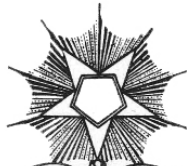


Bay State Chapter

No. 160

Order
of the



Eastern
Star

INSTITUTED
NOVEMBER 5, 1919

CONSTITUTED
MAY 11, 1920

50th Anniversary
May 2, 1970

In the Beginning... taken from Bay State Chapter's
50th Anniversary program

Time, swift in its flight, covering a span of fifty years, has recorded history for Bay State Chapter. "Looking ahead" for a period of fifty years, seems almost an eternity, but "looking backwards" for the same lapse of time, often seems but yesterday and so it seems tonight as we celebrate our 50th Anniversary.

A preliminary meeting was held November 1, 1919 at the Copley Square Hotel, Boston, under the direction of the Grand Patron, Brother Philip A. Jerguson, for the purpose of organizing a Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star in the City of Boston. The name of Bay State Chapter was chosen. Monthly meetings to be held on the third Thursday. A committee was selected by the Grand Patron to confer together and present a list of officers for the approval of those present; which list was to be referred to the Grand Chapter.

It was voted to make the fees for charter members five dollars. The dues, three dollars per year, payable in advance. The Grand Patron then gave the date of Institution for November 5, 1919.

The Institution Ceremony took place in the Masonic Temple, 717 Warren Street, Roxbury, on the specified date, with the following Grand and Officiating Grand Officers: Grand Patron, Brother Philip A. Jerguson, Grand Secretary, Sister Carrie A. Cushing, Grand Marshal pro tern, Sister Isabelle W. Putnam, Grand Chaplain pro tern, Brother Rodney W. Welch. The Grand Secretary reported a Charter list of forty-three persons, six of whom were former members of the Order. The degrees of the Order were conferred by the officers of Hadassah Chapter No. 113. Many Chapters were represented; also, many Grand Officers. At the conclusion of the Initiation Ceremony, the following officers were appointed and conducted to their respective stations:-

- Worthy Matron Sister Agnes G. Lake
- Worthy Patron Brother Eli G. Stickle
- Associate Matron Sister Claribelle P. Anderson
- Secretary Sister Lillian M. Trafton
- Treasurer Sister Anna R. Ross
- Conductress Sister Elizabeth R. White
- Associate Conductress Sister Lulu H. Gobrecht
- Chaplain Brother Ernest G. Guthree
- Marshal Sister Bertha E. Carter
- Pianist Brother Herbert H. Pentz
- Adah Sister Ida H. Craig
- Ruth Sister Florene e L. Carter
- Esther Sister Agnes S. Coombs
- Martha Sister Bernice Julin
- Electa Sister Etta B. Turner
- Warder Sister Janette M. Morrison
- Sentinel Brother James E. Ward

Guest Instructress for the evening was the Associate Grand Matron, Sister Lillian Grover Walch.

The first regular meeting of Bay State Chapter No. 160, O.E.S., U.D., was held in the New England Women's Club, 585 Boylston Street, in Copley Square, Boston, on November 24, 1919. There were five more meetings while under Dispensation.

The Chapter was Constituted at a special meeting held Tuesday evening, May 11, 1920 in the Roxbury Masonic Temple. A banquet was served at 6:30 o'clock. The Constitution Ceremony commenced at 8:00 o'clock and was performed by the following Officers of the Grand Chapter:-

Grand Matron	Sister Emily Eldredge
Grand Patron	Brother Philip A. Jerguson
Associate Grand Matron	Sister Lillian G. Walch
Associate Grand Patron	Brother Charles W. James, Jr.
Grand Secretary	Sister Carrie A. Cushing
Grand Treasurer	Sister Lucy B. Colby
Grand Conductress	Sister Alice E. Wallace
Associate Grand Conductress	Sister Viola F. Pettee
Grand Chaplain pro tem	Sister Cora F. Jerguson
Grand Marshal	Sister Annie L. Woodman
Grand Organist pro tem	Sister Winifred A. True
Grand Adah	Sister Alma W. Fowler
Grand Ruth	Sister Mabel G. Andrews
Grand Esther	Sister Mabel M. Putnam
Grand Martha	Sister Nellie W. Hart
Grand Electa	Sister Amelia M. Bryce
Grand Warder	Sister Anna Schatz
Grand Sentinel pro tem	Brother W. DeHaven Jones

The music was by the Apollo Quartet.

At the end of the first year, the membership was 43 charter members, 30 members initiated and 13 affiliated, total of 86 members. At the close of the year 1922 the total membership was 187.

May 17, 1923, immediately following the Initiation Ceremony, and led by Brother Clesson S. Curtis, Grand Patron, the Ceremony of the Emblematic Star was presented, and all present repeated the Obligation of the Order. Brother Curtis expressed words of appreciation for the splendid work and great assistance given to the Chapter by Sisters Adams, Doering, Gillespie, Julin and Pattee. The year 1923 was a wonderful year of work and accomplishment. A Relief and Permanent Fund were established. The Chapter grew in strength and ideals, as well as in membership and finances.

