



O.E.S



**STUDY & INFORMATION GUIDE**



**Washington and Jurisdiction**

# Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide Sisters and Brothers Washington Jurisdiction, a voice that speaks to the goals of our beautiful Order.

The Order of Eastern Star has a spiritual appeal that will always continue. It is more than a sisterhood or brotherhood, more than a system of ritualism, or a field for social enjoyment. All lessons are based on Biblical history and are for the betterment and enlightenment of humanity. From our five pointed star we derive fidelity, constancy, loyalty, faith, and love bound together with patience, hope and charity.

We want to provide information assisting all members in meeting the challenges in making our chapters effective, efficient, and successful while keeping members informed of the activities in our subordinate chapters and Prince Hall Grand Chapter. Additionally, provide a means by which fraternal and community relationships can be enriched, encouraged, improved, and successfully unify.

## **Goals**

To encourage the wives, widows, mothers, daughters and sisters of Master Masons to join our Order; To teach the Ideals and Standards of Masonry to our female members; To reiterate the basic Landmarks of the Order of the Eastern Star to our members; To work for the benefit of the community, extending generous support for charitable purposes; Enjoy the social activities of the Order and interact with each other in fraternal and cheerful companionship; Extend fraternal regard, charity and friendship to and be honest and truthful in our dealings with each other; Respond to the needs of others, members and non members alike.

## **Motto**

“Reclaim and Retain”

## SYMBOLS OF THE EASTERN STAR

The three officers, Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron and Associate Matron make up a trinity that combines wisdom, strength and love. The Associate Patron adds strength to all.



Briefly I will relate the symbols of this great order to lessons which can be carried with us each day.



The Secretary, with her **CROSSED PINS**, would indicate that two pens are used. One a pen of **COMMENDATION**, the other one **CONDEMNATION**, representing that our deeds may be recorded as either being good or bad.



The Treasurer, with her **KEYS**, emblems of security, needed to conserve the funds necessary to conduct the business of the order.



The **CONDUCTRESS**, with her **SCROLL** and **BATON**, teaches that there must be plans if there is to be success.



The **ASSOCIATE CONDUCTRESS**, with her **BATON**, represents discipline. We must all move in harmony if we mean to accomplish much. It is everlasting teamwork that has enabled the word to progress.



The **MARSHALL**, with her **CROSSED BATONS**, is the one who teaches us that he who loves best, serves best.



The **SENTINEL**, with the **CROSSED SWORDS**, represents protection and justice, that no one enters the chapter room with unclean thoughts and that when we leave, all transactions are secret and shall forever be locked within.



The **WARDER**, wears the Dove of peace, a symbol of harmony. While we have opinions and can express them, let us not forget that others have the same privilege.

## DEGREES OF THE ORDER

The Five (5) degrees of the OES are founded on the Holt Scriptures. Five worthy and potable female characters, illustrating many moral virtues.



**ADAH** - the daughter degree, illustrating integrity filial devotion and respect to the binding force of a vow.



**RUTH** - the widow degree, illustrating industry, loyalty and devotion to religious principles.



**ESTHER** - the wife degree, illustrating justice, courage and fidelity to kindred and friends.



**MARTHA** - the sister degree, illustrating undeviating faith in the hour of trial and the immortality of the real soul.



**ELECTA** - the mother degree, illustrating feaverency, love, generosity, patience and submission under wrongs.

# WORDS TO LIVE BY!

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered  
Be **FORGIVE** them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives  
Be **KIND** anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies  
Be **SUCCEED** anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you  
Be **HONEST** and **FRANK** anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight  
Be **BUILD** anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous  
Be **HAPPY** anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow  
Do **GOOD** anyway.

Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough  
Give the world the **BEST** you got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and GOD  
It was **NEVER** between you and them anyway.

## **An Eastern Star, A Woman!**

**Masonry means much more than wearing of a pin or carrying a paid dues so a chapter will let you in.**

**You can wear an emblem on your coat, from your finger flash a ring, but if you're not sincere at heart doesn't mean a thing.**

**It is merely an outward sign to show the where that you belong, to that great fraternal sisterhood that teaches right from wrong.**

**What really counts lies buried deep within the human breast, till Masonic teachings bring it out and puts it to the test.**

**If you practice out of the chapter what you learn within, be just to yourself and to your fellowmen.**

**Console a sister when sick and assist her when in need, without a thought of personal reward for any act or deed.**

**Walk and act in such a way the world without will see, that only the best can meet the test laid down by masonry.**

**Be always faithful to your trust and do the best you can, then you can proudly tell the world, you're an Eastern Star, a Woman!**

# **BIBLE STUDY REFERENCES**

**OES**

**ST MATTHEW 2:2**

**ADAH**

**JUDGES 11:29-40**

**RUTH**

**RUTH 2:4-8**

**ESTHER**

**ESTHER 5:3**

**MARTHA**

**ST JOHN 11:39-42**

**ELECTA**

**2<sup>ND</sup> JOHN 1:13**

**QOS**

**1<sup>ST</sup> KINGS 10:1-13**

**AMARANTH**

**MATTHEW 27:24-29**

**SPECIAL READING**

**ST LUKE 11:31-36,**

**EPHESIANS 6:8**

**II CORINTHAINS 4:6 & 13:13**

**JOHN 13:34**

## EASTERN STAR DEGREES

The following verses are offered by the writer as an humble testimonial of gratitude to those who kindly instructed him in the mysteries of these beautiful Degrees:

JEPHTHAH'S DAUGHTER.\*\*\*\* Judges, 11:35.

