



Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star Of Michigan

January 2024

Happy New Year Sisters and Brothers!

It's a very exciting time to be an Eastern Star! The schools of instruction are all completed, and now the fun can begin for our Grand Family. Our first exemplification will be held on Saturday, January 20th at the Masonic Pathways Doig Chapel in Alma Michigan at 2 pm. Please come and support our grand officers as we initiate new members into our Order. Reports coming in from the Worshipful Master pin presentations are all very encouraging, and there have been requests for petitions to join, and questions about the Order which was exactly what we were hoping for! Be sure to follow up with those potential members whom you have given a petition to, and let us know when you will be initiating them, we are here to help you!

And now, we leave you with this food for thought, written by Rev. Marcy Sheremetta:

As the dawn breaks on a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our health, our family and our friends.

Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains. Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way. Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, color or creed.

Let us keep God of our own understanding in our hearts and to chant God's name each day. Let us lead the world from darkness to light, from falsehood to truth and from wrong to right.

Let us remember that we are all one, embracing all, discriminating against none.

May your year be filled with peace, prosperity and love. May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy and peaceful new year.

With a HUG,

Banise M. Abbey

Denise M Abbey, WGM

Larry D. Hochetras

Larry D. Hoekstra, WGP



Grand Chapter

Order of the Eastern Star

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January 2024

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS OF MICHIGAN

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This is to notify you of the following vacancies to be filled for on the Elected Boards of Grand Chapter.

Benevolence Board – the term of this position is four years, and it must be filled by a Past Grand Matron. Sister Alma Hunnicut is completing her 8 years and is not eligible for another term.

Educational Board – the term of this position is three years, and it must be filled by a Past Grand Matron. Past Grand Matron, Colleen Wilcenski is eligible to succeed himself.

The Law requires that an endorsement of the member's chapter is necessary for the name of the sister or brother to be presented to our members and this must be done at a regular/stated meeting.

A Chapter's endorsement, under its Seal, is to be received in the Grand Chapter Office (see page 23, Article 11. Endorsements and Nominations, Section 3. Elective Board Members). Please be sure to include, in the endorsement, the date of the meeting.

Sincerely and fraternally,

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Jan S. Cross, Grand Secretary



EDUCATION BOARD

Order of the Eastern Star of Michigan

January 2, 2024

Dear Chapter members,

Happy New Year! Here is hoping that you are refreshed, renewed and optimistic about the Eastern Star year and looking forward to getting started. We sure are!

The Education Board would like to remind you that the endorsed applications and required documentation must be mailed to the Secretary of the Education Board **NO LATER** than April 1st for consideration. It is understood that there may be circumstances where exceptions may occur and they will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

The Board would also like to remind you that the ESTARL scholarship is very well-funded and we welcome applicants to support their religious studies. We also are here to consider and provide financial aid to vocational pursuits which include trade schools and apprenticeships. Also remember the Rust-Huis scholarship for music. We look forward to our first applicant for this as well.

Again, please make every effort to conform to the time table guidelines. The Secretary of the Board must have time to process all applications for the Board to consider.

We look forward to receiving and granting of scholarships for the Abbey-Hoekstra Grand Family year.

On behalf of the Education Board Officers,

Robert H. Otte, Jr., PGP

Education Board President