

The Star Journal



September 2023



Let EASTERN STAR Animate Your Life



The **Star** Journal

SEPTEMBER 2023

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Next Issue: *January 5, 2024*

Please address all submissions to
Sister JoAnn Bingenheimer, PGM
211 Virginia Ave,
Egg Harbor Twp., NJ 08234-9461
Phone: 732-600-2261
Email: cjearle@comcast.net

Joanne Byrne, Most Worthy Grand Matron
James Hines, Most Worthy Grand Patron
Sharon Rosequist, Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron

Grand Chapter Office

111 Finderne Ave., Bridgewater, NJ 08807
Phone: 908-725-0222 - Fax: 908-725-4053
Email: newjersey.oesgc@gmail.com

The Star Journal Editor

JoAnne Bingenheimer, PGM
211 Virginia Ave., Egg Harbor Twp., NJ 08234
Phone: 732-600-2261
Email: cjearle@comcast.net

Co-Editors

Joanne Parsels, PGM
109 Hippocrates Way, Burlington, NJ 08016
Phone: 609-391-8143
Email: wiljoanne@yahoo.com

Andrea McCollum, RWGT
21 Tucker Drive, Neptune City, NJ 07753
Phone: 732-775-2965 / 732-241-6883
Email: anj920@aol.com

www.njoes.com

New Jersey Eastern Star Home, Inc.

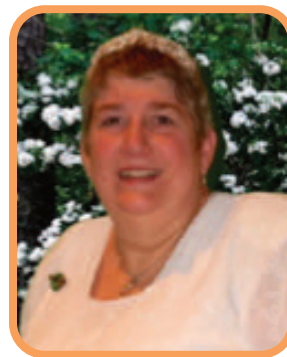
Bryan Wallace, President
10 Northwood Drive, Vineland, NJ 08360
Phone: 856-696-8838

Eastern Star Charity Foundation of NJ Inc.

JoAnn Bingenheimer, PGM President
211 Virginia Avenue, Egg Harbor Twp., NJ 08234
Phone: 733-600-2261
Email: cjearle@comcast.net



Most Worthy Grand Matron's Message



Greetings from the Grand East!

It is hard to believe that the time has come, and I have been installed as Most Worthy Grand Matron. I am both honored and humbled to serve our Order with Brother Jim, our Most Worthy Grand Patron. I want to thank the membership for all the kindness and support I have been shown, not just since Installation, but throughout my journey to the Grand East. What a wonderful Grand Session we had this year. Sister Jeannette and Brother Bernie are to be commended for all they did for our order this past year. Brother Jim and I have a hard act to follow. Installation was unforgettable. Thanks to Sister Sue Wells for the beautiful processional, Sister Pam DeLisa for the music during the processional, Sister MaryJane Lojewski for the music during the Installation, Sister Meg Williams, Sister Janet Miller, Sister Janice Harrison-Aikens, and Jim's Daughter Marissa for the songs to the Top 3, Sister Ellen and Brother George Mason for our beautiful carrying pieces, and of course, Sister Jeannette and Sister Cheryl for a beautiful ceremony.

This year, I am asking each of you to "Let Eastern Star animate your life." Let the principles of our Order show through your words and actions. Let them be the force that motivates all you do. Let us "create beauty all around us." Believe in the power of MAGIC: Mercy, Affection, Generosity, Integrity, and Creativity. Remember, you may never know what a kind word or small act of kindness means to someone else. I think this story will illustrate this point.

A man was asked to paint a boat. He brought his paint and brushes and began to paint the boat a bright red, as the owner asked him. While painting, he noticed a small hole in the hull, and quietly repaired it. When he finished painting, he received his money and left.

The next day, the owner of the boat came to the painter and presented him with a nice check, much higher than the payment for painting. The painter was surprised and said, "You've already paid me for painting the boat, sir." "But this is not for the paint job. It's for repairing the

hole in the boat."

"Ah. But it was such a small service...certainly it's not worth paying me such a high amount for something so insignificant." "My dear friend, you do not understand. Let me tell you what happened."

"When I asked you to paint the boat, I forgot to mention the hole. When the boat dried, my kids took the boat and went on a fishing trip. They did not know that there was a hole. I was not at home at that time. When I returned and noticed they had taken the boat, I was desperate because I remembered that the boat had a hole. Imagine my relief and joy when I saw them returning from fishing. Then I examined the boat and found that you had repaired the hole! You see, now, what you did? You saved the life of my children! I do not have enough money to pay your 'small' good deed."

So, no matter who, when, or how, continue to help, sustain, wipe tears, listen attentively, and carefully repair all the 'leaks' you find. You never know when one is in need of us, or when God holds a pleasant surprise for us to be helpful and important to someone.

Along the way, you may have repaired numerous 'boat holes' for several people without realizing how many lives you've saved. Helping other without recognition is something Christians should do because Jesus told us to. This is something that people should do because it is the right thing to do, not because they are expecting to be rewarded.

Make a difference, be the best version of you.

Author Unknown

Sisters and Brothers, continue to DREAM, CREATE, and INSPIRE. You never know; one small act can change the world.

In Star Love and Friendship,

With Faith and Trust and a Little Bit of Pixie Dust,

*Joanne Byrne
Most Worthy Grand Matron*



Most Worthy **Grand** Patron's Message



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Grand Session is now over and here we are again in yet another new beginning, I can't help but think of how wonderful it all was and how it was such a complete team experience. Sister Suzanne Wells, PGM, did an incredible job from the East during installation as well as Sisters Alice Good, PGM, and Francine Zioance, PGO, doing the "herding of the cats" experience directing us from the back of the room.

Sister Joanne and I were able to watch the procession from the rear. We were able to appreciate the beautiful coordination of all Disney Music for each group aligned by sister Pam DeLise, PGO, as well as seeing section after section of not only friends but family in the ranks So so very humbling!

I also wish to sincerely thank all of those who had a hand in putting together our Installation. What a thrill to have our children AND grandchildren participate.

I want to thank Sister Joanne for asking me to serve and giving me this incredible opportunity to not only serve as her Most Worthy Grand Patron but to serve our membership for 2023-2024. As I had said previously this is something far above my paygrade but with everyone's help and the help of God, I think this will be a wonderful year.

I have to also thank and congratulate both Sister Jeannette and Brother Bernie for not only

a most magical year but for showing us all it's perfectly ok to do the work AND have fun. They totally specialized in morale building and I am hoping we grab that baton and keep it moving.

I had mentioned my Bible verse being Matthew 19:14 Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these" and my pin being the dancing Snoopy. It's no secret I'm a diehard Peanuts fan and even have my very own Beagle (Pepper). The importance of all of this is to hopefully hit a nerve sometimes buried deep in us all. Life situations can sometimes get heavy, and we tend to lose that child-like spark. We sacrifice joy and even the will to just let our inner child out. I am hoping for friends, that just maybe what I have mentioned will tug on our heart strings. It's ok to laugh and have fun when we can, it's ok to dance and sometimes break the heaviness that others are experiencing. Even Jesus said to let the little children come to Him. Elders of the day were too stuffy and hard, but Jesus clearly let us know to enjoy life as it is a gift.

With that said I am hoping and inviting all of us to remember Jesus' own invitation to be like a child and come to Him ... so we can cast off the heaviness of life and dance like Snoopy! Let's have a wonderful, loving and joyous year This is my wish and goal for every one of us!

*James 'Jim' Hines
Most Worthy Grand Patron*



Greetings from the Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It is with an attitude of gratitude that I serve our beautiful order as your Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron. I am thrilled beyond belief to be a part of this year's Top 3 with Sr. Joanne Byrne, Most Worthy Grand Matron and Br. Jim Hines, Most Worthy Grand Patron. I cannot thank Starlight Chapter #107 and the 39th District enough for the beautiful bouquet of flowers presented to me at my election and for the song at Installation. A special surprise was a bouquet made from snack size bags of Cheetos Crunchy Cheese Doodles made by my daughter Kerry and presented by my husband Brother Bill. What a fun filled and magical night it was. A night that is etched into one of the most beautiful chapters of my life.