The name Adah means "adornment" and appears several times in the Old Testament, but we are interested in this connection with the daughter of Jephthah who bore this name. Jephthah, an important judge and military personage in the Old Testament, took an oath or vow before going out on an important military mission that he would sacrifice the first thing he would see coming from his house if he returned victorious. He was the victor of the campaign and on his return Adah, his only child, was the first thing that came from his house to see him. The broken-hearted Jephthah was loyal to his vow, though he protested against this custom. This incident in Biblical history is used by the Eastern Star to symbolize the binding and serious nature of a vow.

FATHER! father! the joyful minstrel sung - Lo, glad I come, with timbrel and with dance! Hail, father, hail! thine arm in God was strong! Hail, God of Israel, Israel's sure defense! Hosanna! hosanna! Thus the minstrel sung.

Father! father! the astonished daughter cried What grief is this, what means that sign of wo? Dust on thy head? thy gray hairs floating wide? That look of horror on each soldier's brow? Bewailing, bewailing, Thus the daughter cried.

Father! father! the maid devoted said - If thus I'm doomed, if thus thy vow has gone, Turn thou not back! there's hope amidst the dead, None to the perjured - let thy will be done! Hosanna! hosanna! Thus the maiden said. Father! father! the doomed one meekly spoke - Be strong thy hand, be resolute thy heart! To heaven's re-union, I will joyful look and with a blessing on thy head, depart!

Farewell! farewell!

Thus the doomed one spoke

## EASTERN STAR DEGREES

RUTH. \*\*\*\* Ruth, 2. 5.

The name Ruth means "companion." The story of Ruth is the most beautiful story in the Holy Bible, Ruth was a native of Moab. She was married, but an epidemic killed the men of the community, including her husband. In accordance with custom, she returned to Bethlehem where she lived with her mother-in-law, Naomi. Times were hard and they secured employment from Boaz, a kinsmen of her dead husband. Boaz also was her protector. He was attracted to her primarily because of her devotion and loyalty to Naomi. He married her and they had a child to whom they gave the name of Obed who became the grandfather of David. This story is used by the Eastern Star to symbolize constant faithfulness to one's duty.

From Moab's hills, the stranger comes, By sorrow tried, widowed by death;  
She comes to Judah's goodly homes, Led by the trusting hand of faith: Ye  
friends of God, a welcome land. The fair and virtuous Ruth, today; A  
cheerful heart and hand extend, And wipe the widow's tears away. She  
leaves her childhood's home; and all that brothers, friends and parents  
gave; The flowery fields, the lordly hall, The green sod o'er her husband's  
grave Ye friends of God, a welcome land. She leaves the gods her people  
own: Soulless and weak they're hers no more; JEHOVAH, HE is God  
alone, And HIM her spirit will adore. Ye friends of His, a welcome land.

At Bethlehem's gates, the stranger stands, All friendless, poor, and  
wanting rest; She waits the cheer of loving hands and kindred hearts that  
God has blest. Ye friends of His, a welcome land. The fair and virtuous  
Ruth, today; A cheerful heart and hand extend, And wipe the widow's tears  
away.

## EASTERN STAR DEGREES

ESTHER \*\*\*\* Esther, 5. 3.

The name Esther means "star." In the Holy Bible Esther is presented as a person of great strength and personal beauty who heard of a plot against her people and protected them from destruction. The plotter was hanged in their stead. This story is used by the Eastern Star to symbolize one's fidelity to kindred and friends.

QUEEN of Persia's broad domain, Why this anguish and despair!  
Blinding tears like falling rain; Sighs and words of hopeless prayer! Round thee stands a waiting train, Wealth and beauty, rank and power -All to bring relief is vain, Queen of sadness in this hour.

For a voice has gone abroad, Stern and fearful, filled with doom. Israel's exiles to the sword, Sword and brand to Israel's home Lo, that high expressive brow -Grand - but what can woman do; Hark, those words the purpose show. "I will save or perish too! "

"To the Sovereign I will haste - Robe your queen in purity -  
Crown her as in triumphs past - Maidens, to the throne with me."

Queen, thy holy aim is won; God o'er rules the stern decree;  
Sends a pardon from the throne; Israel saves, and honors thee.

## EASTERN STAR DEGREES

MARTHA, \*\*\*\* John, 11. 26.

The name Martha means "lady." The name appears a number of times in the New Testament, and Biblical scholars are not too sure that the name is used each time relating to the same person. The Eastern Star uses the name in its ritual in connection with the sister of Mary and Lazarus, of Bethany, who was a close friend of Jesus. It was Lazarus who was raised from the dead. The Eastern Star uses this story to symbolize enduring faith and a belief in eternal life.

Low in the dust she knelt, Down by the Saviour's feet,  
With weeping eyes and hands upraised, Up to the mercy seat;  
The friendless girl was sad - Complainingly she sighed -  
Oh, hadst thou come while yet he lived our brother had not died.

