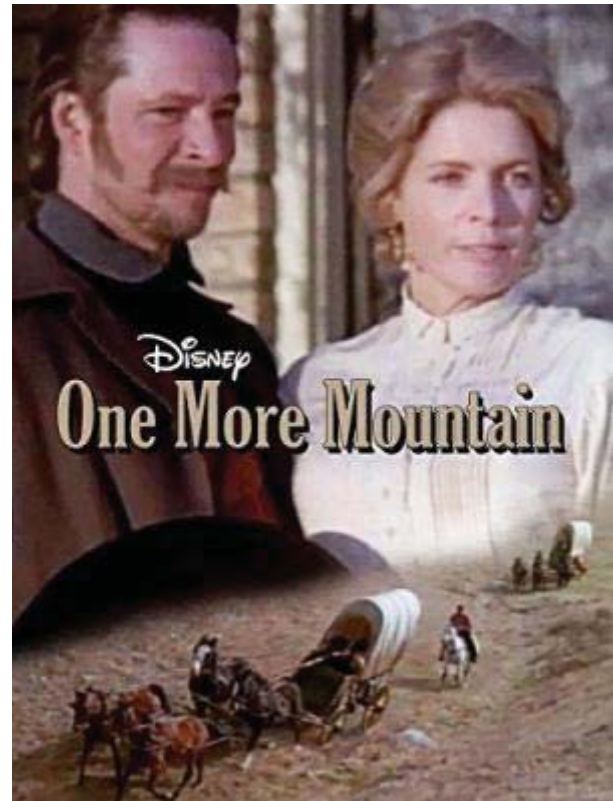




Everything you do matters!

In March of 1994, Michael Eisner, the former CEO of the Walt Disney Company introduced the new Disney Movie of the Week. It was titled "One More Mountain." It is based on true events involving a Mason and his family as they traveled the Oregon Trail from Illinois to California during the summer of 1846. James Reed, his wife Margaret, Margaret's mother, and their children leave their home in Illinois with the dream of a better life in California. They had a great life in Illinois. They were wealthy. Margaret was happy with their life, but James had dreams that would eventually put his family and many others in danger. They were part of the Donner Party. This movie produced by Walt Disney had to be child friendly, but it was meant to show the hardships of pioneer travel and how one family survived. I taped the movie on our VCR and would show the movie for many years in my classroom around Christmas. It fit into my 4th grade curriculum by teaching my students how families used covered wagons to travel and the hardships and challenges they faced. The movie opened discussions in the classroom. The children would tell me what they would have taken on the journey and why they would take those items. Do you really need that piano, the furniture, or the fancy dishes? Could you get them later in California? Do you really need that big luxurious covered wagon? Bigger wagons are not always the wisest choice. The movie showed how meals were prepared on their journey. "One More Mountain" depicted the crucial points, the critical decisions, and the disappointments this Mason and his family faced on this journey. It is their daughter's diary or journal that tells us what really happened to them.

The movie can be seen on TCM, Disney Prime, You Tube, and Apple TV. I don't want



to ruin the movie, because I truly hope you might just want to watch it. At one point James Reed's Masonic Medallion becomes very important to his wife and children. His life as a Mason is important to the outcome of their survival. The Reed Party separates from the Donner Party. Trapped in the Sierra Mountain Range by snow and not able to get over that last mountain the families are starving and then Christmas Day arrives.

The Holy Bible on our altar is opened by the Conductress to Matthew 2:2. The wise men were on a journey and are looking for a newly born King of the Jews. They expect to find Him because of seeing

WGM - Everything you do matters!

a specific star shining in the night sky. They believe Him to be an important King. They have come to worship and revere him. We are members of the Order of the Eastern Star. We believe in seven principles that appear on the Eastern Star website. Our values are honesty, dependability, trustworthiness, loyalty, charity, friendship, and kindness. As Christmas approaches and you prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, please remember that it is his birth that begins our journey to salvation. He had to be born, grow up and start teaching others how to live our lives. He was eventually tried, convicted, and crucified. He died and yet rose again to give us everlasting life. I am grateful for my gift of salvation because I know one day, I will see my family again. I treasure the life I had with my husband before he went to Heaven, but I have a future with him also. I will be with him again in Paradise. The gift of salvation given to me by Jesus Christ is precious.

