

# Royal grand chapter, OES, PHA Proclamation and Newsletter

Flora J. Simon, GWM      Johnny H. Carolina, GWP

**Proclamation:** By the power vested in me as Grand Worthy Matron, I declare February 21-23, 2019, as the 134<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Royal Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, PHA. All officers and members of each subordinate chapter, and all grand chapter officers are to assembly during these days at the Masonic Temple 2906 East Harding Ave in Pine Bluff, Arkansas to conduct official business. **At least \$25 of the 2019 dues must be paid by January 31 in order for a member to attend Grand**

**Session.**



## Grand Chapter Events:

### Thursday, February 21 at

- 10:00 am – Grand Chapter elected officers meet in conference room.
  
  - **11:00 am - all grand chapter elected and appointed officers, & hostess committee meet in the OES Chapter Room. Registration committee in the lounge.**
  
  - 3:00 – 5:00 pm – Registration in the OES Foyer
  - 6:15 pm - Begin lining up for Memorial Service in the Chapter room
  - 7:00pm - Memorial Service –
  - After memorial service, Reception for Visitors – Hostesses are District 3 Deputies and Worthy Matrons
- \*\*\*\*\*Marshals & Conductresses meet in chapter room after memorial program.

### Friday, February 23 at

- 7:00 am ----- Registration
- 8:30 am -----Official Business Session
- 11:00 ----- Ritualistic Opening
- 7:00 pm -----CN Toney Annual Trustee Banquet
  - Extra ticket - \$30.00

### Saturday, February 24 at

- 7:15 -- New Matrons and Patrons Administrative Degree – Blue & White OES Rm
- 9:00 am ----- Grand Master Wilson's Address
- Reports Continue and Election
- 6:30 pm ----- Gala theme: *A Journey through Africa* (Dinner and Entertainment) The sponsor is district #1.
  - Extra ticket - \$15.00

**NOTE: Invite family and friends to the Memorial Service, Banquet & Gala; these are open to the public.** These can be great recruitment events.

**Registration:** Local Chapter registration forms have been sent to Worthy Matrons by Grand Matron. These forms must be returned by December 31, 2018. Only after the chapter registration form has been received in the Grand Matron's office, will GFS Hunter sent out the member registration form for grand chapter. Registration for an individual is \$75.00; late and on-site is \$95.00. Pre-registration deadline is Feb. 7, 2019. Gala and banquet tickets are included in this fee. A banquet ticket is not guaranteed with on-site registration. Register early. Extra banquet and gala tickets must be purchased during the pre-registration period. A Worthy Patron can register with the OES and use that registration to attend Grand Lodge meeting, but not in reverse.

**Dress Wear:** All white and full regalia both days. If you do not have a regalia, wear your chapter badge on the five color side. For the memorial services, the dress is white and full regalia with white prayer cap.

Elected and appointed officers will wear long dresses on Friday. On Saturday, they may wear long or mid-length dresses on Saturday. No members will wear short white. All dresses and skirts must be at or below the knee. All white boots are allowed.

No head wear or hair bows. White gloves are required, and jewelry is all white or wear white pearls.

**Choir Practice:** Thursday at 3 pm. Please come and join the choir; invite the brothers to join also.

**Seating:** Worthy matron, patrons, and district deputy grand matrons will sit on the north side of the room in the front section. Visitors will sit up front on the south side of the room. Choir members will sit on the south side near the piano.

**Community Service Projects:** Community service project reports are due on **January 31, 2019.** A monetary award is provided for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> place reports to help the chapter provide continued charitable community support. Reports must be organized and in a scrapbook. We are to get involved in the community.

**Policy and Procedural Manuals and New Burial Rituals:** All members are required to have an official copy of the procedural manual. They are \$5.00. Bring an extra \$5 to Grand Session to purchase one. If you order one by mail, it will cost you \$6.50 to cover the postage. The newly revised Burial Rituals (2016) will be available at Grand Chapter for \$3.00.

