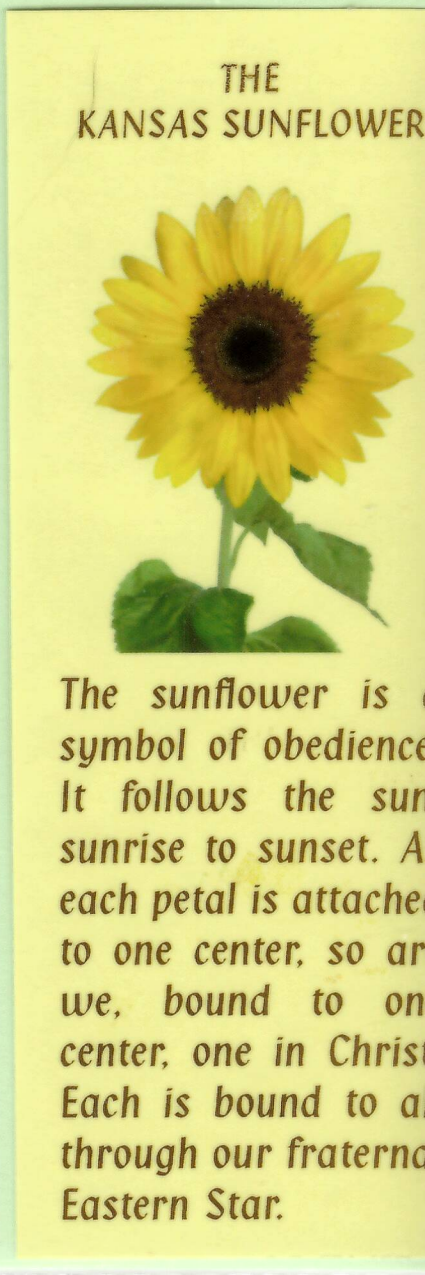
KANSAS

Year ending as of January

	1947	Mrs. Beatrice St. Clair (170)
	1950	Mrs. Nina Marr
	1953	Mrs. Catherine Brewer
	1956	Mrs. Helen Brady
	1959	Mrs. Winnifred Heaslip
	1962	Mrs. Marjorie Robins
	1965	Mrs. Jessie Varley
	1968	Mrs. Edith Robinson
	1971	Mrs. Enid Rogers
	1974	Mrs. Clarence Young
	1977	Mrs. Dorothy Bell
	1980	Mr. Oliver Sayer
*	1983	Mrs. Bertha Whitman-Morgan
	1985	Mrs. Violet Q. Bagley
*	1987	Mrs. Laverne McKechnie
*	1989	Miss Marion Boyle
*	1991	Mrs. Isabelle Spilsbury
*	1993	Mrs. A. Yvonne Bertino
*	1995	Mrs. Sylvia Quigley
*	1997	Mrs. Irene Tosh
	1999	Mrs. Phyllis Cherry
*	2001	Mr. Wayne Atchison
*	2003	Mr. Earl La Plante
*	2005	Mrs. Dorothy M. Vertolli
*	2007	Mr. Murray Harries
*	2009	Mrs. Connie Welt
*	2011	Mrs. Margaret McConnell
*	2013	Mrs. Evelyn Harvey
	2015	Karen Spelay
	2017	Sandra Freeman



Evelyn Harvey

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario Jan.1/11 ~ Dec. 31/12

Evelyn joined Ottawa Chapter No. 37, in Ottawa, District 14 on February 10th, 1977. Ottawa Chapter consolidated with Lorraine Chapter No. 44, in Ottawa, in June 2001. Later, Lorraine Chapter surrendered its Charter. Evelyn affiliated with Success Chapter No. 30, Ottawa, on November 18th, 2001.

In Ottawa Chapter, Evelyn held the offices of Associate Matron twice, Treasurer, Secretary, Conductress, Associate Conductress, Adah, Esther, Martha and Electa. Evelyn was Worthy Matron twice ~

- 1981-1982 with her husband Ted ~ "Good Samaritan" Year with Mary Barton, WGM & Donald Symons, WGP.
- 1996-1997 with Bernie Parsons, WP ~ "Serenade to the Seasons" Year with Jean Lee, WGM & William Pettigrew, WGP.

