



A-U-2 Review



DECEMBER

2020

ANNA PETERSON, WGM

THE RHYTHM OF LIFE

BOB HARPER, WGP



Christmas 2020

SISTERS AND BROTHERS,

Can you believe that Christmas is just around the corner and despite a world-wide pandemic, giant forest fires, and the overall upheaval in all of our lives, Christmas will still come and with it a reminder that no matter what happens in our daily lives, God is with us through whatever difficulties or challenges we may face. The miracle of Christmas is as constant and everlasting as the North Star because it reminds us of God's eternal love.

If you were at Loyalty's official visit just before Christmas 2019, then you would have heard this before. But considering what we have all gone through this year, I think that it's worth sharing again and if you haven't heard it, I hope that it will fill you with the spirit of Christmas and remind you of God's love for his children and that Jesus Christ is the good shepherd who watches over His flock and will never abandon even one in his fold.

Christmas Message 2019

Christmas, the very world inspires thoughts of crystalline white snow, brightly lit Christmas trees, the laughter of children and grandchildren, the aroma of Christmas cookies emanating from a warm and cheery kitchen and the spirit of the season that seems to be everywhere. It's a time of year when most of us get just a little bit more excited when the mail arrives, as we anticipate hearing from friends and family. But too often in our exuberance to celebrate, we forget the reason for the season.

Today I'd like to share a real life Christmas Miracle. Not one that I read about in a book or saw on a TV program, but one that I had the great fortune

(continued on Page 2 – Anna)

DEAR SISTERS AND BROTHERS,

The end of the year is fast approaching and the holiday season will soon be upon us. Who would have thought back in March, that we would be having this third wave and largest number of cases of the Corona Virus. We are being asked by government and local health officials to stay home and celebrate with only those in our immediate household and not to attend dinners or other holiday functions as we have done in the past.

Instead of being sad about this situation, let's make the best of it. Begin with the true meaning of the Christmas Holiday. After discussing that with the family, maybe make some decorations for the house or tree. Popcorn or cranberry chains or a chain made of colored paper. Play some of the games that have been hidden



on a shelf in a closet for the longest time. Find and watch one the classic holiday movies. Have a nice family dinner together and enjoy the peaceful family time together. Go for a walk and after returning home have some homemade hot chocolate and a few of those home baked holiday cookies.

Looking ahead, there are vaccines that are showing great promise and as they become available, along with everyone remaining diligent, there is hope for the future that we will be able to meet face to face, exchange handshakes and hugs and do those things that are all so familiar to the members of our Order. Being able to enjoy those

(continued on Page 2 – Bob)



to experience for myself. This didn't happen in a far off land, but at an Official Visit that started as most do with fellowship and fraternal greetings, lots of conversation, a delicious lunch and the formal proceeding of opening a chapter. Introductions were made, the Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron shared greetings and we sang the old familiar Christmas carols. All and all a very nice meeting and what you would expect, but for one special moment, which crystalized in my mind like a beautiful snowflake, or maybe like the Christmas Star that caused the shepherds and wise men to fall on their knees inspired by its holy light.

It happened as the WGM gave her Christmas message during my Associate Grand Matron year. In the mist of her talk my eyes were drawn to one of our sisters standing in the back row on the sidelines holding in her arms her beautiful three month old baby boy. All at once I could feel what the shepherds and the wise men must have felt over 2000 years ago.

I saw in that mother's face, as she held her little boy, the love that is the heart of Christmas. I saw in her little one the promise of Christmas and most of all I felt the hope of Christmas. She stood among her sisters and brothers with no adornment, with no title, no grand dress or honor; just a young women holding in her arms the glory of sunrise, the miracle of innocence, our future. And in that one splendid moment a light seemed to fill the Chapter, the light of our Star. In that moment, I found the miracle, the message of the season, that God so loved us that he came to earth in the form of a child, to give us the gift of endless tomorrows, the gift of unconditional love.



Let's give an extra gift this year, the gift of ourselves in the service of He, whose Star we follow and may you find the true meaning of Christmas and may the joys of the season be yours throughout the New Year.

On behalf of Brother Ed, myself and our family, we wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with health, happiness and peace. God bless you and may you too find the miracle of Christmas.

Anna Peterson, Worthy Grand Matron

wonderful fraternal relations, we all miss so much, will be quit a treat. We all need to just do our part and encourage our friends and family to do the same.

