



# A-U-2 Review



JANUARY

2021

ANNA PETERSON, WGM

THE RHYTHM OF LIFE

BOB HARPER, WGP



## !! HAPPY NEW YEAR !!

**SISTERS AND BROTHERS,**

As I write this article, Christmas 2020 has come and gone and is but a memory and New Year Day 2021 may be as well. Now we stand on the threshold of a New Year and one in which I pray that

we will once again able to meet and greet each other in a manner of love and friendship that is the corner stone of our organization. This past year has been a year full of challenges, to say the least, but it has also been one of spiritual growth and a time to stop and think about the blessings that we so easily took for granted in the past. Such simple things as a smile, a song, or a hug which fills our life with sunshine and happy memories and when the pandemic took them away it left a hole in our hearts that I hope and pray 2021 can fill.

I am reminded of a quote by Winston Churchill. After the allied invasion of Europe, the war was still raging but the tide was turning and he said, "This is not the end or even the beginning of the end, but it is the end of the beginning." I think that's where we are now.

My hope and prayer for each one of you and our organization, as well as our country and for the world is that with faith and hope in the love and wisdom of

(cont' Page 2 Anna)

**DEAR SISTERS AND BROTHERS,**

I hope all of you had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The holiday time of the year is always a time of reflection. Not just for the year that is about to end but, of past holiday seasons and many happy and memorable events.

Spending a few moments in the quiet of the evening taking a stroll down "memory lane" can't help but put a smile on your face. I know it does for me. Recalling the excitement in her voice and the look on her face, when my daughter found a baby stroller and doll she had asked for, under the Christmas tree. Or the reaction of my son at finding his bicycle he wanted on Christmas morning. His brother delighting over a Nintendo game, and sister over a pair of ice skates.

Waiting for the children to fall asleep (all five) so I could finish assembling gifts and wrapping them, some years until late into the night, finally getting to bed for what was an all to short time before the first of them woke up. All a part of being Dad and I wouldn't have traded one minute. Looking back, these were great times.

Doing the best we could this year with Zoom and phone calls still allowed us to be together. I still

(cont' Page 2 Bob)



our God, no matter how you see Him, we will emerge from these times stronger in our faith, wiser in the decisions we make and more appreciative of the little things that mean so much in the rhythm of our life.

I would like to leave you with a couple of verses taken from one of my favorite Christmas songs "Promises to Keep".

*"Christmas time and the year will soon be leaving  
Cloaked in time till it's just a memory  
Christmas stays if we don't forget its meaning  
Days go quickly by  
Years they multiply  
And we go searching for thee  
And the dream is still alive  
From that first December morning  
And it always will survive  
As long as we can see  
That the dreams we find in life  
Are the dreams we tend to seek  
And Christmas has its promises to keep"*

May God richly bless you, strengthen your faith and keep you safe.

Happy New Year!!!

*Anna Peterson, WGM*

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to COVID, the Official Visit scheduled for January 16, 2021 at Heritagae #154, Denver, has been postponed. A rescheduled date will be forthcoming for this OV, as well as for Hope #122, Bennett, which was also postponed.

stayed up past midnight on Christmas Eve. Old habits, you know. Who would have eaten a cookie or drank the milk.

This year we have the hope of returning slowly to what we know is a more normal life style. Being able to resume some of familiar things we are used to doing. The vaccines that have been approved by the FDA are a major step in helping us achieve that goal, but I urge you to be patient and continue to follow the best practice guidelines that have been established. Continue to heed the advice of the Medical Professionals.

I'm sure we all have realized how close we have become, and accustomed to the fraternal relations of our Eastern Star Family. Especially after having to refrain from being together for such long a time. Meeting and seeing one another in person, handshakes and hugs, eating together, being able to converse face to face are all a very familiar and important part of Eastern Star. Stay the course and we'll get there. There is a faint light that can be seen at the end of the tunnel.