There are people that are not as fortunate as we are. As you look for gifts to give your loved ones this Christmas, please try to make a child's Christmas a bit brighter. Many of the children I taught knew they weren't going to receive a gaming console, a new bicycle, or the American Girl doll they dreamed of having. It was difficult as a teacher to know that the children would return to school after Christmas vacation to hear what other children got for Christmas because they didn't receive much at all and certainly not expensive gifts. My son works in a position where he knows the needs and wants of children in his area. Last Christmas as we opened our gifts to each other we talked about

the two sisters that we "adopted". We made their Christmas brighter. It is his job to find the children we "adopt". I encourage you to try to help a child this Christmas. Let us also remember that there are elderly members who have no family, and they also need a Merry Christmas. Let us remember our service members protecting our country from harm. If you don't have the means to provide a gift, pray for them because prayer is a gift.

Please stay safe as you travel on your journeys to see family members over this holiday season. May you always have the warmth of your home, your loved ones, and food available to you. May you always know you are valued as a member of this order, and you are making a difference in the lives of others. May you always

remember the real reason we celebrate Christmas.

Matthew 2:2:
"Where is the one who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him."



Everything you do matters!
Cindy

Scatter Kindness

The theme this year at Upland OES #411 is to "Scatter Kindness". Our chapter collected items for bingo prizes on September 11th to be distributed at our local nursing home. We had such a great response that we delivered two large baskets of items, one to Twin City Nursing Home in Gas City and one to University Nursing Center in Upland.



Our next community project will be to pass out candy to the children of Gas City during Halloween hours. This will take place in front of our lodge in Gas City. We hope to continue to "Scatter Kindness" throughout the year.



Focus on Star

This is truly my favorite time of year. As the weather becomes cool and the last vestiges of summer disappear, there is an inner warmth that spreads through our souls. We have celebrated the fun of Halloween and the family togetherness and gratitude for God's bounty at Thanksgiving. Now we start to celebrate the fulfillment of God's promise and the joy of giving that comes with the Christmas Season. Whether we are worshipping together in Church or out shopping for that special Christmas gift for someone we love, this time of year brings a change in people. We are in the mood to celebrate, we are more polite if we bump into each other during the hustle and bustle and we have a wish to share the season and the love of Christ with each other.

By the time that you read this, all of our Inspections and Receptions will be wrapped up until Spring. I have enjoyed seeing everyone so much this year and even though the break is welcome, I will miss seeing so many Sisters and Brothers until we get started again. It is a time to relax and celebrate with friends and family. I hope that your Chapters and Lodges have some special activities planned. Many of you will be dark in the Winter but that doesn't mean that you can't find time to celebrate, even if it is just an impromptu gathering. Remember that during these dark months many of our members who can't get out will be feeling most isolated. Find some time to bring them some cheer, not just for Christmas but for the simple reason that we love them and want to make them feel special.

There have been many fun activities this Fall. The District 11 costume party was great fun. The attendance was up this year and we had some wonderful food and entertainment. Members from all over the state joined in the fun and posed for many pictures in their creative costumes. We enjoyed the rodeo in Shippshewanna, a great time and a great cause. We also had our bus trip to Branson and have a lot of wonderful memories traveling together and attending so many entertaining and inspiring events. I would also like to mention that the Inspections and Receptions that we have had so far this year have been great. We have seen some beautiful work and learned a great deal from each other. In addition to the serious work that we have accomplished, we have also had a lot of fun. We have been greeted with beautiful music and entertained by some really great addenda and escorts. I think that each District tries to outdo each other with these and we have laughed so hard that we've cried.

