



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

Grand Chapter Newsletter

July 2024



Grand Officers for 2024 - 2025 Jewels of the Northern Sky

Worthy Grand Matron – Sister Bonnie-Jean Foulds
Worthy Grand Patron – Brother Terry Foulds
Associate Grand Matron – Sister Cheryl Rikley
Associate Grand Patron – Brother Terry Porter
Grand Secretary – Sister Sue Pfaff
Grand Treasurer – Sister Sonia Rockwell
Grand Conductress – Sister Flo Evans
Associate Grand Conductress – Sister Cheryl Pasholko
Grand Trustees – Brother Robert Palmieri
Sister Jo-Ann Knutila
Sister Daphne Keith
Sister Heather MacDonald
Brother Wayne Woodhouse
Grand Chaplain – Sister Cynthia Hague
Grand Lecturer – Sister Deb Buxton
Grand Marshal – Sister Lorraine Collins
Grand Organist – Sister Elaine Armstrong
Grand Adah – Sister Brenda Sewell
Grand Ruth – Sister Sharon Hards
Grand Esther – Sister Ruth Sommers
Grand Martha – Sister Sandy Fowler
Grand Electa – Sister Linda Boot
Grand Warder – Brother Martin Allen
Grand Sentinel – Brother Brian Evans

Theme – Jewels of the Northern Sky
Emblem – Northern Lights
Goal – to encourage growth in our Order
Motto – Life is better when you are laughing
Colours – Colours of the Northern Lights: Purple (rare) Pink (rare), Blue, Red, Green
Flowers – Wild Roses, Roses, Tulips and Heather
Honour Stations – Warder & Sentinel
Watch Words – Laughter, Fun and Wonder
Fun Emblems – WGM – Moose and Bear
WGP – Wolf and Raven
Club Name – Stars of the Northern Lights

Scripture – Ecclesiastes, 1-8 There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens; a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot; a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to mourn and a time to dance; a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away; a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak; a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

Official Visits

	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>SOI</u>	<u>OV</u>
<u>September</u>				
8 th	Florence No. 53 & Chas Maria No.76	Courtenay	10:30	2:00
10 th	Sharon No. 4	Ladysmith	3:00	7:00
11 th	Queen City No. 5	Victoria	3:00	7:00
13 th	Arbutus No. 68	Parksville	4:00	7:00
15 th	Mizpah No. 36	Maple Ridge	2:00	7:30
16 th	Langley No. 50	Langley	3:00	7:30
18 th	Burrard No. 3	North Vancouver	(w/Mizpah)	7:30
19 th	Electa No. 20	Abbotsford	3:00	7:30
20 th	Fraser No. 30	Ladner	3:00	7:30
21 st	Ypres No. 48	Surrey	3:30	7:00
24 th	Similkameen No. 78	Oliver	10:00	1:00
25 th	Edina No. 33	Penticton	10:00	1:00
26 th	Kelowna No. 62	Kelowna	2:00	6:00
28 th	Lansdowne No. 72	Enderby	10:00	1:00
<u>October</u>				
1 st	Adah No. 16	Kamloops	3:00	7:00
2 nd	Cariboo No. 71	Quesnel	3:00	7:30
3 rd	Princess Pine No. 67	Williams Lake	3:00	7:30
4 th	Nechako No. 40	SOI	3:00	-
5 th	Nechako No 40	OV	-	1:30
16 th	Sunset No. 44	Duncan	2:00	7:30
19 th	Alberni No. 100	Port Alberni	(w/Arbutus)	2:00