Fraternally yours

*Bob Harper, WGP*

*Welcome 2021*



On behalf of the Glenn Monroe Youth Scholarship Committee:

As our students finish their Fall semester, we will get updates from the current recipients and check in on past recipients. Our first update will be from our recipient who is a member of Demolay International and attends University of Colorado Springs.

Greetings and Happy Holidays,

This past year I was blessed to receive the Glenn Monroe Scholarship and it went a long way towards helping me attend college at the University of Colorado: Colorado Springs. I am soon to be finishing my Junior year in college! My major is in Computer Science and it has plenty of work cut out for me. The semester has been pretty rough with COVID. The virtual learning environment makes it extra difficult to focus and retain information from lectures. There has been a light at the end of the tunnel and though finals are not quite over yet, I do have A's in all of my classes and a cumulative 3.96 GPA.

I had a particularly tough time with a class on x86 Assembly and Computer Architecture. While it's difficult to explain without a lot of technical jargon, it involved a lot of work with computer memory in just 0s and 1s. This next spring, I get to look forward to wonderful classes like Concepts of Programming Languages, and Computing Ethics, and more.

I want to thank you all for your wonderful support during this time. I hope you are all safe and happy, and I wish you all a merry set of holidays!

Fraternally yours,  
Seaghan E

We would like to thank you brothers and sisters for continuing to support the Masonic youth of Colorado and to continue to donate to the worthy cause of education. As we start to become active again, if given the chance, please help where you can and thank you for continuing support the masonic youth.

Star Regards,

Glenn Monroe Youth Committee

Ellie Brooks, chair

Joe Paseka

Kelly Baines

PS- Should anyone have any history of the Glenn Monroe Scholarship please reach out to the committee chair, Ellie Brooks, PM. Brooks.ej@gmail.com



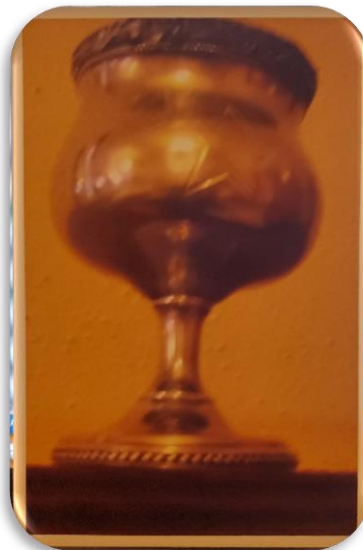
## Our Chapter Reporters

### COLORADO #2 – LEADVILLE

*Robert Trezise, PP- Reporter*

Colorado #2's Christmas meeting was festive with an outstanding potluck super and disposition of Chapter business. Per the by-laws, the second meeting is not held because of the proximity to the holidays. Brother Bob Trezise played a medley of Christmas music including "Silent Night", "Drummer Boy", "White Christmas", "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" and finishing with "O Holy Night".

The Chapter donated \$300 to the Mini-Blessings project, which makes appearances with therapy mini horses. Sister Judy Epperson s involved with this organization.



The artifact of the month is Electa's cup (actually a chalice) which Colorado 2 used from its beginning in 1882 and for many years later. It is silverplate and inside the base is engraved "Richfield Plate Co Quadruple 422".

Final numbers for the wreath fund raiser will be available in the next issue.

### GARDEN CITY #3 – GREELEY

*CherylAnn, WM - Reporter Protem*

There is not much news to report from our Chapter this month. The Worthy Matron honored Adah and Martha this month. She gave a talk about these Star Points, giving us some unusual information and background history, not necessarily found in our ritual, but with some references in the Bible.

Our Worthy Matron treated the Officers with a Chili and soup supper prior to the meeting on the 22nd. It was so nice to enjoy some meaningful, long needed fellowship, observing social distancing, of course.

