

**Annual Report
Of the Worthy Grand Matron
Christy Schill-Newbold
2009-2010**

To the Worthy Grand Patron, Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Idaho, Order of the Eastern Star:

WELCOME

Welcome to all who are attending our "Christmas in the Country" Grand Chapter Session. We hope that it will be a time for creating wonderful, warm memories. At our Installation in June, we shared a poem about the meaning of Christmas, "Let Us Live Christmas Every Day", and we believe the poem captures the spirit we hope to celebrate all year long. The poem begins:

Christmas is more than a day
At the end of the year,
More than a season
Of joy and good cheer,
Christmas is really
God's pattern for living
To be followed all year
By unselfish giving...

DEDICATION and APPRECIATION

It would have been impossible to fulfill the responsibilities of this role without the complete support of my family. My Mom, Shirley Jo, has taken care of dozens of small details that make everything run smoothly. She has toted, recorded, collected, organized, refilled and listened. I think I have the very best parents in the world, and it has been a special pleasure to experience this with my Mom.

Mom and Dad have been there on all kinds of special projects – making 650 bookmarks, removing and re-packaging 750 travel pin dangles, loading and unloading the Jeep dozens of times, hauling "stuff" back and forth between their house and my Caldwell house, and so many other tasks. Dad made my gavel, all of the sleighs that were used at Hermosa's Official Visit and Homecoming, and a fireplace mantel that you will see at Grand Chapter. He's a very handy and talented fellow, who has not yet learned to run or hide when his daughter says, "I have an idea". He's also held down the fort and taken care of the dog and cat, while Mom and I were trotting around the countryside.

When I told my husband, Brett, that I wanted to make a bigger commitment to Eastern Star, he said, "whatever makes you happy, sweetie" -- not knowing that it meant four years on the road and a big financial commitment. He has kept it all together at home taking care of the critters (we have lots of them -- 6 dogs, 2 cats, 15 horses) and providing a relaxing refuge for me when I did make it home for a couple of days. He took great care of me when I was sick, and I am so thankful to have him in my life.

My two Chapters, Hermosa #32 and Silver Star #83, have been wonderfully supportive in this grand adventure. When a person agrees to serve in the Grand Line, she is also committing her entire Chapter in order to make it all happen and successful. In my case, I had Sisters and Brothers in two Chapters who said "yes" to everything I asked, and even anticipated my needs and delightfully surprised me in other ways to make everything perfect. I love them all!!!

To my friends, Deborah Arnold and Mary Baldwin -- these two very special ladies have worked hard this year to make everything so special and perfect. They have not only acted as Worthy Matrons of their own Chapters, Hermosa #32 and Silver Star #83, they are the Co-Chairpersons for General Arrangements 2011, and played the lead in pulling together the Homecoming. Because Mary has been able to travel with me quite a bit this year, she has also experienced the fact that a Worthy Grand Matron has STUFF, and she has toted lots of it! They are my dear, dear friends and this year has been more special because they were part of the experience.

We are blessed to have Denise Hunt as our Grand Secretary. Denise very patiently answered my barrage of questions, and made sure I was on track with everything. She made so many trips to the Hall of Mirrors building where my office is located to drop off and pick up items; they probably think she works there.

I have been honored to have Liz Hughes, as part of our Grand Family, and serving in her 10th year as our Grand Treasurer. She works quietly behind the scenes to be certain that our financial resources are invested in the best possible place, and that we can meet our obligations. Her expertise in handling the financial affairs of our Grand Chapter is very much appreciated.

When you elected Larry Allen to be Worthy Grand Patron, I got the added bonus of getting another wonderful partner, in his wife Gladys. They have both been eager and willing partners in this Grand Journey. Larry and Gladys – I thank you for your commitment to our Order and for your support of me.

I will be forever thankful to Associate Grand Matron, Sandi Shoemaker, for so willingly and ably filling in for me while I was in the hospital and recuperating at home.

I am thankful for the prayers and well wishes of all of our members. I believe in the power of prayer. When I visit with my doctors, they all say it is a miracle that I am alive and that I survived such a serious brain aneurysm without any significant mental deficit. I know that it is because my Eastern Star Sisters and Brothers were praying for my recovery, and asking all of their friends and relatives to pray for me. Never doubt that God hears and answers prayers. I give thanks to our Lord every day for restoring my health, and allowing me to continue on this wonderful journey.

To our Grand Family -- thank you for accepting your elected or appointed office, and for embracing your responsibilities so joyfully. We selected our appointed Grand Officers because of their service to their Chapters and their commitment to Eastern Star, and also because we thought it would be enjoyable to spend a year with them. We were right!

I selected my Honor Station, Electa, as a tribute to my Grandparents, Jim & Betty Wheelock, and PGM Kathryn Dyer. My Grandfather was Worthy Grand Patron in Idaho in 1963, with Kathryn as his Worthy Grand Matron. Theirs was the "Elect Lady" Session, and my Grandmother, Betty, portrayed the Elect Lady. She was not yet a Past Matron, and not eligible to be a Grand Officer, but was beautiful and elegant, and certainly appropriate as the Elect Lady. She wore a beautiful red dress, and carried a silver cup with red roses to open their session. It's also a tribute to my own wonderful Mom, who has been such a positive role model for me, and my best friend.

Bible and Gavel

My Bible was a gift to my family from the family of Ruby Taber. Ruby was Grand Guardian of Idaho Job's Daughters and the Secretary of Hermosa Chapter for 25 years. Ruby used the Bible as Grand Guardian, and it is signed by the Bethel Librarians, including our very own Teresa Carlson. The Bible marker was commissioned by my Grandmother for her beloved Rainbow #80, and made by Mabel Rosa, a dual member of Hermosa #32 and Golden Rod #64. When Rainbow #80 merged with Nampa #30, they gave the Bible marker back to my family. The Bible cover was made by my dear friend Mary Baldwin. I have enjoyed taking the Bible around the state with me in a beautiful, hand-tooled leather case given to me at Installation by Larry and Gladys. It has been a special pleasure to use all of them this year, and they are more treasured because of the memories associated with them.

