



A Way of Life

The Eastern Star is a social Order comprised of persons with spiritual values, but it is not a religion. Its appeal rests in the true beauty of the refreshing and character - building lessons that are so sincerely portrayed in its ritualistic work.

A deep fraternal bond exists between its members. It is the wholesome relationship of brotherly and sisterly love brought about by high principles exemplified in our daily lives, which makes us near and dear to each other.

While this is an Order composed of people of spiritual convictions, it is open to all faiths. The personal welfare of our members is vital to all of us, and it is considered a privilege to help one another whenever we can.

The **Star** Journal



We also publish the Star Journal, which keeps our membership informed of all activities throughout the state.

If you wish to learn more about the Order of the Eastern Star and to make a difference in the world, ask someone whom you know that is a member.

Call or write the

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*Why
You
Should
Join
The Order of
The
Eastern Star
of
New Jersey*

Why Join Eastern Star?

- Friendship and Fellowship
- Desire to help those in need
- Strong Values
- Patriotism
- Respect for all ages
- Generosity of time, spirit and energy
- Compassion and understanding
- Fun and Activities

The Order

The Order of the Eastern Star is the largest fraternal organization in the world whose members are both women and men. It is an organization whose members have high moral standards based on charity, truth and loving kindness. Belonging to the Order gives you an extended family with members in every part of the world who will treat you as family and aid me if I am ever in need of assistance.

Meetings and Activities

You will be able to attend functions locally, statewide, and across the country where you will feel safe and welcome. These functions will be in the form of business meetings held once or twice a month, and social activities such as dinners, dances, programs and fund raisers where money is raised for our many charitable activities.

Membership

The membership qualification for New Jersey is to be a wife, widow, mother,

daughter, legally adopted daughter, step-daughter, sister, half- sister, grandmother, granddaughter, step-granddaughter, great-granddaughter, aunt, niece, step mother, step-sister, mother-in-law, sister-in-law, daughter-in-law, and female first cousin of a Master Mason in good standing or who, if deceased, was in good standing at the time of his death; females recommended by a Master Mason in good standing; certified Majority Members of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls who are sponsored by a Master Mason in good standing; and Master Masons in good standing.

Initiation

There are five degrees of the Order which are conferred during initiation. The solemn process is an enlightening and interesting experience for the candidate, with no embarrassing moments. The Eastern Star ritual dramatizes its philosophy of the importance of living a moral life. It uses the symbolism of Biblical characters to exemplify the moral quality of character that members should strive to possess.



Youth Groups



The Order supports the Rainbow Girls and DeMolay Boys. These groups teach young people to be leaders, to live by the Golden Rule, to respect and help others through service and community projects. These experiences prepare our youth to be able to speak publicly before gatherings and, in general, to be good citizens in their journey through life.



Senior Housing

We support and maintain a Home for Seniors in Bridgewater, NJ, where we have residential, assisted living and skilled nursing. These facilities are available for members and non-members.

Programs

A basic teaching of the Order of the Eastern Star is charity. The tradition of its members helping one another and humankind in general is practiced extensively. Among the programs are emergency relief, financial support of those with special needs, cheer, volunteer service and support of the widow and widower; educational assistance through loans, grants and scholarships; contributions to various hospitals with our preemie cap program, and various chapter support to Veteran and Shiners Hospitals. We support a seeing eye dog each year at Seeing Eye, Inc. located here in NJ. Also, we contribute to many national organizations, ie Breast Cancer, the Heart Association, and Multiple Sclerosis.