

# The Maryland Star

*A Publication of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, Order of the Eastern Star*

Volume XI – Issue 1

April-May-June 2011

## 113<sup>th</sup> “Wings of Friendship” Grand Session May 1-4, 2011



The Grand Family of 2010-2011

The 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, OES, was held at the Clarion Inn and Convention Center in Ocean City, Maryland. The Session took flight with a wonderful Banquet in the Grand Ballroom. Sister Jean Chance, WGM, was moved to tears upon entering the ballroom and seeing the beautiful decorations and 303 of her very closest friends in attendance. Butterflies fluttered everywhere and the flowers were lovely and bountiful, with her daisies stealing the show. The entertainment was provided by Joey Vincent, who entertained us by playing many different brass instruments, doing imitations of some well-known singers and jokes, of course! We were honored by the presence of Sister Barbara Benton, PMWGM, and her husband Tom, PGP of Oklahoma.

On Monday morning the “Wings of Friendship” Session was officially called to order by Sister Pearl Johnson, JPGM, and Brother LeRoy Dill, JGP. The reports of the WGM and WGP were in

booklet form and handed out with the Session’s packet upon registration. The reports were very detailed and well written. General points of interest included Grand Representative Commissions granted, gifts presented and received, as well as all the events they attended during their year. Both Sister Jean and Brother Jon traveled a great deal. Their duties as WGM and WGP were performed with knowledge, pride and love for the order.

Under 'Consolidation of Chapters' the WGM stated that "Many of our Chapters are struggling to stay alive. I am very pleased that everyone has worked hard to keep their Chapters going. It takes the efforts of the members of the Chapter and the assistance of visiting officers to keep them active. Hard decisions must be made, and I appreciate the efforts of all our Chapters to do whatever it takes to keep going. You are definitely working for the Good of the Order. I am pleased that we did not have the consolidation of any Chapters this year."

Following the reports of the WGM and WGP, Sisters Bette Bowen, Chairman of their Special Project Committee, Maryland Therapeutic Riding, and Patricia Bowles, PGM, presented the WGM and WGP with beautiful quilts (hers with butterflies; his with horses) made by Sister Pat and quilt stands made by Frank Fitzwater, father of Sister Audra Sharpless, WM, Oakland No. 67.

Sister Donna Almony, Grand Secretary, reported we currently have 5,861 members, initiating 57 this past year and losing 349. There are 45 Chapters in the Grand Chapter of Maryland, with Highland No. 33 being the largest. Sister Mary Adeline Bradford, PGM, Grand Treasurer, recommended an increase in the per capita tax be considered at our next Session.

There were 96 50-year membership certificates presented in the state this year. Six 50-year members were present to receive their honor at Sessions on Monday morning. Twenty-four 50-plus-year members were also honored. Each of them was given a special token to remember this event. Following the morning Session, the Grand Representatives Luncheon was held, with over 200 in attendance.

The Necrology Program was presented Monday afternoon under the direction of Sister Diane Smith, Havre de Grace No. 27. The program was "Heavenly Prayers on Butterfly Wings". The eulogy for Brother William Jones, PGP, was given by Sister Juanita Bowers, PGM. The eulogy for MWGP Brother Frederick Clarke of Nova Scotia was given by Brother Raymond Rankin, PGP. These were followed by eulogies for all members who have passed away in this Grand Chapter year. The program was based on the Beatitudes and was highlighted by several beautiful musical selections.

Another highlight of the Monday afternoon Session was a report by Brother William Gyr, Gleaner No. 49, on the Maryland Masonic Open House on April 2. Seems it was very successful throughout the state. There were many visitors, and the Lodges and Eastern Star have benefited in the receipt of new petitions for degrees. Chapters and Lodges alike reported that the Open House was fun and informative even for our own members. It was felt by many that this type of project should be held again in the near future.

The Informal Opening of the "Wings of Friendship Session" was held Monday evening with the Introduction of Grand Officers and their Escorts and the Presentation of Flags, Grand Representatives and Emblems. A special presentation of the Lord's Prayer in Native American Sign was given by Sister Barbara Benton, PMWGM and PGM of Oklahoma.

Many special guests were greeted that evening. A highlight of the evening occurred during the Introduction of Grand Officers when Brother David Holley, Grand Sentinel, was escorted by his brother, Arthur Holley. Brother Arthur had been seriously ill this past year, and he abandoned his scooter for a walker to do the escorting, receiving a standing, tearful ovation.



