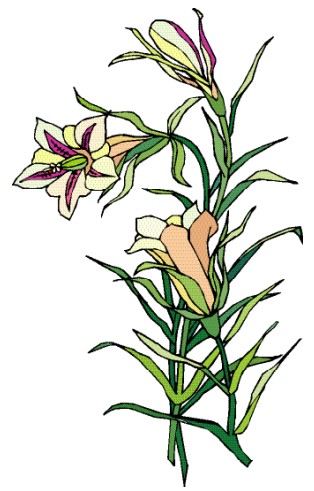




4-U-2 REVIEW



Colorado's Magazine for the Order of the Eastern Star

Official Publication of the Grand Chapter of Colorado

Happy Spring

Annual Mailed Subscription Price \$14.00 (4 Issues/Year)
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Volume XXV, Issue 2 April 2017 - June 2017

A Wild and Woolly Spring

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Things are wild and woolly in the Eastern Star world of the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron. We have now completed twenty-two Stated Meeting Official Visits. The hospitality and warmth of the chapters has been wonderful.

We have had tons of fun and this month we also have the Affiliation Ceremony at Silver Star Chapter #40 on April 20th and the 4 Corners Fiesta in Santa

Fe on April 28th and 29th. Thirty-nine members

of the Proud Victorian Star Grand Family will

be attending this event and we all say Olay.

The Alaska Adventure Cruise is next month, so we are floating away with happiness at all the great travels we have ahead.

Happy Spring and hope you had a Blessed Easter,



Pat Mammenga and David Ramsay

Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron
Grand Chapter of Colorado

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2) Photographs submitted electronically must be saved as 'Tiffs' (.tif) or 'Jpegs' (.jpg) for PCs. Tiffs ensure higher quality of photo. However, neither format will be good unless the resolution is at least 300 dpi. Most digital cameras make Jpegs on memory cards at 72 dpi but they are large (ex. 15inches by 20inches). You need to do an image re-size (or cropping) by increasing the dpi and decreasing the photo size (around 5"x6.5" range). Your finished photo will be a large file. That's okay.

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Jan Schneider Publisher & Editor-in-Chief

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2017 Adjusted Deadlines: Mar.28, June 28, Oct. 15, and Nov.15

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Eastern Editorial

by Jan Schneider



From the Editor . . .

Spring is here and school is finally over, for most anyway. At least it is for me. Now I can concentrate on finishing this issue before heading off on vacation.

My husband and I have been married 40 years as of August last year. In celebration we took a trip to Italy in September after Grand Chapter. We enjoyed ourselves so much, we decided that we needed to see more of Europe while we were still young enough to enjoy and endure all the walking to see all the sights.

This trip, we are again trying to avoid some of the crowds and heat by going slightly off season, in the Spring this time as soon as possible after classes would be out for the Summer break. And, what a wonderful way to top off our 40th year together. This time we are getting a taste of England, France and Germany all in one trip with visits to London, Paris and Frankfurt. It is my first time to all of these places, but my husband went to high school in Frankfurt. I'm sure a lot has changed in almost 20 years since he has been there, but maybe he will remember a few things.

As always in the Spring, I am reminded once again that Spring brings forth new life. We just celebrated Easter, when we were reminded of the new life we have through faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. No matter how dead and lifeless the world may seem at times, nature has a way of regenerating itself. As we deal with hardships, stresses and loss, we also experience joy, fulfillment and friendships that carry us through and give us hope. This is a great time of year to reflect on the history of Martha and her hope of immortal life through faith.

Just a reminder, next deadline for Chapter articles is now June 28 for the Summer issue. This most likely will publish in July this year as I have a very busy June.

This Spring, may the new life that you see springing up all around you inspire you to recommit your life anew to serving our Savior, the Risen Christ. Hope you had a glorious Easter. As someone once told me, if it wasn't for Easter, there would be no reason to celebrate Christmas. If Christ had not been victorious over death and risen from the dead and ascended into heaven to rule and reign with God the Father, he would have just been another prophet, leaving no reason to continue celebrating his birth to this day, for all these years. The importance of His resurrection is evidenced by His appearance to hundreds after his death and burial were witnessed. The Bible tells us that he spent 40 days providing convincing proofs that He was alive!

