gale Ruskosky, Worthy Patron. Other members working at this event included, Jeff Starke, Grand Representative of Wisconsin in Florida (and Worshipful Master), Edna Ramsdell, Past Grand Organist and Dajana Talijancic, petitioned candidate.

Gale Ruskosky, Worthy Patron





March 2022

#### Myrtle Grove No. 302 Installs 2022-2023 Officers

It was a cold and chilly day for the Installation of Officers at Myrtle Grove No. 302 on March 12, 2022.

Myrtle Grove Chapter No. 302 Installation of Officers With Installing Officer Carolyn Kranz and Assisting Installing Officer William "Bill" Kranz Associate Grand Patron. Congratulations to many time Worthy Matron Kathy Barlow and first time Worthy Patron Robert "Bob" Burns

Refreshments and Fellowship was enjoyed by all in the Dining Hall.

- Kathy Barlow



April 2022

#### Myrtle Grove No. 302 Initiates New Member

On Tuesday, April 26, 2022, Myrtle Grove 302 held a Special Meeting for Initiation. And you know the old saying that "It takes a village?" Well my village stepped up and helped to get Kaitlin Johnson initiated.

We had all six chapters in District 1 represented as well as two members from Ft. Walton Chapter No. 202 in the village!

- Kathy Barlow



Four generations: Kaitlin Johnson newest member, Matriarch- JoAnn Jo Ann Trawick (Conductress), Kathy Barlow (Worthy Matron), Nikki Johnson (Associate Conductress),









## Fort Walton Chapter No. 202 Initiates New Member



Theresa Pelfrey Lanier WM, Veronica Fuss, Kirk Lanier WP

#### April 2022

On Monday 11 April 2022, Fort Walton 202 initiated Sister Veronica Fuss into our Beautiful Star Family. We had a wonderful time of fellowship and dinner prior to meeting. The officers did a wonderful job.

Welcome Sister Veronica!

- Kathy Barlow





May 2022

## Milton Chapter 189 Holds Fish Fry Fundraiser May 14

Hard work plus great fun equals huge success. Thank you to everyone who participated in making this the success that it was. We even had live entertainment. Our Worthy Grand Patron William (Bill) Kranz and Past Worthy Grand Patron Billy Williams really know how to cook up a mean (good) mess of mullet and hushpuppies. It was a great, fun day. Forgot to add...our Past Worthy Grand Matron Charlene Williams can really sell those tickets .

- Alan Bint

















June 2022

#### Sister Sheila Potts, Grand Organist Honored

On Monday June 6, 2022, Milton Chapter No. 189 held an Honor Night for Sister Sheila Potts, Grand Organist of the Grand Chapter of Florida. The courtesy was really good, really funny.

During the meeting, Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Florida William "Bill" Kranz surprised Sister Eloise

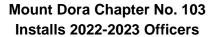
Thomas with her Grand Representative Commission. Sister Eloise Thomas is now the Grand Representative of Alabama in Florida. Congratulations Sister Eloise!

It was a wonderful evening to be at Milton 189. The fellowship and food after the meeting was just as good, with lots of laughter around the room.

– Kathy Barlow Alan Bint, Photographer







April 2022

Mount Dora has a great core of Officers for 2022-23 this year! This photo was taken at our first meeting following our Installation as several of our officers were not able to be at the Installation. Missing from the photo is Mark Nach our Sentinel who has been ill. Fred Carlson is filling in for him until Mark is installed.

We are proud to be the home Chapter to Carl Hargrove P.G.P., Debbie Rosenthal Grand Conductress, and the Plural Chapter of 2022-23 WGM. Michelle "Mickey" Wise.

– Gerri Rosenthal, PG Ruth Stargazer Reporter

#### **Puppy in Training: Martha**

We are delighted to have Carl & Jocelyn Hargrove as Chairman and Co-Chairman of the Service Dog Committee. During Silver drill we have a special jar with paws for donations and a Puppy Bank.