The Saviour's gentle smile New hopes in Martha woke;  
Thy brother, he shall rise again, The gracious Saviour spoke:  
The living shall not die, If in me they believe,  
And though they in the dust may lie, The very dead shall live.

Into the Master's face, The sad one meekly gazed;  
There is no fear in love, there is No doubt where faith is placed. Thou art, thou art the  
Christ - In thee the dead shalt live - Whatever thou shalt ask of God, I know that God  
will give.

Before an open tomb, A joyful group is seen; The grave has yielded up its dead, And  
faith once more is green.

No longer, tears are thine Sweet Martha, soul of faith!  
Thy love for Christ has found reward, Thy brother won from death!

## EASTERN STAR DEGREES

ELECTA, \*\*\*\* John, 11. 26.

The name Electra is not easily attached to a specific person. In the Second Epistle of John, a lady mentioned therein is described as an "elect lady." Tradition informs us that she was an ardent Christian who devoted all her time and effort to promoting Christianity in a day when this was unpopular and also dangerous. As a result of her activities, she was put to death and thus became a martyr. This was her wish so that her life work might testify to the enduring strength of Christian love. The Eastern Star uses this part of the Holy Bible to symbolize patience and peaceful submission to persecution for one's belief in God.

Thus we find the Eastern Star using the Holy Bible to teach basic moral truths to its members. Its ritualistic work is most impressive and inspiring and drives the lessons home effectively. Each year its colorful installation ceremonies may be viewed by non-members as they get part of the spirit of the group. Each day the group is actively engaged in the charitable work of the community, doing its part in making this a better world in which to live. It is a truly fine and worthy organization which merits the good will and assistance of all.

## **Sister and Brother is a Title**

In the customs of Freemasonry, "Sister", "Brother" is a title as much as so Worthy Matron or Worthy Patron, and must always be used as such. A woman or man does not attend a Chapter meeting in his or her capacity as a private individual. She or he is not just Jane or Joe, but is there in their capacity as a Eastern Star. For this reason one should never in open Chapter refer to one as "Jane Doe" or "John Doe" but as "Sister Doe" or "Brother Doe", as in the same literal significance as any office in the Chapter or Grand Chapter.

## **District Goals**

To encourage the wives, widows, mothers, daughters and sisters of Master Masons to join our Order; To teach the Ideals and Standards of Masonry to our female members; To reiterate the basic Landmarks of the Order of the Eastern Star to our members; To work for the benefit of the community, extending generous support for charitable purposes; Enjoy the social activities of the Order and interact with each other in fraternal and cheerful companionship; Extend fraternal regard, charity and friendship to and be honest and truthful in our dealings with each other; Respond to the needs of others, members and non members alike.

## ***The Star Points - The Five Heroines***

### ***ADAH***

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Fraternal Relationship       | Daughter                                   |
| 2. Name Meaning                 | Ornament                                   |
| 3. Gem                          | Turquoise                                  |
| 4. Season                       | Spring                                     |
| 5. Color                        | Blue                                       |
| 6. Color Symbolic of            | Sky and Sea                                |
| 7. What Color Stands For        | Truth & Faithfulness                       |
| 8. Star Point Emblem            | Sword & Veil                               |
| 9. Meaning of Star Point Emblem | Right & Revelation                         |
| 10. Flora Emblem                | Violet                                     |
| 11. Floral Emblem Stands For    | Modesty                                    |
| 12. Pentagon Emblem             | Open Bible                                 |
| 13. What Emblem Stands For      | Obedience to Gods Word, Light, and the way |
| 14. Attributes                  | Integrity                                  |
| 15. Lesson (Moral)              | To be Steadfast in Our Vows                |

### ***RUTH***

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Fraternal Relationship           | Widow   |
| 2. Name Meaning                     | A Friend  |
| 3. Gem                              | Topaz   |
| 4. Season                           | Summer  |
| 5. Color                            | Yellow  |
| 6. Color Symbolic of                | Rising Sun & Ripened Grain                          |
| 7. What Color Stands For            | Sincere Affection                                   |
| 8. Star Point Emblem                | Sheaf   |
| 9. Meaning of Star Point Emblem     | Plenty Collective Greatness of Small Deed or Duties |
| 10. Flora Emblem                    | Yellow Jasmine                                      |
| 11. Floral Emblem Stands For        | Patient Industry & Humbleness                       |
| 12. Pentagon Emblem                 | Lily of the Valley                                  |
| 13. What Pentagon Emblem Stands For | Piety and Meekness                                  |
| 14. Attributes                      | Loyalty & Constancy                                 |
| 15. Lesson (Moral)                  | Value of True Friendship and Loyalty                |

## ***ESTHER***

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Fraternal Relationship           | Wife   |
| 2. Name Meaning                     | A Star   |
| 3. Gem                              | Diamond  |
| 4. Season                           | Summer   |
| 5. Color                            | White  |
| 6. Color Symbolic of                | Billowy  |
| 7. What Color Stands For            | Innocence & Purity   |
| 8. Star Point Emblem                | Crown & Scepter  |
| 9. Meaning of Star Point Emblem     | Royalty and Power  |
| 10. Flora Emblem                    | White Lily   |
| 11. Floral Emblem Stands For        | Peace & Purity   |
| 12. Pentagon Emblem                 | Sun  |
| 13. What Pentagon Emblem Stands For | Supreme Deity  |
| 14. Attributes                      | Purity & Courage   |
| 15. Lesson (Moral)                  | Willingness to Sacrifice for a good Cause, Faithfulness to Kindred and Friends |

