



A-U-2 Review



APRIL

2021

ANNA PETERSON, WGM

THE RHYTHM OF LIFE

BOB HARPER, WGP



SISTERS AND BROTHERS,

Well here we are the first of April and just a couple of weeks ago I was busily shoveling 24" of snow from our driveway. Then the following Saturday we were washing cars on a beautiful 64 degree day. Then on Monday we were once again looking at a snow covered landscape. The trees were dressed in white cotton and the lawn was covered in a blanket of white. Ok, I won't mention the 6" of snow covering the car. As I left the house, I heard the weather forecast predicting more snow coming. But the good news was we'll have a beautiful day for our first Official Visit since the start of the pandemic more than a year ago. Who said there is no God and that spring isn't full of promises and surprises.

Of all the months of the year, I think that April is by far my favorite but it can also be the most unpredictable. One minute she fills our heart with warm spring breezes, tulips and daffodils. The next day, the weather man predicts cold winds, snow and ice and it seems as though winter will never end.

It's also a time when we prepare to celebrate two of the most sacred holidays in Judeo Christian tradition as those in the Christian faith prepare for Easter and our sisters and brothers of the Jewish faith prepare to celebrate Passover. Both traditions are about salvation, freedom and the fulfillment of God's promise. For Christians, it's about the resurrection of Jesus Christ and victory over death and sin and in the Jewish tradition it's about God's protection of His people and liberation from the tyranny of slavery and the establishment of His people in the Promised Land.

When you stop to think about it, spring is the time of year when all nature seems to celebrate the fulfillment of God's promise. It's embedded in the natural world and I think that's one of the reasons we all feel such a spirit of awakening and renewal during this time of year. It's as though nature itself whispers, "God Loves You" and He will keep his promise no
(cont' Page 2 Anna)

DEAR SISTERS AND BROTHERS,

I want to wish you and your families a Happy Easter as we remember the true meaning and significance of this very important holiday.

My goodness what a beautiful day. The sun was shining and the sky was clear not a dark cloud anywhere. No rain or snow and the temperature reached a pleasant 69°. From all the recent snow storms we've had, that provided much needed moisture, there are sprigs of green grass beginning to sprout. Soon the trees will be budding as well as flowers.

I hope all of you are and your families are well and have either gotten you vaccinations or have an appointment to get them. It will be so good to start meeting again and seeing one another. Continuing with OV's and where permitted having Chapter meetings. Being able to share fraternal relations in person again and enjoy the ritual of our order together. Some of the things we have missed so much these past 12 months.

The Worthy Grand Matron and I are excited about there being a Grand Chapter Session in September and as plans are still being finalized look forward for more information to come. I know we want you to join us in celebrating our wonderful order and enjoy the social gatherings offered by also attending the banquets.

There is also a "virtual race" that will be taking place in April as a money raising event. The details will be coming soon but it will be something fun and I'm told not overly intense or strenuous with different categories and ways to compete and complete. I hope you will sign up and participate take advantage of getting out of the house and enjoying the milder weather.

In closing, I again wish you and your family a Happy Easter. Fraternally,

Bob Harper, WGP



matter how cold and bitter the winter may have been. It is time to come out of our spiritual and physical bondage and begin to look forward to the Promised Land of milk and honey, eternal life and salvation”.

There will still be late snow, frost and cold to remind us that no matter how enthusiastic we are about our plans for planting the garden, we are not in control and winter's cold isn't over just yet. But have you noticed that after every spring storm, the snow melts quicker and the birds seem to fill the air with song and as the blanket of white recedes we see the vibrant colors of crocus and hyacinths to remind us that while God may allow challenges in our lives He will never forsake us and He will always remain faithful to His word.

This year as April calls the earth to reawaken, our Order is also beginning to hear and feel the song of Spring. After the isolation and separation brought about by the pandemic, our Chapters are opening up to in-person meetings and we are scheduling the remaining Official Visits and looking forward to September and a Colorado Grand Chapter Session. We still must be cautious and prudent in our actions so that we can remain healthy and safe as we begin our journey back to normal.

I'd like to close this article with the lyrics from a song which I think is appropriate not only for this season, but for these times

*“When the night has been too lonely
And the road has been too long
And you think that love is only
For the lucky and the strong
Just remember in the winter
Far beneath the bitter snow
Lies the seed that with the sun's love
In the spring becomes the rose.”*

Wishing you Happy Easter and a Joyous Passover.

God bless you all. Anna Peterson, WGM



IT'S OFFICIAL

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OFFICIAL VISIT REVISED SCHEDULE AS OF 3/16/21

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Date</u>
Hope #122 @Radiant 225 Acoma	March 27, 2021
Heritage #154 (Denver)	April 12, 2021
Cannon City #21	April 30, 2021
Centennial #58 (Colo. Springs)	May 1, 2021
Colorado #2 (Leadville)	May 7, 2021
Edith #62 (Yampa)	May 8, 2021
Manzanita #85 (Denver)	May 13, 2021
Silver Star #40 (Montrose)	May 15, 2021
Dawn #125 (Aurora)	May 18, 2021
Fountain Valley (Colorado Springs Temple) (WGP Homecoming)	May 22, 2021
Arene #124 (Denver) WGM Homecoming	June 5, 2021
Peace and Harmony #158 & LaPlata #83 (Joint Official at Durango)	June 12, 2021



Our Chapter Reporters

COLORADO #2 – LEADVILLE

Robert Trezise, PP- Reporter

Good News!!!! Brother George McCollum continues to make steady progress to heal from the double bypass surgery, which was performed in February. He is the Worthy Patron of Colorado #2 and says he will use the convalescence time to learn his part. After all, Official Visit is scheduled for May 7 and he will be ready.