Evelyn was elected District Deputy Grand Matron, District 14 in 1992-1993, "Northern Tranquility" Year, with Sandra Bain Roberts, WGM & Norman Roberts, WGP. WM and WP of Ottawa Chapter that year were Marjorie Gordon and Ted Harvey.

She was made a Life Member of Ottawa Chapter in 1994. In 2001 Evelyn became a Dual Member in Success Chapter No. 30.

Evelyn was also Worthy Matron in Success Chapter in 2007-2008 with George Clauson as WP, "Heartland" Year, with Helen Delaney, WGM and Calvin Thomas, WGP. In Success Chapter, Evelyn was also Electa and Martha.

Evelyn was appointed the Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario, by Marsha Taylor, WGM and Alastair Milligan, WGP, in "Our Heaven Sent" Year 2010~2011. Evelyn visited the Kansas Grand Chapter Sessions with her friend Frances Bowman, Grand Representative of Scotland 2002. Evelyn really enjoyed this trip.

Evelyn said she enjoyed her Eastern Star activities and the many friends she made. Evelyn and her family have said that Evelyn's memory is failing her. In February 2015, Evelyn moved to a Retirement Home in Ottawa.

{February 2015 - Story received from Paula Gilmore, Secretary, Success Chapter & Diane Garrett, DDGM #14, 2013-2014. Picture received from Evelyn at GR's Spring Luncheon 2014}

Margaret McConnell

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario

January 1, 2009 ~ December 31, 2010

Orphah Chapter planned a Grand Representative Reception for Margaret in December 2010, but the weather was very stormy. The Party was moved to March 2011 following their regular Chapter meeting.

Margaret was handed pig tails and red shoes. Paul Lennon became the Scarecrow; Les Hills became the Tin Man; Ken Dow was supposed to be the Cowardly Lion, but because he was ill, his wife Wendy filled that role. It was a fun-filled "Kansas Adventure".

Ontario Grand Chapter Grand Representatives Luncheon 2011

Middle ~ Margaret McConnell ~ GR Kansas in Ontario 2010

Right Shona McGookin ~ GR Ontario in Massachusetts 2010

Margaret McConnell

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario
2009 -2010

Margaret McConnell

Counterpart Connie Carter, GR Ontario in Kansas

I belong to "ORPHAH CHAPTER #102 LONDON" I joined in 1998; I have served as Worthy Matron twice and will be Worthy Matron again for 2011-2012. I have also served on our Temple Board as Secretary for quite a few years.

I was given my Commission by "Past Worthy Grand Matron Jeanie Lee and Past Grand Patron Robert Atkinson" at our 85th Birthday party. I was shocked and thrilled at being given this honour.

My Husband John and I traveled to "Kansas" for their Grand Sessions in April 2010, where we were both made very welcome. My Counterpart was "Sister Connie Carter" who with her husband Clarence (Grand Chaplin of Kansas) welcomed my husband John and myself with open arms. They traveled to our "Grand Sessions in Toronto" August 2010 and had a wonderful time. They are both wonderful people, and very friendly with everyone. We made a wonderful bond with them which will last for years, and promised to keep in touch.

I came to Canada in 1970 with my Husband John; we have two children and two grandchildren.
Kirsty (Jamie) married and living in North Carolina.
Iain (Nicole) married and living in Halifax, both serving in the Canadian Air Force, and our two grandchildren "Avah & Liam" the joy of our life.

Connie Welt - Kansas 2009

GRAND REPRESENTATIVE OF KANSAS IN ONTARIO

Pictured above is Keith Post, PGP & WP of Lynn River Chapter, Pat Larson, WGM and Connie Welt, WM and Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario. Connie was presented with the commission at Lynn River Chapter's meeting in February 2007. Congratulations, Connie!

from OES Ontario News
May~June 2007

History, Connie Welt

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario

2008 - 2009

I was initiated into Lynn River Chapter on 24 April, 1995, in The Christmas Memories year, as soon as Daughters-in-law were eligible to join the Order.In October 1995 I was installed as Warder for the 1995 - 1996 Spirit of The Highlands Year . In September 1999, I was installed as the Worthy Matron in The Galaxy of the Stars year with Sister Betty Romenick as W.G.M. and Brother Peter Christie as W.G.P. Sister Jean Wettlaufer was my District Deputy.