**Car Raffle Tickets:** All ticket reports should be into the PHGL office by February 16, 2019. Please send the stubs with the money. If for some reason, you need to make a report after that date, turn in the report on Thursday, February 21. OES chapters should not be returning tickets. Sale or buy the tickets.

**2019 Masonic Calendar:** The 2019 calendar was released in December. Additional calendars will be available at grand session. The State workshop is June 22, 2019; add this to the calendar if you have already received one.

## Membership: A Continuous Process

- Refer to Proclamation Volume #6 Issue #2 dated 5/2/2018 for the correct fees.
- In 2019, the emphasis will be on local meeting attendance and membership recruitment.
- Officer training will continue to be the focus at our statewide workshop.

### AN URGENT MESSAGE

Worthy Matrons and secretaries it is required that you print out all proclamations and newsletter and other communications from the grand matron and keep them in a binder. That way you can refer back to them for important information. My travel around the state and observation of continual errors has proved that worthy matrons are not keeping the proclamations in a note book nor are they reading the proclamations and newsletter in their entirety. This must end. You must read all information. You will become more informed and make less mistakes.

Worthy Matrons, you cannot change the meeting date, time and location of your meeting unless you write and get an approved dispensation from the Grand Worthy Matron. If approved, you must send in a revised annual return form. Election meetings must be held at the regular schedule time and place. Please do this!

Worthy Matrons, you are the leaders of the organization so you must be knowledgeable of all polices, laws, and regulations. Therefore, **when you attend state meetings (workshops, mid-year, and grand session), you are expected to stay for the entire meeting. You are not to leave at lunch; the entire meeting in informational and important.**

Worthy Matrons, be open to suggestions from your members and be an innovative thinker conducting engaging & enjoyable meetings.

Worthy Matrons, after three years there is no reason why your officers (secretary, treasurer, and audit committee) are not prepared to give a correct annual report. Information was sent to you way in advance of your annual meeting outlining expectations. Again, read and share communications. Also, during election months, no meeting date, location, and time can be changed. No one except the Grand Matron can give you permission to change a date, time, or location.

Worthy Matrons, some of you are not keeping all communications in a three ring binder. Again, all communications are to be placed in one three ring binder. That notebook becomes another reference law book for you. It will keep you up-to-date and on task. It should be passed on to new matrons or make her a copy. It will serve as your goodwill jester to helping her get off to a great start as a new matron.

**COMMITMENT:** In 2019, all local chapters will make a contribution to the mortgage commitment. The donation will be no less than \$300.00. Add that amount to your budget; so, you can start having fundraisers. All Worthy Matrons are expected to support the mortgage program.

## **Facebook Guidelines:**

When used correctly, Face book is a meaningful and helpful communication tool. Therefore, the Grand Matron and Grand Master have approved its use as stated below.

No statements will be posted that will bring any negative implications to any members, chapters, the grand chapter or grand lodge.

2. Members will not join in debates with members from other jurisdictions related to Masonic issues.
3. Chapter events may be posted giving the time, place, location and fee.
4. Pictures of members may be posted with or without regalia; such as a group picture of members and officers.
5. Pictures of ceremonies within the chapter room **may not** be posted.
6. Party pictures shall **not** be posted.
7. There will be no live Facebook post of OES programs or events.
8. Definitely, keep your personal business off the web. Remember, there is no such thing as really removing a post; once out there, it is there forever.

## **Reminders:**

1. District Deputy Youth Scholarship Funds are due in February 7, 2019.
2. Worthy Matrons Toss the Coin Fundraiser is in June 7, 2019. All matrons must participate.
  - Scholarship applications are due in June 30.
3. Queen and King Contest is in September.
4. All districts must provide the Queen of South and/ or Amaranth Degree in 2019. Grand Matron must approve the date for a local chapter or district before it is given.