There was no corned beef and cabbage at Colorado 2 because there was not a quorum to meet. Warmer weather and cessation of most of the storms, should bring back the membership. Some are still hiding out in Texas and Arizona, even though for a week, Leadville was warmer than both of these states.



The Education Committee is interviewing applicants for the Dessie Powell Scholarship for 2021. This is a \$1000 scholarship which may be renewed upon the student's request. Recently, one winner finished his studies a year early, which saved the Chapter \$1000. Corinthian Lodge #35 finished their interviews for the Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund Scholarship and for the local Gary Baker Scholarship, which is a one-time payment of \$3000.

GARDEN CITY #3 – GREELEY

Cheryl Ann, WM, PGM - Reporter Protem

Our Chapter is so happy to welcome into our fold, by initiation, Sister Savannah Krochalis. Under Good of the Order, the WM had Savannah escorted to the East to receive a very special gift from her Great Aunt Sue, who sent regrets that she could not attend this very special night. A letter

and a couple of text messages from Great Aunt Sue (better known as GAS by her nieces and nephews) were read and the family Eastern Star heirloom ring was



presented. You can only imagine the emotion that filled the room.

Thank you to all who attended our Annual St. Patrick's Smorgasbord FundRaiser Dinner. With dine-in and take out orders, we served 50 people. It is good to see that members and their family are wanting to get out of the house to enjoy good food, great fellowship and have some fun. Our next fund raiser dinner will be a Dinner Theater Playhouse on April 10. The actors are members from our Chapter, however we do have one who is from a neighboring Chapter. You don't want to miss this mini melodrama, as we welcome a PGP as our 'shotgun toter' Pa. Quite the character. Please see the brochure at the end of the Review. Please make your reservation ASAP, as we have limited seating.



Garden City celebrated its 135th Birthday Anniversary and honored the Past Matrons and Past Patrons this month. Greetings were jokes about birthdays. For example: What does every Happy Birthday end with? The WM, with the assistance of several officers, presented a short program, after which, the Past Matrons and Past Patrons were asked to assemble informally on the West marching line.

The WM and WP presented them with small food storage containers for the Sisters and the Brothers received magnetic bullet levels. After the meeting, birthday cupcakes and nachos, along with wonderful fellowship was enjoyed by all.



Brother Larry Moody spent some time in the hospital this past week with heart issues. His blood pressure was strong and steady, but his heart rate was extremely high. After a regimen of unsuccessful drugs, it was decided to put in a pace maker. He is now home and doing well. Sister Pam Park slipped on a slick step as she was coming out of her house. She fractured her Fibula and sprained her ankle. Pam reports that the doctor decided to not cut off her leg (haha), but instead told her that she would not have a cast, no boot, no brace and could lightly bear weight on the leg with the aid of crutches. And Sister Martha Sweigard is in the hospital. She has been bleeding for

several weeks and had not let anyone know. Hopefully the doctors will find the cause of the bleed and treat accordingly.



With the celebration of Easter next Sunday, our Chapter members leave you with this message.

*Happy Easter
To each of you
and your family.
May you be
blessed with the
gift of renewal.*

PUEBLO #7 - PUEBLO

Joanie Briggs, PM - Reporter

Springtime Happiness & Easter Joy to everyone! The month of March gave Coloradoans a run for our money, but we made it through!



WM Mary Beth Messer organized Chapter in filling 100 plastic Easter eggs to donate to Hope for Children, which is a local child foster care program. The eggs were filled to the brim with treats for little ones.

The eggs were donated to this program to be used in an Easter Egg Hunt. As well as eggs, WM Mary

Beth rounded up donations of suitcases for kids in this program. You may not realize it, but when children need to be removed from a home or other bad situation, their clothes, belongings, and/or toys (if they have any of these things) are usually thrown into trash bags or plastic grocery bags to carry. Sometimes, these children must be placed in several homes, prior to having the situation at their own home resolved, or being placed into a long-term foster home. This makes it



hard to hang on to clothes and belongings. WM Mary Beth put out the call, and received donations of 11 gently-used suitcases to be donated to the Pueblo County Department of Social Services to be given to kids going into foster placement. Many thanks to OES members in Pueblo, Colorado Springs, and Southern Colorado for stepping up!

Pueblo Chapter 7 is a co-sponsor for the Pueblo County Masonic Junior Achievement Awards ceremony, being held at the Pueblo Masonic Center, 126 Broadway, Pueblo, CO, on

Sunday, April 18, 2021. The awards are given to outstanding local high school juniors from all of the local area high schools in Pueblo County. Local Masonic Lodges provide engraved individual plaques for the Juniors, along with engraved name plates to be installed onto the recognition plaque at each school, and Pueblo Chapter 7 awards certificates to the Juniors for placement within portfolios. Certificates are presented to the students by our Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron, alongside representatives from the Masonic Lodges presenting plaques. This event is an open ceremony at the Lodge. Last year's ceremony was not able to be presented due to Covid restrictions, so awards and plaques were mailed out to students. However, this year, we are hopeful to have the in-person ceremony with a reduced number of sideliners.