In 2006-2007, The Country Charm and Hospitality Year with Sister Patricia Larson, W.G.M. and Brother Vlade Ampeff, W.G.P. and Sister Lyn Haigh as D.D.G.M, I once again served in the East . During that Grand Chapter Year, I was commissioned as the Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario. My counterpart that year was Sister Dorothy Pokorney of Silver Lake, Kansas. I attended the Grand Chapter of Kansas that year and had a great time with Sister Dorothy and her husband Jim. They were very congenial Hosts at that Grand Chapter. They showed me around Topeka Kansas as well as hosting me at the Grand Representatives Breakfast.

In January of 2008, I was advised of a new counterpart in the name of Sister Muriel (Murt) Meierhenry who had been commissioned as the Grand representative of Ontario in Kansas. We corresponded frequently, and in April, I attended the session in Topeka. Sister Murt resided in Topeka and was the General Convenor for the session, so was very busy all the time during the sessions. I visited her home and was hosted at the Grand Representative Breakfast that Year. Sister Muriel and her husband Paul attended our sessions that year for a couple of days and I was able to reciprocate with the Grand Representative Breakfast and entertaining them at dinner one evening. They exorted me to attend the 2009 Grand Sessions in April, which I did.Unfortunately, Sister Murt had eye surgery in Arizona and was unable to attend that Session.

I have had an office in Lynn River Chapter in every year since I Became a member. I have filled the office of Assoc. Cond., Conductress Assoc. Matron and Matron three times. During my sojourn as a Grand Representative, I was fortunate to attend the Grand Sessions of fourteen Different Grand Chapters along with the General Grand Chapter in Tulsa in 2009.

Murray Harries

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario ~ Jan. 2005 ~ Jan. 2007

Murray Harries with counterpart Dorothy Pokorney

Murray Harries

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario ~ Jan. 2005 ~ Jan. 2007

My adventure started on a snowy blustery night ~ January 29th, 2005 ~ in Adah Chapter No. 276. Wallacetown, Ontario. Much to my complete surprise and delight, Carol Featherstone, WGM , in the "Melodies and Memories" Year, 2004~2005, with her husband Ken Featherstone, GR New Mexico, 1994 arrived through the snow ~ the Chapter had almost decided to open and close the Chapter because of the inclement weather. I was presented with my commission as the Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario, by Carol Featherstone. Richard Brimblecombe, WGP sent his greetings, but it was too far for him to travel in this January wintery weather.

I was delighted to have two counterparts. My first one was Mary Paul from Hays, Kansas; unfortunately, due to my illness, I was unable to attend her Kansas Grand Chapter Sessions. However, we have continued to communicate by phone and emails.

My second counterpart was Dorothy Pokorney of Silver Lake, Kansas. How wonderful it was to go to her Kansas Grand Chapter Sessions and to meet with her and her husband Jim. They treated us royally and I thoroughly enjoyed it. I took a Canadian flag with me and was honoured to be able to present it at one of the Grand Sessions.

In return, Dorothy and Jim came to our Grand Chapter Sessions in Toronto in 2006.

I have been Worthy Patron and Associate Patron in Adah Chapter many times. Being a Grand Representative is a once in a lifetime experience, thoroughly wonderful, not to be forgotten. Many thanks to all who made this adventure possible for me.

{Story & pictures received February 2012}

Murray & his wife Marion Harries with his counterpart Dorothy & her husband Jim Pokorney

Dorothy Vertolli

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario 2003 ~ 2005

Dorothy Vertolli was a member of Ionic Chapter No. 113, Kirkland Lake, District 16.
Ionic Chapter consolidated with Norland Chapter No 182, New Liskeard.
Later, Ionic Chapter surrendered its Charter.

Dorothy Vertolli was elected District 16 District Deputy Grand Matron
in the "Our Garden of Friendship" Year 1991-1992,
with Peggy Kirkpatrick, WGM and Kenneth Carmichael, WGP.