It is our hope that Garden City will be able to do traditional and a couple of new fundraiser ideas in the Spring (covid permitting), starting with a Valentine's Dinner on February 6; Annual Smorgasbord Dinner on March 6; and our 1<sup>st</sup> annual Dinner/Theater on April 10. Watch for more information in the coming months.

Our Chapter, along with all of the Eastern Star world was saddened to hear of the loss of our dear Brother Howard Stoddard. Our love and Sympathy go out to lone and their two daughters. Howard was such a caring man. As we draped the Altar in memory of our Brother, we know that he will live forever in our hearts and among his Eastern Star family, we will fondly remember his tardiness to most of the Official Visits.

Instead of creating a New Year's Resolution, which we hardly ever keep and fail within the first week, how about doing a

New Year's Word.

Example: Exercise.  
Exercise clean thoughts. Exercise a positive attitude. Exercise kind words. Exercise generosity. Exercise helping a friend in need. Exercise anything your heart desires to make this world a better place. I would

bet that by choosing one action word as your Resolution, you will be less likely to fail. Think about it.

May 2021 be a year of hope for a better tomorrow, a year of faith in the One above, a year of loving your neighbor and a year of peace among all of God's children and within yourself.

Happy New Year. Be safe. Stay healthy.



Christmas Greetings!

It's Christmas in Montrose.  
There's snow on the ground.  
The Chapter is silent,  
as COVID abounds!

We chat with each other  
every day or two.  
We spread the news on e-mail  
...that which is new.

Not much is happening,  
since we are *all* staying home.  
Gee, how we wish  
we could get out and roam!

We miss seeing the faces  
of people we greet.  
Can't tell if they are smiling?  
Oh how we wish we could meet!

But our homes are *all* decorated,  
the tree beautifully lit.  
The cookies are baked  
and the cards are *all* writ!

So *all* that is left  
is to send greetings of cheer.  
Wishing you *all* Merry Christmas  
And a Happy New Year!

SUNSHINE #53 – GRAND JUNCTION

*Nancy Eriksen, PM - Reporter*

FINALLY! It's nearly over. I read something the other day that stated "I'm going to stay up all night on New Year's Eve just to be sure 2020 really leaves." I know that many of us feel exactly this way. No hugging, no face to face visiting, no Ritualistic work to keep us grounded. I won't miss all that at all!

Sunshine has been dark sine our last October meeting but on December 12, some of us got together (gloves and masks) and made up cookie boxes for our shut-in members and others. A total of 15 boxes were delivered and the short visits were wonderful. Thank you to all who donated cookies and time for this project.

Discussion is going on as to when we can meet again. Possibly in January and we are so looking forward to this!

Happy Holidays from all of us at Sunshine #53.

EXCELSIOR #66 – LAFAYETTE

*Carol Danford, PM - Reporter*

Belated Merry Christmas

And

Happy New Year

It's been a quiet month for our Chapter. We had our regular Zoom meeting on December 8th. Not much out of the normal to report.

All of our members were getting ready for the Holidays. Things will be so different this year.

We wish all our members around the state, the best Christmas Season possible.

An email will be sent concerning the possibility of a January 12th Zoom meeting.

Let's HOPE for 2021 that things will become normal once more!