Did someone say "ONIONS????!!!"



PUEBLO #7

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

ANNUAL VIDALIA ONION

SPRING TIME FUNDRAISER 2021

ORDER YOUR VIDALIA ONIONS NOW!

Farm Fresh from Georgia!

Amazingly sweet!

10# BAG \$15.00

Delivery will be confirmed when date is available.

Please pay for your onions when ordering to reserve delivery.

Contact members of Pueblo #7 OES to place your order, or for more info, contact Dawn McFall in Pueblo or Jill Quedenfeld in Denver.



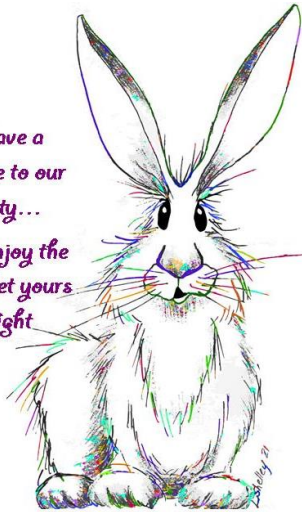
Thank you for generously supporting Pueblo Chapter 7!!! Many already know, but Pueblo Chapter 7 lost a beloved brother this morning. Brother Robert Smith PP lost his courageous battle to cancer on March 20, 2021. Please join our members in extending love, prayers, and great admiration to Andrea, her boys, and family during this time of loss. He will be greatly missed. Please consider sending cards of love to Andrea and her family. If you need the address, please let me know. My email is: cjbriggs@bresnan.net, my phone number is: 719-429-0063 for messages, texts, or calls.



COLLINS #26, FORT COLLINS

Lydia Shelley, PM - Reporter

*We all have a
colorful side to our
personality...
May you enjoy the
season and let yours
shine bright*



HAPPY EASTER

We had a WARM welcome from our Worthy Matron Sharon at our stated meeting of March 9th, 2021.

There were 12 members present and all introductions were well received.

The Membership is working hard to get their shots so that we can all get back to being at meetings in person.

It was announced that the Memorial Service for Lee Blooding, PGP will be held on Wednesday, May 26th. More details on time and location will be forthcoming.

A Memorial service for Geary Senter, PP, are still to be announced at a later date.

WM Sharon discussed the 30 days of Kindness Challenge: To spend 10 days for each category of Appreciation, Encouragement, and Support toward our members and friends.

Everyone enjoyed light refreshments after the meeting

SILVER STAR #40, MONTROSE

Suzanne Teague, PM Reporter



We are most happy to report that we have now held two months of in-person meetings.

At our last meeting, we were thrilled to initiate three new members!

Lynne Vickers Quint, a former Rainbow Girl and PWA from Lamar Rainbow Assembly and friend of Karen Anselmo (#145) and Lynne's daughter, Jacquie Myers and our own Mary Melton's daughter, Amber Holley were led single file, socially distanced, through the ceremony. We had wonderful visitors from Sunshine Chapter #53, Grand Junction, including Sharon Parrish, AGC and her escort, Nancy Erickson and the WM & WP from Edith Chapter #61, Yampa, Barbara and Larry Bond. It was also good to have PGP, Lloyd Hannah and Bridgett with us again. (They are missing Hawaii ☺!) It was a wonderful

meeting and so nice to be somewhat back to normal – with masks etc.!

We were saddened to drape our Charter for our 61-year member, Irma Briscoe. She was a faithful member of Spruce Chapter #129, Cedaredge, until they affiliated with Garnet Chapter #39 and eventually, we all ended up together! Like the Golden Chain, we will all be united in Heaven!

We also helped PM Martha Atchley celebrate her 102nd birthday! She was thrilled to receive so many cards! Her son was amazed and said, "There were so many from all over and they were mostly Eastern Star friends!" Thank you all for helping with this. It does mean a lot and we appreciate all who sent greetings.

The Hoey family is undergoing some "reconstructions"! Son, Pryce Hoey dislocated his right shoulder in a snow-mobile accident and will have it surgically repaired April 1st. His daughter and Shelley and Keith's



granddaughter will have reconstructive jaw surgery, also on the 1st and they will remove her tonsils (and she is a young lady!). Shelley will also have reconstructive hand surgery April 26th for severe carpal tunnel issues. So massive prayers for this family and the doctors who will care for them. Grandson Nate was pleased to ride in a local rodeo and came in third overall. He is headed back to college tomorrow after enjoying Spring Break.

Mary Ellen Harris reported the birth of a new great grandson and Shelley reported that preemie grand-niece finally left the hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at just under 5 pounds! Blessings all!

Bonnie Lou Lamb has been diagnosed with *h-pylori* and the antibiotic they have given her does not agree with her. She is toughing it out with only another week to go. Please keep her in your prayers.

We didn't get the snow you folks on the Eastern Slope did, but we are getting the wind! A 60 mph gust did some serious re-arranging in the middle of the night. We are happy to be welcoming Spring and doing our best to adjust to daylight savings time! We have wonderful new baby calves in our fields and lambs will start arriving soon! Next issue we will be mowing the lawn!

We send Blessed Easter Greetings to you all with our love and prayers.



SUNSHINE #53 – GRAND JUNCTION*Nancy Eriksen, PM - Reporter*

Presenting our newest member:

KayDee Fukuzawa who was initiated March 2 with the assistance of Silver Star members! We are so glad to have her with us!



