



**ORDER OF THE
EASTERN STAR**
BRITISH COLUMBIA
& YUKON CANADA 

Grand Chapter Newsletter

December 2023



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Acute Myeloid Leukemia special project



Worthy Grand Matron's Christmas Wish

Another year has gone by way too fast and it is filled with the best memories ever!

The lights are lit, the trim is on the mantle, and the snow is softly falling. It must be close to Christmas 'cause I have a feeling...and it is next best to panic!

However, here to share with you is "The Blessings of Christmas"

~ May you have warm hugs to greet you, fun times to meet you, joy in whatever you do, God's love to guide you, good friends beside you and happiness all season through. ~

I would like to thank you, each and every one of you, for a delightful time in your company, your hospitality, every courtesy extended, and all the well wishes. Merry Christmas, "everybunny!"

~ Star love, Alice



Worthy Grand Patron's Christmas Wish

Feliz Navidad! That is my favourite carol, it's a snappy tune, with a beautiful message which I am sending to you and yours!

← *You can see that Joan and I are surrounded by the family of moose that were received from Chapters around the province. We accepted them with love, and now, we share that same thought back to all.*

My Christmas wish is - let there be peace on earth. Blessings to everyone, see you soon.

~ Star love, Larry



A Very Worthy Project - REMINDER

Acute Myeloid Leukemia is the Special Project again this term 2023 – 2024. There is a raffle with three prizes – a beautiful hand crafted queen size quilt, a basket of bee themed goodies including a quilted table runner, tea cozy, mug rugs, and so much more, and finally, a weekend travel trio, quilt and a \$50 gift card to the Liquor Store so that you can buy wine to go in the cooler bag...perfect for a getaway or a picnic. The net proceeds from the raffle are being donated to the Acute Myeloid Leukemia research at BC Cancer Foundation. We still have many tickets for sale. The draw date is December 21st so we have a few weeks to sell more tickets! Without this support from our members, family and friends our donation is looking a little slim.

The other item to consider purchasing is the beautiful “Star in the East” pin, which is the Worthy Grand Matron’s exclusive design. These pins are lovely and would make a great gift. They are \$10 each and we can get one or two or more pins to you before Christmas. There is no OES logo on this pin, anyone could wear it. The net proceeds from the sale of these pins will also go to AML research.

Please consider supporting this Special Project purchasing raffle tickets and a pin or two. Etransfers are accepted at Dana.Bouchard@gmail.com or by mailing a cheque payable to Dana Bouchard and mailed to 171 Brears Road S, Quesnel BC V2J 4G3

The tins with Puppy Love and the OES logo on the lid is full of bone shaped mints. The net proceeds of the sale of these items will be donated to the BC and Alberta Guide / Service dogs. They are cute and delicious!! You only need one mint to freshen your breath and the tins are small enough to fit in a pocket or evening bag. Pins and Mints will be available at Grand Chapter in Oliver but the raffle is December 21st!! Let’s get these tickets sold!!

Thank you, everyone!
Sister Dana Bouchard

In Loving Memory



- ★ *Sister Sarah (Sadie) Gallagher – Queen City Chapter No. 5 – passed away May 20, 2023*
- ★ *Sister Dian Hannah – Queen City Chapter No. 5 – passed away October 19, 2023*
- ★ *Sister Frances Reid – Queen City Chapter No. 5 – passed away November 4, 2023*
- ★ *Sister Dona Bannick – Jubilee Chapter No. 64 – passed away November 10, 2023*
- ★ *Brother Lyndon Barnes – Nechako Chapter No. 40 – passed away November 11, 2023*

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



General Grand Chapter 51st Triennial Assembly 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!!

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

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

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

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



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OES Zoom Education

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

A link to join the Zoom sessions will be sent a few days in advance by email.

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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.

****Friends****

A good friend will come and bail you out of jail. But a true friend
will be sitting next to you saying "Wow...that was fun!"

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Happiness keeps you sweet,
Trials keep you strong,
Sorrows keep you human,
Failures keep you humble,
Success keeps you glowing,
But only friends keep you going,

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Why does Scrooge love Rudolph the
red-nosed reindeer?
Because every buck is dear to him!
Elves use what kind of money
Jingle Bills!

