



Stargazer

of Florida

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A Message From the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Summer has ended and we are about to all get into full swing of our Chapter Meetings once again for the ensuing year. I hope everyone had some time off to enjoy family and friends and a bit of vacation wherever it took you.

We have had a busy summer schedule as you know having attended Multi-State in Mississippi, attending the Secretary/Treasurer Retreat in July and hosting the All Members Seminar in August.

We visited South Carolina and New Hampshire Grand Chapter as well as attended Grand Lodge Communications, Grand Court of Amaranth, Grand Assembly International Order of Rainbow for Girls, York Rite Banquet and DeMolay Conclave. Phew, no wonder I am feeling tired, but I am pumped up with excitement knowing we have spread the word that the Grand Chapter of Florida Order of the Eastern Star, Inc. is alive and out in the community!

Let's keep this going by getting back to our stated meetings and going out into our local areas to let everyone know who and what we are all about. Look for some ladies and gentlemen who want to get involved with us, but remember to look for qualified candidates that reflect everything we love and believe in. We can do this together!

See you soon in our travels across this beautiful state of Florida and remember to smile and love one another.

With Star Love and Happiness,

Sandy Leduc

Worthy Grand Matron

Dayle Schrock

Worthy Grand Patron

The Wind Beneath Our Wings Session

Scriptures

Proverbs 3:5-6; John 11:25-26

Watchword

Believe

Motto

Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe.

Honor Station

Martha

Emblems

Bible, Dragonfly

Flowers

Lilacs, Hydrangeas

Colors

Green, Black, and Silver

Songs

"I Believe", "He"

Worthy Grand Matron's Special Project

Regenerative Medicine



Grand Chapter News





The Order of the Eastern Star Historical Landmarks



What are they? Where are they? Why are they important?

The Historical Landmarks are part of the Order's history. The "Little Red Schoolhouse," first known as the "Richard Literary Institute" and in 1848 it was rechartered as "Eureka Masonic College," where our founder, Dr. Rob Morris, served as Principal. This is the place where he first conceived the degrees of our Order. It is located 50 miles north of Jackson, MS.¹ "After the last session of school held in the building, in 1958-59, the Holmes County Board of Supervisors leased the property to the Grand Chapter of Mississippi for a twenty-five-year period."² In 1968, the Grand Chapter of Mississippi obtained legal title, by special act of the Mississippi Legislature, to the property in exchange for an equal, adjacent tract of land. Since securing possession of the schoolhouse, the members of the Grand Chapter of Mississippi have spent vast amounts of money, time, and effort in a long-range program of restoration. A fence enclosed the property, and rest rooms of red brick have been built. A pavilion, erected in 1962, shelters crowds assembling there in August of each year for a Festal Day picnic. This picnic attracts hundreds of Eastern Star families from Mississippi as well as neighboring states. Each year during the Grand Chapter session [held in June], a tour to the Schoolhouse is conducted by the Board of Trustees, providing an opportunity for out-of-state guests to share the pride which Mississippi members feel in the preservation of this shrine."² It is open daily from 9:30 a.m.– 3:30 p.m. daily at no charge. Sale of souvenirs are available.²

The "Rob Morris Home" is the second of the four Historical Landmarks and is located in the historic district of Central LaGrange, KY. Dr. Rob Morris moved his wife, Charlotte, and their nine children to LaGrange KY in 1860, where he worked at the Kentucky Masonic College. In 1862, he bought the house, built in 1840, that we know as his home. "Among the highlights of the architecture of the house are the front doors flanked by over lights and side lights; a chimney on its west side that is typical of coastal North Carolina chimneys, but extremely rare in Kentucky, and a side hall plan. Non-historic additions to the house include a carport.

The furnishings inside the house date from the time Rob Morris lived in the home and some were actually owned by Dr. Morris (en.wikipedia.org). The Rob Morris Home Foundation is a 501-C3 entity. Its sole purpose is to take care of the Rob Morris Home in LaGrange, KY. Donations to the Rob Morris Home is tax deductible."¹ The website of "Oldham County, KY's Famous People" includes Dr. Rob Morris as one if the individuals who contributed the pivotal formation of American history and was once considered the "Gateway to the Western Frontier." The website also states," The Rob Morris Home in La Grange, Kentucky is kept as a shrine to Rob Morris by the Kentucky Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. He and his wife are buried at the Valley of Rest Cemetery within the town limits of La Grange, KY. The Oldham County Historical Society presently owns the Presbyterian Church where he preached, now known as the Rob Morris Educational Building, and uses it for educational classes, meetings and public programs on their history center campus. It was remodeled and dedicated on August 20, 2006, by Freemasons and the Order of the Eastern Star. Rob Morris said there were two things in life dear to his heart: his little Presbyterian Church and Freemasonry. He taught at Funk Seminary which was a college for children of Freemasons. He also inducted Clara Barton into the Order of the Eastern Star."³

The third historical landmark was first known as the "Perry Belmont House" and is located in Washington, D.C. It is the International Headquarters of The Order of the Eastern Star. The business offices of The Order of the Eastern Star are located in part of the house. A portion of the house is also the residence of the Right Worthy Grand Secretary. It was designed by renowned Parisian architect Ernest-Paul Sanson and built in 1909. The inside has eleven fireplaces, most of which have hand-carved marble mantles. "All of the marble came from Italy, all of the wood from Germany, and all of the metal from France.