Since I last wrote, things in Mesa County are coming along well....we are currently in Blue but I see a small rise in COVID cases so we shall see. The Sunshine Club is meeting again and it is sooo good to see these lovely ladies (and gents!). We meet once a month and, if you're in town, please feel free to stop by. Lunch is \$10 and we meet the 2nd Thursday at noon at the Temple. Call Fern Chase if you'd like to come...970-242-0566.

April is an odd month, we want it to be Spring and it isn't sure....Winter hangs on, sunnier days still have chilly nights and, of course in Colorado we never know what we'll get which is what makes living here such fun.

Sunshine Chapter has adopted a resident of the RRESMC and, if all goes as planned; we will deliver her an Easter Basket before Hope's OV on March 27. Looking forward to meeting her!

BREAKING NEWS!! Sunshine #53 has created a cookbook and you can have one for your *very own* for just \$15. Contact me (Nancy Eriksen (nancy.eriksen@yahoo.com), WM Stephanie Thorpe (thorpe65stephanie@gmail.com) or Sharon Parrish (sharon81504@outlook.com) to get yours! Since we are back to traveling (!) we will be glad to deliver.

Here's a porch picnic or barbeque salad that is great if you like Dill Pickles!

Dill Pickle Salad

½ lb dry shell pasta (about 3 cups)	¾ cup sliced pickles
2/3 cup diced cheddar cheese	½ cup pickle juice
2 tablespoons fresh dill	
3 tablespoons finely diced white onion	

Instructions:

1. Boil pasta al dente according to package directions. Run under cold water to stop cooking.
2. Toss cold pasta with about ½ cup of pickle juice and set aside for about 5 minutes. Drain and discard pickle juice.
3. Combine all dressing ingredients in a small bowl and mix well.
4. Toss all ingredients in a large bowl. Refrigerate at least 1 hour before serving.

Dressing:

2/3 cup mayonnaise	1/3 cup sour cream
¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper	4 tablespoons pickle juice
Salt and pepper to taste	

Enjoy your April and we will see you in May!

EXCELSIOR #66 – LAFAYETTE*Carol Danford, PM - Reporter*

On March 9th, Excelsior Chapter held our stated meeting. The highlight of the evening came when WM Nancy awarded a fifty year to our Sister Lois Thompson. Her daughter, Kathi DiMarco was present this special event.

Worthy Patron Arthur Light is at home, trying to gain strength and get back on his feet. Cynthia Gray had her third surgery and is on the mend.

Our Chapter did a courtesy funeral service for Sister Sunny Frazin from Arizona. She was a member of Excelsior until she moved to Arizona, several years ago. Margueritte Sommers stays in most of the time, since her legs give her lots of problems. She misses seeing everyone around the State.

On Saturday, April 17th at 1:30 P.M., at Radiant Temple, 225 Acoma Street, Denver, The Grand Officers will be performing Initiation for Excelsior Chapter. We hope to have four candidates! Information concerning this meeting will be posted on the OES site, once everything is in place. We are hoping to have a good attendance!



This is the Season for renewed Hope and Faith! Happy Easter to everyone around the State!

MANZANITA #85 - LITTLETON*Larry Wullbrandt, PGP - Reporter***HAPPY EASTER, ONE & ALL!!!**

"Happy Easter..May the renewal of life
At Easter bring new
Blessings of love, hope,
Peace, good health &
Happiness to you and
Your loved ones..
Embrace the renewal of life."
—Babz



This poem struck me as a message relevant to Eastern Star, especially as chapters are beginning to re-open. We will need to "Embrace the renewal of OES life". Attending chapter meetings was a pleasant habit that has been denied by Covid. I trust we have not become so accustomed to not meeting, that many will choose not to rekindle the habit, finding it easier to

just stay home. I'm sure it will take some effort by many to regain the comfort level needed to again meet in large groups.

March 25 marked our first in-person meeting since June 11, 2020. And we read a petition for membership from a lady who has been patiently waiting several months to join the Order. A great way to begin the remainder of this year. HOORAY!!!

April will be a busy month, so we must hit the ground running as our officers brush up on their memory & initiatory work. Our building occupancy limit is 40 persons, which shouldn't be a concern until our OV, May 13. I can't recall a meeting in recent years, except OV's, when our attendance was near 40 persons.

April 23 is the 100th Anniversary of the 'Laying of the Cornerstone' of Weston Masonic Temple. The lodge has planned a celebration however attendance is limited to Weston #22 members & a guest. Historical note – Weston Masonic Temple is the ONLY building in the Littleton Downtown Historic District still being used for its original purpose.

Be safe & take care of each other.

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

HERITAGE #154 - DENVER

Karen Wilson, WM- Reporter



A child was asked to write a book on the entire Bible, here's the **Children's Bible in a Nutshell**

In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness and some gas. The Bible says, "The Lord thy God is one", but I think he must be a lot older than that. Anyways, God said, "Give me a light" and someone did. Then God made the world.

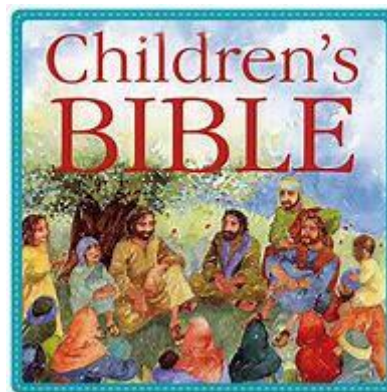
He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet. Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden. Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars. Adam and Eve had a son, Cain who hated his brother as long as he was Able.

Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something. One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham. Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked some other

people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check.

After Noah came Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother, Esau, because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat.

Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on



Pharaoh's people. These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels, and no cable.

God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti. Then he gave them his Top Ten Commandments. These include: don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance or covet

your neighbor's stuff. Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more: Humor thy father and thy mother.

One of Moses' best helpers was Joshua who was the first bible guy to use spies. Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over on the town. After Joshua came David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a slingshot. He had a son mane Solomon who had about 300 wives and 500 porcupines. My teacher says he was wise, but that doesn't sound very wise to me.

After Solomon there were a bunch of major league prophets. One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale and then barfed up on the shore. There were also some minor league prophets, but I guess we don't have to worry about them. After the Old Testament came the New Testament. Jesus is the star of the New. He was born in Bethlehem in a barn. (I wish I had been born in a barn too, because my mom is always saying to me, "Close the door! Were you born in a barn?" It would be nice to say, "As a matter of fact, I was"). During his life, Jesus had many arguments with sinners like the Pharisees and the Democrats.

Jesus also had twelve opossums. The worst one was Judas Asparagus. Judas was so evil that they named a terrible vegetable after him. Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Germans on the Mount. But the Democrats and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't even stick up for Jesus. He just washed his hands instead. Anyways, Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again. He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminum. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution.



BLAST FROM THE PAST

Way back in the day of Friendship Chapter (#137 in Arvada) we had Brother's night. It was always the meeting closest to Valentine's Day. For Brother's night, they provided refreshments, which we knew would be hotdogs (buns and all the fixin's). Oh, they also provided the entertainment. One year they did a fashion show for us. No, not a man's fashion show but a woman's. We were all having great fun with it and then I thought I would fall off my chair. Out comes my father as a flower girl. He was wearing one of my hats, one of my skirts, and was carrying a basket of flowers! They walked all the way around the chapter room (Arvada had a large room) so that everyone got a good look. Unfortunately, I do not have a picture of it but I do still have the skirt!

- submitted by Kaeleen Buckingham, PM #133

My Reminiscing and Memories from the "Treasures of Life" Grand Family

The celebration of our 25th year at Grand Chapter in 2019 was such a sweet memory with 17 of our family there to honor us. Although it was long, Ron and I were so pleased to hear everyone's fond moments. The "Oak Ridge Girls" performed and that brought me back to the first time they surprised Ron and I.

. . . . At Capitol Hill OV, Joan North was so excited; she had the Oak Ridge Boys to perform and then. . . Oh no. . . at the last minute they canceled. Joan said she had to come up with some kind of entertainment and was thrilled to introduce the "Oak Ridge Girls". Sisters Aggie Hayden, Dianne Bostwick, CherylAnn Craven and Gaylene Alton entered the Chapter room with top hats and canes and WOW!!! Did they put on a performance, lip syncing and dancing to the song 'Elvira', recorded by the real Oak Ridge Boys. Ron didn't have a clue about it and when Aggie left to go get dressed, Ron thought she was sick. Right before the performance, he almost went out to check on her. Gosh, that was almost 27 years ago and for several years after that the Oak Ridge Girls were known all over Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming.

Our travels took Ray and me and Ron and Aggie (in their van) to 100 Chapters all over Colorado. I am so glad Ron was able to be there for our 25th Anniversary at Grand Chapter.

- Submitted by Lina Byrd, PGM #145

6 Little Stories with Lots of Meaning

1. Once, all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is Faith.
2. When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That is trust.
3. Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but, still, we set alarms to wake up. That is hope.
4. We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is confidence.
5. We see the world suffering, but, still, we get married and have children. That is love.
6. On an old man's shirt was written a sentence, "I'm not 80 years old; I'm sweet 16 with 64 years of experience." That is attitude.

Have a happy day and live your life like these 6 stories. Remember - Good friends are the rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace!

- Submitted by Joanie Briggs, PM #7



From the Board of Directors

Over the last number of months your Board has met numerous times. Since our focus is all financial, we look at both short term (are the bills accurate and are they paid, do we have enough money in the bank to cover our upcoming expenses) to longer term matters such as *"How do we finance and control the cost of holding a Grand Chapter Session this year and what mechanism can we use working with upcoming Grand Line Officers to control costs and fund future Grand Chapter Sessions."* *"How do we hold future grand sessions"* with issues such as increasing hotel and meal costs, decreasing attendance while being required to remain in the Metro area per the Bylaws. Most hotels are not interested in hosting our event so the prices just keep going up. We have discussed ways to resolve, and all of them have good and challenging aspects. Following are a few of the options we are considering:

1. Modify the bylaws to allow us to gather anywhere in the state where we might find less expensive accommodations and meal prices. This option would allow us to be more efficient no matter what kind of session we decide to pursue.

2. Changing the way we do grand chapter and hold our sessions in a large chapter room or other non-hotel facility.

The good news is that our Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron are committed to holding a Grand Chapter Session in September of 2021 and the Board is working closely with them to negotiate the expenses of the Session and identify a venue that will allow our membership to be excited about coming together once again after the seclusion of the pandemic. We are all very excited about the possibilities of 2021.