At our first meeting back after Grand Chapter, Mount Dora Chapter had a drawing to name our Chapter Puppy Bank and raised \$85. I was lucky to win the drawing! I chose the name "Gracie, "who passed over the rainbow bridge at the age of 14. She belonged to our new area Chairman, Susan Keast, also a member of Mount Dora Chapter.

We also enjoyed having "Puppy in Training," Martha, at our meeting!

– Gerri Rosenthal, PG Ruth Stargazer Reporter



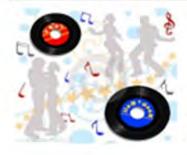




Announcements & Classifieds

## Rock the Night Away with the Golden Oldies Honor Night for

## Sandy Leduc, Associate Grand Conductress



## Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Dress Casual 50s Entertainment and Dancing

Baskets and Grab Bags, 50/50

Jewelry Items, Ladies Scarves, Masonic and OES Crafts

Registration:

5:00 pm

Dinner: 6:00 pm

Where:

Trilogy Event Center (Magnolia House)

100 Falling Acorn Avenue Groveland, Florida 34736

Tickets:

\$25.00 (Catered Meal)

(Deadline: June 30th)

Checks made Payable to:

Sandy's Believers

RSVP:

For tickets, send SASE to:

Leta Dickenson, Past Grand Ruth

101 N. Silver Cluster Court Longwood, FL 32750-4029

(407) 252-0259

Email: leta1949@embargmail.com

Hotel:

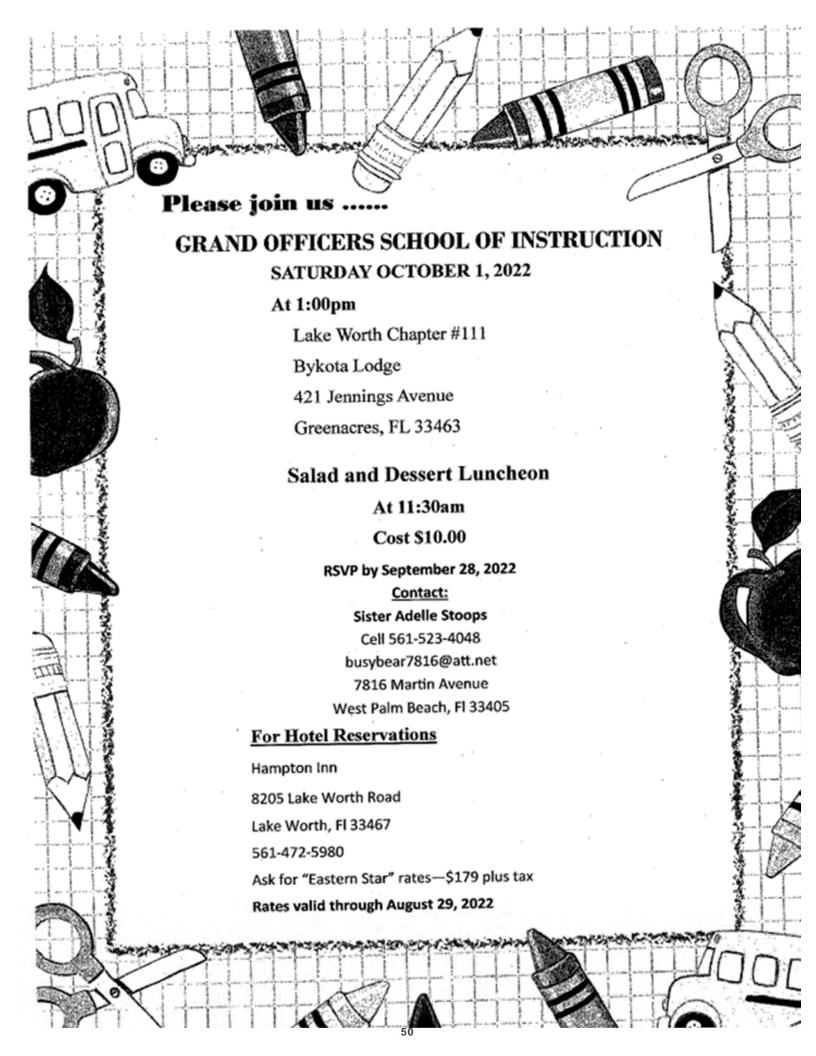
Holiday Inn Express 1810 South Hwy 27 Clermont, FL 34711 (352) 243-7878