## ***MARTHA***

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Fraternal Relationship           | Sister  |
| 2. Name Meaning                     | Instructed by Christ  |
| 3. Gem                              | Emerald   |
| 4. Season                           | Winter  |
| 5. Color                            | Green   |
| 6. Color Symbolic of                | Ever Quickening   |
| 7. What Color Stands For            | Eternal Life  |
| 8. Star Point Emblem                | Broken Column   |
| 9. Meaning of Star Point Emblem     | Uncertainty of Human Existence                                    |
| 10. Flora Emblem                    | Pine Leaf (Fern)  |
| 11. Floral Emblem Stands For        | Immorality  |
| 12. Pentagon Emblem                 | Lamb and the Cross  |
| 13. What Pentagon Emblem Stands For | Christ's Death on the Cross                                       |
| 14. Attributes                      | Fortitude & Abiding Faith   |
| 15. Lesson (Moral)                  | To have Unwavering Faith in the Hours of Trial, Undeviating Faith |

## **ELECTA**

1. Fraternal Relationship	Mother
2. Name Meaning	Called of God
3. Gem	Ruby
4. Season	Fall
5. Color	Red
6. Color Symbolic of	Blood, Fire and Wine
7. What Color Stands For	Fervency
8. Star Point Emblem	Cup (Clasped Hands)
9. Meaning of Star Point Emblem	Hospitality
10. Flora Emblem	Red Rose
11. Floral Emblem Stands For	Love
12. Pentagon Emblem	Lion
13. What Pentagon Emblem Stands For	Strength and Power
14. Attributes	Ardor, Zeal, Sacrifice and Hospitality
15. Lesson (Moral)	Love One Another

The five points of this Star to each Sister/Brother doth reveal Fidelity, Patience, Purity, Faith and Zeal

Each Sister/Brother of this Order shall reflect the rays of light that Joy and Truth shall beam sincere from the darkness of the night

Each Sister/Brother should try their best to practice the virtues amplified by the Five Heroines, those virtues are as follows:

**ADAH-HONOR.** Be willing to sacrifice: in order to save each others honor. To fail to carry out a commitment is the first step toward self-destruction.

**RUTH-FELLOWSHIP.** The value of a true friend far exceeds any materialistic value upon the face of this earth. A true friend will go the last mile of the way with you, as Ruth did with Naomi.

**ESTHER-COURAGE.** Be willing to defend and support each other for a worthy cause. Together we stand, divided we shall fall.

**MARTHA-FAITH.** Without faith, there is not hope for a better day. Faith is essential for spiritual survival and if the spirit is weak or dead, so is the body.

**ELECTA-LOVE.** Love binds our hearts in fellowship. Love is the one element that will sustain the masonic family through the trials and tribulations of this earthly life. In order for us to be at the final gathering of those dressed in white, love must be the STAR in the EAST, that we have come to

## ***How to Protect your Eastern Star Emblem***

If an individual were to approach you with the Eastern Star recognition question indicated, the answers are as follows:

Q. Are you an Eastern Star?

A. What right have you to ask me that? Or what rite have you to ask me that?

Q. What is that?

A. It is an emblem

Q. An emblem of what

A. Of the Order of the Eastern Star

Q. What rite did you have to ask me that question?

A. free and adoptive rite

Q. What affiliation are you

A. Prince Hall affiliation

Q. May I see your dues card?

A. Yes you may

Q. What is the Order of the Eastern Stars?

A. The Rite of Adoption by Master Masons. For in sighting the influence of females toward the purposes of the Masonic Institution; for increasing social enjoyment by the aid of the Masonic ties for ameliorating the condition of the destitute widow and the helpless orphan, and for affording increased facilities in relieving distressed female traveler. It is a beautiful system or morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols.

Q. What are symbols?

A. Sensible images used to express a hidden meaning.

Q. What symbols are represented on your emblem?

The sword and veil, the sheaf, the crown and scepter united the broken column and the cup.

Q. What are tokens?

A. Certain friendly brotherly or sisterly grips by which one Eastern Star can know another in the dark as well as in the light.

Statement: Brother (or sister) I greet you!

Response: Brother (or sister) it is a pleasure to know you!

If someone covers your emblem, say: " And God Said Let There Be Light And There Were Light" (Genesis 1:3) or " And The Light Shines In The Darkness, And The Darkness Did Not Comprehend It" (John 1:5)

