



# The Masonic News



## Grand Order of the Eastern Star

Karan Birdsall

Members, friends, and neighbors from all across Nebraska and even beyond our state's borders gathered on Friday evening, January 1, 2021 for a virtual celebration and great reveal. It is now official! Nurtured by Nebraska Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, a 501(c)(3) public charity has been formed to benefit service and therapy dogs. We are pleased to introduce our Masonic family members to OES STAR DOGS OF NEBRASKA, INC. The primary international

philanthropy for the Order of Eastern Star is service and therapy dogs. As a public charity OES STAR DOGS OF NEBRASKA, INC. will work to add to the reach and possibilities of this philanthropic work. While a separate legal entity, the charity will work alongside the Nebraska Grand Chapter Standing Committee for Service and Therapy Dogs and Paws Up, the 2019-2021 Special Project of the WGM and WGP. Standing as a public charity STAR DOGS will open doors to build participation throughout our state and develop support beyond our Eastern Star membership.

Included during the evening was live musical entertainment, the announcement of the creation of the charity and then a live auction to begin the process of accepting donations to the public charity. The virtual event was live cast from the Scottish Rite in Lincoln to more than 400 participants. It was great fun to see tables and guests from locations across Nebraska sharing in the live cast.

the kick off event. Master of Ceremonies for the evening was Dennis Rix, Grand Representative to District of Columbia and Past Grand Master. Attendees and participants received special gift packets for the reveal event including a custom made paw print face mask and a car magnet announcing the public charity. We hope all participants will proudly wear and display these gifts to share the news and tell the story of this public charity.

interrupted we are moving forward with great accomplishments in our Masonic family organizations.



MW Ron Stites Grand Master and Sister Karan Birdsall, WGM.



Lorrie Bryant, member of the Board of Directors, and her husband Sam partnered with MW Ron Stites Grand Master to facilitate the live auction. Thank you to all who donated items for the auction and all who bid to purchase and donate. Thank you to Signet Chapter #55 North Platte, Alpha Chapter #325 Bellevue and District Grand Supervisor Kelly Stahly, Blue River Chapter #132 Milford who joined virtually from their locations to contribute items to the live auction.

2020, its challenges, and the impact of our public health crisis have kept many chapters from meeting since March. However, this reveal of the formation of OES STAR DOGS OF NEBRASKA, INC reminds us that even while we are physically apart from each other and our calendars and events have been



Nan Rix, member of the Board of Directors and Star Dog Louie are pictured taking part in

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### DUES ARE DUE

Dues for all Nebraska Masonic Lodges for 2021 are due Jan. 1. Send payment to your Lodge Secretary. Members with unpaid dues are delinquent as of December 31. Suspension by Grand Lodge comes April 30. Suspension in Blue Lodge also means suspension in Eastern Star, York Rite, Scottish Rite and Shrine.

Look at your dues card. If it does not say 2021, send payment today to your Secretary.

Eastern Star dues are also due Jan. 1. Send dues to your Chapter Secretary. Unpaid members will become delinquent Oct. 1, with suspension Dec. 31.



# The Masonic News

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Adam Thayer, Editor  
Sue Stroud, Business Manager  
Reuben Rieke, Marketing Manager

Send all correspondence to:  
The Masonic News 1635 L Street Lincoln, Nebraska 68508  
News/Editorial/Mailing List Attn: Adam Thayer  
or via email to: editor@masonicnews.org  
Advertising/Subscriptions Attn: Sue Stroud

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masonicnews@gmail.com

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## Lancaster Lodge #54

Adam Thayer

Wow, 2021 already! My how time flies when you're having fun and keeping minutes! This has definitely been an interesting installation season; usually I would be busy attending installations for all of the different bodies in the Masonic family, while helping the incoming Worshipful Master to pull off his installation as well, but this year we have all moved to closed installations. While I

definitely understand the need for caution, I still miss seeing my friends.

WM Matt has a busy calendar for the year already, and there will be more coming out. Focusing on the first quarter of the year, we plan to be busy preparing for the Master Mason degree proficiency to be held in March; WM Matt would like us to get as much practice as possible in so that we can give the best performance.

Next month, we'll be busy in Kearney for Annual Communication right at the beginning of the month, so remember that our business meeting won't be until the second Friday in February.

In March, the lodge will be taking some of the guys from DeMolay on a camping trip; more details to come as they're released, but if you're interested in joining

contact WM Matt and he can let you know more!

On a sad note, we received notice that Brother Claude Clary passed away on December 12th. Brother Clary was raised to the Sublime Degree on November 13th, 1952, and transferred his membership to Lancaster Lodge #54 on June 6, 1969.

Finally, just a quick reminder that your dues are now due; to date, 154 members have received their 2021 dues cards. If you aren't numbered among them, please contact me ASAP and we can discuss it further.

## North Star Lodge #227

Bob Tooker

A Lodge of Entered Apprentice Masons was gaveled open at 7:30 p.m. for the January Business meeting and also for the installation of Officers for 2021. Regarding business, the bills were paid and correspondence was read. Renewal of the lease of the rental property was also discussed. If it seems to the readers of this epistle that this correspondent is struggling to make news, it is true. I'm not good at "making a silk purse out of a sows ear." to borrow an old phrase. There just isn't a

lot to report. Attendance is down, social activities are non existent, and a generally crappy attitude prevails. I think the following poem by the esteemed author, poet and Mason, Rudyard Kipling says it all.

