

# PA Eastern Star Happenings

Issue 21 | Summer 2023



As we close out the beautiful *Warmth of the Season* Session with Junior Past Grand Matron Sister Linda and Junior Past Grand Patron Brother David, we begin to SPARKLE ON with Worthy Grand Matron Sister Joyce and Worthy Grand Patron Brother Bob!



## What's Inside:

Meet the 2023-2024  
Grand Family

Plan your calendar with  
upcoming events

Learn about the  
**YOUR SPARKLE COUNTS**  
Special Program



## ***PA Eastern Star Happenings***

Issue 21 | Summer 2023  
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Order of the Eastern Star

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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I am so excited for the opportunity to serve PA OES as this year's Magazine Editor! I have worked on several newspapers and magazines, and I am thrilled to bring these skills to helping your stories SPARKLE in the next several issues. If you are interested in submitting an article for the next issue, please use one of the following methods by the deadline of **October 9**.

Email: [PAOESMagazine@gmail.com](mailto:PAOESMagazine@gmail.com)

Phone: 724-771-6590

Online Submission:  
<https://bit.ly/PAOESMAG>

Or scan the QR code with a smart device!



I look forward to hearing all of the wonderful ways that our members are SPARKLING for OES this year!

Katie Lasswell Vitale,  
PA OES Magazine Editor 2023-2024

### ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS:

In order to continue the free distribution of the PA OES Magazine, one issue per household will now be delivered.

If you would prefer to only access an online version of the magazine available on PAOES.org, please request to stop receiving a physical copy by mail by reaching out to the Grand Secretary.

Phone: 717-4197241

Email: [GS@paoes.org](mailto:GS@paoes.org)

Mail: 105 Freemason Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022.

Note: If you are receiving this magazine in error or no longer wish to receive this publication, please contact the Grand Sectary.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We have exploded with enthusiasm into a new year! The first weekend for the 2023 Sparkle Grand Family was full of excitement. Day 1: We enjoyed our "Day with the Dogs" with 150 people in Grantville at the Susquehanna Service Dogs training facility. Day 2: We appreciated the talents of our Worthy Grand Patron and his fellow performers for a patriotic concert in Palmyra and raised \$2000 for the Reading Dyslexia Center. Day 3: We had a delightful trip to God's Country for a patriotic picnic in Region 6. We are off to a spectacular start!

Next, we were off to the Jaffa Shrine in Altoona to celebrate the 81st Session of Pennsylvania Rainbow Grand Assembly. The Grand Officers and Grand Representatives were wonderful, and I know that with these young women as our future, we will be SPARKLING brightly for years to come.

On August 12, we hope that you come join us for the Premier of Wheels & Heels Testimonial at Lake Raystown Resort and Conference Center in Central PA. The food is amazing, and the venue is beautiful! After the Testimonial we will have an old-fashioned family reunion. Form a team with your OES family. Your OES family can be your Chapter, Region, fellow DGMs, a Sessions committee, a group of Worthy Matrons, or any group you get together. Join in the spirit of the Sparkle games! There will be many prizes, including one for the best team shirt! We hope to see you there making unforgettable memories at Raystown Lake with your OES family.

Brother Bob, the Grand Officers, and I look forward to spending this year of service SPARKLING with you all. We have so many exciting events planned, so keep updated by checking out the PA OES website at [paoes.org](http://paoes.org). Most of all, remember your SPARKLE does count! Make everyday matter. In the words of John F. Kennedy: one person can make a difference, and EVERYONE should try.

Make a difference and **SHOW YOUR SPARKLE!**

With SPARKLING Fraternal Love,  
Joyce Plonka, Worthy Grand Matron 2023-2024



### PA OES News Email List

Would you like information on Grand Chapter happenings?

New this year there will be a voluntary email blast for messages from the Worthy Grand Matron!

To join in on the excitement please send an email to [PAOESNews@gmail.com](mailto:PAOESNews@gmail.com).

### Barbara E. Adams Ritualistic Excellent Award Program

Join in on the fun of the Barbara E. Adams Ritualistic Excellence Award with your Sisters and Brothers! This year, all members will have the opportunity to test on the final speech of Installation, which advises the chapter on the upcoming term, addresses the new Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron, and requests that the Installing Marshal declare the officers regularly installed. The speech can be found on pages 123-126 in your rituals. The members who successfully pass the test will be rewarded with a SPARKLY heart pin. More information on program entry and testing locations is available at [PAOES.org](http://PAOES.org).



Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

WOW! It's hard to believe that installation is over and we're on our way to a year filled with fun, sparkles, and excitement. Sister Joyce and I have a great year planned and look forward to travelling around our beautiful state.

I would like to briefly introduce myself for those friends I have yet to make. I am proud to be a member of the following Masonic bodies: Robert Fulton Chapter #446 Order of the Eastern Star, Past Patron; New London Lodge No. 545, Past Master; Harmony Lodge No. 53 of Port Deposit, MD, Past Master; Coatesville Royal Arch Chapter #267, Past High Priest; Centennial Commandry #55 Coatesville, PA; Valley of Reading A.A.S.R., Past Most Wise Master and 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree; Rajah Shrine; Red Cross of Constantine York Chapter; Royal Order of Scotland; Tall Cedars of Lebanon Har-Ce-Forest. I also serve the Grand Lodge of PA as Grand Lodge Organist.



My hobbies include collecting antique tractors, playing the organ, and traveling. My wife Lisa and I enjoy spending time with our 4 children and 5 grandchildren. I enjoy spending time with family, entertaining people with organ performances, driving tractors in parades, and playing with our Golden Doodles.

This Grand year, our special projects will benefit Shriner's Hospitals for Children in Erie and Philadelphia, PA, and the Scottish Rite Centers for Dyslexia in Reading and New Castle, PA. The funds raised will be split between the two charities. The cost to educate a student in the one-year Dyslexia School Program is approximately \$5,000 per student. Funds for the Shriner's Hospitals will be used to secure new medical equipment for these facilities.