Yes this holiday season may be very different from any we have experienced before, but it's up to us to make it the best that it can be. Some years down the road when we gather and talk about holidays past with family and friends this year can still hold some special and pleasant memories if we find the ways to make them happen.

I wish all of you and your families a safe and healthy, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Bob Harper, Worthy Grand Patron





Our Chapter Reporters

COLORADO #2 – LEADVILLE

Robert Trezise, PP- Reporter



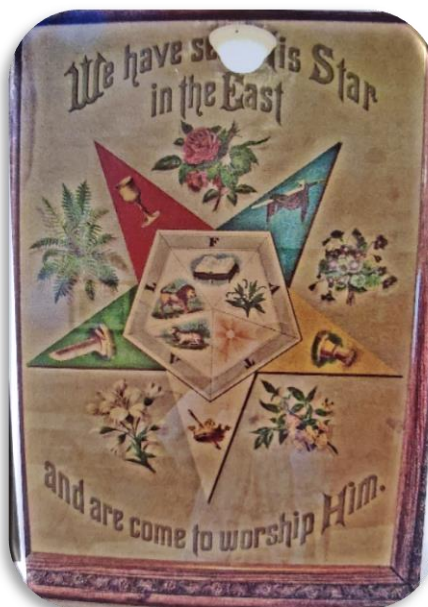
Colorado #2 missed one meeting in October because of weather, but was able to gather in November. The wreaths and garlands arrived the week of Thanksgiving and have been distributed.

Colorado #2 has many artifacts used from its beginning in 1882, with a charter from General Grand Chapter. This Charter is displayed in the Chapter room.

Two shadow boxes mounted in the dining room display a collection of ritual emblems from Colorado #2 and other Chapters which have affiliated with our Chapter.

The pictorial signet below is arranged much differently from the signets used today. The lectures, if followed clockwise, would be Ruth, Martha, Electa, Esther and Adah. They are illustrated by artwork used in the picture Bibles, which were popular in the 1800's. On the right lower corner is a sash which was worn by the Worthy

Matron. On the left lower corner is a shield with the OES emblems. Of interest, is the arrangement of Masonic emblems at the top of the signet. They are, in order: the Rule, Level, Square and Compasses, Plumb, Trowel and Gavel crossed. On the top is the Holy Bible. The brilliant colors against a black background are especially attractive.



This pictorial signet was purchased later and is consistent with today's ritual. Both are hung in the dining room of the Leadville Masonic Temple.

GARDEN CITY #3 – GREELEY

Cheryl Ann, WM - Reporter Protom



Because of the upswing in Weld County Covid Cases, the Worthy Matron asked the officers if they would like to attend the meeting on November 24. According to the response, we would have had more than enough members in attendance to satisfy the requirement for a quorum. However, there was no pressing business to address and with possible incoming weather, the Worthy Matron decided to cancel the meeting to protect the health of our members. The December meetings are pending.

We also decided to cancel our annual Cookie Walk fundraiser. It was such a joy to see the delight on people's faces as they chose their dozen or more cookies from all the homemade decorated cutout cookies, traditional family recipe cookies, candies and toffee and old fashioned chocolate fudge by the pound.

In addition, we will not be delivering our annual Christmas baskets to our shutin members this year. This makes us sad, because we and the member love to sit and visit, but we need to protect the health of our precious members. Special Christmas greetings will be sent to those members, letting them



know that we have not forgotten them.

This past month, our Golden Chain was once again broken by the passing of Sister MaryEllen Dressler, Grand Organist for the "Oceans of Love and Hugs", Sister Eileen Watson and Brother Stephen Hahn. She was also a 66 year member of our Chapter. Sister Virginia Rex, a 67 year member also passed away. Prayers to the families of these dear departed members.

Happy news; Heart medication for Larry Moody was adjusted and he is doing much better.

May your Christmas be filled with joy, peace and love. And may 2021 bring a better tomorrow filled with hope.

SUNSHINE #53 – GRAND JUNCTION

Nancy Eriksen, PM - Reporter

Happy Holidays from the most Western Chapter in Colorado! Thanksgiving and Christmas are upon us and, while it will be a big change from last year; we will get it done in fine fashion!

Following 3 positive cases of that nasty virus, Sunshine has closed until the New Year. We have 2 prospective members and really would like to get them initiated but as with most of us, that will have to wait.