IF  
 If you can keep your head  
 when all about you  
 Are losing theirs and  
 blaming it on you;  
 If you can trust yourself  
 when all men doubt you,  
 But make allowance for  
 their doubting too:  
 If you can wait and not be

tired by waiting,  
 Or, being lied about, don't  
 deal in lies,  
 Or being hated don't give  
 way to hating,  
 And yet don't look too  
 good, nor talk too wise;

If you can dream - and not  
 make dreams your master;  
 If you can think - and not  
 make thoughts your aim,  
 If you can meet with  
 Triumph and Disaster  
 And treat those two  
 impostors just the same:.  
 If you can bear to hear the  
 truth you've spoken  
 Twisted by knaves to make  
 a trap for fools,

Or watch the things you  
 gave your life to, broken,  
 And stoop and build'em up  
 with worn-out tools;

If you can make one heap  
 of all your winnings  
 And risk it on one turn of  
 pitch-and-toss,  
 And lose, and start again  
 at your beginnings,  
 And never breathe a word  
 about your loss:  
 If you can force your heart  
 and nerve and sinew  
 To serve your turn long  
 after they are gone,  
 And so hold on when there  
 is nothing in you  
 Except the Will which says

to them: "Hold on!"

If you can talk with crowds  
 and keep your virtue,  
 Or walk with Kings - nor  
 lose the common touch,  
 If neither foes nor loving  
 friends can hurt you,  
 If all men count with you,  
 but none too much:  
 If you can fill the  
 unforgiving minute  
 With sixty seconds' worth  
 of distance run,  
 Yours is the Earth and  
 everything that's in it,  
 And - which is more - you'll  
 be a Man, my son!

Till next month!

## Liberty Lodge #300

Lynn Friesen

In a year unlike any we have ever experienced before and will hopefully never have to experience again the pendulum swung from highs and lows.

From a low, Liberty had five members reach the end of their toilsome journey and drop their working tools from their nerveless hand. They were Bro. Wayne Labart a 47 year member, Bro. Vernon Heckel a 61 year member, Bro. Arvid Barth a 45 year member, Bro. Danny Cade

a 20 year member and Bro. Cornelius Conley a 65 year member. Thank you for your service to our Lodge, your community and the Craft.

The year ended on a high experience for Liberty and WM Dennis Hecht. Obviously, WM Hecht's plans for 2020 didn't materialize as he had planned going into the year. But, that didn't mean we couldn't finish WM Hecht's year without at least surprising him with

one final gift. It wasn't so much a gift for him, but a gift on the Lodge's behalf that he was able to present to the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children in Fremont. You should have seen the look on his face when he saw the car full of gifts ready to drive up to Fremont and deliver to the Children's Home.

Thank you WM Hecht for your service as our Worshipful Master in 2020. On behalf of everyone from Liberty, it was an

honor to be able to share this experience with you.

2021 is upon us and we have already had our first business meeting, and will have new officers installed by the time this edition of the Masonic News reaches your hands. It is also likely we will have our open and close proficiency completed.

I'll leave you with a prayer from our closing that is profound. "May the blessings of Heaven rest

upon us and all regular Masons. May Brotherly Love prevail and every moral and social virtue cement us. Amen."



## East Lincoln Lodge #210

### Joel Green



his final hours.

Prior to a 40+ year career with Western Electric, Irish was employed by Miller & Paine. He was a member of Masonic Lodge #210, a Shriner, past commander of Mount Moriah Commandery 4 and member of Starcraft Chapter #307, OES.

He began his love for the steel guitar at the age of 8. He was inducted into America's Old Time Music Hall of Fame on October 6, 2012. He was the founding member of The Cornhusker Music Club in Louisville, NE. He was a member of multiple bands including The Country Outlaws, Rawhide, Country Caravan, and Country Pride, giving him the opportunity to play his steel guitar at numerous venues in Eastern Nebraska and Kansas. He had many offers to go play his steel guitar professionally, but he chose to stay in Lincoln to raise a family. He played all his instruments by ear, including the dobro, the mandolin, and guitar. He attended and performed with professional steel guitar musicians at The National Steel Guitar Convention over Labor Day weekends in St. Louis, MO, for several years, traveling with his wife and friends. He met and performed with Patsy Montana and Joe and Roselee Maphis. He had the honor of meeting and performing with Ernest Tubbs, steel guitar player.

On Wednesday, November 18, 2020, East Lincoln 210 lost longtime member Elwin Donahoo. "Irish" as we knew him, passed away at his home at the age of 90 surrounded by his family.

Born in his home on February 17, 1930, in Lincoln, NE to Paul and Bertha (Barnett) Donahoo, Irish was a life-long native of Lincoln, NE, and never moved far from his hometown. He was hardworking, a talented musician, frugal, and happy.

He graduated from Lincoln Northeast High School in 1949 where he was voted the captain of his high school football team.

On August 16, 1953, he married Betty Jean (Sharpnack). Betty and Irish raised their children in the first home they bought in 1957 and made this their lifelong home where he spent

He loved traveling to their cabin in Minnesota in their motorhome. Spending many summer weeks in Minnesota with his family. Later in his life, he enjoyed going out to eat and spending time with his family and friends. He always ended his phone calls with "I love you, bye-bye."



Tragically, our lodge lost another member on December 19, 2020.

Jeffrey S. Wunder, age 57 of Dixon, Nebraska passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, December 19, 2020 at the Providence Medical Center in Wayne, Nebraska. A memorial service for Jeffrey will be held at a later date. Arrangements are under the direction of the Wintz Funeral Home in Laurel, Nebraska. Memorials may be directed to the family or to the Dixon Volunteer Fire Department.

Jeff was born March 24, 1963 in Lincoln, Nebraska to Robert and Janet (Schleiger) Wunder. Jeff graduated from Northeast High School in Lincoln and went on to study Computer Science at Southeast Community College in Lincoln. He loved anything to do with computers. He and his best friend, Scott Dodge, created their own computer program while in high school. On June 14, 2014, Jeff married Sherry Popovitz in Lincoln, NE. Sherry and Jeff joked that he was Sherry's IT guy. At the time of his death, Jeff was employed by Splash City in Sioux City, IA.