One of the ways we will be raising money to fund our special projects is from a series of Organ Concerts around the state — see the table for dates and locations. Check the itinerary at [PAOES.org](http://PAOES.org) for exact information. Our first event in Palmyra on July 8 was a great success, and I look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming concerts.

September 9	Masonic Temple Philadelphia
December 12	Scottish Rite Cathedral New Castle
March 23	Elizabethtown Masonic Village Sell Chapel
April 27	Scottish Rite Cathedral Coudersport

Sisters and Brothers, we all know chapters are closing and membership is declining in all of our Masonic Bodies. We all need to support our chapters now more than ever. Supporting our chapters can be done in many ways: by being an Elected or Appointed Officer, serving on a committee, transporting members who are unable to drive to a meeting (they may feel funny asking for a ride, but your call to pick them up might just be what they need), or even sitting on the sidelines to support your Sisters and Brothers who are officers on the floor. It's a whole lot more meaningful when there are members on the sidelines. Maybe you're someone who can't come to the meeting but would be happy to attend a fundraiser or provide refreshments for a meeting. There is ALWAYS something for everyone to do! It doesn't take money to give something back. Ask one of your Chapter Officers: "Is there something I can do?"

Sister Joyce and I look forward to seeing each of you as we begin our travels across the Commonwealth. May we put a smile on your face, a song in your heart, and leave a little SPARKLE wherever we go.

With Fraternal Love,  
Bob Trimble, Worthy Grand Patron 2023-2024



## IN HER *Words*

When Anita Miller was in the eighth grade, her teacher, Ms. Hochberg, suggested she enter an essay contest sponsored by the Colonial Dames of America. She won first place in Montgomery County and Pennsylvania. The recognition helped her realize she could make a career out of writing.

Anita took classes at Temple University and later applied for a reporter position at The Philadelphia Inquirer. The editors wanted her to cover Bucks County, but she convinced them she should write her own column instead.

In one of her first columns, she chronicled her experience visiting the flight deck of the aircraft carrier S.S. Abraham Lincoln in San Francisco, California. She was invited there by Commander Donald L. Baker, U.S. Naval Reserve, a friend of hers for 34 years.

"Everyone loved the story, and I ended up writing for the paper for more than eight years," Anita, who now resides at the Masonic Village at Warminster, said.

While writing for the Inquirer, Anita also worked for WBUX Radio in Doylestown. She had her own radio show with her own guests. She stayed at the station for more than eight years.

Anita continued writing for several local magazines and newspapers, including two airline flight publications. Dissatisfied with the quality of one of the publications during a flight, she contacted the



editor to ask if she could contribute an article.

Anita taught two courses at Bucks County Community College. The first one, "Getting Up and Getting Out When You're Left Alone," was about bouncing back after being widowed or divorced. The second one, "So You Always Wanted to Get Your Name in the Papers and Didn't Know How to Do It," taught students how to do their own public relations.

Anita decided to run for the Warminster School Board in the 1970s against two men, and she won. In addition, Anita worked for the Solebury School in New Hope as director of public relations and special events.

"Sometimes I think it was pure insanity that I did all the things I did at the same time, but I never had a job I didn't love," she said. "It was an insane time in my life, but I wouldn't have it any other way."

Anita grew up in Jeffersonville, Pennsylvania. She graduated from Norristown High School in 1944 with three writing awards.

She grew up in a large Masonic family



and is Past Worthy Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star Morning Light Chapter No. 312 in Hatboro.

"I've been involved with [Eastern Star] for about 20 years," she said. "My dad, my uncles and my brothers, all of them were Masons."

Anita married her husband, Len, in 1953, and the couple had two children. They lived for many years in their Warminster home before Len passed away in 1980. Anita moved to Masonic Village about a year ago.

In her free time, Anita loves to read, cook and bake. She is a longtime board member of the Peace Valley Center for Autism in Chalfont. Her son's twins are both autistic, and she is very dedicated to the cause.

Anita, who turned 96 in March, credits years of writing and an engaging career for keeping her mind sharp.

"Reading helps my brain," she said. "I recently took a trip to the thrift store and bought three more books. I love to read."



### **Associate Grand Matron Marcia H. Holland**

Marcia is grateful for the support she has received thus far on her journey to the East and is looking forward to being a part of the "SPARKLING" Grand Family for Sister Joyce and Brother Bob.

Marcia's fraternal journey began in Faith Assembly #150 International Order of the Rainbow for Girls where she served as Worthy Advisor and as a member of the Advisory Board. She served as Mother Advisor of Faith Assembly and Mars Assembly #124 while her daughter was an active member. She served as Royal Matron in 2018 of Oakdale Court #150 Order of the Amaranth.

Marcia's Eastern Star journey began in 1976 when she joined Robert C. Clarke Chapter #429, where she presided as WM in 1985. She later served Mars Chapter #271 as WM for 3 terms. In 2015, Marcia and her daughter, Julie, affiliated with Norwood Herrington Chapter #356, where her mother, Marlene, is an active 69-year member. Marcia held various AGCCM appointments, and served in 2010 as DGM in Region 5B for Sister Paula K. Kauffman, PGM. She served 6 years on the Fraternal Committee, and was the Grand Representative of Colorado in PA. In 2017, Marcia served as Grand Marshal for Sister Emily D. McCarthy, PGM.

Marcia SPARKLES with joy because she claims Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. He affords her the privilege of reflecting His light and His love. She hopes that all she does and says will be pleasing to God and worthy of the support of her PA OES Sisters and Brothers.

### **Associate Grand Patron Michael R. Byers**

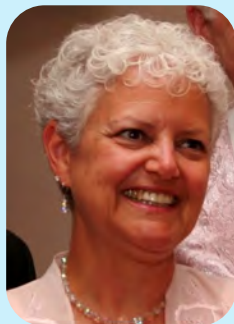
Michael was initiated in 2011, and is a member of Perry Chapter #459 Region 8A. He has served as WP 6 times, an AGCCM twice, a Grand Guard 3 times, Grand Sentinel, and 127<sup>th</sup> Session Paraphernalia Committee Chairman.