I need to thank the members who supported our fun earring project this year. It all started with orange ping pong ball earrings and the rest is history. This project was so well received and with the excitement and anticipation of the members, and with imagination and creativity it took off and we realized proceeds of \$7,010.00 for Voluntary Donations. Just see what thinking outside the box can accomplish. This project will continue next year, and I hope, with the continued support of our faithful members, it will continue to grow.

I need to briefly relay a little story presented during the children's sermon at church last weekend by one of the sponsors of our Confirmation class. He brought his toolbox to show the children. He explained that each tool has a specific job and what they were used for. He reinforced the message stating that like his box of tools, God has placed us on this Earth for a specific job. This is very thought provoking and then I started to think that each of us has a box of tools, or special talents given to us by God to use and develop for a specific task or goal in life. It is with God's Grace that I am where I am today, and where we all are. May God Bless each of you and wrap his loving arms around you and keep you safe as we serve our Eastern Star.

Thank you all again for electing me to be serve Grand Chapter as your Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron, and doing what God has placed me on this Earth to accomplish.

*Lovingly and fraternally,
Sr. Sharon E. Rosequist
Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron*



From the Desk of the Right Worthy Grand Secretary



Hi Everyone!

A wonderful way to reach out to our membership through the Star Journal. I hope you have enjoyed the summer with your family and friends, and enjoyed new adventures. I'm looking forward to getting back to our meetings and the opportunity to visit with our Sisters and Brother.

This year we changed our annual meeting and will be combining it with the workshops for the Secretaries and Treasurers on September 9th, and it will be held at Loyalty Lodge in Union. It will be a pancake breakfast, followed by our meeting. Cost is \$12.00, Dues \$2.00. The second workshop will be held in February, this date will be announced at a later time. Anyone can attend these workshops or annual meeting, but we hope to see both the Secretary and Treasurer of each Chapter attend. Some may feel that they hear the same thing over and over again, but it is a reminder for what needs to be done in your Chapters. Some reminders such as clearances are important, prior to a candidate being elected in your Chapters. The End of the year reports have deadlines, or fines are issued to the Chapters. A lot of times we need these little reminders, as life takes us in different directions.

At the meeting in September, I will have handouts to bring back to your Chapters along with membership rosters. Supplies will be on hand if anyone needs them, such as bibles, rituals, secret work and receipt books. Supplies are always available during the year, please reach out if there is anything that you need. If you need labels for upcoming receptions or District meetings, please email Grand Chapter with this request. I will continue to help chapters save on postage by delivering them when we attend a special meeting in your Chapter or District, or even pass them on to your Deputy for delivering your items to you.

Here in New Jersey, we are down to thirty-six Chapters. We lost another three Chapters to mergers last year, mostly due to loss of membership and not being able to have quorums to conduct our meetings. We carry so much in our pocketbooks and bags, we need to carry a petition with us, and invite family and friends to join our Order.

To all Chapter Secretaries, I look forward to working with each of you. If there is anything you need or have any questions on, I'm only a phone call away. Congratulations to Sister Joanne, and Brother Jim as you serve this year in our Grand East.

Always "Sparkle from within" and "Remember to Let the Peacefulness of Snow and the Spirit of Christmas be with you always".

*Love with Happiness
Patti L. Rhinesmith, PQM
Right Worthy Grand Secretary*

From the Desk of the Right Worthy Grand Treasurer



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It's hard to believe that we are here beginning another Eastern Star year. As we go into the summer, I hope you will take time to think about your Star Sisters and Brothers who may need some company or a phone call. Sometimes a quick thinking of you card will mean the world to someone.

Come Fall when we near Thanksgiving and (yikes) the Christmas holidays, remember these same people with a little Blessing, maybe a meal or just a phone call to brighten their day.

I know I will be busy working on financial reports in the Grand Chapter office. I am settling into my job as RWG Treasurer and although I still find something new that needs to be done, I am pretty much set. It's a pleasure for me to serve our Grand Chapter in this way.

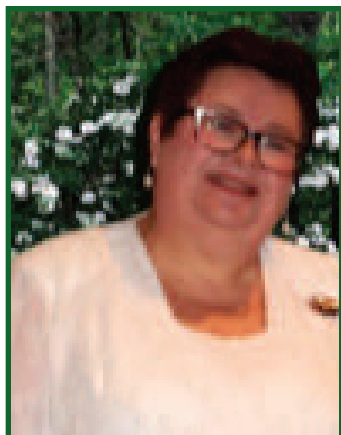
I wish all the very best for our new MWGM and MWGP along with their staff of Grand Officers. I certainly hope that this year of Imagination will be a happy, colorful and fun one for all.

Always remember that, Together with Faith, we can walk side by side, hand in hand, and help our Order to grow.

*Walking Together with Faith,
Michele Hess, PQM
Right Worthy Grand Treasurer*



Right Worthy Grand Conductress



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Time flies...yes it does. I can't believe I am coming to you from the Grand South already. So, the question I pose to myself is, am I ready? Is the order ready? And are you ready?

New normal, what is that? Times and conditions cause us to rethink and to rejuvenate. The convention

was amazing. Actually Historic. We had 50 plus guests from Prince Hall Eastern Star join us and we, likewise joined them in June for their convention. Making sisterhood a priority and joining together. The corporate board is constantly looking for innovative ideas to help us grow and we call out

to you the membership, to give us ideas and thoughts about our future. We are reaching out to our younger members to find out what they want out of Star to help us continue into the future.

All in all, it's exciting times for Eastern Star in NJ. We had a very successful year with Sister Jeannette and Brother Bernie. A lot of fellowship and fun to add to our memory books.

As I continue to look forward and plan, I realize that my role is a SERVANT LEADER which means I serve the body. Your needs for star, your expectations are what is necessary for myself and the board to help us as we continue to move forward.

Keep talking to us, keep letting us know of ideas, wishes and possibilities. Like I have said before, this is not your grandmother's Eastern Star It is YOURS!

Mary Elaine Guynn

Right Worthy Grand Conductress

Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress



Greetings from the Grand North!

They say "Time flies", but in the words of Henry Austin Dobson, "Time stays, we go!". It seems like just yesterday the Sanderson Sisters made their first appearance at the Halloween Hoot and with the blink of an eye Sarah Sanderson (aka "Me") has landed herself in our North!

Following this past year and Grand Session I'm inspired by the level of excitement and enthusiasm that's among our members from our newest to the most experienced.

There is a great energy right now among NJ OES. We're seeing so many smiles and hearing lots of laughter again. All is a buzz.....Everything from what color we're wearing on special nights to what new fun to what new adventures and fun we're going to have with each other at the next event! We appreciate your support more than you will ever know. Your feedback and ideas are always welcome and are of great help those of us coming thru the elected line in working to find more creative, innovative and affordable ways to continue to engage with our members.

There have been many special moments in my OES life that have been memorable but the honor of serving in the Elected Line is an experience of moments and relationships I treasure. I was honored in June to attend, along with our Elected Line, GO's and members, this year's NJ Grand Session for Oziel Grand Chapter, OES, Prince Hall affiliation. The level of warmth and welcome that was shown to us was overwhelming. There are not enough words to describe the feeling of joy we experienced and the bond of new friendships we have formed. It was a privilege to have been part of this moment in our NJ OES history. We have begun to lay the foundation to bring our groups closer and I look forward to spending many more years working with our Oziel Sisters and Brothers.

It is truly a sign of great things to come for our NJ OES! This is a job that no one can do alone and a journey I take with all of you. Thank you for taking the trip with me as this year we venture thru the North. I look forward to spending this year with all of you!

In Star Love & Friendship,

Dawn Smith

Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress



Right Worthy Grand Trustee



The support of our membership through the past year has given me hope that our Eastern Star is going to bounce back after the darkness of the pandemic. It was very encouraging to have an election between three candidates running for grand trustee.

For those who don't know me, my name is Andrea McCollum. I have been involved with Eastern Star

since 2007. I share my love of Star with my three daughters. I watched my daughters go through the International Order of Rainbow for girls and wondered if there was something for me. When I found Star I knew I found a new family.

I have had a love for star since I joined. I love meeting new people and travelling the state. I credit Patti Rhinesmith, PGM for introducing me to Grand Chapter, I just didn't know how much until last year. My first Grand Officers Day serving as Worthy Grand Ruth at Shekinah Chapter was intoxicating, there is just no describing the

feeling after exemplifying the work of the order successfully for the first time.