Jeff had many hobbies and especially enjoyed the outdoors. He created a group called the "Wandering Wunders" in order to share his experiences of camping and outdoor life. Jeff loved going on adventures and sharing those adventures with this community. He also loved storm chasing and was an administrator for the Siouxland Severe Weather Network.

One of Jeff's favorite past times was grilling and smoking food with Chip Young and his wife Suzanne Young. They loved to compete and compare the food they would grill and smoke. Jeff, Sherry, Chip, and Suzanne formed an eating club and they especially enjoyed playing UNO together.

Jeff also enjoyed his pets – his bird, Destiny; cats, Aurora and Ariel; and his dog, Athena. He and Destiny would talk and argue back and forth frequently. Jeff's family often joked about him being surrounded by all girls since all of their pets were females.

Jeff was a member of the Dixon Volunteer Fire and Rescue and was proud to have the title of "Fireman Jeff Wunder". Another very important part of Jeff's life which he shared with his father was the Masonic Lodge. He was a member of the East Lincoln Masonic Lodge #210 and held many positions over the years including Worshipful Brother, Secretary and he was Worshipful Master two separate times. He was one of the youngest Worshipful Masters ever appointed.

Jeff was a wonderful caretaker. He was always compassionate and not only cared for family and friends but the community around him. He was a loved member of his family and community and will be terribly missed.

Lastly, East Lincoln Lodge 210 installed Brother Mark Reece as Junior Warden, Brother Adam Homan as Senior Deacon, and WB Joel Green as Senior Steward on January 7, 2020.

-Obits from The Lincoln Journal Star

## George Washington Lodge #250

### Mark Poston

The Brethren of George Washington Lodge 250 would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year as we begin to move into 2021. We are so hopeful for a better year; hopeful now that the Covid vaccines are starting to become available and hopeful that we will be able to resume some normalcy in our lives.

#### Installation of Officers

Installation of Officers for the new year was held on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 as per the Grand Master's Edict #6. We want to congratulate the following:

Worshipful Master W. B. John Kirby  
Senior Warden W. B. Andy Martin  
Junior Warden W. B. David Sierks  
Secretary-Treasurer W. B. Daniel Brunsen  
Chaplain W. B. Roger Warnke  
Sr. Deacon W. B. Eric Bachenberg

Jr. Deacon W. B. George Wright  
Tyler W. B. Earl Robinett  
Lodge Representatives to the Havelock Masonic Temple Board, Inc. will be: W. B. John Kirby, Worshipful Master; W. B. Andy Martin; W. B. Daniel Brunsen and W. B. Earl Robinett

We want to say a big "thank you" to Past Master Roger Warnke and his 2020 Officers for leading our Lodge through a very difficult year. We are so appreciative of the fine leadership they provided for our Lodge.

#### Drive-Thru Dinners Are Coming Soon!!

Our first "drive-thru" dinner of the new year is coming on Saturday, February 13th from 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.! We will be featuring a Creamed Chicken Dinner or Hot Roast Beef Sandwiches. Sides are: Biscuits, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Carrots and Celery and Beef Gravy for

the Roast Beef Sandwiches.

Dinners will be available at the Havelock Masonic Center/ 4430 N. 70th Street and Cost is \$8.00 per person.

So how will this happen??? Drive Up and Honk Your Horn!! When you drive up and Honk, someone will come to your car and take your order and payment. You will get your meal in a "to go" box and it will be brought to your car!!! It doesn't get better than that....a chance to enjoy a delicious, hot meal served to you in the comfort of your car!!

Mark your calendars for these special drive-thru dinners...they will always be on the 2nd Saturday of the month:  
February 13, 2021  
March 13, 2021  
April 10, 2021

#### Grand Lodge of Nebraska

The 164th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska will be held from February 4 - February 6, 2021 at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney. Our Lodge is looking forward to being represented at the Annual Communication while enjoying Masonic friendship and fellowship.

#### George Washington Trivia

We have been hearing about the Electoral College in the news lately. Here is something interesting about the Electoral votes in the time of George Washington.

George Washington's leadership during the American Revolution and Constitutional Convention, unimpeachable character and his demonstrated willingness not to abuse power made him the ideal presidential candidate. Even his lack of biological children eliminated

the concerns of some who worried about the establishment of an American monarchy. During the first election in 1789, Washington won the electors of all 10 eligible states. In 1792, Washington received all 132 electoral votes, winning each of the 15 states.

In closing, I leave you with these words of Goran Persson: "Let our New Year's resolution be this: We will be there for one another as fellow members of humanity in the finest sense of the word".



## Electa Chapter #8

### Michael Lagueux

Worthy Matron Denise opened the meeting in short form and welcomed all of those present. Despite still having her left arm in a sling from a surgery, she thanked all who have supported her efforts for the Chapter during the very trying 2020 calendar year and wished all health and happiness in the coming year.

She briefly discussed bringing in over \$500 from a mail-in Chocolate Fantasy fundraiser to help support the Chapter, and helping procure several blue barrels full of items needed at the Food Bank of Lincoln serving Nebraska families and homeless shelters during the year. She reminded our members that even during difficult times such as we have been experiencing there is a need for support within the State and local communities and urged all members of the Masonic Family to continue their efforts of relief for those less fortunate.