Michael is retired from the PA Higher Education System Agency since 2019. He is a member of Highland United Presbyterian Church, Newport, where he serves as an Elder and is a member of several committees.

Michael is a Past Master and Treasurer of Newport-Tennis Lodge No. 381 in Newport. He is also Junior Warden of Good Samaritan Mark Lodge #139; Past High Priest of Samuel C. Perkins #209; a member of Newport Royal Arch Chapter #238; a member of Scottish Rite Valley of Harrisburg; Senior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar of Juniata Valley Forest #88; and a member of Juniata Valley Council #64.

Michael loves to hunt, travel, and enjoy the beauty of the outdoors. He is married to Michelle and will celebrate 17 years of marriage in October. He has 3 children, and Michael and Michelle love spending time with their 5 grandchildren.

Michael SPARKLES because he is so blessed to be surrounded by so many loving and caring OES members whose shining light glistens in our Order.



### **Grand Secretary Virginia L. Plyer, PGM**

Gee Gee is a member of Morning Light Chapter #312, Region 14B. She has been WM 3 times since her initiation in 1977. She has served OES in various capacities including Grand Martha, DDGM, Fraternal Correspondent, Eastern Chairman of the Barbara E. Adams Excellence Award Program, and Regional Advisor for Region 15. Gee Gee & Brother Richard celebrated their 52 years of marriage May. They are members of Lehman Memorial United Methodist Church in Hatboro. Their family includes their son, Scott, and 3 grandchildren, Emily, Evan, and Jack; and their son, Sam, and his wife, Susan. Gee Gee believes she can add SPARKLE to everyday life by being kind, forbearing, and forgiving; and, of course, sewing sparkly clothes!

### **Grand Treasurer Susan K. Fisher**

Susan is a member of Mount Union Chapter #280, Region 7A. She served as WM and is Treasurer. She held several AGCCM appointments. Susan served as Treasurer on Orpha Kemmler's Club Board. Susan is Secretary of the Past Matrons and Past Patron's Association for Regions 7A & 7B. She has served as Grand Treasurer since 2019.

Susan is a retired Master Sergeant from the PA Air National Guard and resides in Hopewell, PA. She attends the Stonerstown Church of the Brethren and is a Life member of the Bricktown Senior Center. Susan is "Nana" to 9 grandchildren, 4 boys and 5 girls, ages ranging from 3 years to 24 years. Susan SPARKLES when she is playing computer games, reading, jigsaw puzzles, attending her grandchildren's sporting events, and RVing with the family.





### **Grand Conductress M. Joyce Camlin**

Martha V. Paul Chapter #404 has been Joyce's home chapter since she was initiated in 1979. She served as Martha until elected to Associate Conductress. She went on to serve as WM several times, and is serving her sixth term. Joyce has served as AGCCM for many committees, as DGM of Region 3, as Grand Representative of Ohio in PA, and as Personal Page to the Worthy Grand Patron in 2021. She also served as an Assistant Grand Warder, Elections Teller, and assisted with Registration.

Joyce graduated from Uniontown Area School District in 1970, and is a member of The Church of the Covenant Presbyterian Church, PCUSA, where she has taken an active role with several governance committees and musical ensembles.

On June 10, 1972, Joyce married George M. Camlin, PGP. They have 3 children: Rev. Dr. Matthew L. Camlin, Susan R. Camlin Huston, and David D. Camlin; and now have 7 grandchildren: Afton C. Camlin, William G. Camlin, Anna R. Huston, Alasdair M. Camlin, Jonathan P. Huston, Eben G. Camlin, Sean H. Camlin.

Joyce SPARKLES when she sings, reads, does needlework, and solves word puzzles.

### **Associate Grand Conductress Debbie A. Helm**

Debbie was initiated in 1978, with 45 years of service to OES. She is a member of Old Bellaire Chapter #375 Region 8A in Carlisle, PA and served as WM in 2022-2023. She is also a plural member of Gettysburg Chapter #392, where she has served as Ruth, Chaplain, and WM in 2016-2017.

Debbie's biggest supporters are her mother, Nancy L. Line, and her late father, Donald P. Line, PGP 2006-2007. A highlight of her Eastern Star life was when she served as Personal Page to Grand Chaplain Todd Johnson at Grand Chapter in 2019.

Debbie is an active member St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Plainfield, PA. She currently serves on church council and is an assistant to her pastor. Debbie works at Mt. Rock Elementary in the Big Spring School District as a teacher's aide to the kindergarten students.

Debbie SPARKLES when she is talking with others as she loves to hear the special stories that everyone has to tell.



### **Grand Trustee Vicky J. Botjer**

Vicky is serving her second year as Grand Trustee. She currently serves as Associate Conductress of Harriet Greene Chapter #198, Region 11C. She has been WM of her Chapter 3 times, DGM (Orpha Kemmler, PGM) and enjoyed several AGCCM appointments over her 28 years as a member of Eastern Star.

Vicky and her husband Art reside in Lake Ariel in the Northern Poconos of PA and enjoy cooking, walking and golf. They have 3 children: Michael, Emma, and Kevin; and 3 lovely grandbabies: Leah, Ella and Sophia. Vicky is a CPA and has worked for Wayne County for the past 19 years as Chief Administrator and Chief Financial Officer. She currently holds several Board appointments in both the community and with state level county government agencies.



### **Grand Trustee Donald C. Graver, PGP**

Donald currently resides in Holtwood with his wife Sidney (Robert Fulton #446, PM). This year they will celebrate 57 years of marriage in October. Together they have 3 children, each with a great spouse and 8 grandchildren, who they love with all their hearts. He is a member of the Chestnut Level Presbyterian Church.

Donald served on the School Board of Penn Manor School District for 9 years as a member and board chair. Donald retired from Messicks Farm Equipment in 2016. Donald enjoys time in his wood shop, playing cards with friends, attending grandkids sports events and traveling to OES events. Donald is a member of Lodge #43 and Robert Fulton Chapter #446.