Grand Chapter Committee Members & Session Assistants

Thank you to all who accepted committee and special appointments, and for taking seriously your responsibilities. An organization is only as great as those who work tirelessly in support of its goals and objectives, and we are blessed to have members who work to fulfill our vision and purpose.

IN MEMORIAM

We were saddened by the passing of three of our Past Grand Patrons this last year – Brothers Bob Grisham, Eugene Crowley, and Wayne Woodward. We extend sincere sympathy to their families and Chapter members. I was honored to be able to attend the funeral services for Brother Bob Grisham and Brother Eugene Crowley. They were all wonderful gentlemen, dedicated to Masonry and to the

Order of the Eastern Star, and will be missed. Our subordinate Chapters have also lost many of their beautiful members throughout the year, and we extend our sympathy to them and to the families of the members.

OFFICIAL ACTS

Appointed Grand Officers

Our first official act was to select a great group of appointed Grand Officers. They have all shown dedication to their Chapters and to our beautiful Order. We started the year with a retreat for all of our Grand Officers, held in Cambridge, and on our ranch, where we got a chance to share the plans for the year, get to know each other and have FUN! They are a group of loving and kind individuals, and we have been honored to spend a year with them in the service of this Grand Chapter.

Grand Chaplain	Dwain Valez	Pend d'Oreille #62
Grand Marshal	Susan Snodderley	Queen Esther #12
Grand Organist	Janice Brown	Henrietta #21
Grand Adah	Teresa Carlson	Liberty #51
Grand Ruth	Terry Rowe	Twin Falls #29
Grand Esther	Bernice Nyblad	Hermosa #32
Grand Martha	Martie Stamm	Crescent #43
Grand Electa	Gladys Allen	Boise #65
Grand Warder	Roland Webster	Esther #14

Grand Representatives

In Idaho

I was delighted to be able to recommend the following individuals to represent other Grand Jurisdictions in Idaho. I have not served as a Grand Representative, but know what a meaningful appointment it is from friends and family who have enjoyed their commissions, and have life-long friendships from their time in this capacity. I've also heard from other Worthy Grand Matrons that appointing a Grand Representative is one of the nicest and most rewarding things you do, and now I know it to be true!

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Person Appointed</u>	<u>Commission Expires</u>
ALABAMA	Sarah Austin (35)	1/1/2013
ALBERTA	Prue French (48)	12/31/2012
ARIZONA	Lorelei Dickman (32)	1/1/2013
BOLIVIA	Will Votaw (16)	3/31/2013
COLORADO	Diana Bush (66)	12/31/2012
CONNECTICUT	JoAnn DeLoach (29)	12/31/2012
DELAWARE	Bruce Ulrich (3)	12/31/2012
FLORIDA	Barbara Noss (39)	6/30/2012
ILLINOIS	Karen Perry (36)	10/31/2012
INDIANA	Sam Poleson (13)	12/31/2012
IOWA	Diana Harrison (2)	4/1/2013
KENTUCKY	Jan Booe (65)	12/31/2012
MAINE	Nellie Shea (62)	3/1/2013
MICHIGAN	Rick Holloway (22)	1/1/2013
NEW MEXICO	Michelle Bollar (66)	1/1/2013
NORTH DAKOTA	Ted Bowers (6)	1/1/2013
NS&PEI	Floyd Culver (10)	12/31/2012
OHIO	Dianne Gates (85)	1/1/2013
ONTARIO	Debi Schoonover (34)	12/31/2012
OREGON	Hudson Shake (20)	12/31/2012
RHODE ISLAND	Wayne Smith (65)	12/31/2012
SAO PAULO, BZ	Moirra Block (12)	12/31/2012
SASKATCHEWAN	Lance Stanley (10)	12/31/2012
TENNESSEE	Sondra Cullen (14)	1/1/2013

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Person Appointed</u>	<u>Commission Expires</u>
UTAH	Lois Jones (19)	12/31/2012
VERMONT		1/1/2013
WISCONSIN	Barbara Bonham (43)	12/31/2012

Idaho in Other Grand Jurisdictions

I received many thank you notes from the individuals appointed to represent Idaho in other Grand Jurisdictions. I can tell from the sincerity and enthusiasm of their notes, that their counterparts will enjoy corresponding with and getting to know these delightful Sisters and Brothers.

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Person Appointed</u>	<u>Commission Expires</u>
ALABAMA	Martha Sanders	1/1/13
ALBERTA	Sharon Litke	12/31/12
ARIZONA	Moira Blanton	1/1/13
BOLIVIA	Gladys C. deTorrez	until further notice
COLORADO	Dee James	12/31/12
CONNECTICUT	Dale Seaburg (Sister)	12/31/12
DELAWARE	Betty Swain	12/31/12
FLORIDA	Helein Hitchcock	6/30/12
ILLINOIS	Audrey Linde	10/31/12
INDIANA	Linda Shepherd	12/31/12
IOWA	Janice Alger	4/1/13
KENTUCKY	Wanda McCullah	12/31/12
MAINE	Judith Bourget	3/1/13
MICHIGAN	Elizabeth "Betty" Heness	1/1/13
NEVADA	Donna Culp	12/31/12
NEW HAMPSHIRE	Julie R. Durgin	1/1/13
NEW JERSEY	Roberta Shontz	9/30/12
NEW MEXICO	Shirley Blair	1/1/13
NS/PEI	Rose Salmons	12/31/12
OHIO	Carol Shindeldecker	1/1/13
ONTARIO	Norma Elliott	12/31/12
OREGON	Herold Reid	12/31/12
RHODE ISLAND	Joyce Mowry	12/31/12
SAO PAULO	Marcela Candido Lopes	12/31/12
SASKATCHEWAN	Barbara Green	12/31/12
TENNESSEE	Georgia Wilson	1/1/13
UTAH	Meghan Mapes	12/31/12
VERMONT	Vincent Comegno	1/1/13
WASHINGTON	Peter Cole	1/1/14
WISCONSIN	Bonnie Preuschl	12/31/12

Standing Committees

Youth

Linda Hattrick resigned. Replacement pending.

