OKLAHOMA

Year Ending as of July

	1945	Mrs. Velma Pesha (216)
	1948	Mrs. Martha Dunlop
	1951	Mrs. Alice Ward
	1954	Mrs. Bessie Cordell
	1957	Mrs. Cora Parkhill
	1958	Mrs. Minnie Wolf
*	1959	Mrs. Marion Hallam
*	1961	Mrs. Margaret Cushnaghan
	1963	Mrs. Cora Ramey
	1965	Mrs. Barbara Anger
	1967	Mrs. Margaret Cunningham
	1969	Mrs. Constance Bell
	1971	Mrs. Annie Farris
	1973	Mrs. Irene Price
*	1975	Mrs. Margaret Shanks
*	1978	Mrs. Babe Gent
	1980	Mrs. Elsie Day
	1982	Mrs. Eva Offord
	1984	Mrs. Irene Wilson
	1987	Mrs. Jean Jolly
	1989	Mrs. Jean Craig
	1991	Mrs. Florence Arnold
	1993	Mrs. Marsha Taylor
*	1995	Mrs. Anne Van Gorder
*	1997	Mr. David Lansdell
*	1999	Mrs. Kay Herron
*	2001	Mr. Murray Haner
	2003	Mrs. Sylvia Davidson
*	2005	Mr. Denis St. Onge
*	2007	Mr. Bruce Weston
*	2008	Mr. Andy Duncan
*	2009	Mr. Robert {Bob} Donaldson
*	2011	Mrs. Isobel Lunn
*	2013	Mrs. Joyce DeKruyf
	2015	
	2017	James Pirie

STAPLES

Left to Right: Steve DeKruyf, P.P.; Dorothy Howell, Sandra McFarland, Joyce DeKruyf, and Phyllis Daugheroy. (Joyce & Steve from Thames Valley Chapter, #199, Innerkip and Dorothy, Sandra and Phyllis from Oklahoma when visited Grand Chapter in Toronto), 2011.

Joyce DeKruyf, Grand Representative Of Oklahoma in Ontario with her husband Steve DeKruyf PP of Thames Valley Chapter #199, Innerkip

Joyce DeKruyf

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario 2013

Sandra McFarland – GR Ontario in Oklahoma
Joyce DeKruyf – GR Oklahoma in Ontario

I am Joyce DeKruyf, a member of Thames Valley Chapter No. 199, Innerkip, Ontario, District 18. I joined the Order of the Eastern Star in June 1990, in "A World of Love and Happiness" Year, with Shirley Lamond, WGM and Lloyd Churchill, WGP. I was initiated with Louise Sumegi's Father ~ Louise became the Worthy Grand Matron in the Circle of Life Year 2000-2001.

I have been an active member ~ I visited many Chapters ~ Louise Sumegi's Mother was my travelling companion. I was appointed a Grand Page by WGM Joan Esdale and WGP Howard Hazzard, in the "Windmill of Fellowship and Service" Year, 1996-1997. I was appointed a Grand Hostess by WGM Jeanie Lee and WGP Robert Atkinson in the "Journey of Faith" Year 2008-2009.

Offices I have held in my Thames Valley Chapter are Marshal, Chaplain, Associate Conductress, Conductress, Associate Matron and then I was Worthy Matron in the "River of Life" Year, 1997-1998 with WGM Berteena Palmer {she passed away in October 1997} and WGP Arnold Townsend. I held the Office of Ruth from 1998-2011.

My husband Steve joined the Order of the Eastern Star the year that I was Worthy Matron. His mother ~ Marion DeKruyf, was the Grand Representative of Idaho in Ontario 2001-2003. Currently, Steve is the co-chair of the "Magic of the Midnight Sun" committee on arrangements for our 2014 Grand Chapter Sessions, and, I am the Associate Matron of Thames Valley Chapter. We have a daughter and a son.

I was appointed as Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario in May 2011, by Worthy Grand Matron Marsha Taylor and Worthy Grand Patron Alastair Milligan, in "Our Heaven Sent" Year, 2010-2011. My commission was July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2013. When I opened up my envelope I was so very excited on my dress being a black skirt and black with a bronze jacket, as this is my favourite colour ~ all banquets, etc. I am in black. It is the most comfortable and most beautiful choice I have ever seen.