(continued from previous page)

The three-story, wedge-shaped building occupies an entire triangular city block.” Tours may be scheduled to see the elegance embodied inside this architectural wonder. Additionally, virtual tours are available on the General Grand Chapter Website.¹

The fourth and last historical landmark was established in 1932. It is the International Peace Garden located on the border of North Dakota, of the United States and the Province of Manitoba, Canada. It was a collaboration between members of the order of the Eastern Star in both the United States and Canada. Both countries contributed hundreds of acres to exhibit a living testimony of peace and harmony between the two countries.⁴ Entrance to this landmark is available from both countries with a valid passport. There are over 2300 acres nestled in the Turtle mountains, and beautifully landscaped with flowers, fountains, a chime, a lodge, a museum, flower gardens, hiking trails, scenic drives, and displays.⁵

Included in the International Peace Gardens (IPG) is the original monument symbolizing the joint effort which contains both the United States Flag and the Union Jack. “50,000 individuals traveled from all over the United States and Canada to witness the groundbreaking and dedication ceremony. The first buildings constructed on the site were the barracks that housed the Civilian Conservation Corp workers as they worked to create the garden. The Historic Lodge was constructed after the barracks and still serves as a monument to early times and used for a variety of IPG events today.”⁴

Another structure located on the site is a floral clock donated by Bulova in 1964 and is an exact duplicate of the original Bulova Floral Clock in Berne, Switzerland. It has a clock face of 18-feet in diameter with over 2,000 annual flowers.⁴

Other structures on the site include fountains, a chime, a conservatory and a café. More recently added are “the Carillion Bells, the Hands of Peace sculpture, and the 9/11 Memorial [which were] possible through generous gifts of organizations that continue to support the vision of the garden’s original founders.”⁴ Also available are rental cabins and camping by reservations. Various events are ongoing all year that may be found on their website at www.peacegarden.com.⁶

While there are more than two-hundred structures within the boundaries of the Peace Garden, the only building on the Canadian side of the garden is the Willis Pavilion, built in 1967 as part of the Canadian Centennial Project. [the Peace Chapel was] built in 1968. It is a beautiful stone structure that includes imported French colored glass panels. The Chapel is constructed from Manitoba limestone and inscribed with quotes of peace from international leaders.⁴

The Peace Chapel is the only building that lies directly on the border straddling both the United States and Canada. “Peace Chapel is sponsored by the General Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star. Tyndall Stone walls are embedded with marine fossils and inscribed with quotes.”⁶

This Chapel was the primary project of the 33rd Triennium of The General Grand Chapter of the Order. It was dedicated in 1970 and completed in 1972. Members of the Order of the Eastern Star from the United States and Canada in a joint effort made this landmark possible. The Peace Chapel is non-denominational and is often rented out for weddings and other occasions.

*Sister Valerie Tooma Gray
Historical Landmarks Committee Chairman, Florida*

Bibliography

¹ www.easternstar.org

² www.holmescountymys.org/little-red-schoolhouse

³ www.oldhamkyhistory.com/famous-people/ (click on “ROB MORRIS” for detailed information)

⁴ www.peacegarden.com/history

⁵ www.peacegarden.com/discover

⁶ www.peacegarden.com





Florida Grand Chapter Donates \$100,000 to Nemours



June 2025

I was proud to represent our Grand Chapter of Florida Order of the Eastern Star, Inc. with giving \$100,000 to Nemours Children's Health and presenting \$20,000 to Ronald McDonald House.

Nemours Hospital will be able to purchase a medical mobile van to help so many needy families in our area. I only wish all our members could have come with us, but attendance was limited.

— Sandy Leduc
Worthy Grand Matron



5. **Community Health Mobile Van (\$100,000):**
The mobile health clinic at Nemours Children's Health, overseen by Dr. Laura Chilcutt, is a pioneering initiative designed to bring essential healthcare services directly to underserved communities in Central Florida. Since 2021, this clinic operates out of a repurposed van and visits one of three locations one Saturday per month, including a community center, a nonprofit's office, and the Mexican consulate. Dr. Chilcutt and her team of volunteers provide vaccinations, well-child visits, and screenings for hearing, vision, and emotional health. The clinic also distributes food aid and helps families apply for public assistance. For many of the clinic's patient families, the visit may be their child's first health care appointment.





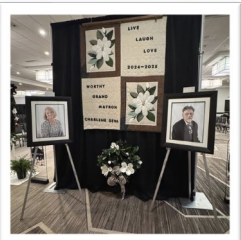
Florida Grand Officers Visit South Carolina Grand Chapter



June 2025

So proud of this Grand Family. Our 8 Appointed looked wonderful being introduced on the Grand chapter of South Carolina floor. So sad we couldn't get a photo as the Bible was open of course, but trust me, they all looked top notch!

— Sandy Leduc
Worthy Grand Matron



June 2025

Wonderful afternoon at the zoo with 8 of our 9. Then out to dinner with everyone. Making memories at South Carolina Grand Chapter!

— Sandy Leduc
Worthy Grand Matron



June 2025

Grand Officers took an afternoon off from the South Carolina Grand Chapter to visit a local zoo. On the last day, prior to heading home, we all visited "Pretty Place," a piece of heaven on Earth where we gathered in prayer and celebrated our time together.

— Sandy Leduc
Worthy Grand Matron





Country Jamboree Fundraiser for Regenerative Medicine





Welcome to our new Grand Representatives!



April 2025

It was my distinct honor to give Paula Wheeler Jenkins her Commission to Grand Representative of South Carolina in Florida. This was the first one for me to give and I was so happy to be among so many Sisters and Brothers to honor Sister Paula.

— *Sandy Leduc, Worthy Grand Matron*



August 2025

So proud of Vicki Glasscock and all she has done but honored to be able to give her an appointment. Congratulations, Sister Vicki, our new Grand Representative of Ontario in Florida!

— *Sandy Leduc
Worthy Grand Matron*



August 2025

So proud of Sister Barbara Gant being introduced as Grand Representative of New Hampshire in Florida at the New Hampshire Grand Chapter. She looked beautiful!

— *Sandy Leduc, Worthy Grand Matron*

May 2025

I am honored to present our Grand Representative of Illinois in Florida, Brother Tom Berglund! I had the pleasure to visit Mt. Dora Chapter to give this Commission and see our Grand Organist, Sharon Link, along with our Grand Warder, Gerry Leduc!

— *Sandy Leduc
Worthy Grand Matron*



May 2025

So proud to present Brother Steve Johnson, Worthy Patron of Gulf Beach Chapter with his Grand Representative Pin. Congratulation to Steve, our new Grand Representative of New Mexico in Florida!