It was announced that she had attended a dinner the previous evening where a new 501(c)(3) organization has finally received their corporate status. The OES STAR DOGS OF NEBRASKA, INC. is now able to expand their efforts to procure, train and disseminate therapy dogs to those who desperately need them. An online auction at the dinner raised more than \$2700 to move these efforts

forward. Anyone interested in donating or receiving further information about this organization is encouraged to contact the Grand Chapter OES Office, or write to; OES STAR DOGS OF NEBRASKA, INC. at P.O. Box 6571, Lincoln, Nebraska 68506-6571. What could be better than supporting those who need our help, AND receiving a tax deductible savings in the process? Please consider supporting this effort and making someone's life better through your generosity.

Prior to WM Denise relinquishing the Chapter to the incoming Worthy Matron, Ilah Anderson, and Worthy Patron, Bruce Anderson, she thanked WP Don Frank for all his support from the 2020 year and presented him with an HO scale Burlington Northern locomotive engine. WP Don has been a collector of trains for a very long time and has many varied and unusual items in his collection. WP Don also is a member of the New Masonic Temple Board of Directors for Electa and has done a fine job of applying his skills as a woodworker and craftsman for the betterment of the building during this past year.

Our Courtesy Chairwoman, Sis Susan Franson reported that she sent get well wishes to; WM Denise Lagueux for her shoulder surgery, and get well wishes to Bro. Eugene Stake, and Sis Jean Crary as they continue to work through some health issues. She also reported sending a card of encouragement to Pam and Doug Johnson as they continue to work through

some medical issues. She reported that she had a procedure not long ago and is feeling better each day. Please keep WP Bruce in your thoughts and prayers as he works through some medical issues later this month.



PM Dona Hurst, President of the Temple Foundation, thanked all those members who have contributed time, talent, and monetary contributions during this past year to continue the work of restoration and improvement of the building. She enjoys working with the Temple Board and wants all of you to know that your contributions are being well spent and frugally managed. She again would like to encourage you to donate to this 501(c)(3) organization to keep our building viable far into the future. Anyone curious about what has been accomplished this year is encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting of the Corporation at 7 PM, January 26, 2021 in the parlor at the Masonic Temple at 1635 L Street.



As Denise and Don once again stepped down from their leadership roles from 2020 to become Past Matron and Past Patron of the Chapter once again, they did not walk far. They passed

Worthy Matron-Elect Ilah and Worthy Patron-Elect Bruce on their way to assume the mantle of leadership for the Chapter during the ensuing year. PM Denise and PP Don did not have to travel far...they have been once again installed as Associate Matron and Associate Patron of Electa for the 2021 year.



There was a short (COVID inspired) installation performed by Installing Officer Bridget Anderson and Installing Chaplin, Kristen Swisher. As the new officers were already in their positions, there was no need to conduct them to their positions. COVID has added some brevity to our procedures!

As the new Worthy Matron and Patron assumed their stations they thanked their officers for the coming year and announced that to thank the Worthy Matron and Patron from last year, donations would be made in their names to the Masonic Home in Plattsmouth, Nebraska, likewise, donations were made to the Masonic Eastern Star Home for Children and Masonic Home for their installing officers. Their daughters presented Worthy Matron Ilah with a bouquet of beautiful red roses and wished them the best for the coming year.

Worthy Matron Ilah discussed some of her hopes for the Chapter during the coming year, but tempered her remarks with the realization that we are living during a continuing pandemic amid her hopes for some semblance of normalcy in the coming months with the

promise of a vaccine. With hope for the future, and an eye toward a successful year, WM Ilah and WP Bruce closed their first meeting of the year with hope, positivity, and enthusiasm.



I hope this report of our Chapter's business finds you well and healthy. I also hope that you can see that even though the pace of what we do has slowed somewhat, there is still much work going on behind the scenes for our organizations. This is necessary work, not necessarily for us, but for those we have taken obligations to uphold, and in these difficult times, to uplift.

I encourage you to turn off your television...especially the news, walk to the door on one of these days when it is in the mid 40's out and see what is going on around you. If it snows, watch it out the window and enjoy the beauty of it...especially if someone else is doing the scooping! And friends, always know that God is around us no matter how good or bad life is at any particular moment. Until next month, God bless and keep you.



## Martha Washington Chapter #153

### Betty Kirby

The big news from Martha Washington Chapter #153 is that we are going to try DRIVE-UP dinners supporting our Temple Board for the months of February, March, and April. Mark your calendars now for the second Saturday of each month for a yummy home-made dinner. Everyone is invited. Cost is still \$8.00 and I guarantee you that you cannot find this good of a meal for that price anywhere else in town. Serving from 4:30-7:00 p.m. Just come to the lodge, honk your horn, and we'll be out to take your order. You can then take it back home and enjoy it in your safe haven.

We had installation of our 2021 Officers according to the protocol outlined by our Worthy

Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron. Since the 2020 year was cut short and many of our plans were not fulfilled, all officers agreed to serve the 2021 year in the same position they held for 2020. Installed were: Sis. Sue Hedges, Worthy Matron; Bro. Andy Martin, Worthy Patron; Sis. Julie Fowler, Associate Matron; Bro. John Kirby, Associate Patron; Sis. Betty Kirby, Secretary; Bro. Mike Buchardt, Treasurer; Sis. Michelle Smith, Conductress; Bro. David Sierks, Chaplain; Sis. Jeanne Krenk, Organist; Sis. Jeanine Bryceson, Martha; and Sis. Maxine Buchardt, Warder. Due to illness, several officers will need to be installed at a later meeting.

The Worthy Matron reported on the Zoom Reveal meeting held on January 1, 2021 where the new OES Star Dogs of Nebraska, Inc., a 501(c)(3) public charity was announced. Bro. Andy Martin was the high bidder for one auction item and Sis. Betty Kirby scored on another item called the "That's my Dog", a traveling oil painting. It was a fun night and a wonderful way to kick-off this new charity.