I was honoured to attend our Grand Chapter in August 2011 and to receive Grand Honours. I was also very pleased to have my counterpart Sandra McFarland attend our Sessions. Oklahoma Grand Chapter Sessions were to be held in October 14th, 2012, which I had planned on attending, but when my counterpart Sandra said "since General Grand Chapter is happening in two weeks (November 2nd, 2012) in Fort Worth, Texas ~ why not the two of us attend the General Grand Chapter Sessions". Wow and what an experience this was, as I had never attended this before. The thrill of parading into the General Grand Sessions ~ with Sandra in front of me ~ to form a square around the full arena and then into four circles to represent the revolving world, marching out and then back into the arena to escort the flags with a number of 103 flags, to open the 2012 General Grand Chapter Sessions. This I will never forget !!!

My counter-part Sandra McFarland joined OES in Marion, Indiana, in 1959, along with her father, the first father-daughter team to come into that Chapter. Sandra is a past Grand Esther officer, from the Carousels year, 2009, which she received her 50 year pin that year, from WGM Judy Dixon. Also in 2009 the state Oklahoma celebrated their 100 year of Eastern Star in Guthrie (where they hold their Grand Sessions). She is a retired teacher and just a wonderful lady. I try to keep checking on her due to the fact of all the tornados in her area, as she was hit twice.

Thank you for this opportunity, just a wonderful experience.

{Story received June 25th, 2014}

Isobel Lunn

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario 2009 ~ 2011

Isobel's husband Clifford was appointed the Grand Representative of Florida in Ontario 1998

(l) Sandra Lee McFarland
GR Ontario in Oklahoma

with Isobel Lunn (r)
GR Oklahoma in Ontario

ISOBEL LUNN

GRAND REPRESENTATIVE OF OKLAHOMA IN ONTARIO

JULY. 2009 TO JUNE, 2011

I was born, educated and married in Belfast, Northern Ireland, In 1956 my husband Cliff and I immigrated to Canada. We worked and lived in Scarborough where our children Karen and Michael were born.

In 1970 we moved to Campbellford where I continued to be employed by the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and The Toronto Dominion Banks until my retirement in 1988.

In February 1975 I was initiated into Campbellford Chapter #278 where I served as Adah until my election as Associated Conductress and then as Worthy Matron in The Year of Goodwill 1980-1981, and again in Dawn of a New Day 1984-1985. I held offices until October 1987 when Campbellford Chapter surrendered its Charter.

In May 1988 Cliff and I affiliated with Tweed Chapter #148 where I served in several offices until 1993 when I was elected D.D.G.M. of District #12. I continued in offices until 1996 when I was elected Worthy Matron with Cliff as Worthy Patron in the Serenade of the Seasons Year. In June 2006 Brother Robin Ward, Worthy Grand Patron asked if I would be a Hostess at the Grand Sessions, which was a busy and enjoyable experience.

On June 30,2009 at a Special Meeting of Tweed Chapter for the Consolidation of Madoc Chapter, Worthy Grand Matron Sister Jeanie Lee and Worthy Grand Patron Brother Bob Atkinson gave me my commission as Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario, effective July1,2009 to June 30, 2011

I wrote my counterpart , unfortunately I did not receive a reply to my letters, as a result I did not attend Oklahoma Grand Chapter in October going to General Grand Chapter in Oklahoma by bus in November which was a great trip and while there I met many Sisters and Brothers at the Grand Sessions.

Early in June 2011 I received a letter from my counterpart Sister Sandra Lee McFarland who received her commission in March 2011 which was effective in January. Sister Sandra came to Toronto in August and although she had a new counterpart in Ontario we did get together and had a really good visit, and still keep in touch.

I did enjoy my two years as Grand Representative and greatly honoured to have received this Commission from W.G.M. Sister Jeanie Lee and W.G,P. Brother Bob Atkinson.

In Star Love and Friendship

Isobel

Isobel Lunn

Story & Pictures received
August 2, 2013

Robert "Bob" Donaldson

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario ~ 2008 ~ 2009

Bob Donaldson with
Barbara Benton, MWGM Oklahoma
at her Grand Chapter Sessions

Bob with this counterpart
Theresa Spears, GR Ontario in Oklahoma
attending the Ontario
Grand Chapter Sessions

Robert "Bob" Donaldson

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario ~ 2008 ~ 2009

I was initiated into Algoma Chapter No. 139, District 15, on January 8th, 1981.

I have been Worthy Patron for three terms in Algoma Chapter.

