

# Celebrating Rob Morris

1818-1888

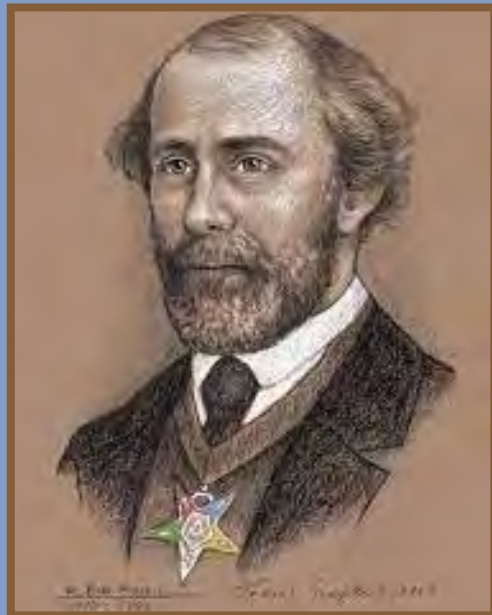
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of Florida



Official Publication of the  
Grand Chapter of Florida



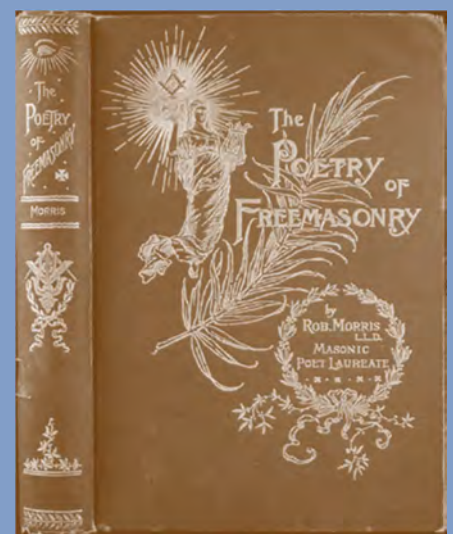
Master Mason



Founder of the  
Order of the Eastern Star



Educator



Writer and Poet Laureate

October 2022

Volume 20, Issue Two



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



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Welcome back from your summer recess, we hope that you had a peaceful and enjoyable time. We look forward to you returning to active service to your Chapters and the Order in the coming months.

Brother Bill, the Grand Officers, and I appreciate all the kindness extended to us as we have traveled throughout the State and we look forward to seeing many of you during our visits this fall.

The Florida Grand Family has had a busy summer. Many of us have attended Georgia Grand Chapter, South Carolina Grand Chapter, and the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, enjoying the fellowship of our Sisters and Brothers from many Grand Jurisdictions. I was pleased to bring greetings on your behalf at Grand Lodge Communications, Grand Court of the Amaranth, Grand Assembly International Order of Rainbow for Girls, and State Conclave of the DeMolay. We cruised the high seas of the Western Mediterranean, experiencing the beautiful and diverse culture of the region. This was an amazing adventure and we thank all who joined us in support of the Worthy Grand Matron's Special Project.

We were honored to be able to present a \$100,000.00 check on your behalf to Tampa General Children's Hospital and \$20,000.00 to their adjoining Ronald McDonald House. This was a very rewarding and inspirational visit and reminds

us how blessed we are to be part of an organization with the resources to assist these dedicated institutions working hard on behalf of children's health.

We invite you to join us in our fund-raising efforts for the Worthy Grand Matron's Special Project- the Fisher House Foundation this Fall at the "Step Back in Time" Degree on November 12, 2022 in New Port Richey. The Flyer can be found on our website, [www.floridaoes.org](http://www.floridaoes.org). Tickets are on sale now!

Please check your Itinerary and the Florida Eastern Star Website, [www.floridaoes.org](http://www.floridaoes.org) for special dates and flyers. Thank you, Brother Dayle, for all that you do in putting together our informative website and keeping us updated on all the events of our Grand Chapter.

Finally, Sisters and Brothers, we are remembering all our members in sickness and distress and lifting them up in our prayers. We have all witnessed many heartaches, and by the grace of God, we have persevered. Let us continue to pray for our Families, our Communities, our Country, and our Order.

Lovingly and fraternally,

Sister Mickey  
Worthy Grand Matron

Brother Bill  
Worthy Grand Patron





# Grand Chapter News







# Florida Grand Chapter Presents Check to Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine

September 2022

Winston-Salem, NC

After a restful night and a sumptuous breakfast at the nearby Historic Brookstown Inn, a Florida delegation of over forty Order of the Eastern Star (OES) members drove to Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine (WFIRM). Among those attending were three special OES guests, the Most Worthy Grand Matron, Glenda Winchester; Peg Reiterman, Chairman of Regenerative Medicine Committee, GGC & PGM of Ohio; and PGM Nancy L. Ford, Editor of the Eastern Star Journal.



The delegation gathered in a conference room where they met with Ms. Geneva Kelly, Chief Philanthropy Program Officer. She outlined the day's activities which included lunch, a tour of the Institute, and a special meeting with Dr. Anthony Atala, Chair and Institute Director on September 21.

Ms. Kelly, a fellow OES sister, presented a short lecture on how WFIRM began, its mission and how the OES became involved. Open since 2004, WFIRM is a non-profit organization which depends upon governmental grants and private philanthropies, such as OES, for funding support. WFIRM's mission is to create a medical center to provide patients with affordable treatments and therapies with the goal of curing disease rather than just treating it. She explained how Wake Forest wants to be the trusted voice people can turn to when looking for treatment or therapy.

She explained Wake Forest Institute is a non-profit organization which does not accept money from big companies because of the strings that come attached to that money. She said medical treatments should be available to all people, not just those with money.

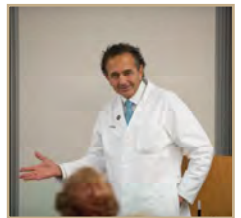
Although governmental grants provide 80% of its funding, it is often earmarked for specific military projects such as finding new ways to regenerate repairs to horrific injuries to make soldiers as whole as possible. It was this mission of helping wounded soldiers that drew the MWGM Helen Westmoreland to WFIRM and created the OES connection. WFIRM researchers have successfully engineered replacement tissues and organs. Their medical focus is multi-pronged: programs are not limited to repairing injuries, but include research into treatments and therapies for Alzheimer's, diabetes, post-traumatic stress disorder, cancer,

drug addiction, aging, and cardiovascular diseases to name just a few.

The tour followed a delicious Greek lunch buffet that left no one hungry. The OES delegation was divided into small groups and assigned a tour guide comprised of both staff and advanced students who were informative and delightful. Each group started on different floors or intervals to avoid any crossover. The groups were advised photographs were off limits while touring.

It was a lot to take in. Everything from organ engineering to the 3D bioprinter developed in 2016 using "cell ink." One of the most fascinating things seen on the tour was the "Body on a Chip" Project. This project grows miniature 3D organs like hearts, lungs, and livers called organoids and they can be used singly or linked together to test new drugs. These tests on the organoids can help make more accurate predictions of the human body's response to new medications, speeding up getting results in weeks instead of months or years.

After the tour, the OES delegation returned to the conference room to hear from Dr. Anthony Atala. This personable, humble man spoke about his research and his passion for regenerative medicine. He talked about how the loss of one young patient sent him on his remarkable medical journey, his first success with implanting a patient with a regenerated organ, and how Wake Forest convinced him this was the best place to achieve his goals. He said that regenerative medicine is the future of medicine because quality of life is important to everyone.