Jon Thompson, WGP, and Jean Chance, WGM, dressed in Swedish attire at the Formal Opening on Monday evening

On Tuesday morning the WGP presided over Jurisprudence. Only one amendment passed, which was to allow the Deputy Grand Lecturers to make two official visits to each Chapter, instead of four. This does not include Grand Visitations or their Chapter Honoring.

At the Sanner-Curtis Administration Luncheon the incoming WGM and WGP announced their officers for the coming year. Under presentations Sister Phyllis Johnston, Chairman of the Greetings Book Committee, announced Pentalpha No. 38 as the winner of the business ad award for the most ads collected. Sister Debbie Cohen, WM, and Brother Glen Sunderland, WP, received the plaque on behalf of the Chapter, but the biggest thanks went to Sister Margaret Caracciolo for collecting ads everywhere she went. Congratulations, Pentalpha Chapter!

Tuesday afternoon the Grand Secretary greeted each of the 2010-2011 Chapter Secretaries and presented them with a small gift. The response was given by Sister Sylvia Spriestersbach, Grand Ruth and Secretary of Marlboro No. 61, who presented Sister Donna with a plant adorned with butterflies made of folded money. Sister Donna also gave a report on the Grand Chapter Website.

Prior to elections on Wednesday morning, it was announced there were 419 members attending the 113th Grand Chapter Session, with 289 voting members.

Brother Jon presided over elections, and the following were elected to serve for the 2011-2012 Grand Year:

Worthy Grand Matron - Linda Sanner, No. 74  
Worthy Grand Patron - Patrick Curtis, No. 112  
Associate Grand Matron - Debra Hribar, No. 83  
Associate Grand Patron - David Hall, No. 12  
Grand Secretary - Donna Almony, No. 42  
Grand Tres. - Mary Adeline Bradford, PGM, No. 91  
Grand Conductress - Bette Bowen, No. 67  
Associate Grand Cond. - Claudia Eaton, No. 46  
Grand Trustee - Leslie Gilliam, PGM, No. 112

Following the morning Session, Sisters Donna Almony, Grand Secretary, and Mary Adeline Bradford, PGM, Grand Treasurer, hosted the first combined Secretaries and Treasurers luncheon. Everyone in attendance had a great, relaxing lunch.

Installation of Grand Officers for 2011-2012 was held at 3 p.m., with the following officers installed:

Worthy Grand Matron – Linda Sanner, No. 74  
Worthy Grand Patron - Patrick Curtis, No. 112  
Associate Grand Matron - Debra Hribar, No. 83  
Associate Grand Patron - David Hall, No. 12  
Grand Secretary - Donna Almony, No. 42  
Grand Tres. - Mary Adeline Bradford, PGM, No. 91  
Grand Conductress – Bette Bowen, No. 67  
Associate Grand Cond. - Claudia Eaton, No. 46  
Grand Trustee - Robert Scheller, PGP, No. 33  
Grand Trustee - Terry Herling, PGP, No. 113  
Grand Trustee - Leslie Gilliam, PGM, No. 112  
Grand Chaplain - John Ertel, No. 46  
Grand Lecturer - M. Ernestine Hale, PGM, No. 46  
Grand Marshal - Shawn Garren, No. 112  
Grand Organist - Donna Trott, PGM, No. 112  
Grand Adah - Joan Bachtell, No. 89  
Grand Ruth - Gloria Terrell, No. 75  
Grand Esther - Nancy Morgan, No. 62  
Grand Martha - Maureen Cole, No. 20  
Grand Electa - Virginia Fitzgerald, No. 33  
Grand Warder - Harris Dolan, No. 74  
Grand Sentinel - Randolph Geck, No. 107

Sister Jean Chance, JPGM, received the PGM's jewel of Sister Rebecca Wagner, WGM 1978-79, who served with Brother Earl Peddicord. It was presented by Sisters June Peddicord and Claudia Eaton. Brother Jon Thompson, JPGP, received the PGP's jewel of Brother Robert L. Sauerhammer, WGP 1970-71. It was presented by Brother Bob's wife, Sister Audrey K. Sauerhammer, PGM, and their goddaughter, Sister Holly Lambert, PM, Lebanon Chapter No. 108.

Sister Linda Sanner, WGM, and Brother Patrick Curtis, WGP, gave their acceptance speeches, introductions were made, various groups were presented, and musical selections were enjoyed by all. The theme for the year is "Treasures of Life"; emblems are the treasure chest, crabs and starfish; colors are all colors of gem stones, with gold and silver; flowers are all flowers, especially the flaming peace rose; and their Special Project, Maryland Masonic Youth Groups

The WGM closed the Session with best wishes and safe travels for everyone during the Grand Year.