- 1983~1984 ~ with my wife Margaret, Grand Representative of Illinois in Ontario 1988~1990 ~ "Breath of Spring" Year ~ with Jo-Anne Coulter, WGM and Past Matron of Algoma Chapter, and Keith Post, WGP.
- 1994~1995 ~ "Christmas Memories" Year ~ Janet Lansdell, WGM & Donald Jones, WGP
- 2006~2007 ~ "Country Charm & Hospitality" Year ~ Patricia Larson, WGM & Vlade Ampeff, WGP

My wife Margaret was appointed Grand Chaplain in the "Spirit of the Highlands" Year, by Morag O'Hara, WGM and John Dobson, WGP. I was her escort ~ it was a wonderful year.

I was appointed the Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario by Sister Helen Delaney, WGM and Brother Calvin Thomas, WGP, in the "Heartland" Year, 2007~2008. My term was to finish the appointment of Andy Duncan, who unfortunately, passed away very suddenly.

I was appointed to Oklahoma, the home of our Most Worthy Grand Matron of that year ~ Barbara Benton. I had the pleasure of meeting her and having my picture taken with her, at the Grand Chapter of Oklahoma Sessions.

The thing I noticed most was the red soil of Oklahoma.

My counterpart is Theresa Spears ~ she came to our Ontario Grand Chapter Sessions, and I went to hers. The Oklahoma Sessions were held in a very old building and it was said that ghosts still live there. I am glad to say I did not meet any.

We were treated so well by everyone when we went to the Grand Sessions in Oklahoma. It was obvious they are very pleased to be partnered with Canadians and they could not do enough for us.

I am a Past Master of the Algonquin Lodge in Sudbury, Ontario and also my Lodge in Scotland, which I joined in 1952. Now I have my 60-year Masonic membership pin. I am also a Past T.P.G.M. of Scottish Rite, and a Past Grand Steward of Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

{Story & Pictures received from Robert Donaldson May 29th, 2013}

Andy Duncan

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario
July 1, 2007 ~ April 9, 2008

Brother Andy Duncan, W.P. of Primrose Chapter #165, Etobicoke and P.P. of Lakeshore Chapter #257, Etobicoke. Brother Andy joined Lakeshore Chapter January 1971 and served as W.P. in Lakeshore Chapter three times. Brother Andy became dual member of Primrose Chapter in 2005 and served as W.P. twice. He was a proud member; he was always at the doors of the Chapter to say welcome to Members and Visitors at Primrose and Lakeshore Chapters.

Brother Andy received his Commission as the Grand Representative of Oklahoma from Sister Patricia Larson and Brother Vlade Ampeff, on April 11th, 2007, Grand Officers meeting ~ the Commission to start was July 1st, 2007. He was so excited. He planned to visit Oklahoma in 2008 and had been writing to his counterpart Mrs. Theresa Spears.

On Grand Officers day at Primrose Chapter, April 9th, 2008, Brother Andy passed to the Grand Chapter above.

Thank you to Sister Patricia Larson and Brother Vlade Ampeff for giving Andy the Honour of being the Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario.

Submitted by Andy's wife, Betty Duncan, Grand Representative of Maryland in Ontario 1996-1998, PDDGM, District 10, and PM Lakeshore Chapter #257. March 2010.

Brother Andy receiving his Commission from Sister Patricia Larson, W.G.M.

Bruce Weston

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario ~ 2007

BAA – BAA BLACK SHEEP
Florence Nightingale Chapter #5

The "Promise of Spring" year has brought forth its new flock of lambs with the appointment of Grand Representatives for the year. Our special lamb at Florence Nightingale Chapter #5, Brockville, is Bruce Weston a Past Patron. This year Bruce celebrates 25 years in the Order of the Eastern Star. He has been Worthy Patron five times, Associate Patron seven times and has served as Marshal twice.

Bruce was actually given his Commission by Carol Featherstone, PGM of the "Melodies and Memories" year during the 95th Birthday celebration of Florence Nightingale Chapter in June 2005. In April of this year, Bruce was honoured as Grand Representative by the members and visitors of his home Chapter with the theme of "Ba-Bah Black Sheep," (lambs being one of our symbols for the year). Bruce was presented with a large black, cuddly lamb and escorted by the Conductress, Hazel Jarvis, PDDGM, to each of the star point officers where an appropriate verse was read to him, then presented to him in a small bag in keeping with the colour of the station. This black sheep had **5 bags full** as opposed to the traditional three.

