

*Grand Chapter of Missouri*  
  
*Order of the Eastern Star*

December 30, 2011

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

At our Grand Chapter Session in October a Liaison Committee was appointed consisting, of the Line Grand Officers, to work with the Masonic Home Board of Missouri. This committee has been entrusted with the duty of assessing the needs of our Eastern Star and Masonic Members who have or will be obtaining assistance from the funds donated through the OES Masonic Home Fund. As we no longer have an actual Masonic Home, the Masonic Home Board has redirected their efforts to provide assistance through the Outreach Program.

There are funds available in the OES Masonic Home Fund that have been donated by our members through the years with the intent of providing assistance to the residents and programs once established as part of the Masonic Homes that were located in both St. Louis and Kansas City. Since these homes no longer exist and the focus is now on the Outreach Program, it must be determined how these funds can best be utilized to serve the interests of our members.

Through 2012, the Liaison Committee will be attending meetings with the Masonic Home Board, talking with our members and determining what is the best course of action for us to take. No decisions have been made and as was voted on by the membership at Grand Chapter, we are to take this year to assess what is the best course of action to fulfill the intent of those who so willingly donated funds into this account through the years.

The first meeting with the Masonic Home Board was held on December 17, 2011. It was a very productive and informative meeting. We were very impressed with the proficient and professional manner in which the Masonic Home Board conducted the meeting. Ideas were presented on ways that we can provide assistance and bring cheer to those receiving assistance through the Outreach Program. In the coming weeks we will learn more of what we can do and this will be communicated to the membership.

First and foremost, we want to provide information to our membership, give them accurate data on the Outreach Program and solicit their input and ideas. To further this purpose, our Worthy Grand Matron will allow time before each Official Inspection for an open discussion with the members on the Masonic Home Fund and Outreach Program. These open question and answer discussions will be held at 5:00 p.m. prior to the Friday Inspections, and at 11:00 a.m. prior to the Saturday Inspections. The discussions will be held in the chapter room of the temple where we will be having the Official Inspection. We need your assistance and hope that you will plan to attend the sessions and share your feelings with us.

We are hopeful that the members of this Grand Jurisdiction will join the Line Grand Officers in an open discussion on how this can be accomplished. Make plans now to attend the Official Inspections and let your voice be heard.

Fraternally,

Sister Gloria Chaney, Worthy Grand Matron; Brother Jim Williams, Worthy Grand Patron  
Sister Joyce Beabout, Associate Grand Matron; Brother Jack Padley, Associate Grand Patron  
Sister Marge Carney, Grand Conductress; Sister Cinda Reeder, Associate Grand Conductress