Plans are ongoing to do our annual Cookies for Shut-Ins. With a lot of distancing and planning, we will deliver our cookies. Just as soon as we figure out how to do it safely!

A favorite hymn comes to mind this time of year: "We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing...." is as important now as it was when originally written. We consider **all of YOU** our blessings and hope you are keeping safe.

Throwing in a favorite recipe just because I can. This will get you proposals!

Scalloped Pineapple

8 slices toasted bread

1 can crushed pineapple, drained

1 can chunk pineapple drained

1 cup brown sugar ½ cup white sugar

1 cup butter 2 tsp vanilla

Dash salt 1 egg

Melt butter, add sugars, mix well. Add egg, salt and vanilla and beat over heat to caramelize. Break toast into little pieces. Layer toast and pineapple into a greased 9 inch pan until all is used. Pour caramel sauce over and stir well. Bake at 350 for 45 minutes.

Enjoy and be safe!

SILVER STAR #40, MONTROSE

Suzanne Teague, PM Reporter

Happy Thanksgiving to all of our Sisters and Brothers and since it will be over, we will wish you a Merry Christmas as well! We should also add a Happy New Year greeting in addition! I am just not fond of "Happy Holidays!" greetings since each holiday holds special significance and the generic greeting is so cold! "Happy" is what we wish you all. And "Healthy"! And much "Peace" and "Contentment"!



Silver Star Chapter is not meeting due to COVID restrictions and zoom meetings are pretty much out of the question as our older members find computers most challenging. We manage to stay in touch with each other and WM Cindy and WP Len are great to e-mail and text us. We also call and text each other and are happy to report that we are all pretty well.

We mourn with our sisters, Lin Mussman and Bonnie Lou Lamb, the loss of their husbands, two weeks apart. Both were wonderful spouses and married 54 and 64 years respectively. Of course COVID kept Lin's family from celebrating Jerry's life as their church was closed, but they are planning a service at a later time. They have a very close family and are totally there for Lin. Bonnie was able to have a small, socially-distanced service which the Montrose United Methodist Church streamed live. It was a lovely service and their three boys were here for Bonnie. Our condolences to both of these families.

We have had our share of sickness but most have recovered or are in the process of recovery. We are thankful for this! We are all trying to stay well.

We have almost 'buttoned up' our annual pie sale with sales better than last year. We may not be able to have our German Dinner in February, so we may

need to get our Ways & Means Committee to do some creative planning. Drive Thru?

Our weather has been so lovely that we are finding it hard to believe it is almost Thanksgiving! We are not complaining as we understand all of Colorado has not shared this good fortune. We are also under drought restrictions and that is not exactly what we would like. Murphy's Law seems to apply. But we are Thankful.

So with Christmas rapidly approaching, we send love and greetings to our friends around the State. May the joy of our Savior's birth fill your homes. We know you have seen His star in the East and pray that His light will guide you each new day.

EDITH #61- YAMPA

Debra Knott, PM - Reporter



Happy Thanksgiving! This is the time of year we count our blessings. With this trying year, we need to think about what we are truly grateful. It maybe your family, friends, health, job or even where you live. Looking back over the year, we can be thankful for the Order of the Eastern Star. The lessons we learn from our ritualistic work has kept most of us going. We have learned that Fidelity, Constancy, Loyalty, Faith, and Love are the essences of life. Although we miss our hugs, we have been able to keep in touch with each other any way we can.

Edith Chapter was up and running, but the last meeting had to be cancelled due to the county covid restrictions. We want to be sure that all of our members are safe. We are excited to hear that WGM Anna and WGP Bob were able to present our member, Mary Beckert with her 50 year pin. They also presented her with a Grand Representative appointment to Indiana. This week the WGM and WGP presented our WM, Barbara Bond, with a Grand Representative appointment to Quebec. Our chapter is really proud of them.

We hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving!

EXCELSIOR #66 - LAFAYETTE

Nancy Koenig, WM - Reporter Protém

Excelsior Chapter 66 has been busy this month. We held a Butter Braid Fundraiser which was a great success. A big thank you to those who participated and also to those that supported the fundraiser. The Chapter will also participate in a Thanksgiving food drive to benefit the Sister Carmen food bank in Lafayette. We also contributed toys to the Sister Carmen Center for their Christmas toy drive.

