



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

# Grand Chapter Newsletter

May 2024

## *In this issue...*

*Our Members*  
*Grand Chapter Session – looking ahead*  
*Our Colours – Blue Yellow White Green Red*  
*In Memoriam*  
*Grand Representative appointments*  
*The rest of the story...*



## *Honour Days & Evenings*

*As the end of the year nears for our Grand Officers of 2023 – 2024, we have seen the honour events popping up here and there and everywhere.*

*Thank you to our Grand Officers for accepting an appointed office this past year. You will always be a part of the “True Patriot Love” family and you will always be appreciated. And I honour you!*

*~ Alice Mathews, WGM*



## **Our colours, emblems and applicable verses**

If you are inclined to do a little reading check out the verses:

**BLUE** symbolizes fidelity; violet; the Sword & Veil united; open bible; Judges 11:30-31, 34-35

**YELLOW** symbolizes constancy; yellow jessamine; the Sheaf; lily of the valley; Ruth 2:16-17, 2:1-2:5

**WHITE** symbolizes light, purity & joy; white lily; the Crown & Scepter united; sun; Esther 2:17, 20; 5:1-3

**GREEN** symbolizes hope & immortality; fern; the Broken Column; lamb; St. John 1:3-4, 20, 22-26

**RED** symbolizes fervency; red rose; the cup; lion; I John 4:7-8; 17-21; II John 1:1-5

## **HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER 2024 “It’s in the Stars”**

The Grand Chapters of Alberta, British Columbia & Yukon, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington will meet for the annual Hands Across the Border exchange on May 4, 2024 in Post Falls Idaho. If you’d like more information, please contact your Chapter Secretary.

# GRAND REPRESENTATIVES 2024

The following submissions were received from contributing Chapters. Thank you for sending in your photos. As always, announcements are made on the Grand Chapter website.



← Sister Terri Nicholson of Lansdowne Chapter No. 72 was presented with a commission of Grand Representative of Indiana, by Sister Polly Fremstad, Grand Organist. Congratulations Terri!



← Sister Sandra Zaruba was presented with a commission of Grand Representative of Connecticut by Sister Ann Lysholm, Past Grand Matron. Pictured also is Brother Jan Jansen, Worthy Patron and Sister Karen Yoshioka, Worthy Matron of Burrard Chapter No. 3 who are thrilled for Sandra! Congratulations!!

Sister Barbara Moncrief presented a commission of a Grand Representative of Brazil to Sister Rena Lawlan in February. Rena → was so surprised! Congratulations!!



Australia – Pat Follett  
Colorado – Donna Rohr  
Connecticut – Sandra Zaruba  
Florida – Peggi Chabot  
Illinois – Cathie Thompson  
Indiana – Terri Nicholson  
Iowa – Andrea Webster  
Italy – Jacquie Hancock  
Louisiana – Dorothy Churchill  
Maine – Beth Olson  
Maryland – Bill McGill  
Massachusetts – Gwen Sturn  
Minnesota – Nancy Baillie  
Montana – Sandra Bateman

New York – Dianne Graham  
Ontario – Leslie David  
Rhode Island – Jackie Fleming  
Sao Paulo – Rena Lawlan  
South Carolina – Beverly Peatt  
South Dakota – Trudy Tener  
Utah – George Findlay  
Vermont – Elaine McCague  
Wisconsin – Audrey Tarr

## WHERE WILL YOU GO?

Congratulations to our newest Grand Representatives!