## General Information a Eastern Star should Know

1. The East is one of the four cardinal points. It is the direction in which the sun rises. East symbolizes Power and knowledge. The woman in the East is symbolic of knowledge, the man in the East symbolizes justice.
2. The term -The East- means that portion of the Chapter room, in which the presiding officer presides, and from where information, light, and knowledge on the work of the O.E.S. should come. The East is the birthplace of Jesus Christ, it is also the land of the rising sun.
3. You are not allowed to pass between the Altar and the East, because this place connects the Labyrinth, the Altar, and the Holy Bible, which represents Jesus Christ's birthplace, with the East, the source of our light and knowledge. This connection should never be broken, by making it a traffic lane. During Initiation, Conferring Degrees, and the Installing of Officers, you may cross between the Altar and the East.
4. Initiations -There are three steps necessary to secure membership in the Order of the Eastern Star:
  - a. The desire to belong or wish for something. It is one of the three steps which must be undertaken by those who wish to become members of the Order
  - b. The request is the second of the three steps required to secure membership. This is done with a Petition.
  - c. The initiation is the third step, at that time you are given the knowledge through lectures, signs, and symbolism.
5. The word "Cabalistic" means secret, unwritten or oral word.
6. There are five types of "Floor Work", they are: Altar Work, Labyrinth Work, Initiation Work, Marches and Drills. All "Floor Work" is approached with straight and diagonal lines forming angles, triangles and squares.
7. The word "Pentagon " means five. The Pentagon is the five sided figure to which the five star points are attached, and occupies the central portion of the Emblematic Star. It contains five of our most important emblems. The Pentagon represents the human body, and the four points, the limbs, the single point, the head. The Pentagon is also considered as the five stages of man: Birth, Life, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension.

8. The five important rules of the Star as a symbol should be observed:

- a. That we should not withdraw our hand from one needing help.
- b. That our feet should never halt in our pursuit of duty.
- c. That our prayers should ascend to the distressed.
- d. That a faithful breast conceals the faults and secrets of our friends.
- e. That approaching evil is frequently avoided by a friendly hand.

9. Each and every spoke in this wheel is a necessity in order that this wheel may roll on to its goals.

10. The purpose of an Eastern Star Chapter is a school for practice of self control (discipline), good manners, and all the virtues and graces.

11. The symbols of the Eastern Star are made up of straight lines, circles and figures.

12. The five points of the Star designates the possible statues of woman: Daughter, wife, sister, mother and widow.

13. The central points of the Star are made up of triangles.

14. The labyrinth is an intricate pathway through which it is difficult to find one's way without aid. Through this journey, the lesson of the Star is learned.

15. The Holy Bible is the sacred light of an Eastern Star.

16. The East is the source of light or wisdom.

17. God is the source of all light.

18. Light is symbolic of wisdom and knowledge.

19. The West -Farewell, the close of life, the end of time, the after glow of the meeting.

## **What Can I Tell My Non-Masonic Friends??**

Eastern Stars are very circumspect sometimes when it comes to discussing the Order with non-members. Some members are so careful that they are afraid to even mention the things that everyone knows about the organization. This is probably because they believe that Freemasonry and the Order of the Eastern Star is a "secret society" and that members are forbidden to talk about the association with non-members. This is a mistaken idea and there are many things that Eastern Stars can tell their non-Masonic friends. Let us consider a few of these.

The first question that is usually asked by a non-member is, "What is the Order of the Eastern Star?" A short definition is: The Order of the Eastern Star is a fraternal organization, an auxiliary of a Lodge of Freemasons, religious in character, based on the principle of the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man, and the Sisterhood of Woman, which does charitable work in the community and among its members. Through its teachings and ceremonies they seek to make good men and woman better and thereby make the world a better place in which to live.

The Order of the Eastern Star is a voluntary association in that no one is invited to become a member. You can tell your non-Masonic friends that, unlike college fraternities and other organizations, the Eastern Stars never solicits anyone to become a member. As a matter of fact, you should make it clear that it is a violation Masonic law for a member to invite anyone to join the Order. You should emphasize that the prospective member must truly come of his/her own free will and accord, and that he/she usually seeks membership because of the high opinion he/she has of the Order as a result of the upright conduct of its members.

You can make it clear that Freemasonry is not a religion. Sometimes outsiders claim that the Craft/Order is a religion. You can explain to your non-Masonic friends that most Eastern Stars belong to an established Church. Eastern Stars do not go to the Chapter to worship God; they do this on Sunday when each Eastern Star and Freemason goes to his/her own church. It is religious, in that one cannot become a Eastern Star unless he/she believes in God, but there is no religious test applied to the prospective member, nor is he/she required or asked to subscribe to any religious tenet or dogma. You can explain that it is forbidden to discuss religion or politics in the Chapter.

You can explain that The Order of the Eastern Star is not a "secret society. " A secret society is one that keeps its existence in secret, and whose members do not make known their affiliation with the group. Freemasonry is not a secret society because it does not hide its existence; members do not hide their membership; but on the contrary, the organization meets in buildings located on public streets, announces its meetings in the newspapers and magazines, engraves the words 'Masonic Temple " on many of its buildings, publishes periodicals, and has homes for orphans and the aged. Like most organizations, it has some "secrets, " but it is not a "secret society."

You cannot, of course, discuss the ritual, the passwords, and other matters of a confidential nature but you can tell them the things printed in our monitor. You can go so far as to tell them that the degrees of the Order consist of ceremonies of a strictly serious nature, without horseplay, which teaches basic moral truths in an impressive and solemn manner. You can tell them that the ritual contains a philosophy of rite, which provides the new member with something on which to build a hope that is eternal.