From L-R—Joyce Hess, Bruce Weston (Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario) and Edith Weston

Officers of Florence Nightingale No. 5 2007

Sharing the evening of honours with Bruce were other Grand Representatives, past and present. It is so nice to have so many others come to honour Bruce. As an added bonus, Bruce was presented with his 25 year pin. His wife Edith Ann and good friend, Joyce Hess, joined Bruce in receiving their 25 year pins as well.

Following the meeting everyone retired to the lower hall for refreshments and fellowship. The tables were decorated with woolly lambs, which were won by some of those present, following an entertaining story–game, which directed who would be the winner.

One of my favourite activities associated with being a Worthy Matron is trying to think up activities and programs to make the evening special, fun and hopefully, unique. It isn't a difficult task when you think of "for whom" you are doing it.

L to R—Iris Kennedy, WM; Shirley O'Connell, DDGM and Bruce Weston, WP, on her Official Visit to Florence Nightingale Chapter #5

OES News May-June '07

Congratulations to Bruce, Edith Ann and Joyce on receiving their 25 year pins and happy travels to Bruce during his tenure as Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario.

Lynda Mielke, WM
Florence Nightingale Chapter #5

OES News Sept-Oct. '06

Bruce Weston

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario ~ 2005 ~ 2007

Bruce Weston, WP & Irene Warren, WM

Bruce was initiated into Florence Nightingale Chapter No. 5, District 13, Brockville, on March 12, 1981. His wife Edith Ann joined the Florence Nightingale Chapter first, and then Bruce followed.

Bruce was Worthy Patron five times. During one of his terms as Worthy Patron, the Chapter initiated nine new members ~ they performed the initiatory work three times that year. Bruce was Associate Patron seven times and Marshal twice.

Bruce received his appointment as the Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario from Carol Featherstone, WGM and Richard Brimblecombe, WGP in the "Melodies and Memories" Year, 2004~2005. Carol and Richard were attending Florence Nightingale Chapter's 95th Birthday in June 1995 ~ Bruce's appointment was Grand Chapter's gift to Florence Nightingale Chapter.

Bruce was not able to attend the Oklahoma Grand Chapter Sessions because he could not get away from work. Bruce said he really enjoyed his appointment, travelling around his District 13 and bringing greetings on behalf of the Worthy Grand Matron of Oklahoma. He still has his blue vest.

"In April 2006, Bruce was honoured as Grand Representative by the members and visitors of his Chapter, with the theme of "Ba-Bah Black Sheep" ~ lambs were one of the symbols for the year. Bruce, "their special lamb", was presented with a large black cuddly lamb and escorted by the Conductress, Hazel Jarvis, PDDGM, to each of the star point officers where an appropriate verse was read to him then presented to him a small bag in keeping with the colour of the station. This black sheep had five bags full as opposed to the traditional three bags. Many past and present Grand Representatives shared this evening honouring Bruce. As an added bonus, Bruce and his wife Edith Ann each received their 25 year pins. Following the meeting, everyone retired to the lower hall for refreshments and fellowship. The tables were decorated with woolly lambs, which were won by some of those present, following an entertaining story-game, which directed who would be the winner."
{from Lynda Mielke, WM, Florence Nightingale Ch. ,OES News, Sept. Oct. 2006}

Bruce said he was very good with the Ritual work – he always gave the long address in the west for the new candidates. Bruce and his wife Edith Ann have demitted the Eastern Star ~ they are spending more time at their cottage north of Perth. Bruce said he is 76 years old and is not travelling around that much any more.

Bruce has been a member of the Masonic Lodge and a Shriner for many years. He has been the Grand Master five times and the Installing Master 20 times. He enjoyed doing the Ritual work. Bruce was a member of the Shrine Degree Team – the travelled to the various Lodges doing the degrees.

(Story & Picture received from Bruce – May 2013)

Denis St. Onge

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario ~ 2003 - 2005

OKLAHOMA…where the wind comes sweeping down the plain.

It is nearly impossible to be in the "Sooner" State without humming this catchy tune from the musical Oklahoma and which has become the State's anthem.

I am a member of Algoma Chapter No. 139 Sudbury since 1986 and joined Hope Chapter No. 184 as a dual member when we moved to Ottawa in 1987 and have served Hope Chapter three terms as W.P. I received the honour of representing Oklahoma in Ontario from Sister Betty St.Onge at her Journey to Jerusalem Grand Chapter Session in 2003.

