



ORDER OF THE
EASTERN STAR
BRITISH COLUMBIA
& YUKON CANADA 



Grand Chapter Newsletter

October 2023

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From the Worthy Grand Matron

I am happy to report that the Official Visits thus far have been so wonderful! It has been great to meet with everybody, to renew acquaintances and to make new ones.

Travelling has gone well because the weather has cooperated and my co-pilot has been on the alert at all times. We have only seen four parking lots (that was in Campbell River), one logging road (on the way to Dawson Creek), two cul-de-sacs (can't remember where) and have come to the conclusion that night driving is not our favourite thing! The lady in Nanaimo who gave us directions to the highway was a pleasure to chat with - she used street names that made me wonder where she was from...turns out she was from Australia!

Hospitality out there is *the* best! Being treated to supper is always enjoyable whether it's at a restaurant or potluck. Trouble is...I never have room for dessert. But being with Star Friends, well that's a sweet treat in itself.

The Grand Officers who have joined us - faithfully - have made my heart so happy. Both the Worthy Grand Patron and I feel blessed to have you on the Star Trail. I cannot describe how wonderful it is to see you all lined up, presented in the West and being escorted to the East. You are amazing.

I so look forward to being at the Chapters in the Lower Mainland. I'm guessing that, for the most part, you will remember my name and what I am there for...I have been mistaken for Grand Adah but that is Shirley's position! What I thought might be pleasant handshakes and sweet smiles has turned out to be a lot of big hugs and much laughter. I love it!

Thank you, one and all, for absolutely everything...until next time, remember to keep smiling and to love one another!

~ Sister Alice Mathews, Worthy Grand Matron



Dogs!! Dogs!! We love the dogs!

This marks my third year on the Service Dog Committee for BC & Yukon, and my second as chair.

Grand Chapter 2021-2022 was held in Kamloops BC and my girl Shila attended with me. She was such a good girl and everyone loved her. It was my honour to make a speech to the Grand Chapter about BC & Alberta Guide Dogs, the service dog organization we support, on behalf of Bill Thornton, Founder and CEO. Shila has now become a guide dog for a lady on Vancouver Island who is visually impaired. She's doing such a good job and is well loved by her new family. My girls have attended parades, meat draws, banquets, installations and much, much more.



This year, 2023 my black lab, named Scout, (after Atticus Finch's daughter in "To Kill a Mockingbird") attended Grand Chapter in Richmond. She is still a pup in training and did such a great job meeting and greeting all who were there. We did a blindfold walk allowing folks to sample what a non-sighted person goes through in putting their complete trust in a dog. Because of their generosity, between the vendors corner and the walk we were able to give an additional \$620.00 to BC & Alberta Guide Dogs. Thank you for supporting us!

Fraternally,
Lynn Radbourne, PM
Chair, Service Dogs

Read, on the internet about the BC & Alberta Guide Dogs here → <https://bcandalbertaguidedogs.com/>

THE PROPHET

A young woman stepped forward from the throng and asked "O great prophet, tell us how we might find love that is unconditional, unwavering and unending."

The prophet did not answer right away. He looked off into the distance, gathering his thoughts. Silence descended upon the crowd. Then he turned his gaze upon the young woman and said, "Get a dog."



A three-year-old went with his dad to see a litter of kittens. On returning home, he breathlessly informed his mother there were two boy kittens and two girl kittens. "How did you know?" his mother asked. "Daddy picked them up and looked underneath," he replied. "I think it's printed on the bottom."



OES NUMBERS

<u>Subordinate Chapters across Canada</u>	<u>Chapters</u>	<u>Approximate Membership</u>
British Columbia and Yukon	27	1190
Alberta	25	1213 (includes dual)
Saskatchewan	11	435 (Dec 2022)
Manitoba	7	?
Ontario	65	3200
Quebec	5	?
New Brunswick	12	?
Nova Scotia & PEI	18 in NS / 3 in PEI	21
Newfoundland	0 Chapters	0 members



Grand Chapter Sessions

2024 Grand Chapter of British Columbia & Yukon

True Patriot Love Session
 June 3 4 5, 2024
 Oliver Recreation Centre, Oliver, BC

2024 Grand Chapter of Alberta

Light of Love Session
 June 7 8 9, 2024
 Olds College, Olds, Alberta

2024 Grand Chapter of Saskatchewan

Spread Kindness...Live in Love Year (SK LILY)
 April 25 26 27, 2024
 Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