We were saddened by the deaths of our members; Sisters Grace Bohn, Delores Kocheiser, Shirley Weer and Brother Ed Domenico.

Sister Jenna Macgregor was evacuated from Estes Park on October 22, a very fast evacuation, but is now back home. Her family has been able to open their business after evacuations were lifted. Son Caleb came down with COVID-19 during this time and is now under COVID-19 isolation. The Good news is that they survived this terrible ordeal and are safely home in Estes. Two of our prospective members need prayers: Melissa Berard, is having another surgery this month and Dana Springer has been diagnosed with a brain tumor, please keep these ladies in your prayers. Excelsior Chapter will hold a zoom meeting on December 8. The site information will be sent soon. We usually open with a chat session at 7 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Excelsior members wish all the Chapter a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Even though 2020 has been a life changing year for all of us we hope in 2021 we will be able to meet in person, sharing Star love. Stay safe and healthy.



MANZANITA #85 - LITTLETON

Larry Wullbrandt, PGP - Reporter



HO, HO, HO,
MERRY CHRISTMAS &
HAPPY NEW YEAR

to all our sisters and brothers
from Manzanita Chapter.
We wish everyone a happy,
healthy, and safe holiday
season.

ACTIVITIES – Several Chapter members donated funds to provide gifts for the RRESMC residents in hopes of making their Christmas a little brighter.

On December 10, we will have a ZOOM meeting and virtual Christmas party. Maybe this would be a good opportunity to show off your favorite 'ugly' sweater.

CONCERNS – The Chapter is saddened by the passing of Sister Helen Smith, PM. Linda Goodrich's husband, Jim passed recently, as did Darlene Tietz' brother, Merle. Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers.

REPORTER'S MUSINGS – As we enter this Holy season, surrounded by the chaos of COVID19 and the seemingly never-ending cycle of negative news reports, it's often difficult to recall the Joy we've known in Christmas seasons past. Yes, it will be much different from times gone by, but together we will find the strength to persevere. We may not be able to gather in person to share a hug or a handshake or a kind word but there are many ways to stay connected with family and friends. Our OES sisters & brothers are family, too, many closer than relatives.

We are all in this together, so let's each resolve to do one small gesture each day to touch the life of a family member, a friend, or a stranger. A wave of your hand, a smile (even behind your mask), a card, a call, a kind word. You will brighten their day and be blessed doing so.

Stephen Hawking once said, "However bad life may seem, there is always something you can do or succeed at. Where there's life there's hope."

Th-th-th-that's all folks, 'til next month.

God Bless us, everyone!

DAWN CHAPTER #125 - AURORA

Kay Finnerty, PM - Reporter

Dawn Chapter hasn't met for quite some time, but we do have some happy news to report. Our Secretary, also Gr. Ruth, Sue Schultz is very happy that her daughter, Katie, was named the 2020 Exceptional New Alumni at Adams State University. She will receive the actual award at the 2021 Homecoming Alumni Banquet. Katie demonstrated exceptional grit and persistence as a student.

Unfortunately, we have members who have suffered with health issues. Sue Schultz had hand surgery to correct a trigger finger, which resulted from her other surgery this summer, when her finger was broken as she walked her dog. And as you have most likely heard, our Treasurer, Amy Raia, has had numerous surgeries and treatments for cancer in her jaw. PLEASE continue to keep these ladies in your prayers.



We do wish all of you a very Happy, Healthy Holiday Season and know you'll be just as excited as we are to see 2020 come to an end!

MT. ZION #133 - GOLDEN

Roberta Park, PM - Reporter

The sneaky slipper snatcher snuck slyly into our slipper meeting to snatch our slippers, but we single handedly slung that slippery snatcher out the door where he slunk away into the sleepy dark night.



The October 28th meeting was fun and comfortable with 14 members in attendance. We enjoyed comfort food after the meeting including mini quiches, pigs in a blanket and apple pie. Our slipper contest winner was A.P. Ryan Puckett with bells on his toes. The November 11th meeting was on Veterans day and also had 14 members in attendance. We celebrated two of our member veterans, P.P. Scott Cromwell and W.P.



John Warren, both of whom are past worthy patrons of Mt. Zion #133, and thanked them for their service. Refreshments included tea sandwiches, chips and cookies. The next meeting is scheduled for December 9th at 7:00 pm with the chili cookoff starting at 6:30 – dependent on the COVID restrictions that may be in place at that time.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a



Happy
Healthier
Prosperous
and Star
filled New
Year.
Goodbye
2020!!!