Dorothy received her appointment as the Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario,
from Betty St. Onge, WGM and Dr. Deane Murdy, WGP,
"Journey to Jerusalem" Year, 2002-2003.

Earl LaPlante

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario ~ 2003

Earl LaPlante was a member of Wenonah Chapter No. 18, District 17, Kenora, Ontario. His Initiation took place on April 8, 1986.

He was Worthy Patron 8 times: 1989-90, 1991-92, 1993-94, 1995-96, 1997-98, 1999-2000, 2001-02, 2003-04.

Delightfully, he was appointed Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario by Louise Sumegi and Stan Alger, in the Circle of Life Year.

In March of 2001, Wenonah Chapter was visited by two bus loads of members from Manitoba. This was a planned visit, and included Bernice Blakeman, Worthy Grand Matron and Bill Bracegirdle, Worthy Grand Patron and nine past Grand Matrons . Just before the meeting, we received a call from Thunder Bay, saying Evelyn Beacock, Associate Grand Matron of Ontario, and Don Thornton Associate Grand Patron of Ontario would attend also.

Since Earl had so recently been appointed Grand Representative of Kansas, Harvey Zeigler of Thunder Bay serenaded him with two songs at the dinner: "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" and "Follow the Yellow Brick Road" .

At the Manitoba Grand Chapter Sessions in May 2001, Earl was introduced in the West and given Grand Honours. Bill Bracegirdle, in his speech that day, announced that the Wenonah meeting was one of the three highlights of his year.

Earl LaPlante passed away on February 9, 2004.

Information received from Shirley Pernsky and Virginia Anderson

Wayne Atchison

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario 2001

Wayne Atchison has served as Worthy Patron twice in Peterborough Chapter No. 161, District 12, and three times in Trenton Chapter No. 118, District 12. Later, Trenton Chapter consolidated with Colbourne Chapter No. 82, Brighton (Colborne), District 12.

Wayne was appointed the Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario 1999~2001, by Marilyn Mitchell, WGM and Brian Hester, WGP, In "Autumn's Golden Splendor" Year, 1998~1999.

Wayne really enjoyed his appointment as the Grand Representative of Kansas. He visited the Kansas Grand Chapter Sessions – the first visit on his own ~ he met his counterpart Linda Clover; the second visit he went with his aunt, Berdene Goodfellow, GR Washington 2014, and Jean Davis, GR Connecticult 1996. Wayne met his counterpart ~ Darlene took time off work to visit with them and take them on a tour and out for lunch too.

{Story received from Aunt Berdene Goodfellow, GR Washington 2014, Sept. 2014}

Wayne with Sister Linda Clover
GR Ontario in Kansas 1998~1999

Wayne with Sister Darlene Wulfkuhle
GR Ontario in Kansas 2000~2001

Marion Irene Tosh

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario ~ 1995 ~1997

Irene and her husband Howard Tosh at 1995 Ontario Grand Chapter, Toronto

Grand Representatives Reception for Irene Tosh, Bayview Chapter

Marion Irene Tosh

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario ~ 1995 ~1997

I was initiated into Bayview Chapter #105, District 9 in Barrie on May 23rd, 1988.

I served in various Star Point Stations, Chaplain for a few years, Associate Conductress, Conductress. I served as Worthy Matron in 1993, "Windmill of Fellowship and Service" Year, with Joan Esdale, WGM and Howard Hazzard, WGP.

I was appointed Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario, in January 1995 by Sister Jan Lansdell, WGM and Brother Donald Jones, WGP, in the "Christmas Memories" Year.

My husband Howard and I attended the Kansas Grand Chapter Sessions in Topeka, Kansas in both 1995 and 1996. I had the privilege of having my counterpart Sister Beverly Haefele in 1995. We had the pleasure of having Sister Beverly and her husband stay with us in our home in Barrie for a week.

During this period, all four of us attended Stayner Chapter #270 in Stayner. We also took them out to dinner and to an Argo football game, which is a favourite sport for our American friends. My husband Howard also attended Stayner Lodge#266 with Brother Haefele.