# In Loving Memory



- ★ Sister Doreen Veale – Adah Chapter No. 16 – April 9, 2024
- ★ Sister Eva Farquhar – Adah Chapter No. 16 – April 8, 2024
- ★ Sister Emma Craig – Princess Pine No. 67 – March 24, 2024
- ★ Sister Lois Smith – Arbutus Chapter No. 68 – March 18, 2024
- ★ Sister Sharon Hamer – Minto Chapter No. 79 – March 18, 2024
- ★ Sister Eva Reul – Edina Chapter No. 33 – March 18, 2024
- ★ Sister Linda Yale – Langley Chapter No. 50 – March 11, 2024
- ★ Brother Glen Stewart – Kelowna Chapter No. 62 – March 10, 2024
- ★ Brother John Chicoine – Adah Chapter No. 16 -March 4, 2024
- ★ Sister Berenice Rice – Florence Chapter No. 53 – February 28, 2024
- ★ Sister Violet Gaye – Similkameen Chapter No. 78 – February 24, 2024
- ★ Sister Catherine Stewart – Minto Chapter No. 79 – February 23, 2024
- ★ Sister Lee Sandberg – Electa Chapter No. 20 – February 23, 2024
- ★ Brother Bruce Minchin, PGP – Nechako Chapter No. 40 – February 21, 2024
- ★ Sister Sophie Keis – Lansdowne Chapter No. 72 – February 9, 2024
- ★ Brother John Bradley – Chas Maria Chapter No. 76 – February 9, 2024
- ★ Sister Irene (Rene) Lilly – Adah Chapter No. 16 – February 7, 2024
- ★ Sister Joyce Swain – Ypres Chapter No. 48 – February 4, 2024
- ★ Sister Sheila Keller – Nechako Chapter No. 40 – February 1, 2024
- ★ Sister Frances Hastie – Electa Chapter No. 20 - December 14, 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 51<sup>st</sup> Triennial Assembly 2024

This session will be held in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina from October 24<sup>th</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup>, 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/>

Housing - <https://easternstar.org/triennial-assembly-2024/triennial-assembly-2024-housing/>

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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# GRAND CHAPTER 2024

Pre-Registration deadline is fast approaching. Please contact your secretary for your credentials and registration form, or find it on the Grand Chapter website:

<http://bcgrandchapter.com/grchptrsessions2024.html>

Banquets are organized. That form can be obtained from your secretary and is also available on the Grand Chapter website. The All Members Banquet theme is “Canada, eh?” and we ask you to consider wearing something in our patriotic colours of red and/or white. There’s a live band, entertainment and it promises to be a GRAND time! More details will follow in the coming days.

**\*\*\*Resolutions and Reports have been submitted in advance and can be found on the Grand Chapter website. Sisters and Brothers – if you wish to have paper copies, please ask your Chapter Secretary. Copies will NOT be available or provided at Grand Chapter. \*\*\***

There are nine resolutions - [http://bcgrandchapter.com/resolutions\\_page.html](http://bcgrandchapter.com/resolutions_page.html)

Information about 2024 Grand Chapter session - <http://bcgrandchapter.com/grchptrsessions2024.html>

Letters of intent – get to know who is in the running for newly elected Grand Officers...

[http://bcgrandchapter.com/Combined%20Letters%20of%20Intent%20to%20Chapter%20\(web\).pdf](http://bcgrandchapter.com/Combined%20Letters%20of%20Intent%20to%20Chapter%20(web).pdf)

Annual Reports - [http://bcgrandchapter.com/GC\\_Reports.html](http://bcgrandchapter.com/GC_Reports.html)

Things to bring and other things:

- Church service is held outdoors...if you're not comfortable on bleacher seating you are welcome to bring your own lawn chair.
- There will be a bottle of water in your registration bag. If you could please reuse that bottle or bring your own cup it would be appreciated.
- Remember your lanyard for your name/registration badges.
- If you play the piano and wish to play at some point before the sessions start, please bring some of your favourite music.
- Three food trucks will be on site for all three days. If you don't have a banquet to attend you are encouraged to enjoy the food trucks!
- Your own copies of the resolutions.
- Vendors will be present – please bring a few extra dollars for buying something special and don't forget about the 50/50, gift cards and lotto boards, not just to buy but to donate, too!
- \$5 gift bags will be available. Donations are most welcome!
- Gift baskets will be on display and you may buy and place your ticket(s) in the draw of your choice.
- There will be a live band and dancing at the all members banquet! Bring comfortable dancing shoes!!
- Reminder to buy banquet tickets before May 15<sup>th</sup> there will be no sales after that date.
- If you are able to assist in setting up the Grand Chapter room, please let any of the Committee on Arrangements team know. We would appreciate the help. Thank you!