Donald has served as Marshal, Chaplain, Associate Patron, and WP. He was given the opportunity to serve as Deputy to the Coatesville Veterans Hospital, the 121<sup>st</sup> Session Committee Paraphernalia Chairman, Worthy Grand Patron in 2017, and is currently Grand Trustee for a 3-year term.

Don believes that you can bring SPARKLE to everyday life by putting a smile on your face, and remember: "Together we can still fix it, if we remember our obligation and have fun."



### **Grand Trustee Lisa S. Weaver**

Lisa is currently in her fifth year serving as Grand Trustee, and is a 43-year OES member. She currently serves as Electa in State College Chapter #388 and as Martha in Lewistown Chapter #283. She has served twice as WM, as an AGCCM on several committees, as Grand Electa (Sandra K. Berkey, PGM), DGM (Jean D. Fey, PGM), and Grand Representative of Colorado in PA (Rhonda M. Johnson, PGM). As Grand Rep, Lisa attended Colorado's Grand Chapter.

Lisa and her husband, Ed Glantz, Grand Sentinel, reside in Port Matilda. They have 3 children: Candace, Justin, and Kirsten. Candace, Kirsten, and son-in-law, Fred, are active members of State College Chapter. They have 3 grandchildren: Dean, Leo, and Evelyn. Lisa is a Tax Attorney and CPA in State College.

### **Grand Chaplain Janet F. Stewart**

This Star year is going to be exciting for Janet! Not only is she Joyce and Bobby's Grand Chaplain, but she also retired on July 13, 2023 after spending the last 36 years in Human Resources Management.

Janet joined Clarion Chapter #267 in 2008, where she was asked to be Marshal. She has since served as WM twice.

In 2017, Emily McCarthy, PGM, asked Janet to serve as the DGM of her region. Janet and her mom, Muriel Stewart, started to attend different OES functions all across the state that year, and haven't stopped!

Janet's faith is an integral part of who she is, so when Joyce and Bobby asked her to serve as their Grand Chaplain, she was very honored to serve them and our Lord in this role. During her second term as WM for Clarion Chapter, her theme was "Be Kind to Strangers lest They be Angels in Disguise" from Hebrews 13:2. As a member the Grand Family, Janet plans to share a touch of the Grand Family's SPARKLE with friends, family, and strangers by practicing random acts of kindness throughout the year.



### **Grand Marshal Julie R. Bridge**

Julie was initiated into Mercer Chapter #180 in 2002, and is in the line in Mercer to be their WM for the third time. She served on the 125<sup>th</sup> Session Committee as Page Chair for Sandy Berkey, PGM, and Doug Fraley, PGP, and as DGM for Orpha Kemmler, PGM, and Linda Watson, PGM. Julie is thrilled to be a part of Joyce and Bobby's Grand Family as this year's Grand Marshal, alongside her mother Jody as Grand Electa.

When she isn't watching her family's dogs or traveling for OES events, she enjoys sewing and spending time with her family. She is a Penn State alumna and she loves to go to the games with her Aunt Joyce. She is single, and like Rhonda Johnson, is always looking for her "prince" if you know anyone!

Julie SPARKLES because she is Joyce's mini-me and loves spreading love and enthusiasm wherever she goes.

### **Grand Organist Grace M. McClester**

Grace was initiated into Woodlawn Chapter #164 of Beaver, PA, in 2002. She has dual membership with Crystal Chapter #18 of East Liverpool, OH, after she and her husband Keith, PP, moved in 2008, but they remained PA OES members as they live close to the border and have great friends in both states!

She has served both states in numerous offices, including WM 3 times, Esther, and organist 10 times. Her PA appointments include Grand Organist, DGM Region 3, and various AGCCM positions. In OH, Grace was very active as District 13 President and held various Line Officer positions at the district level.

Grace trained classically in Piano Performance at Alderson Broaddus College, earning her music education degree. Since then, she has been very active in choirs and as taught music at several location institutions for many years.

Grace became a church musician during her elementary school years and has continued through all her life, finding her long-time church home as Music Director of First UM Church of Aliquippa, PA. Grace and Keith have a son, Jesse, and daughter, Jenny, who both live in East Liverpool, and 2 granddaughters: Madelynn and Alana. Grace's hobbies include music practice, quilting, reading, sewing, art, crafting, and collecting antique Weller Pottery, honoring her maiden name and family.

Grace SPARKLES by sharing her musical give with all of her communities.





### **Grand Adah Allison C. Wheeler**

Allison (known as "Chris" to her family & friends) is a 32-year member of Farrell Chapter #156, Region 1B. She has served as WM twice, as an AGCCM several times, as DDGM for Jo-Anne G. Karnes, PGM, and as Grand Representative of West Virginia.

Chris has been married for 33 years to her husband, Scott; they have 3 children: Patrick, Abigail, and Sarah. After 23 years as an EMT, she went to serve the Mercer County Coroner's Office as an Administrative Deputy Coroner.

Chris loves to read, take long walks with her grand-puppies, listen to music, go to camp, and cheer on the Pittsburgh Pirates at PNC Park.

Chris brings SPARKLE to everyday life by serving others. Her father always said "Be good, be kind, be careful". She encourages her Sisters and Brothers to be good in your actions, be kind in your heart, and be careful with your words.

### **Grand Ruth Carol E. Ruffner**

This will be Carol's fiftieth year as a member of Lebanon Chapter #115 where she has served as Adah, Ruth, Associate Conductress, Conductress, Associate Matron, and Worthy Matron. She also served as DGM of Region 13A. A unique fact about her family: her mother, mother-in-law and 2 of her sisters have all served as Ruth in their various chapters.

Carol served as Grand Representative of New Mexico in PA and was able to visit their Grand Sessions. She had the honor to work with Lana Karl as members of the Grand Chapter Office for Mary Ann Rhode, Secretary Emeritus, Joyce Bytheway, PGM, and Virginia Plyler, PGM.

Now a widow after having been married for 46 years, Carol is a mother of 9, a grandmother of 9, and a great-grandmother of 1.