We attended their Sessions every year during my commission and enjoyed every moment with my counterpart, Sister Francis Johnson. Francis was raised in Guthrie and was proud to show us all the town's historical highlights. On one of our trips, Ken and Doris Howe, Members of Golden Acres No. 305 travelled with us. Francis took the four of us under her wing visiting Oklahoma City including the memorial site where the federal building bombing occurred not so long ago. Betty and I had the pleasure of spending time with Frances on several occasions as she travelled to the GGC Sessions in Portland and in Minneapolis and to our G.C. Session in Toronto.

The Oklahoma Grand Chapter Sessions are usually held in Guthrie in the magnificent Scottish Rite Temple. This most impressive building, located on 10 acres of land was originally built to be the State Capital. It is visible for miles on this flatland and is worth the trip by itself. Because the Session is held in a "theatre" style setting, there is less emphasis on the floor work but the background in the East is very spectacular. I was honoured to escort Frances and the Ontario flag in the "parade of Flags" As part of this ceremony, each jurisdiction's flag and the Grand Representatives escorting it are introduced individually in the East.

The hospitality that we received from the members of the Oklahoma jurisdiction was exceptional and we are left with wonderful memories. As the song goes: "You're doing fine Oklahoma – Oklahoma OK."

Murray Haner

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario June 1999 ~ June 2001

Berti Sapp GR Ontario in Oklahoma ~ Murray Haner, GR Oklahoma in Ontario 2000 ~ Oklahoma Grand Chapter Sessions in the Shrine Temple in Guthrie, OK

Murray Haner

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario June 1999 ~ June 2001

I was initiated in Manitoulin Chapter No. 306 in 1977. I served as Warder and Sentinel, Marshal and Associate Patron. I was Worthy Patron with my wife Gloria in 1982~1983, with Flora Whalen, WGM and Brian Lee, WGP in the "Garden of Love" Year. I was Worthy Patron in 1995~1996 with Shirley Thorkelson, my WM, in the "Spirit of the Highlands" Year, with Morag O'Hara, WGM and John Dobson, WGP. I was Worthy Patron a third time in 1998~1999 with WM Nancy Clarke, and Marilyn Mitchell, WGM and Brian Hester, WGP in the "Autumn's Golden Splendor" Year.

In the Spring of 1999 in our Manitoulin Chapter, our WGM Marilyn Mitchell and WGP Brian Hester honoured me with my appointment as the Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario. Brian Hester is from our very own Chapter ~ it was very touching to me, as I have known Brian Hester from our teenage years. This was Marilyn's and Brian's "Autumn's Golden Splendor" Year.

I first met my counterpart, Berti Sapp from Oklahoma City, later that summer 1999 in Toronto at our Grand Chapter Sessions. We corresponded regularly by letter, phone and emails.

In the late summer of year 2000, my wife Gloria and I flew to Oklahoma City and met the Sapps again, and also many many more people. We were treated royally. Their Oklahoma Grand Chapter Sessions were held at the Shrine Temple in Guthrie, Oklahoma, where I had the honour of carrying our Ontario Flag in the Opening Ceremonies. The hospitality was wonderful. While at Guthrie, Earl Sapp, husband of my counterpart was elected Grand Sentinel. He was the first elected Grand Sentinel in Oklahoma, as all previous Sentinels had been appointed.

We had some free time one afternoon, and outside the Chapter area, a car pulled up ~ we were given a tour of the city. We were shown real hospitality. They had no idea the size of Canada.

Beulah Hester, Grand Representative of Arizona in Ontario 1999~2001 and I shared a Reception given in our honour.

It was truly an exciting, rewarding and busy two years.

I am still very active with my Masonic Lodge.

{Story & Picture received February 2012}

KAY HERRON
GRAND REPRESENTATIVE OF OKLAHOMA IN ONTARIO
1997-1999

I was initiated into the Order
in December 1969.

I have been a Matron four times -

1985-86
Bluebird Year
Rosedale Chapter #131
Hamilton

1986-87
Carousel Year
Rosedale Chapter #131
Hamilton

1994-95
Christmas Memories Year
Bancroft Chapter #157
Bancroft

1995-96
Spirit of the Highland Year
Bancroft Chapter #157
Bancroft

I received my Commission on July 1st 1, 1997 from Sister Jean Lee W.G.M. and I have enjoyed it tremendously. At the present time I serve my Chapter as Secretary.