From our own
General Grand Chapter
Appointed Officer
Sister Karla Dimond
Worthy Grand Marshal

Dear Sisters and Brothers of Colorado Eastern Star,

The Holidays are here, and there's no better time for me to reach out to all of you to say thank you for your love, generosity, and support as I've been fulfilling my term as Worthy Grand Marshal. We have all been disheartened by the COVID restrictions placed on our gatherings. I have so missed being able to be with you at Official Visits and other meetings, but the demographics of our beloved Order are such that we must consider the

safety of our members before all else. Please know that I think of you every day and value the times we have spent together in the past.

Even with this pandemic, our blessings are many, and I hope you had time to give thanks with family and friends these past few weeks, even if your time together was virtual. The relationships we cherish are still there, even though we can't hug tight or carry on long conversations over coffee. It's human nature for us to be resourceful, and there are many ways we can continue to enjoy one another. So, Sisters and Brothers, do reach out to one another and stay in touch. This crisis will pass one day, and we will find joy in our meeting once again. Keep the faith, stay strong, and abide by the CDC guidelines.

My Colorado Sisters and Brothers, I extend Christmas Greetings to each of you from MWGM Marianne Shenefelt, MWGP Henry Martin, and all the General Grand Chapter Officers...especially my "Nifty Nine" fellow appointed officers. Led by the Star in the East, we hope your Holidays will be Merry and Bright. May the lessons we hold dear guide us all through these challenging times, and may Joy and Peace fill your hearts in ways you never expected. Be a blessing to others, and be blessed by those that reach out to you this Christmas. Let us Love One Another! Remember...Love is an Attitude, and it's Contagious!! Let's spread it around!!

As we look toward the new year, I hope you will consider and plan to join us in Salt Lake City for the 50th Triennial Assembly of the General Grand Chapter coming up the end of October 2021. The Planning Committee is working hard to get information out to everyone, and as SLC is relatively nearby, I invite you to take advantage of this opportunity to come meet other Sisters and Brothers from around the world. (It's an awesome experience I have enjoyed many times since the 70s when my Mother and I went to GGC in Toronto.) Registration, Hotel, and Preliminary Scheduling information is available on the GGC Website, as well as on our own Colorado Grand Chapter website. In closing, Peter and I send you this Christmas Wish...

*When church bells peel on
Christmas morn,
Dear Friends of mine,
I wish for you
That joy be you and
yours to share,
That all your Christmas
dreams come true.
May friendship dwell
within your heart
To bless the gladness of the day,
May carols that you softly sing
Safe guide the Christ Child on His way.
May all these things your home delight
To make your Christmas warm and bright.*



My love to all of you...

Karla

Karla J Dimond/PGM

Worthy Grand Marshal

General Grand Chapter – 2018-2021



Joy to the World, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and heaven and nature sing.



Advent Wreath

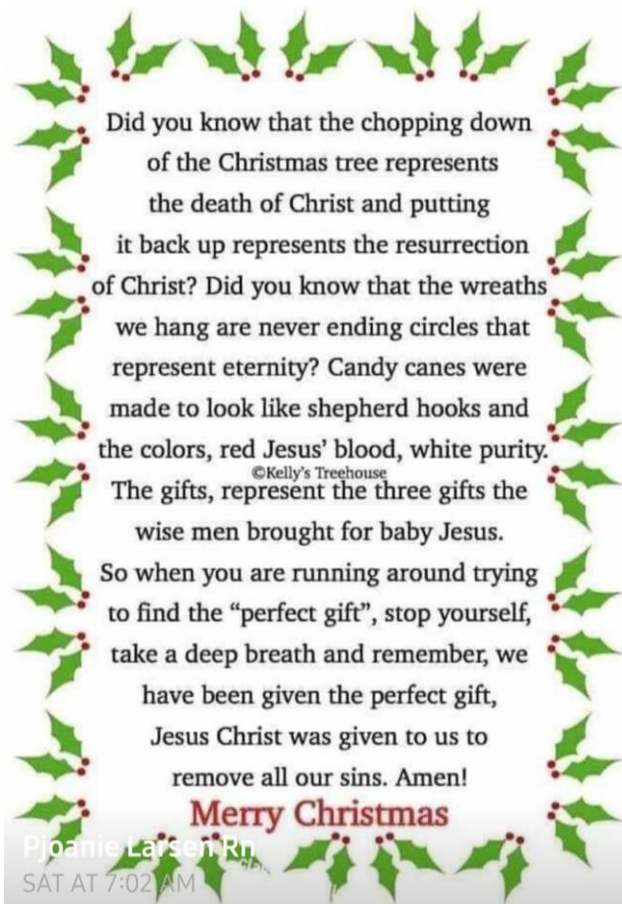
1st CANDLE – (purple) **THE PROPHECY CANDLE or CANDLE OF HOPE** – We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