Thanks again for all your support,
Jan Schneider, Editor-in-Chief

Welcome to Spring

*We must live through the dreary winter
If we would value the spring;
And the woods must be cold and silent
Before the robins sing.
The flowers must be buried in darkness
Before they can bud and bloom,
And the sweetest, warmest sunshine
Comes after the storm and gloom.*



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Colorado Chapter No. 2 – Leadville

Robert C. Trezise, Reporter

Winter made a direct hit on Leadville, and Colorado 2 had no quorum for a January meeting. Since that time members have met on the regular schedule.

Years ago a prospective new member to fraternal organizations was told he or she had to ride a goat. An old print hanging in the preparation room is titled "Yup I rode him." This custom became reality at the Valentine meeting when Sr Loretta McElhenney rode a stick horse goat and joined the order of the mystic ba-a-s. Under the name of Flora Cabra (Goat Flower) she was presented at the five stalls and received such gifts as a grain bucket, a lead rope and other goat friendly gifts. Many chocolate covered raisins were on the floor after each presentation and increased as Flora Cabra visited the stalls. The program afforded lots of laughs and some important information about goats.



L-r: Flora Cabra, aka Loretta McElhenney; Sophie (dog); Betty Benson, WM

For St. Patrick's celebration, members enjoyed Mulligan stew and then for entertainment marched around the lodge room to "Kerry Dance" and "Irish Washerwoman."

The Good Deeds can is receiving donations for the service dog project. Over \$100 has been given. After all the snow piles and winter weather, Colorado 2 members are ready for spring and the projects of that season.

Pueblo Chapter No. 7 – Pueblo

Andrea Smith, PM - Reporter

Happy Spring from all the officers and members from Pueblo 7. We recently had our annual Progressive Dinner held on March 11. This is one of our favorite group activities to have. It is a great time to enjoy the company of our sisters and brothers. We started our night with appetizers at the Smith house followed by salad and soup at the home of our Worthy Matron Bridgette and Worthy Patron Joe. We all then caravanned to the Neilson house home of our Associate Patron Ben



Neilson where we enjoyed speppard's pie and chicken. We then were invited to finish our night at the temple where the brothers of Lodge 31 were having a potluck where we joined them for pie.

During the Progressive Dinner we had a poker run with 50 percent of the donations going to our Ways



and Means projects. I am happy to report that one of our newest members Brother Forrest Wieder won the poker hand. He then



graciously donated half to his lodge and the other half back to the Chapter. Thanks Brother Forrest.

Remember Stars to always shine bright.

Till next time. . .

Waunita Chapter No. 37 – Gunnison

Kathy Ashwood, PM - Claressa Brigham - Michell Ferguson - Reporters

We started the New Year with lots of cold, snow and ice which meant not enough for a quorum for both of our meetings in January and cancelling our Valentine's Day dinner.

March brought on lots of work to be done. We began trying to establish an International Order of Rainbow Girls Assembly. Michell Ferguson and Claressa Brigham made several posters to hang in the Elementary, Middle and High Schools announcing our informative meeting on March 26 and again on April 12. On our second meeting, we ended up with enough girls to begin the process and we plan on getting started this summer.

We also sponsored a bingo night (April 7) to raise money for the summer Book Bus program. We sold tickets in advance and collected donated items for the numerous raffle drawing prizes, silent auction and bake sale that would be held that night. Michell Ferguson made bags of trail mix, dirt cups, carrot cake pops and chocolate cake pops that represented a bingo ball. We had a great turn out and a fun evening.

On May 4 we are having our annual Scholarship dinner and award ceremony. On May 25, we will host our Friendship night with dinner starting at 6 pm and meeting to follow. We would love to see all of you here.

We hope you have a Wonderful Summer, and lots of good fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,

Silver Star Chapter No. 40 – Montrose

Suzanne Teague, PM - Reporter

WM Shelley & WP Keith Hoey have certainly kept us busy this winter and missing one meeting in January due to inclement weather didn't hinder us as we kept on in spite of it! You know, "Things to do, people to see, places to go!"