MANZANITA #85 - LITTLETON

*Larry Wullbrandt, PGP - Reporter*

**WELCOME, WELCOME 2021!**

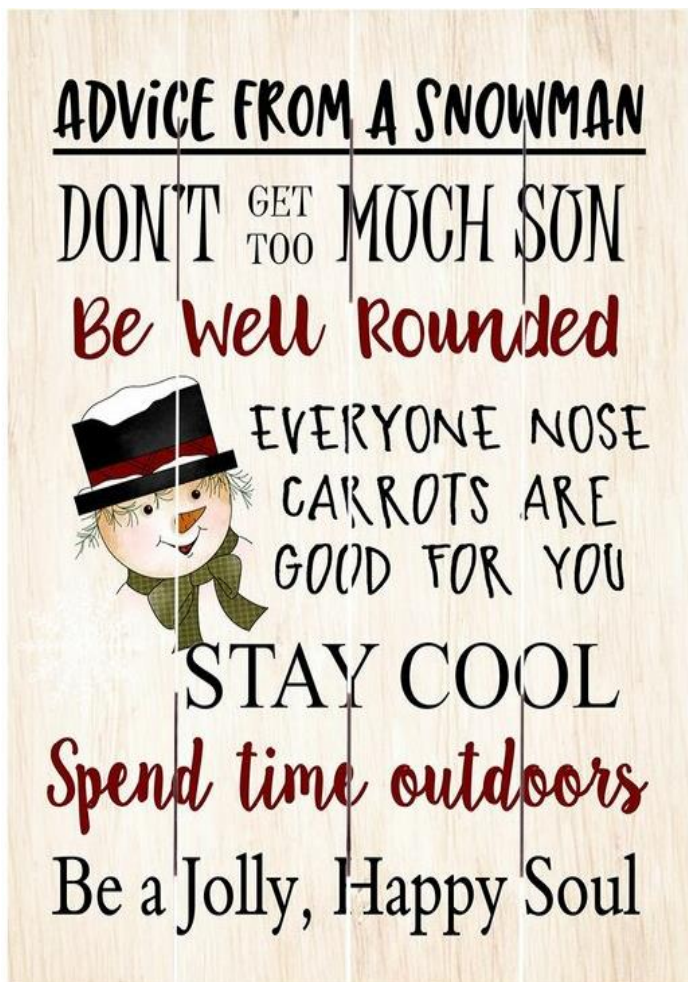
**MAY YOU EACH HAVE A HEALTHY,  
PROSPEROUS, AND SAFE NEW YEAR.**

CONCERNS – Since our previous article, Manzanita Chapter has lost another member. Sister Virginia 'Jean' Garrett died very unexpectedly from a heart attack on Dec. 4.

I can't remember ever wishing that one year would end and another begin until just now. But I, for one, am ready for 2020 to become a distant memory.

As I was calling family recently to share the news that we wouldn't be hosting our annual Christmas day gathering this year, memories of Christmases past came to mind. When I was a young lad, Christmas was often spent with my Mother's family in York, Nebraska, where my grandparents, aunts, uncles & cousins lived.

On Christmas eve, after having worked all day, Mother & Dad loaded the car, a 1938 Oldsmobile, with suitcases & gifts and we set off on our 450-mile, ten-hour road trip. Our route took us to Sterling, CO via US-6, Big Springs, NE via US-136 and York, NE via US-30. These were 2 lane highways; no rest stops every 40 or so miles and few, if any, gas stations between towns. Even with the other travelers on the road we felt isolated. As



night fell, the stars were brilliant and the yard lights from the occasional farm house were welcome sights. The hum of the tires on the asphalt became almost mesmerizing. To pass the time, we listened to Country music broadcast by a super powerful AM Radio station, located in South Texas. And we actually talked and listened to each other! The sky began to lighten in the East as we were nearing our destination and the anticipation of seeing family again grew within each of us.



As the only grandson, I especially looked forward to the hugs & attention from my grandmother and aunts.

Soon after we arrived, the house began bustling with activity. The ladies were preparing the Christmas feast we would enjoy later, and the men were

busy with morning chores. Somehow during what seemed like organized chaos everyone greeted everyone else with hugs, handshakes & kisses. Some of us had not seen each other since last Christmas and there was so much news to catch up on. The day seemed to pass too quickly.

A sumptuous meal was shared, gifts exchanged, and the conversation continued non-stop into the night. No one wished this joyous time together to end. Unfortunately, the best of times does come to an end and after a good night's sleep we said our good-bye's and retraced the road back home.

We each carry memories of times past and it's great to reminisce. My favorite memories are of time spent with family and loved ones. Those of us who share the experience of Eastern Star are doubly blessed with an extended family.