The Grand Family of 2011-2012

Monies Raised for 2010-2011

The following Committees reported on amounts raised during the 2010-2011 Grand Year:

Bonnie Blink - \$3,877.62	Cancer - \$6,224.50
Youth - \$4,253.35	Memorial Roll - \$602.50
Special Project - \$27,622.84	ESTARL - \$6,187.15
Special Jewelry - \$2,905	Heart - \$5,106.74
Greetings Book - \$11,846.87	KTEF - \$3,030.01
Maryland OES Tags - \$150	Military and Veterans - \$4,836.95
Alzheimer's - \$3,909.64	Related Charities - \$43,834
Arthritis - \$2,989.64	Ways and Means - \$4,321.45

In addition, Sister Phyllis Johnston presented Sister Jean and Brother Jon with a check for over \$7,000 as proceeds from the sale of Greetings Books and ads placed in the Greetings Book. Also, the Eastern Star Scholarship Foundation was able to present eight \$500 scholarships to youth throughout the state.

Total amount raised for the Grand Chapter year -- approximately \$127,000!

*(Thank you to Sisters Debbie Cohen, WM, Pentalpha No. 38, and Wilma Thompson, PGM, WM, Parkton No. 42, for sharing their Sessions Reports for this article.)*

CALENDAR

<b>JULY</b>		
21-24	Demolay Conclave - Salisbury	
29-30	JDI Supreme Session - St. Louis, MO	
<b>AUGUST</b>		
6	Grand Master's Ball - Grand Lodge	
15-23	Normandy Cruise	
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		
9	Julia Halla No. 107 - <b>Special</b>	8 p.m.
10	Unity No. 112 - <b>Special</b>	2 p.m.
11	Esther No. 47, 90th Anniversary	
14	Exchange Visit with DC - Naomi Chapter, DC	8 p.m.
16	Victory No. 40 - <b>Special</b>	8 p.m.
17	Havre de Grace No. 27 - <b>Special</b>	2 p.m.
19	Grace No. 21 - <b>Special</b>	8 p.m.
20	Howard No. 20 - <b>Special</b>	8 p.m.
22	Elkton No. 84 - <b>Special</b>	8 p.m.
24	Daughters of Job No. 74 - <b>Special</b>	2 p.m.
25	Grand Line Reception - Tremont Hotel	1 p.m.
26	Door-to-Virtue No. 94 - <b>Special</b>	8 p.m.
29	Woodlawn No. 101 - <b>Special</b>	8 p.m.
30	Highland No. 33 - <b>Special</b>	8 p.m.

*Scenes From The "Wings of Friendship"  
Grand Session*



Banner Decorating the Grand East



WGM and WGP in Swedish attire,  
honoring the WGM's Heritage



WGM's and WGP's quilts



**Pot of Gold Lottery**



WGM's and WGP's Special Project - MD Masonic Youth Groups

\$10 donation makes you eligible for 12 drawings

\$100 prizes each month except December and April - \$500

Contact Karen Smith (301-843-2568) for information

Congratulations to our current winners:

Sister Cathy Fegen, No. 112

Sister Margo Hampton, No. 74

Barbara Muldowney, No. 70

**Robert Sauerhammer Respite Care  
Donation**



The Alzheimer's Committee of the 2009-2010 Johnson-Dill Administration presented a generous gift of \$2,330 to the Robert Sauerhammer Respite Care Fund, which assists family caregivers with respite care needs.

Pictured (l-r) are Ethel Dill, PM, No. 33; Patricia Lambert, PM, No. 108, Secretary-Treasurer; LeRoy W. Dill, PGP, No. 33; Cass Naugle, Director; and Audrey K. Sauerhammer, PGM, No. 108. Pearl Johnson, PGM, was unable to be present.



Support the OES Charity in a very painless way.  
\$25 for the Department of Motor Vehicles  
\$10 for the Worthy Grand Matron's Special Project  
Just request an application from Kathy Voris  
410-557-8135 or e-mail [katvor331@verizon.net](mailto:katvor331@verizon.net)

## Havre de Grace No. 27 Happenings

*Beverly Southall, WM*

Havre de Grace No. 27 held their Installation of Officers on March 9. Those installed were Beverly Southall, PM, WM; Ron Mathias, PGP, WP; Pam Kincaid, PM, AM; Tom McLaughlin, PP, AP; Joyce Caldwell, PM, Secretary; Diane Smith, PM, Treasurer; Carolyn Mathias, PM, Conductress; Hilda Brown, PM, Associate Conductress; Louise Fagan, PM, Chaplain; Aileen Squires, Marshal; Betty Neff, Organist; Evalyn Owens, PM, Esther; Candy Brennan, Electa; Susan Passwaters, PM, Warder, and Phil Powell, PP, Sentinel. Three members are to be installed at a later date.