— *Sandy Leduc
Worthy Grand Matron*

July 2025

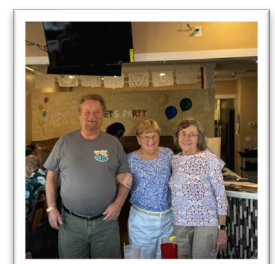
It was a big surprise for Sister Janet Forbes when WGM Sandy Leduc presented her credentials for Grand Representative of Virginia at the District 14 summer dinner held at the El Porto restaurant.

She joins Patrick Biggs, Marcia Burks, Loretta Dow, Pat Rudd, Suzanne Siu, Patrick Uppole, and Dianna Williamson, as District 14's Grand Representatives!

June 2025

What a great chapter meeting attending Wesconnett! It was my pleasure to bestow GR of Arkansas in Florida to Sister Rita Rios. It was wonder to have laughter and fellowship!

— *Sandy Leduc
Worthy Grand Matron*





Grand Representatives Visiting Counterpart Grand Chapters



June 2025

Some of my South Carolina Grand Chapter moments. Although I did not get to meet my counterpart, I am very blessed to have got to spend time with her parents WG P Phil Collins and Grand Ruth Barbara Collins.

— Paula Jenkins

Grand Representative of South Carolina



July 2025

Loretta Dow, Grand Representative of Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island in Florida at Best Western Truro, Glengarry.

— Tracy Green Southwick



June 2025

Delegation at Vermont Grand Chapter!

— Sandy Leduc, Worthy Grand Matron



August 2025

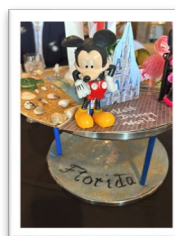
At the Grand Representative's luncheon. My counterpart, Janet Spencer, made the centerpiece representing Florida. She let me bring it home with me!

— Candy Haddix,
Grand Representative of Arizona

August 2025

So proud of Sister Barbara Gant being introduced as Grand Representative of New Hampshire in Florida at New Hampshire Grand Chapter!

— Sandy Leduc, Worthy Grand Matron





Sister Barbara Gant Visits Counterpart Grand Chapter



August 2025

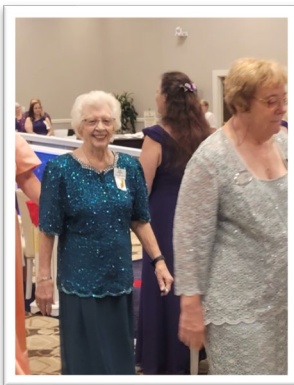
I was excited to meet my counterpart who is a delightful gentleman, Richard Fortier, Sr. PGP and his lovely wife Diane, AGM of New Hampshire Grand Chapter, when they attended our Grand Chapter in April. When I asked, he agreed to serve as my flagbearer. Just another reason to go to New Hampshire!

After Grand Chapter, there was so much to do to get ready for the trip. for the Grand Representative table gifts, I created hand-cast Eastern Star emblems and turned them into hanging ornaments. My daughter, Gina hand-painted every single one. My OES Sisters, Ann and Pat stuffed over 100 bags with my card and peppermint candy. What a blessing it is to have such good friends. Next thing you know, my daughters and I were on a plane to New Hampshire!

Wow! The extracurricular activities started early at 7:30 A.M. Thursday. My counterpart, Brother Richard, scheduled a 2-hour boat ride for me, my daughters, and a special guest, who was none other than the Most Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Billie Bradfield. The weather could not have been more beautiful as we toured the beautiful spring fed Lake Winnepesaukee. After the tour, we went to the Turkey Farm Restaurant (who raise their own turkeys) where Brother Richard had made reservations. We all created happy memories from this special afternoon before returning to the hotel to dress, register, and attend the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire informal opening.

As out-of-town guests, we had preregistered and received our ditty bags that contained a pin showing the Galaxy as our identifiers. We headed back to Grand Chapter to attend the Rainbow/DeMolay, and other programs. That evening, we attended The Grand Chapter informal opening. The day's report included 328 registered with 171 members from 18 chapters in New Hampshire. On Masonic introductions, there were Grand Lodge officers, and I think every other appendant body of Masons, were impressive in dressed in their proper attire for their organization.

Friday morning's meeting started with the Emblem ceremony, flags, and flag tributes. Unlike Florida, there was not a flag presentation by the Grand Representatives. All the Grand Representatives sat together in a reserved seating section. We marched in a single file to the East, were introduced, and then returned to our seating are. I must be getting shorter because I could not see much from my third-row seat, not the altar nor any floorwork!





Sister Barbara Gant Visits Counterpart Grand Chapter



There was only 30 minutes from the meeting until the Grand Representative luncheon. I scurried to the luncheon where Gina and Jennifer had my table completely decorated and distributed my gifts. Our table decorations consisted of a lighted tree, with orange poofy balls guiding a ribbon road map with a red convertible carrying Micky Mouse traveling from Florida to New Hampshire to the Galaxy of Friendship, a galaxy ball at the top of the tree. I made place mats honoring my counterpart with symbols of his year as PGP and Galaxy pictures from the WGM's theme. Kudos to my girls, without them, it would not have happened!

Seated at our table were my counterpart, Richard Fortier, his wife, Diane, three new friends, my two daughters, and me. Each Grand Representative was asked to stand and introduce their counterpart. Everyone was asked to explain their table decorations. It was fun to hear and see the various ideas. Later, we attended the Grand Chapter Session.

Saturday morning came fast. Brother Richard arranged for us to go on a train ride to Mt. Washington with seating in the Dome close to the treetops up there. My counterpart, Richard was helping his wife prepare for her Installation later this evening and could not go with us on the trip. There were ten of us: Brother Richard's sister and her friend (he made sure we were supervised) the GGC, MWGM, MWGC, and an Ambassador to Thailand. We boarded the train for our 4-hour trip. Those hours flew by as we continuously chatted. On our way back, we changed sides and visited with new-found friends.

At 5 p.m. we attended Sand Dollars Installation Buffet for some excellent food. The Installation of Officers ceremony started at 7:00. We saw our Grand Chapter of Florida attendees: Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Sandy LeDuc; AGM Sister Joleen Goodwin, and some other Floridians were there. Unfortunately, it was such a busy time, and we did not get to visit them enough while we were there.