Mention Order of Eastern Star Rate: \$99.00 per night plus Tax

Escorts:

Gerri Rosenthal, Past Grand Ruth (352) 267-7147

Email: pgrfloes@aol.com



# **Grand Officer School of Instruction**



## Lodging

By Reservation

Courtyard by Marriott 4670 Lenoir Avenue South. Jacksonville, FL 32216 (904) 296-2828 \$99/per night Fri/Sat

### Location Southside Chapter #28

Duval Masonic Lodge 2620 Dean Road Jacksonville, FL 32216 Lunch 12 noon

\$10.00

(\$9.35 + 0.65 tax)

By RSVP/Join us!

For more information and to RSVP BethAnne Higgins Shumack, WM Call/Text: (904)386-4810 Email: singerba@hotmail.com

Corporate Board Meeting at 10:30 a.m.

The Grand Chapter of Florida, Order of the Eastern Star, Inc. Registration No. CH23035 and The Grand Chapter of Florida Charitable Foundation, Inc. Registration No. CH23036 are charitable organizations registered with the State of Florida under Sections 496.405 Florida Statutes. "A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE"

## EXCELLENCY PROFICIENCY PROGRAM 2022 – 2023

## OFFERING TESTS IN FLOOR WORK, LAWS, RITUAL AND SECRET WORK



REGISTER NOW
TO ACHIEVE EXCELLENCY IN THE WORK OF THE ORDER.

All testing will be held from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Northern Area	Santa Fe Chapter No.105	August 6, 2022
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18616 NW 241 Street

High Springs, Florida 32643

Central Area Ocala Chapter No. 29 October 29, 2022

1846 S.E. 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue Ocala, Florida 34471

Southern Area Englewood Chapter No.300 January 21, 2023

265 Pine Street

Englewood, Florida 34223

Registration forms and instructions are available from Chapter Secretaries, Excellency Proficiency Committee Members and from the Florida Web-site.

www.floridaoes.org

Sent with the approval of the Worthy Grand Matron



### 2022-2023 Stream of Life Committee Grand Chapter of Florida Order of the Eastern Star, Inc.

#### Give Hope, Give Life, Give Blood

Dear Sisters and Brothers.

You have the opportunity this year to earn special recognition from the Grand Chapter by donating blood or blood products. Why should you donate? Simple: It saves lives. In fact, one in every three people will need a transfusion at some time in their lives. Blood cannot be manufactured and it has a short shelf life; the only source for replenishing supplies is a generous human donor - YOU. You may know someone who needed blood in the past, perhaps you have yourself. So, you know how vital it is to be prepared and keep our blood supplies full, ready for any emergency.

Who needs blood and blood products? The largest users are cancer patients, those undergoing orthopedic or cardiovascular surgeries, and those with inherited blood disorders. In fact, every two seconds of every day, someone needs blood.

After you've donated twice, you'll receive a special lapel pin you can wear to show that you Gave Hope, Gave Life, Gave Blood. Take this form with you when you go to the blood center and have them fill it out to show you donated, then mail the completed form to Carolyn Kranz 4787 Anna Simpson Rd Milton, FL 32583 or

ckranz13@att.net

You'll receive your lapel pin shortly after. We hope you'll choose to participate in this important program and Give Hope, Give Life, Give Blood.

Fraternally, Carolyn Kranz, Chairman Peg Harriman Crystel Hill Corey Jansen Pamela Leever

	Chapter	
Date	Donation Center	Technician Signature

The Grand Chapter of Florida, Order of the Eastern Star, Inc. Registration No. CIG2025 and The Grand Chapter of Florida Charitable Foundation, Inc. Registration No. CIG2026 are charitable organization e State of Florida under Sections 496 ADS Florida Statutes. "A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE BOOLASS-72521 WITHIN THE STATE REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSOMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE Sent with the approval of the Worthy Grand Matron





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