Met my second counterpart, Sister Walma Goff of Kansas at the 1996 Sessions, but she was unable to travel here due to her senior age. We did however, treat her to a delicious dinner in Kansas.

Bayview Chapter had a Reception for me, attended by 21 Grand Representatives, Past and Present.

I affiliated along with my husband with Stayner Chapter #270 on January 3rd, 2007.

I am a member of Bokara Court, Toronto Lady Shrine where I served in office as Oriental Guide for few years. I am a member of the Sharamazda Lady Shrine Club in Barrie, where I served on the executive for a period of six years including President for a two year period for the years 1998- 2000.

I am a member of Collier Street United Church in Barrie and made a life member of the Ladies U.C.W.

{received story & pictures February 2012}

Sylvia Quigley ~ Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario ~ 1995

The Masonic and Star buildings in Kansas are magnificent.

My husband Gordon and I travelled to Grand Chapter of Kansas, twice. We also travelled to the Grand Chapters of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Michigan, and North Dakota.

I also attended a Chapter meeting in Florida.

I was a little disappointed that I was the only Grand Representative in District 7 during my appointment.

(l) Loraine Robertson, GR Arkansas, District 6
(r) Sylvia Quigley, GR Kansas.

Northern Tranquility Grand Representatives
Sandra Bain, WGM & Norm 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

Sylvia Quigley

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario ~ 1993 ~ 1995

I was born Sylvia Alice Schroeder in Aneroid, Saskatchewan on January 12, 1928. The Masonic Lodge was a big part of my father's life. I joined Aneroid Chapter #9 O.E.S. at the age of 18 with my father giving me the Obligation.

I married Gordon Quigley in l952. It was nice to find that he was a Mason, Ivy Lodge in Beamsville. We will be celebrating our 60th wedding anniversary this June.

I transferred my membership to Prospect Chapter #296 OES in Fonthill, Ontario. I received my 60 year pin in 2006, presented by WGM Patricia Larson, "Country Charm and Hospitality" Year.

I held the offices of Ruth, Esther, Martha, Secretary, Associate Conductress, Conductress, Associate Matron and Worthy Matron of Prospect Chapter #296 with Brother William Bishop as Worthy Patron, 1979-80. It was the "Reflections of Beauty" Year with Brother Frank Townsend WGP and Sister Vivian Hunter WGM.

I was Worthy Matron again in 1989~1990 with Brother Jack Baker as Worthy Patron ~ this was the "Celebration of the Stars" Year, with Audrey Martin, WGM and Mike Beacock, WGP. My husband Gordon and I were in the East again the following year, 1990~1991 , "A World of Love and Happiness" Year, with Shirley Lamond, WGM and Lloyd Churchill, WGP.

In 1991, Prospect Chapter Consolidated with Welland Chapter #47 OES.

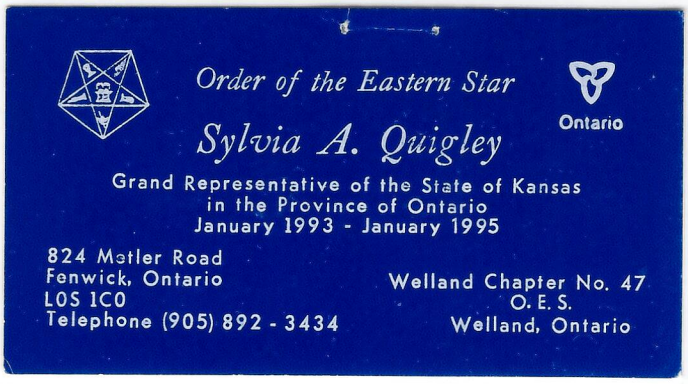
I was appointed the Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario, 1993-1995 by Sandra Bain Roberts, WGM, in the "Northern Tranquility" Year. My husband Gordon and I drove to Kansas Grand Chapter in 1994 ~ we met my counterpart, who later came to the Ontario Grand Chapter Sessions in Toronto. We also took her to our cottage up north.

In 1995, we took a bus load to the Kansas Grand Chapter Sessions ~ it was really a fun trip. On the way home, Nancy Terreberry, GR Indiana in Ontario, 1993~1995, and I stopped off to attend the Indiana Grand Chapter Sessions ~ the rest of the group went on home, and we took a later bus trip home.