We have "visited" Zion N.P., The Great Sand Dunes N.P., Isle Royale N.P. (in Michigan in the middle of Lake Superior!), and Great Smoky Mountains N.P. Very interesting destinations and a great fund raiser for our WGM Pat's Special Projects.

We also made a donation to C.O.P.S. - Concerns of Police Survivors - in honor of our First Responders Project to assist Keith and Shelley when they attend the National Police Week Conference in Washington, DC to honor Deputy Derek Greer and other fallen officers at the annual gathering.

Other donations have been made to Band Camp, Sharing Ministries, and our on-going "Cans for Canines".

We initiated two new members on February 16th. Lyn Lawhead and Kristin Laurie.

We celebrated Friendship Night with an Irish Twist and welcomed PGP Paul Sammons, PGM Cindy Wardlaw, Gr. Adah, Kathy Ashwood and her Gr. Escort, Ken, as well as five 50+ year members, WM's & a WP from other chapters and an Eagle. A salad bar following the meeting provided entertainment and fun.

Several of our members have had health issues: Earl Sutphen was hospitalized with pneumonia, Bill Harris had surgery to replace his cochlear implant and is hearing again, Darley Hofmann, Shelley Hoey, Keith Hoey and Karen Hinton's brothers have each had recent issues but all are recovering. Darley's great granddaughter, 5 years old, fell out of bed and broke her leg! Hazel Branom passed away the end of December and Carlene Dougan's husband, Bert, passed away just shy of his 95th birthday. We have also learned that Dahlgren Andrews is not doing well. She is in Lakewood in an Assisted Living Center.

Bonnie Lou Lamb and husband, Tom celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary; Bob & LaVelle Cory celebrated their 50th anniversary; DL, Tammy Oldson travelled to Hawaii to vacation a bit with the Hannahs; and Karen Hinton and Marla Thoe made a Caribbean Cruise. We have two of our younger members expecting babies: Shayna Kinderknecht is expecting twins – a boy and a girl – in May and Mallory Stewart is expecting in October!

And then there was the Annual German Dinner! We figured out that it was about the 19th annual affair! We served over 150 people and everyone said it was our best ever!



It certainly was a lot of fun! It was also about 48 hours of hard

work but worth it to have such success. We are also in the middle of our Spring Pie Sale.

We are looking forward to our Official Visit and the Affiliation Ceremony on April 20th. A picnic will precede the meeting. Reservations are requested however, there is no charge for the meal. RSVP to Secretary Janet Bennet, janetb@bresnan.net.

One other exciting piece of news is that Silver Star Chapter has now adopted resident, Lillian Rogers, who was previously adopted by Garnet Chapter! She is only 97 and a 75+ year member in New York. We look forward to a long and happy friendship!

We expect to see many of you along the OES trail and send love and best wishes for a Happy Easter and plenty of Jelly Beans for all.

Star Love,



Unity Chapter No. 97 – Denver

Gwen Schledewitz, WM - Reporter

Welcome aboard Unity Airlines Flight #97
Departing from Highlands Masonic Airport
AKA Unity Chapter #97

Our first news report to 4-U-2 review newsletter, In September

We flew through our installation and installed 17 crew members to fly on our year of flights aboard Unity Airlines, Come Fly with Me....

As passengers are boarded on Unity's First Class Airline we hand out their boarding documents along with complimentary water bottles.

Our safety demonstrations have turned out to be a big hit as we explain the safety features of our 727 Boeing aircraft.

We have also been know to hand out peanuts and pretzels.

At the end of our flights we are guided in by our ground personal.



Our inaugural flight was a Grand success as we at Unity Airlines were excited to welcome aboard,

"The Proud Victorian Star Grand Family" and their escorts.

We presented them with honorary crew memberships along with flight wings.

Rave Reviews (cont.)

April 2017-June 2017

Our youngest flight attendant, my Grand daughter Britt Stella (age 3) served complimentary beverages from our in flight beverage service & a small snack of Sandwiches, chips and a cookie, as our preflight service. On board entertainment was given by Brooke Jones, Program Director of Random Acts of Kindness Foundation and Brooke Jacobson, Media Relations Director for The Foundation for a Better Life.



We have had many other fun nights hosting friends on chartered flights.