For my Focus on Star this time I thought that I would share a little history of our Ritual and its origins. In 1849, Dr. Robert Morris began to work on the Ritual of the Order of the Eastern Star. The principle inspiration to create the Ritual was his desire for his wife, Charlotte, to be able to share in the joys of Freemasonry. Together they studied the Bible for heroic stories featuring women. They began working on the Ritual together over the course of two years and eventually expanded it to include the traditional relationships of daughters, widows, wives, sisters and mothers.

The Ritual originally consisted of five separate Degrees, similar to the three Degrees of Freemasonry. They would eventually be grouped together as five Degrees conferred at the same time as it is today. At one point, there were many other Degrees involving other women from the Bible but these would eventually be dropped. The signs and passes as well as other aspects of the Degrees were originally communicated with all Master Masons and their relatives until the Order was formally established.

The colors, flowers and symbols of our heroines would eventually become a part of the Ritual. It would continue to evolve over many years well into the 20th century. It wasn't until the year 1937 that the Associate Patron Lecture, now an integral part of the Ritual, would be composed and added. In fact, the office of Associate Patron did not even exist until 1930. Even in the 21st century, we see changes such as the Worthy Matron's lecture referring to the relationship with the Masonic Institution.

I hope this has given you a little more insight into our Order. The information comes from many different sources including the history of the Order given in the Ritual, the Proceedings of the Indiana Grand Chapter and information from the General Chapter.



Harold Rowe, WGP

Martha Duke Honored



Nineveh Chapter #466 met September 5th for a regular meeting, a Deputy meeting, and to honor Martha Duke for being in Eastern Star for 60 years.

Martha was initiated June 13, 1963 at Elizabethtown Chapter #545 in District #4 where she served as Worthy Matron twice. She moved to Franklin and joined Nineveh Chapter in District #6 and has served as Worthy Matron twice. She is also a former Grand Representative.

Pictured are members of Nineveh Chapter who attended this special night; Cindy Bazzi, Grand Secretary Anna Burton, David Hogue, Patsy McKee, Katherine Evans, DD#6 Grace Edgerton, Martha Duke, WM Audry Evans, WP Mike Duncan, Laura Davidson, Jan Tuck, Virginia Prairie, and Anna Hogue.



Versailles Friend's Night

Versailles Chapter Friends Night was a "costume meeting." It was a small but mighty group!



We enjoyed a delicious meal before the meeting and games afterward. The whole group is pictured except one (the picture taker) and Julie & Roy Leap.



Tea Party Reception

On October 14th, Corinthian Chapter hosted a dual Grand Representative Reception for Marian Bradbury, Grand Representative of Manitoba, Canada in Indiana of Corinthian Chapter and Ramona Goss, Former Grand Representative of North Carolina in Indiana of Englewood Chapter.

Cake, cookies, and punch were served during the social hour, then acting Worthy Matron Patricia Manuel directed everyone to the Chapter room for the program. LeVon Holmes, PGM, gave the invocation followed by the pledge to the flag of our country. The Conductress, Linda Buchanan, then escorted Marian and Ramona for

introductions and they were seated in the East.

Those escorted for introductions were, LeVon Holmes, PGM; Rovenia Harrison, widow of Beryl Harrison, PGP; Jennifer Nicholson-Maggart, PGM; Robert DeRolf, PGP and wife Melody. Those were followed by Brian Hoover, Grand Organist and wife Donna, and Carleton Hinshaw, Grand Sentinel. All others were introduced from the floor.

Jennifer Maggart, PGM, read the tribute for Marian Bradbury and Robert DeRolf, PGP read the tribute for Ramona Goss. Jennifer remarked that both appointments were during covid when they could not travel, but that each was given an extended year from their appointed jurisdiction. Jennifer and Robert presented each of the ladies a gift engraved with their name and grand appointment information.

Next, everyone enjoyed beautiful music by Kathleen Lockwood of Corinthian Chapter, played on her cello.

Robert DeRolf, PGP, gave the benediction and table grace. All retired to the dining room for refreshments. The tables were decorated with lovely collectable teacups and matching saucers. Everyone was invited to choose one and enjoy a cup of tea.