What a privilege to have served our order as Grand Representative. I'm pretty sure Florida hospitality was spread there being the "Chatty Cathys" we are. I'm sure some will remember our presence at the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire in August 2025. I'm fortunate, Brother Richard and I have kept in touch since we met in April. What a fun year this has been so far!

— Barbara Gant, PM Friendship Chapter No. 209
Grand Representative of New Hampshire in Florida 2025-27





ESTARL Recipient Update

Billy Beckett

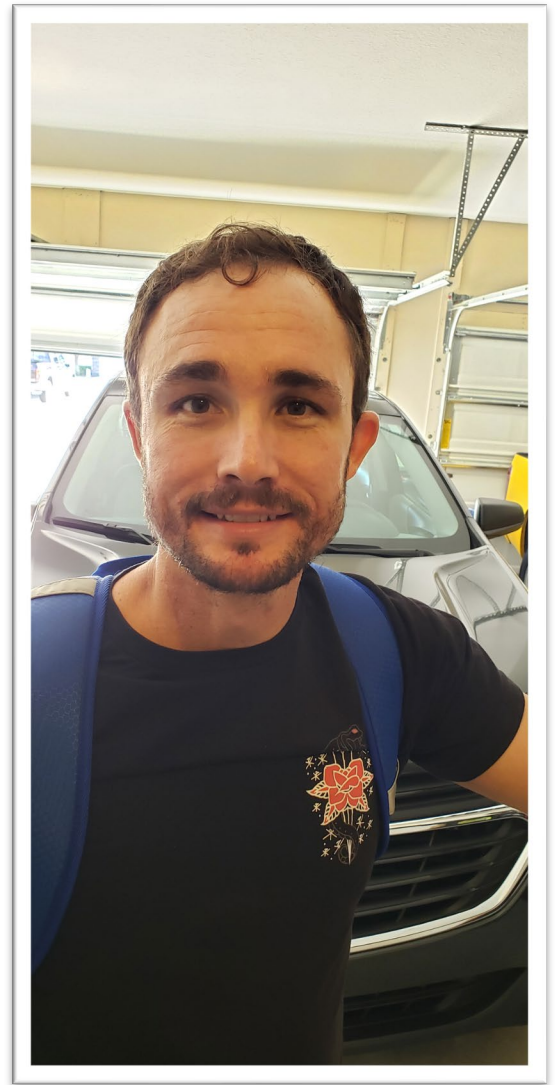


I want to take this time to thank everyone involved with the ESTARL grant. Over the years, your support has enabled me to achieve academic success and become a spiritual leader in my community. I finished my undergraduate work with BCF with two theological degrees, graduating at the top of my class with each of them. During that time, I learned to follow God's calling on my life as a chaplain by serving as a volunteer chaplain with PruittHealth in Fleming Island. After that, I became a chaplain resident with Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville where I earned my second Clinical Pastoral Education unit. I will be graduating from Liberty Theological Seminary in May with my Master of Divinity in Professional Chaplaincy in addition to my third CPE unit as I work towards board certification. I plan to continue my education by pursuing a doctorate at Liberty in order to become a certified CPE educator with Liberty University Center for Chaplaincy so that I might train future chaplains to love people where they are while maintaining their integrity before the Lord.

I am currently serving as a staff chaplain with Haven Hospice in Orange Park where I provide spiritual care to hospice patients and their families both in their homes and at various facilities around Clay County. One of the aspects of this position that I love is that I get to continue serving at Pruitt as a chaplain but now it is in a professional capacity in addition to continuing my service as a volunteer.

I will always hold the Eastern Star near to my heart and remain ever grateful for your kindness and support. Know that you have truly impacted my life and empowered me to serve this community with excellence.

Blessings and peace,
Chaplain Billy Beckett



Celebrating Rob Morris





District Celebrations of Rob Morris



Branford Chapter No. 112 Hosts District 6 Rob Morris Celebration

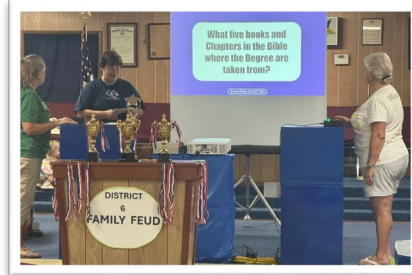


August 2025

On August 16, 2025, District 6 held their Rob Morris annual celebration with a "Family Feud" them hosted by Branford Chapter No. 112. WM Sister Margie Caparelli and WP Robert See welcomed everyone.

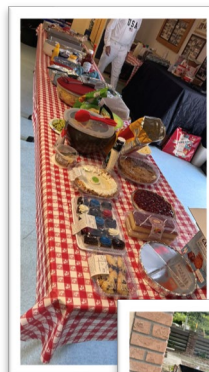
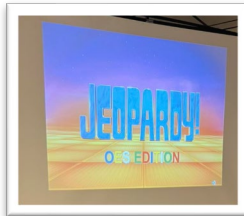
Debra Kleinsmith had a great game of OES Family Feud which was full of challenging questions for all. After several rounds of competition, Santa Fe Chapter No. 105 was the winning chapter!

We enjoyed hamburgers, hot dogs, awesome sides, and homemade ice cream. Everyone had a wonderful time, and we all learned a lot about our beautiful order.



—Brenda Granruth
Stargazer Reporter

Pine Castle Hosts District 14 Celebration



August 2025

What a grand time everyone had with food fellowship, and games. Overall chapter winner in both Jeopardy and Chapter Feud was Mizpah 190! The WGM surprised Sister Athena with a birthday cake.





