



# STAR GAZER

## CECELIA DUNLAP GRAND CHAPTER OES OF KENTUCKY INC., PHA



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## From Our Grand Worthy Matron



*This is the day which  
the Lord hath made; we  
will rejoice and be glad  
in it. (Psalm 118:24).*

### Grand Worthy Matron's Corner

Greetings,

Welcome to the new calendar of Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter. As we stand at the threshold of a new year, I wish to take this time to say Congratulations to all Elected and Appointed Officers of the Grand Chapter. May we be guided by the Grace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May He give all of us the wisdom and foresight to create a spirit of peace and harmony among the membership.

This year we will continue to focus on Commitment with an emphasis on Reclaiming, Retaining and Renewing. We have scheduled the Line Officers' Training for Saturday, November 4, 2017 at Parkland Masonic Temple in Louisville, Kentucky, registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. We will also have the 2<sup>nd</sup> Class of the OES Academy and in January 2018, the OES Workshop! I encourage you to participate in as many of these events as possible.

Let us this year, continue to work for the good of the order. Let us attend our Chapter Meetings, School of Instructions and have a strong presence in our communities. Continue to let your lights shine brightly for the world to see!

Committed in His Service,

Felecia J. Ballard, Grand Worthy Matron



## From Our Grand Worthy Patron



I pray that this **New** year will bring much happiness, eagerness and willingness ensuring the Grand Chapter and Subordinate Chapters will have much success. Much work needs to be done and there are great people willing to do just that. CONGRATULATIONS to newly elected and appointed Grand officers. Let's all strive to be instrumental in being a part of the future of this great organization. I stand ready to assist whenever and wherever I may be needed. Bless you all.

Donald E. Thompson, Sr.,

Grand Worthy Patron

Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star  
Of Kentucky, Inc., Prince Hall Affiliation  
122<sup>nd</sup> Annual Grand Communications

Address of  
Felecia J. Ballard  
Grand Worthy Matron



Tuesday, August 1, 2017  
Galt House Hotel  
140 North Fourth Street  
Louisville, Kentucky

To: The Honorable Jonathan A. Bryant, Grand Master, Prince Hall Grand Lodge F & AM of Kentucky, Inc.; Frank D. Bush, Grand Worthy Patron; Brenda A. Murphy, Grand Associate Matron; Donald E. Thompson, Sr., Grand Associate Patron; all elected, appointed Past and Present Grand Officers, Past Grand Worthy Matrons, Past Grand Worthy Patrons; all Members of Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star of Kentucky, Inc., PHA.

**“I WILL bless the Lord at all times: His praise *shall continually be* in my mouth.”**

Psalm 34:1

“In the name of our great sisterhood, knitted together in charity and sincere friendship,” and, by the Mercy and Grace of God, our Heavenly Father, through His Son, Jesus Christ the Savior, we have assembled for the 122<sup>nd</sup> Annual Grand Communications of Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star of Kentucky, Inc., PHA.

### **Why Are We Here?**

WE have come this week to conduct the business of our beautiful Order.

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We have come to celebrate 150 Years of Service with the  
Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Kentucky.

Many of us have come to see our friends, sisters and brothers, who we have not seen  
since this time last year.

**TO GOD BE THE GLORY**, for He has kept us to see each other’s face again and renewed our acquainted spirits, one to another. He has given us the opportunity to be more committed to this Order of which we all embrace its works with dedication, loyalty, courage, faith and love.

I am sure each of us could give an individual account of our journey-- of what we have been through to get to this current point in time. Some of have witnessed the birth of new family members, while others have witnessed the home-going of cherished loved ones. Some have gone through illnesses, while others watched over and cared for ill loved ones. Those of us who are here today can say, **“I’m still here, I’ve made it through, how about you? I come through the fire, I been through the flood, I’m still here, kept by His blood”**.

It has been my sincere pleasure to serve you as the 49<sup>th</sup> Elected Grand Worthy Matron. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve. I have tried to execute the responsibilities of this office with highest regards. I thank you for the invitations I have received to attend your Chapter events. I thank you for your gracious hospitality you have shown to this servant when visiting your communities.