Other exciting news is that while we were all isolated a few of our members have been working on updates to the <https://oes-colorado.org/> web site. The home page is open to anyone and contains information about the order that we hope will be of interest to potential new members as well as to our membership. The members only section (which will require a login and password) is moving forward quickly and soon we will be offering training for that section. If you have Grand Chapter pictures you could share for us to use on the home page, please send them to:

georgeb@bcconsulting.com. Each chapter will have a page in the member only section and it will be populated with the information in the green roster. If you would like additional information or a picture please send to georgeb@bcconsulting.com. We would love to have these updates complete by the end of April.

The other exciting news is that starting in April we will be hosting a "virtual race" to raise some money. We will be inviting you to get outdoors and walk, run or whatever. You will be able to do this by yourself or with a friend. Please be looking for more information on how this will work and get ready to enjoy the great outdoors.

You can always reach the board at oesboardofdirectors@oes-colorado.org and you will find this on the home section of the web site.

- Submitted by Betty Benson, PM
- Secretary of the Board

The History of the

EASTERN STAR MASONIC RETIREMENT CAMPUS

This history is compiled from several papers and proceedings.

Submitted and written by Jim Jarvis, PGP,
and Vice Chairman of the ESMRC - Board of Trustees

The History of the "Home " began with a vision of Right Worthy Grand Matron, Mary Berry. Her vision was presented at the eighth Annual Session of the Grand Chapter on September 21, 1900.



"Whereas the Order of the Eastern Star has become well established in Colorado, and as one of the principal objects of the Order is Charity, I would suggest that a special committee be appointed by the incoming Grand Matron, looking toward the formation of some plan whereby this Grand Chapter of the subordinate Chapters, in connection with the Masonic Brotherhood, might accumulate a fund for the organization of a Masonic Home for indigent

Master Masons, their widows, orphans, and Eastern Star Members. And as our Ritual teaches, 'the Order exists for the purpose of giving practical effect to one of the most beneficent purposes of Free Masonry, which is to provide for the welfare of the wives, daughters, and widows of Master Masons, ' now let us show ' that woman's heart beats responsive to the same inspiration that prompts man to noble deeds. During the past years, I have seen the need for a home or some temporary shelter for those who were worthy and who had a right to look to us for assistance, and it seems to me quite appropriate that this Grand Chapter should at this time take some action in the matter. "



Twenty-five years later, at the Thirty Third Annual Session of the Grand Chapter of Colorado, an amendment to the By-Laws was proposed for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a Home for the aged members of Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction. Following the approval of the By-laws amendment, a Board of Three Trustees was elected to manage the program of building the Eastern Star Home.

In November of the same year, Brother Robert Russell, a member of Weston Lodge #22 A F. & A.M., located in Littleton, CO, saw the opportunity for his dream of a home for the aged and indigent members of the Masonic Fraternity to become a reality. He donated 800 acres of his University Ranch to the Masonic Grand Lodge of Colorado and the Grand Chapter of Colorado, OES, with the stipulation that a Home be erected no later than July 1, 1927. Due to insufficient building funds, Mr. Russell granted an extension to the Grand Chapter so that funds could be raised. This was the beginning of an effective fundraising campaign by members of Eastern Star. Many chapters and individuals worked diligently to raise funds to build the Eastern Star Home. On October 2, 1925, the Matrons and Patrons of Denver Chapters met and formulated plans for a Grand Ball to raise funds for

the OES Home Fund. They netted \$3,580.91. Each year the Annual Ball was held and averaged approximately \$3,500.00.

The Board of Trustees (BOT) let the contract for the foundation of the Home, on September 2, 1930, and September 18, 1930, the cornerstone was laid by Horace H. Mitchell, Most Worshipful Grand Master, assisted by Worthy Grand Matron (WGM) Sister, Irene L. Ellwanger, and Worthy Grand Patron (WGP), Guy M. Hanner. Mr. Russell was present at this occasion but no amount of persuasion could induce him to lay aside his modesty and be presented so that due credit for his generosity might be accorded him.

The 1931 proceedings reported the cost of the building to be \$54,976.43. The structure was designed in Early English Architecture. The Home consisted of 17 single rooms and 5 double rooms, accommodating 27 guests. On the first floor was a large living room, dining room, and kitchen, plus the Matron's living quarters and some guest rooms. The second floor contained guest rooms, the infirmary, a sun porch, a lounge, and a balcony. The basement consisted of a Chapter room, laundry room, sewing room, three live-in rooms for employees, three storage rooms, a root cellar, and the heating plant.

The Home was dedicated on September 13, 1931, by WGM, Kate C. Adams, and WGP, J. Fred Kamm. The Home officially opened on September 28, 1931, with 12 guests who had been approved by the Board of Trustees. The Home as self-sustaining for many years. The land surrounding the Home was used to produce grain and for grazing of the livestock. The items produced on the farm were consumed by the residents and some sold for other sources of income.

As the years passed, applications for admission to the Home exceeded the space available and in 1946, a Ways and Means Committee was appointed to raise funds for an addition. The groundbreaking ceremony was held, June 20, 1948, but due to insufficient funds, this addition was not built at this time.

By 1952, there was such an influx of applications, the Board decided to remodel the basement to accommodate some of those who were in dire need of a Home. The Chapter room was not being used and was converted into four single rooms. The rooms reserved for employees were unused for that purpose, making 7 rooms available to those on the waiting list.