The sympathy of the chapter is extended to Sis. Diana Johnson who lost her daughter-in-law recently. We also lost Sis. Karen Gulbranson on December 11; her graveside services were held on Dec. 28. Sympathy is extended to her friends and

extended family. Sis. Marolyn Robson is currently at Gateway Manor recovering from a bout of pneumonia. She is looking forward to getting back to her apartment at the Masonic Home in Plattsmouth. Bro. Mark Poston will be having cataract surgery in the next weeks.

Happy Birthday wishes are extended to the following members for their January birthdays: Yvonne Nelson (Jan 8); Marolyn Marshall (Jan 10); Sabrina Dahl (Jan. 12); Michelle Smith (Jan. 16); Judy Holtgrewe, (Jan. 18) and Mark Poston (Jan. 27). Congratulations to Brother David and Sister Bonnie Sierks who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary recently.

New membership rosters have been prepared for our members. If you would like one, please email the secretary bkirby9137@gmail.com or drop a note to Betty Kirby, 4501 Eagle Ridge Rd, Lincoln, NE 68516.

Until next month, everyone stay safe, warm, and healthy. Hopefully, this epidemic will be under control in the next months to come and we can once again enjoy the fellowship that the Masonic families are known for. In the meantime, be patient, be generous, and be known for your loving kindness.



# Lincoln Lodge #19

## Bruce Anderson

Well, 2020 is now officially over. It started out good but went quickly down hill and became a really frustrating year. With COVID we all learned a different way of Masonic life. Our degree work suffered and our meeting with friends and brothers also suffered. It has been hard to even go to a meeting now with everybody wearing masks it is sometimes hard to know who you are talking to.

2021 has dawned and I look forward to a time when we can get back to some sense of normality. As all lodges have suffered, so has Lodge 19. We did have some meetings and did do some form of degree work. We had only raised one Brother before the restrictions started. We Elected four and did initiate four before having to step back. We had two pass to the Fellowcraft degree. As you can see, we have some work cut out for us this year, especially if we have more petitions come in.

We are starting off the year by having one brother become a Fellowcraft and another candidate start his journey by being initiated, all during the month of January. As I have said before, now is a good time to come back to Lodge and contribute to these degrees.

This month was also time to install new officers. Wes Bottorf was elected the next master for Lincoln Lodge 19. Wes has a long masonic history in his family. He has many plans for us to be active and practice the ideals of Masonry. The other officers of the lodge are:

Worshipful Master Wesley "Wes" Bottorf  
 Senior Warden Beau Ballard  
 Junior Warden David Nolte  
 Secretary/Treasurer Bruce T. Anderson, PM  
 Chaplain Mark Roper, PM  
 Senior Deacon Grant Latimer  
 Junior Deacon Chad Klein  
 Senior Steward John Hansen  
 Junior Steward Tom Buescher  
 Tyler Neal Clayburn

We had all the officers attend the installation this year and they are ready to hit the Lodge floor running. New faces, new blood, means new progress.

On the negative side we had four of our Brothers go to that "undiscovered from whose born no traveler returns". We lost Brothers Kurt Weiss PM, Richard Johnson, Gerald Nickell and Charles Noren. Please say a little prayer for their families.

In our Masonic teachings we stress "brotherly love and friendship". Over the holidays that phrase came to me with a renewed meaning. My daughter has a friend that she talks to from time to time. Just before Christmas she asked what he was doing for Christmas. He said that he would probably sit at home and watch TV. His roommate was going to be with family and his own family was too far away. She said that nobody should be alone on Christmas and invited him to dinner at our house. My other daughter and her family would be there, so one more plate would not make a big difference. He came over just before dinner and ate with us and

after the meal we had some good conversation and time shared. He remarked it was good to have in-person adult conversation for a while and thanked us.

No, he was not a Masonic brother, but he was a brother just the same and it made me think of the "brotherly love" that we talk about. I hope your Holidays were just as good.

Let's make 2021 the best year yet.



Left to right: Tom Buscher, JS; Grant Latimer, SD; Chad Kline, JD; Beau Ballard, SW; Wes Bottorf, WM; David Nolte, JW; Neal Clayburn, Tyler: Mark Roper, Chaplain; Bruce Anderson, Secrerary/Treasurer; John Hansen, SS



Worshipful Master Wesley Bottford



Brother Everett Bottorf, Wes, Dad Don Bottorf

# Starcraft Chapter #307

## Terri Sherman

Hello friends. Due to the high Covid numbers in Lincoln Starcraft chapter decided they would not meet twice in January. So we will hold our regular meeting and closed installation Wednesday Jan 20th at 7:30. Worthy Matron Sis. Bridget Anderson, and Worthy Patron Bro. Dennis Brydl, will be installed. It will be nice to get together even if not for a full installation.

Good and Welfare: Marcia Michaelson is recovering from foot surgery. We were saddened to learn that Bro. Elwin Donahoo passed in November.

We hope everyone had a nice Christmas even if it wasn't with a house full of relatives.

February Birthdays  
 February 5 Christopher Rosenthal  
 February 13 Mary Randolph  
 February 15 Judy Gonnerman  
 February 23 Julie Fowler



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 Phyllis Jean Fleming – 60 year member of The Order Of The Eastern Star  
 Randy Fleming - 32nd Degree – member of Tangier Shrine & Trinity Eastern Star – Doane College Graduate & Certificate in Real Estate & Land Use  
**ECONOMIC's** from UNO



# Temple Chapter #271

Michael Lagueux



2021 brings with it the possibility of new hope, and a feeling of cautious optimism. The first meeting of Temple Chapter 271 experienced this in full form January 4, 2021. Unfortunately WM Cindy Kehling was unable to attend the meeting and installation that evening due to a slight illness leaving Associate Matron Carolyn Plants to preside over the evening activities, including the installation of officers for 2021.