November we Celebrated Mickey Mouses's birthday with Manzanita's chapter and a surprise visit from Mickey himself.



On January 18th we initiated Debra Kirsten, Sales Coordinator at the OES Masonic Retirement Campus.

She is an amazing Sister and we are so excited to have a new flight attendant on board Unity Airlines!

In February we hosted an Ice Cream Social at the OES Campus for the residents.

Wow, what a great turn out and what a fun way to celebrate Valentines Day.

Our second chartered friendship flight we hosted Loyalty chapter and it was all about flying.....

balsa wood airplanes down the Grand Staircase at Highlands Airport.



Sister Mandy Sawyer won the "TOP GUM" award as her airplane flew the farthest, did 2 loopy loops and disappeared around the corner.

Sister Judy Schweitzer's plane landed on the radiator next to the front door!

Sister Dottie Vonfeldt was in charge of the Flight Deck operations.

We were challenged with the maintenance & installation of new wooden floors that were being installed in the ballroom and due to the two week installation we had to think fast and have our refreshments and social up stairs which turned out to be a great Flight Deck for our airplane launch. What a Fun time!!!



March we enjoyed traveling to the OES Retirement Campus for a dinner & flight with the residents. As we handed out the boarding documents, they wondered where they were going. We made them all laugh with our safety demonstration!



The residents were so excited to see that Debra Kirsten had joined our chapter and we presented her with her proficiency certificate that night.



Unity goes Gang Busters in Chicago! Our Alpha/Pentalpha party was a huge success.

Brother Howard Stoddard was our in flight entertainment while we were delayed on the tarmac as he sang for all of us.

We had pictures taken "Mob style" and members were sent to the Big House if they were not able to pay up for the Veteran's Service Dogs!

Many photo's were taken and our Flight Wings were handed out for Pentalpha.





April 5th we arrived at Highlands airport to find Easter Bunny Tracks (feet) leading into our airplane!

A fun night for all with music played by Carrie Andree, Grand Organist, "Here comes peter cotton tail hopping down the bunny trail".

And MORE bunny tracks as we headed into the terminal for refreshments. Thank You Easter Bunny!!!

Submitted by: Gwen L. Schledewitz W.M. - AKA Senior Flight Attendant Unity Airlines
Flight #97



Mt. Zion Chapter No. 133 – Golden

Sharla Pierce, Reporter

We welcomed the Victorian Star Grand Family to our meeting on Wednesday, March 22 for their official visit. Before the meeting, we enjoyed a light supper and entertainment by the Jobs Daughters HIKE (Hearing Impaired Kids Endowment Fund) Choir. After the meeting, everyone gathered again for cookies and coffee. We

enjoyed spending time with members of the Grand Family.

Worthy Grand Matron Pat Mammenga and Worthy Grand Patron David Ramsey also visited one of our regular meetings to announce the appointment of Brother John Warren as Grand Representative of Kentucky in Colorado. Brother John is Grand Chaplain for the Proud Victorian Star Grand Family, as well as Worthy Patron for Mt Zion Chapter No. 133. We are very proud of Brother John and know that he will be a wonderful Grand Representative!

At the request of Golden Masonic Lodge No. 1, our chapter prepared dinner prior to their December and March meetings. The dinners were great, and the Lodge members enjoyed "eating and greeting" before their formal meetings.

We started a Secret Pal ("Secret Grandmother") Project with Job's Daughters Bethel #43 and Order of Rainbow for Girls, Columbine Assembly #96, who meet in our Golden Masonic Center. Throughout the year, we send cards and little reminders to the girls to let them know we are thinking of to them. We are enjoying the project as much as the girls are!

We continue to actively support our Chapter projects:

Lawrence Elementary School – school supplies are collected through the year for the students, and in the winter we also collect hats and gloves.

Golden Christian Action Guild Food Bank – "Buy One – Give One" – bags of non-perishable food items for the food bank are collected through the year, as well as coats and other clothing items during the winter.

Stuffed Animals – stuffed animals are collected through the year to be given to the Victim's Advocates and clinics for children who have been traumatized by accidents, illnesses, fires, etc.

Robert Russell Eastern Star Masonic Center – personal care items are collected through the year as needed for the residents. We also have two adopted residents at the Center.