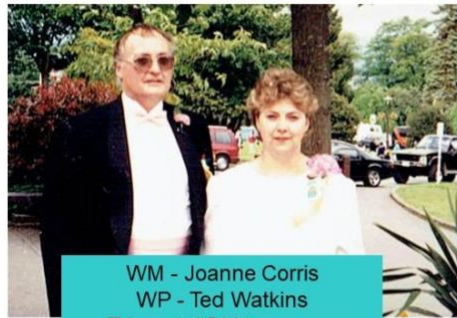
– Honey Affleck, Chair

# MEMORIES FROM DAYS GONE BY TRIUMPH CHAPTER NO. 51 1988 – 1989

~ Submitted by Sister Joanne Corris

I was Worthy Matron for the first time in Triumph Chapter No. 51 in Vancouver and now I am ending my term as Worthy Matron of Arbutus Chapter No. 68 in Parksville for 2023 - 2024. I am pleased to share this bit of history with you.

The Installation of Officers of Triumph Chapter No. 51 was held on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 1988 which was also our regular stated meeting. Sister Mable Donald was the Installing Officer, my mom, Sister Frances Watkins, was Installing Marshal, my dad, Brother Ted Watkins, was my Worthy Patron, and my sister Peggy, was our Sentinel.



WM - Joanne Corris  
WP - Ted Watkins  
Triumph #51 Vancouver  
At Grand Chapter May 1988 in  
New Westminster



WGP - Don Vass, WGM - Myrtle Tucker  
WM - Sylvia Flynn, WP Albert Bull  
Arbutus Chapter #68 Parksville.  
Official Visit 1988

On April 11, 1988 Arbutus Chapter held their Installation of Officers. Sister Sylvia Flynn was installed as Worthy Matron and Brother Albert Bull was installed as Worthy Patron. Sister Irene Finholm, Past Grand Matron, was the Installing Grand Officer. The Sentinel reported 52 members and 83 visitors present for a total of 135.



The Galaxy of the Stars Grand Chapter Session was at the Queen's Park Arena in New Westminster on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1988. Worthy Grand Matron was Sister Bobbi Millin and our Worthy Grand Patron was Brother Ian Hamilton. There were seventy-nine Chapters that year of which seventeen were on the Island. There were 969 voting members plus 73 members from outside Jurisdiction as well as 364 non-voting members. At that time only Past Matrons and Past Patrons could vote as well as the current Worthy Matrons and Patron and Associate Matrons and Patrons. That's a total of 1406 in attendance.

The Installation of our Worthy Grand Matron Myrtle Tucker and Worthy Grand Patron Don Vass and their Officers was held on June 1, 1988. Our Club was called the Stars of '88. Sister Sylvia is unable to come to our meetings now but comes out to events in the daytime and we enjoy our conversations and friendship.

In October 1988, Arbutus Chapter had their Official Visit and School of instruction The Sentinel reported 32 members and 51 visitors present for a total of 83. And now, sadly, we have just twenty-six Chapters in total with eight on the Island. And, in comparison, at Grand Chapter in 2023, we had just 165 members and 27 visitors for a total of 192 members present.