Although short of officers due to the COVID 19 restrictions and cautions for many of our members, a new slate of officers were seated in their respective chairs for the ensuing year. Although familiar, there were still feelings of being very different in form and function during the process of opening and conducting the business meeting. Bills were paid, old business was conducted and discussed, and the year of 2020 was officially closed on the books.

Michelle Smith of Martha Washington Chapter was the installing Matron for the evening and did her job with grace and poise while installing the 2021 officers in their positions. She is a retired military member of the United States Air Force and her background and attention to detail fit in perfectly with the theme of this year's officers...that of honoring military, police and first responders who have answered the call of duty in the past and continue to do so in these trying times we are still going through.

After assuming her station officially as Worthy Matron, Carolyn Plants had her Worthy Patron distribute Challenge Coins to those present and asked PM Michelle to explain the significance of them to every one present. Challenge coins have been used to thank a person, usually military, but not exclusively so, for actions or deeds they may have done over and above those required...an "on-the-spot" type of

recognition for a job well done. They are usually presented by members of the military of significant rank and position to be a notice to others that recognition has been made of exemplary performance. Most of the time they are presented by being exchanged from the person giving during a handshake with no other form of public acknowledgment. A lesser known tradition

that has developed has been that if a challenge coin is displayed in a bar among those who have them, the one that is the higher in status does not have to buy drinks! Therefore if someone has one given from the Joint Chiefs of Staff there is a very good chance they will not be buying any drinks that evening. I have included pictures (far right) of the ones that WM Carolyn distributed and one from a member of the Joint Chief of Staff for your reference.

As the meeting was closed WM Carolyn presented a "Masonic" rescue knife to her Worthy Patron and had him recite the 91st Psalm, entitled "The Soldier's Prayer". The Chapter was closed in form and all were thanked for their attendance that evening and bid safe and healthy travels until we meet again in February on the 1st.



After such a dire and contentious year as 2020 has been, we would like to thank WM Cindy and WP Andy for their leadership, patience, and fortitude during these times of civil disorder, pandemic crisis, and remote communication experimentation. If difficulty forges a sense of determination these members have been forged in the fires of uncertainty, and their metal hardened in the quenching water of adversity. Well done and thank you.

We look forward to meeting, as safely as possible this next month and pray that, at least some of the problems of our current times may have reduced. For those of you who were military we want you to know that until we can meet in person our Chapter is currently CM... Out. Until then, God Bless and keep you safe in His loving embrace.



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 wwfolson15@wabash.edu  
 Bruce Anderson, Sec. 435-0974  
 job60@ix.netcom.com  
 1st Tues. Reg. Communication 7:30 p.m.

**Lancaster Lodge 54**

1635 L St. 68508 476-3453  
 Matt Zier, W.M. 531-800-4650  
 matthew.zier@gmail.com  
 Adam Thayer, Sec. 314-6310  
 adam.thayer@gmail.com  
 1st Fri. Reg. Communication 7:00 p.m.

**East Lincoln Lodge 210**

2700 S St. 68503 476-2412  
 Jeff Buhrman, W.M. 703-732-4765  
 jeff.buhrman@hotmail.com  
 Thomas Michaelson, Sec., 423-1984  
 901 Starview Lane 68512  
 1st Thur. Reg. Communication 7:30 p.m.

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2610 N. 48th St. 68504 466-2236  
 Bruce Watkins, W.M. 470-7773  
 5440 Shady Creek Ct #2, 68516  
 Steve Wetzel, Sec. 488-8198  
 1518 Skyline Dr, 68506  
 swetzel849@aol.com  
 1518 Skyline Drive 68506  
 1st Wed. Reg. Communication 7:30 p.m.

**George Washington Lodge 250**

4430 N. 70th St. 68507  
 John Kirby, W.M. 450-9900  
 4501 Eagle Ridge Rd, 68516  
 Dan Brunson, Sec.-Treas. 432-2099  
 1st Tue. Reg. Communication 7:30 p.m.

**Hickman Lodge 256**

4641 Cooper Ave., 68506  
 1st Thur. Reg. Communication 7:00 p.m.

**Cotner Lodge 297**

1542 No. 65th St. 68505 413-1332  
 1st Mon. Reg. Communication 7:30 p.m.

**Liberty Lodge 300**

1635 L St. 68508 476-3453  
 Dennis Hecht, W.M.  
 dlnk@windstream.net  
 Brent Myers, Sec. 580-5400  
 brent@legacystings.com  
 1st Thur. Reg. Communication 7:00 p.m.

**Craftsmen Lodge 314**

2645 B St. 68502 475-2820  
 1st Tues. Reg. Communication 7:00 p.m.

**College View Lodge 320**

4641 Cooper Ave. 68506  
 1st Wed. Reg. Communication 7:30 p.m.

**Tabula Rasa Lodge 332**

1635 L St. 68508 476-3453  
 3rd Tue. Reg. Communication 6:00 p.m.

**Lebanon Lodge 3**

Prince Hall Affiliation 430-7003  
 1630 N. 24th St. 68503-1117  
 2nd Tue. Reg. Communication 7:00 p.m.