Sometimes a non-Mason wants to know about the ceremony of initiation. He/she may ask specific questions. You can tell them, in general terms that each candidate takes part in a ceremony of initiation, is then advanced to the promotion from one degree to the other. The advancement depends on his/her proficiency in learning certain things relating to Freemasonry, its ethics, and its philosophy. Certainly you can tell them that nobody ever took the degrees without becoming a better person. You can tell them that the basic ethical principles exemplified in the ceremonies of the degrees are such as are accepted by all good men and woman they are lessons based on the golden rule, tolerance towards all people, respect for one's family, charity towards all, and being true to God for his manifold blessings. We should be proud to proclaim to the world that we are a serious organization of mature men and woman an organization that instills a love of God, teaches charity in its broadest sense, and shows each member how to live a better life.

## **Numbers 3-5-7**

In all the Eastern Star work we find that numbers are used to convey certain ideas, or plans.

### **THREE**

The Order of the Eastern Star is dedicated to three things. CHARITY, TRUTH and LOVING KINDNESS.

Each sign is given in THREE distinct motions.

Without THREE distinct primary elements there is no life for our being is composed of BODY, MIND and SOUL.

There are THREE great events in a person's life, Birth, Life and Death.

The grip is given with THREE distinct movements.

Jesus was persecuted THREE days.

Jesus was scorned times THREE.

Jesus was mocked THREE times; the robe, the crown and the reed.

Jesus lay THREE days in the tomb.

Jesus rose on the THIRD day.

There are THREE words in each of the passes.

### **FIVE**

There are FIVE raps at the door.

There are FIVE points to the Star.

There are FIVE emblematic colors.

There are FIVE emblems and FIVE symbols.

There are FIVE letters in the cabalistic word.

There are FIVE words in the cabalistic motto.

There are FIVE signs and FIVE degrees.

There are FIVE divisions of the Eastern Star Degrees.

There are FIVE degrees of relationship of women to a Master Mason.

## Numbers 3-5-7

### SEVEN

There are SEVEN ties to the obligation.

SEVEN officers give instructions.

SEVEN members constitute a quorum.

Candidates are presented to SEVEN stations.

SEVEN assumes in the Bible a great significance, generally indicating completion or perfection.

# BIBLICAL RELATIONSHIP TO THE EASTERN STARS

## The Beatitudes-(10 total found in Matthew 5)

<b>ADAH (6<sup>th</sup>)</b>	“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see GOD”
<b>RUTH (3<sup>rd</sup>)</b>	“Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth”
<b>ESTHER (7<sup>th</sup>)</b>	“Blessed are the peacemaker, for they shall be called the children of GOD”
<b>MARTHA (2<sup>nd</sup>)</b>	“Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted”
<b>ELECTA (8<sup>th</sup>)</b>	“Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you and shall all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake”

## The Four Seasons

<b>ADAH - SPRING</b>	Symbolizing youth of life.
<b>RUTH – SUMMER</b>	Symbolizing abundance and growth of life.
<b>ELECTA – AUTUMN</b>	Symbolizing harvest or the period of full maturity of life.
<b>MARTHA – WINTER</b>	Symbolizing the end of the year, or lifetime when one must rely on eternal life

# SYMBOLISM OF THE EASTERN STAR

## PART I

**Stars are Messengers** from the earliest history of man. Stars have been regarded as messengers or signals sent out by the great and unknown force which has brought the Universe into being. It was a Star in the east that heralded the birth of the Savior, who was named the "Light of the World". This Star, which is the emblem of our Order, symbolizes woman emancipation by the utterances and actions of Jesus. Not to be ahead of man, but to walk equally by his side.

If we will see the true light of the Order, we can and will understand our special mission in life. This life is a great school and the lessons we master are our final grade in life. The only way toward the highest life is by the way of learning. Promoting comes only to those who have learned and earned it. We should therefore raise our eyes from this earthly life and the small things in our daily life that are so trivial to the higher and more spiritual things, and choose as our perfect symbol "The Star of Bethlehem, the one Altogether Lovely".

## PART II

**The Equilateral Triangle:** A perfect figure having three equal sides representing the body, the mind and spirit. In the work of our Order it is symbolic of; GODS Almighty Power, GODS Embracing Love, GODS All-knowing Wisdom. The triangle in the Chapter room is made with Adah and Electa as its base, and Esther as it's downward point.

**Sword and Veil:** Symbolizes modesty and fearlessness. The lifted veil symbolizes GODS word and will revealed to the individual.

**Sheaf:** Symbolizes the collective greatness of small tasks and humble duties.

**Crown and Scepter:** Symbolizes the highest state of honor and reward. The Scepter extended is a sign of protection.

**Broken Column:** Symbolizes an unshakeable faith in eternal life.

**Cup:** Symbolizes the allotted portion of life's joy or sorrows.

# SYMBOLISM OF THE EASTERN STAR

## PART III

**Pentagon:** A geometrical figure having five sides and five angles, also representing man of the human body. The four rays points the limbs and one ray or point, the head (the Altar in the Pentagon) representing the heart of the individual.

**Altar:** To the Eastern Star the Altar is the symbolic heart and when prepared (Bible opened) symbolizes the spirit of GOD in the human heart therefore when the Bible is opened on the Altar it creates the Holy area between the prepared Altar and the East or source of Light, and no one is permitted to pass between these two places.

**Five Fold Cord:** The five fold cord is the symbolic interblending of the stations and thus encircles the Pentagon or shape of the Altar area. A cord is used to symbolize strength. The strength of this cord is in the combination of the attributes of loyalty, constancy, kindness, faith and hospitality. Each strand is the symbolic representation of sacrifice, diligence, courage, integrity and love.