When the Covid restrictions were lifted, we had a member start coming to chapter after a time away. As this sister came out each night, she shared with the chapter her love and enthusiasm for Star. She awoke a new love of Star in me. I began to ask myself what more can I do?

I am looking forward to serving as MWGM to carry on the enthusiasm awakened in me, and encourage this excitement in the membership. It's important to provide guidance to the members, while giving them a voice so they feel included. I'd like to continue the innovations as well as honoring our traditions that are so near and dear to our hearts.

Sisters and Brothers go out into your communities, wear your Star gear, show your part of the world what, and who we are. Share your stories in articles for the Star Journal as well as the local paper. The growth and well-being of our Order depends on the initiation of new members in our local chapters.

Andrea McCollum,

Right Worthy Grand Trustee

Calling all Past Matrons & Past Patrons

If you have not yet joined the Past Matrons and Past Patrons Association you should really consider doing so, it is a very worth wild and rewarding experience. This association works very, very hard to help those in need. The fundraising is for the benefit of others. The funds are used to help those who are in need for one reason or another. We cannot do the work that we do without the help of our members. Dues are only \$4.00 per year. Reinstated members must pay \$8.00 to be active (if two or more years in arrears), plus \$4.00 for current dues, for a total of \$12.00.

If you are not a member and wish to join, please see your District Governor and she will get you all set up to be a member. Trust me, you will not regret it at all.

And remember when the fundraiser for your district/chapter comes around, please help out, as someday we can be put in the position for needing help. Remember we are all sisters and brothers and helping those in need is what we are all about.

DISTRICT 31

Cheryl Butler, GO # 28

DISTRICT 33

Alice Carter-Mead, PGO # 58

DISTRICT 34

Christine Lindberg, GO # 214

DISTRICT 35

Anna Tews, PGO # 54

DISTRICT 36

Barbara Juniewicz, PGO # 83

DISTRICT 37

Lisa Crank, PGO # 149

DISTRICT 38

Anita Cole, PGO # 287

DISTRICT 39

Lisa Couch, GO



*In Star Love and Friendship,
Dale Van Houten, PGO, President*



A Message from Voluntary Donations

by Jessica E. Walton, GO and Joseph F. Herx, GO, Co-Chairman

As you know, our State Voluntary Donations committee organizes the funds that cover all of our fundraising and charitable events for the NJ Order of the Eastern Star year. This includes all types of events from luncheons, dinners, galas, trips, jewelry, to apparel and more. We have a wide and varied number of projects that could spark your interest in donating to our Organization for its philanthropic works.

Our State Chairs work incredibly hard at putting together a myriad of events and opportunities to raise money and to support our beautiful Order, as well as many worthwhile charitable organizations. As always, we count on your generosity and support to fund these thoughtful and well-organized events. We hope that you consider joining us at some of them and in supporting their fundraising efforts.

Allow me to encourage you to support these events and fundraisers.

We know that donating to the causes you care about benefits more than just the Order and the charities we support - it can be deeply rewarding for you too. Millions give to charity on a regular basis to support causes they believe in, as well as for the positive effect it has on their own lives. So why is giving to charity so gratifying and life-changing for all involved? Here are the four good reasons you might not have thought about donating to your charities of choice.

Giving to charity makes you feel good

Donating to charity is a major mood-booster. The knowledge that you're helping others is hugely empowering and, in turn, can make you feel happier and more fulfilled. Research has identified a link between donating to charity and increased activity in the area of the brain that registers pleasure - proving that as the old adage goes, it really is far better to give than to receive.

Giving to charity strengthens personal values

Cited surveys indicate that whatever type of charity work people have supported, 96% of those individuals said they felt they had a moral duty to use what they had to help others - a sentiment very much rooted in their personal values and principles.

Having the power to improve the lives of others is, to many people, a privilege, and one that comes with its own sense of obligation. Acting on these powerful feelings of responsibility is a great way to reinforce our own personal values and feel like we are living in a way that is true to our own beliefs.

Giving can reintroduce fraternal friends and family to the importance of generosity

Knowing someone who gives to charity can be a catalyst for giving to charity yourself. By giving to charity, you may well be helping to remind friends and family of causes they likewise are passionate about and would like to support.

Your charitable donations could even bring about a fraternal and family-wide effort to support causes that have special significance to you as a group.

Family and Fraternal family giving creates a bond, helps to bolster relationships through a shared goal, and raises more money than could otherwise be possible through individual donations. Chances are, many of your Sisters and Brothers are already giving to charity, so joining forces would help you to make an even greater positive impact.

Additionally, sharing the experience of donating to charity with your children is a powerful way of showing them from a young age that they can make positive changes in the world. Children naturally love to help others, so nurturing their innate generosity will likely then grow up with a greater appreciation of what they have and will carry on supporting charity and good causes in years to come.

Giving to charity builds and strengthens local communities

The Covid 19 pandemic has encouraged many of us to take a closer look at our local communities and the organizations that we support and to consider how we can make a difference in our own sphere. Giving to charity, and particularly to our chosen organization, can be a powerful way to invest in the people and places that make up our everyday lives.

Our first and foremost method of supporting and donating to our beautiful Order is the self-addressed Grand Chapter Voluntary Donations envelope provided in this edition of our Star Journal. This is our annual direct donation project. Even the smallest of donations can make the biggest impact. Please consider returning your donation.

We hope that this handful of good reasons to support our Order and their fundraising efforts has inspired you to donate or support one of our many events during the Let Eastern Star Animate Your Life year.

*"You can design and create and build the most wonderful place in the world.
But it takes people to make the dream a reality."*

~ Walt Disney



PENNSYLVANIA GRAND SESSION



**JUNE
25TH-28TH
2023**



Unsung Heroes of Grand Session - The Locations Committee *Jeannette Wallace, Jr. PGM*



will be interpreted. They assist with the workings of not only the business session, but with any scenery and/or props for the Memorial Service and the Fraternal Correspondent's Report. And when the hoopla is done, they're the ones who pack it all up and get it back into storage for the next year. I can't thank them enough for helping to make the Wonderful Worlds of Star Grand Session, as well as so many others, a wonderful experience for us all.

I've said it before, and I'll say it again - "Man Plans, God Laughs". At the 152nd Grand Session, a report that I really wanted to have the Membership hear, but which wasn't presented due to circumstances beyond our control, was the report of the Locations Committee, under the expert leadership of Sister Glenda Westenberger, PGO. Every year, this group of Sisters and Brothers will creatively decorate the meeting room at Grand Session, helping set the stage for a time of excitement and fellowship. They work behind the scenes, getting there before the membership to set up, assemble, decorate, glue, pin, and do whatever needs to be done. But the work starts well before Grand Session when Sister Glenda, after consulting with the serving Grand Matron, develops her vision of how the theme of the year



56th ANNUAL MEETING AND BREAKFAST OF THE STATE SECRETARIES/TREASURERS CLUB

You are invited to join the State Secretaries/Treasurers Club
and attend the Breakfast and Annual Meeting

DATE: Saturday, September 9, 2023
LOCATION: Loyalty Lodge, 1912 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ 07093 908-686-9842
TIME: 10:00 am with a pancake breakfast included
PRICE: \$12.00/Person (Breakfast only) \$14.00 w/annual dues
MENU:

PLEASE NOTE ANY DIETARY RESTRICTIONS ON YOUR RESERVATION

Please make sure your reservation(s) are in by the due date of September 1, 2023
Make checks payable to "Lisa Helge" and mail your reservation to:

Lisa Helge
67 Texas Road
Monroe, NJ 08831
908-256-6142
Bizer81@aol.com

This invitation is extended to all Past and Present Secretaries and Treasurers to join our club, attend
our Annual Meeting and stay for breakfast. Hope to see you there!



Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____ Email: _____

Chapter/District: _____

Luncheon: \$ _____ Dues: \$ _____ Secy: _____ Treas: _____



Please Join the
Please Join The
Order of the Eastern Star of NJ!

**Halloween Hoot
Halloween Party!**

Saturday, October 28, 2023

Cincinnati Lodge
39 Maple Avenue
Morristown, NJ 07960

New Location!

Fun!