King Soopers grocery cards - these are available for purchase by members, and our chapter receives a percentage of the amount for each card.

Pancake Breakfasts – these are held on the fourth Sunday of every month from 8 - 11 a.m., and attendance continues to be good. As an additional fund raiser, we have an "Owls Nest" table during breakfast where handmade items, jewelry, decorative items, etc., can be purchased.

"Hats for Love" – these are really nice embroidered OES ball caps in red, blue, or white available for purchase; and the proceeds go to our Love Fund.

The Activity Club meets at 11:30 a.m. on the first Thursday of the month at the Golden Masonic Center for a variety of projects. Everyone is welcome to bring a sack lunch and have a good time.

The Lunch Bunch meets at 11:30 a.m. on the third Thursday of the month at Ruby Tuesday in Arvada for a fun social get together, and all members are invited.

A Cinco de Mayo dinner will be held at the Golden Masonic Center on Saturday, May 5. Stay tuned for more details!

Loyalty Chapter No. 145 – Westminster

Jan Schneider, Reporter

Spring is here and the weather is getting nicer, most of the time that is, save a few storms.

On February 11 we joined Unity #97 for a Friendship Night. On February 23 we were forced to cancel our stated meeting for lack of a quorum due to the weather.

On March 9 we celebrated St. Patrick's Day with an Irish Potato Bake before our stated meeting. On Friday April 7, we hosted a 50's Themed Friendship night with all the Chapters who meet on Thursdays who never get to visit each



other's meetings. Period costume was encouraged and fun was had by all who attended.

On April 13, everyone brought their Easter hats for an Easter Hat Parade. On April 20, we hosted an Ice Cream Social at the ESMRC. On April 27, we had our Grand Visit. Prior to the meeting, we had a Taco Bar followed by entertainment by a men's quartet. They called themselves "3 Men, a Bass and a Babe".



The "Babe" was a reference to their accompanist. The evening was a lot of fun and the meeting went very well.

On May 6 we had our annual Birthday Dinner. It was a gorgeous day with



many in attendance and lots of fun and games for all. On May 11 we celebrated our Mothers and Sisters and all the ladies were presented with a rose. We also initiated 2 new members, Katy and Jim Hylemann who are Grandfather and Granddaughter.

We will continue to have our casino bus trips on the 2nd Saturdays even though we had to cancel in May. Just contact Sunny or Flo if you are interested in joining us. We have a lot of fun!

We continue to sell keychains as a fundraiser to raise money for service dogs for veterans. These are made by our member Jane Rivette and come in a variety of colors and styles of beads. Just ask any of our members if you would like to purchase one, or more. They make great gifts.

Please come and join us at Loyalty Chapter on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.



Fountain Valley Chapter No. 155 – Fountain

Margaret Elliott, PM - Reporter

On the evening of February 16, 2017 Fountain Valley Chapter #155 welcomed the Worthy Grand Matron, Patricia Mammenga, Worthy Grand Patron, David Ramsay and the "PROUD VICTORIAN STAR" Grand Family as they came to complete our Official Visit. Our meeting was held at our local chapter. Fountain



Valley #155 has two Grand Officers and their escorts who are a part of the "Proud Victorian Star" Grand Family. Shirley Day is the Associate Grand Matron with her daughter, Sara as her escort. The Associate Grand Patron is Les Saylor with his wife, Daisy as his escort.

A supper with a variety of soups and salads was served prior to the 7:30 meeting. The tables were decorated and accommodated the members and visitors who attended the meal. Following the meal all retired to the



Ir: Mary Robyn and Mary Lou Bailey



Daisey Saylor is stirring the pot.

upstairs floor where ninety-five members and visitors had to find places to sit. At 7:00 P.M. cards and gifts from the Chapter were presented to the Worthy Grand Matron, Pat and Worthy Grand Patron David by the Associate Matron, Valerie Evans and Associate Patron, C.T. Elliott. Gifts were exchanged by the Worthy Matron, Gloria Jaeger and Worthy Patron, Russell Smith with Worthy Grand Matron, Pat Mammenga and David Ramsay. Each year the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron select one of the officers to be honored. This year it is the Secretary. Evelyn Carr, Personal Secretary to the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron presented a gift to our Secretary, David Kochis. The officers retired for the opening ceremony.