In October 1997 I attended Oklahoma's Grand Chapter, at which time I was presented with an Honorary Membership for Grand Chapter and one for the Grand Representatives Association of Oklahoma. A wonderful experience.

David Lansdell

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario 1997

Christmas 2013 at home

Jan and David with their daughter Dana

David Lansdell

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario 1997

David Lansdell was initiated into Arbutis Chapter No. 123, Timmins, District 16, in 1981.

Arbutis Chapter surrendered its Charter in June 2011.

David and his wife Janet are Members of Lakeview Chapter No. 79, Burlington, District 6.

David was Worthy Patron twice ~ both times with his wife Janet as his Worthy Matron ~

- 1979 ~1980 ~ "Reflections of Beauty" ~ Vivian Hunter, WGM & Frank Townsend, WGP
- 1984 ~1985 ~ "Dawn of a New Day"~ Edna Fawcett, WGM & Jack Merrall, WGP

David was appointed Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario by his wife,

Janet Lansdell, WGM & Donald Jones, WGP, in the "Christmas Memories" Year, 1994~1995.

David's birthday is Christmas Day.

David and Janet drove to the Missouri Grand Chapter Sessions with Marilyn (GR Arizona 2005) and Bevan (GR Missouri 1998) Carrique. Then David and Janet drove on to Oklahoma's 1998 Grand Chapter Sessions. They really enjoyed these Sessions. David and Janet drove back to Missouri to visit with their many friends, and then they flew home.

Janet Lansdell is the Grand Representative of Missouri in Ontario 1988 ~ David and Janet visited the Missouri Grand Chapter Sessions many times and made very good friends there.

David is a Member of Golden Beaver Lodge No. 528, Timmins. He is a Past Master of the Lodge.

(Story received from David Lansdell, August 10th, 2012)

Ann Van Gorder

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario ~ 1993 ~ 1995

Grand Representatives "Northern Tranquility" Year, 1992 ~ 1993

Sandra Bain Roberts, WGM and Norman Roberts, WGP

{left to right} Front Row ~ Doris Roberts ~ Kentucky, Lynda Clements ~ Puerto Rico, Sylvia Quigley ~ Kansas, 4 -

Cheryl LaRue ~ Alberta, Ann Van Gorder ~ Oklahoma, Dawn Chadbourne ~ Connecticut

Middle Row ~ Audrey deBeaupre ~ Georgia, Aura Koivu ~ North Dakota, Dorothy Wilson ~ Nebraska, Mary Foord ~ West Virginia, Carolyn Simpson ~ District of Columbia, Barbara Ferguson ~ Iowa, 7 -

Back Row ~ Lorraine Robertson ~ Arkansas, Donald Bain ~ Florida, Dorothy Graves ~ Quebec, Harry Bolton ~ Indiana, Vera Clarke ~ Nevada, 6 - David Greene ~ Scotland

ANNE VAN GORDER

GRAND REPRESENTATIVE OF OKLAHOMA IN ONTARIO

1993-1995

Anne Van Gorder, Fidelis Chapter No. 99, Order of the Eastern Star, North Bay, Ontario.

My husband Bill and I were initiated into Fidelis Chapter on February 17th., 1965. We had the honour of being the Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron for Fidelis' 50th. Anniversary in 1973. Our Worthy Grand Matron was Sister Edna Dobbs and the Worthy Grand Patron was Brother Eldon Matches.

Bill and I were instrumental in forming a Rainbow Girls Assembly in North Bay, known as Fidelis Assembly No. 19. I was Chairlady of the Advisory Board and also Mother Advisor for six years. My two daughters were Rainbow Girls during this period. These were wonderful years to have been involved with our youth.

I lost the love of my life in 1982. I have three wonderful children, a boy and two girls. Also six lovely grand children. Three of each.

An honour I shall treasure always, was receiving my commission as a Grand Representative of Oaklahoma in Ontario. It was given to me by Miss Carol Worth, the Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of Oklahoma and it was presented to me by my Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Sandra Bain.

My counter part was Sister Opal Jones. A very lovely and gracious Sister. I attended the Lighthouse of Love Grand Sessions in Oklahoma and will always treasure the memory of that year; would love to do it all over.