Dr. Atala talked about the importance of funding at all stages of research which is a 24/7 process. Data is the key to finding funding. With data more research can be done. He described the testing research stage as the "Valley of Death" because people want to see data, not ideas. This makes funding difficult to find at this stage. Without testing to create the data, a project can languish for months or years. This is why philanthropy is crucial for this stage of research.





After a Q&A with Dr. Atala, the MWGM Glenda Winchester, spoke on the support OES was with the regenerative program, how Wake Forest Institute aligns with OES's ideals, and without funding, there can be no research. And without research, there would be no medical cures.

Florida Grand Chapter members Margaret Nathurst, GGCCM, PGM and Grand Treasurer; Billy Williams, Co-Chairman of the Regenerative Medicine Committee GGC and PGP ; William "Bill" Kranz, WGP; AGM Gail Jerrell, AGM; Brenda Keepin, GS; Debbie Rosenthal, GC and Sandy Leduc, AGC presented an \$87,000 check from Florida OES Grand Chapter to a very surprised and appreciative Dr. Atala. This was OES stepping in and filling the gap.



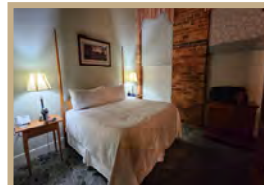
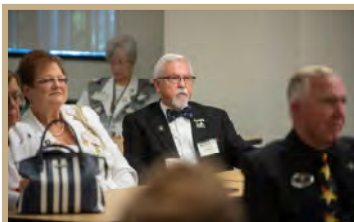
L to R: Peg Reiterman, Chairman of Regenerative Medicine Committee, GGC & PGM of Ohio; MWGM Glenda Winchester; PGP Billy Williams, Co-Chairman of the Regenerative Medicine Committee GGC; Dr. Anthony Atala; WGP William "Bill" Kranz; AGM Gail Jerrell; GS Brenda Keepin; Margaret Nathurst, GGCCM, PGM and Grand Treasurer; GC Debbie Rosenthal; and AGC Sandy Leduc

GRAND CHAPTER OF FLORIDA ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR, INC. CHARITABLE FOUNDATION, INC.		3100
		September 21, 2022
PAY TO THE ORDER OF	Wake Forest Institute	\$87,000.00
Eighty-seven Thousand and <sup>00</sup> / <sub>100</sub> ***** DOLLARS		
MEMO: Regenerative Medicine		Mickey Wise, WGM Bill Kranz, WGP

OES members returned to the Historic Brookstown Inn to join in conversation with wine and cheese at the Brookstown Inn's tradition before enjoying a wonderful catered Italian dinner and conversation in the banquet room.

As the evening wound down, guests headed to bed after having some milk and cookies, another one of the Historic Brookstown Inn's traditions.

To read more information about the WFIRM regeneration research and the Body On A Chip" Project, visit their website at <https://school.wakehealth.edu/research/institutes-and-centers>.







# Mediterranean Cruise for the WGM Special Project

September 2022

Thank you to everyone who sailed with us on the Western Mediterranean Cruis for the Worthy Grand Matron Special Project. I hope you enjoyed your time on the ship, on shore and all arrived home safely. We each have our own story to tell!

— Mickey Wise, WGM

Larry Williamson  
Karen Leonard,  
Rhonda Engelauf-Allen

*Photographers*



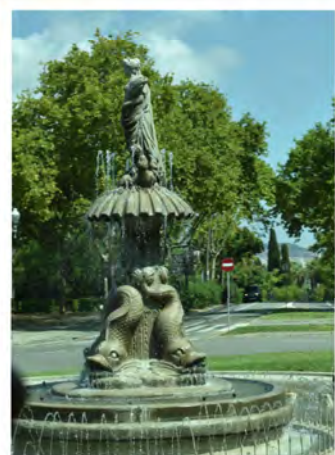
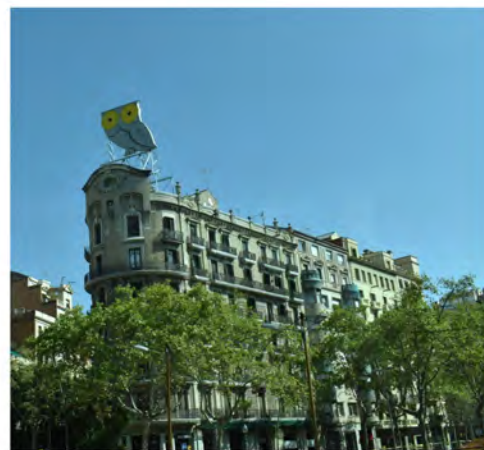


August 25

Before heading to the ship, we did a short tour of Barcelona. This included a brief visit to Park Guell, and then the Arc de Triomf de Barcelona—which is on our WGM's husband's ancestral land (and Leo's ancestors helped build it!)

Finally, we headed to the ship and boarded.

*Rhonda Engelauf-Allen*





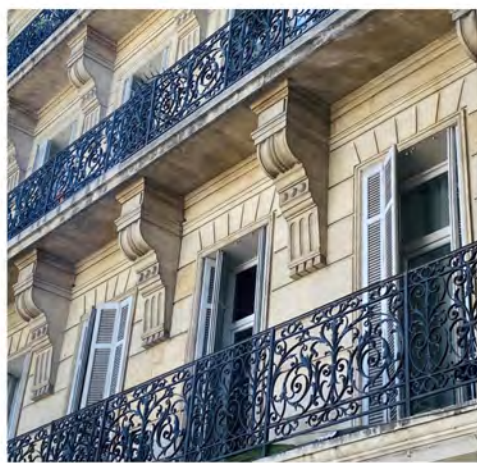
Day 2—Welcome to Provence, Toulon, France!! Some of us went on a walkabout tour - one of the places we visited was the Eglise Saint Francois de Paule.

*Rhonda Engelauf-Allen*





– Karen Leondard

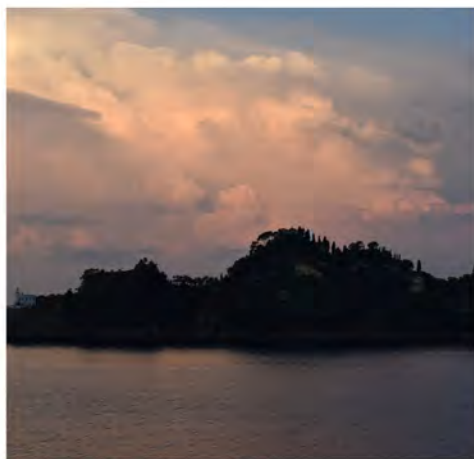




Day 5

We ported in Portofino, Italy and took a tour to Genova (Genoa). We visited the Palazzo Nicholosisio Lomelino, the deutsche Bank and the Chiesa Cattedrale Metropolitana di San Lorenzo before stopping for lunch. Check out those "individual sized" pizzas!

*Rhonda Engelauf-Allen*







# ESTARL Recipient Spotlight

## Katherine Rives

Dear Sisters and Brothers ,

Thank you for your ongoing support of ESTARL. Please remember, while December is the time when we focus on ESTARL we accept donations all year long. It is an amazing charity that truly keeps on giving, as we prepare ministerial leaders of all kinds. A contribution to ESTARL is a great way to acknowledge someone's birthday, an anniversary of any kind, or a memorial. Recognition will be sent to the person whom you are honoring. Currently we have eight ESTARL Recipients. We will feature one or two in each of the upcoming newsletters.