**The Gavel:** The Kings and Judges of the past and the present, use a small wooden or ivory mallet, which is known to be a Gavel, as an instrument of authority, to summon to Order a court or trial and to establish a decision. Any sound can be distinct; but the sound of the gavel is generally known as a rap, therefore the rap. The number of raps can establish, Order, Obedience and Decisions.



CHECK EACH CORRECT  
"POINT" FOR EACH STATEMENT  
LISTED BELOW.

**1. Lily**

**2. Who is this?**

**3. Red**

**4. Wife**

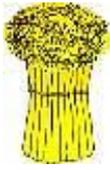
**5. Sword & Veil**

**6. Red Rose**

**7. Believeth thou this**

**8. Green**

**9. Widow**



CHECK EACH CORRECT "POINT"  
FOR EACH STATEMENT LISTED  
BELOW.

**10. Broken Column**

**11. Yellow Jasmine**

**12. Alas my Daughter!**

**13. White**

**14. Sister**

**15. Elected Lady**

**16. The Fern or Pine Leaf**

**17. Green**

**18. Widow**

					CHECK EACH CORRECT "POINT" FOR EACH STATEMENT LISTED BELOW.
					<b>19. Mother</b>
					<b>20. The Sheaf</b>
					<b>21. Violet</b>
					<b>22. Love One Another!</b>
					<b>23. Yellow</b>
					<b>24. Daughter</b>
					<b>25. The Fern or Pine Leaf</b>
					<b>26. Jephthah's Child</b>
					<b>27. Boaz's Wife</b>

Scoring is 5 points each with 2 bonus questions.

# HOW TO GET THINGS DONE

## **Plan Ahead**

Every moment spent planning saves three or four in execution.

## **Write it down**

It helps a great deal to make your plan on paper. Also you can make reminders for yourself and be referred back if needed.

## **Don't get caught up in insignificant details**

If you do, you will never find time to tackle the real issues

## **Delegate and divide**

Delegate as many tasks or details to others as you can. That's cardinal rule for every good officer. Do nothing that an assistant can do. If they don't know how, train them. Keep yourself free for important things.

## **Don't procrastinate**

Don't waste time dreading a pesky job. If it needs to be done, plow into it. Otherwise it will take twice as long later.

## **Budget your time**

Allot yourself the amount of time you feel you need, with diligent application, to accomplish each task. Do the job carefully and do it well, but don't waste time. Your habits will become automatic.

## **Make habits work for you**

Establishing good habits will speed up your routine tasks

## **Learn to say "No"**

Popularity is a wonderful thing but don't let it lure you away from accomplishing important tasks. When you're busy, excessive social conversations can be a great waste of time. Don't let socializing or others' responsibilities waste your time.

## **Relax and let your mind create**

The well organized person can expect more leisure time as there just reward. And leisure time is a precious commodity.

# CONDUCTING EFFECTIVE COMMITTEE & CHAPTER MEETINGS

## **Prepare the meeting's agenda beforehand.**

This will ensure a profitable discussion.

## **Always schedule the meetings at the same time and same location.**

This is easily worked into their schedules and members know where the location is

## **Start on time / End on time**

## **Speak Clearly**

## **Stick to Agenda**

## **Be firm but gracious**

## **Be familiar with the Grand and Local Constitution and Bylaws.**

Have copies available

## **Ensure officers complete a written officers report.**

This ensures thought was given to preparation and a copy of the proceedings for the archives

## **Preserve Order.**

An unruly meeting is not productive

## **Conclude the meetings.**

Summarize all points made and what actions will be taken, and do not linger around Time waits for no one

# RELATING WITH CHAPTER MEMBERS

## **Open lines of communication**

Make it known that your door is always open. Allow members to come to you with chapter or personal issues. “A good way to forget your troubles is to help others out with theirs.”

## **Get to know people**

Make an effort to meet with individual officers and members at least once a week.

“Engrave this upon my heart: there isn't anyone you couldn't love once you've heard their story.”

## **Know the heart of the chapter**

Have your finger on the pulse of the chapter. Whenever events are going on in the chapter, all officers and members should be there. Learn to know when problems might arise before they come up.

“There is no point carrying the ball unless you know where the goals is.”

## **Praise in public, criticize in private**

Give credit where credit is due and take blame when it is needed.

“The person who loses his head is usually the last one to miss it.”

## **Listen**

Sharpen your listening skills. Listen more than giving advice.

“Blowing ones horn only succeeds in deafening the listener.”

## **Roll up your sleeves and get dirty**

Always be willing to get into the trenches with your chapter, officers and members. Give the support and assist with projects.

“Success is sweet, but its secret is success.”

# DELEGATION

**Whereby you extend your influence and control, and become capable of assuming greater responsibility**

The best way to increase your authority is to delegate it. To hoard is to lose it.

Once you assign responsibility, be sure you delegate the necessary authority to go with it.

Always work through channels. (Network)

Delegate only if you have confidence that the member is capable of intelligently handling the power she possesses.

Assigning responsibility does not lessen your responsibility; it merely gives you a capacity to handle greater responsibility.

Clearly define the responsibilities assigned to each subordinate and make this information known to others who work through them.