2nd CANDLE – (purple) **THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION** – God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to “get ready”. Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! (Luke 3:4-6)

3rd CANDLE – (pink) **THE SHEPHERD CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF JOY** – The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

4th CANDLE – (purple) **THE ANGEL CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF LOVE** – The angels announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)

5th CANDLE – (white) **“CHRIST CANDLE”** – The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth! (John 1:29)





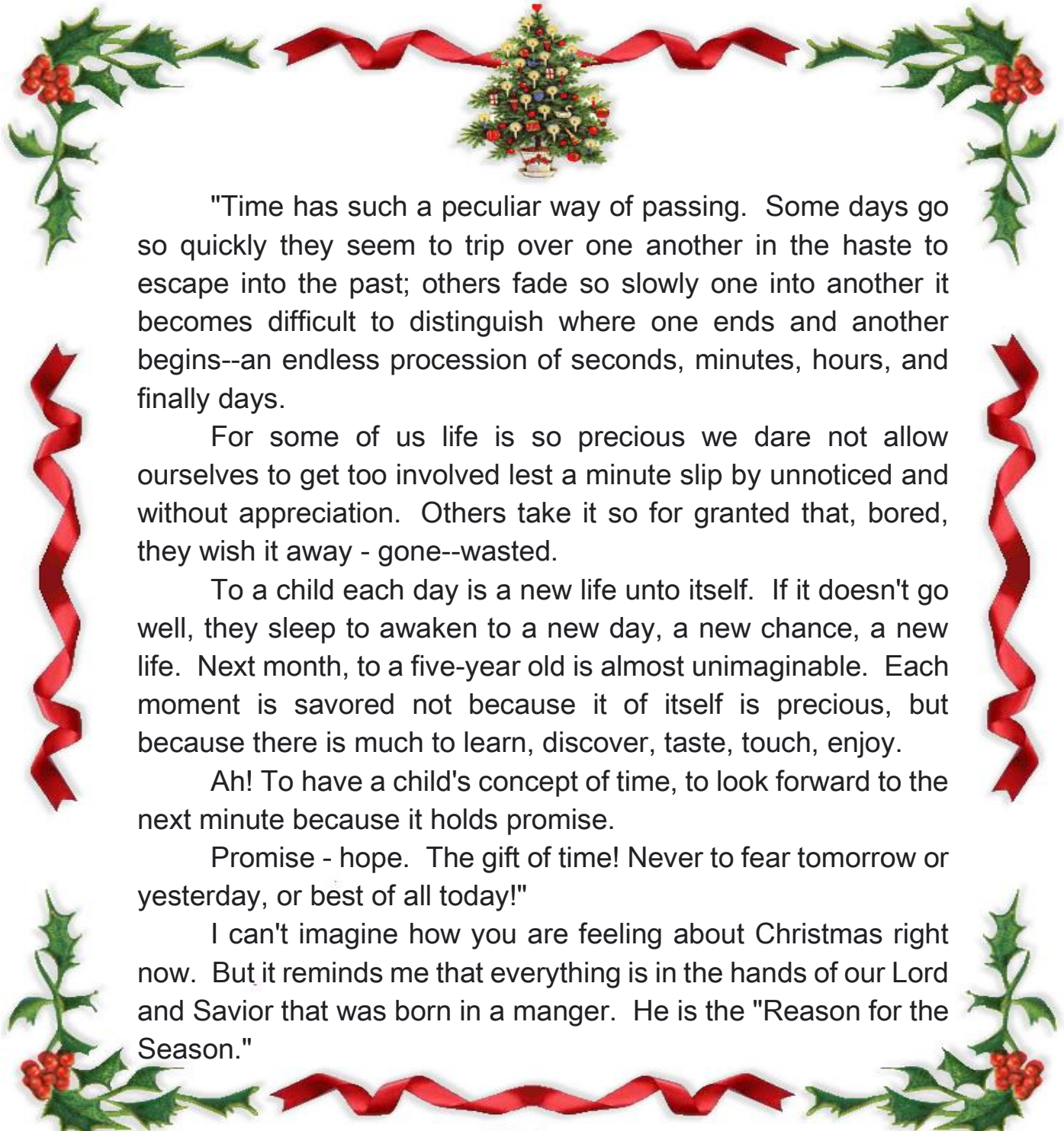
MERRY CHRISTMAS

from

Keith Hoey, AGP and Shelley Hoey, Escort



This was written in 1980 by a woman who is my biological sister Randee Crane Shultz and I believe it applies today and this year. She has given me permission to have this article published in the 4 U 2 Review.



"Time has such a peculiar way of passing. Some days go so quickly they seem to trip over one another in the haste to escape into the past; others fade so slowly one into another it becomes difficult to distinguish where one ends and another begins--an endless procession of seconds, minutes, hours, and finally days.

For some of us life is so precious we dare not allow ourselves to get too involved lest a minute slip by unnoticed and without appreciation. Others take it so for granted that, bored, they wish it away - gone--wasted.

To a child each day is a new life unto itself. If it doesn't go well, they sleep to awaken to a new day, a new chance, a new life. Next month, to a five-year old is almost unimaginable. Each moment is savored not because it of itself is precious, but because there is much to learn, discover, taste, touch, enjoy.

Ah! To have a child's concept of time, to look forward to the next minute because it holds promise.

Promise - hope. The gift of time! Never to fear tomorrow or yesterday, or best of all today!"

I can't imagine how you are feeling about Christmas right now. But it reminds me that everything is in the hands of our Lord and Savior that was born in a manger. He is the "Reason for the Season."

I pray that your faith will create inner peace and that God will send blessings.

Merry Christmas and a New Year is coming.