Travels of the Worthy Grand Matron

Greetings Sisters and Brothers. Our travels began the morning following our Installation, we left Oliver with what appeared to be more than we brought with us. It's amazing how much can be squeezed into the back of our vehicle! Sister Deb, Grand Lecturer, Brother Terry, Worthy Grand Patron, and I headed to our first stop in Olds, Alberta for their Grand Chapter. We enjoyed meeting new members and renewing friendships. Their Saturday dinner was fun and the food was delicious. The installation was held on Sunday afternoon, and Sister Deb filled in as Grand Conductress. Everyone was sent home with a snack bag after installation. Also in attendance were Sister Eileen Palmieri, Past Grand Matron, Sister Cheryl Rikley, Associate Grand Matron, Brother Terry Porter, Associate Grand Patron, Sister Flo Evans, Grand Conductress, Brother Robert Palmieri, Grand Trustee, Sister Darlene Porter and Sister Joanne Corris. Brother Terry and I look forward to visiting the Grand Chapter of Alberta again next year.

Monday morning we headed to our next destination, Cranbrook, and our arrival was earlier than anticipated. Our thanks to the hosts who offered accommodations for Monday and Wednesday evening. We headed to Castlegar on Tuesday for Minto Chapter's meeting that same evening. This would be our first Official Visit. Most of the members who attended Alberta Grand Chapter also joined us at Minto Chapter. Thank you, Minto Chapter, for your hospitality and your donations. The School of Instruction was held under Good of the Order.

Wednesday we arrived at Jubilee Chapter first enjoying a lunch and then an afternoon meeting, followed by refreshments. During the meeting, many members of the Chapter explained which family members qualified for the Elizabeth Bentley Bursary and the Chapter is to be commended for all the members and relatives who earned recognition for the Elizabeth Bentley Bursary. The School of Instruction was held under Good of the Order. Thank you, Jubilee Chapter, for your hospitality and your donations and our thanks to our hosts. Brother Terry and I would like to thank the members who travelled with us to Minto and Jubilee Chapters. With their assistance both Chapters had, or almost had, all positions filled.

Thursday morning they headed home and we continued on our way. We met Brother Larry and Sister Joan Holthe in Dawson Creek on Friday, June 14th, enjoyed lunch together and then carried on to Ft. St. John. We enjoyed a relaxing evening and prepared for the coming days.

On Saturday afternoon the School of Instruction took place at the Ft. St John Masonic Hall. Many new members attended, many questions were asked and Sister Deb reviewed several items that were on the list Sister Linda Stirling had given me. Thank you to the members who attended and showed your interest at the School of Instruction. Items reviewed included carrying the flags, balloting and the signs and passes. Brother Terry demonstrated an alternate way to learn new information regarding Eastern Star. You can look forward to Brother Terry sharing new information with your Chapter. You just might have some fun. Dinner, served before the meeting, was enjoyed by all. Special congratulations to the members who put their new knowledge to use during the meeting! It was exciting to see them try out the new learning. We thank Peace Chapter and Alcan Chapter for their donations to a variety of charities. When the meeting was over we enjoyed refreshments. Thank you to Peace and Alcan Chapters for your hospitality.

We headed home for a couple of days and then Brother Terry and I headed to Terrace for Grand Lodge, representing the Order of the Eastern Star on Friday, June 21st in the morning. It provided the opportunity to reconnect with past, present and future Grand Masters, we renewed old friendships and met new people.

We look forward to further adventures along the Grand Chapter Trail. Have a good summer!

Fraternally,
Sister Bonnie-Jean Foulds, Worthy Grand Matron



In Loving Memory



- ★ *Brother Robert Kerr, Kelowna Chapter No. 62 – passed May 24, 2024*
- ★ *Sister Rosemary MacDougall, Electa Chapter No. 20 – passed June 7, 2024*
- ★ *Sister Bernice Wardill, Past Grand Matron, Crescent Chapter No. 10 – passed June 8, 2024*
- ★ *Sister Joan Stanley, Kelowna Chapter No. 62 – passed June 12, 2024*
- ★ *Sister Margaret Jakobsen, Jubilee Chapter No. 64 – passed June 14, 2024*
- ★ *Sister May Campbell, Crescent Chapter No. 10 – passed June 28, 2024*
- ★ *Sister Elizabeth Wengberg, Chapters Adah No. 16, Edina No. 33 & Similkameen No. 78 – passed July 1, 2024*
- ★ *Brother Riah Hove, Adah Chapter No. 16 – passed away July 8, 2024*

Our condolences to the family, friends, Chapters, Sisters and Brothers of these departed members.