Michele Guest, Past Grand Chaplain

ESTARL Chairman

### Katherine Rives

It is our privilege to introduce you to Katherine Rives, who is sponsored by Mt. Dora Chapter #103. Katie was first granted the ESTARL Scholarship in 2019, but her way to us was a crooked journey – not unlike those Jesus often sets us upon. She was raised in the Episcopal faith, and church was always a rule of life for her family. She explains that twenty years ago, she had that “Come to Jesus” meeting. She was a schoolteacher, and the Lord began using her talents to teach bible studies in the church, to be a lay speaker, to author and conduct women's retreats, teach and preach whenever asked and participate in intercessory prayer initiatives. Katie shares that God opened doors -- she never knocked, He just invited her in and she, obediently, entered every time. She felt God's call to formal ministry, and it was affirmed by the clergy and the parishioners she served. In 2019 she was teaching at a local elementary school, and her pastor encouraged her to take the leap and attend seminary full time. He contacted his alma mater and arranged for her to fly up to Pennsylvania for an interview. God opened a door and told her to “fasten your seatbelt.” In a complete leap of faith, she quit teaching and headed to Pittsburg! While it was not the best fit for Katie culturally and she did not experience the camaraderie she hoped or imagined she would find in a seminary, she appreciated learning much about different theologies and viewpoints, and how to understand others while staying true to herself. As Katie explained ... Pittsburg is a difficult place for a “Southern Girl.” Through all of that, she celebrates God's grace in introducing her to her future husband, an unexpected consequence of those challenges. One of the helpful outcomes of the pandemic was the need to find online options. Thus, after a year in Pittsburg, she transferred her studies to Dubuque Theological Seminary. (She shared that

while she was on her way to meet Debbie Rosenthal – she saw a Dubuque license place cover and she considered that the God Wink of approval, as she was discerning her transfer there.) This allowed Katie the opportunity to return to Florida, get married, and complete her studies at home, close to her family. She has three grown children and resides in Tangerine, Florida.



This fall is a particularly challenging time as she completes her academic studies for her MDiv. (Master's in Divinity), sits for five ordination exams and must also complete a 400 hour CPE requirement for the Central Florida Presbytery. Katie hopes to become a Hospital Chaplain at Advent Health. She has been one of our most communicative recipients, sending letters every semester to Mt. Dora and keeping the committee up to date on her progress. I've had the opportunity to speak with her many times – she is inspiring and exciting. With every letter – Katie expresses her deepest appreciation for ESTARL. I believe, it is us who are most blessed by her commitment to serve God, and the impact she will make in our community – in our world.

Please join me in prayer for the final stages of her study – and wherever God appoints her to serve.





# OES Community Outreach Program

## Service Dog Program

*May 2022*

On May 25, 2022, Sister Donna Schrock, P.G.M., with the assistance of Sister Dianna Williamson, PG Ruth, swore into service along with Brevard County Sheriff Wayne Ivey officiating, the Service Dog which I chose for the Community Outreach Program. I named the German Shepherd Service Dog, STAR with the help of Sister Dianna and Sheriff Ivey (who is a Brother Mason in Brevard County). The Sheriff really liked the name STAR as he did not have a Service Dog on staff with that name. The handler advised us that we could come and see STAR anytime to see how he is doing. I look forward to seeing how his training is progressing.

The \$10,000 was for the Service Dog and \$5,000 for a Finger Printing Machine for the Brevard County School Children.

This money comes from our OES Endowment and Investment Funds.

I would like to thank the Order of Eastern Star for allowing me to pick a worthy cause to donate the \$15,000 I was allotted by the Community Outreach Program for any 501(C)(3) charity of my choice.

Hopefully the membership will continue to support this program to establish the awareness of The Order Of Eastern Star, Inc. in our communities across the State of Florida.

— Donna L. Schrock, P.G.M.



STAR and his handler, PGM Donna Schrock, PG Ruth Dianna Williamson, Brevard County Sheriff Wayne Ivey



## Florida OES Gives Generous Donations to Tampa General Children's Hospital and Ronald McDonald House

July 2022



On a gorgeous summer day on Tuesday, July 12, the Wise-Kranz Grand Family visited the Tampa General Children's Hospital (TGCH) and the Ronald McDonald House (RMH) on the west coast of Florida. Sister Michelle "Mickey" Wise, Worthy Grand Matron, and Brother William "Bill" Kranz, Worthy Grand Patron, along with seven Grand Officers were visiting for the day. Sister Mickey presented The Grand Chapter of Florida's donation of \$20,000 to the RMH CEO for the West Coast of Florida to sponsor a room.

We started with a tour of the RMH facilities. There are 16 rooms in the RMH provided for families with a place to sleep, eat, and rest at no expense. It was interesting to hear that families have been at the RMH from one night to over three years depending on their individual needs. Two families shared their testimonials with us on what the RMH has meant to them as they had worried about the medical care of their immediate family members

We then walked a short distance to the nearby Tampa General Children's Hospital. The TGCH CEO, along with several staff members, including Jamie Moore (brother of Sister Mickey), shared with us their renovation plans to begin this fall. When we were there, we found out that they have already had 89 meetings to discuss the necessities of still providing out patient day care along with overnight medical hospitalization of young children needing care while fully remodeling the hospital at the same time. Additionally, we found out that TGCH partnered with Shriners for over two years to continue to care for Shriners Hospital's patients since the closing of the Shriners' clinic.

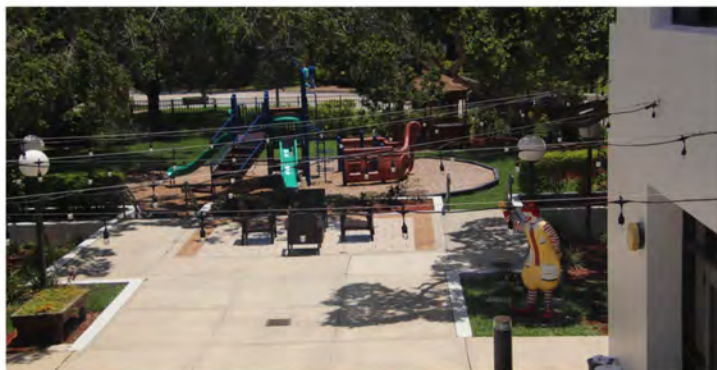
Sister Mickey presented The Grand Chapter of Florida's donation of \$100,000 to sponsor two rooms at the hospital. It was a blessed day to have been present to witness the generosity of The Grand Chapter of Florida membership and to realize how many lives will be touched today and many years in the future by our gifts.

— Barbara Moore, Grand Warder





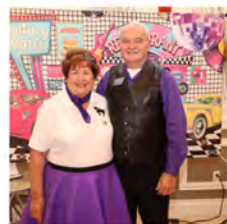
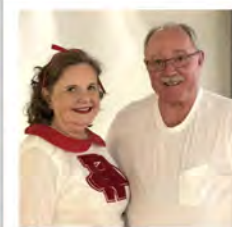
## Taking the Tours







# AGC Sandy Leduc "Rocks the Night Away" Night July 9 at Honor Night



The Photographers





## Wesconnett No. 247 Hosts Second Proficiency Class for District 8

*August 2022*

District 8 had their 2nd Proficiency class on Sat, August 6th at Wesconnett Lodge. Led by our amazing Past Grand Matron Joy W. Feit, Past Grand Patron Robert Lundy and Grand Instructor Debra Kleinsmith, the group learned a lot and had a great day!!