What do they sing at a snowman's birthday party?
Freeze a jolly good fellow!

What is the difference between the Christmas alphabet and the ordinary alphabet?
*The Christmas alphabet has **Noel**.*

Why does Santa go down the chimney?
Because it soots him!


At twenty we worry about what others think of us.
At forty we don't care about what others think of us.
At sixty we discover they haven't been thinking of us at all.

The Legend of the Holly

The legend is told of how the Holy family fled from King Herod's soldiers by night. Out of desperation, Mary tried to hide her precious child under a leafless holly bush. As she prayed for protection, the bush grew new green leaves to hide the Child and thorns to offer him protection. The soldiers passed by, leaving the child unharmed. In return, the Christ Child blessed the holly so it would remain evergreen - a symbol of Hope and Immortality.



50 YEAR PRESENTATIONS

Congratulations to **Sister Hilda Rasmussen**, PM a new Golden Star! 
Presentation was made by Sister Jean Pifer, Grand Secretary on behalf of the members of Similkameen Chapter No. 78, Oliver. You look marvelous, Hilda.



Sister Roberta Richards, PM of Jubilee Chapter No. 64, was presented with her fifty year pin by Sister Marlyn Marshall, WM. Congratulations to you, new Golden Star!!



Next edition of the Grand Chapter Newsletter will be out in early February. Email any submissions to Dana at Cariboostar@gmail.com

**What goes OH OH OH?
Santa walking backwards.**



Merry Christmas!



Wishing You Joy at Christmas

*Christmas comes and with its coming
Joyous carols fill the air;
Friendly faces smile their greetings,
Happiness is everywhere.*

*How I love the gleaming sparkle
Of the lights on the Christmas trees;
Shepherds, Wise Men, holly, candles,
Christmas brings us all of these.*

*Christmas brings us, too, the story
of the birth of Mary's Son,
How He came to be our Saviour,
Bringing hope to everyone.*



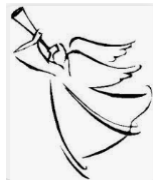
*So for God's great loving kindness,
For His priceless gift to all,
Hearts are turned to humble reverence
To a manger and a stall.*

*Lonely shepherds kept their vigil
On the plains of Bethlehem
Where, so long before, Ruth gathered
Culms of barley, stem by stem.*



*And I like to know that Jesus
Came from lineage of Ruth,
He who gave the world new courage,
He who is the Way, the Light, the Truth.*

*Clad in white, the angels sang of
Peace to earth and glad goodwill
And the joy that thrilled the shepherds
Cheers the hearts of all men still.*



*Once again, this Christmas season,
Angels seem to hover near,
Once again we hear the echo
Of their message sweet and clear.*

*Firesides glow and windows glisten
Trimmed with holly wreaths and pine
Welcoming the glad arrival
of the Gift of Love Divine.*



*Somehow, hope and love shine brighter
Through the happy Christmastide
And we find in fullest measure
Joys that through the year, abide.*



*Love is always in our Christmas
And that love we gladly share
As we give our gifts and greetings
To our dear friends everywhere.*

*God's great love for all His people
Gave us our first Christmas Day
When the Saviour, long expected,
Came to help us on our way.*



*Christmas brings us, too, the Wise Men
Travelling slowly through the night,
Searching for the newborn Christ child
Guided by a heavenly light.*

*As they gave their gifts in worship
To the Child of Bethlehem,
Peace and joy and sweet assurance
Seemed to settle over them.*

*Christmas music lifts our spirits
As the Christmastime draws near,
And we hear the carols tell us
That the loving Christ is here.*



*Christmas bells are ringing gaily
And their happy notes proclaim
Christmas greetings to all people
In His blessed holy name.*

*The Star of Bethlehem still shines
Within the hearts of men,
And in its light we make our way
to Bethlehem again;*

*So may it's gentle, peaceful rays
Shine on your path to bless
Your Christmas Day and all your days
With joy and happiness.*

A merry, happy, blessed Christmas to you all.