Currently, she is serving as a Deacon and member of St. Mark's United Church of Christ, Lebanon and the PA State Secretary/Treasurer of The Travelers Protective Association of America.

Carol suggests that you can put a SPARKLE in your eyes and a smile on your face and no one will really know what you are thinking!



### **Grand Esther Dawn. L. Shaver-Quinn**

Dawn is a 40-year member of Harmony Chapter #58 in Region 12A. She was initiated in October 1982, and she has twice served as WM. She is delighted to serve as Grand Esther for Joyce and Bobby this year.

Dawn served as a DDGM for Rhonda Johnson, and as a DGM for Linda Watson, PGM. She was also a club board member for Mary Ann Naugel, PGM, where she made lifelong friends. She has served as AGCCM several times, and served as the Grand Representative to Bolivia.

Dawn works for the Advocacy Alliance, helping people to manage their benefits and finances. Dawn SPARKLES when she is helping other and when she can be with her family and friends.

### **Grand Martha Lisa M. Francart**

Lisa is a 30-year member of OES. She was initiated into Octoraro Chapter #463 where she served twice as WM. She served as DDGM for Judy Rutter, PGM, and Grand Representative of North Dakota in PA. When Octoraro Chapter closed in December 2021, her chapter transferred en masse to Robert Fulton Chapter #446 in Quarryville. She serves her new chapter as a Trustee.

Lisa and her husband Armand have been married for 31 years. She loves animals and currently has 6 very spoiled cats. She brings SPARKLE to her everyday life by spending time with her family, friends, and pets.

When Diana Michael, PGM, asked Lisa to be on her club board, she said yes without even knowing what a club board does. When she was then asked to serve as Diana's Sessions Secretary, she again said yes without knowing what the job entailed. When Joyce Plonka, WGM, asked Lisa to be her club board treasurer, she said yes again. Saying yes to those questions gave Lisa a group of friends all over the state who she may have never met before.

Lisa brings SPARKLE to her OES life by saying "YES" when asked to do something new for our beautiful order.





### **Grand Electa Jody L. Reed**

Jody has been a member of Mercer Chapter #180 for almost 47 years. She started as a Rainbow Girl, and was Worthy Advisor in 1973. She served as WM in 1983 and initiated her sister Joyce, our new Worthy Grand Matron. Both of her daughters, Adrienne and Julie, are OES members as well. Like many of our Sisters, Jody has held almost every office in her chapter.

Jody has held various appointments, including DGM and 125<sup>th</sup> Sessions Committee for Sandy Berkey, PGM, and Doug Fraley, PGP. She had the honor to be the Grand Representative of New Mexico in PA and attended their Grand Chapter in 2022.

Jody lives in Elk County with her husband Craig, and together they have 2 daughters, 3 sons, and 6 grandchildren. She is a retired Medical Technologist. She was a Girl Scout leader for more than 25 years, and she belongs to the Bennetts Valley Lions Club.

Jody is excited to serve as Grand Electa this year, and to be sharing this amazing experience with my sister Joyce and daughter Julie, Grand Marshal.

Jody brings SPARKLE to everyday life by smiling and greeting everyone she comes across because she hopes that she helps to make their day.

### **Grand Warder Joann P. Vogan**

JoAnn is a 53-year member of Eastern Star. She started her journey in Emlenton in 1969 before moving to Parker, then making her home with Clarion Chapter #267. She has served as WM 5 times.

JoAnn has had the honor of serving as Page for Shirley J. Markle, PGM; DGM for JoAnne G. Karnes, PGM; and Grand Representative to Minnesota. She also earned her Grand Cross of Colors from the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

JoAnn is an active member of Clintonville Union Presbyterian Church, where she is a 50+ year member and a deacon. She drove a school bus for 26 years for the Franklin School District, then worked for Liz Clarborne for 10 years. JoAnn has been married to her husband Richard for 64 years. They have 2 children, 4 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren. Some of her hobbies include antiques, flea markets, yard sales, traveling, and playing cards; but her faith and her family come first.

JoAnn's SPARKLE and joy is her family, rich in Eastern Star and Masonic history with 5 OES members and 6 Masons. This year, serving as Grand Warder with Joyce and Bobby's Grand Family, she plans to SPARKLE and shine each and every day while attending OES events and making new friends.



### **Grand Sentinel Edward J. Glantz**

Ed SPARKLES as Grand Sentinel for Sister Joyce and Brother Bob. He is a Past Patron, and 26-year member of State College Chapter #388, serving 5 times as WP, and since 2020, Secretary. Grand Chapter Appointments include Paraphernalia Chairman for Sandra K. Berkey, PGM, Grand Representative of Washington, and several AGCCM positions. He is also a Past Master of State College Lodge No. 700.

Ed resides in Port Matilda with his wife, Lisa Weaver, Grand Trustee. They have 3 children: Justin, Candace, and Kirsten; and 3 lovely grandchildren. Both daughters are active Star members along with Candace's husband, Fred, who is currently WP. Ed is a professor at Penn State University's College of Information Sciences and Technology at University Park.

### **Personal Secretary Roberta Hensel**

Roberta (Bertie) is a 53-year member of Mercer Chapter #180, Region 1B. She has served the Order in many different capacities over the years, and she is excited to serve Sister Joyce as her Personal Secretary this year.

She is a retired elementary teacher, having taught for 36 years in the Grove City Area School District. Upon retirement in 2009, she was elected to her School Board for 8 years, serving 2 of them as President.

Bertie is a life member, Elder, and Organist of Leesburg ECO Presbyterian Church. She believes that the best way to bring SPARKLE is to SMILE and treat everyone as you want to be treated.



## Your SPARKLE Counts!

We are so excited to begin the journey to increase our OES **SPARKLE** across PA during Joyce & Bobby's year. The **Your Sparkle Counts** Committee encourages you to can earn points as you **SPARKLE**: **S**erve, **P**articipate, **A**ssist others, improve **R**itualistic work, spread **K**indness, provide **L**eadership — all to **E**lectrify OES.