– Rhonda Engelauf-Allen



## District 16 Proficiency Class Held at Temple Terrace Lodge No. 330

*August 2022*

District 16 Proficiency 4 Hour class today led by Sister Lois Casaccia GGCCM PGM. Many subjects, questions, and exemplifications were the work for the day. Although this was for District 16, there were many from District 17 present as well. Thank you Sister Lois for all you do for both our Districts.

– Nancy Bailey-Bice

## District 3 Holds Proficiency Class

*August 2022*

District 3 had their Proficiency Class Saturday, August 13th under the leadership of Sister Betty Beasley, Past Grand Matron. Also moderating were Brother Coy Beasley, Past Grand Patron, Sister Brenda Keepin, Grand Secretary and, myself, District 3 Grand Instructor. With 35 in attendance, there were lots of good discussions, questions and clarifications. We also had four members from District 4 join us and we were most happy to see them! After the class, many members gathered for fellowship and food at Golden Corral. Thank you, Sister Betty Coy Beasley for your time and expertise!

– Sandy Johnson Pettis

## District 14 Proficiency Class Held at Mizpah Chapter No. 190

*August 2022*

District 14 held their Proficiency Class at Mizpah 190 on August 13 under the direction of Sharon Strosnider PGM. We forgot to take a photo. We had our AGC Sandy Leduc present. It was time well spent.

– Beth Bergmann





## Daytona No. 1 Hosts District 10 Proficiency Class

August 2022

The Proficiency Class was held at Daytona #1 on August 13th. This wonderful class was well attended and we learned a lot. Harmony was a special word of the day. Thank you Sister Floye Hyslop and Sister Theresa Pierce Behe, PGA who assisted Floye. We are so lucky to have Sister Floye as our PGM.

Daytona #1 provided breakfast goodies and our lunch. Great job everyone. It was excellent. A special thank you to Sister Chrissy Runyan, WM and Brother Sean Alec Stenson, WP.

– Holly Abbott  
Stargazer Reporter



## District 8 Proficiency Class Held at Fernandina Chapter No. 55

July 2022

Kim Grubbs, Worthy Matron, and Mike Feit, Worthy Patron, of Fernandina No. 55, hosted the District 8 Proficiency Class on July 16. Members of Fernandina provided lunch during the one hour break from class. The Proficiency Class instructors were Joy Feit, Past Worthy Grand Matron, and Robert Lundy, Past Worthy Grand Patron. They emphasized the importance of following the Ritual written by the founder of OES, Dr. Rob Morris. Floor work was exemplified by volunteers. The members were encouraged to ask the instructors questions. After the meeting, members were saying to Sister Joy and Brother Robert, "Thanks, we really learned a lot."

Norma M. Storms

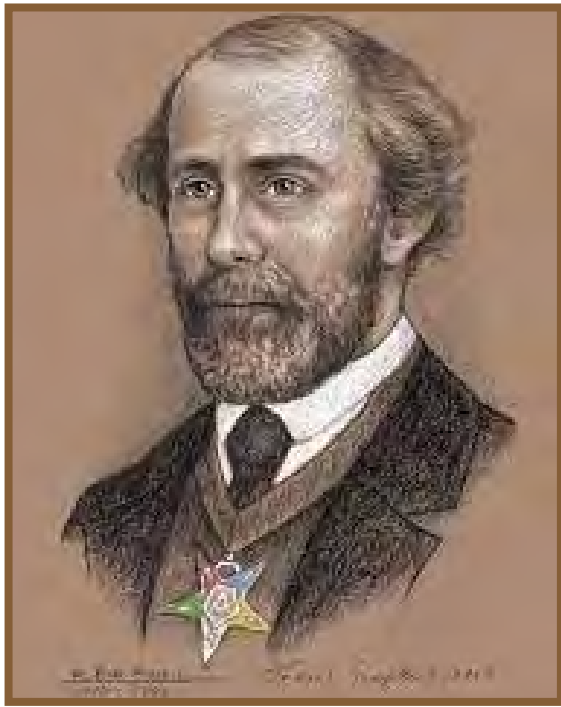






# Celebrating Rob Morris

1818-1888



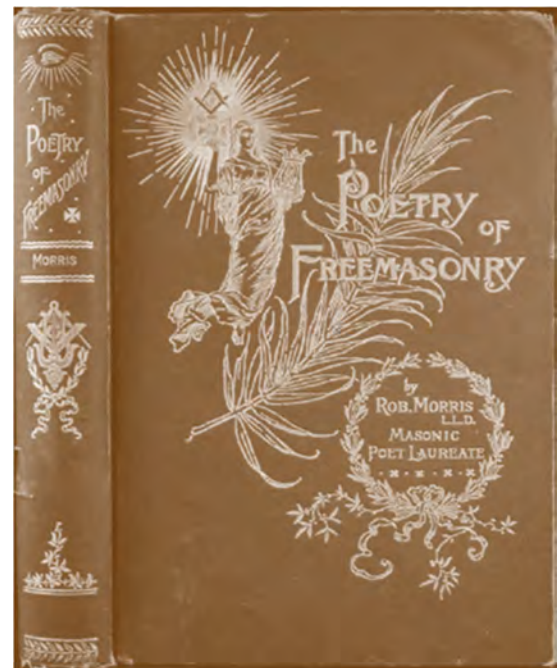
Master Mason



Founder of the  
Order of the Eastern Star



Educator



Writer and Poet Laureate





# Factoids

## Rob Morris

- ☆ 1818 – Born August 31 near Boston Massachusetts
- ☆ 1841 – Married Charlotte Mendenhall August 26
- ☆ 1846 – Became Master Mason in Oxford, Mississippi March 5
- ☆ 1848 – Introduced degrees of the Order of the Eastern Star as a part of the freemasonry fraternal organizations which would include men and women
- ☆ 1854 – Published his best known poem “The Level and the Square”
- ☆ 1858 – Became Grand Master of Kentucky. Held more than 150 honorary degrees and complimentary memberships
- ☆ 1860 – Moved to LaGrange, Kentucky where he taught at Kentucky Masonic College. Presented honorary PhD by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky
- ☆ 1868 – Visited Holy Land for research into the antiquity of Masonry
- ☆ 1871 – Responsible for the construction and maintenance of first Masonic Home in Kentucky
- ☆ 1872 – Published his book *Freemasonry in the Holy Land*
- ☆ 1884 – Named Poet Laureate of Freemasonry December 17
- ☆ 1888 – Died on July 31 and is buried with his wife at the Valley of Rest Cemetery in LaGrange
- ☆ Published 73 works, and over 400 poems in addition to innumerable lectures, contributions to Masonic periodicals