2024 Grand Chapter of Manitoba

Rainbow Dreams and Dragonfly Wishes
 May 26 27 28 29, 2024
 Winnipeg, Manitoba

➔ On the website for **Alberta Grand Chapter** is their mission – “Our mission is to welcome women and men, who hold a belief in a Supreme Being, into a Fraternal Order whose teachings are moral, fellowship supportive and purposes beneficent and to work together in the spirit of Charity, Truth and Loving Kindness for the good of all mankind.” ****I think this should be on the front page of every Grand Chapter website.****

➔ On the website for **Manitoba Grand Chapter** they have a page for “Long Service Awardees” There is a member, Sister Audrey Raines, who has been a member for **80 years**, 9 Sisters who are **70 year** members, 41 Sisters who are **60 year** members and 60 Sisters and Brothers who are **50 year** members. ****Amazing!****

WHERE IN THE WORLD – New **Grand Representative** appointments are popping up on the Grand Chapter website. Warmest congratulations to:

Alabama – Jan Rivers, Cariboo Chapter
 New Hampshire – Bernadette Lloyd, Chas Maria Chapter



WHERE WILL YOU GO?

Check online for up to date information
www.bcgrandchapter.com



In Loving Memory

- ★ *Sister Eleanor Wallis – Burrard Chapter – passed July 5, 2023*
- ★ *Sister Patricia Kilback – Jubilee Chapter – passed August 13, 2023*
- ★ *Sister Edith Ardelian – originally member of Florence Chapter (1976) – passed February 4, 2023 (in Moose Jaw)
Affiliated in 1979-1980 with Mizpah No. 1 Moose Jaw, SK*
- ★ *Sister Enid Hutchings – Arbutus Chapter – passed August 3, 2023*
- ★ *Sister Catherine Russell – Florence Chapter – passed August 28, 2023*
- ★ *Sister Margaret Sylvester – Chas Maria Chapter – passed August 31, 2023*
- ★ *Brother Bruce McQueen – Crescent Chapter – passed September 9, 2023*
- ★ *Sister Audrey Burke – Princess Pine Chapter – passed September 18, 2023*

*Our condolences to the family, friends, Chapter(s), Sisters and Brothers of these departed members.
Please visit the memorial page on our Grand Chapter website.*



Eastern Star Journal can be found on the General Grand Chapter website – www.easternstar.org or by using the link on our www.bcgrandchapter.com website.

A LITTLE HUMOUR

A lady surprised a burglar in her house late one night. She was home alone, didn't have a weapon, and she didn't know what to do. Finally she thought "I'll quote a scripture verse," and she shouted out "ACTS 2,38!!" The burglar suddenly froze in his tracks and wouldn't move. Soon the police arrived. They were amazed at how a woman with no weapon could do this. They asked the burglar "What was it about that scripture that had such an effect on you?" He said "Scripture? What scripture? I thought she said she had an axe and two 38's!"

General Grand Chapter 51st Triennial Assembly October 24 – November 1, 2024

This session will be held in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina from October 24th to November 1st, 2024. Sister Glenda Winchester was present for the Grand Chapter Session in Kamloops and what a sweetheart she is. It would be great to see her in action as Most Worthy Grand Matron!! **Are you going???? ***I am!*****

Main page - <https://easternstar.org/triennial-assembly-2024/>

Registration - <https://easternstar.org/triennial-assembly-2024/triennial-assembly-2024-registration/triennial-assembly-2024-registration-english/>



History - 1967 – the Open Hands 56th Annual Session

It is so awesome to be in possession of **OLD** programs from years gone by for our Grand Chapter. I happened to find 1967 laying on a box in my office (and there are a lot of boxes!). I flipped open and found that the Worthy Grand Matron was Sister Ruby Fletcher, the Worthy Grand Patron was Brother Alfred Gatz, Grand Secretary was Sister Hazel Freeze and Brother Ernest Bradbury was the Grand Treasurer. A brother as Grand Treasurer? Say WHAAAT??? WHO IS THIS MAN?

This is what my research revealed:

- Ernest Robert Bradbury was born in Norfolk, England and at age 36 he married Phyllis Audrey Phillips who was 33 years old, born in Swansea, South Wales. They were married on October 25, 1934 with a formal wedding at St. Mark's Anglican Church. They honeymooned to California.
- Ernest was a civil servant, having passed his exam in 1926.
- In 1935 he was the president of the AYP (Anglican Young People's Association) in greater Vancouver area. He hosted a lot of dances and activities for this group.
- In 1958 Phyllis was Associate Matron of Coronation Chapter No. 81 which was located at 3737 West 27th (St. Philip's Hall). She was Worthy Matron in May 1959 - (this is Phyllis→)
- On March 6, 1966 there was a Doll tea and sale at the Marpole Masonic Hall and Ernest opened the tea which featured a display of character dolls, dolls of all nations and authentic hand dressed dolls. I can't help but wonder if some of the dolls my grandmother had were from this tea...
- On March 2, 1966 there is another newspaper article which states that Ernest Bradbury is the **acting Grand Treasurer** hmmm...curiouser and curiouser...what happened to the previous Grand Treasurer??