Time: 6:00pm – 11:00pm

Cost: \$25.00

Make Checks to:
Voluntary Donations
(HaLloween Hoot in Subject LinE)

*Wear your
earliest Costume!*

*Awesome
Music!*

Sandwiches, Desserts
Beverages (Water; Soda)

For Tickets Contact:
Karyn Visscher, WM
kbvisscher@gmail.com
18 Park Way, Morris Plains NJ 07950





Fantasy Night of

Saturday November 11, 2023

Hilton Garden Inn
800 Route 130, Robbinsville, NJ 08690
6pm-10pm

PLEASE PLACE MY ADVERTISEMENT IN THE AD BOOK

Full page is	5"x8" portrait size	\$65.00
Half Page	5"x4"	\$45.00
Quarter Page	5" x 2"	\$35.00
Boosters per name		\$ 1.00

AD SUBMISSION DEADLINE OCTOBER 28, 2023

Attach "PRINT READY "Ad and Mail to:

Cathy Fusaro, GO
1241B Thornbury Lane, Manchester, NJ 08759

Checks Payable To: Grand Chapter Voluntary Donations

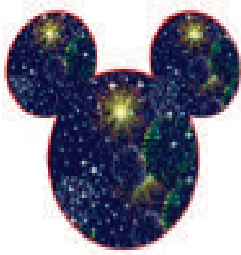
or email Ad in Adobe PDF format to :
staceylosherhoski@gmail.com

NAME: _____

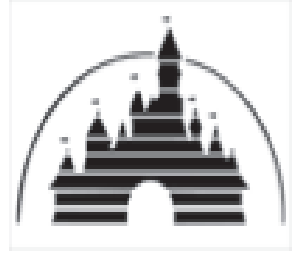
ADDRESS: _____ CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

CHAPTER: _____ DISTRICT: _____



ES Trip to Disney World
January 19 through January 28, 2024
Transportation and Accommodations on your own
Stay for the whole time or only part of it

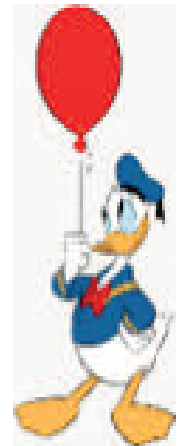


Group Activities

MWGM & MWGP Cocktail Party
Group Fireworks Viewing(s)



Sign up with MWGM or Private Secretary
Group Meeting Oct. 1
Time and Location:TBD



Journey into
imagination
With District #35

*Save
the Date*



Eagleswood Volunteer Fire Company
219 Railroad Avenue
West Creek, NJ 08092

Date: February 22, 2024

Time: 6:30pm to 10pm

District #35 cordially invites you to attend the Reception Night for

Stacey L. Osherhoski
Worthy Grand Adah

Martha Hudson
Worthy Grand Electa

Laura Elko
Worthy District Deputy





Please join us as we celebrate **“Ladies at the Table.”**

(A fun twist on a Table Lodge)

Sunday Oct 8, 2023

4:00 PM

Crescent Shrine

700 Highland Dr. Westampton, NJ 08060

Five Course Dinner/6 Toasts

Cost \$45.00

Open to members and non-members of Eastern Star

Check payable to Linda Thibault and mailed to

Linda Thibault

6 Oaks Drive, Mays Landing, NJ 08037

609-694-2877 (cell) oestraveler@comcast.net

No later than Oct 1st, 2023 (no refunds after that date)

Name(s)_____ Title _____

Phone#_____email_____

Allergies/dietary restrictions_____



WILLIAMSTOWN CHAPTER #149

On Tuesday June 13th Williamstown Chapter No. 149 was treated to the Father's Talk by Landen Lewis, who is Master Squire, also the Great Grandson of Blanch WM and Joe Jaggers, WP and Grandson of Lisa Crank, GO. Landen only found out that day he was doing it, he did an excellent job.

Eastern Star Charity Foundation of New Jersey

As I sit down to think about what to write as President of your Charity Foundation, having been on the Board, off and on, as a director for over 14 years, all I can say is it is a very rewarding experience knowing we are here to support all members of Star.

Through those years I have seen many members helped with emergency relief, grants to increase their job skills, interest-free educational loans, donations to our Eastern Star Home Residents Fund, scholarships to deserving students, and a newly-added Rainbow scholarship.

We have helped to provide televisions to the Home, wheelchairs, plumbing repairs, and help with medical bills. All these things are possible because of Star member donations. The Grand Chapter, the OES Home and the Charity Foundation also share in the paying of the Star Journal as all three contribute articles for the benefit of all members.

We as a Board are not allowed to hold fundraising events which could interfere with the M.W. Grand Matron's projects. This is why we reach out, and, with the aid of advocates in each district, we are able to continue to help our members.

Unlike your per capita that goes to the Grand Chapter and the OES Home, there is no designated amount allocated to the Charity Foundation.

We are now having virtual meetings along with two (2) meetings in person, allowing us to keep current on everything. All Eastern Star members are eligible to attend these meetings except during Executive sessions when assistance is discussed. So please reach out to join us virtually so you will be better informed on all the work that the Board does.

*Respectfully submitted,
JoAnn Bingenheimer, PGM*

July 4th, parade in Tuckerton, NJ

Since Bethlehem #40 merged with Tuckerton #54, It has been an absolute joy knowing the Masonic Lodge members want to support the OES chapter meeting in their lodge. The men of Tuckerton Lodge #4 requested the ladies of Tuckerton Chapter #54 to participate with them in the 4th of July parade, Main St Tuckerton, which they have participated in for many years. Knowing it would be a hot day, we had a very nice turn out and had a lot of fun.

Submitted by Laura Elko





July 10, 2023

Dear Eastern Star Community,

It is always a privilege to provide an update to the membership. I would like to share a brief summary of recent happenings at the Home. National Skilled Nursing week was recognized during a week-long celebration of our dedicated staff from all departments. Our HR Manager/Administrative Supervisor, Lori Patullo, along with Assistant Administrator, Shelretha LaSure and Activities Director, Simone Rudich orchestrated a spectacular week of festivities. Lori's efforts raised a significant amount of funds that covered all of the expenses including raffles, giveaways, food related events, activities, and entertainment. Staff appreciated being recognized and raved that the celebration was unlike anything they had ever seen. Thank you to all of the chapters that generously donated to support this event, in addition to vendors, physicians, and family members.

We underwent a rigorous yet highly successful state survey for three weeks in May. The facility had no quality-of-care deficiencies and only a few minor paperwork deficiencies. We were surveyed by 5 inspectors which included nurses, a pharmacist, a building inspector and several trainees. The building inspector did identify some issues related to the construction of the new area in 2015, and those were rectified immediately. They commented that the residents are very well cared for, happy and enjoy the activities programs. They were also very impressed with the cleanliness of the facility.

With regard to marketing efforts, we have recently updated our logo and will be using it on our letterhead, business cards, brochure, and website to name a few areas where it will be displayed. Please help us spread the word about our excellent services by referring anyone you know in need of sub-acute rehabilitation, long term care, or respite services. We are a CMS 5-star rated facility and have also been recognized by U.S. News and World report as a Best Nursing Home for both short-term and long-term care. Any questions regarding Admissions should be directed to Shelretha LaSure at slasure@njeasterstarhome.com

We are delighted that our mask mandate has been lifted as of June 1, 2023! We thank everyone for their cooperation with our infection control policies and procedure that were in place during the pandemic. These measures kept our residents and staff as safe as possible, which is evidenced by our infection control statistics. Although we were open for visitation throughout the pandemic, we can now allow larger groups to resume visitation. We do still require visitors to be screened upon entrance by taking their temperature and signing in. Any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for your time in reading this update. Have a happy, healthy, and safe summer!

Very truly yours,

Dr. Dawn Giakas, DBA, MPH, LNHA, CALA, FABC
Administrator



“Charity Begins at HOME - the OES Home!”

Bryan Wallace, President

OES Board of Directors

I am happy to write this message as the newly elected President of your Board of Directors. The Eastern Star Home Board continues to work to keep our Home thriving. The new board has hit the ground running as we begin our year of service.

We are fortunate to have an amazing, award-winning staff who are committed to doing all they can to make our Home just that - a warm and welcoming Home for our Residents. We commend them all for their achievements and look forward to seeing what the future will bring.