Krista Shaner, Grand Chaplain for the "Rhythm of Life" Grand Family

Together we raised over \$1,600!



Silent Auction was a HUGE success

Thanks to the following contributors: Loyalty #145, Excelsior Chapter #66, Mt. Zion #133, Heritage #154, Silver Star #40, Metro #157, Jason/Deb Deselms, Dick's Rock Shop, Sharon Parrish, Becky/Steve Huffman, Rita Bucholtz, , Pam/Mike Jones, Jill Quedenfeld, Tom/Lilly Johnson, Keith/Shelley Hoey, Dorries Schaffner, Genie/David Wilcox, Nancy Eriksen, Karen Wilson, Sharon Kinton and Dottie Vonfeldt.

None of this would have happened without people bidding. The following are only the people who won items (Congrats to you all!) 😊 but there were more who were bidding and lost out . 😞

Annavee Hinkley, Amy Brown, Elizabeth Brooks, Sharon Heintzen, Imogene Musso, John Peck, Jill Quedenfeld, Fort Collins Assembly #2, Cleona Kading, Karla Dimond, Karen Wilson, Shelley Hoey, Linda Cronoble, Suzanne Teague, Lilly Johnson, Patty Wilson, Robert Smith, Becky Huffman, Rita Bucholtz, Sharon Parrish, Stephen Davis and Amy Boren

And of course I can't forget the ones who also donated funds: Karla Dimond, Steven Davis, Debby/Joe Kier, Kelly Baines, Lauren Hanson, Janet/Gary Malara, Robert Harper, Marcia/Bill Carlson, Roberta Park, Valerie Evans, Keith/Shelley Hoey. IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE. If you would like to donate send a check to the Grand Chapter Office and mark "Silent Auction" in the memo space. Every dollar counts!

A special shout out to some special people who helped get the items where they needed to be and even volunteered to deliver some of them: Becky/Steve Huffman, Jill Quedenfeld, Rita Bucholtz, and last but not least, Valerie Evans who had to receive and sort all of the items.

Again, Thank you, Thank you, Thank you.

If I have forgotten anyone in any of these lists please accept my sincere apology.

I would like to ask one more thing of everyone who contributed, browsed the auction, bid on items, or donated. Could you please email (jonesrom2018@gmail.com) comments, both good and bad, about what your thoughts were on this format; what could have been done better; the ease of the program features; if you would like us to continue the Silent Auction using this format and generally anything else you would like to comment on. Thanks