District 8 Cancer Walk

District 8 and Debbie Thompson, District 8 Chairman for the Cancer Fund, had a beautiful day at the annual WMs/WPs District 8 Group Cancer Walk. This year it brought in \$1,269 for cancer research. Over the last 5 years, the walk has brought in \$11,669. District 8 looks forward to the Cancer Walk for many years to come. Congratulations to everyone who participated!



Telling Rumors Puts All At Ease

August 28, 2023 was the luncheon and inspection in District 7. The Worthy Grand Matrons luncheon was held at the Sullivan County Elks Club with a salad bar and topped off with a cake welcoming Worthy Grand Matron Cynthia Willyard and Worthy Grand Patron Harold Rowe. Grand Adah, Carol Sloan (Doug) and Grand Martha, Tamara Shake were in attendance and gave a shortened version of their stories. After the meal time was spent shopping in Sullivan's local shops, checking out the area, or just relaxing at the lodge hall until the inspection that evening.

Before the inspection, the addendum was District 7's version of Hee Haw's "Telling Rumors" was given by the District Deputy and her Worthy Matrons. However, these crazy gals didn't make up stories, but gave only true stories about the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron. I think they could've added a few more stories, but due to time constraints they could only use the best ones. I'm not sure who had more fun, Cindy, Harold, or the gals giving the addendum, but many were in stitches. It really helped to break the ice for the rest of the evening and many seemed at ease for the inspection.



It was a special night for Betty Davis who was presented from the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron a Grand Representative appointment of Arizona. She was so surprised and very thankful for the honor. Those in attendance were members from Columbian, Hymera, Solsberry, Stanford, Sullivan, Ellettsville, and Newberry chapters. All chapters were represented for the inspection.

Cancer Fund Raiser in D#10

My passion is sharing my Christian faith with as many people that God puts in my path. The biggest vessel that reaches the most people is that of the common concerns of cancer in today's world. Absolutely everyone has been touched or has knowledge of someone who has battled cancer.



As a cancer survivor, I can personally relate to the strength of God, faith, prayer, family, and friends. All these make the journey tolerable.

This past weekend I held a garage sale with the help of donations from my District #10 and willing workers from my family. God blessed us with beautiful weather, traffic from the New Earth Festival, the HippyFest, local garage sales and Horton's Annual Autumn Market. We could not have asked for a better weekend.

Many people just wanted to share their experiences, stories and donate. I was honored and blessed many times over. I saw hurt, fear, and happiness for winning the battle, over and over.

When the weekend ended, I packed everything up and donated to the following organizations: Second Blessings, Prime Life Enrichment, Grace Thrift Store, Julie's Homeless Ministry, Tom's VETs in Need Ministry, Tipton County Humane Society and lastly a small amount was left and it went to the Salvation Army. Each one was very excited to have "good quality" donations.

Lastly, I issued a check to be forwarded to the Grand Secretary's Office in the amount of \$1,090.75. Thanks everyone who shared in this project. Thank you WGM Cindy and WGP Harold for the appointment.

Beth Rutledge, District 10 Chairman of the Cancer Fund, AND a Cancer Survivor

Master Trooper James Bailey "Donut Make You Happy" Scholarship

On March 3, 2023, while performing traffic control duties on I-69 in DeKalb County, Indiana State Police Master Trooper James Bailey was notified of a vehicle traveling in his direction involving the Fort Wayne Police Department. The fleeing vehicle struck Master Trooper Bailey causing his death. Master Trooper Bailey was a very dedicated Police Officer, father, husband, and friend to many people of DeKalb County.

In 2022 Master Trooper Bailey participated in our "Donut Stacking Contest" at the DeKalb County Fair. This contest pairs children with a police officer to stack Donuts. All prizes from this contest are given to 18 DeKalb County Schools Libraries and the "Shop with a Cop" Programs. \$5500 was awarded in 2023. The Spencerville Eastern Star has started a 529 Scholarship to honor Master Trooper James Bailey and presented 2 \$500 scholarships at the 2023 Donut Stacking Contest.