The thing I will regret most this Christmas day is not being able to spend time with many of my family. In the words of Charles Dickens with-in his classic, *A Christmas Carol*: *"Reflect upon your present blessings—of which every man has many—not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some."*

God Bless Us Everyone!

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

Well, the New Year has finally arrived! Thank goodness we've made it through 2020 and hope to never again have a year like that!

This has been such a rough year for Dawn Chapter members. First, our Sister Carrie Andree is happy to finally be home from the hospital, having been admitted after a couple of weeks of not feeling well. She had multiple pulmonary embolisms, as well as a build-up of fluids in her abdomen. She's still waiting for some test results, but is glad that she is home before Christmas, even though they sent her home with a large supply of oxygen & equipment!

We would also continue to ask for prayers for our dear Treasurer, Amy Raia, as she continues her recovery from cancer. Also, having been rushed to the ER a couple of weeks ago, Nicole Potter found out she is hypoglycemic and the symptoms were similar to a heart attack.

Our WM, Susan Franzen's granddaughter, Kyra, is now recovering from surgery to remove a cyst. Please keep all of these members and their families in your prayers, and please contact our Secretary, Sue Schultz, if you need addresses or phone numbers for cards or calls.

We are also saddened to hear of the passing of our member, Harriett Porter on November 19, 2019.

However, we do have HAPPY NEWS to report!! Our AM (also Gr. Conductress), Elizabeth Spangler, is proud to announce that her granddaughter, Hattie Seten, has been awarded a Rhoades Scholarship and will report to Oxford University in October. She will study for two Master's Degrees, one in Global Studies and one in Immigration and Forced Migration.

Our Secretary (also Gr. Ruth), Sue Schultz is anxiously awaiting her retirement on December 31, 2020! How exciting!

WM Susan is also very happy in her new home. Her address is 1540 Billings St, Lot E17, Aurora 80011. Also, our member, Grace Burns, who was in a terrible car accident last year, sends Holiday Greetings to everyone. Her new address is 2780 Vickers Dr., Apt. 305, Colorado Springs, CO 80918.

All of us at Dawn Chapter hope and pray that 2021 will be a better year and we are looking forward to being able to meet in person and share those wonderful HUGS!! HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

To All of our Sisters and Brothers in Colorado we hope that your Christmas was Merry and that the New Year is blessed with good health.

Loyalty's bake sale was a huge success and we'd like to thank you for your support.

We were saddened by the passing of our PGP Howard Stoddard, hopefully everyone was able to read the beautiful memorial Sister Lone wrote. We will drape our altar when we are able to meet again.

Another sad note was that Sister Nancy Cayer and her husband Alan lost their faithful traveling companion, Snoopy. There is always a void when we lose one of our fur babies. The pictures they posted in the past always included Snoopy and he will be missed.

On a happier note, Sister Jane Rivette is feeling like a new person after her bout with COVID-19.

Our WM Thresa has sent out her greetings via e-mail and has challenged the members to think of unwritten rules of Eastern Star, things we may take for granted that may help new members. This is a good way to get our brains back into Star and make us think about our Order.

Loyalty has come to the conclusion that we will not be able to have our annual Souper Bowl in 2021, but please stay tuned because spring will bring something special for Easter.

God Bless Our Star Family in 2021.

As the year draws to a close,  
let this setting sun be a symbol of  
the bad and ugly 2020 witnessed.

A better dawn awaits us in 2021 -  
a harbinger of positive changes  
for humans and Earth alike.

Wishing you a safe, happy and prosperous new year.