2011-2012 Officers



Diane Smith, Aileen Squires, Candy Brennan, Beverly Southall, Susan Passwaters, Louise Fagan, and Carolyn and Ron Mathias, PGP, at the "Wings of Friendship" Grand Session

### **Ways and Means - Christmas in July!**

If you purchased a holiday item from the Ways and Means Committee last year, wreath, small tree, etc., you can assist the Special Projects Committee this year by telling us whether you enjoyed your product and how much. Mickman Brothers is awarding a \$200 cash prize and a discount on all 25" wreaths this year to five organizations that provide the most interesting testimonial. If you have one you would like to share please send to Karen Smith at [garysubu@aol.com](mailto:garysubu@aol.com) or [karen.f.smith@navy.mil](mailto:karen.f.smith@navy.mil).

## The Gecks Enjoy a Masonic Welcome in Australia

Randy, PP, and Carol (Electa) of Julia Halla No. 107, Hollywood, MD just finished an amazing six-week adventure through Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania. However, what made this once-in-a-lifetime trip so significant was their interaction with the Masonic Family in Australia. This was not planned at all but fell together wonderfully. It all began with email from the US asking about OES opportunities in Australia. It all came together when we arrived in Brisbane where we were met at the train station by the Past Most Worthy Grand Matron and Patron of Australia, Clarita and Spencer Swann. They adopted us immediately and put us under their wing.

We spent three wonderful days exploring the Gold Coast and mountains around Brisbane with these marvelous people. Randy even attended Blue Lodge with Spencer where the Queensland Masons initiated a new Entered Apprentice. We were then treated to a visit by the incoming Most Worthy Grand Matron of Australia, New Zealand, and Tasmania Janet Beck and many of her incoming Grand Line Officers. We exchanged gifts and so many tales and good stories. We were included immediately as family.

We next enjoyed dinner with the current Most Worthy Grand Matron, Lois Allen and the Past Most Worthy Grand Matron at our hotel. Then the excitement of the trip concluded by our being invited to join the Installation of the new Tasmanian Grand Master. We were invited by the Queensland Grand Master to join his delegation at a cocktail party preceding the installation. Then we adjourned, accompanied by Clarita Swann, to the installation ceremony. The ceremony was full of splendor and richness one would expect of such a level of Mason activity.

The interaction with the Masonic/OES Family made this memorable trip unforgettable. We made life-long friends and created memories that will be with us forever.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Harford No. 83 Flapjacks Fundraiser and Job's Daughters Car Wash**

Applebee's in Bel Air, Saturday, July 23,  
8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Price -- \$6.50  
Call Kathy Voris at 410-557-8135 for tickets.  
While you're there, have your car washed by  
Bethel No. 35, JDI. Price: "Free...with Donation".

### **Howard Chapter No. 20 Crab Feast**

Sunday, September 18, 1 - 5 p.m.  
Lisbon Fire Hall, Lisbon, MD  
Adults \$42 -- Children (6-12) \$20  
Tickets are limited!  
Contact Madge Jones 410-489-7211  
or Ina Krampf 410-465-2378

### **Fabulous Fall Fashion Show!**

GCMD Ways and Means Committee Fall Fashion Show,  
luncheon and silent auction  
1:30 p.m. Sunday, October 2,  
Frederick Masonic Lodge  
6816 Blentlinger Road, Frederick, MD  
Contact Phyllis Pahutski (410-569-0005),  
Madge Jones (410-489-7211) or Mary Harding  
(410-242-8866) for reservations. Tickets -- \$25

### **Longaberger Basket Bingo**

WGM's Special Project Fundraising Event to Benefit the  
Maryland Youth Groups --  
Saturday, October 22  
Centennial Lodge, Home of Marlboro No. 61  
6110 Croom Station Road  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland  
Doors open at 2 p.m. -- Games begin at 3 p.m.  
Food and Beverages will be sold  
Prizes will be Longaberger Baskets and pottery pieces

### **SPONSORS NEEDED!**

**Businesses, individuals and Chapters are encouraged  
to donate \$50 to sponsor a game and prize**  
Contact Karen Smith (301-843-2568)  
for more information

## **Publication Information**

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### **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: September 25, 2011**

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301-372-6502  
[gay.topper52@gmail.com](mailto:gay.topper52@gmail.com)

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