The need for more rooms was still evident and the health and fire departments were frowning on residents living in the basement. Money-making projects were encouraged and by June 18, 1954,

there was enough money to have the second groundbreaking for the South Wing. Dedication for the \$75,000 South Wing was held June 19, 1955. The first level consisted of twelve private rooms, a bathroom, lounge, and patio. The lower level was designed as the residence for the manager. It was a two-bedroom apartment. Adjacent to it was a Board Room with. Manager's office and a storage room which was later converted into a bedroom.

In 1954, a Beauty Shop was the special project of the Worthy Grand Matron, Ella P. Todd. This shop was furnished by her project. Since this initial project, the Beauty Shop has been remodeled and refurbished several times. In 1972, Manzanita Chapter No. 85, purchased new equipment, and in 1983 the Friendship Matrons and Patrons (of 1980-1981) remodeled and repainted it.

In 1957, there were still more applications than rooms available. The WGM proposed a North Wing Addition of thirteen private guest rooms, a spacious hall, a small lounge, and a patio. The basement would be a large storage room and workshop. The wing was completed and dedicated by WGM, Geneva Archbold, on June 7, 1959, for \$68,000. At this time, it was deemed advisable to use the double rooms as single rooms and to discontinue using the basement rooms and move the guests to the upper levels. With the addition of more rooms, the kitchen, dining room, and living room were too small to accommodate the number of people now living in the Home. It was necessary to enlarge these areas which was done in 1959.

Realizing that an Endowment Fund should be established to provide funds for the maintenance of the Home, the Fund was established, August 1, 1958. Only the income from the Fund and none of the principal may be used. 10% of the income from the Fund is returned to the Principal Fund each year. In December 1965, a three-stop elevator was installed and in 1966 an underground sprinkler system was installed in the yard surrounding the Home. During the next several years, many smaller projects were accomplished; and, to comply with the Fire Department Code, the open stairways had to be enclosed to meet their regulations and certain doors had to be replaced with fire doors.

The waiting list continued to grow and in 1976, the East Wing of 10 large private rooms was started through the generous gift of Past Grand Matron, Grace S. Miller, of Lorraine Chapter #52 of Brighton. The lovely Chapel was incorporated into the East Wing by the estate of a member, of Radiant Chapter

No. 12; this estate had been designated for the Chapel.



The office of Grand Chapter had been located at 1614 Welton Street and was moved to the lower level of the new wing. Since the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer were responsible for keeping the books for the Home, it was nice to have all Eastern Star business together in one building.

When the East Wing was completed, all the furniture for Grand Chapter was refinished as well as two library tables, which had been in the Home since 1931. These tables are now in the lounge just outside the Chapel and the two lamps in the lounge were donated by Washington Park Chapter #126 in 1931.

The cornerstone for the East wing was laid on August 18, 1976, by Brother Jess Gern, Most Worshipful Grand Master. Sister Berniece Nickson and Harold Brown were WGM and WGP. The East wing increased the capacity of the Home to 55 residents. At the writing of this Part of our history, some of the rooms had been turned into offices, decreasing the resident rooms to 48. A four-car garage was built in 1977. Through the years the need for a shop was apparent and the garage is currently used for this purpose.

The Fire Department made their yearly inspection in 1981. Since their last inspection, their regulations had changed for institutions, retirement homes, nursing homes, etc. Several items needed correction, they were: fire-rated doors in the original building; close all transoms above the doors; install a sprinkler system on the second floor; smoke detectors throughout the building in every room; a fire alarm system throughout the building to be connected directly with the fire department; and, the fire code for the kitchen was different and now required new fire prevention equipment. Although the changes were made, fire extinguishers are still required throughout the building. The cost of all these changes was very expensive. In 1982, Worthy Grand Matron, Helen Pierson's love project was an intercom system to each room from the Main Office.

There was money left to redecorate the Hall on the Second Floor.

Sister Betty Walker, WGM, and Brother Bill Parrish, WGP, in 1983 chose as their major project, the Home Endowment Fund. Their efforts, under the direction of Bill Carlson, netted \$22, 740. The Colorado legislature passed a statute governing Life Care Centers in 1981. This act imposed upon the Colorado Order of Eastern Star the responsibility to make changes in the legal and organizational structure of the Eastern Star Home. In 1983, a vote of this Grand Jurisdiction accepted the adoption of the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws for Incorporation. The Amendments to the Constitution Governing the Grand Chapter of Colorado, O.E.S., reflect the necessary changes for the election of the members of the Board of Trustees. It was at this session that the delegate system was adopted.

At the offsite meeting of the Board of Trustees in October 1986, it was decided that the undeveloped land surrounding the home should be developed. Since several offers had been received to purchase this land by developers, it forced the issue of what should be done. The members attending this offsite meeting decided that we should attempt to develop the land ourselves. At the September 1987 House of Delegates (HOD) meeting, it was unanimously voted for the Board to proceed with their plans for the development of the land. The Ground Breaking ceremony for the Star Vista Village was held in 1988, with Sister Ruth Richard, WGM, and Brother Sam Holland, WGP, performing the honors. The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Star Vista Village was held on September 20, 1989, with Sister Judy Domenico, WGM, and Brother Lee Blooding, WGP, cutting the ribbon.

Those in attendance were members of Eastern Star and Grand Lodge. At this time, plans for 30 duplex units of independent living have been completed.