Teller

Patrick Murphy resigned. Appointed Howard Walker (16) to fill the position on the Teller's Committee.

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED

Sandi Shoemaker, acting on my behalf, granted the following Special Dispensations:

- Laurel #13 – change place of meeting (September 2, 2010)
- Idaho #49 – change place of meeting (September 2, 2010)
- Pend d'Oreille #62 – elect officers out of time at a stated meeting; install elective officers out of time at a stated or special meeting (September 22, 2010)

I granted the following Special Dispensations:

- Valeria #76 – install elected officers out of time (June 19, 2010)
- Star of the West #35 – change place of meeting (June 25, 2010)

- Adah #8 – initiate within two weeks, three days having elapsed (September 21, 2010)
- Laurel #13 – change place of meeting (November 22, 2010)
- Silver Star #83 – initiate within two weeks, three days having elapsed (January 22, 2011)
- Silver Star #83 – initiate within two weeks, three days having elapsed (March 18, 2011)
- Esther #14 – install elected officers out of time (April 30, 2011)

WAIVER OF JURISDICTION

I was contacted by Sister Connie Harris, Worthy Grand Matron of Oregon, on October 26, 2010 and asked to grant a Waiver of Jurisdiction to allow a member who resides in Caldwell, Idaho to be initiated in her family's chapter, Hope #13 in LaGrande, Oregon. Her family has been active in this chapter for seven generations. I granted the waiver on November 10, 2010.

OFFICIAL VISITS

Each Official Visit is a treasured memory in our hearts. We thank all of the Chapters who worked so hard to make them special. Your exemplification of our ritualistic work was beautiful. The luncheons, dinners and refreshments were delicious. The decorations were festive, entertainment delightful and we often felt like we were waking up Christmas morning surrounded by wonderful gifts.

After our first Official Visit at Star of the West Chapter #35 (the meeting was held in Gooding), I promptly took a 5 week spa break at St. Alphonsus Hospital, and our Associate Grand Matron, Sandi Shoemaker, and Worthy Grand Patron, carried on without me. I hear that they did a great job of conducting Schools of Instruction and Official Visits at ten Chapters.

I was able to re-engage by early October, at the Official Visit to Liberty Chapter #51 in Shelley. It was probably a little too early for me, but it was particularly important to me to attend the Official Visit at the Chapter of our Past Grand Matron, Janet Jensen Fullmer and our Grand Adah, Teresa Carlson. I was Grand Adah for Sister Janet during her year as Worthy Grand Matron, and the "Jensen girls" have been friends for many years.

Our Worthy Grand Patron and I were able to complete 24 Official Visits, with our Worthy Grand Patron missing only one due to illness. We experienced our Grand Jurisdiction's first Joint Official Visit. Hugh Duncan #2 of Salmo, and Florence #79 of Challis, were the pioneering Chapters who planned and beautifully executed this first Joint Official Visit. I think it was a fun experience for both Chapters, and I know it was for all who attended.

CHAPTER MERGERS & DISSOLUTIONS

There were no chapter mergers during this year. I have received notification from one Chapter that they were considering closing, but at this point, the members have not been notified, and a vote has not occurred.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS

We received honorary memberships from many of the Chapters we visited, and were humbled and honored with each one received. Thank you for making us part of your Eastern Star Chapter family!

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS APPROVED

I approved the following Chapter By-Law revisions.

Queen Esther #12

Article VIII, Section 4 – make donation to Benevolent fund a budgeted amount

Article V, Section 2 – modify section to conform to Grand Chapter legislation allowing for nomination and election by acclamation

Article V, Sections 3, 4, 5, 6 – add entire election procedure consistent with Code & Digest

Article VI, Section 1 – financial review report to occur at first meeting in June

Hermosa #32

Article V, Section 1 – changed election procedure to conform with process adopted by Grand Chapter, allowing for nomination and election by acclamation

Article IX, Section 1 – Initiation fee shall be \$25.00 and includes dues and ritual

Article IX, Section 2 – \$5.00 fee for International Temple Fund shall be paid by new members, dual members, and affiliated members

Laurel #13

Article III, Section 3 – absent members may be elected only if they have sent written notice of willingness to serve

Article III, Section 4 – the Worthy Patron or his pro-tem will preside over the elections

Article III, Section 5 – office of Secretary will have a term limit of five consecutive years; office of Treasurer will have a term limit of six consecutive years

Article VI, Section 1 – dues shall be \$20 per year

Article VI, Section 3 – dues for a new member shall be pro-rated; fees will include International Temple Fund of \$5 and initiation fee of \$20, and present a ritual

Article IX, Section 2 – outgoing Finance Committee shall audit the books; incoming Finance Committee shall devise budget

Article X, Section 1 – annual honorarium of \$300 for Secretary and \$75 for Treasurer to be presented when all official duties are completed

Idaho Falls #85

Article VIII, Section 1 – changed to read “the compensation of the Secretary of this chapter shall be \$50.00 (fifty dollars) per month and dues shall be remitted.

