



The Grand Chapter of Connecticut
Order of the Eastern Star, Inc.
Organized August 11, 1874

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September 11, 2023

Dear Sisters and Brothers of Connecticut Eastern Star,

Typically, our Fall letter has been sent to the chapters to be read at their first meeting in September. There are so many great happenings in CT Eastern Star that we wanted all our Members to know about them. We would like to thank the Eastern Star Charity Foundation for making this possible through their donation of printing and mailing costs.

Communication is key and there are many ways of keeping our members informed of what is happening in our chapters, state, other jurisdictions, and other branches of our Masonic family. Our website at www.ctoes.org includes a wealth of information and a new "Members Only" section. The Star Matters newsletter (sign up on our website) has up to the minute details of what is happening. Check out our CT OES Facebook page for pictures and videos of events. Get your personal subscription to The Beacon, OES@EvartsCT.com, for chapter doings, calendar info, flyer, forms and placing of ads.

Our Grand Chapter Office has moved to Masonic Healthcare. They can be reached at Grand Chapter of CT, OES, 22 Masonic Avenue, PO Box 70, Wallingford, CT 06492. Phones: 203-679-5520(Grand Secretary/Lynn) and 203-679-5521(Assistant/Francine). Email oesctgs@gmail.com.

These past few months have flown by and we have been busy filling our passports with all our activities and travels. We, along with other OES members, represented CT at the Grand Chapters of Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, Nova Scotia/Prince Edward Island, New Hampshire and are looking forward to Rhode Island in October. It is always a great time to get together with friends from other states and make new ones. Wonderful memories are being created.

Thank you to those who joined us at our Group Discussions and Grandview presentation. We hope it was informative. Although two of our Talcott Mountain summer concerts were rained out, the ABBA and Earth, Wind, and Fire performances at Simsbury Meadows were well attended and we enjoyed social time with our Sisters, Brothers, and friends. We just returned from our Lancaster bus trip after seeing Moses at Sight and Sound, Guys and Dolls at the Dutch Apple dinner theatre, making whoopie pies, shopping, touring the beautiful countryside and ending up with an enjoyable visit at Longwood Gardens. Our last bus trip, a Chocolate Decadence Tour on October 1, currently has a waiting list. It includes a scenic fall train ride on the Naugatuck Railroad, charcuterie box, several chocolate and wine pairings, and the opportunity to make your own custom chocolate bar at Fascia's Chocolates. It will be a sweet day! Contact Michele Tetreault (860-309-8257) our trip coordinator.

As promised, this is a very busy and exciting year with a variety of opportunities for our membership to get together with one another. Flyers and forms are available on our website. Join the Kindness Crew for a lovely day

on Sunday, September 17, at White Memorial Conservation Center in Litchfield to support Parkinson's with a Walk in the Woods. This is the Worthy Grand Matron's charity for the year. You may register the day of the walk. Donna Larson, our Grand Chaplain is our Team Leader. Attend our Exchange with MA, NH, NY, and RI on September 30, at the New Haven Masonic Temple for lunch and a presentation of the Queen of the South Degree. Stay for a gourmet pizza dinner and social enjoyment. Have a Spooktacular time with our Masonic Family at our Halloween Party on October 28, in New Haven. November brings us International Weekend in Burlington, VT and the reception for the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron, hosted by Ephraim Kirby and Temple Chapters, on November 12.

Plan ahead for a New England Exchange in MA in January and CANAM in March at Niagara Falls where the new General Grand appointments will be made by Sister Billie Bradfield, Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron.

Toys are being collected for St. Mary's Hospital at all visitations by Sister Eleanor Carbonaro, Grand Martha. This will wrap up with a brunch on December 9, at Lady Martha Chapter. Flyer will be out soon. Pull tabs to benefit the Shriner's Hospital in Springfield, MA are being collected by sister Jessica Dey, Grand Marshal.

November is going to bring a new type of fundraiser to benefit Fidelco, the charity we have chosen as our Service Dog project. Opportunities will be available to win a gift card or other prize every day in the month of November. Check the website for the list or prizes and where to send your check.

Sales of our pins this year will benefit Parkinson's and Alzheimer's. Homemade plain and cayenne peanut brittle are being sold to support Youth scholarships. They make excellent holiday gifts. Noah's Ark Duty Free Shop will be open at Official Visitations with flyers, pins, Peanut Brittle and other items for sale.

Our official visitation schedule will be starting back up again. We look forward to seeing you and if you haven't been out in a while we would be happy to welcome you back. Receptions for our Appointed Grand Officers will be held on the night of their chapter's official visitation immediately following the meeting. We encourage you all to join us as we honor the Kindness Crew Grand Family. Our website has a list of all Connecticut Chapters with a link to google maps.

Bee your best person to everyone, in every way, every day!

In Loving and Buzzing Kindness,

Caroline V. Maselli

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Attest: Lynn S. Wakefield, PGM
(Grand Secretary)