District Celebrations of Rob Morris

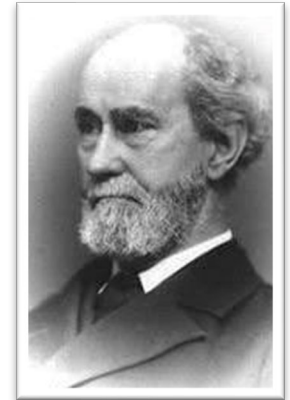
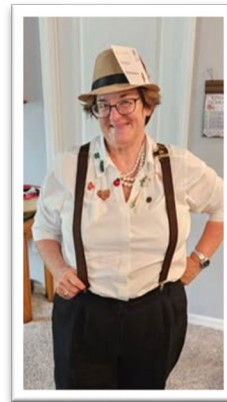


Districts 16 & 17 Meet at Mystic Chapter for Celebration

August 2025

70+ Sisters and Brothers from Districts 16 and 17 met at Mystic Chapter in Temple Terrace to celebrate Rob Morris' birthday. We shared tasty chicken and brats, yummy sides like 3 bean salad, macaroni & Potato salad, carrot salad, and deviled eggs. Then the desserts! From crack to cupcakes, cherry crumble to banana pudding! Wendy Kinka's tribute was a newspaper reporter's interview with the ghost of Rob Morris complete with tux and Press Card. OES Bingo looked fun too!

Phyllis Blanchard



District 21 Celebrates Rob Morris

August 2025

District 21 celebrated the birthday of our founder, Dr. Rob Morris at Fort Pierce Masonic Lodge No. 87, hosted by Ruth Chapter No. 7. I counted 39 in attendance including Sue Simpson, PGM of Ohio, Sister Barbara Thompson, PGM of PA, and Brother Jim Lambert, PGP.

The food was delicious and the dessert table was filled with delightful selectins: peach squares made with fresh Georgia peaches, chocolate truffle, cherry pie, banana pudding and much more!

Judieth Mennel Meng of Sebastian of Chapter No. 204 entertained us with a game based o the TV game show "Switch" that was all about Rob Morris. Sister Judy Jackson, Ruth Chapter, was the overall winner!

Mary Ann Holt, AGM



OES Community





District 1

Jay, Myrtle Grove (1A)
Milton, Ensley (1B)



Myrtle Grove Chapter No. 302 Welcomes GC Jolene Goodwin for Official Inspection

May 2025

It was a wonderful evening of great fellowship, a little laughter, and good food. Oh yes, we had a meeting too with Sister Jolene Goodwin, Grand Conductress here at Myrtle Grove!

—Kathy Barlow
Photography Committee



Introducing Bible Cryptograms



Engage your brain with faith-based material and learn something new about yourself and your relationship with God. (from *Brain Games: Bible Cryptograms*).

Cryptograms are messages in substitution code. Break the code to read the message. For example, FVO QWGDF JGF might become THE SMART CAT. By substituting T for F, G for A and so on, you will break the code to read the message.

Look for cryptograms throughout the Stargazer. The answer key is on page 42 in *Announcements and Classifieds* section.





District 2

Crestview, Niceville

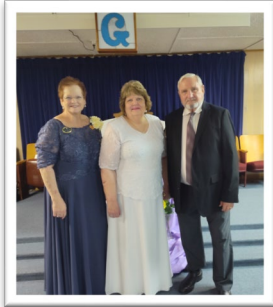


Niceville Chapter No. 254 Welcomes AGM Mary Ann Holt for Official Inspection

June 2025

What a wonderful evening to be with Sister and Brothers of Niceville 254! We were served a wonderful, yummy dinner along with great fellowship and plenty of love to around! The courtesy was of Santa Claus!

—Kathy Barlow
Photography Committee



Bible Cryptogram 1

AT YXJRO EFQ AT OJEHB YEKXJBO: CVB LDQ KR BOJ

RBHJFLBO DY AT OJEHB, EFQ AT WDHBKDF YDH JZJH.





District 4

Marianna, Blountstown, Union Hill



Union Hill Chapter No. 246 Welcomes AGM Mary Ann Holt for Official Inspection

May 2025

It was a wonderful evening to be at Union Hill Chapter No. 246 for the Official Inspection with Mary Ann Holt, Associate Grand Matron. Wonderful smells of the coming dinner greeted us as we entered the beautifully decorated dining room. The fellowship was just as great!

—Kathy Barlow
Photography Committee



Blountstown Chapter No. 179 Gives Warm Welcome to GC Jolene Goodwin for Official Inspection

May 2025

A wonderful evening was spent at Blountstown No. 179 for the Official Inspection with Sister Jolene Goodwin, Grand Conductress. Great food, wonderful fellowship and plenty of love to around. The meeting was great, and the Officers did wonderful work.

The courtesy was different facts about cats. The cats and butterflies were beautiful!

—Kathy Barlow
Photography Committee





District 5

Washington, Crawfordville



Washington Chapter No. 43 Welcomes Grand Officers for Grand School of Instruction

June 2025

It may have been raining and thundering on June 14, but there was a wonderful meal and school with awesome fellowship going on inside! The Grand Officers did an AMAZING job with their work!

—Kathy Barlow
Photography Committee



Bible Cryptogram 2

PKVQVINQV G XFO DMPN OND, JKFP PKGMSX XNVEVQ

OV CVXGQV, JKVM OV LQFO, RVZGVEV PKFP OV QVHVGEV

PKVA, FMC OV XKFZZ KFEV PKVA.





District 6

Grace, Santa Fe, Branford, Mayo



Santa Fe Chapter No. 105 Gives Honor Tea for Chris Ross, Grand Electa

June 2025

Santa Fe Chapter No. 105 had the pleasure to give our Grand Electa, Christine "Chris" Ross, a Tea Party in her honor. The hall was beautifully decorated in red and white with red roses. We had lots of food and tea, of course, for the tea party. Chris' home chapter, Santa Fe, presented her with a beautiful custom engraved crystal plate to commemorate her year as our Grand Electa in 2025.

We had a great turnout for Chris. There were a lot of folks who traveled a long way, and it was very much appreciated. We all had a wonderful time and a day well remembered for a long time.



Brenda Granruth,
Stargazer Reporter

—Kathy Barlow, Photographer



Santa Fe Chapter No. 105 Member Brenda Granruth Installing Musician for Tri River Assembly No. 150 IORG Installation of Officers

I was honored to attend and be the Installing Musician for the Friday, July 18th, Tri River Assembly #150 International Order of the Rainbow for Girls Installation of Officers at the Branford Chapter #223. Piper Tabor, PG Worthy Associate Advisor was the installing officer, Danica McClelland, Grand Hope, was the installing Marshal. Hermione Tabor, Grand Religion, was the installing Chaplain, and Shannon Mason, PG Immortality was installing Recorder.