Oh look! A TYPO!

Times Colonist
03 Jun 1966, Fri · Page 23

55TH ANNUAL MEETNIG

OES Installs Provincial Heads

Mrs. J. E. Fletcher, West Vancouver, and Alfred Gatz, Vancouver, were installed as worthy grand matron and patron of the Grand Chapter of British Columbia, Order of the Eastern Star, Wednesday evening.

Conducting the colorful ceremony in the Esquimalt Municipal Sports Centre, which marked the end of the 55th annual business sessions, were past grand patrons Herbert Jones, Coquitlam, and G. Sydney Barker, Vancouver.

Also serving on the new slate of officers are Mrs. C. J. Royston, Prince George, associate grand matron; Herbert Hill-Tout, Kamloops, associate patron; Mrs. Walter Freeze, Vancouver, secretary; Ernest R. Bradbury, Vancouver, treasurer; Mrs. Clifford Carr, Trail, conductress; Mrs. D. W.

Irving, Vernon, associate conductress; Wesley Kennedy, Vancouver, sentinel.

Serving as trustees are Bert Vicars, Vancouver, one year; Dr. Wilbur Bell, Lantzville, two; Capt. John Gammie, Vancouver, three; William J. Mooney, Ruskin, four, and John S. Hunter, Victoria, five.

Appointed officers installed were Mrs. William Erith, North Vancouver, grand lecturer; Mrs. A. H. Bates, Vancouver, chaplain; Mrs. Ray L. Martinson, Hope, marshal; Mrs. Whitney Marshall, New Westminster, grand organist; Mrs. T. H. Lunson, Victoria, grand Adah; Miss Weltha Hughes, Vancouver, Ruth; Mrs. W. F. Huffman, Revelstoke, Esther;

Mrs. Gordon J. Beggs, Summerland, Martha; Mrs. E. Pake, Port Alberni, Electa, and William Behnson, Stewart, warder.

- In 1972 Ernest is still listed as the Grand Treasurer. There were **120** people present at the **OFFICIAL VISIT** in Chilliwack that year. And then there's nothing published until...
- ...his obituary – September 1, 1975. Ernest R. Bradbury lived at 5390 Larch Street in Vancouver. He was a husband to Phyllis, a father to Marilyn and Eva, grandfather to Eleanor and Jimmy, a brother to Dorothy Bristow and Winifred Cresswell, and an uncle to Laura Godwin, John Bristow and Ted Bristow. Ernest was a Past Master of Zenith Lodge No. 104 and Past Patron of Coronation Chapter No. 81, and Grand Trustee, Grand Treasurer not mentioned. He died on September 1, 1975 and, in lieu of flowers, donations to ESTARL were requested.
- Phyllis died in 1987.

(I think my next research may be on who was Grand Treasurer before Brother Bradbury.)

The words to O Canada in the 1967 Grand Session booklet:

O Canada, our heritage, our love
 Thy name we praise, all other lands above.
 From sea to sea, throughout thy length,
 From pole to borderland
 At Britain's side, whate'er betide,
 Unflinchingly we'll stand.
 With heart we sign, "God save the queen."
 Guide thou the Empire wide, do we implore,
 And prosper Canada from shore to shore.

(worth noting the American anthem
 Star Spangled Banner has not changed at all)



What would you like to see in the next edition of the newsletter?

With thanks this issue:

to Pat Haywood for the idea of posting other Grand Chapter dates!
 to Lynn Radbourne for the Dogs. We love the dogs!

Thank you to all those who purchased the tins of dog bone shaped Puppy Love mints!



The newsletter will always be better with your suggestions and submissions!

MORE for ALBERTA <https://easternstar-ab.ca/grandChapter>

MORE for SASKATCHEWAN <https://saskoes.weebly.com/>

MORE for MANITOBA <https://oesmanitoba.ca/grand-chapter-of-the-oes/>



WISDOM - May you have the hindsight to know where you have been, the foresight to know where you are going, and the insight to know when you have gone too far!

Simple Thoughts...