Please obtain a **Your Sparkle Counts** Chapter Member Points Form from your Chapter Representative or from [PAOES.org](http://PAOES.org) and start recording your points each time you **SPARKLE** for OES. As your **SPARKLE** shines bright and you have earned 100 points, your Chapter Representative will give you your first wristband. You can earn 5 wristbands, for 100 points each, in blue, yellow, white, green, & red. Please turn in a copy of your form to your Chapter Rep. at each Chapter meeting, so we can watch the **SPARKLE** grow across the state each month. When you **SHINE BRIGHT** enough to earn all 5 wristbands, continue to record points and turn in your forms to help your Chapter, Region, & Section continue to **SPARKLE**.

Each Regional AGCCM has a **Steppin' Up Trophy** to be presented each month to the Chapter that **STEPPED UP** and showed the most **SPARKLE!** There will be additional awards at Grand Chapter next year in June, **BY THE SHORE IN 2024**, so we need everyone to **SPARKLE ON!**

We know we can **COUNT** on you to help **ENERGIZE** PA OES by bringing **SPARKLE** to all that you say and do this year because... **YOUR SPARKLE COUNTS!**

### SPARKLING ON FOR OES!

Sharon K. Wise, General Chairman

Joan M. Kriebel, Western | Debra K. Crabb, Central | Linda L. Shafer, Eastern

William E. Gelston Chapter #435, Region 5A arrived in STYLE to celebrate their Golden Star Mary Landers, who had the honor on receiving her 50-year certificate from Sister Barbara E. Adams, PGM, and Brother J. David McKibben, WGP. Chapter members there to celebrate Mary were Holly Jill Patterson, Grand Representative of Australia; Kathy Davis, PM; Beth Devericks, Grand Representative to West Virginia; and June Sharp, WM.



## Come Celebrate our 2023-24 Golden Stars!

Checks payable to: Grand Chapter of PA OES, Inc.

All Luncheons will start at 1:00PM

Check [PAOES.org](http://PAOES.org) for more information

### Western Golden Stars

Sunday, November 5  
"Our Glittering Gold"  
Luncheon — \$29.00

Greater Pittsburgh  
Masonic Center  
3579 Masonic Way,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Sharon McMasters,  
Western Chairman

### Central Golden Stars

Sunday, September 17  
"Gold Dust Sparkles"  
Luncheon — \$26.00

Faith United  
Methodist Church  
512 Hughes Street  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Linda M Shoemaker,  
Central Chairman

### Eastern Golden Stars

Sunday, October 15  
"Sparkling Stars of Gold"  
Luncheon — \$29.00

Northern Valley EMS  
Banquet Hall  
2375 Levans Road  
Coplay, PA 18037

Diane Beppler,  
Eastern Chairman



# What's Happening at *Masonic Villages*

## MASONIC VILLAGE AT DALLAS

Since Masonic Village at Dallas is a participant in PennDOT's "Adopt a Highway" program, residents regularly volunteer to pick up trash along Country Club Road. The community appreciates their efforts to keep the area clean and green.



## MASONIC VILLAGE AT ELIZABETHTOWN



Residents, staff and visitors have enjoyed the new waterfall garden outside the Freemasons Cultural Center Atrium for several months. This addition was recently dedicated, thanks to residents David and Lisa Law, whose donations funded the project. The waterfall garden was created in memory of David's sister, Sally, who passed away in 2018 after a lifetime of accomplishments in the financial planning field.



Thanks to the Middletown PieceMakers, represented by Jo Garvin, 12 Korean War veterans were honored with Quilts of Valor at Masonic Village. The

Quilts of Valor Foundation's mission is to cover all military service members and veterans who have been touched by war. Thank you to all veterans for their service and to Barbara Zitrick and the Masonic Village Veterans Committee for organizing this event.

## MASONIC VILLAGE AT LAFAYETTE HILL

Residents had a "bowl-off" with Brightview Senior Living residents in the bowling alley on campus. The Masonic Village team won with a combined score of 301 to 141!



The annual bazaar in April featured a variety of items such as clothing, jewelry, baked goods and handmade wares available for purchase. The sale raised over \$600 for resident programming and events.

## MASONIC VILLAGE AT SEWICKLEY

Sewickley Academy second grade students joined residents for a few games of bingo and intergenerational bonding. For Memorial Day, Pine-Richland-Mars Air Force Junior ROTC members helped with Masonic Village's "Missing Man" table ceremony, which in part represents fallen military service members.



Residents and staff returned to Schenley Park to walk in the Susan G. Komen "More Than Pink" fundraiser walk together. Team MVS raised \$21,000, the most of any group participating. Resident Edie Yeager was the top individual fundraiser in Pennsylvania again this year, with \$12,000 raised.

## MASONIC VILLAGE AT WARMINSTER

Masonic Village campuses were "cultivating kindness" in many different ways for National Skilled Nursing Care Week in May. In Warminster, staff and residents enjoyed raffles, crafts, music, gifts and celebrations.



Residents enjoyed delicious crepes during a recent "Cooking with the Chef" demonstration and tasting with executive chef Carmen Borgia!



## The Right Space at the Right Time

Before coming to Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill, Ed Campbell, a member of Palestine-Roxborough Lodge No. 135, was living on his own in a rowhouse in the East Falls section of Philadelphia. Prior to that, he had spent 40 years in a large four-bedroom colonial in Lansdale, where he and his then-wife raised their three sons.

As Ed got older and developed some health problems, he came to the realization that, sooner rather than later, he was going to need more help. He was adamant he didn't want his children to have to take care of him.

"I realized I didn't need all that space in my house anymore, because it was just me," he said.

Ed began searching for retirement living and continuing care facilities where he could get extra assistance if he needed it. He "fell in love" the first time he stepped foot on the Masonic Village campus. He immediately put down a deposit and selected a one-bedroom apartment.

"To be honest, I didn't look at any other apartments except the one-bedroom," Ed said. "I certainly didn't need two bedrooms. The living room was a nice size, and I didn't need a den. I liked that everything was on one level, which made things easier for me. It was perfect. I didn't see the need for the extra room."