Article VIII, Section 3 – changed to read “the Worthy Matron of this Chapter shall be allowed \$100.00 (one hundred dollars) toward expenses when she attends Grand Chapter plus an amount equal to \$.25 (twenty five cents) per highway mile”

Article IX, Section 4 – changed to read “a fee of \$5.00 (five dollars) for the International Temple Fund, or the current fee, shall be paid by all petitioners for the degrees”

Idaho #49

Article III, Page 2 – hour of meeting changed to 7 pm

Adah #8

Article IX, Section 1 – add words to clarify that dues are collected at the time a petition is received

Article IX, Section 3 – add new section to pro-rate dues during the second half of the year

Article IX, Section 5 – to clarify existing practices regarding presentation of monetary gifts to the retiring Worthy Matron and retiring Worthy Patron in amount not to exceed \$50.00 and \$40.00 respectively, at the end of their term

Henrietta #21

Article II, Section 1 – no meeting on Maundy Thursday

IRREGULARITIES

During our Schools of Instruction, we focused on “back to the basics”, since we have seen the same irregularities for several years, and also because several of our Chapters have new members and requested this focus. Each Chapter listened intently, asked clarifying questions, and put forward their best effort to implement our recommendations and reinforcement of the Ritual and Code & Digest. We were impressed by your sincere desire to learn, and to exemplify the beauty, grace and meaning of our Ritual.

Chapter Opening & Closing

1. Improper raps given by Warder & Sentinel
2. Warder opened door without direction from the Worthy Matron
3. Star Points not holding sign until pass is given

Balloting

1. Associate Conductress did not properly prepare the ballot box
2. Associate Conductress passed the ballot in the incorrect order
3. Worthy Matron did not declare ballot open and closed, and did not destroy ballot
4. Reverent attitude rather than salutation sign given to Bible before balloting at Altar

Initiation

1. Conductress incorrectly entered labyrinth during Initiation for obligation
2. Adah incorrectly winding veil on sword during Initiation lecture
3. Gestures not given by Star Points during initiation lecture
4. Worthy Patron joined Prayer Circle during Initiation
5. Conductresses did not countermarch new members to enter prayer circle
6. Conductress and new member entered prayer circle before it was fully formed
7. Worthy Matron dropped new member's hand too early during prayer circle

General

1. No annual Treasurer's Report
2. Copying from the ritual

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

1. **Question:** We are going to have an Initiation for a new member at our Official Visit. Since our Official Visit will occur on our regular meeting night, we are concerned that it will make the meeting very late. Is it possible to open our Chapter meeting during the School of Instruction, in the afternoon, and then declare a recess, and continue the meeting including Initiation in the evening?

Answer: To begin your meeting at a time other than the time stated in your By-Laws would mean that you are holding a special meeting. In order to hold a special meeting, you would need to notify all resident members of the change (C&D pg. 37, Art. II, Sec. 2). The special meeting would be opened in regular form, and closed with one rap of the gavel. The stated meeting would be opened with one rap of the gavel. The Associate Matron would need to vouch for all present to be certain that no members have entered during the break, who are not properly vouched for.

2. **Question:** One of our members recently saw a person who had taken a demit from our chapter more than 10 years ago. She has not placed her membership with another chapter in the interim. She would like to visit our Chapter. What does she need to do?

Answer: According to our Code & Digest (Pg. 54, Art. XV, Sec. 6), a demitted member is not permitted to visit on a demit after one year from the date of issuance, except to petition for affiliation. In order to visit your Chapter, where she was a member, she should petition for reinstatement, and would not be able to visit until the petition has been balloted upon and approved.

3. **Question:** We have a couple of members from other Chapters who are regular pro-tems in offices in our Chapter. We do not have enough of our own members to fill all of the offices, and these individuals are not able to become members of our Chapter, because they are already members in two Chapters. Is it possible for them to participate in our Installation ceremony, as recognition of their ongoing contribution to our Chapter, by listing them as pro-tem when being introduced during Installation?

Answer: Although they cannot be officially installed into an office in your Chapter, since they are not members, I understand your desire to recognize their valuable, ongoing contribution to your Chapter by including them in the Installation ceremony. Our ritual says "It is not legal to appoint and install a non-member of a Chapter as an officer." They would not be able to truthfully participate in the Obligation of Officers, nor would they be able to answer the Installing Officer's question in support of the Worthy Matron-Elect. Based on the direction in our ritual, it seems inappropriate for them to participate in the ceremony.

4. **Question:** Can an officer of another Chapter be installed at an Installation? One of our members is a dual member in another nearby Chapter. She has been elected as Associate Matron of that Chapter, but will not be able to attend their installation due to surgery. Our installation occurs later than their installation. Is it possible for her to be installed as Associate Matron of the other Chapter, at our Installation?

Answer: Her dual Chapter should request a special dispensation from the Worthy Grand Matron to install an elected officer out of time at the first stated meeting she feels healthy enough to attend.

5. **Question:** I have three members who have not paid their dues, and am somewhat confused by the form and Code as they seem to contradict each other. The Code states that a notice of

suspension should be issued on December 31st. The notice states “at a regular meeting of this chapter, held on its hall on (date), you were suspended). Since our chapter meeting does not occur until the first week of January, I’m not certain what date to use.

Answer: Our Code indicates that suspension occurs on December 31st, that the Secretary should issue notices of suspension on December 31st and at the first stated meeting in January of each year, report those members suspended for non-payment (Pg. 45, Art. VI, Sec. 6, S, T). I believe the form should be revised to reflect the automatic suspension on December 31st and the issuance of the notice on the same date.

OFFICIAL PROPERTY

I received the following official property from Junior Past Grand Matron, Lucy Miller:

- 1 Worthy Grand Matron jewel
- 1 Worthy Grand Matron hand seal
- 1 Worthy Grand Matron desk seal
- 1 large print Ritual, white cover (2009)
- 1 Idaho Code and Digest
- 1 GGC Constitution (Red Book)
- 1 Price List of all material available
- 1 Grand Representatives record book
- 1 blue notebook containing courtesy initiation and waiver of jurisdiction, certificates and securities

VISITATIONS

Other Masonic Organizations

It was my honor to represent the Grand Chapter of Idaho, OES at the following events:

- Job’s Daughters International Grand Session in Twin Falls, Idaho on June 24, 2010
- International Order of Rainbow for Girls in Yakima, Washington, June 9
- DeMolay State Conclave in Boise, Idaho on April 1, 2011
- York Rite Grand Session in Lewiston, Idaho on April 15, 2011

I regret that I was unable to attend the Grand Lodge of Idaho held in Nampa in September, as I was recuperating from my illness.

