

GRAND CHAPTER OF WASHINGTON
2009 Ritualistic Competition

February 2009

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

As stated in our first letter in October 2008, we are so pleased to have many opportunities this year for everyone show off their Ritualistic skills and knowledge of our order.

Ritual is the heart of the Order of Eastern Star. It defines our duties, responsibilities to our Order, to our Chapters, and to ourselves. It teaches the impressive lessons that make us more than just another philanthropic organization. As we travel the *OES Road Again* this year, we see so many of you doing fantastic ritualistic work. We would like to encourage you to compete in the Ritualistic Competition at Grand Chapter in 2009.

We are all winners when we exemplify beautiful ritual in chapter. Yet it is those that compete at Grand Chapter that are recognized by their peers. Picture yourself in our Winners Gallery in June 2009.

There are going to be a number of categories for you to compete in this year. They are:

Individual Star Point Initiation Lecture	Associate Conductress Lecture to the Candidate
Conductress Initiation Lecture and Weaving the Labyrinth	Installing Officer's Charge to chapter
Associate Patron Long Form Initiation Lecture	
Chaplain Prayers (Opening, Initiation, & Closing)	Long Form Opening (group)
Worthy Patron Initiation Lecture at Signet	Golden Chain (group)

We were so thrilled with the number of members who received their Proficiency at Grand Chapter in 2008 that we also have the proficiency test available to anyone who wishes to take it at Grand Chapter this year. Everyone that passes would be awarded his or her certificate at Grand Chapter. That would make everyone a winner!!

While a member may only compete in one individual category, they may also compete in a group or proficiency if they wish. All members are encouraged to participate including Deputy Instructors and Grand Officers although the Portrait Grand Family may only participate in **proficiency this year**.

The competition will be held on Sunday, June 28th in the State Fair portion of the Sundome.

Out of state visitors may compete, but they would not be eligible for awards. They may also observe, but we would need to know in advance that they are coming.

Enclosed are instructions for the proficiency test, a registration form, and competitor instructions. Please ask your Chapter Secretary for a copy. The deadline for registration is June 1, 2009.

Star love,

The 2009 Ritualistic Competition Committee:

Kathy Thisted, Chairman
Joan Kershner
Bill Shortt
Judy Nielsen

Approved,

Diane Osborne, Worthy Grand Matron