Pictured in the front are the Scholarship winners Arianna Lauer - Riverdale Elementary and Madison Tracey - Eastside Jr. High School. In the back are Auburn City Police Sean Miller, INDIANA DNR Officer Patrick Heidenrich, DeKalb County Sherriff Dept. Officer Zachary Kerley, Butler Police Dept. Officer Cory Rowe, Indiana State Police Trooper Chris Levitt.



*Thanksgiving
Blessings*



Not A Scary Halloween Party

Friend's Night wasn't just a regular meeting for Hope Chapter #5. Friends and officers wore a fun variety of Halloween costumes and enjoyed a Halloween party meeting on Monday, October 16th. Worthy Matron Susan Clawson welcomed everyone to the meeting and officers introduced their guests. After a short meeting, everyone retired to the dining room for a carry-in salad bar. During the meal, we became better acquainted by playing Eastern Star bingo. Not a scary Halloween at all - just lots of fun!



HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR STAR-LITE?

You have received this issue, but will you get the next one? Check your expiration date on the back page to the left of your address. If it says your last issue is December 2023, then you need to renew now! Fill out the form on the next to the last page and include your check made out to Indiana Grand Chapter, OES and mail to Nancy Pratt, 3597 N. Old U.S. 31, Rochester, IN 46975.

Thank you! We couldn't continue without your support!

Who Are These?

E W O R L G H P E F L E Y S R B E
 A A N U W O D H A N S E N F E A R
 L L C F O I A M A D R I W E I L O
 Y K S V R R L M O E G I L E L N O
 N E E M T E I L L G L E D Y A S M
 C R L M A E E T I L R G T M I E O
 H S A S R I S W Y A E E L T R L S
 K N A D U R L A A R M E N R N I H
 O Y D D A O R L T L Z S E T E H E
 O D P W U D S O I A T L O T Z C R
 Z E W A H S N I H W L Z T N U M I
 Y R R E T R U M P E N O T R U B S
 J O N E S L I C N A O L S H A K E
 Y A R G G O S S S I V A D G N I R

Find the CAPITALIZED WORDS in the puzzle. The extra letters spell out the answer to the title.

Roberta ANCIL	Brian HOOVER	Tamara SHAKE
Jonny BEELER	Sharon JONES	Carol SLOAN
Anna BURTON	Katherine LAIR	Julie SNYDER
Greg CHILES	Judy LUCK	Ruth SOUSLEY
Carol DAVIS	Carla LYNCH	Barbara TERRY
Lesa DREIMAN	Charles MERRELL	Rosemary TRUMP
Graceann EDGERTON	Donna MOORE	Karen WALKER
Sherri FREEWALT	Dana MOSHER	Judy WARSTLER
Brenda GOSS	Deb MUNTZ	Peggy WIGGINS
Denver GRAY	Amy OGRENTZ	Phyllis WILLIAMS
Jane HANSEN	Lynn PADGETT	Beth WILLIAMSON
Deanna HARTMAN	Barb PEFLEY	Cynthia WILLYARD
Karen HAZELMAN	Tom RING	Keith ZOOK
Carlton HINSHAW	Harold ROWE	





Spencerville Adopted Family Program

This year our Adopted Family Program adopted 1 family to support for the school year. Our local elementary schools nominated this family for our program. The Spencerville Eastern Star will provide school clothing and supplies, winter coats, boots, hats, and gloves. At Christmas we will purchase pajamas and pants, a hooded sweatshirt, a long-sleeved shirt/sweater, a new bath towel and a fleece blanket. A toy, board game, book, and puzzle will also be provided for each child. We also provide groceries at Christmas time.

Our family this year was involved in a very serious car accident. Gigi, the youngest member of our family, was in a wheelchair for several months and the mother of our family is continuing to have corrective surgeries for her back. This year at the DeKalb County Fair, we crowned Gigi (age 9) "The 2023 Eastern Star Donut Princess".

Our Family this year has 1 parent and 2 children. We have helped 30 families and a total of 102 children during the 17 years supporting this program.