The advisory board members who always help and were in attendance were Nancy See, Robert See, Robin Kimbril, Jennifer Rettew, Heather Earnhardt, Lance Kleinsmith, and Mother Advisor, Deborah Kleinsmith.

Hollie Patton was installed as Worthy Advisor along with her core of officers. The ceremony was very genuine, heartfelt, and caring. A reminder to me the importance of the International Order of the Rainbow for girls

Brenda Granruth, Stargazer Reporter





Orange Park Chapter No. 226 Makes the News in Local Newspaper

June 2025

Orange Park Chapter made the news in the “Neighbor to Neighbor” digital newspaper. Check out page 13 at this link:

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/e9442589-f8ff-481e-9b70-66952d3ce1e1>.

—Rhonda Allen, Orange Park Chapter No. 226



Toys for Tots



Christmas on Walnut



Trunk or Treat



Orange Park Chapter Order of Eastern Star has a successful year of Community Services

Our community events started early with us sponsoring the Green Cove Springs 11U travel baseball team. We then supported the Wesconnett Rainbow Girls Assembly with their fundraiser in efforts to raise funds for a children's camp for children with serious medical illnesses by purchasing a Camp Boggy Creek Bear. We held a clothes and food drive in support of The Clothes Closet and Food Pantry of Clay County located in Orange Park. The drive brought in many large bags of clothing, many can goods and boxes of food. The chapter sponsored the Children's Miracle Network at Sam's Club on Youngerman Circle. Right before the new school year, we held a Back-to-School Supplies and Backpacks Drive, netting 15 backpacks full of school supplies for the children of Clay County. On Halloween weekend we held a Trunk or Treat with our Masonic brothers in the parking lot of the Masonic Lodge on Kingsley Ave. In December, the chapter participated in the Green Cove Springs Christmas Parade and Christmas Tree Decorating at Spring Park. To honor our Veterans, our members took part in the Annual Wreaths Across America at Jacksonville Memory Gardens Funeral Home and Cemetery and we also made 10 Holiday Baskets for our shut-in members. We held our Annual Toys for Tots drive for the children in Clay County which produced five full boxes of toys, breaking last year's record of four.



Our Chapter held a yearlong fund raiser for the K9s for Warriors Program (K9sFor-Warriors.org) in Ponte Verde. In March, our year ended with us proudly presenting a check in the amount of \$1,000 to the K9s for Warriors program. This will help provide the training of a Service dog for a Veteran in need of a battle buddy.

This year the leaders of our youth programs, i.e. Rainbow Girls, Jobs Daughters, and DeMolay, challenged the members of the various chapters of the Order of Eastern Star and the Masonic Lodges to show their support to the youth by attending their events and meetings. If the members attended at least 5 youth events, they would receive a Youth Pin. Several of our members met the challenge and earned their Youth Pin to proudly wear showing their support for our youth, the future of our adult organizations.

This year we welcomed three new members to our organization. Our new officers took their positions at the end of March. We are looking forward to a great 2025-2026 year. If you are interested in receiving more information about any of our organizations, please go on-line at floridaoes.org.



District 8

Callahan, Riverside, Orange Park, Wesconnett



Callahan Celebrates 100 Years

May 2025

Callahan Chapter #154, Order of the Eastern Star, celebrated its 100th Anniversary on May 18, 2025. The Chapter was joined in its celebration by family and friends from across Florida, including Sandy Leduc, Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of Florida.

The planning committee spent over a year in preparation, putting together a cookbook and with the help of Callahan's Historical Society, a history book, titled *100 Years of Callahan's History* that was gifted to all who attended.

Visitors enjoyed bountiful and delicious food prepared by Callahan's members before beginning their "Journey through Time," in a museum filled with memorabilia, pictures, artifacts, and dresses, which had been sewn and worn by members from an earlier time. There were also Story Tellers scattered throughout the room, sharing memories of the past, and bringing history to life. Callahan's officers and members wore white shirts and long black skirts, which was worn by Eastern Star officers 100 years ago, in 1925.

The committee members responsible for this beautiful and memorable event were Myrtis Jackson, Cheyenne Milner, Carol Kwaak, and John Page. John Page is a longtime resident of Callahan, and the inspiration for the Story Tellers. The beautiful floral arrangements were created by Kim Grubbs of Fernandina Beach, and also a member of Callahan.

—Dawn Beebe, WM Callahan Chapter No. 154



Standing by one of the historically decorated tables at Callahan Charter No. 154 Order of the Eastern Star are members Norma Storms and Jean Mann. Callahan's Worthy Matron, Dawn Beebe, spent many hours planning this event by sending invitations, editing a pamphlet entitled: *100 Years of Callahan's History*, printing a chapter cookbook, and forming a committee to bring food and to set up the dining room. This included using tablecloths with decorations of fresh flowers and Happy Birthday cards.

After eating, everyone adjourned to the chapter room for "A Journey Through Time" stories told by chapter members. Joy Feit, who has been a long time OES member expressed "Many thanks to Dawn and her committee for one of the best 100-year celebrations ever!"

—Norma Storms, Callahan Chapter No. 154





District 10

Daytona, New Smyrna, Deland, Barberville, Deltona



Daytona Chapter No. 1 Welcomes Worthy Grand Matron for Official Visit

June 2025

It was a great evening at Daytona Chapter No. 1 where laughter and stories were heard all around to share in fellowship for the Official Visit. All homemade dishes for dinner, sideliners were from other chapters, and we had our beautiful Past Grand Matron, Sister Floye Hyslop with us as well as three Grand Officers to enjoy the night. Thank you, Daytona for a special visit and for the honorary membership!

—Sandy Leduc
Worthy Grand Matron



Bible Cryptogram 3

OMI OCSM XM UKIDCAI VKTTKEAOHIKCG. HXDCN IDHI

UDKRD KT MSKO; ROMHSM IC IDHI UDKRD KT WCCV.