Delegates Meeting

The Annual Delegate's Meeting was held on Saturday, June 3, 2023 at Burlington Masonic Lodge. While the majority of Delegates attended this meeting in person, there was a virtual option available for those who needed to use it. It is unfortunate that we did not have 100% representation of our Chapters - it is very important that at least one of the eligible members - Delegate, 1st Alternate, 2nd Alternate, Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, or Associate Matron - attend to elect our Directors, give input, make important decisions and be able to report back to the chapter what is happening at your Eastern Star Home.

I would like to congratulate those elected to three-year terms as Directors: Sister Carole Moore, PGM, Sister Judy Wood, PGO, Brother Greg Guynn, GO, and Debbie LeDoux, PGO. Sister Joanne Byrne, MWGM, Brother Jim Hines, MWGP, and Sister Sharon Rosequist, RWAGM, by nature of their offices will serve this year as Ex-Officio members of the Board of Directors. I am looking forward to working with all members of the Board

during this year. To those who completed their terms, we thank you for all your hard work and service.

At the reorganization meeting held immediately after the Delegates Meeting, the following were elected as officers: Brother Bryan Wallace, GO President; Sister Debbie LeDoux, PGO Vice President; Sister Diane Schmolze, PGM Secretary; Sister Jessica Walton, PGO Asst. Secretary; Sister Carole Moore, PGM Treasurer; Sister Alice Carter-Mead, PGO Asst. Treasurer. We hope to work with the entire Board and the Administration for the good of all our Residents.

Gown Boutiques

Due to the continued dedication of the Elected Line, we are hoping to continue the traveling Gown Boutiques that have taken the place of Home Day in recent years. The restrictions that came out of the Covid pandemic continue to require us to think outside of the box. We are always looking for new ideas to raise funds for our Home, and we especially need volunteers to assist with the Boutiques and any other projects developed this year.

Maintenance

This past year the Home had several large expenditures in order to make necessary updates to physical plant systems and improve safety for our residents. We are required to meet new and growing mandates from the state of New Jersey as well. Major projects included the replacement of the Chillers, boiler upgrades, roofing, Wanderguard systems, new radios, etc. The Board is keeping a watchful eye on our investments to be able to keep our Home the Five-Star-rated facility it is.



Rehabilitation

Are you aware that the OES Home has a state-of-the-art Rehabilitation Unit? Services provided include physical, occupational, and speech therapy. Please consider our facility if you or someone you know are in need of such services.

Volunteers

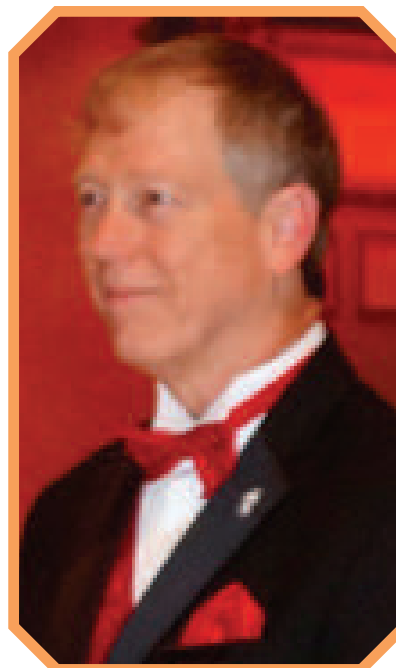
Simone Rudich, Director of Activities, is always happy to have volunteers to assist with the monthly resident Boutiques, arts and crafts, Bingo, or other activities. You can reach her at 908-722-4140, ext. 3527, to arrange a day to come in to help. We are still in need of volunteers on Tuesdays and Thursdays to help transport the wheelchair residents. Items for the Boutiques are always needed, and there are suggested items listed on njoes.com in the Daily News.

Bequests

During Estate planning, won't you please consider a bequest to the NJ Eastern Star Home when choosing charitable organizations for bequests? A bequest of any size would benefit our Home and its residents.

Tree of Life

The Tree of Life has received new leaves and rocks, and we thank those who have made such donations. It is a beautiful representation of the generosity of our donors. If you would like to have a leaf or rock added to the Tree of Life, you can obtain forms on the NJ Eastern Star Home's website at www.njeasternstarhome.com - click the Donation tab to obtain the form. The forms are also on njoes.com, or you can call the Home at 908-722-4140. A form is also in the Star Journal. Donations are \$500 for each leaf, and \$1000 for each rock. We thank you for supporting this project.



Donations

There are other opportunities for giving that will benefit our Home, besides those previously mentioned. You can contribute towards the Commemorative Gardens, which provide a beautifully landscaped outdoor space for our residents to enjoy. There are Resident Welfare Funds for both our members and those residents from the general public - we are concerned with the needs of ALL our residents. You can designate a donation for our Building Fund which helps maintain our facility. No matter where you chose to direct your donation, remember that the NJ Eastern Star Home is a 501c(3) organization, and your donation is tax deductible. Please designate your choice on the memo line of your check, and mail it to Sister Carole Moore, PGM, our Treasurer.

In closing I would like to thank you for the faith placed in me as your Board President, and I hope that we will continue to see our Home thrive!

*Bryan Wallace, 90
President*



New Jersey Eastern Star Home



Renew & Refresh Project

Donations may be made payable to:
New Jersey Eastern Star Home, Inc
Mailed to:
111 Finderne Ave. Bridgewater, NJ
08807 Attention: Business Office

The building project that we completed in the Winter of 2020 was a great success! The Unit I, A- wing received a much-needed facelift. We were able to install new flat screen TV's, new head, and foot boards as well as some new paint. Now it is time for us to do the same for Nursing Unit I, B- wing. We would like to continue our color and furniture scheme as we have throughout the rest of the building. We are also going to upgrade the shower rooms to provide better service to our residents. We would greatly appreciate your help with our renew & refresh project.

TV, Mount & Shelf: \$250



Bed Side table: \$200



Dresser: \$724



Head & Foot Board: \$200





Private Pay & Medicaid beds now available!!

LONG TERM CARE

NEW JERSEY EASTERN STAR HOME

MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN THE LIVES OF SENIORS

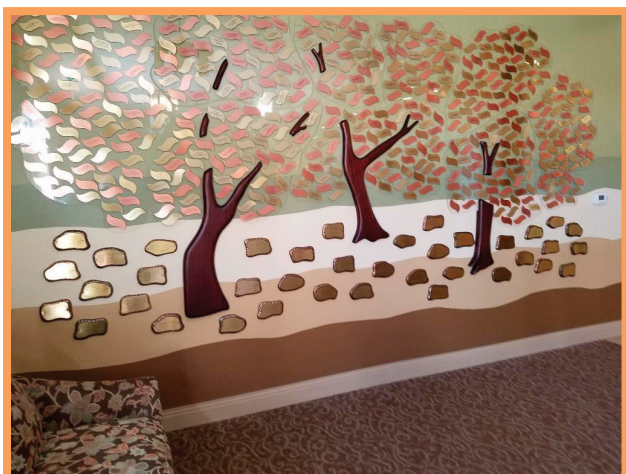
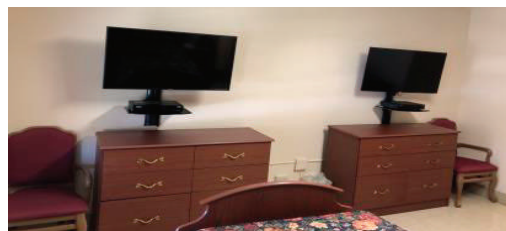
111 Finderne Avenue
Bridgewater, NJ 08807
Phone: 908-722-4140 Fax:
908-722-9566

Private Suites with full
private bathrooms
Semi Private Rooms with
half-bathrooms

Rehabilitation services
available 7 days a week
Nursing staff 24 hours a
day, 7 days a week

Complimentary cable
television, phone & Wi-Fi
And so much more!

**Request a virtual
tour today!**



The Tree of Life

Leaves and Rocks can be purchased and personalized for the Tree of Life. This is an effective and beautiful way to recognize members, chapters, groups, friends and loved ones. Leaves can be purchased for \$500 and Rocks for \$1,000. To purchase leaves or a rock fill out the form, make check payable to NJ Eastern Star Home, Inc. and mail to NJ Eastern Star Home, 111 Finderne Avenue, Bridgewater, NJ 08807. If you have any questions you can call the NJ Eastern Star Home or ask any Home Board Director.