The Bible was carried in by Worthy Grand Matron, Pat Mammenga who was escorted by the Worthy Grand Patron, David Ramsay. The Chapter was opened in regular form by Worthy Matron, Gloria Jaeger. Introductions followed. The Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron were escorted west of the Altar and were introduced. They were given greetings from the Worthy Matron, Gloria and Worthy Patron, Russ.

The following General Grand Chapter Committee members were present and introduced: Valerie Evans PGM, Community Service; David Wilcox, PGP, Scottish Rite Charities; and C.T. Elliott, PGP, Support First Responders. The following Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons were introduced west of the altar and escorted to the East: Marsha Carlson, Rita Bucholtz, Genie Wilcox, Trude Davis, CherylAnn Craven-Lindblad, Les Bailey, Leonard Beasley, Jim Jarvis, Bill Carlson, and Ed Peterson. We thank all of you for taking the time to spend the evening with us.

Other introductions included the following: Grand Officers and Special appointments; Grand Representatives; Board of Directors; District Lecturers; Fifty year members; Past Matrons and Patrons; Visiting Fifty Year Members; Visiting Worthy Matrons and Patrons; Grand Escorts; House of Delegates; and Presiding Grand Officers of other Masonic Bodies.

Our regular meeting took place following the introductions. David Kochis, Secretary read our correspondence as well as the regrets of several who could not attend our meeting. Sharon Heintzen announced that our Tenth Annual Spaghetti Dinner will

be taking place at the Lodge on March 18th from 4:30 to 7. We will again be extending invitations to the local Firemen and Policemen to come share a meal with us.

Rita reported that we now have another resident assigned to us from the Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus located in Denver. The Chapter voted to provide for a monetary gift to take care some of her extra needs. We will be kept informed regarding any of her special needs. Members are encouraged to visit her when in the home.

It was also voted that our coin march tonight will go the International OES Ongoing Charity Project "Support for Service Dogs."

Millie Ramsay requested to approach the East. She asked that Shirley Day, Associate Grand Matron approach the East. Millie and David Ramsay presented her with a beautiful white Bible to be used when she is installed as Worthy Grand Matron next fall.

David Ramsay, Worthy Grand Patron gave his talk on Ruth, one of the five Star Points. It was quite interesting. Pat Mammenga, Worthy Grand Matron gave information about each one of the Past Grands who are members of Fountain Valley #155. She also talked about her experience a number of years ago when she and her husband were involved in going out West to a reservation with a few other couples. Their purpose was to help the people set up a Bible School. The day they arrived rain fell for the first time in months. Each day more children and families appeared to take part in the activities despite the rain. They went home feeling that their trip was successful and is one that remains memorable to them today.

Following the meeting all again retired to the lower level to enjoy cake and punch. Our next regular meeting will be on March 2nd. We hope to see you there.

On March 2, 2017 Fountain Valley #155 Order of Eastern Star held their first regular meeting of the month. All officers were present with the exception of Associate Conductress, Marshal, and Warder. Stephanie Fossinger filled in for Associate Conductress, Les Saylor for Marshal and Hassle Taylor for Warder. With officers and sideliners, there were twenty-eight present for the meeting. Elva Kochis escorted by her husband David carried in the Bible. Introductions were completed from the seats.

Members were reminded to send cards to both Fumiko and Tomi. Valerie reported that her mother is in a rehabilitation center now and is making progress with her walking. It was brought up that the Comedy Works Night is coming up soon. It is taking place in Denver and should be a fun time. Tickets are available.

Fountain Valley #155 is sponsoring our 10th Annual Fundraising Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, March 18, 2017 from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm. The cost is \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for Children under 12. Firefighters and policemen will get in free. We hope to see you there.

Communications were read. Worthy Grand Matron, Pat Mammenga sent a thank you to Fountain Valley for their successful Official Visit. We also received several invitations to other official

visits taking place in the next few months.

It was announced that the Past Matrons and Past Patrons Club will meet again on Tuesday April 4th at 11:30 at Fountain Valley. The meal will be prepared by Fountain Valley #155.

