

Grand Chapter of Washington



Order of the Eastern Star

Dear Members,

November 18, 2024

I have three items to share with you.

On October 21, 2024, I arrested the Charter of Chehalis Chapter #3. It was not an easy decision to make and even harder to actually do. This is something no Worthy Grand Matron wants to do but at times it is necessary.

At General Grand Chapter last month, the delegates voted to allow females into our Order without a Masonic relationship. A petition must be accompanied by letters of recommendation signed by both a sister and a brother. New petitions are now available on the website.

The rationale: This change was brought forth so we can bring new members in who can continue our work and have in their essence the passion and love that we must have for our order. We often lose people of good character precisely because of not having Masonic kinship. This change will bring not only new possibilities for the Order of the Eastern Star but also for Freemasonry in general, since women initiated in the Order of the Eastern Star without Masonic kinship will be able to encourage husbands, spouses, and the like, to join Freemasonry regular.

The letter from the Cancer Committee concerning the tickets you were sent needs one bit of clarification. If your chapter chooses not to participate or does not sell all the tickets, you may return them. Please contact a member of the committee. Their names are in the letter that accompanied the tickets and in the Blue Book.

Happy Trails,

Eileen K. Winstead

Eileen Winstead, Worthy Grand Matron