## Order of the Eastern Star

- ☆ **First Era** – 1850-1866 under the leadership of Dr. Rob Morris
  - ◆ 1850 – Rob Morris developed the principles of the Eastern Star Order and created the first ceremonial book: *Rosary of the Eastern Star*
  - ◆ 1855 – formed the “Supreme Constellation” in New York which chartered chapters throughout the US
  - ◆ 1866 – turned over all authority of Eastern Star to Robert Macoy while Dr. Morris traveled in the Holy Land
- ☆ **Second Era** – 1866-1876 under the leadership of Robert Macoy of New York
  - ◆ 1867-68 – Macoy complied and published a Ritual based on Dr. Morris’ Rosary and organized Chapters. First Grand Chapter of Order of the Eastern Star organized in Michigan in 1867
- ☆ **Third Era** – 1876-present day. General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star
  - ◆ 1876 – General Grand Chapter formed in Indianapolis, Nov 6. Committees created the *Ritual of the Order of the Eastern Star* as it is known today
  - ◆ 1878 – General Grand Chapter discontinued Macoy Ritual and adopted the Morris Ritual. Macoy helped Dr. Morris organize the first OES Chapter. Robert Morris’ daughter painted the first signet used

### Credits:

“Our History – General Grand Chapter: [easternstar.org](http://easternstar.org)

“Order of the Eastern Star” – Oldham County History Center: [oldhamkyhistory.com](http://oldhamkyhistory.com)

“Robert Morris, Founder of the Order of the Eastern Star” by Kenneth Anderson, Grand Chapter of New Brunswick: [oesnb.ca](http://oesnb.ca)

“Today in Masonic History:” [masonrytoday.com](http://masonrytoday.com)

## Notable and Famous Eastern Star Members

Credit: Facebook page for OES Johnson Chapter #65, Johnson VT

[https://www.facebook.com/Johnson-Chapter-65-Order-of-the-Eastern-Star-160118924053363/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/Johnson-Chapter-65-Order-of-the-Eastern-Star-160118924053363/?ref=page_internal)

Credit: OES Minnesota: <https://mnoes.com/leadership/famous-members/>



- |                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| ◇ Laura Ingalls Wilder   | ◇ Rosa Parks        |
| ◇ Caroline Ingalls       | ◇ Harry Truman      |
| ◇ Ruth Ann Minner        | ◇ Eleanor Roosevelt |
| ◇ Dale Evans             | ◇ Maxine Waters     |
| ◇ Carrie Ingalls Swanzey | ◇ Colleen Dewhurst  |
| ◇ Martha Griffiths       | ◇ Everett Dirksen   |
| ◇ Clara Barton           |                     |



# The Level and the Square

By Robert Morris

*By the eminent Masonic Poet, ROB MORRIS. This Song and Burns's Adieu to his Lodge, are the finest productions in the Masonic Order.*

We meet upon the Level, and we part upon the Square,  
What words of precious meaning those words Masonic are,  
Come let us contemplate them, they are worthy of our thought,  
With the highest and the lowest and the rarest they are fraught.

We meet upon the Level, though from every station come,  
The king from out his palace, and the poor man from his home;  
For the one must leave his diadem outside the mason's door,  
And the other finds his true respect upon the chequered floor.

We part upon the Square, for the world must have its due,  
We mingle with its multitude, a cold unfriendly crew;  
But the influence of our gatherings in memory is green,  
And we long upon the level to renew the happy scene.

There's a world where all are equal—we are hurrying towards it fast,  
We shall meet upon the level there, when the gates of death are passed,  
We shall stand before the Orient, and our Master will be there,  
To try the blocks we offer by his own unerring Square.

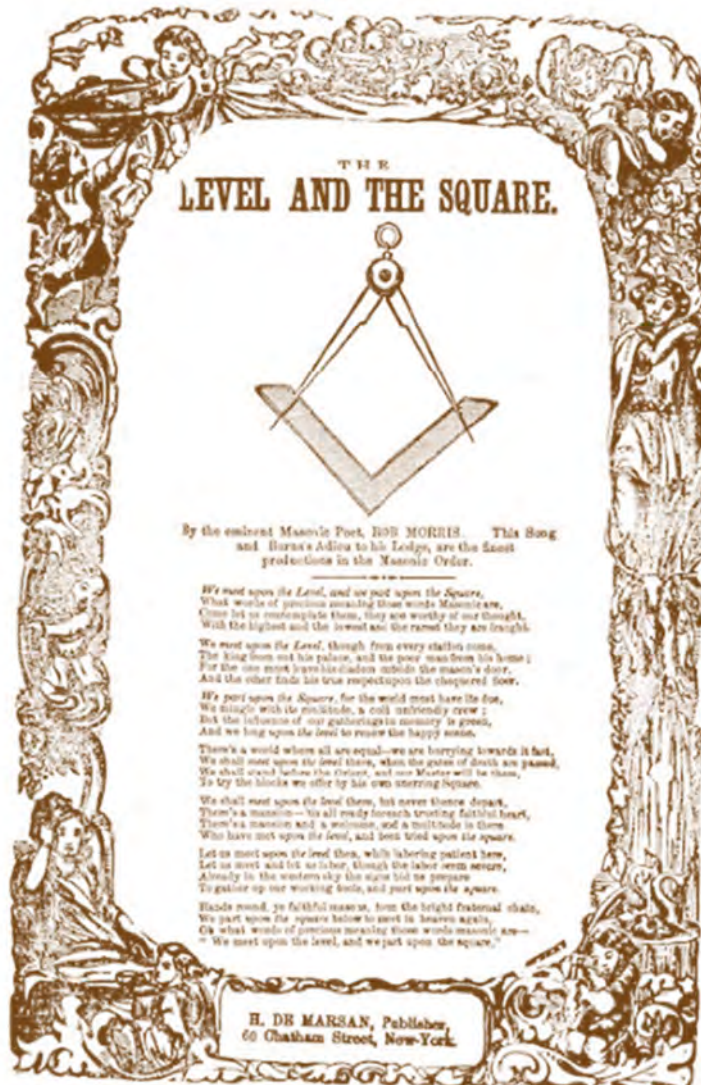
We shall meet upon the level there, but never thence depart,  
There's a mansion—tis all ready for each trusting faithful heart,  
There's a mansion and a welcome, and a multitude is there  
Who have met upon the level, and been tried upon the square.

Let us meet upon the level then, while laboring patient here,  
Let us meet and let us labor, though the labor seem severe,  
Already in the western sky the signs bid us prepare  
To gather up our working tools, and part upon the square.

Hands round, ye faithful masons, form the bright fraternal chain,  
We part upon the square below to meet in heaven again,  
Oh what words of precious meaning those words masonic are—  
"We meet upon the level, and we part upon the square,"

H. DE MARSAN, Publisher,  
60 Chatham Street, New-York.

1854







# Celebrations in August for Rob Morris' Birthday

## **Celebrates Rob Morris Birthday Lynn Haven Chapter No. 262 with Indoor Picnic**

*August 2022*

Lynn Haven Chapter No. 262 hosted the annual District 3 Rob Morris birthday celebration Saturday, August 27th at Harry Jackson Lodge No. 314 with a country themed picnic. Fried chicken, ham, potato salad, baked beans and much more filled our tummies. Many sisters and brothers came dressed to the theme and looked fabulous! There was a corn hole tournament between 2 teams, most of the members never having played before, but enjoying every minute with the side liners cheering them on. All of our Chapters were represented with a total of 36 Sisters and Brothers and it was so good to see some that we haven't seen since going dark.