After delegating, follow-up to make sure the job is being done. Be careful not to over supervise.

Never assign duties to someone because you don't like them.

Be quick to straighten out complaints about a member overstepping their authority.

Let every subordinate know what decisions they have the authority to make.

## **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WORTHY PATRON**

As male members of the Order we share the goals of our sisters. We meet and greet and provide counsel to our sisters. We delight in sharing the joys of celebrating our fraternal history, the present and future activities

Patrons are unique in that during the course of a day he may not only directly oversee the Chapter but also may possibly become involved in a critical incident or life crisis. While Patrons may not have ultimate command and control over these matters, their actions and directions over subordinates will be vital in determining the eventual success of the Chapter in dealing with the problem at hand. Although the terms administration, management, supervision are often used interchangeably, each is a unique concept that occasionally overlaps with the others. As supervisors, Patrons, oversee the work as it is being done. This involves the direction of Chapter members in their various Chapter activities.

Policies, procedures, rules, regulations and the ritual are very important in defining role expectations for Patrons. A Patron should rely on these directives to guide Chapter members behavior and performance. A Chapter member will seek a Patron's opinion and guidance in discretionary matters. This requires a Patron to be well informed about all policies, procedures, rules, regulations and the ritual. What are policies, procedures, rules and regulations, and ritualistic work? Policies are general and serve basically as guides to thinking rather than action. They reflect the purpose and philosophy of the organization. Procedures are more detailed. They are the preferred methods for handling matters. Rules and regulations are specific and leave little or no latitude for individual discretion. Ritualistic work is to ensure that tasks are performed with the same degree of diligence as other duties.

There are good Patrons and bad Patrons, because many people are untrained, uncaring, unfit, or unwilling to have the mantle of responsibility thrust upon them-do not succeed (at least in the eyes of their Chapter members). A Patron simply gets things done through people. The Patron uses the process of influencing Chapter members to use their energies willingly and appropriately to facilitate the achievement of the Chapter's goals. A successful Patron influences others by example, he is one who gains the willing obedience, confidence, respect, and loyalty of the Chapter. The work of the Patron includes: Team Leader, Trainer, Motivator, Coach, Disciplinarian, Advisor, Communicator, Mediator, Facilitator. The persons the Patron promotes is of no small importance: "Promote those who are worthy, train those who are incompetent; that is the best form of encouragement." The Patron should learn from and emulate good leaders.

## **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WORTHY PATRON (con't)**

There are several cues for Patrons. First, lead by example, which includes their appearance, and several roles. The successful Patron is one who keeps informed, does not rant and rave, and prefer to "condemn in private and praise in public," and will try to learn something from all his human contacts. Second, upon assuming a Patrons role, to maintain an adequate amount of professional distance between themselves and their subordinates (some of whom may have been good friends with the new Patron and may now attempt to see how much they can get away with); and be able to say no to these persons while still being compassionate toward them. The Patron is caught in the middle. They are in "in between" positions. Chapter members expect them to be understanding, to protect them from unreasonable expectations and arbitrary decisions, and to represent their interest. The administration, though, expects Patrons to keep Chapter members in line and to represent the interest of the organization. They need to maintain and improve their familiarity with the work done by the Chapter members, and with their own duties.

A new Patron is no longer responsible solely for his own personal behavior but is responsible, instead, for the behavior of several Chapter members. The step to Patron is a big step that calls for a new set of skills and knowledge largely separate from that learned at other positions. The Patrons role, simply put, is to get Chapter members to do their very best. But, this is made more difficult because of the so-called human element. People are complex and sometimes unpredictable. A Patron should use various methods for motivating Chapter members. There is no one best way to manage and lead people in every situation. Leadership has been commonly described as more of an art than a science. "Like love, leadership, is something everyone knew existed but nobody could define."

Patrons have the very important responsibility of ensuring that Chapter members effectively perform their task, diligently attend to responsibilities, and work toward the Chapter's goals and objectives. Patrons are responsible for ensuring that the Chapter activities meet organizational expectations. All activities should be monitored to ensure that only those resources necessary for the job are expended. The Patron is concerned with: Effectiveness-how well the task is performed, Equity-refers to the quality (that all Chapter problems receive the same level of concern), Accountability-refers to whether inputs are used for proper purposes. Patrons must be able to perform three basic job-related functions: 1. Getting to the problem. 2. Resolving the problem. 3. Removing the problem.

# DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WORTHY PATRON

(con't)

The important part Patrons play in the Chapter requires that they be sensitive to the Chapters needs and goals and objectives. It should be remembered that all of the elements mentioned in this presentation revolve around one very important feature: people. Effective Patrons are made, not born. The Patrons role is simply, put, is to get Chapter members to do their very best!!!

Always remember, we are to work closely to the Worthy Matron, after all she is the **Principle Officer and person in charge**. You are also to follow the guidelines outlined in the Grand Chapter Constitution and By-Laws. Patrons **do not** bring the practices of the Lodge into the Chapter room and leave personal differences and ill feelings out of the Chapter. I feel that if we remember the obligations that we took as Master Masons and Eastern Stars, we can do all of the above.

Fraternally submitted

Jerome Kinzey  
District Deputy Grand Patron  
District Number 10  
Washington & Jurisdiction

I give a special thanks to PGP HARRELD E. NANCE for his insight.