Now, I know it takes a lot of work and coordination in planning Chapter events throughout the Jurisdiction. We have had outstanding functions which have represented us well in the communities where we reside. I want to thank all Chapters for your efforts this year. We have

had good speakers, beautiful venues and needless to say, delicious food. Again, thank you and keep up your good works! To the Kentucky Jurisdiction, thank you, thank you, thank you for all of your prayers, cards, calls, flowers, will wishes and any acts of kindness you have shown my family and me during my recent illnesses. Your thoughtfulness, helped with the healing process.

### **Grand Officers:**

I thank you for your support during this year. Again, we stepped out of our comfort zone and we have pushed a little harder. You have met the challenges well! You continue to embrace the vision God has given me for this Grand Chapter. Without your support, the programs implemented during 2016-2017 would not have been successful. Thank you, Brenda A. Murphy, Grand Associate Matron, for standing in my place this year, while I recouped from my various surgeries. Your support means much. Further, I thank all Grand Officers for everything you did to support the office of Grand Matron and this Grand Body. We have a Grand Cabinet that loves this Jurisdiction. Further, I thank our Past Grand Worthy Matrons and Grand Worthy Patrons for their support. When I have needed guidance and assistance, you have been there. You have built a strong foundation upon which we all stand. For that we say "Thank you."

Kentucky Les Amies, I thank you for the marvelous way you hosted the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Midwest Les Amies, September 30- October 2, 2016, at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky. We are still getting compliments from the membership. At the meeting, Les Amies give away a scholarship and a charitable donation. The host jurisdiction selects who the recipients will be. This year the Louisville YMCA Black Achievers received a \$200.00 donation. Ms. Lynn Johnson, Director, was present to receive the donations. Ms. Jayla Verrett, a student at Eastern Kentucky University, an Athletics Training major, received a \$500.00 scholarship. Ms. Verrett and her family were in attendance to receive the scholarship.

### **Conferences:**

I wish to thank all those who traveled with us to the 30<sup>th</sup> Midwest Regional Conference March 16-19, 2017, Indianapolis, Indiana. Also, thank you for supporting 50/50 Give-A-Way. Further, I thank all who represented Kentucky May 17-21, 2017, at the 69<sup>th</sup> session of the Prince Hall Conference of Grand Matrons and Grand Patrons in Dallas, Texas. Congratulation to Miss Nianna Adyletott, who was awarded a \$1000.00 scholarship from the conference. Nianna is a graduate of Bardstown High School and will attend Kentucky University majoring in Biology.

### **District Deputy Grand Matrons:**

First, let me say thank you for the work you are doing in your Districts. Assuming the responsibility of the District Deputy Grand Matron is not an easy task. In doing so means you are the Grand Worthy Matron's representative in your respective Districts. Therefore, you must have a continuous presence in your Districts. This year, each of you have been met with your own set of challenges, but overcame them and made it through. Deputies, you have been in the field working for the good of your members. You have kept them informed and you have kept them up to date with activities of the Grand Chapter. You planned beautiful District Meetings and all of the District Lecturers presented well-planned lectures. Especially, this was true this year with the implementation of the OES Academy. We also thank you for taking the socks collected at the District Meetings to your local nursing homes. That shows we care about others. This year the District Deputies worked closely with the Grand Lecturer in planning a Joint Administrative

Degree that was held March 4, 2017, after the Central District meeting. We held monthly conference calls each 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month. The monthly conference calls allowed us the opportunity to stay connected and on the same page as we carried out work for the year. Continue with your work, always striving to achieve higher heights.

#### **Copeland Grand Chamber of Diamonds:**

The Diamonds are continuing to grow stronger. November 2016, we were saddened by the loss of our Grand Advisor, PGWM Valarie Newsome. PGWM Newsome was a faithful and dedicated leader. She loved working with the Diamonds, she treated them as if they were her own. I am thankful that last year, Copeland Grand Chamber of Diamonds was able to recognize her during Grand Communications.

Past Grand Guardian, Carla Thomas, was asked to serve as Acting Grand Advisor. She graciously accepted the request. I thank you for stepping in and overseeing the Diamonds. I thank Grand Guardian Tanya Miller and Grand Associate Guardian Kennetha Bryant for the working with our youth this year. Guardians of Subordinate Chambers, thank you for working with the Diamonds. Your support and encouragement will benefit them in days to come. Let us all continue to support our Diamonds, to encourage them to become productive citizens and future members of the OES Order.