1. If a Chapter meets at the same time as another Masonic body they could approach that group about having a combined refreshment hour after the meeting in order to introduce themselves to one another.
2. Have a combined "Social" with all groups (18+) and any funds raised would be shared by any organization providing workers and prizes.
3. To provide exposure to the public a Chapter could sponsor a local children's sports team at a community center with either financial support or team t-shirts.
4. Provide financial aid to a local school lunch program and provide a poster to let parents and teachers know the Chapter that is assisting.
5. Invite a Mason and his wife to a luncheon or function free of charge to introduce them to the Order.
6. Have the Jobs Daughters and/or Demolay help at a fundraising event and provide them with an Honorarium for their services.
7. Provide a generic OES placemat with information about the group on one side and a coloring page on the back for distribution to small restaurants.
8. Place ads in local newspapers to announce Chapter events which could be attended by the public.
9. Hold a phone survey of members who do not attend regularly and find out what you can do to make it more attractive for the members to come out to meetings.
10. Get new members involved in committees such as your Lunch Committee, Phone Committee, or Fundraising Committee. This gets them active in the Chapter and lets them feel involved while they learn the ropes and get to know all the members.
11. Have a person in the Chapter volunteer to be a "Ride Coordinator". A member wishing to go to a meeting but needing transportation would contact this person. Someone reasonably close could be asked if they would be able to supply the ride. Perhaps the gas cost could be shared.
12. Do not forget to wear your Eastern Star clothing as often as possible. It often prompts people to ask what the Order is all about and gives you an opportunity to share your love of the Order.

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OES Cruise to Alaska 2024

Join your current Associate Grand Matron Bonnie-Jean Foulds and Associate Grand Patron Terry Foulds on a seven day Alaskan cruise departing from Vancouver on **August 25, 2024** aboard the Royal Caribbean Brilliance of the Seas. The ports of call are: Vancouver, Inside Passage (Cruising), Sitka, Tracy Arm Fjords & Glacier, Juneau, Icy Strait Point, Ketchikan, Inside Passage (Cruising) back Vancouver.

The costs are: Balcony \$1489 per person
 Ocean View \$759.00 per person Taxes and port charges
 Inside \$689.00 per person are \$331 per person.

If you wish to join us please contact:

The Travel Agent Next Door
Jackie Weinkam
3015-163 Street,
Surrey BC V3Z 0E3 Phone: 604-839-9183



Email: jweinkam@thetravelagentnextdoor.com

Web: <https://www.linderandjackie.thetravelagentnextdoor.com/>

This cruise is open to all OES members, friends and family. If you wish more information about this cruise please contact me at thfoulds@gmail.com

~Terry Foulds

Welcome back to the OES Zoom Education

This year there will be four sessions. Below are the topics and presenters of the first three sessions.

- 1st Session Monday, October 30th @ 7:00 pm
Presenter: Vanessa Stevens, from BC Cancer Foundation
Topic: Support available for cancer patients.
- 2nd Session Tuesday, November 28th @ 7:00 pm
Presenter: Sister Cheri Cowan, PGM and Brother Rick Galloway of Sask.
Topic: Psychological safety - how the language of effective communication affects membership.
- 3rd Session Tuesday, January 23rd @ 7:00 pm
Presenter: Sister Denise Brownlee, PM.
Topic: Symbolism
- 4th Session Tuesday, February 27th @ 7:00 pm
To be determined - if you know of a possible topic and/or a potential presenter please contact Sister Bonnie-Jean at oesbfoulds.2024@gmail.com

As in the past there will be a link sent a few days before each session a link to join via email.

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NOT ALL IS IN THE BOOK

We know well the Ritual, we are familiar with the book
We all know how Adah died and the kind of grain Ruth took
Many times we have seen the Conductress the labyrinth wind,
With a new member on her arm and another following behind.
But not everything is written down, nowhere is it shown
There are many things each Sister must learn on her own:
The fashionable way to grasp a gown when traversing a stair,
The proper way to compensate for the hardness of a chair,
How to waken, unobtrusively, a leg that's gone to sleep,
How to check, nonchalantly, when she feels something creep,
The graceful way to scratch an itch somewhere above the knee,
How to sit to hide a run she is positive everyone can see,
How to turn into a smile what started as a yawn
When the words of a distinguished guest go on and on and on,
How to perspire invisibly when it is 90 degrees in the hall,
How to make look impressive as a stole a white knitted shawl.
You may search the Ritual if you wish, it won't hurt to look,
But you'll find many important things aren't in the book.

The next edition of the Grand Chapter Newsletter will be out at the end of November. Please send any submissions prior to November 15th – Cariboostar@gmail.com ~ Dana