I hope you enjoyed this little bit of history. *Thank you for sharing this, Joanne! Awesome memories!*

Joanne Corris, Worthy Matron, Arbutus Chapter No. 68 '23-'24  
P.S. **ARBUTUS HAS THE TRAVELING GAVEL!!!**

# NEWS from Kelowna Chapter No. 62

Thank you to Sister Arlene Johnston and Sister Heather MacDonald of Kelowna Chapter No. 62 for sharing the following:

Six of our Sisters were recently granted Life Membership for 25 years of outstanding service to our Order. They are, from left to right – Sisters June Brown, Bev Peatt, Lillian Marshall, Pat Follett and Marion Humphrey. Photo on the right is Sister Bernice Jackson who is no longer able to attend meetings. Congratulations to each of you!



## The Rest of the Story...

*In the February 2024 edition of the Grand Chapter Newsletter I wrote about Mr. John Henry William Findler. It just so happens his granddaughter read the article and I received a phone call one day from her, our own Sister Beverly Jarvis. She told me that she was pleased to read the newsletter, that she thought I did a marvelous job and this newsletter was especially dear to her heart... she is the granddaughter of Mr. John Henry William Findler! She told me that I was spot on and she would write to me soon. Read on, Sisters and Brothers.*

Dear Dana,

It was so exciting to read your article in this month's newsletter, all about Oak Bay Chapter and my family. My maiden name is Findler. Jack Findler was my grandfather. Norman and Alice Findler were my parents.

I joined Ruth Chapter in January 1961 and was Worthy Matron in 1970 – 1971. I was also a member of Oak Bay Chapter and now, with consolidation, I am a member of Queen City Chapter No. 5. I am a 63-year member, a life member and a past Grand Representative.

I take great pride that my daughter Sylvia Jarvis and both of my granddaughters, Jennifer Warnock (just elected Worthy Matron of Queen City Chapter) and Elizabeth Linklater are also members of Queen City Chapter. We really have made it a family affair.

You have done a super job getting all this information. All the old members of Oak Bay Chapter will get a laugh at the price of the ticket for the dance plus refreshments fifty cents!

Please write something about yourself and your Chapter. It is always interesting to know other Star members.

*Sisters and Brothers, please consider submitting something for this newsletter. As Sister Jarvis writes, it's always interesting to know our Star members. If you have something you'd like to know perhaps our Grand Historian has something in her records. I'm always happy to find some little tidbit of information to research with what I have at my disposal. Send me an email!*

*~ Dana*

## From Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Alice Mathews

*One more time to put something in the newsletter...the last time as Worthy Grand Matron! It has been quite a ride and a huge education. A lot of thanks go to a lot of people for opening my eyes in general!*

*Our Stars are just like the stars in the sky. Some bright, some large, some twinkle, some shine, all of which make for quite a celestial body. And such a wonderful show, when it's not cloudy. And we have a lot of clouds in BC, which has become evident as winter goes and spring comes.*

*We have had to make a lot of changes and accept the inevitable. Some things never change - our shared Obligation to each other as Sisters and Brothers - we all stood at the Altar at one time or another and solemnly promised to be just, kind and fair to each other. Some of us need to repeat that obligation more than once a year!*

*Faith, hope and charity, trust, kindness, and even responsibility, fidelity, constancy loyalty, all these lessons that are part of each and every one of us. The next time you have the urge to be only unto yourself, pick a word, any word, and maybe even bite your tongue. I do sincerely believe that the Order of the Eastern Star will grow and flourish if you only would remember to smile and to love one another.*

*There is strength in numbers and if enough good seeds are planted and if enough attention, care and love is given, we will grow and become a little piece of heaven where all will be beautiful once more and the Stars will shine like gems by the hundreds.*

*This, my year, our year, has been the experience of a lifetime. Thank you everybody.*

*~ Alice*



The next edition of the Grand Chapter Newsletter will be out in June or July. Please email your submissions to Dana at [cariboostar@gmail.com](mailto:cariboostar@gmail.com)

*Good luck to the incoming 2024 – 2025 Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter of British Columbia and Yukon. Have a fun year, safe travels and all the very best to the Jewels of the Northern Sky family.*