NEW JERSEY EASTERN STAR HOME, INC.

TREE OF LIFE ROCKS

1. **DONOR INFORMATION**

NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

CHAPTER _____ NUMBER _____ DISTRICT _____

2. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT INFORMATION**

Complete only if you wish the Home to send an acknowledgement of your donation.

NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

3. **ENGRAVING INFORMATION** (See reverse side)

Rock is a brass plate and is mounted on a bronze background. Shapes of rocks will vary slightly.

4. **AUTHORIZATION**

I hereby authorize the New Jersey Eastern Star Home, Inc. to engrave one rock as indicated above and to attach it to their TREE OF LIFE.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please make your \$1,000.00 check payable to:

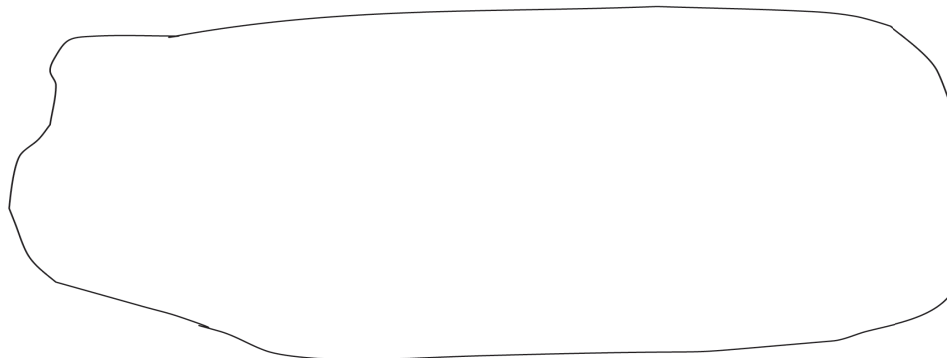
NJ Eastern Star Home

111 Finderne Avenue

Bridgewater, NJ 08807 (908-722-4140)

Documents/Tree of Life Rock Order Form 5-2019

PRINT OR TYPE THE **EXACT LETTERING**





TREE OF LIFE LEAVES

1. DONOR INFORMATION

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

CHAPTER: _____ NO# _____ DISTRICT # _____

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT INFORMATION

Complete only if you wish the Home to send an acknowledgement of your donation.

NAME: _____

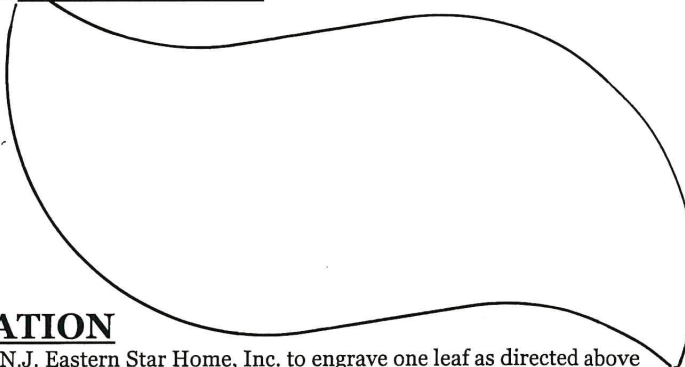
ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

3. ENGRAVING INFORMATION

In the space below is an exact size outline of the leaf.

PRINT or TYPE the EXACT LETTERING



4. AUTHORIZATION

I hereby authorize the N.J. Eastern Star Home, Inc. to engrave one leaf as directed above
And to attach it to their *TREE OF LIFE*.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please make your \$500 check payable
New Jersey Eastern Star Home, Inc.
111 Finderne Ave.
Bridgewater, NJ 08807



PORTLAND TO PORTLAND - A SHOOTING STAR!!!

3784 Miles on his Bike!!



NJ Eastern Star's very own
BRYAN WALLACE,
WG SENTINEL

is riding across the country!

Let's cheer him on with a donation
to Voluntary Donations!!

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

\$0.01/mile = \$37.84 \$0.02/mile = \$75.68 \$0.05/mile = \$189.20

**Choose one if these amounts, or any donation of your choice, and mail
your check, made payable to *Grand Chapter Voluntary Donations* to:**

**Jessica Walton, Chair, 1332 Tenth Ave., Toms River, NJ 08757
and put "Cycling Project" in the memo line! THANK YOU!**



Grand Representatives Association of New Jersey

Greetings Sisters and Brothers! Our active Star season has arrived and I hope all your travels are smooth. I am honored to serve as President of our Association this year. Our Annual Meeting was held in May due to scheduling conflicts, but was well attended. Elsie VanDusen did a marvelous job as President and I thank her for her commitment to the GRANJ. The elections were held and the Officers, District Ambassadors, and Committee Members for 2023-2024 are listed below.

1st Vice Pres.	Lisa Helge, GO
2nd Vice Pres.	Barbara Helfrey, GO
Secretary	Judy Brown, GO
Treasurer	Dorothy Westdyke, GO
Chaplain	Linda Penin, PGO
Parliamentarian	Joan Smith, PGM
Jewelry Chairperson	Candy Walling, PGO
Audit Committee	Alice Good, PGM
	Dale VanHouten, PGO
	Norman Sloan, PGO
Newsletter	JoAnn Bingenheimer, PGM
Organist	Pamela DeLisa, GO

District Ambassadors

31 Susan Whitty, GO
33 Stephanie Bowen, PGO
34 Jeanne Gionfriddo, PGO
35 Adair Ruane, PGO
36 Barbara Juniewicz, PGO
37 Susan Sharpe-Corliss, PGO
38 Heather Shoppas, GO
39 Carol Hart, PGO

As I prepare this article, I am excited to be working on plans for our October meeting – to be held at Olive Branch Lodge on Saturday, October 2, 2023, beginning at 11am. Immediately following the meeting, we will enjoy lunch and play “Let’s Make a Deal” with our guests, the Rainbow Girls. I hope you will join in the fun and laughter.

If you are a newly appointed or past Grand Representative and have not yet joined our Association, we invite you to do so. Contact your District Ambassador or our Secretary, Judy Brown, GO. Dues are \$5 and there are just 2 meetings/lunches a year. It’s a great way to stay connected and to support the IORG. To our current members, thank you for your support and I hope to see you at our meeting.

*Safe Travels,
Jennifer Schiffman
President—GRANJ—2023-2024*

MWGM AND MWGP TRAVEL 2023

Sisters and Brothers, family and friends,

We are hoping to completely fill the bus for the Fingerlakes and Cooperstown bus trip October 9 – 13. As of now there are 9 spaces still available. We are pleased with the response we have gotten so far. We currently have 43 passengers. Attached is the flyer. If you are interested, please contact me and I will furnish you with any information you will need. There is travel insurance, pickup points and other information that I will furnish to all interested parties. We will enjoy games, horse races, 50/50, trivia, puzzles, and lots of prizes.

We will enjoy drinks and snacks along the way and movies and other videos. **COME JOIN US FOR A FUN-FILLED FUND RAISING ADVENTURE TO RAISE PROCEEDS FOR OUR ORDER!**

*Diane Schmolze, PGM
Travel Chairman
2023-2024*



FINGER LAKES & COOPERSTOWN, NEW YORK

Wine & Dine in the Finger Lakes

5 DAYS - 4 NIGHTS

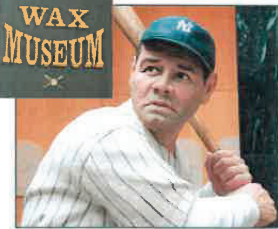
OCTOBER 9 - 13, 2023

\$900.00 Per Person
Double Occupancy



PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- * 2 Nights lodging in the Finger Lakes
- * 2 Nights lodging in Cooperstown
- * 4 Breakfasts
- * 1 Lunch at Belhurst Castle
- * 3 Dinners
- * Corning Museum of Glass
- * Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion
- * Finger Lakes Winery Tour & Tasting
- * National Soaring Museum
- * Finger Lakes Gaming & Racetrack
- * Erie Canal Cruise
- * Guided tour of Cooperstown
- * Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum
- * Hyde Hall's Hyde & Shriek Candlelight Ghost Tour
- * Heroes of Baseball Wax Museum
- * Souvenir Gift
- * Luggage Handling
- * All Taxes & Meal Gratuities
- * Motorcoach Transportation



Cancellation insurance available; see reverse side for details

FOR INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

ORDER OF EASTERN STAR

Diane Schmolze

1114 Leilani Dr.

Forked River, NJ 08731

(973) 979-5976



26 E. Lancaster Avenue, Reading PA 19607 * 610-775-5000 * 800-437-2323 * www.whitestartours.com



FINGER LAKES & COOPERSTOWN, NEW YORK

Wine & Dine in the Finger Lakes

5 Days - 4 Nights

The sample itinerary described below is approximately like the itinerary your group will be following during your stay with WHITE STAR TOURS. However, the exact times, days, and destinations may vary for your group.