Anne Van Gorder, Past Matron

Jean Craig

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario ~ 1989

50 Year Pins at Preston Springs E&S News Sept-Oct '06

Five Charter members of former Rose of Sharon Chapter #292 which consolidated with Preston Springs in 1997, and are now members of Preston Springs were honoured during the month of June for having attained 50 years of membership. Jean Craig, Helen Woods, Winnie Stremble and Edgar Stremble each received their pins from Worthy Matron, Pamela Parker.

Ethel Cober received her pin from DDGM of District #20, Marlene Shaw, at the regular meeting of Preston Springs on June 14, 2006.

Pamela Parker, WM, presented a 50 year pin to Jean Craig during a visit to Jean's home.

Babe Gent

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario ~ 1978

Babe was Worthy Matron in Star of the Nile Chapter No. 308, District 5, Nilestown, in 1974 ~ 1975, the 60th Sessions – "Diamond Jubilee" Year, with Sheila Anderson, WGM and Howard Noble, WGP.

Babe was District Deputy Grand Matron, District 5, in 1978 ~ 1979 ~ "Sunshine Through Faith" Year with Olive Avery, WGM and Rip Ballantyne, WGP.

Babe was married to Leo Gent, a Nilestown lawyer.

Babe Gent has passed to the Grand Chapter Above.

Margaret Shanks ~ Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario1975

Margaret Shanks ~ Pictures for her Church Directory

Year of Good Shepherd Sessions
Edna Dobbs, WGM &
Eldon Matches, WGP
1973~1974

Margaret Shanks
October 1980
Primrose Chapter
fraternal trip to Buffalo

WELCOME TO DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AND MEMBERS

Sister Margaret Shanks

General Convener, Committee on Arrangements

Mr. Toastmaster, Worthy Grand Matron, General Grand Chapter Officers and Committee Members, Past Grand Matrons and Patrons, Grand Chapter Officers, Hon. Mr. Welsh and Mrs. Welsh, Exec. Alderman Mr. Reid Scott and Mrs. Scott, Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the Committee on Arrangements may I say how happy we are to welcome you this evening to the EMERALD Banquet. Many of you have travelled far to be with us this evening and we do appreciate your coming. To the General G.C. Officers and Committee Members, I heartily welcome you. To the Visitors and Members we hope this will be a most enjoyable evening, and I extend greetings and our Fraternal Welcome. Hon. Mr. Welsh and Exec. officer we were delighted when you accepted our invitation to be our SPEAKER. Many of us have had the pleasure of listening to you and are eagerly waiting to hear you again. Mr. Scott and Mrs. Scott you are no stranger to the people of this City, and we are happy you could be with us. You know a substitute is often better than the real thing.

The word WELCOME is like the old story of love, it never grows old, but is sweeter with each repetition.

There's a deep sort of joy that we all understand,
In the ring of a voice and the clasp of a hand;
In the warmth of a smile that is friendly and true,
This greeting, MY FRIENDS, is extended to you.

Thank you Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron for this courtesy and may the Guardian Angel ever watch over you.

Margaret Shanks

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario1975

Northcliffe Chapter Installation 1977
Margaret Shanks (2nd from left) with her 2 daughters ~
(l) Jessie Barbour – Cond; (r) Mary Jane Muirhead – AC;
Margaret's Sister ~ Gertrude Pinfold (right)

Margaret Shanks was initiated into Northcliffe Chapter No. 104 in 1952 ~ 50 years service a few months before her passing on July 7th, 2002.

She served as Worthy Matron in 1962-1963, the "Melody Lane" Year, with Iris M. Walker, WGM and Joseph Delaney, WGP.

Margaret was elected District Deputy Grand Matron in District 19 in 1968 ~ 1969, the "Autumn Symphony" Year with Marion Kuhns, WGM and William Manness, WGP.

Northcliffe Chapter consolidated with Faith Chapter No. 274 in 1990. In February 1995, Faith Chapter consolidated with Aloha Chapter No. 258 ~ "Christmas Memories" Year, with Janet Lansdell, WGM and Donald Jones, WGP; Donna Madill, Grand Representative of Puerto Rico, 1991, was the District Deputy Grand Matron that year. Margaret Shanks continued to be active in each of her 'new' Chapters.

Margaret was an Honourary Member for many years both in Richmond Hill Chapter No. 302, District 19 and Mount Dennis Chapter No. 207, District 10.