The Decade of Decision was a capital fund-raising campaign the proceeds of which were to be used exclusively for the nursing care facility, the kitchen and dining room complex, and the remodeling of the existing Robert Russell Home. The campaign total was \$3,000,000.

In 1997, a special "Picture Us" photo album was sold and half the proceeds were donated to the

Endowment Fund. The Center opened their services to the Community and the Home was granted a license for HCBS (Home and Community Based Services) of 16 beds. As a licensed I-TBS facility, we could now accept Medicaid. At the Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates, the members voted to include representation from the Masonic Grand Lodge of Colorado. There are to be four members on the Board appointed by the Grand Master. January 1998, the Grand Lodge voted to join the Center.

In 2011 to keep the Home valuable in the Denver market we needed to upgrade the rooms after a study was conducted it was decided to add a new building. On September 28th we broke ground for the Mary Barry Building, that would contain 16 room in a Memory Care Unit, 44 rooms of Assisted Living, a new Kitchen and Dining Room, a meeting room, and a theater. The Mary Barry Building opened in 2014. In 2018 on the advice of the BOT's lawyer, that we should not allow the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter to appoint or elect members of the BOT as this would open them up to suits against the Home. This move was to distance the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter so if there is a suit against the Home, they would not be able to collect money from the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter accounts. So now the HOD elects the members to the BOT from applications submitted by those interested in being on the BOT.

In 2019 the BOT started plans to replace the rooms in the Robert Russell Building the first phase would be to build an Assisted Living Building then move the residence of the Robert Russell Building into the new Assisted Living Building. Things were in place to start the project but Covid-19 happen and all plans have been put on hold.

The House of Delegates is made up of members of Masonic Lodges and Eastern Star Chapters. Each chartered Lodge and OES Chapter, in good standing, and Star Vista Village shall be entitled to one Representative. The Worthy Matron may appoint a Chapter Member as a House of Delegate and notify Larry Lillo – Executive Director by Email: larryl@esmrc.com or send a letter to Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus, Attn. Larry Lillo, 2435 South Quebec Street, Denver Colorado 80231. The House of Delegates meets the third Saturday of January, March, June, and October at the annual



meeting. The BOT is now elected by the House of Delegates from those that apply. You can be a part of this by being on the HOD or submitting an application to be a member of the Board of Trustees, the application can be found on the website.

What does every Happy Birthday end with?
The letter "Y"

An Easter Prayer

God, give us eyes to see
the beauty of the Spring,
And to behold Your majesty
in every living thing -

And may we see in lacy leaves
and every budding flower
The Hand that rules the universe
with gentleness and power -

And may this Easter grandeur
that Spring lavishly imparts
Awaken faded flowers of faith
lying dormant in our hearts,

And give us ears to hear, dear God,
the Springtime song of birds
With messages more meaningful
than man's often empty words

Telling harried human beings
who are lost in dark despair -
'Be like us and do not worry
for God has you in His care.

~ Author : Helen Steiner Rice

Y por i e



Nubia Group
Touch your Heart



COLORADO OES CHALLENGE

The Grand Chapter of Colorado Order of the Eastern Star is both pleased and excited to announce A special VIRTUAL run, walk, push challenge!

This event is meant to get participants outdoors and active while raising funds for Grand Chapter and our Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron's charities.

A virtual race can be done anywhere you want between April 15 and May 15. Sign up for 1 or more events:



Century Mile is a commitment to run, walk, whatever for 1 mile. You can honor a past OES member or family member by walking with them, or carrying a sign identifying them. Why not invite your chapter members, neighbors, or friends to register & participate with you? Like a parade!



Walking with the Stars is a **2-person team event**. Walk with a less ambulatory person (wheelchair, walker, cane) as a team of 2. Register quantity of 1 is for a team of 2 people. Time limit up to 1 hr. Take a parent or grandparent for a walk with the stars – they will appreciate it greatly!!!



5 star 5K is a 5K (or 3.1 mi) event. This **Challenge can be done individually** but you can get others to register and participate with you. Get your school, chapter, or other group friends to register and participate with you!



How to register:

1. Go to <https://coloradooeschallenge.itsyourrace.com> and click on the event of your choice.
2. Complete the registration form and click the **"Register Now"** button.
3. Pay for your registration.
4. Decide if you will use the mobile application to track your time or if you will manually track and post it to the web site. Download the application if you will be using that.
5. Enter your finish time before end of day May 15. Certificates of completion and prizes will be awarded on May 16.

If you cannot register online, please contact
George Benson 303 513-1344 georgeb@bcconsulting.com or
Betty Benson 303 507-3025 betty.benson@outlook.com

The first 50 OES members to register will receive a new OES logo pin. There will also be door prizes awarded randomly (all to be picked up at Grand Chapter).

You don't have to register for a race to make a donation to one of the charities. Just click the "Donate here" button.



Garden City Restaurant's

Dinner Playhouse Theater

Presents

"THE

VALIANT

VILLAIN"



APRIL 10, 2021

CENTURY MASONIC HALL

2532 9TH AVENUE; GREELEY

SEATING WILL BEGIN AT

5:00 pm

DINNER WILL BE SERVED FROM

5:00 pm – 5:30 pm

THE SHOW WILL START AT ABOUT

6:15 pm

Reservations are required and must be made no later than April 8, 2021

Seating is limited to the first 40 guests

Call or text CherylAnn at
970-396-3364

Entre' choices:
Swiss Steak or Pork Loin
\$10.00