District 11

Ocala, Inverness, Bellview



Bellview Chapter No. 122 Welcomes Worthy Grand Matron for First Official Visit

May 2025

My Official Visit to Bellview Chapter was such a great evening that I won't forget in a very long time. So much fun, love, and fellowship was had by all who attended. Thank you, Bellview, for making our first Official as Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron so wonderful!

—Sandy Leduc
Worthy Grand Matron





District 12

Leesburg, Mount Dora, Clermont



Clermont Chapter Welcomes Worthy Grand Matron Sandy Leduc For Official Visit

May 2025

There was such a heartwarming, fun evening at Clermont Chapter No. 118 for my Official Visit on May 20. The fun and fellowship carried through the entire evening starting with a delicious home cooked dinner, yummy homemade desserts and a wonderful courtesy with all "Believe" quotes which I can't wait to read again later! Thank you, Clermont, for a memorable evening!

—Sandy Leduc
Worthy Grand Matron





District 13

Cocoa, Harbor City, Canaveral



June 2025

Cocoa Chapter Celebrates Grands and Past Grands

Cocoa Chapter No. 35 celebrated our Grands and Past Grands on 10 June 2025. We were blessed to have so many in attendance. Past Grand Matron Lois A Wolfe and Past Grand Patron Paul Main attended. They had to: they are officers in the chapter! Susan Metcalf, Worthy Matron and Grand Adah, channeled her inner PGP Mike Clevens and told really bad dad jokes throughout the night to honor Father's Day.

There were three Past Grand Adahs: Carol Ellis, Elizabeth Youngs (Grand Instructor District 13), and Debra Burdick along with current Grand Adah, Susan Metcalf. Other Grand Officers included Past Grand Esther, Mary Alice Main; Past Grand Martha, Mary Jacobs, and Past Grand Warder, Candy Haddix.

Credentials Committee Member Billy Stuart was upright on his feet with his new prosthesis. Wahooooo! Committee Members and Grand Representatives (not all pictured): Cynthia Harrison, Diann Green, Jane Wedekind, Rhonda Sue Dieter (GR of FL in NY), Barbara Hammond, Joyce Myers.

Here are some of the pictures of the very fun night.

—WM Susan Metcalf, Grand Adah
Cocoa Chapter 35



Canaveral Chapter Holds Dayle's Star Travelers Barbecue Event

June 2025

On June 28, Dayle's Star Travelers support group held an all American barbecue event at Canaveral Chapter 297. We had a large variety of food as well as strawberry shortcake and ice cream and sherbet for dessert.

Our entertainment was an MMA exhibition by two 10-year-old purple belts. They gave us a very nice demonstration, and we were very happy to have them there.

Following that we had a pound auction for which brother Dayle was the auctioneer. We have found his hidden talent! We then had a trivia contest with goofy prizes, followed by a scavenger hunt in your purse, and OES questions to answer. Fun and fellowship was had by all.

—Susan A. Metcalf, Grand Adah
Dayle's Star Travelers, President





District 13

Cocoa, Harbor City, Canaveral



Cocoa Chapter Extends a Warm Welcome to the Worthy Grand Matron Sandy Leduc For Official Visit

June 2025

Cocoa Chapter No. 35 did an outstanding job for my Official Visit on June 24. Such delicious food was prepared, and everyone enjoyed the fun and fellowship all evening long!

—Sandy Leduc
Worthy Grand Matron





District 14

St. Cloud, Pioneer, Orlando, Mizpah, Pine Castle



July 2025

St. Cloud Initiates Four New Members

St. Cloud Chapter 46 had a beautiful and amazing initiation for four new members. It was an honor to welcome WGM Sandy Leduc and Grand Warder Jerry to my first initiation as Worthy Matron. A big shout out to Sister Ceil and all the wonderful pro-tems who made this initiation so successful!

— Tanya Soto, Worthy Matron
St. Cloud Chapter 46



St. Cloud Collects Back-to-School Supplies for Help Now

August 2025

St. Cloud Chapter 46 had a wonderful collection of donated back-to-school supplies which will help the children at the Help Now organization. Thank you to all who contributed.

— Tanya Soto, Worthy Matron
St. Cloud Chapter 46



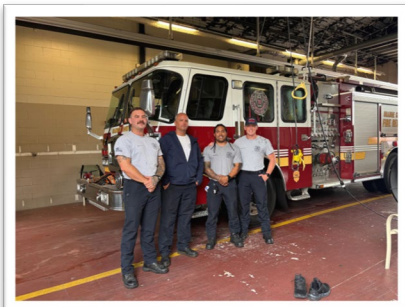
Pine Castle No. 321 Presents Local Fire Department No. 70 with Treats and Toys

May 2025

In May, visit local fire station 70 to learn about the activities they perform. Did you know that there are five fire stations in Orange County that are required to have a diver for water emergencies? And our fire station is one of them! It was very interesting to hear of the many emergencies to which they respond. I always thought it was just fires in a building or a car, but it is so much more.

Sister Michele Guest coordinated this community volunteer event for our chapter. About 10 of us were able to visit the station. Worthy Patron John Miles made a very large batch of homemade Sloppy Joes and there were buns, chips, brownies, cookies, and donuts that we gave them. Additionally, members of our chapter collected and donated small stuffed animals to give to the firefighters. They keep a bag of stuffed animals in each fire engine and EMT vehicle to give to young children who are at the scene of an emergency. The lieutenant and paramedic we met were extremely grateful for the food, stuffed animals, and the visit being able to share what they do. I was very glad that we were able to show our appreciation for their work and support for our community.

— Jolee Miles, WM
Pine Castle No. 321





District 14

St. Cloud, Pioneer, Orlando, Mizpah, Pine Castle



Pine Castle No. 321 Warmly Welcomes Associate Grand Matron for Official Inspection

October 2025

It was a great night at Pine Castle No. 321 in Orlando tonight. A wonderful crowd of Sisters and Brothers as we celebrated their Official Inspection.

The delicious meal of meatloaf, au gratin potatoes, and green beans were all prepared by Worthy Patron, John Miles. To end our meal, we were treated to an ice cream sandwich, (ice cream) drumstick, or a fudgsicle!