Ed felt a little sad leaving behind all the memories he made in his house in East Falls, but the move to Masonic Village was pretty stress-free. His sons did all the work emptying his house. Ed only brought over clothes and furniture that would fit into a one-bedroom apartment. He got rid of everything else.

"I had looked at other facilities for this next stage in my life, but none were as homey and comfortable as [Masonic Village] was," he said. "The first time I walked

in, I felt comfortable. It was not as intimidating as, say, a five-story high-rise building. I felt at ease here."

Ed enjoys spending time on his second-floor balcony, which overlooks a lovely courtyard. He likes to plant flowers. He takes part in campus activities, especially Trivia Night and attending shows in the auditorium.



***"I would recommend Masonic Village to anyone," he said. "I've been totally happy since the day I moved in."***

"If anything goes wrong, the maintenance staff are usually here the same day to fix whatever it is. I don't have to worry about anything. I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth. Coming here was the best decision I made in a long time."

For those looking to downsize their home, but increase their time for doing the things they love, the following Masonic Villages' locations offer one-bedroom apartment options.

Learn more by visiting [MasonicVillages.org](http://MasonicVillages.org) or calling your preferred Masonic Village location:

Masonic Village at Dallas: 570-466-5658

Masonic Village at Elizabethtown: 717-473-0614

Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill: 484-535-3119

Masonic Village at Sewickley: 724-242-5099

### MASONIC VILLAGES' ADMISSIONS POLICY

Decisions concerning admissions, the provision of services and referrals of residents are not based upon race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, age (where minimum age for admission is met), sex, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, limited English proficiency (LEP) or any other protected status. Regardless of your financial situation, you can afford to move to a Masonic Village! When you choose to live at the Masonic Villages, you are not required to turn over your assets; residents and their loved ones maintain complete control of them. Generous donations enable Masonic Villages to offer financial assistance to those who qualify. It is required that your financial resources are preserved for the cost of your care and services, and our staff will help you to identify all available financial assistance when needed. Fraternal care offerings vary by community. Contact the Admissions or Marketing Office at the Masonic Village of your preference for information on the living area desired. Visit [www.masonicvillages.org](http://www.masonicvillages.org).

Watson town Chapter #282, Region 9 hosted an Easter egg hunt and craft show at the Muncy Masonic Lodge in April, complete with an appearance by DGM Vicki Bencoter as the Easter Bunny! Fun was had by all, and chapter members especially enjoyed helping the children hunt for eggs. The craft show featured some very talented crafters, and the chapter is looking forward to their next community craft show on November 18!



The Worthy Matrons of Region 8A went on a shopping trip in June, getting some wonderful new attire to wear out on the OES Trail! Fun, fellowship, and homemade popcorn was enjoyed by: DGM Michelle Byers, WM (459); Karen Holden, WM, (342); Carol Weiser, WM, (392); Roxanne Hauman, WM, (519); and Kristie Kennett, WM, (375). It was a wonderful bonding experience, especially for first-time WM Sister Kristie!

### 2022-2023 Scholarship Winners

The Educational Scholarship & ESTARL Committee is pleased to share the names of the 77 students who received a scholarship at Grand Chapter. We were amazed at the majors, research projects, and reference letter accolades in the application packets. The Committee wishes to extend our sincere gratitude to the Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Trustees, and all 61 chapter secretaries who helped the applicants become scholarship winners.

Your secretary will have information in September explaining scholarship eligibility. At Grand Chapter, the maximum scholarship award was increased from \$2,000 to \$4,000. With this generous action of our members, we want to encourage all eligible students to apply for this assistance. If you have any questions please contact your Sectional Committee member.

Marie D. Moffett, Eastern Section, Chairman  
Martha J. Hunter, Western Section  
Linda M. Larson, Central Section

[moffett1@comcast.net](mailto:moffett1@comcast.net) (610) 506-9630  
[mjhunteroes.ese@gmail.com](mailto:mjhunteroes.ese@gmail.com) (724) 331-5360  
[lm Larson1974@gmail.com](mailto:lm Larson1974@gmail.com) (717) 377-5304

Belle A. Brodbeck, Rainbow Girls  
Mary E. Heaton, Job's Daughters  
Charlotte M. Appel (552, 8B)  
Hannah E. Bashore (425, 8B)  
Andrew N. Benning (460, 13A)  
Darrian N. Berkheimer (290, 7A)  
Lola J. Berra (552, 8B)  
James W. Brown, III (8, 11C)  
Morgan R. Brumbaugh (280, 7A)  
Abigail Burk (277, 5B)  
Joseph A. Charles (298, 12B)  
Louis P. DeAngelo (396, 12A)  
Drevyn R. Deskie (460, 13A)  
Connor J. Dowdell (312, 14B)  
Kiera L. Dowdell (312, 14B)  
Jenica N. Earl (64, 14A)  
Jacob A. Earnest (446, 10A)  
Cynthia G. Ehrenfeld (374, 14B)  
Lilly E. Fetterman (396, 12A)  
Jamie D. Frisbie (424, 13B)  
Dylan Gannon (374, 14B)  
Zoe M. Gannon (374, 14B)  
Olyvia E. Gentile (129, 14B)  
Alexis M. Girard (12, 11B)  
Elizabeth E. Gohn (360, 10B)  
Rachael L. Hall (356, 3)

Nicholas Hamer (198, 11C)  
Anthony J. Hill (229, 5B)  
Hunter N. Johns (283, 7A)  
Evan B. Kagarise (41, 7B)  
Corrine E. Kessler (198, 11C)  
Tracy David Kinzer (342, 8A)  
Madison M. Kish (45, 5B)  
Sarah M. Ktytor (1, 12A)  
Cydney P. Lahr (266, 9)  
Nicholas A. Levinski (339, 14A)  
Austin J. Lippert (277, 5B)  
Gabriel M. List (400, 5A)  
Arai A. Lubas (251, 13A)  
Abigail R. MacKrell (267, 2)  
Joshua R. Macomber (552, 8B)  
Mikaela C. Malobabich (64, 3)  
Mary E. Mason (64, 3)  
Anna K. Medina (249, 15)  
Shayne Michot (83, 11B)  
Alyssa N. Miller (129, 14B)  
Jordan A. Miller (251, 13A)  
Marissa A. Mondock (388, 7A)  
Jillian Mooney (216, 11C)  
Emma E. Plank (73, 3)  
Catherine M. Pope (339, 14A)  
Jane Pope (339, 14A)

