



Evelyn L. Bogue,  
Worthy Grand Matron  
Grand Chapter of Massachusetts  
Order of the Eastern Star  
49 High Street, Erving, MA 01344-9713  
[evbogue@Comcast.net](mailto:evbogue@Comcast.net) / 413-422-2267 / 978-502-0290 Text

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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The following is the statement I made at the Installation of the Luminaries Grand Family on Saturday, May 22, 2021, in Boxboro. *And I quote*

“NEWS FLASH! Exciting news flash!

My first duty as Worthy Grand Matron is to joyfully inform you that the Grand Council is allowing in-person meetings beginning June 1st, if at all possible. Should you need a dispensation, I will gladly sign it for you.

The June Chapter meeting will be for Chapter members only, so we can enjoy being together once again with our own members.

Unfortunately, the receptions are still cancelled. The Association meeting and the Schools will still be held via Zoom for the month of June.

We have followed the Governor’s orders on all past decisions as we are doing so today...therefore as of July 1<sup>st</sup> all restrictions are cancelled.

We hope you are as excited as we are, as we slowly and methodically return to our traditional way of carrying on our Eastern Star business and “social enjoyment”.” *End quote.*

This will be called the ‘*Year of the Visitor*’ many times a Worthy Matron will remark it’s nice is to see people on the sidelines. Let’s each of us be the person on the sidelines. I am asking you to visit one Chapter a month besides your own. “Let’s be a Visitor”

*Membership* “Let’s put a great effort into this now”

Mason’s go to your lodges and encourage them to take a serious look at our Order based on Charity, Truth and Loving Kindness. Tell them they are most welcome to join along with ladies in the family.

Star members: Asking you to put one of our brochures on membership in your bag and have it with you always. This Order has much to offer. Sometimes showing them the information makes a better impression than just talking. You might be pleasantly surprised.

**SPECIAL PROJECT**    2 Parts    Share the profits

*Help Ourselves So That We Can Help Others.*

Start a fund to help us be financial stable in the future. We have taken from our funds many times over the years. We have also given to many worthy causes. It's time to care of ourselves financially.

*American Chestnut Tree Restoration Project in Massachusetts and Rhode Island:*

Chestnut trees were here for thousands of years and in 40 years time they were nearly all gone. Chestnut trees were used where strength was needed, log cabins, foundation logs, post, poles, railroad ties even musical instruments. The nut is used for cattle along with humans.

The Pin is a Tree--Unfortunately it does not have a Star on it--I'd like you to wear it on your every day clothes--so when someone sees it--you can tell them you belong to the Order and helping restore the American Chestnut Tree--Remember the song, "Chestnuts roasting on an open fire..."

Another project we can all participate in is "Famous Eastern Star Members" Patricia C. Darby PGM has agreed to make a poster for next year's Session. Sister Pat already has Rosa Parks & Eleanor Roosevelt, email her if you know of other Famous Eastern Star Members.

Please know you are always welcome to contact me with any questions or concerns.

I am anxious as you are, to be with my Eastern Star Sisters & Brothers again soon.

Fraternally,

**Evelyn L. Bogue**

Worthy Grand Matron