- Day 1 - Depart from your hometown and travel to the Finger Lakes Region of New York. Arrive in Elmira to visit the **National Soaring Museum** to see the flying, man-made birds. Afterwards, you will head for the **Corning Glass Center** where you can have lunch on your own and then discover all the beauty, wonder and treasures of the magical world of glass. After your visit, check into your hotel and freshen up before departing for **dinner** in the area.
- Day 2 - After breakfast, depart aboard your bus for the town of Canandaigua – home of the **Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion State Historic Park**. Enjoy time on your own to unwind, surrounded by the lush landscape, colorful vistas and architectural treasures in the nine formal gardens, 1887 Queen Anne-style mansion and greenhouse complex. After your visit, depart for Geneva, NY to enjoy **lunch** at the beautiful **Belhurst Castle**. This afternoon you will arrive at a **local winery** for a **tour and sampling** of their fine wine. Return to your lodging to freshen up before departing for the **Finger Lakes Gaming & Racetrack** for dinner on your own and free time for gambling. Return to your hotel later tonight.
- Day 3 - Breakfast at your lodging, then check out and travel to Herkimer, NY for a **Narrated Cruise on the Erie Canal**. Travel through history on the calm waters of the Erie Canal while enjoying the spectacular scenery of New York's beautiful Mohawk Valley. Learn how the Erie Canal was constructed and how it opened the western lands and helped to create the America we know today. During the cruise you will see massive guard gates, the historic Fort Herkimer Church, a glimpse of wildlife. Your vessel will enter Lock 18 at Jacksonburg (*one of the last remaining locks operating with all of the original 100-year-old equipment*) and will be raised and lowered in a "liquid elevator." As the vessel enters the lock, your captain will describe how the lock operates as you then watch the gates close behind you and the lock house seems to rise in the air as the lock walls creep up along the vessel while it's being lowered twenty feet. After this fascinating experience, you will travel to **Cooperstown** for a **guided tour**. Later, check into your hotel in the Cooperstown area and freshen up before enjoying a delicious **dinner** at a restaurant in the area.
- Day 4 - Following breakfast at your hotel, depart for a visit to the **Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum** where you will learn about the history of baseball in the United States and beyond. View the baseball-related artifacts and exhibits which honor those who have excelled in playing, managing, and serving the sport. The afternoon is free to enjoy at your leisure. This evening's **dinner** is followed by a visit to **Hyde Hall** for the **Hyde & Shriek Candlelight Ghost Tour**. This guided tour takes you within the chambers of the neoclassical country mansion to hear tales of ghostly apparitions that have lingered at Hyde Hall for over two centuries. Hyde Hall was built between 1817 and 1834 for George Clarke, a wealthy landowner; it was the largest private home in the U.S. at that time.
- Day 5 - Enjoy breakfast at your hotel, then check out and depart for a visit to the **Heroes of Baseball Wax Museum**, the only wax museum dedicated to baseball. View realistic, life-sized wax figures of many of the greatest players in baseball history. After your visit, depart for home with lasting memories of your trip to the Finger Lakes and Cooperstown.

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING WHITE STAR TOURS TO BE A PART OF YOUR TRAVEL PLANS!

TRIP CANCELLATION PROTECTION

Cancellation protection is encouraged for medical emergencies that may occur. The Enhanced option must be paid within 14 days from the day the first deposit for the trip is paid to the organization and/or group leader. There is an additional Enhanced upgrade - Cancel for Any Reason. Cancellation must be made no later than 48 hours prior to your scheduled departure, conditions, limitations, and exclusions do apply. These plans are only valid for trips booked through White Star Tours. To purchase the protection, please contact NTA/AON Insurance via their website at <https://nta.aontravelprotect.com> or phone directly at 1-800-388-1470 and provide the Tour Operator Location #386097.



July 2023

New Jersey Eastern Star Home

Residents Corner



Dear Family and Friends,

I hope you are all doing well. We want to thank everyone for bringing in donations to contribute to our monthly Boutique as well as activity supplies. The Boutique is a monthly social event our residents are always looking forward to attending. You are all truly making a difference for the residents and community here at New Jersey Eastern Star. Here at New Jersey Eastern Star Home, we offer a wide variety of programs including music, art, horticulture, and helping out community organizations to provide our residents with continuous opportunities to strive for growth and personal capabilities.

I am reaching out to see if you would be willing to help me spread the word around the community to see if anyone would be interested and willing to donate supplies to help enrich our seniors through programming and more. as well as, to our monthly boutique. Below I am going to include a list of items our residents have expressed interest in seeing at our next monthly boutique. As always, any donations are greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions please feel free to give me a call.

Thank you for your time.

Kindly,
Simone Rudich Director of Activities
New Jersey Eastern Star Home
111 Finderne Ave Bridgewater, NJ 08807
908-722-4140 ext. 3527
srudich@njeasternstarhome.com



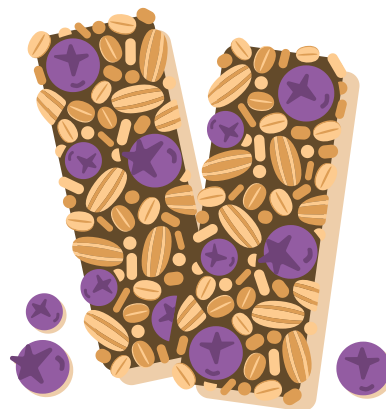


July 2023

New Jersey Eastern Star Home

Donation Suggestions

- Women's Clothing sizes Large, Extra Large, and up
- Men's Clothing sizes Large, Extra Large, and up
- Hand wipes
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Dove Soap preferably in bars
- Cubed Tissue Boxes
- Batteries
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Perfume
- Cologne
- Watches
- Pencils
- Pens
- Sunglasses
- Wallets
- Jewelry for men and women
- Shoes
- Toothpaste
- Nail polish
- Hats with a rim
- Word puzzle books
- Colored pencils
- Pencil sharpeners
- Granola Bars
- Graham Crackers
- Chips
- Doritos
- Mini Hershey bars
- Fruit Snacks
- Diet Sodas
- Welsh's Gummy Snacks
- Cookies
- Jigsaw Puzzles
- Yarn
- Jewelry Beads
- Faux Flowers
- Board Games
- Large Print Reading Books
- Crafting Supplies
- 100 calorie packs
- Eyeshadow
- Any donations are appreciated.





Eastern Star Charity Foundation of New Jersey 2023 Scholarship Recipients

We had 4 recipients of our Scholarship this year.

Two Regular, one Rainbow and one Allied Health. All students who sent in applications are commended on their accomplishments throughout their past years of schooling.

Our 1st recipient is Lily Tews, received our Allied Health Scholarship and she says:



I am from Branchburg, NJ. My grandmother is Sister Anna Tews, from Tuckerton Chapter #54. I graduated from Somerville High School and will soon be attending Rutgers University, where I will study pharmacy for the next six years. I will also be part of the Honors College at Rutgers, a competitive interdisciplinary community that only selects a certain number of applicants from each Rutgers school. I'm extremely grateful for this organization's scholarship because it will go towards my expensive education!

I will graduate in 2029 with a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. After taking a licensure exam, I'll be a fully licensed pharmacist and will be ready to join the workforce. There are many career options for Pharmacists, so I'm not sure exactly what type of job I want to have yet. I hope to find one that stands out to me when I do my clinical rotations at Rutgers.