Hannah J. Primm (356, 3)  
Liesel M. Quay (298, 12B)  
Ty J. Reinert (460, 13A)  
Natalie M. Rickert (356, 3)  
Hamid J. Rodkey (548, 7B)  
Matalyhn Rupp (290, 7A)  
Carson M. Rush (67, 11C)  
Dianna L. Sands (64, 14A)  
Courtney L. Schmauch (435, 5A)  
Brooke E. Seislove (298, 12B)  
Arthur J. Shirk (396, 12A)  
Ava J. Straub (64, 3)  
Kimberly N. Sundy (509, 8B)  
Lacey A. Swab (260, 8A)  
Kevin J. Talley (198, 11C)  
Megan Tobias (115, 13A)  
Brooke A. Valentic (73, 3)  
Ryleigh E. Vennie (67, 11C)  
Bryan M. Wagner (251, 13A)  
Ezeck C. Warren (33, 6)  
Stone S. Williams (267, 2)  
Erin A. Williams (407, 10A)  
Catharine Wingle (449, 13A)  
Johanna A. Wunder (312, 14B)  
Erica S. Yurvati (336, 13A)

## Gathering of the States: A Weekend in Philadelphia

The Pennsylvania Masonic Temple  
1 North Broad Street Philadelphia, PA 19107

Friday, September 8  
★6 p.m. — Meet and Greet

Saturday, September 9  
★Sight-seeing at your leisure  
★Masonic Temple Tours (times TBA)  
★6 p.m. — Banquet  
★8 p.m. — Organ Recital by  
Brother Robert Trimble, WGP

Sunday, September 10  
★9 a.m. — Church Service



For more information on registration, housing, and sight-seeing, please visit [PAOES.org](http://PAOES.org). Please send registrations to Bonnie Shalala by August 18.

### All Hands on Deck!

Join us for a Boatload of Fun with the Grand Families of Grand Chapter OES & Grand Lodge of PA as we set sail on the Three Rivers on Saturday, September 23

#### Special Initiation by Grand Officers

Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center  
3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
Ceremony with Grand Master at 10 a.m.

#### Dinner and Concert on the Rivers

Gateway Clipper Fleet Dock  
350 West Station Square Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Boarding at 5 p.m. | Disembarking at 10 p.m.

For more information, please visit [PAOES.org](http://PAOES.org) or contact Tammie Lasswell to register by September 1.



### Caring & Sharing Bingo Events

All bingos are \$30 (includes bingo cards, lunch, and door prize ticket)  
Checks payable to: Grand Chapter of PA OES, Inc. | Memo line: Caring & Sharing  
Check [PAOES.org](http://PAOES.org) or your secretary for more information to register

#### Western Caring & Sharing

Saturday, October 21  
"Tailgate Bingo"

Doors open at 9 a.m.  
Bingo starts at 10 a.m.

Kittanning Masonic Temple  
11906 State Route 85  
Kittanning, PA 16201

Patricia Longwell,  
Western Chairman



#### Central Caring & Sharing

Saturday, October 28  
"Green Acres Bingo"

Doors open at 11 a.m.  
Bingo starts at 1 p.m.

Harrisburg Consistory  
2701 North 3rd Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Kathy Gracey,  
Central Chairman



#### Eastern Caring & Sharing

Saturday, October 14  
"An A-Maizing Afternoon"

Doors open at 11 a.m.  
Bingo starts at 1 p.m.

Scottish Rite Cathedral  
430 South 7th Avenue  
West Reading, PA 19611

Lee Anne Kingsbauer,  
Eastern Chairman



# Congratulations to Our Graduates!

As a ballroom full of staff, family members, educators and donors watched, the 33 residents of the Masonic Children's Home were celebrated for their academic, athletic and extracurricular achievements at the 99th annual Youth Appreciation Day.

The two seniors, Joy and Breanne, shared their gratitude for all those who've helped them grow along the way, while providing encouragement for those who will follow in their footsteps.

Joy, from Philadelphia, came to the children's home in 2018 with her younger sister and appreciates all the opportunities she has been given.

*"The things I'm doing now would not have been possible if I hadn't come here," she said.*

Joy took an advanced health careers class at Lancaster County Career & Technical Training and will major in

nursing at Penn State University this fall.

Breanne, 18, from Elizabethtown, will attend Millersville University in the fall, where she plans to study psychology.

She came to the children's home in the seventh grade, along with her two younger sisters, Paige and Hailey. She has enjoyed her time because she gets along with the other girls, and the house parents are always "nice and inviting."

With the support of donors, staff, family and one another, the youth at the Masonic Children's Home can grow stronger and more confident in a future with limitless possibilities.



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105 FREEMASON DRIVE  
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## MASONIC VILLAGE FARM MARKET

- Home-grown cherries, peaches, nectarines, apricots, plums, pears and apples
- Tomatoes, cantaloupes, sweet corn, salad greens, broccoli, cauliflower and much more
- Apple cider, apple butter, preserves, pickles and salsa
- Pies, apple dumplings, cookies, cakes and breads from our bakery
- Hand-dipped ice cream and milkshakes from our Orchard View Café

### FARM MARKET HOURS:

**THURSDAY - SATURDAY**  
9 A.M. - 5 P.M.  
**SUNDAY**  
NOON - 4 P.M.

CALL US: **717-361-4520**

SHOP ONLINE:  
**MVFarmMarket.com**

Located on the grounds of Masonic  
Village at Elizabethtown:  
310 Eden View Road



## Orchard View Café

### HOURS:

**THURSDAY - SATURDAY**  
11 A.M. - 5 P.M.

**SUNDAY**  
NOON - 4 P.M.

Find us on  
Facebook