**York Rite**

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 Walter Johnson 308-532-6314  
 Most Ill. Grand Master, Grand Council  
 LaVern Work II 296-5321  
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 Dennis Newman 490-1381  
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1635 L St. 68508 476-3453  
 Adam Thayer, High Priest 314-6310  
 333 S. 44th St, 68510  
 Tom Michaelson, Sec. 423-1984  
 901 Starview Ln, 68512  
 1st Wed.  
 Covered-dish dinner 6:15 p.m.  
 Business Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**Lincoln Council 4 Cryptic Masons**

1635 L St. 68508 476-3453  
 Don Gray, Ill. Master ???-????8  
 Tom Michaelson, Recorder 423-1984  
 1st Wed.  
 Covered-dish dinner 6:15 p.m.  
 Business Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**Mount Moriah Commandery 4**

1635 L St. 68508 476-3453  
 Carl Plants, Cmdr. 477-9464  
 6124 NW 6th St, 68521  
 Tom Michaelson, Recorder 423-1984  
 1st Mon.  
 Covered-dish dinner 6:15 p.m.  
 Business meeting 7:00 p.m.

**Scottish Rite**

**Scottish Rite Temple**

332 S. Centennial Mall 435-2144  
 P.O. Box 95013 68509-5013  
 Bruce Wood, Gen. Sec.  
 Edward Boone, Venerable Master  
 David Bloomquist, Wise Master  
 Dennis Hecht, Commander  
 Andy Seachord, Master of Kadosh  
 3rd Wed. Bus. Meeting 6:00 p.m.

**Shrine**

**Sesostris Temple**

1050 Saltillo Rd 474-6890  
 Roca, Ne 68430  
 Dan Johnson, Potentate 450-4461  
 105 E. 6th St. 68372

**Daughters of the Nile**

Naphis Temple No. 6  
 Jennifer Olsen, Queen 840-3173  
 5930 Meadowbrook Ln 68510

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**Eastern Star Grand Chapter of Nebraska**

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 Worthy Grand Matron  
 Bruce A Baker  
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 Jan Thoman  
 Grand Secretary  
 301 N. Cotner Blvd, Suite 200  
 Lincoln NE 68505-2315  
 nebraskaoes@msn.com  
 402-937-7056  
 1-844-309-6855

**Electa Chapter 8**

1635 L St. 68508 476-3453  
 Denise Lagueux, W.M.  
 Don Frank, W.P.  
 Elizabeth Benson, Sec. 310-0416  
 2019 Harwood St. 68502  
 1st Sat. Meeting 2:00 or 7:30 p.m.

**Electa Chapter Kensington**

Susie Dunn, Sec. 890-6733  
 4000 Garfield St. 68506  
 2nd Thurs. 11:00 AM

**Past Matrons Club**

Ilah Anderson, Courtesy Chair  
 Dona Y. Hurst, Sec.-Treas. 421-1108

**Myrtle Chapter 94**

2610 No. 48th St. 68504 466-2236  
 Jennifer Dierks, W.M. 660-6011  
 jennifer.dierks7@gmail.com  
 Tom Anderson, W.P. 450-1651  
 toa7777@gmail.com  
 Deb Kendle, Sec. 617-3991  
 dmkendle@gmail.com  
 2nd and 4th Tues. 7:30 p.m.

**Myrtle Club**

Connie Weir, Pres. 488-9040  
 cdweir01@gmail.com  
 Deb Kendle, V.P. 617-3991  
 dmkendle@gmail.com  
 Jeanne Bonnett, Sec 465-4817  
 fjbonnett@twc.com  
 Robyn Mason, Courtesy 484-5756  
 robynkt@gmail.com

**Martha Washington Chapter 153**

4430 N. 70th St. 68507  
 Susan Hedges, W.M. 672-8603  
 suehedgesoes@yahoo.com  
 Andy Martin, W.P. 416-9961  
 amartin6@outlook.com  
 Betty Kirby, Sec. 450-9137  
 4501 Eagle Ridge Rd. 68516  
 1st Thurs. 7:30 p.m.

**Temple Chapter 271**

332 S. Centennial Mall 68508 435-2144  
 Carolyn Plants, W.M. 477-9464  
 6124 NW 6th St., 68521  
 Mike Lagueux, W.P. 310-2118  
 6021 Sunrise Rd, 68510  
 Melinda Brage, Sec. 488-0837  
 620 Leavitt Ln 68510-2530  
 1st Mon. Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.

**Past Matrons Club**

Marilyn Jepson, President 423-6049

**Columbia Chapter 275**

1542 No. 65th St. 68505  
 Trudi Thornburg, W.M. 430-9393  
 2730 S. 154th St., Walton 68461  
 tthornburg60@gmail.com  
 John Quinn, W.P.  
 10901 O St., 68520  
 Kaylene Martin, Sec. 488-6388  
 1st Tues. Stated Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**Columbia Chapter Kensington**

Kaylene Martin, Pres. 488-6388  
 401 S. 84th St. 68510 4th Tues.

**Past Matrons & Past Patrons Club**

Trudy Thornburg, Pres. 430-2165  
 Nancy Weers, Vice-Pres. 466-3750

**Starcraft Chapter 307**

2645 B St. 68502 475-2820  
 Bridget Anderson, W.M. 440-3434  
 PO Box 83966, 68501  
 Dennis Brydl, WP, 423-6982  
 2510 Kessler Blvd. 68502  
 Cora Redwine, Sec. 438-9447  
 4101 N.12th St., 68521  
 1st Wed. Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.

**Capitol Chapter 320**

4641 Cooper Ave., 68506  
 Martha Cabieles, W.M.  
 Jairo Cabieles, W.P. 875-1711  
 Douglas B. Johnson, Sec. 421-7006  
 4600 Birch Hollow Dr. 68516-5107  
 1st Mon. 7:30 p.m.