Our Chapter is sponsoring a lady who is in the Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus located in Denver. Rita Bucholtz reported that she likes to sew and would be happy to see visitors.

Our next meeting will be on March 16th and we will all enjoy having Daisy's Irish stew. Hope to see you there.

On March 16, 2017 Fountain Valley #155 conducted its second meeting of the month. C.T. Elliott served as the Worthy Patron as Russ Smith has recently had eye surgery. He should return for our next meeting. Others filling in included Les Saylor as Associate Patron, Shirley Day as Conductress, Sharon Heintzen as Associate Conductress, and Bill Carlson as Warder. Thank you again to all of those willing to serve. With seven on the sidelines we had a total of 25 in attendance.

Fumiko Fox is currently in the hospital and would like to have visitors. Reports regarding the youth organizations were given. These include Jobs Daughters, Rainbow for girls, and DeMolay for the young men. Jim Brehm reported that he has a fund raiser scheduled for March 29 at the local bowling alley. More information will be provided. Several Chapters are having Dine Outs as money makers.

Tomi Moneymaker escorted by Bill McKee carried out the Bible at the end of the meeting. All retired to



l-r: Bill McKee and Tomi Moneymaker



l-r: Daisy Saylor and her daughter, Tish Neagles

the lower level to have the Irish stew prepared by Daisy Saylor. Of course it was delicious as always with cornbread, cookies and punch. Our next meeting will be on April 6th. Hope to see you all there.

On April 6, 2017 Fountain Valley #155 Order of Eastern Star met for their first meeting of the month. All officers were present with the exception of the Marshall, Warder and Star Point, Ruth. Bob Harper filled in for the Marshall, Bill Carlson for the Warder, and Tomiko Moneymaker for Ruth. We had a total present of twenty-three officers and sideliners. Marsha Carlson escorted by her husband Bill Carlson carried in the Bible. Worthy Matron, Gloria Jaeger presided at the meeting.

Rita Bucholtz reported on our adopted member who is living in the Eastern Star Masonic Home in Denver. She had an Easter Card for all to sign. She hopes to get a group to go with her to visit in May. She will contact the facility regarding the best time and will report back at our next meeting.

Sharon Heintzen reported on our very successful Tenth Annual Spaghetti Dinner that was held on Saturday, March 18th. More than 100 meals were served. Thank you Sharon and Bill for all that you do for our Chapter!!

Jim Brehm reported on the fund raiser that took place at the local bowling alley on March 29th. It was well attended and fun for all. Thank you again Jim!!

Marsha Carlson announced that Centennial Chapter #58 will be hosting a Palm Sunday Pancake breakfast on April 9th at the Masonic Center located at 1150 Panorama Drive in Colorado Springs. The breakfast will be \$7 for adults and \$3 for children. The hours are 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hope to see you there.

Following our meeting, Sharon and Bill Heintzen served delicious pie, ice cream and punch. Our next meeting will be on April 20th. Hope to see you there!

On April 20, 2017 Worthy Matron, Gloria Jaeger prepared a meal that was served at 6:15 p.m. prior to our meeting. She was assisted by her Worthy Patron, Russ Smith. The meal consisted of chicken pot pie, a salad, delicious cheese break and punch. Thank you Gloria!!



l-r: Gloria Jaeger, Worthy Matron; Mary Lou Bailey from Centennial #58 and Janice McMullin from Ruxton #10



l-r: Russ Smith, Worthy Patron; Elva Kochis, Ruth; David Kochis, Secretary

All officers were present with the exception of the Treasurer and Warder. Zelda Klein filled in for the Treasurer and Bill Carlson

for the Warder. Thank you for both for your willingness to help when needed.

The minutes were read and approved by the Chapter. It was announced to the Chapter that one of our oldest members, Donald Chalmers, had passed away on April 6, 2017. Our condolences go out to the family.

Our Secretary, David Kochis read a letter from the Most Worthy Grand Matron, Helen Westmoreland regarding Regenerative Medicine. This is one of the General Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star philanthropic projects for 2015-2018. She is asking that Chapters make some contributions to this project if possible.

The Past Matrons and Past Patrons dinner scheduled for April 4th was cancelled due to bad weather and has been rescheduled for May 2nd at Fountain Valley Lodge. Hope to see you then.