Other OES Grand Jurisdictions

I was also honored to attend the following Grand Chapter sessions in other states:

- Grand Chapter of Montana in Missoula, June 17-19. This was a special honor, since my parents accompanied me, and my Dad is the Grand Representative of Montana in Idaho. It was a great time for him to get acquainted with his counterpart, Margie Matovich.
- Grand Chapter of Oregon in Pendleton, June 21-23. Another wonderful experience, to watch our very own Rebecca Price (we claim her, too) presiding.
- Grand Chapter of Washington in Yakima, June 28-30.
- Grand Chapter of Utah in Salt Lake City, October 15.
- Grand Chapter of Nevada in Las Vegas, October 4-6.

I regret that I was unable to attend the Grand Chapter of Wyoming, since I was still in the hospital at that time.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS

The All Membership Picnic was held in Boise, at Winstead Park on July 18th, 2010. The event was hosted and organized by the Chapters of the WGM and WGP – Boise #65, Meridian #66, Hermosa #32, and Silver Star #83. The WGP’s Chapters played the lead in organizing the event, with all of the Grand Officers’ chapters contributing funds to cover the cost of the event. Entertainment was provided by Brother Wiley Smith and his family – it was fabulous! His son, daughter-in-law and their three children came to serenade us with guitar and fiddle music, and Wiley on keyboard, of course. What a talented family! Bar-b-que beef was prepared by Carlas Brown of “Brother Brown’s BBQ”. Carlas is the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Prince Hall Affiliate Lodge, and a friend of the Worthy Grand Matron.

Our first Exchange was held with our Sisters and Brother in Montana. The event was hosted by the chapter in Hamilton, and included a lunch and entertainment. The exchange had special meaning because our Worthy Grand Patron and Grand Electa have ties to Montana, and started their Masonic journey in that state. My Dad is also Grand Representative of Montana in Idaho, and was born in Moore, Montana. We received a Special Project donation from the Montana Grand Officers.

Thirty-eight years ago, the idea of an exchange with another Grand Jurisdiction was formed by Sister Glenadene Keister and her Nevada counterpart, Hazel Mae Tipton. Both were Worthy Grand Matrons in their respective states at the time. Idaho invited the Nevada Grand Officers to attend the Homecoming of WGP Ralph Kromer in Boise, starting a wonderful exchange between the two Grand Jurisdictions. Sister Hazel Mae passed away this past year, and she is missed by her many friends in both states. This year's Nevada/Idaho Exchange was hosted by Myrtle Chapter #14 in Fallon, and was a celebration of Sister Hazel Mae's life. We had a lovely meeting, including the Official Visit to Myrtle Chapter of Barbie Holmes, WGM and Jay Dini, WGP. Our Nevada friends also celebrated Sister Glenadene's 90th birthday! Following the meeting, we were treated to a delicious soup and salad dinner, with scrumptious desserts. We received a Special Project donation from the Nevada members. That evening, we played Bingo with some of our Nevada friends, and a couple of our Idaho members were winners! A big thanks to PGM Mary Lynne "Pete" Nealis for organizing a bus trip for our Idaho members. Thirty-three of us enjoyed the ride, with more snacks and Bingo prizes than you could possibly imagine. We had a "mobile worship service" on the way home. We look forward to the International Exchange in Worley, Idaho on May 7th and to the Tri-State Exchange with Wyoming and Utah in Jackson, Wyoming on May 14th.

Homecoming

A spectacular Homecoming event for the Worthy Grand Patron and me was held at the Nampa Civic Center on March 26, 2011. 139 members and friends attended the event. We were entertained by a barbershop quartet of four talented gentlemen. It was a wonderful surprise when my counterpart, Carla Carmain-Herit from Utah, and her husband, Tom, walked through the door. I have learned that my friends and family are quite good at keeping secrets from me!

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE

We created and distributed two circular letters this year – one with Christmas and New Year greetings, and one with Grand Chapter details.

TRAVEL PINS

We continued the tradition of awarding travel pins to members who participated in a variety of events. Our travel pin was a Christmas tree, with dangles in the form of Christmas gifts in each of the star point colors. We think the tradition started by Sister Pete Nealis and Brother Le Roy Austin was a fabulous idea, and it was our pleasure to award them to our Sisters and Brothers around the state.

SPECIAL PROJECT

We were inspired by MWGM Rennie Ofton's selection of "Service Dogs" as her special project, and decided to commit our fund raising efforts to the support of three service dog organizations: Guide Dogs for the Blind, Dogs for the Deaf, and Canine Companions for Independence. Thanks to the Chapters who raised money through the sale of pins, special projects and who hosted educational programs on service dogs.

MEMORY BOOKS

I love people who show initiative and volunteer for projects even before you ask them. Jennifer Marshall is one of those people! She volunteered to create the memory books for our Grand Officers this year, and it has been no small task to gather all of the pieces from our busy Grand Family. I know that Jen is a talented person, and that we will all treasure this special memento of our year in the "Christmas in the Country" Grand Family.

SCRAPBOOK

Sister Mikki Carr volunteered a couple of years ago to create my Worthy Grand Matron's scrapbook, and I am so thankful for her creativity and hard work. Thanks to my Mom for the photos and

organizing all of the items in the envelopes and getting them to Mikki! And, thanks to my buddy, Mary Baldwin for the many photos, and also gathering up items. I have learned that when you want to get something important done, you should just turn it over to dear friends like Mikki, Jen, Mary and Mom – and then get out of the way!

CONCLUSION

Thank you for a wonderful year, filled with beautiful memories. It has been my honor to be your Worthy Grand Matron.