Although I'm excited for what the future has in store for me, I would also like to recognize the people and groups who have made my time in high school memorable. I've been involved in my high school's Marching Band all four years, and my final season in particular has been one of the best experiences of my life. I was a member of the Varsity Track & Field team, where I mainly threw discus. I will always cherish the friends and memories I've made in both of these extracurriculars. Finally, I would like to thank my family – my parents, my sister Natalie, and brother Vinny – for their constant support throughout my high school career.

Our 2nd is Alexandra Sardis, our Rainbow recipient and she writes, with Rainbow Love:

I am a member of Golden Assembly #43, and Raritan Chapter #58, and daughter of Sister Cathy Sardis member of Raritan #I am a PWA, a PGO, and a recipient of the Grand Cross of Color. But before all that came, I was a pledge girl who later majoritied up from Golden Pledge to Golden Assembly, when I was 12 years old. If you put all those years together, you can say accurately that I've spent most of my childhood and a lot of my teenage years inside Masonic Lodges.

Being a high school senior I could not attend your Grand Session as I was attending my senior trip, which I had committed to months prior.

I am extremely grateful and honored to be chosen to receive this scholarship. I am looking forward to attending Caldwell University as a committed athlete, and studying for my degree in Psychology. Receiving this scholarship will greatly aid and benefit me on that upcoming journey.

Rainbow has made me the young woman I am today. Because of Rainbow I am confident, Passionate, reliable, outgoing and committed, among many other traits and skills that I've learned along the way. Being a grand officer further enhanced these qualities. Overall, I have learned some of my most prominent life lessons and my



most helpful skills in Rainbow, which all together has better prepared me for and independent and prosperous future.

I am proud to say I am a Rainbow girl, and now an Eastern Star member, as I was just recently initiated. With all that said, I would personally like to thank

Mrs. Dale Van Houten, and all others involved in the scholarship for choosing me. I was filled with so much joy when I was informed that I was to receive your scholarship. As I said it will greatly help me in college, as I am looking forward to what is to come in the near future.

Our 3rd Recipient is Adrienne Castrati, received our Regular Scholarship and she writes:

Dear Mrs. Van Houten and the members of the Eastern Star Charity Foundation, thank you so much for choosing me for a Scholarship. I am the granddaughter of Judith and Dan Brown of Laurel Springs Chapter #227, I am very excited to receive this scholarship and it will help me in continuing my education and pursuing my dream of becoming an author.

I will be working towards my Bachelor's Degree in Business Management and furthering my education in English and Language Arts. I am interested in being involved in the publishing industry. I would like to help other aspiring authors get their works published as well.

I dedicate a lot of my free time to researching subjects such as history and science, but my favorite thing to do has always been sitting down with a good book and reading for hours. I love meeting the new characters and analyzing the plot structures and themes of the story.

After writing the first two drafts of my first novel, I found that I wanted to be more involved in the publishing industry. With my Bachelor's Degree in Business Management, and with furthering my education in English and Language Arts, I believe that ample opportunities will be presented to me in order to turn my aspirations into fruition.

Again, thank you all so very much for my scholarship.

4th Recipient is Giavanna McManus who received our Regular Scholarship:



She has been accepted into Stockton University for fall of 2023. She will be majoring in historical and literature studies with concentrations in K-12 education. She states that the influential people in her life have been her teachers. She respects the impact that they have had in her life and would love to pass the values taught to her onto her own students one day. She has taken AP and honors classes throughout her high school career and has received several athletic achievements. She also commits herself to activities and volunteer opportunities in school, Heroic Club, as treasurer, JROTC color guard and drill team where she was color guard captain and JV softball and basketball. According to her teachers she works very hard and is willing to help others without hesitation, and is organized, bright and friendly. She also has a job since 2021 in L&M Bakery.

She is the granddaughter of Jean D. McManus, secretary of Beverly Maqueda Chapter #276, and daughter of Eleanor McManus.

We wish all of these receivers of our scholarships the very best and may God Bless and guide them as they continue their education.

We would also wish the same to all of those very special applicants that applied for our scholarship

As stated by the screening committee; "We just wish we could give all of these very bright and deserving students an application".

*In Star love and friendship,
Dale Van Houten
Scholarship Chairperson*



Wonderful Worlds of Star







Robert T. Schulze *Past Grand Patron*



Brother Bob was celebrated at our 153rd Grand Session

By our Most worthy Grand Matron Sister Jeanette Wallace. Brother Bob was Installed as Most Worthy Grand Patron 50 Years ago. He is the only Past Grand Matron or Patron to have ever received this distinguished honor. Sister Jeanette honored him with the Shining Star Award and a special Framed Certificate for his 50 Anniversary. Brother Bob was a mentor to many and was an active member serving on many committees.

His real love was serving many years on the Home Board. When asked to speak he was eloquent as always, but he surprised us by presenting his Grand Officers of 50 years ago who were in the session. Sister Joan Davis, Grand Marshal, Sister Arlene Anderson, Grand Representative of Colorado, and Sister Joanne Parsels, Grand Representative of Washington. All were surprised with this impromptu presentation of his attending Grand Officers as this honor to Brother Bob was a surprise to him. Brother Bob was one of the best.

Some may remember the highways 50 years ago. The travel schedule was much more hectic than today with 22 District Meetings, 19 Reunions, Corporate Board, Home Board, and Charity Foundation Meetings, 45 Receptions, 23 Grand Officers Nights, 15 Top 3's, 12 Grand Visitation, 8 Party Nights, 1 Floral, visits to the Eastern Star Home and Masonic Home, and several Chapters Anniversary Nights. All of this while working a full-time job in Manhattan. Hat's off to Bob for service to our Order that you enjoyed with Ruth & Gloria as you are traveling pals.

May your life continue for many more years living with Ruthie and her family, splitting you time between NJ in the summer and Florida in the winter. Thank you Bob PGP, God Bless you, from a grateful Fraternity.



COMFORT ZONE CAMP MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS TEA

The Miracle of Christmas Tea for the benefit of "Comfort Zone Camp" will be held on Sunday, December 10, 2023 at Starlight Chapter #107, Budd Lake, NJ starting at 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM – Donation \$25.00

Comfort Zone Camp is a non-profit organization, a bereavement organization that transforms the lives of children who have experienced the death of a parent, sibling, primary caregiver, or significant person. The programs are free of charge and include trust-building activities and age-based supports that break the emotional isolation grief often brings.

Comfort Zone's programs are offered to children ages 7-17, your adults 18-25 years old, and separate parent and guardian programs.

Tickets can be secured from your District Chairperson for this project of by contacting me directly.

Anyone who has gone through the grieving process with a child knows the impact this has on a child. It is my hope you will support this project and help enrich the lives of those at Comfort Zone Camp.

Ruth Ann Hoyt, GO, Chairperson
wrhoyt@rcn.com
610-253-9130



Oziel Grand Chapter PHA Fellowship

A highlight at Grand Session for me was the visit of Oziel Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliated, to the informal opening which took place Monday evening at our Grand Session. We had hoped that the Grand Worthy Matron, Sister Rochelle Elliot, and the Grand Worthy Patron, Brother Thomas Hughes, would have the night available to visit with us. How truly wonderful it was that over FIFTY members of Oziel Grand Chapter were able to visit with us!! We were honored to have the Grand Worthy Patron and Grand Worthy Matron address our membership and introduce those in their party, and they issued an invitation for us to attend their Grand Session in Cherry Hill on Thursday morning, June 22nd. Our Most Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Joanne Byrne, Most Worthy Grand Patron, Brother Jim Hines, Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron Sister Sharon Rosequist, and a total delegation of delegation of 22 were able to visit with Oziel and were warmly received and welcomed when presented to their membership. The Elected Line, once presented, were invited to sit with their counterparts in their stations for the rest of the session, and we were hosted at their luncheon which follows. Those who attended enjoyed being able to share ideas and experiences and are all looking forward to future opportunities for fraternity with our sisters and brothers.



"How truly wonderful and delightful it is to see brothers and sisters living together in sweet unity!" (Psalms 133:1 TPT)



Important Information for Submissions:

Digital photos need to be high resolution. (If not, they will be used in a limited fashion.)
Articles need to be submitted in Microsoft Word.

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