Our next meeting is scheduled for May 4th. Bringing dessert for Friendship Night. It should be a fun time!!

GRATITUDE - Song Of Spring

by Anonymous

When I was a very little girl, my father's family would all gather at my great-grandmother's house for Sunday dinner after church every week. She lived down a mile-long dirt lane surrounded by acres of land and after dessert, I loved nothing more than to go for a walk and explore with my daddy. In the spring, whenever the fields at Grandma Sally's would fill with golden sprigs, he would pick one and ask 'Do you like butter? Let's check to see' and as the flower cast a yellow glow onto my chin, he would pronounce once again that yes, I liked butter. I would eagerly snatch it from his hand and after doing the same, confidently announce that he liked butter, too. Even with the 'butter' association, I somehow got it into my head that these flowers were called 'petercups' instead of buttercups. He seemed to find this hilarious and quite charming so long after I knew their proper name, I would chirp 'Petercups!' when he asked me what they were, just to watch his eyes crinkle with an adoring smile and feel the chuckle on his breath as he held the bloom under my chin. As I grew, we no longer played the butter game but instead made a game of who would find the first buttercup of the season to give to one another. Once I became a teenager and could no longer be bothered with such things, he would still present me with a bouquet of buttercups each spring.

My daddy left this world on May 20, 2007. Driving down the long country road to the cemetery in his funeral procession, I stared out the window in a teary fog, watching the green fields roll by. As the church came into view, I tried to focus my gaze onto anything but the blue tent and folding chairs that had been erected amongst the rows of headstones. And there, in the embankment across the church, grew a patch of buttercups. There, and only there, until weeks later did I see my harbingers of spring. My heart leapt with joy and plummeted into my stomach just as quickly while I choked back a sob. As I stepped out of the car and made my way to the place where my mother and sisters awaited me, I reminded my husband of the story of my 'petercups' and nodded after he asked if I wanted him to bring some to me. I sat through the graveside service with tissues and buttercups clutched in my hands. As we all made our way to the casket where my father lay to stand in

his presence one last time, I gently placed my unassuming, tiny yellow flowers near the large spray of vibrant red roses and said to my sister, 'He gave me my very first buttercup and I just gave him his last.' With those words, we clung to each other and sobbed, because she knew just what that meant. Something seemingly so insignificant a weed was the most profound and precious thing in the world to me in that moment. That little flower, to both my father and I, represented pure love and being so made it the perfect way to say goodbye. Even now, when I think of that day I do not recall the people there or the words spoken but I remember instead our last buttercups.

On a day in April, just a few days before my father's birthday, I was strolling through my backyard with my husband and daughters and staring out at the expanse of green grass that is peppered with the yellow blooms of dandelions. For no apparent reason, I paused and looked down at my feet and spotted a lone, golden flower. It was my first buttercup of the season and the only one in my entire yard. I know this because I have been awaiting their arrival with a mixture of dread and delight and as such, have been scanning my yard since the official beginning of spring. I kneeled down to the ground to reverently pluck the stem and whisper a prayer of thanks and love. As I did so, I noticed that the stem was unusually thick and strong with downy fur covering it and the leaves at the base looked like no other buttercup plant I have ever seen. I know that there are hundreds of species of Ranunculus and of course, that's why this one seemed so odd because I am simply unfamiliar with it. But as I held my 'petercup' between my fingers, I couldn't help but feel that my daddy had just given me the first buttercup of spring.

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IN HONOR OF MEMORIAL DAY

Life without the ones who serve their country proud, freely, and valantly would be a life void of love, dreams, freedom, a life void of the many treasures so many of us call life. Children, mates, cars, boats, planes, photos, books, stories, smiles, all a part of life. To those of you who wear the uniform of your country with pride today, and for those of you who wore the uniform in days past, these few words go out to you, and hope they bring life in its fullness unto you and yours.

You gave of yourself, to protect and keep that life which you had learned and begun to love. You gave of your family, you gave of your life, some came home, some never did, some live in our memories, some in our tears, taken in life both young and old, no score card to determine who went and who returned.

So accept these simple words of thanks.

Thank You...