I became District Deputy Grand Matron of District #7 in 1998~1999, "Autumn's Golden Splendour" Year with Marilyn Mitchell, WGM and Brian Hester, WGP. Welland Chapter had a reception honouring me as the District Deputy Grand Matron, following our Chapter meeting,

I am a Life Member of the Star.

{Story and picture received April 2012}



Yvonne Bertino

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario ~ 1993

Shirley Lamond appointed Yvonne Bertino the Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario.
Yvonne attended the Grand Chapter of Kansas Sessions both years she was the Grand Representative.
Yvonne was from Kansas and her one daughter lived there.
So it was great and convenient for Yvonne to have this particular appointment.
Yvonne has passed away.
(Shirley Lamond provided this information August 2013)

Love & Happiness Grand Representatives Night 1992 in Blue Bell Chapter No. 3

(front) Joan Kivell - Meeting Waters #18 - West Virginia: Phyllis Quigley - Fidelis #99 - South Dakota;
Bill Lamond - Mecca #58 - Virginia; Luella Bilton - Bothwell #87 - Minnesota;
(standing) Marsha Taylor - Blue Bell #145 - Oklahoma; Elaine McDonald - Imperial #21 - Iowa;
Ed Bloor - Mecca #58 - Nevada; Allan Taber - McDonald #167 - Ohio;
Anita Hall - Victory #50 - Arkansas; Yvonne Bertino - June #130 - Kansas;
Shirley Lamond - Mecca #58 -Tennessee 1982

Isabelle Spilsbury ~ GR of Kansas in Ontario ~ 1991

Isabelle Spilsbury (left) presenting a pin to

Margaret McConnell (right), GR Kansas January 2009 ~ January 2011

at Orphah Chapter's Birthday February 2010

Isabelle Spilsbury

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario ~ 1991

Isabelle Spilsbury was initiated in Orphah Chapter on February 6th, 1968. Isabelle was Worthy Matron three times, the last time in the mid nineties. Isabelle was District Deputy Grand Matron, District 5 in 1984~1985 ~ "Dawn of a New Day" Year, with Edna Fawcett, WGM and Jack Merrall, WGP.

Isabelle was made a Life Member in Orphah Chapter in 1991. In 2008, Isabelle received her 40-year pin.

Isabelle was appointed a Grand Hostess for the 1997 "Serenade to the Seasons" Grand Chapter Sessions, with Jean Lee, WGM and William 'Bill' Pettigrew, WGP.

Isabelle received her appointment as a Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario 1989~1991 from Clark Hodgins, WGP in the "Year of Hope", 1988~1989. Clark's WGM was Bette Macintosh. Isabelle really enjoyed visiting the Kansas Grand Chapter Sessions in 1990 ~ she was invited to carry the Canadian flag ~ she was very proud to carry the flag, as seen in this picture. Isabelle had two counterparts as the Grand Representatives of Ontario in Kansas.

Isabelle was in Nursing for over 20 years. She is the oldest of nine girls, raised on a farm near Lucknow ~ she remembers 'working like a boy on the farm', with her father.