Fraternally submitted,

Christy Schill-Newbold
Worthy Grand Matron

Annual Report Of the Worthy Grand Patron Larry G. Allen 2009-2010

To the Worthy Grand Matron, Grand Officers, Distinguished Guests, members and visitors of the Grand Chapter of Idaho, Order of the Eastern Star:

I want to join Sister Christy in welcoming each of you to our "Christmas in the Country" Session. We have a full program planned for our five days in Boise. Sisters, I hope you can find some time for shopping and Brothers, I hope you will do your part to help the ladies enjoy the stay. I look forward to a busy time and a lot of fun. Sisters, I don't charge for hugs.

What a marvelous sleigh ride the last year has been. As Worthy Grand Patron, it has been my great pleasure to represent the members of Idaho Grand Chapter when attending the local chapters as well as other Grand Jurisdictions. What a GREAT journey! The memories and friendships shared along the way are priceless. They will be with me forever.

Our Grand Family was installed in Moscow on June 15, 2010. From there I headed to Montana Grand Chapter in Missoula. Old home week for your Worthy Grand Patron. Home one night, and then on to Oregon Grand Chapter where Rebecca Price (Electa #22) was Worthy Grand Matron. Next was Grand Bethel in Twin Falls. What great young ladies I met there. The end of June was a trip to Yakima for Washington Grand Chapter. I returned to Yakima again on July 9 for Rainbow Grand Assembly where the young ladies in their full skirts floated across the floor.

Christy and I had our first Official Visit on July 17 with Star of the West #35. We had a very warm welcome. The next day was the All Membership Picnic at Winstead Park in Boise. We had BBQ Beef and all the fixings with entertainment by Wiley Smith and his family. What a great time!

July 19 our Worthy Grand Matron put a real scare into all of us. She took an unplanned vacation at St. Al's Hospital. I'm very thankful she recovered and is with us at this Grand Chapter.

August saw me really get down to work. With the help of Sandi Shoemaker, Associate Grand Matron, we continued the schedule of Official Visits. I thank Sandi for all her help and work while Christy was getting back on her feet.

We visited Shoshone #10 (Wallace) and then Idaho #49 (home of our Grand Treasurer) in St. Maries. I attended Wyoming Grand Chapter. It was great fun and great people. On August 28 we traveled to Sandpoint for the Official Visit of Martha #34. It was in this chapter many years ago that I had the honor of being a candidate for the first time at an Official Visit.

September visits started in the north: Potlatch #48, Mountain Queen #11, Pend d'Oreille #62 (Grand Chaplain) and Laurel #13. September 16-17 saw me in Nampa at Grand Lodge where Brother Skip Owen was installed Most Worshipful Grand Master. Continued visits were: Mizpah #6, Valeria #76, and Electa #22. We closed September by attending Amaranth Grand Court in Boise.

The fall colors were beautiful as we traveled in October and the best part was that Christy was able to join us. Great Day! We visited Liberty #51 (home of our Grand Adah). This was followed by attending Nevada Grand Chapter. I saw what happens to an Associate Grand Patron when a Worthy Grand Patron becomes ill. We attended the Past Grands' Banquet. What a pleasure. Saw lots of old friends and had a great time, but came home sick. Because of this I missed attending the Official Visit of Miriam #16. It was the only one I missed, but did not want to share the bug. October 16 saw me at the Official Visit of Golden Rod #64 (Grand Sentinel). We traveled to Kamiah for Crescent #43, home of our Grand Martha. The end of October was Esther #14, Blackfoot (Grand Warder). This member stated when asked to be a grand officer that he was not going to wear a tuxedo. Guess what, he lost.

November visits: Idaho Falls #85, and Rupert #39. We held the first combined Official Visit for Florence #79, Challis and Hugh Duncan #2, Salmon. It worked out very well. It was followed the next day by the Montana/Idaho Exchange in Hamilton, Montana. They had a special memorial program in honor of PGP Leo Thomas of Montana. He was a talented musician and his signature piano selection was "Alley Cat". November 30 was the visit of Loyaute #19 (Associate Grand Conductress). We were fortunate in our travels, as the weather and roads were good throughout the month.

December was a break in the schedule and gave everyone an opportunity to enjoy the holiday with their family. The Grand Family Christmas Party was held at our home and we enjoyed having them.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! We resumed our visits with Henrietta #21, the primary chapter of our Grand Conductress and Grand Organist. They had a program by the Idaho Falls Pipe and Drum Corp. They were all members of the Fire Department.. We traveled to Ruth #3, Lorraine #20 and E-dah-ho #77. Good weather and good friends.

February 2 was a rescheduled visit for Victory #60 followed by Silver Star #83. We traveled north to Clover #33 where we had the pleasure of hearing the Worthy Matron give most of the Worthy Patron's work without using the book. Great job by Andrea Storjohann, PGM. Queen Esther #12 (home of Grand Marshal) had very good ritualistic work and lots of laughter. Adah #8: The Worthy Patron is Associate Grand Patron and the Warder is Grand Secretary. They had a special program about guide dogs. February 19 was a rescheduled visit for Twin Fall #29. The Worthy Matron is our Grand Ruth. Rob Morris #83 brought the month to a close.

Mary Lynne Nealis, PGM organized a bus trip to Fallon, Nevada for the Nevada/Idaho Exchange. Thanks, Pete. We all had a good time. It was fun to meet our friends from Nevada again.

Boise #65, home chapter of mine, Associate Grand Matron and Grand Electa, had their visit on March 9. We had a short school of instruction because we had an active candidate for initiation at the meeting. We have had the opportunity to see several meeting initiations this year. Always glad to see new members entering our chapters. Boise #65 presented me with an honorary life membership. What an honor! Of course, they gave me a little roast with the presentation. This will continue at the end of our Grand Chapter Session.