#### **State of the Order:**

Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter is alive, operating daily in a great fashion. We presently have 29 Chapters, 5 Districts. We have 500 sisters and 111 brothers for a total membership of 611. We have 22 new members, 10 Reinstatements, 14 Reinstatements through the Amnesty Program for a total of 46 new members this year. We have lost 21 members. The good news is we have taken in more members than we have lost.

December 2016, I did receive the Charter of Vanda Langham No. 137-138. I thank Deny Gonzalez, Far Western District Grand Matron for working with this Chapter while they made their transition. Deputy Gonzalez supplied the members with demit forms. To date, only one member from Vanda Langham No. 137-138 has demitted to another chapter. We did receive a money order of the balance that was in the treasury from Roberta Martin, Worthy Matron. However, no other materials have been received from the Chapter.

We know and understand many of our Chapters are struggling. Over this past year, the Grand Officers, District Deputies and I have offered help to Chapters in generating ideas on how to increase membership. As the proverb goes, "It takes a village to raise a child", well, its' going to take a village to increase our membership. This means all of us on the same page being in concert to produce the best results for the Grand Chapter. I encourage you reach out to your District Deputy Grand Matron and let her know your situation. We are all in this together. We are here to help to one another. We are here to strengthen the membership so we can ensure this organization will be in existence for years to come.

I must address conduct. Conduct is becoming an issue within our ranks. We must adhere to the By-Laws of this Grand Body about conduct and behavior. A member's conduct is under review each day when and wherever the member may be. Members represent, the Order therefore our

conduct is always under review. Members should not be disrespectful towards one another, nor should they use unappreciated language towards another sister or brother. Members should always represent this Order in a most positive light. Let us remember who and what we represent. Misconduct and being disrespectful will not be tolerated in Kentucky!

I highly encourage the membership to faithfully attend your Chapter meetings, support your Worthy Matrons, attend the Schools of Instructions, read the Bible, read Ritual and read By-Laws. Strive to keep abreast of the laws that governs this Body.

This year we implemented more opportunities to learn such as the Line- Officers' Training, OES Academy and we continued with the OES Workshop. These are ways we can better prepare ourselves to represent this Organization. Always try to be prepared, so when called upon you can put your best foot forward. As leaders of your Chapters, Districts etc. it is your responsibility to have current information to relay to your members, that way we all have a better understanding of the processes and protocols of the Subordinate Chapters and Grand Chapter. No individual knows everything, but together, we know a wealth of information.

### **Community Involvement:**

At the 2016, Grand Communications, I gave the challenge of be more visible in our communities. Well, I am pleased to report, you have meet the challenge. You have reported your good works in the Star Gazer, on Facebook and other Social Media Outlets, reports etc. You have been shining brightly in your communities. Don't stop, continue shinning. Thank you!

### **Necrology:**

*"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."*

We pay tribute to and remember those who have fought the fight, kept the faith of this life and is now in a place of reward. We hold deep within our heart of hearts the "*precious memories that nothing can take away.*" Twenty-One Sisters and Brothers have answered the call of our Heavenly Father and have made their transition to the heavenly realm. Let us always remember their lives and the Service they rendered to this Order. More importantly, let us live a life ready to answer the Master's call and meet the sunset's glow.

### **Moving Forward in Unity and Progress**

WE have much work to be done in the Grand Chapter. We made great strides to move things forward in a positive way. We have to continue to be committed to the work before us and "Move Forward in Unity". In the times in which we live, being unified is most appropriate. We are very knowledgeable of the fact that the Lord's work is progressive and forward moving, as is the work of CDGC. As we go about this most important task we must recognize there will be obstacles placed in our way, but we must be steadfast, pressing toward the goals before us. We cannot waste precious time focusing on those things which are not focused on Christ and our work of the Order. We must remain focused on the Star in the East, Jesus Christ. Moving forward in unity we have to have Christian actions that allow us show more love towards one another. We have to pray for one another and we have to assist those who are less fortune than we are. WE must have attitudes

which are Christ-Like...All of our plans, thoughts and actions have to be centered on the One we represent. When we are committed, have the right actions and attitudes, then we cannot help but move forward in Unity and Progress.