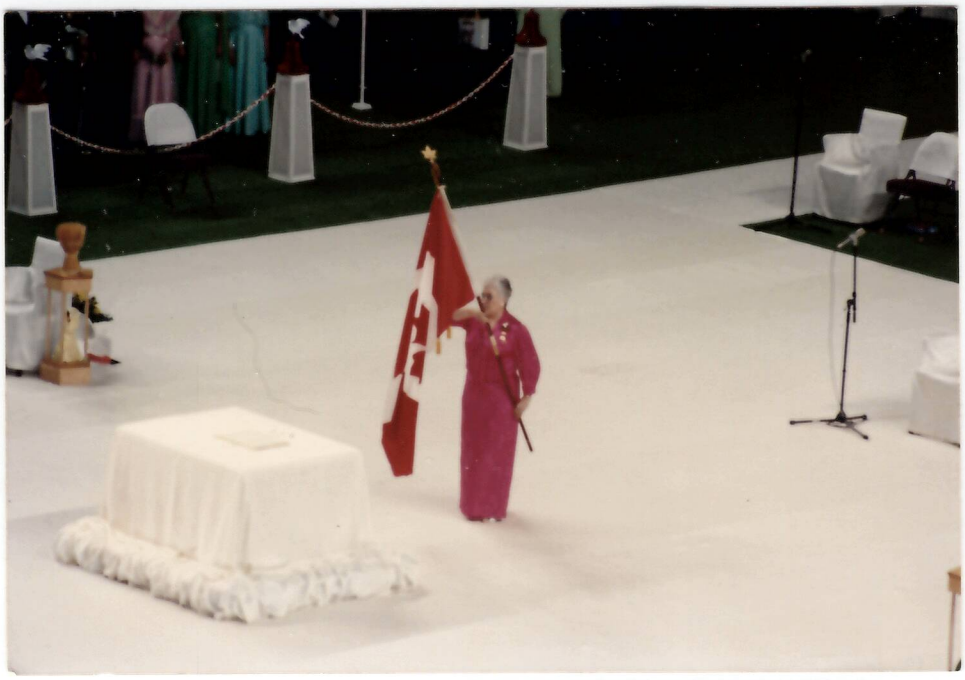
Isabelle explained to the Historian that her memory is slipping, and that she cannot remember all the details. But she does remember how much she enjoyed her years of service in the Eastern Star, and all the wonderful people she met and all the friends she made.

Isabelle is remembered as an extremely hard worker for the Chapter, at least until the last couple of years. Even now with poor health she comes out and helps when we make pies. She hardly misses a meeting.

She is a widow (four years ago); her husband lived his last few years at Parkwood Hospital, veteran's wing.

{Story and picture received from Betty Butt, Historian, following her visit with Isabelle Spilsbury, February 2012}

Isabelle Spilsbury carrying the Canadian Flag ~ Kansas Grand Chapter Sessions 1990



Marion Boyle ~ Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario 1989

Installation Officers for Fern Chapter's "Reflections of Beauty" Officers 1979-1980

Marion Boyle, PM was an Installation Officer

Marion Boyle

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario 1989

I was initiated in June 1975 in Fern Chapter No. 140, Toronto District 19. Later Fern Chapter consolidated with Clovelly Chapter No. 144, District 10. I spent one meeting in Clovelly Chapter and demitted. I am currently a member of Richmond Hill Chapter No. 302, District 11; this chapter is closer to my home.

I have served as the Star Point Officer Ruth in Fern Chapter. In Fern Chapter, my friend Lynn Maxwell Grand Representative of Puerto Rico in Ontario 1993, and I each served as Associate Conductress and Conductress many times ~ each year at the elections, we just switched Stations back and forth. I was Marshal and Associate Matron in both Fern and Richmond Hill Chapters. I served as Secretary in Richmond Hill Chapter.

I have served as Worthy Matron four times, the first two times in Fern Chapter and the last two times in Richmond Hill Chapter:

- 1978-1979 - "Sunshine Through Faith" - Olive Avery, WGM & Rip Ballantyne, WGP
- 1985-1986 - "Starway to Happiness" - Connie Mundell (Woodward), WGM & Norman Dobbins, WGP
- 2004–2005 - "Melodies and Memories" - Carol Featherstone, WGM & Richard Brimblecombe, WGP
- 2015–2016 – "Music, Wine & Roses …Our Precious Moment in Time" - Lynn Atkinson, WGM & Gary Bayes, WGP

I served on the Committees on Arrangements for Bette Macintosh's 1989 "Year of Hope" Sessions; Shirley Lamond's 1991 "A World of Love and Happiness" Sessions; and Joan Esdale's 1994 "Windmill of Fellowship and Service" Sessions.

I was appointed the Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario 1989 by Vera Heffel, WGM of the "Carousel of Faith, Love and Joy" Year, 1986-1987. Patrick Woods was the WGP. I enjoyed visiting the Kansas Grand Chapter Sessions, held in Topeka, Kansas. All the members and visitors were very friendly and receptive to me. It was interesting to watch how differently they did their work from ours in our Ontario Grand Chapter Sessions. My Chapter had a reception honouring me as the Grand Representative ~ it was attended by many present and past Grand Representatives as well as many Star friends.