— *Sandy Johnson Pettis*



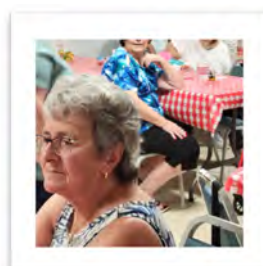
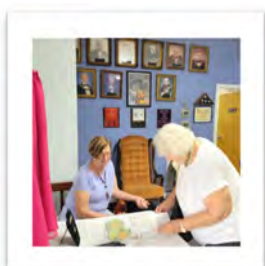
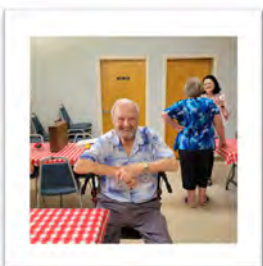
Above is a picture of the corn hole tournament winners.

From left to right: Lynn Haven's Worthy Matron and seated Grand Martha, Sylvia Walsingham,; Patty Creekmore, Panama Chapter No. 102; Guy Pettis, Lynn Haven Chapter No. 262; Cissy Combs and granddaughter Alex, Parker Chapter No. 96

## **District 21 Celebrates Rob Morris Birthday with Indoor Picnic**

*August 2022*

District 21 enjoyed an indoor summer picnic yesterday to celebrate Rob Morris. Many of our members were present as well as the bugs and critters that took their places on our tables. As you can see, the food was abundant! Thanks to Brother Stan Hudson for the delicious entrée of smoked brisket! Door prizes were handed out, Sister Joy Hudson presented a program on Dr. Rob Morris and after the celebration Brother Jim Lambert, PGP conducted our Proficiency class, which every attendee remained for! It was truly an afternoon of fun, fellowship and food.







# Celebrations in August for Rob Morris' Birthday

August 2022

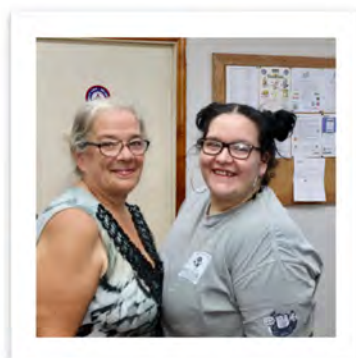
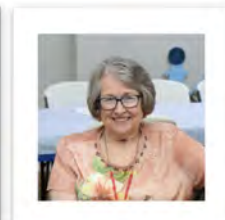
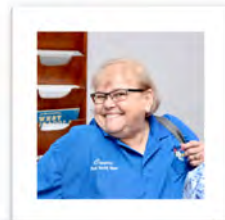
Thank you everybody who came out to celebrate District 7 Rob Morris today! Good food Good Friends and Great fun!!

– Tina Polsen

August 2022

Florida Chapter No. 9 and Myrtle Grove Chapter No. 302 celebrate Rob Morris birthday at Myrtle Grove No. 302. As an added delight we got to celebrate PWGM Audry Cleland's 90th birthday. It was a wonderful evening enjoyed by all.

– Alan Bint







# Celebrations in August for Rob Morris' Birthday

August 2022

Pioneer No. 99 had a fantastic celebration at Anne Dunlap's home. Everyone brought a covered dish to share and there was barbeque beef, pork, and chicken which Anne's husband smoked for us. All the food was delicious and we had a great time getting together outside the chapter room!

– Dianna Williamson, PG Ruth







# Celebrations in August for Rob Morris' Birthday

August 2022

On August 28, 2022. Plant City, OES Chapter #81 hosted the Rob Morris picnic for District 17. It was a wonderful day with fellowship and fantastic food, including a visit from the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Robert J. Lambert and his lovely wife Carol. The Worthy Matron, Mary Hicks, gave a beautiful presentation on the history of Rob Morris and how he was behind the creation of the Order of the Eastern Stars. There were prayers given for our fellow sisters and brothers that

could use the extra strength and we discussed some upcoming events happening. At the end of the afternoon we all got together for a group photo to remember this wonderful day.

*Michelle Wilson, Desoto No. 201 Associate Conductress  
Stargazer Reporter*







# OES Community







## New Smyrna Chapter No. 3

### Hawaiian Luau

June 2022

New Smyrna Chapter No. 3 hosted a Hawaiian Luau on June 12th. The Sounds of Aloha Dancers, eight women and two men, were featured who danced authentic Hawaiian dances.

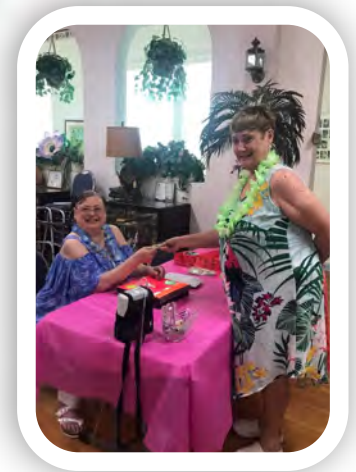
The Social Hall was beautifully decorated, and the food was amazing! A great time was had by all.

If you've never been to this event before, plan on going in 2023. It's an event to remember because New Smyrna knows how to put on a show. Everything is always top notch! Group kudos on a job well done.

– Holly Abbott  
Stargazer Reporter



Karen Leedham, WM and Karen Kirk

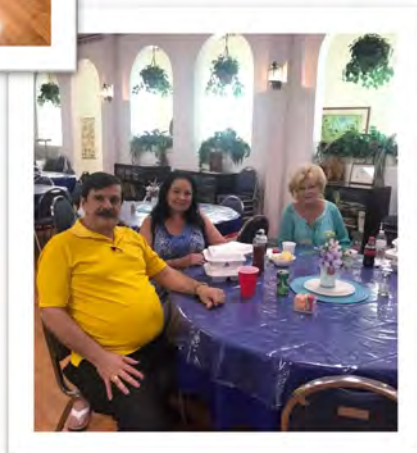


Marjorie Matusick, seated at ticket table, greets Linda Waltz



Sister Karen Kirk (seated) and  
Sister Karen Leedham, WM  
(standing)

left to right: Brother Dick Sharpe,  
Pamela Borja, and Constance  
Meadows



### OES Appreciation Luncheon

July 2022

On July 16, New Smyrna Chapter No. 3 enjoyed an OES Appreciation Luncheon. This delicious luncheon was proved by Worshipful Master Bob Sagara and the Brothers of New Smyrna Lodge. All Sisters and Brothers thoroughly enjoyed it. Thank you so much, Brothers!

– Holly Abbott  
Stargazer Reporter



## Branford Chapter No. 112 Celebrates 4th of July

July 2022

Branford Chapter #112 spend an awesome day today getting out and being part of our small town's "4th of July" Celebration. Throughout the day we sold hotdog meals outside the Lodge and then, at 6:00pm, we participated in the town's parade. We had a Patriotic float all decked out in OES Stars. We also had members walking alongside the float, passing out free water, pinwheels, and glowsticks to those watching with OES stickers on them. The community really appreciated the items and we got OES out there in the community. It was a long day but I am so proud of our Chapter and the hard work they all do. Love them to the moon and back!

— Debra Kleinsmith  
Past Grand Chaplain







## Barberville Chapter No. 51 Hosts Friends Night

June 2022

On June 23rd Barberville Chapter No. 51 hosted Friends Night. It was well attended. All Chapters in District 10 were represented. Karen Cassidy Leedham was WM for Holly Eubank Abbott and Greg Davis, WP assisted her in the East. The Officers of Barberville introduced their friend, read a special quote about friends/friendship and presented a gift bag. Under Good of the Order, Marjorie Anne Matusick presented her WP/PP Greg Davis with his Past Patron pin from New Smyrna Chapter No. 3.