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**Are you planning to attend General Grand Chapter??**  
**Registration deadline is September 20<sup>th</sup>**

## From the JPGM

Sisters and Brothers, I was asked to submit something for the newsletter at the end of Grand Chapter. I am pleased to reach out again to the readers in our Grand Jurisdiction. Life isn't quite like it used to be but it is still pretty wonderful in this role of Junior Past Grand Matron.



My 'office area' is slowly getting back to normal but there are some things that just keep getting in the way! "What's in here?" "Where does this go now?" "Who do these belong to?" "Why is this still here?" "When did this come?" And then, I open a box that is tied with ribbon and release the joy, shed the tears, and enjoy the laughter associated with all the cards that have been saved since my days as Grand Martha. Then the congratulations messages as I took on the role of Associate Grand Conductress. The sentiment is overwhelming. Your faith in me and the hopes proffered as I remember, was a wee bit scary as I hoped and prayed that I would do each job well. I quit counting at 125 cards and in all of that there were only 2 that were the same, believe it or not! But the messages, every one, had the same love included and that's why I still have those cards, tied up with a pretty ribbon. Someday somebody will say "What the heck is this?" **this** being

very special to nobody but me. And I just feel like the members need to know that to take the time to choose a card, to put thoughts to paper, to post the note, was not in vain. I even received sympathy cards which was touching. One can only feel the love. Thank you to everybody who took the time and made the effort to share the love and express happiness. It is well!

~ Star love and hugs,  
Sister Alice Mathews  
Junior Past Grand Matron

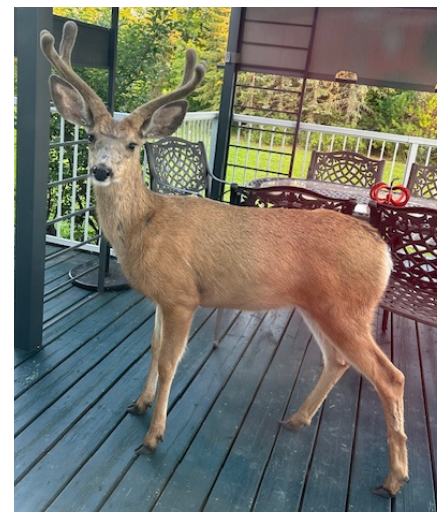
## From the JPGP (x 2)

Hello Star Members! It took two days to get back to the ranch, and during that long ride, Joan and I had time to reflect and marvel at what a great time we had at the Grand Session. As far as I am concerned, everything went without a hitch, and if there were glitches, the competent and capable volunteers handled it. Some things were done differently than other years, and I know that there will be changes in the next upcoming sessions, also. There will always be room for improvement and creativity, with the personal marks that make each year special.

I consider my terms as your Worthy Grand Patron to be highlights in my life, and it is the friends I have made in my Star Life over these past 32 years that has made it extra memorable. So thanks, everyone, again, for a wonderful journey, let's keep up the good work!

~ Star hugs,  
Larry Holthe  
Junior Past Grand Patron

PS - This little buck is typical to my area, but not on the deck, usually...that's why the community I live in is called "Doe River."



Nature's beauty...

"Keep me where the Northern Lights are."

"In a world full of sunsets, be the Northern Lights."

"It's official. Nature wins the award for Best Glow-Up."



**What I found...a little Star history of Sister Bernice Wardill, PGM**

Sister Bernice was initiated into the Order of the Eastern Star in 1947. She was Worthy Matron in 1965 of Nanaimo Chapter. She was installed as Worthy Grand Matron in June 1991 at the Grand Chapter Session in Richmond. Her mother, Betty Nash, PM of Nanaimo Chapter, was especially proud of her daughter for she was also Past Matron in 1947. Betty's mother-in-law, Muriel Wardill, was also a member of Nanaimo Chapter as was her daughter Barbara. Almost immediately after installation this Worthy Grand Matron had already begun her official visits to 77 Eastern Star Chapters in BC.