It was a delightful evening of fun and fellowship. The Chapter showered me with gifts which I greatly appreciate. Thank you, Pine Castle 321 and District 14 for your hospitality, your love, and support.

— *Mary Ann Holt*
Associate Grand Matron





District 17

Crescent, Plant City, Desoto, Annie H. Schneider, Bradenton



Annie H. Schneider Chapter No. 327 Welcomes Worthy Grand Matron for Official Visit

June 2025

Oh what a night at Annie H Schneider Chapter! The room was full of laughter, and the sideline chairs were full! Wendy Kinka knows how to run a meeting, and all the officers did wonderfully! Overate, of course, at Fred's Market. Thank you for a great evening before we go dark!

*— Sandy Leduc
Worthy Grand Matron*





District 19

Lakeland, Mulberry, Lake Wales



Worthy Grand Matron Warmly Welcomed for Official Visit at Lake Wales Chapter No. 107

October 2025

The Official Visit to Lake Wales was a wonderful evening full of love, fun, fellowship, and of course, food! I so enjoyed my time spent with WM, Sueanne Hodge and WP, Carl Hodge, all the members, and visitors. Brother Dayle and I were showered with gifts and —yes — candy for our Worthy Grand Patron!

— Sandy Leduc
Worthy Grand Matron



Meet the Candidates





Candidate

for
Grand Secretary

Brenda Keepin
Wewahitchka Chapter
No. 229

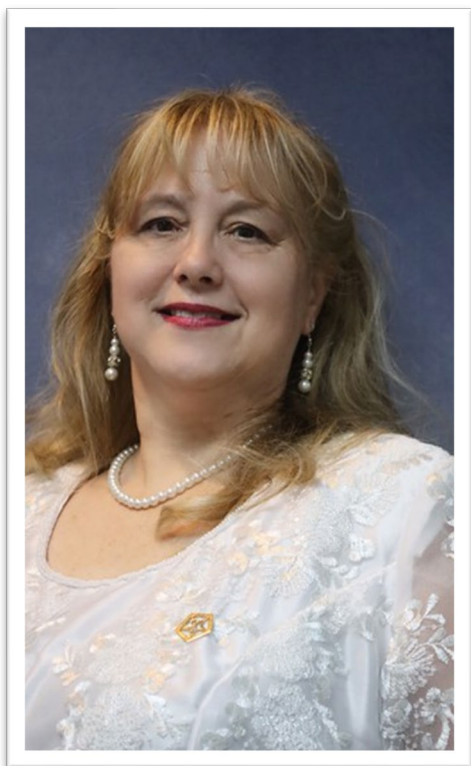


Candidate

for
Grand Treasurer

Margaret Nathurst
Fort Myers Chapter
No. 31





Candidate

for
Associate Grand
Conductress

Rhonda Allen
Orange Park Chapter
No. 226



Candidate

for
Associate Grand
Conductress

Jane Stewart
Desoto Chapter
No. 201





Candidate

for
Grand Sentinel

Daniel Allen
DeSoto Chapter
No. 201

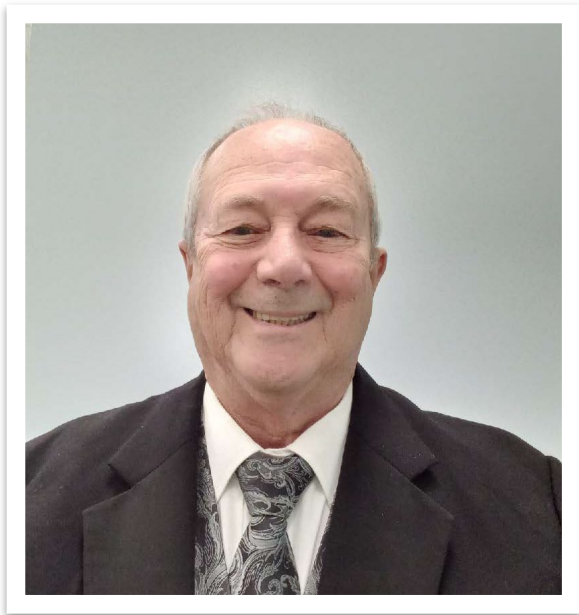


Candidate

for
Grand Sentinel

Michael Harrison
Harbor City Chapter
No. 263





Candidate

for
Grand Sentinel

Bruce Ward
Bethlehem Chapter
No. 169



*Announcements and
Classifieds*



2025-2026 Cruise for the Worthy Grand Matron's Special Project (Regenerative Medicine)

8-Day Southern Caribbean
Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao
On the Majestic Princess
January 17 – 25, 2026

Day	Itinerary
1	Leave Ft. Lauderdale
2	At Sea
3	At Sea
4	Bonaire
5	Curacao
6	Aruba
7	At Sea
8	At Sea



Balcony cabins starting at \$2166 Per Person Double Occupancy
Includes Beverage Package, Gratuities, Wi-fi, Special Dining, and More!

Other cabin types available, call for pricing

Refundable deposit (\$198) to hold your room choice

Final balance due by October 1, 2025

Travel insurance recommended

Submit this form: <https://forms.gle/JUiNb5ZkUeCrvU7W8>

Contact Sister Diana Kreisle, Travel Agent

Lets Go Today Travel - 352-302-6190

Email: Diana@LetsGoToday.com

Seller of Travel No. ST3861

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Sent with the approval of the Worthy Grand Matron



Cryptogram Answers

Cryptogram 1

My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever. —Psalm 73:26

Cryptogram 2

Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. — Mark 11:24

Cryptogram 3

Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. — Romans 12:9



Be sure to visit “The Official Grand Chapter of Florida OES Facebook Page” for other photos and news!

Check out the Florida Grand Chapter webpage:

<https://floridaoes.org>

Read the Eastern Star Journal on the Florida Grand Chapter webpage:

<https://easternstar.org/formembers/journal/>





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.jpg, .pdf, or in GoogleDocs/MSWord/plain text.**

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Issue 3 – Winter Edition	FEB 28, 2026	MARCH 2026

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WINTER Issue

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