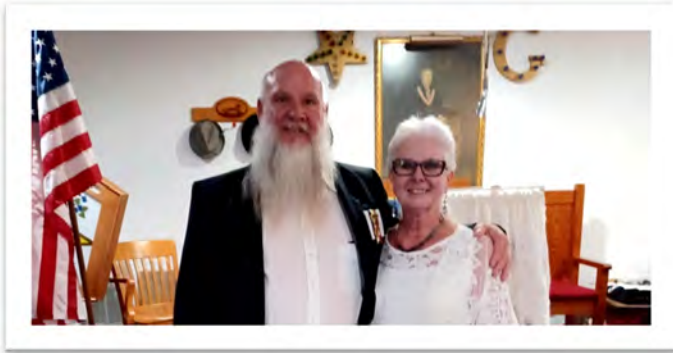
The Friends Night traveling Angel was presented to the Chapter that had the highest number of members present, and "Chicken George" (aka the Rooster) presented to the

second highest number of members present. Daytona No. 1 took home the Angel and New Smyrna Beach No. 3 got "Chicken George."

It was a fun evening which was enjoyed by all. Thanks to everyone for attending!

— Holly Abbott  
Stargazer Reporter

Chaplain Joel T. Burkley , Photographer



Greg Davis, WP , Holly Abbott, WM



Front Row

l-r: Elfriede Byrd, Debbie Burkley, Jeana Murawske, Marie Abagis, Sherry Clarke Gagnon, Greg Davis (WP), Holly Abbott (WM), Karen Leedham, Kathy Miller, Pamela Borja, Sharon Young, Frances Peterson, Marjorie Matusick Easter Perkins

Back Row

l-r: Jerry Lisk, Sean Stenson, Linda Waltz, Harvey King, David Davis

## Panama Chapter No. 102 Collects School Supplies for Callaway Elementary School

August 2022

Worthy Matron Brenda Keepin, Grand Secretary. and Worthy Patron Rich Keepin, of Panama Chapter No. 102 hosted a spaghetti luncheon to collect school supplies for Callaway Elementary School. In addition to Panama Chapter No. 102 members, OES members from Panama, Wewa, Lynn Haven, and Parker Chapters also contributed items which included books, school supplies for the children, and supplies for the teachers' room.

Everyone who attended the luncheon enjoyed a great time of fellowship. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to this worthy cause.

— Marjorie Vassie  
Stargazer Reporter Dist. 3.



Rich Keepin, WP , Brenda Keepin, WM & Grand Secretary





## District 14 Meet for Dinner Over the Summer

July 2022

On August 18

What a great time we had at the District 14 Dinner at Olive Garden!

– Sharon Strosnider, P.G.M.

August 2022

23 members and family met at Red Lobster for dinner and fellowship I apologize for the photos as they are rather dark. It was great seeing several members we haven't seen for awhile. We had members from four of our chapters. We missed St. Cloud and hope they can join us next month. We are looking forward to the dinner next month on September 15.

– Sharon Strosnider, P.G.M.



## Wellborn's Masonic Lodge Honors OES Sister Robin Kimbril with Perpetual Friend Membership

August 2022

Wellborn's Masonic Lodge honored me with a "Perpetual Friend Member" membership tonight! My dad would be so excited!

– Robin Kimbril  
Mayo Chapter No. 196





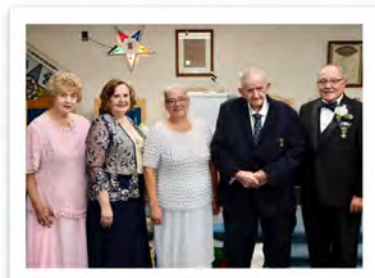


## Myrtle Grove Chapter No. 302 Holds Official Visit

June 2022

On June 28, 2022, Myrtle Grove 302 had their Official Visit with Sister Mickey Wise WGM. We also had Brother Bill Kranz WGP, and three Grand Officers with us for the evening. A wonderful home cooked dinner was enjoyed by those attending. With the meeting at hand, we heard the long form of the Associate Patton's lecture given by Brother Alan Bint. He did a wonderful job. After closing, Sister Mickey and Bro Bill were seated facing East and heard the Story of "The Owl and the Sailor". Every one enjoyed refreshments in the dining hall with more fellowship.

— Kathy Barlow, WM  
Stargazer Reporter







## Desoto Chapter No. 201

June 2022



### Member receives 50 year pin

On Monday, June 13, Desoto Chapter No. 201 had the honor to celebrate Sister Helen Brown with her 50-year pin. Sister Helen joined Eastern Star in 1972 with her best friend Ruth Liekefet; who was there to pin her. Sister Helen joined Temple Terrace #129 in 1972 and served as Worthy Matron in 1979/1980 and then again 1985/1986.

In addition to this 50-year milestone, sister Helen also celebrated her 88th birthday. The Masons of DeSoto Lodge #105 gathered with cake, flowers, and decorations for the evening.

We would like to Congratulate Sister Helen Brown on her 50 years in the Florida OES! A huge thank you to all who came out to celebrate this milestone.

– Michelle Wilson, Associate Conductress  
Stargazer Reporter



### Desoto Chapter No. 201 Has Fundraiser Ice Cream Social

June 2022

On Sunday, June 26th, Desoto Chapter No. 201 hosted their Ice Cream Social fundraiser. In addition to ice cream sundaes, the Masons of Desoto Lodge #105 grilled hamburgers and hot dogs for us. This event was a fun afternoon before our summer break.

A big thank you to our Associate Matron, Kimberly Ledford, for organizing this event for all to enjoy.

– Michelle Wilson, Associate Conductress  
Stargazer Reporter





## Mandarin Chapter No. 292 Hold Fundraiser

August 2022

Mandarin Chapter No. 292, Jacksonville, Florida, Worthy Matron, Rosann Parr and Worthy Patron, Gale Ruskosky want to thank the following members for working the pork lunch sale for the Mandarin Garden Club Clothing Sale on August 5 and 6, 2022.

Thank you to Mandarin Lodge Worshipful Master, Jeff Starke for smoking the six pork butts, and to Jean Starke for the delicious coleslaw. The workers were Suzie Ruskosky, Edna Ramsdell, Linda Languasco, and Dajana Talijancic. It was a wonderful opportunity to work with our neighbor organization. We also got a great bargain on beautiful clothes. It was super hot, but we all had a great time and the pork was delicious!!

Mandarin Chapter and Riverside Chapters are looking forward to a Joint Rob Morris Picnic on August 27 at the Mandarin Park.

*Gale Ruskosky, Worthy Patron*



## Fort Myers Chapter No. 31 Member Celebrates 90th Birthday

September 2022

A 90th birthday celebration was held for Sister Annie Espinosa on September 17th at the Doyle Connor building in Moore Haven. Family and friends ages 8 weeks to 90 years came from near and far to help celebrate. Annie has always been very active in her community and there was a wonderful turnout. She is currently Worthy Matron of Fort

Myers Chapter No. 31 and a 53 year member. She has served as Worthy Matron of Moore Haven too many times to count. Of course, there was plenty of food, karaoke and fellowship. She was really thrilled with such a magnificent Turnout!