In 1924, our then Junior Past Matron, Sister Lulu H. Gobrecht was influential in organizing Boston Assembly No. 1, Order of the Rainbow for Girls, under the sponsorship of the Boston Square and Compass Club. She

became the first Mother Advisor and Supreme Inspector of Massachusetts Grand Assembly. Later she was conferred the distinguished honor of Supreme Immortality. She was successful in having many Assemblies started in New England. Our Chapter members were invited to witness the first exemplification of the Degrees in November 1924.

It was the aim of the petitioners to make this Chapter outstanding in the quality of its work and membership. Many fundraising projects with large committees were established. A fine spirit of willing helpfulness existed among the members. I would be remiss if I did not give credit to our beloved Past Matron, Sister Harriet E. Marsh, whose very efficient chairmanship, successfully organized many projects, among which were two rummage sales in Horticulture Hall. Money was earned from dances, theatre parties at St. James Theatre, bazaars, card parties, luncheons, suppers, home bridge parties, summer outings in charge of the brothers, and many other events.

Outstanding events were our Pop Concerts held in Brown Hall, under direction of Sister Ruth E. Austen, a violin virtuoso and teacher of the violin at the New England Conservatory of Music. These concerts were largely attended and thoroughly enjoyed.

In May of 1927, we moved to Roblin Hall, 1101 Boylston Street, in the Church of the Redeemer. This was only a temporary location, while waiting for the new Conservatory Building (under construction) to be completed. On November 17, 1928 our first meeting was held in Brown Hall, New England Conservatory of Music, where we remained for fifteen years.

In 1928, a reception was tendered Brother Philip A. Jerguson, P.P. of Royall Chapter, Past Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Mass. and Most Worthy Grand Patron of the General Grand Chapter, and to Sister Carrie A. Cushing, P. M. of Royall Chapter, Past Grand Matron, and Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, at the Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston. Since I was Worthy Matron that year, I was privileged to present, in the name of Bay State Chapter, a gift of \$25. 00 in gold to Brother Jerguson and \$10. 00 in gold to Sister Cushing.

Our membership at the end of 1928 was 285. It is interesting to note that the attendance at the annual meeting was 114 members and 8 visitors.

Our Worthy Matrons were loyal dedicated and eager to uphold the principles established by our Founders. Through the years our meetings were well attended. Each Worthy Matron had a Guest Night or a Matron's and Patron's Night. Groups were formed for "fund raising". Many suppers were served under the Chairmanship of our "Gourmet Sister" Marguerite Sanger.

Lobster suppers were a specialty at Hay State Guest Nights. Our Marguerite could plan a supper for more than 200 members and guests at a cost to the Chapter of \$28. 17. Imagine having a delicious lobster salad supper for the price of 85 cents. Sister Austen gave unselfishly of her talent. Her beautiful violin music together with the organ music of Sister Agnes Ruggles Allen, plus a vocalist, was heard and enjoyed at all our ceremonies. This added much to enhance the beauty and enjoyment of the meetings.

In 1935, Bay State Chapter was proud of the honor given us when Brother Clarence C. Beasley was elected as the Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts after having served as Associate Grand Patron.

In 1937 when Sister Ruth Austen was Worthy Matron, she was successful in procuring a copy of "The Work of 1867" from the Grand Matron of Illinois. She wrote a copy of each part, selected a cast and we went to work on it. We provided our costumes and on September 16, 1937 an exemplification of the Opening, Initiatory and Closing Ceremonies of the Work of 1867 was interpreted by the Officers and assisting members of Bay State Chapter. The attendance was 287. Refreshments consisting of old fashioned ginger cookies and lemonade was served. Thus, ended a very happy and successful evening.

This became known and we had many requests to present this work in sister Chapters. It was presented 46 times from September 1937 to October 6, 1960, four times in Bay State Chapter, 42 times in Massachusetts Chapters, twice in Rhode Island (East Providence and Newport).

Sister Austen spoke with sincere appreciation of the work being done by this group, of which, she too, was a member. She served as Worthy President in all 46 presentations. The other officers were changed from time to time, with the exception of the Conductor, Josephine Langdon; third Patron, Elsie Doering and fourth Patron, Marguerite Sanger, we carried on. The following served as Vice Presidents and Prologue:-

Vice Presidents:

Dr. James E. Ward, P.P.	Twice
Frank D. Hanson, P.P.	10 times
Dr. Arthur W. Weyse, P. P.	20 times
Harry C. Adams, P. P.	14 times

Prologue:

Charlotte D. Boynton	15 times
Dr. Arthur W. Weyse	17 times
Harry C. Adams	14 times

Brother Adams sudden death on October 8, 1960 was a very sad shock and a great loss. He was known throughout the State as one of the best ritualists in any organization. We could not replace him. Thus, on October 6, 1960 the last exemplification of this work was presented in Diana Chapter o. 101, Beverly, Mass.