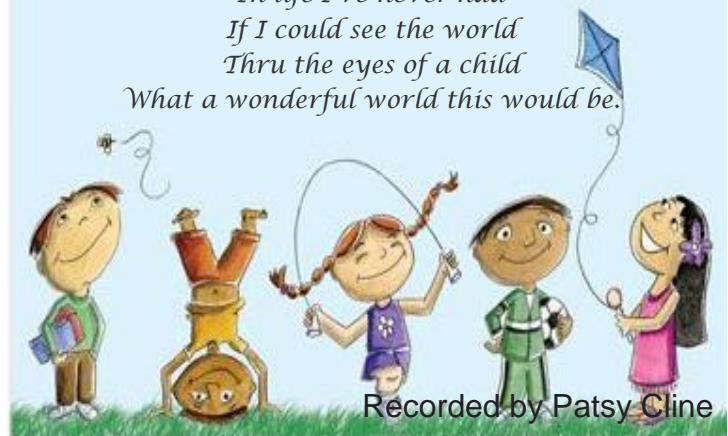
As I watched the excitement of all the Christmas lights and color, beam in the eyes of my Grand Nieces this past month, it made me think back to the days of yester year. I remember, as a child, how exciting it was to see all the pretty Christmas decoration and light displays. As an adult, I love to decorate our yard (and beyond, extending decorations all the way to the corals – for those of you who have been to our house, you know the area I'm talking about). I love to see the cars drive by ever so slowly to look at all the strings of lights and decorations. I hope that as they drive by on their way home from work, they will forget about the stress of the day, remember the reason for the Season and walk into their home and greet their family with a smile. But I especially hope that all the decorations will bring joy to all of the children of God.

2020 has been a difficult year, to say the least, and I hope that as we enter into this New Year, that we can see past all horrible events of this year and look into the future, as if we were innocent children seeing each new thing, new adventure for the first time, through the eyes of a child.

*If I could see the world  
Thru the eyes of a child  
What a wonderful world this would be  
There'd be no trouble and no strife  
Just a big happy life  
With a bluebird in every tree.*

*If I could see the world  
Thru the eyes of a child  
Smiling faces would greet me all the while  
Like a lovely work of art  
It would warm my weary heart  
Just to see thru the eyes of a child.*

*I could see right, no wrong  
I could see good, no bad  
I could see all the good things  
In life I've never had  
If I could see the world  
Thru the eyes of a child  
What a wonderful world this would be.*





**'Twas the Night Before 2020. . . .**

(A twist on the traditional "Twas the Night Before Christmas")

By Kate Yates

Submitted by Krista Shaner, PM #145 – Grand Chaplain

'Twas the night before 2020, I remember it so clear,  
Celebrating, wishing ringing in the New Year.

"Should auld acquaintance be forgot, and never brought to mind?"  
We were so cheerful, so naïve, so kind.

The world was all nestled and snug in their beds,  
While visions of New Year's resolutions, danced in their heads.

Smaller waistlines, better diets, the opportunities were endless  
Closures, working from home, sickness – I couldn't care less.

Then March came and what do you know?  
St. Patrick's Day is cancelled. Say it isn't so!!

Restaurants, bars, recreation centers - they closed too,  
The toilet paper, the wipes, the cleaners; I'm out – how about you?

Away to the window I flew like a flash.  
Is Amazon here? Have they replenished my stash?

When what to my wondering eyes should appear,  
It's our van driver delivering meals and spreading good cheer!

I knew in a moment, things aren't all that bad.  
Instead of focusing on what I miss, I should focus on what I have.

In person, turns virtual – The transition was made,  
Logging in for fitness and coffee chats, just the same.

Lining up cars for curbside, greeting twinkling eyes,  
Free produce boxes for Colorado\* residents – What a surprise!

More holidays and special events come and go,  
All I can think of, is what I'm thankful for, though.

My coworkers, my community, my family, my friends –  
we will all greet each other when COVID ends.

Until then, we will stay positive, hopeful and light,  
And with that I wish

Happy New Year\*\* to all and to all,  
A Good Night!

**Happy New  
Year!**

Foot note: \* Original version used "Thornton"

\*\* Original version used "Merry Christmas"