We visited Cosmopolitan #36 and then Meridian #66, my secondary chapter. In Meridian, Art Shoemaker, PGP, was protem Worthy Patron on short notice. The Worthy Patron had been in the hospital the night before. He's better now, but it's sure nice to have our members fill in when needed. The Worthy Matron was appointed as my page in Grand Chapter.

March 25 – Last Official Visit held at Hermosa #32 in Caldwell and home chapter of our Worthy Grand Matron and Grand Esther. There was a large crowd to help us celebrate. I got a beautiful painted rock with both boots and a western hat. This should help hold me down.

March 26 – Joint Homecoming of the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron. This affair was

held at the Nampa Civic Center. We had members from all over the state. I really appreciated everyone who attended. We had an excellent barbershop quartet for entertainment. A big THANK YOU to all.

April 8 I attended the Demolay Conclave in Boise. Good to see those young men dressed up and doing their work. There is hope for the future. In May, I plan to attend the International Hands Across the Border in Worley as well as the Official Visit and Tri-State Exchange in Wyoming.

There were no requests for dispensations to form new chapters and there were no new chapters chartered in this Grand Jurisdiction this year. There was no need to convene any special session of the Grand Chapter.

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve in the Grand East with Worthy Grand Matron, Christy. We have known each other for close to twenty years. I know I am hard to get along with at times, but hope it hasn't been too tough. Thank you, Worthy Grand Matron, for allowing me an active part in the schools of instruction.

To members of Boise #65 and Meridian #66: Thank you for all you have done to help me - not only this year, but also in the past several years. You've always been there for me.

To my "Christmas in the Country" Grand Family: It is always a difficult decision to choose individuals out of our state's membership. Our bonding started at the retreat in Cambridge and continues to this day. You have responded well. Each of you is special to me.

To the Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons: Thank you for your friendship, guidance and support. I always enjoyed seeing you at the events.

Grand Representatives, what a pleasure it has been to present our appointments. Some of you have even teared-up. Enjoy your appointment and I'm sure you will build many memories and friends.

To our Worthy Matrons, Worthy Patrons and all chapter members, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. You guys are the workers. Without you, nothing would happen. I am truly amazed at the ability of our membership. Your presentations have been unreal. I thank you for the honorary memberships. It still chokes me up when I think about them.

To my Grand Escort, Jan Booe: Thank you for your help and for traveling with us. It has been a lot of fun. To the Light of My Life, Gladys, it is thanks to you that I am where I am as Worthy Grand Patron. You always had faith in me, even when I wavered. I am glad you were able to travel with me all these years. Thank you for keeping my wardrobe ready and for the final check out before show time. You have truly been my steady rock for 54 years. I love you dearly.

In closing I will mention my fun symbol, "Boots". When I was elected to serve as Associate Patron one of the sisters told me boots were not acceptable. My comment was "No boots, no Larry". Guess I won.

In looking back, it is hard to believe that the time has gone so quickly. Worthy Grand Matron, it is time that we continue our sleigh ride into the Winter Wonderland. I wish all of you much success in the future.

Sincerely and Fraternaly submitted,

Larry. G. Allen
Worthy Grand Patron

**Annual Report
Of the Grand Secretary
Denise Hunt
2009-2010**

To the Members of the Grand Chapter of Idaho,

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as your Grand Secretary again this past year. I enjoy the duties and responsibilities that go along with serving in this position and endeavored to fulfill all of them to the best of my ability. The routine duties of the office were performed daily with as little delay as possible. They included filling orders, printing the itinerary, printing Code & Digest revisions, compiling the proceedings, issuing and receiving Grand Representative appointments, receiving memorials from other jurisdictions, writing memorials for our own deceased Past Grand Patrons, sending out mailings to the Chapter Secretaries, Grand Officers, Past Grands and other Grand Jurisdictions, issuing VPLMs (we now have 2,807), mailing the registration materials and printing the program and annual reports for this Grand Session.

The 8½ x 11 format of annual reports you're holding is another cost-cutting measure authorized by the Board of Trustees.

I am thankful that WGM Christy and WGP Larry had their year so well planned in advance of Sister Christy's medical emergency. Because of that, I was able to carry on the business of the Grand Chapter office with only a few challenges and some slight delays during her absence.

During this past calendar year, we were saddened by the loss of 126 members, three of whom were Past Grand Patrons, Brothers Gene Crowley, Bob Grisham and Wayne Woodward.

Membership Statistics:

Membership as of December 31, 2009		3,029
Initiated	60	
Affiliated	22	
Reinstated	<u>11</u>	
Total Increase in Membership		98
Merged Members		<u>134</u>
Subtotal		3, 261
Demitted	29	
Suspended	64	
Deceased	126	
Expelled	1	
Unable to Locate	26	
Merged Members	<u>135</u>	
Total Decrease in Membership		<u>381</u>
Membership as of December 31, 2010		2,880
Net Loss	149	

We are continuing our working relationship with the Print Shop at the Idaho Correctional Facility. 2011 is was the year the Membership Roster is reprinted, every third year. The Print Shop was able to provide us with the same product we have had in the past at a third of the cost three years ago.

I am happy to report that members in this Grand Jurisdiction were awarded twelve Rob Morris Membership Jewels and five bars by the GGC Membership Committee. To earn a jewel, a member must accumulate 300 points by signing their name on the top line of a petition for the degrees (100 points), signing on the second line (50 points) or signing either line of a reinstatement petition (50 points). After a jewel has been earned, bars may be earned to hang below the jewel for each additional 300 points. The program runs through the triennium. There's still time to earn yours. The form is available on our website (www.idahooes.org) under the "Resources" tab.

GGC has created the "Legacy Project" which is recycling of 'gently used but dearly loved' OES

paraphernalia to assist an Eastern Star Chapter rebuild and resume its meetings. In light of the horrible weather events that have beset the Midwest and southern states, if your chapter has extra items in storage due to consolidation and the chapter would like to contribute them to the Legacy Project, please contact Right Worthy Grand Secretary Alma Bane for further information/instruction. Sister Alma may be reached at www.rwgsecretary@easternstar.org or 800-648-1182.