On September 9, 1991 Sister Bernice was in the Cariboo, visiting Princess Pine Chapter where → she is pictured with her Worthy Grand Patron Arnold Staley, Grand Organist Henry Enns, Grand Sentinel Bruce Minchin and Grand Lecturer Iowan De Yaeger.



In October of 1991, Sister Bernice attended her Honour Day in Nanaimo where 500 guests were in attendance. Imagine!! The Official Visit to Lansdowne Chapter saw 86 members and visitors at the meeting in the evening, some having come from as far away as Victoria. In November 1991, Sister Bernice was at Sunset Chapter where she presented 25 year pins to Sisters Beverly McLeod, Susan Leslie and Gladys Carson. It was reported in the Nanaimo Daily News that Sister Bernice traveled approximately 10,000 km around the province and raised funds for her charity - equipment for Queen Alexandra's Hospital for Children in Victoria as well as collecting toys for children there and in BC Children's Hospital in Vancouver.

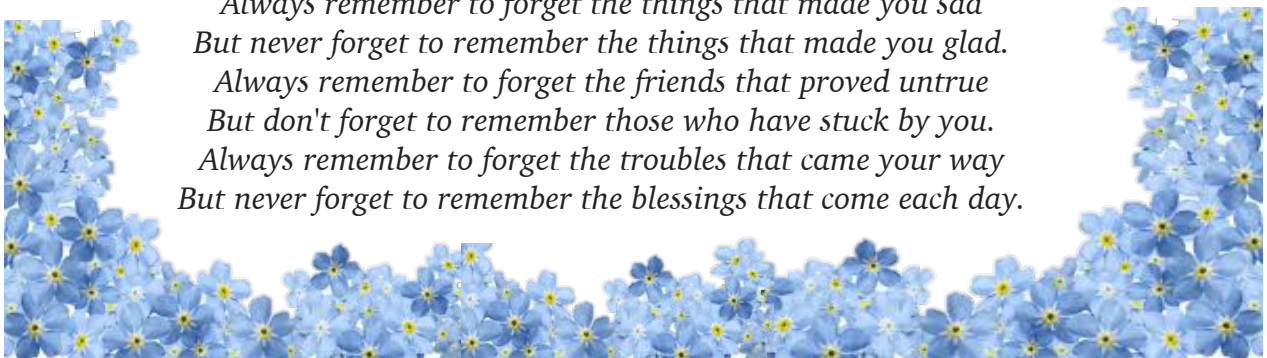
At the Nanaimo Convention Centre, in 1992, Grand Chapter Session was held. Her husband, her mother and her daughter took part in the ceremonies as Grand Pages. Sister Rena Davis was installed as Worthy Grand Matron.

In 2008 Stan and Bernice won \$100,000 in a lottery from the local hospital. They donated money back to the hospital, paid for tuition for grandchildren, helped their children with mortgages and then went on a cruise.

Bernice and her husband Stan (a lawyer and then a Provincial Court Judge), were very involved in the community and social circle in the City of Nanaimo, both well known and well respected. She was predeceased by her husband in March 2017. We extend our condolences to the family of Bernice, the friends and members of her Chapters in Nanaimo. She was a beautiful lady.



Always remember to forget the things that made you sad  
But never forget to remember the things that made you glad.  
Always remember to forget the friends that proved untrue  
But don't forget to remember those who have stuck by you.  
Always remember to forget the troubles that came your way  
But never forget to remember the blessings that come each day.



The next edition of the Grand Chapter Newsletter will be out in September. Please email your submissions to Dana at [cariboostar@gmail.com](mailto:cariboostar@gmail.com) Let's make it an interesting read!!