*— Pat Benedict*







## Meet the Candidates

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**Candidate**  
for  
**Grand Secretary**

**Brenda Keepin**  
Wewahitchka Chapter No. 229



**Candidate**  
for  
**Grand Treasurer**

**Margaret Nathurst**  
Fort Myers Chapter No. 31







**Candidate**  
for  
Associate Grand  
Conductress

**Darlyne Devany**  
Sebring Chapter No. 126



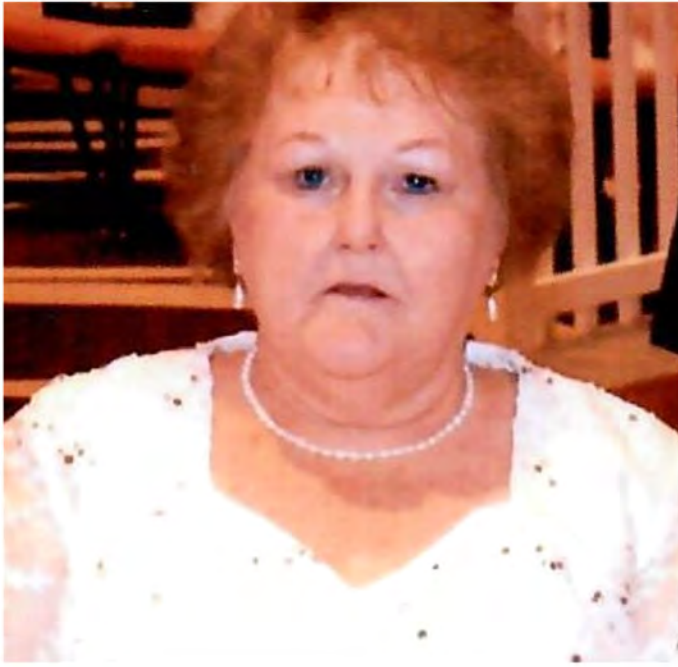
**Candidate**  
for  
Associate Grand  
Conductress

**Mary Ann Holt**  
Ruth Chapter No. 7



**Candidate**  
for

Associate Grand  
Conductress



**Alice Faye Marshall**  
Blountstown Chapter No. 179







**Candidate  
for  
Grand Sentinel**

**Dayle Schrock**  
Harbor City Chapter No. 263



**Candidate  
for  
Grand Sentinel**

**Bruce Ward**  
Bethlehem Chapter No. 169





## Announcements & Classifieds

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# **STEP BACK IN TIME**



## **ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR INITIATION CEREMONY**

**SCOTLAND, 1868 VERSION**

**CONDUCTED BY SISTERS AND BROTHERS FROM  
FLORIDA ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR CHAPTERS**



***Worthy Grand Matron's Special Project Fundraiser  
For Fisher House***

**New Port Richey Chapter No. 117  
5329 Sunset Road, New Port Richey, FL 34652**

**Saturday, November 12, 2022**

**Lunch @ 1pm, Initiation Ceremony Following  
Sheppard's Pie, Salad, Bread, Dessert, Drinks**

***Tickets: \$20 (\$18.69 and \$1.31 tax)***

***Make checks payable to: Worthy Grand Matron's Special Project  
Send to Alisia Sickler, PG Ruth (727) 215-6026 [mamalish3@gmail.com](mailto:mamalish3@gmail.com)  
11405 Billfish Circle, Apt. 108, Trinity, FL, 34655***

***Program Ads - \$30 Full Page, \$25 Half Page, \$20 Quarter Page, \$5 Booster  
Contact Gerri Rosenthal, PG Ruth (352) 267-7147 [pgrfloes@aol.com](mailto:pgrfloes@aol.com)***

***Portraits \$10 (\$9.34 + \$.66 tax) By Elizabeth vonNeumann  
A Shot of Perfection Photography  
Baskets 50/50 Drawing***

NOTICE: THE GRAND CHAPTER OF FLORIDA, CHARITABLE FOUNDATION, INC. REGISTRATION NO. CH23036, IS A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION 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."

**Sent With The Approval Of The Worthy Grand Matron**

# SANDY'S BELIEVERS

## JOIN US IN CELEBRATING HAVANA NIGHTS



Enjoy some authentic Latin cuisine and an evening of dancing the night away to the greatest hits with a Latin twist.



When: Saturday, December 17, 2022

Time: 6:00pm to 10:00pm

Where: The Grotto

1700 Edgewater Drive

Orlando, Florida 32804

Tickets: \$25 per person (\$23.50 plus \$1.50 tax)

Make checks payable to: "Sandy's Believers"

Mail to: Leta Dickenson

101 Silver Cluster Court N

Longwood, Florida 32750

**RSVP by  
December  
10, 2022**



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SENT WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE WORTHY GRAND MATRON



General Grand Chapter is sponsoring a Service Dog Cruise that will be leaving from our own Port Canaveral!! Check out their Facebook page - November 4-11, 2023 Carnival Mardi Gras Cruise.

—Heather Earnhardt



ARE YOU READY TO CRUISE?

## **CRUISING FOR THE SERVICE DOGS**

Sail away to San Juan, Amber Cay & Grand Turk.

**NOVEMBER 4-11, 2023  
CARNIVAL MARDI GRAS**

This sailing departs Port Canaveral, Florida for a 7-day exotic Eastern Caribbean Cruise.



## **BOOKING IS NOW OPEN!**

**HURRY & RESERVE YOUR STATEROOM!**

Here are the starting prices for your group rates based on double occupancy:

Deposits \$500

Interior (4C): \$1569.54 (\$784.77 pp)

\*\*Ocean View (6A): \$2029.54 (\$1014.77 pp)

Balcony (8B): \$2129.54 (\$1064.77 pp)

\*\* limited number available

Please reach out for any current sale prices.

*For more information or to book your stateroom, please contact  
Rachael Cole with Discover the Magic Vacations.  
rachael.cole@discoverthemagicvacations  
Cell: 1.409.779.4667*

# Grand Officer School of Instruction

**Saturday**  
**October 22, 2022**  
**2:00 p.m.**

*Hosted by*

**Southside**  
**Chapter #28**



## **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.

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# 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 18616 NW 241 Street High Springs, Florida 32643	August 6, 2022
Central Area	Ocala Chapter No. 29 1846 S.E. 36 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Ocala, Florida 34471	October 29, 2022
Southern Area	Englewood Chapter No.300 265 Pine Street Englewood, Florida 34223	January 21, 2023

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

[www.floridaoes.org](http://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](mailto: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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Date	Donation Center	Technician Signature

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**Official Publication of  
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**Vol. 20, Issue 2**

**October 2022**

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FLStargazerEditor@gmail.com

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Districts, Groups**

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waltzl1948@gmail.com

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*Programs* *Congratulations* *Best Wishes*  
*Dinners* *Special Events*

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Georgia Gerren Nancy Tyler  
Barbara Mars Margie Vassie  
Geri Rosenthal Michelle Wilson

**All emailed items should be submitted as  
a .jpeg, pdf, or in MSWord/plain text.**

## **Photography Committee**

Alan Bint, Chairman  
Patty Roach Beth Bergmann

<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Publication</b>	<b>Publish Date</b>
<b>May 1, 2022</b>	<b>Special Edition (June)</b>	<b>JUN 30</b>
<b>SEP 1 2022</b>	<b>October Edition</b>	<b>OCT 31</b>
<b>DEC 1, 2022</b>	<b>January Edition</b>	<b>JAN 31</b>
<b>FEB 1, 2023</b>	<b>March Edition</b>	<b>MAR 31</b>

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or

email FLStargazerEditor@gmail.com.

**Submission deadline  
for **January Edition** issue  
**December 1, 2022****