

Grand Chapter of Washington



Order of the Eastern Star

Yeehaw, Yippee Kiyay!

Come along on our Western adventure as we roam over the hills and mountains. We would like the chapters to use their own decorations for Official Visits if you choose. The Worthy Matrons can dress in the attire of their area as you have in the past. The only time I will ask you to dress alike is at Grand Chapter in June if you are planning on being a page. Brother Darel and I encourage you to have fun during your meetings and Official Visits.

Our charities this year are Spokane Shriners Hospital and Brigadoon Service Dogs in Bellingham. The hospital would like to buy a Bladder Scanner at a cost of \$11,663.00 and a Ventilator at a cost of \$17,566.00. The Ventilator would let them move patients through multiple departments on one device and is designed to make breathing more comfortable. The Bladder Scanner would detect and define bladder location, size and shape across all pediatric patient types and anatomies. It would reduce unnecessary catheterization by nearly 50%, lowering the risk of infection.

The items for sale are mostly handmade and something that everyone could use. We have for raffle: a beautiful, beaded hummingbird picture, a dog quilt, and a small wall hanging. These items will be drawn at Grand Chapter in June.

Instead of a Golf Tournament we are going to have a Golf less Golf tournament. If your chapter usually sponsors a hole or wants to, we are hoping you will send in the money as usual. Flyers will be coming out to all the chapters.

Our trip will be to Nashville, Tennessee in September 2025. We will have four days to go on group tours as well as free time to explore Nashville. There will be a dinner cruise, tours of Johnny Cash and Patsy Cline museums, Ryman Theater, a battlefield, and a distillery, dinner and a Grand Ole Opry show. Flyers are available on the website.

This year we are recognizing a member of the chapter who helps with events, works behind the scenes, volunteers - one who makes a difference and is very deserving. We will be honoring them at the Official Visits and at Grand Chapter.

It's very impressive when our ritual work is done correctly. The Deputy Instructors will be instructing on several areas of the ritual. If you have new members, have someone be their mentor so they know the signs and passes so they can follow along in their ritual during the meeting. Members coming from other jurisdictions do not always know our traditions. Please have another member let them know what we do here in our jurisdiction. Above all, find time to have some fun during your meeting. It keeps members and visitors interested and wanting to return.

If you are on a Grand Chapter Committee, please know that when you were asked to be on one that you eventually become chairman of that committee. I am asking that each committee meets at least once during the year. The chairman will be responsible for writing a report to be sent to the Grand Secretary before the end of the Grand Chapter year.

Happy Trails,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eileen K. Winstead". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the "Happy Trails," text.

Eileen Winstead, Worthy Grand Matron