My friend Lynn Maxwell was appointed the "Family, Friends & Traditions" Grand Organist, by Bonnie Arnew, WGM and Laverne Leffler, WGP, 2012-2013. I was honoured to be her Grand Escort as she and the Grand Family visited throughout this Ontario Grand Jurisdiction.

My father and my two paternal uncles were Masonic members.

(Story received from Marion Boyle January 7th, 2016)

LAVERNE McKECHNIE

GRAND RESPRESENTATIVE OF KANSAS IN ONTARIO

1985 - 1987

Special Night in Bon Accord Chapter for Laverne

Laverne with husband, Melvin, Edna Fawcett P.G.M., Betty Ann Nigh W.M.
Craig Brodie W.P.

I was one of a family of seven brothers and four sisters who along with our parents lived on a farm at Gilbralter, Ontario. On September 16, 1942 I was married to Melvin McKechnie and we lived on a farm in the area. We had one daughter Anita, who is married to Wayne Marritt. We have two granddaughters and one grandson and two great grandsons and one great granddaughter. In 1980 we sold our farms and retired to Thornbury.

I was initiated into Bon Accord Chapter, Collingwood in October, 1957. I held the office of Warder, Marshall, Associate Conductriess, Conductress, Associate Matron and was Worthy Matron in 1965-66 with Bro. Melvin as my Worthy Patron. I have also been secretary for a number of years.

In May of 1969 I was elected District Deputy Grand Matron of District #9.

Sis. Edna Fawcett W.G.M. gave my my Commission as Grand Representative of Kansas in 1985. Sis. Mildred Hurley as my counterpart. Sis Edna and I attended Grand Chapter Sessions in Kansas and Sis Mildred and her husband attended our Grand Chapter in Toronto. These visits we enjoyed very much and we still keep in touch.

/96

Bertha Whitman Morgan

Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario ~ 1982

Bertha was initiated May 28, 1971 into Flower City Chapter No.91, St. Thomas, Ontario, District 4. Flower City Chapter consolidated with Central Star Chapter No. 57, St. Thomas on June 12th, 2009.

Bertha said she was Worthy Matron six or seven times and she really enjoyed being Worthy Matron. She was Worthy Matron in 1979~1980 ~ "Reflections of Beauty" Year, with Vivian Hunter WGM and Frank Townsend, WGP. When Vivian Hunter and Frank Townsend visited her Chapter – Vivian Hunter in her remarks said 'In Kansas, they grow better corn than we do here in Ontario" ~ and this is how Vivian Hunter informed Bertha that she was appointed the Grand Representative of Kansas in Ontario. Bertha visited the Kansas Grand Chapter Sessions a couple of times and really enjoyed the experience. Bertha travelled with Dorothy Jackson, GR New Mexico 1985, also a member of Central Star Chapter.

Bertha travelled a lot with Helena Carver ~ later, Helena was appointed the Grand Representative of Connecticut in Ontario, 2000.

Bertha also travelled extensively throughout Ontario ~ she visited as many Chapters as she could ~ she enjoyed visiting with other Grand Representatives.

Bertha was District Deputy Grand Matron in the "Season of Serenity" Year, 1977 ~ 1978, with Marjorie Morgan, WGM and James Heffel, WGP.

Bertha was given Life Membership in Central Star Chapter October 25, 2002 – this was a great honour.

Bertha said that she was fine until March 2011 ~ she has been in and out of the hospital in St. Thomas and London, she was on the kidney machine, had breathing problems and pneumonia, and heart problems.
When she was in the St. Thomas Hospital, she was visited by someone from the Grand Chapter Hospital Visiting Committee and given one of the WGM's booklets.

Bertha continues to live alone in her own home ~ she manages pretty well on her own ~ the Victorian Order of Nurses visit her daily. Bertha is a pleasant chatty lady ~ she will celebrate her 86th Birthday on September 26th, 2012.

(Information received on the phone from Bertha – January 2012)

Bertha passed away October 5th, 2014,
In St. Thomas, Ontario.

In Loving Memory of

Bertha Louise (Whitman) Morgan

1925 - 2014