In November 1943, our first meeting was held in the Masonic Temple, 203 Chestnut Hill Avenue, Brighton, our present location.

An outstanding event was "The Passion Play of Oberammergau" presented April 11, 1945 by Dr. Henry Hallam Saunderson, W. P., illustrated with a beautiful set of colored stereopticon slides. Dr. Saunderson witnessed the play when it reached its highest degree of dramatic power and inspiration.

Our 25th Anniversary was celebrated with a Seiler's Dinner and entertainment on May 17, 1945. Sister Annette Hill, A.M., was Chairman and Sister Marguerite Sanger, P. M., was Historian.

Bay State Chapter sponsored Brighton Assembly No. 62, Order of Rainbow for Girls which was instituted December 14, 1946 and Constituted February 26, 1948. Sister Earline Conant, P. M. served as first Mother Advisor. Sister Dorothy Acton and Sister Julie Ashe, P. M. also served as Mother Advisors. In 1952, Sister Marguerite Sanger, P.M. and Secretary of Bay State Chapter became Mother Advisor, which office she holds to this day. Bay State is proud of her achievement, and can sincerely say "well done, all honor and credit are due you."

The Jewel Club of Past Officers was very active for many years, in fundraising and helping the Chapter in many ways. Our meetings were held in homes. A fine spirit of friendliness was created among our Past Matrons and Past Patrons.

The white Altar Bible was a gift from Brother and Sister Bernard H. Marshall, in memory of deceased Matrons and Patrons with the understanding that the date of initiation and the date of demise be inscribed on the blank pages of the Bible.

In 1955, a unique and beautiful Christmas Concert consisting of a recording of music sung by Mrs. Louise Lindgren (a former member) and daughter of Brother and Sister Joseph Rippel, with Brother Rippel's cello accompaniment, added much to the enjoyment of this Christmas Party.

We have had many enjoyable evenings of dancing to music furnished by Brother Manson Bent, P.P. and his orchestra.

In 1955 the Chapter received a bequest from the estate of our late Past Matron, Sister Elva M. L. Theall, to be established as "The Elva M. L. Theall Fund for Needy Members". Our sister passed away in 1953. Sister Theall also bequeathed the sum of \$5,000, 00 to the Charitable Foundation for the Eastern Star Home for the Aged in Orange, Massachusetts.

In 1958, the Chapter received a legacy from the Nina B. Hill estate, and in 1969 the Chapter received a generous gift from our Past Patron, Manson R. Bent.

We are proud of the fact that Bay State Chapter has contributed to the O. E. S. Benevolences and various charities. Our donations have included the Isadore Forbes Benevolent Fund, the O.E.S. Home Fund (in 1925 we gave money to furnish a room), the Educational Fund, the International Temple Fund (one hundred percent), Estarl, Grand Chapter Benevolences, Guests at the Home, Star Night Ben., Matrons and Patrons Ball, Mississippi Flood Relief, Billerica Chapter Fire Relief, Hurricane Relief, Grand Chapter of Vermont Relief 1927, Brighton Assembly, Order of Rainbow for Girls, American Red Cross, American Cancer Society, Children's Hospital and many more worthy charities.

Bay State Chapter received a Citation from the Shriner's Hospital for Crippled Children and Golden Rule plus 10 for generous contributions.

After a span of twenty-two years, Bay State Chapter is proud-this past year to have Sister Rosalie A. Tammick, P. M., receive an appointment as a Deputy Grand Matron and to have Sister Elsie M. Bradbury, P. M., serve with her as her Deputy Grand Marshal.

We would like to give recognition to Sister Elsie M. Doering, P. M., who served our Chapter for thirty-one and a half years as Treasurer and to Sister Marguerite Sanger, P.M., who finished her twenty-fifth year as Secretary in December of 1969. Thank you for your willing and faithful service.

The addition of some fine young members in recent years whose ritualistic ability and willingness to serve has shown new light to our beloved Chapter. Much has been accomplished under the direction of Sister Diana and Brother James Spurrell by their efficient leadership to restore Bay State Chapter to the high standard created by our Founders.

My review would not be complete if I did not refer to the loyal service rendered so willingly by our Charter members, and those who followed, who have given of their time, their strength and finances that Bay State Chapter might live. There were flourishing years and years of adversity. We are grateful

to those faithful Past Matrons and Past Patrons who have remained with us and have given so generously of their time and support. Their past experience and wise counsel are a great asset to Bay State Chapter.

*As anniversaries come and go
May every year its best bestows
And in a bright unbroken chain
The links of memory still remain.*

Elsie M. Doering, P.M.
Elsie M. Doering, PM
HISTORIAN

Bay State Chapter consolidated with Palestine Chapter No. 114 in 1980.



MILFORD MARCH 7, 1939. 70 yrs. CAST, O.E.S.

Bay State Chapter's Cast of the "Work of 1867"
Milford on March 7, 1939