Once again I want to acknowledge the Chapter Secretaries and express my heartfelt thanks for all the notes, cards, emails and phone calls. The dedication to your duties reflects in your work and makes your chapters run smoothly and in turn makes my work easier. Your job in your chapters is an important one. Thank you for all that you do.

To my friends, Jen and Jessie, and my Grand Page Valerie, I say an early thank you for the work and help I'll be needing from you during the Grand Session. Without your willing assistance, I would not be able to do the many tasks required of a Grand Secretary during a Grand Session and I would be so far behind when I return to my office. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Sister Liz, I am very thankful to have worked with such a dedicated partner the past seven years. We established a good working relationship from the start, which made both of our jobs much easier. You were so helpful when I was elected which made the transition smooth for me. I have truly enjoyed working with you and I wish you the very best in your many endeavors. You are a special friend. I'm looking forward to working with you in your new capacity as Chapter Secretary. Now you'll get to see "how the other half lives". Thank you for everything.

Sister Christy and Brother Larry, I have enjoyed being a member of your "Christmas in the Country" Grand Family. I hope I have been of some assistance to each of you. I wish you both success in all your future endeavors.

Sister Sandi and Brother Bob, best wishes to you both as you prepare to assume the leadership of this Grand Chapter. I look forward to working with you in the year to come.

To the members of Adah Chapter and Idaho, thank you for supporting me as Grand Secretary. I will try to continue providing you with the best possible service.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Hunt
Grand Secretary

**Annual Report
Of the Grand Treasurer
Elizabeth Hughes
2010-2011**

What a difference a year makes. We started the year with interest rates that were the lowest in years and then they got worse. Fortunately, the bears on Wall Street have helped push our investments higher. Stock prices are up and companies are paying dividends and those things have helped all of our projects, especially VPLM's.

In spite of the strong stock market, our projects were hurt by a sharp reduction in the amount of money being contributed by our Chapters and individuals. I'm not sure what the reason is for this drop in donations, but I'm blaming the elephant in the room, our national economy. I'm hopeful that as the economy continues its long slow climb back to health, our donations will return to previous levels.

Worthy Grand Matron, Christy, and Worthy Grand Patron, Larry, thank you for a wonderful year. Your encouragement and support have made my last year in this office as memorable as the first. Denise, as always, thank you for your hard work and friendship. You and Dave have become good friends and I look forward to getting together when we won't have to "go get some work done".

Since 2001 I have served as your Grand Treasurer. During these last ten years a lot has changed and not just interest rates and the economy. I've worked with two outstanding Grand Secretaries, Pauleen and Denise, and have been a part of ten remarkable Grand Families. The Boards of Trustees that I've worked with have been supportive, always challenging me to explore the depths of the job. During my tenure I have made lots of friends and have lost a few and I've watched as our membership has declined, in spite of the good works that we do. I've watched my kids grow up and become members of this wonderful organization and I've watched John earn more than a few grey hairs.

Now as I transition out of this position that I've come to love, I want to thank the Grand Chapter for their support over the last ten years. Being re-elected every year proved to me that you had confidence in me and that was comforting during those times when the job got a little overwhelming. I am leaving with mixed emotions. I will miss the office and the people that I got to work with. I'm not sure what I'll do with my free time. John assures me, however, that we'll figure it out.

Fraternally,
Elizabeth Hughes

Grand Treasurer
Partial Report
Board Of Trustees
2010-2011

The Board of Trustees members are: Darla Redman, PGM, Chairman; Joanne Galbraith, PM, Secretary; John Hughes, PP (2011); Nancy Ross, PGM; Rose Mary Mews, PM; Charles Rose, PP (2012); Harlow Kibbey, PGP; Barbara Hopkins, PM; Paul Remaley, PP (2013); and Denise Hunt, Grand Secretary and Liz Hughes, Grand Treasurer. Ex-officio members are: Christy Newbold, Worthy Grand Matron; Larry Allen, Worthy Grand Patron; Sandi Shoemaker, Associate Grand Matron; Bob Barclay, Associate Grand Patron; Karen Juell, Grand Conductress; Susan Warner, Associate Grand Conductress; and Dr. Gary Lemarr, Grand Sentinel.

The Board held two meetings this term: June 15 in Moscow, following the close of Grand Chapter, and March 26, 2011 at Nancy Ross's home in Star. There were no decisions made by e-mail but we answered questions from the 2011 General Arrangements Committee and shared information.

The Board has approved future Grand Chapter Session for 2012 at the Shilo Inn in Idaho Falls and for 2013 at the Coeur d' Alene Inn in Coeur d' Alene. 2014 will be in the Boise area.

We continue to search for satisfactory interest rates for the investments. Grand Treasurer Liz has been an integral part of this search. The VPLM did have a 3.12% return this year or \$3.12 for each \$100 dollars invested. That is an increase of \$0.65 over last year. We thank the Grand Chapter for having the foresight to pass the per capita and registration legislation that will help solidify our financial viability.

We would like to recognize Elizabeth Hughes for her outstanding work as Grand Treasurer. She has devoted her time and expertise to this Grand Chapter and has been the guardian of your investments for the last ten years. Thank you Liz.

The Board will be losing three members this year. John Hughes who has served two consecutive terms and given freely of his time and business expertise. He has been an asset to the Board in many ways. Thank you John. Joanne Galbraith who has decided not to be elected to another three year term. Darla Redman, PGM has also completed two consecutive terms.

We would like to thank our secretary for this year, Joanne Galbraith. We appreciate your prompt and precise minutes and record keeping. We also appreciate the many hours spent by the Grand Secretary, Denise Hunt and Grand Treasurer, Liz Hughes.

Darla Redman, Chairman
Board of Trustees