**Youth Groups**

**DeMolay**

**Lincoln Chapter**

Ryan Binge, Master Councilor  
 Katie Warwick, Chapter Sweetheart  
 Brent Warwick, Chapter Dad 770-0693  
 Meetings 2nd and 4th Wed. 7:00 p.m.  
 332 Centennial Mall South  
 Please send correspondence to:  
 Brent Warwick 770-0693  
 bwarwick@inebraska.com

**Dr. Frederick Eiche Chapter**

No Master Councilor  
 No Chapter Sweetheart  
 No Chapter Dad  
 No Meetings

**Job's Daughters**

**Bethel 5**

Please send all correspondence to:  
 1635 L St. 68508-2510 476-3453  
 Kristen Swisher, Guardian 202-7113  
 416 N. 19th St., Beatrice, 68310  
 Greg Prososki, ABG, 525-9243  
 21040 NW 70th St, Agnew, 68428  
 Deb Kendle, Sec. 617-3991  
 1400 N 64th St, 68505  
 Lauren Prososki, Honored Queen  
 2nd and 4th Sat. 10:00 a.m. or 3:00 p.m.  
 Dark July and August

**Bethel 27**

2610 N. 48th St.  
 Please send all correspondence to:  
 Becky Bleess, BG  
 Bethel27lincoln@gmail.com  
 Dan Chesnut, ABG  
 Bethel27abg@gmail.com  
 Marissa Roesler, Sec. 432-5184  
 7542 South St, 68506  
 roeslerms3@gmail.com  
 Elena Watts, Honored Queen  
 1st & 3rd Sun. 1:30 p.m.

**Bethel 63**

1542 No. 65th Street  
 Kristi Thornburg, Guardian 430-4533  
 8235 Northwoods Dr Apt 304 68505  
 kristi1482@hotmail.com  
 Eric Bahm, Assoc. Guardian 770-0693  
 3710 LaSalle St, 68516  
 ericdbahm@gmail.com  
 Beth Jacobson, Sec. 770-9814  
 220 West G St, Elmwood, 68349  
 laurabethjacobson@hotmail.com  
 1st and 3rd Thurs. 7:00 p.m.

**Rainbow for Girls**

**Lincoln Assembly 6**

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 Please send all correspondence to:  
 Tiffany Westerholt, Mother Advisor  
 618 W. Burt Dr. 68521 304-8238  
 Laurie Sieg, Advisory Board Chair  
 7600 Baldwin Ave 68507 464-2410  
 lauriesieg@gmail.com  
 Karli Young, Worthy Advisor  
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## COMING EVENTS IN MASONRY

EDITOR'S NOTE: As many bodies have yet to re-open and many have closed down again, no events have been reported yet. Please contact the appropriate Masonic body leadership prior to attending any event or meeting to verify any restrictions in place.

Open with restrictions: All lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, all York Rite chapters and councils, all chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Order Of The Eastern Star of Nebraska, Job's Daughters (Zoom meetings only)

Not yet open: All York Rite commanderies (closed until further notice).

Current status unknown: Scottish Rite, Shrine, all other youth groups.

## Tales From The North (Dakota)

Tyler T. Hall

Greetings from Bismarck/ Mandan, North Dakota, from Brother Tyler, a perpetual member of North Star Lodge No. 227 in Lincoln, Nebraska, and dual member of Mandan Lodge No. 8 in Mandan, North Dakota. I bring you news and experiences from my travels from DeMolay to Masonry to other appendant bodies in Lincoln, Nebraska, to the Twin Cities of Minnesota, and finally to western North Dakota. Hope you enjoy each month as we go on a trip together in search for that which may not have been too lost.

### Virtual Installations 2021

On Tuesday, January 5, 2021, 7:00 PM, Mandan Lodge #8 did an open Installation of Officers for our Lodge, and we had an option for Zoom. Even though our officers would stay the same from last year, in the Grand Lodge of North Dakota, we have the Grand Master's Award which includes points for holding an Open Installation of Officers. With the pandemic looming, what better way to enjoy an Open Installation of Officers is to offer viewing virtually.

Zoom has been a partner through this world in the last year, and we've done Scottish Rite Feasts via Zoom: Feast of Paschal Lamb (Remembrance Observance) and Feast of Tishri have been only on the Zoom platform for our Bismarck Valley here in the Orient of North Dakota. We didn't have a "Feast" as normal, but we invited our brothers to gather beverages of their choice for our Toasts.

At our Scottish Rite meetings, we are able to set a camera and laptop up in the Lodge Room and Zoom in those that would like to

join us virtually. We have some that are spaced out in the Lodge and masked up, along with the Zoom option for our meetings and discussions. It's great that we can include those members who are 100 miles east in Jamestown and 100 miles west in Dickinson, as well as those who are out-of-state.

The Scottish Rite has provided Zoom at a premier cost to it's valleys. They also invite the valley's leaderships to Zoom trainings. One of the trainings was the same week and after we held our Masonic Lodge installation of officers as mentioned above: "Virtual Installations." Obviously geared more towards Scottish Rite officer installations, they indicated that it can be done 100% virtually via Zoom. The

presenter was the Deputy of the Supreme Council in New Mexico, and their current restrictions in their state for the pandemic is stricter than we have here in the Midwest, so they couldn't meet in person at all; therefore, they were able to do the entire Virtual Installation via Zoom. Final authorization of these virtual installations are needed from the Orient's Deputy or SGIG, or in the case of Masonic Lodges, the Grand Master within the Grand Lodge jurisdiction, but it's thanks to this new technology that we can be with our brethren in-person AND virtually, which will be the new normal of Masonic celebrations and open meetings.

Lots of stories in between, but more articles yet to come...Thanks for listening.



Above: Installation of Officers – Mandan Lodge #8, Mandan, ND – via Zoom WM John Wilson, & PGM Don L.

Below: Left to Right: WB Carl Edgerly, DDGM; MW Bob Wedberg, Grand Master of ND; RW Danny Haugen, Deputy Grand Master



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