Sheila Anderson, WGM and Howard Noble, WGP "Diamond Jubilee Year" appointed Margaret the Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario 1975 ~ apparently, Margaret took over the Grand Representative appointment from another member in Northcliffe Chapter. However, Margaret held this appointment for a very short time ~ she resigned so that she could stand again for election for Grand Executive Committee. Margaret served Ontario Grand Chapter for three terms, nine years, on Grand Executive Committee, chairing both the By-law Committee and Jurisprudence Committee.

{Story & Pictures received February 2013 from her daughter Jessie Barbour, GR Illinois in Ontario 2012~2014}

Golden Harvest Grand Chapter Officers ~ 1965 ~ 1966

Back Row – Margaret Cushnaghan – Gr.Adah; Olive Hysert – Gr.Ruth; Florence Pattinson – Gr.Esther; Ada Allen – Gr.Martha; Florence Reavie – Gr.Electa

Middle Row – Don Rusling – Gr.Sentinel; Marion Kuhns – A.Gr.Cond; Dorothy Townsend – Gr.Chaplain; Doris Brooks – Gr.Marshal; Shirley Gordon – Gr.Warder; Arva McKenzie – Grand Organist (WGM 1969~1970); Gwen Clarke – Gr.Cond (WGM 1967~1968)

Front Row – Gladys McCall – Gr. Treasurer; Earl McKeever – A.Gr.Patron; Helen Marston – A.Gr.Matron (WGM 1967~1968); Evelynne Little – WGM; Gordon Murray – WGP; Helen Ross – Gr.Secretary (WGM 1946~1947)

Margaret Cushnaghan

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario 1959 - 1961

Margaret Cushnaghan was initiated into the Order of the Eastern Star in Scotland. When she moved to Toronto, Ontario, she was informed that she would have to join the Star again - she was initiated into Primrose Chapter No. 165, District 10, Toronto on March 26th, 1952. Margaret`s husband Robert was initiated into Primrose Chapter on October 26th, 1966.

Margaret served as Adah and the Line Offices to the East. Margaret Cushnaghan's parents, Ina and David McPherson, both belonged to the Order of the Eastern Star in Scotland. Margaret`s father travelled to Toronto, Canada to install Margaret as Worthy Matron in Primrose Chapter No. 165, District 10, Toronto in perhaps the late 1950s.

Margaret was appointed the Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario by Kathleen Coates, WGM and William J. Province, WGP, in the "Sapphire" Year, 1959 -1960. Margaret said that she was not able to attend the Oklahoma Grand Chapter Sessions.

Margaret was appointed Grand Adah by Evelynne M. Little, WGM and Gordon Murray, WGP in the "Golden Harvest" Year, 1965 - 1966.

See picture of Golden Harvest Grand Officers on opposite page ~ Margaret Cushnaghan is on top row, on left.

Margaret was elected DDGM District 10, in 1976~1977 ~ "Joy in Service" Year, with Violet Whitfield, WGM and Alex Dawson, WGP.

Margaret Cushnaghan served as Mabel Mackereth's Personal Secretary, when "Just Mabel" was Most Worthy Grand Matron 1976 - 1979. Mabel`s "Sunrise – Sunset" Sessions were held at the Canadian National Exhibition Coliseum, Toronto October 21st – 25th, 1979. They were the Thirty-Sixth Triennial Assembly Sessions. Margaret travelled extensively with Mabel, throughout Ontario, the United States, as far as Hawaii.

Margaret and her husband Robert demitted Primrose Chapter February 12th, 2003 when they moved out of this area ~ they did not affiliate with another Chapter.

Margaret lives in a retirement residence in Kanata, not that far from her daughter Wilma. Margaret's daughter said that her Mom's memory is failing, but she did remember many details of her Eastern Star life which she and Robert really enjoyed, especially in their younger years. Margaret is in pretty good health, although she has some arthritic pain ~ Margaret will be 90 years young in January 2014.

(Information received from Margaret`s daughter Wilma Free in November 2012 and Donna Madill, Secretary, Aloha Ch. & GR Puerto Rico 1991)

Marion Hallam

Grand Representative of Oklahoma in Ontario 1959

Marion Hallam P.M. Fern Ch.

Fern Chapter No. 140 Installation in October 1979, Reflections of Beauty Year.

Marion Hallam, front row left, sitting beside Ripley Ballantyne, PGP.

Olive Avery, PGM, front row, 3rd from right.

Picture submitted to History Books in August 2010, no History available.