Stellar Stars

Stellar Stars is a great way to honor or remember an individual or a group for a full year. The costs of Stellar Stars are: \$10 - \$24 for 1 Star; \$25 - \$49 for 2 Stars; \$50 - \$74 for 3 Stars; \$75 - \$99 for 4 Stars; and \$100 and up for 5 Stars.

These will run for 1 year after we receive the request. The short information you want printed about the individual or group can be mailed along with a check payable to Indiana Grand Chapter, OES with the notation: Stellar Stars, to:

Nancy Pratt
3597 N. Old U.S. 31
Rochester, IN 46975

Please consider honoring or remembering those special Eastern Star people in your family, chapter or district with a Stellar Star for everyone to see and know that they are special to you.



1 Star

In Loving Memory of
Mary Means – 75-Year Member
With Love, Tim & Margot Wade
Son-in-Law & Daughter

2 Stars

In Honor of
Gleda Brooks, PGM
We are very proud of you!
Your faithful friends in District 5

In Loving Memory of
Joan Franklin, PD #7, 1960
Lee Ann Wise, PD #7, 1971
Opal Sluder, PD #7, 1977
Who are missed by
The Past Deputies of District #7

To my wounded warrior
SSG Hector L. Munoz-Colon
& his beautiful family,
wife Nikki, daughters Lily & Sofia.
Thank you for being my family.
Love Gladys Colon-Clark

In Honor of the “Wings of Faith”
Grand Family 20th Anniversary! 2003-2004
Always “Walk the Walk of Faith”
Love and Hugs, Mama Cat & Connie

3 Stars

In Honor of our most recent
50-Year Members
Judith Adkins, PM & Elizabeth Ritchie
From the members of Corinthian Chapter #456

4 Stars

In Honor of our most recent
75 -Year Member
Jeanne Bain, PM
From the members of Corinthian Chapter #456

5 Stars

In Honor of the 40th Anniversary of the
“BLUEBIRDS OF HAPPINESS GRAND FAMILY”
Established on April 27, 1983, by
Linda Cline, P.G.M. & Jay Shull, P.G.P.
 (“Momma Bluebird” & “Poppa Jay”)
Also honoring the “Traveling Bluebirds”
and their “Birdwatchers”
With much love from “Momma”, Vaughn, & Dottie

In Loving Memory of
Betty Thousand
100 Years old & 77 Year member
Faithful member of
Rochester Chapter #70 and
Royal Center Chapter #375

In Honor of
William “Bill” Shoulders
Worthy Grand Chaplain
District 1



WGM OFFICIAL CALENDAR

- Dec 9** Grand Family Christmas Party
Feb 11 D4 Valentine Tea, IMH

If you don't see all the information that you need, please contact your District Deputy or Nancy Pratt, Editor. Please be aware that on occasion a date and/or location will be changed and it will be too late to make the correction in the magazine. Thank you for your understanding

RECEPTIONS

- Dec 2 DD#10** Deann Hartman
Feb 10 DD#3 Donna Moore
Feb 17 DD#4 Karen Walker
Feb 17 DD#7 Lynn Padgett
Feb 24 DD#18 Rosemary Trump
Feb 24 DD#13 Katherine Lair

Friend's Giving Friend's Night

On September 15th Upland OES #411 co-hosted our Friend's Night with Mississinewa #94 at our lodge in Gas City. Our theme this year was "Friend's Giving." Twenty-six members attended, each bringing a small gift, which was exchanged with the member whose name was drawn. We enjoyed food and fellowship throughout the night. A special prize was awarded to Alicia Corn for being the member who had the farthest drive. Each member in attendance was given a small travel sewing kit in order to "Sew Friendship."



Star-Lite

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Help keep Star-Lite interesting! Submit your news so all can see what you are doing. Check deadline dates if you want your news in a certain issue, especially items for the calendar. Please limit articles to 500 words. There is no charge to print pictures. Please remember to identify everyone in the pictures.

Send articles and pictures with self-addressed stamped envelope if you want them returned to:

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