“Onward Christian Soldiers, Marching as to war, with the cross of Jesus going on before!”  
*Christ, the Royal Master, leads against the foe; Forward into battle, See His Banner Go.*

*Onward Christian Soldiers, Marching as to war. With the Cross of Jesus Going on Before!*

Committed in His Service,

*Felecia J. Ballard*

Felecia J. Ballard, Grand Worthy Matron  
Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter  
Order of Eastern Star  
Of Kentucky, Inc., PHA

**Felecia J. Ballard, Grand Worthy Matron  
Itinerary 2016-2017**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
August 27, 2016	District Deputy Grand Matrons Meeting\Training Meeting	Stokes, Finley, Mahan Memorial Home Louisville, Kentucky
August 27, 2016	Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter Grand Cabinet Meeting	Stokes, Finley, Mahan Memorial Home Louisville, Kentucky
September 5, 2016	Winchester Labor Day Parade	Winchester, Kentucky
September 10, 2016	Organizational Meeting	Parkland Masonic Temple Louisville, Kentucky
September 11, 2016	Statewide Prince Hall Day	Hughlett Temple A.M.E. Zion Louisville, Kentucky
September 17, 2016	Ritual Revision Committee Meeting	Stokes, Finley, Mahan Home Louisville, Kentucky
September 17, 2016	Rising Star No. 102 Annual Color Tea	Elizabethtown, Kentucky
September 17, 2016	Damarcus Temple Charity Ball	Galt House Hotel Louisville, Kentucky
September 30- October 2, 2016	Midwest Les Amis Meeting	Galt House Hotel Louisville, Kentucky
October 10, 2016	Official Chapter Visitation Queen Vashti No. 27	Georgetown, Kentucky
October 29, 2016	Ritual Revision Committee Meeting	Stokes, Finley, Mahan Memorial Home – Louisville, KY
October 29, 2016	Grand Cabinet Meeting	Stokes, Finley, Mahan Memorial Home-Louisville, Kentucky
November 5, 2016	Line Officers Training	Parkland Masonic Temple Louisville, Kentucky
November 12, 2016	Ritual Revision Committee Meeting	Stokes, Finley, Mahan Memorial Home
December 3, 2016	Ritual Revision Committee Meeting	Stokes, Finley, Mahan Memorial Home-Louisville, KY
December 16, 2017	KOP Christmas Banquet	Richmond, Kentucky
January 7, 2017	Grand Board Meeting	Conference Call
January 14, 2017	OES Workshop	Parkland Masonic Temple Louisville, Kentucky
January 21, 2017	Ritual Revision Committee Meeting	Stokes, Finley, Mahan Memorial Home- Louisville, Kentucky
January 28, 2017	Aurora Chapter No. 96 Prayer Breakfast	Parkland Masonic Temple Louisville, Kentucky

February 25, 2017	Larue Chapter No. 110 Prayer Breakfast	Colvin Community Center Elizabethtown, Kentucky
February 25, 2017	Naomi Chapter No. 6 Annual Black History Banquet	Hopkinsville, Kentucky
March 7, 2017	Ritual Revision Committee	Stokes, Finley, Mahan Memorial Home- Louisville, Kentucky
March 4, 2017	Central District Meeting	Parkland Masonic Temple Louisville, Kentucky
March 16-19, 2017	Midwest Regional Conference Grand Chapters & Eastern Stars	Indianapolis, Indiana
March 25, 2017	South Central District Meeting	Prince Hall Village Frankfort, Kentucky
March 28, 2017	Ritual Revision Committee	Stokes, Finley, Mahan Memorial Home-Louisville, Kentucky
April 1, 2017	Far Western District	Murray State University Murray, Kentucky
April 8, 2017	Western District Meeting	Morganfield, Kentucky
April 9, 2017	Eastern District Palm Sunday Service	Farristown Baptist Church Berea, Kentucky
April 13-15, 2017	Kentucky Council of Deliberation	Ramada Inn Louisville, Kentucky
April 15, 2017	Lexington Black Achievers Banquet	Embassy Suits Lexington, Kentucky
May 10, 2017	Ritual Revision Committee	Conference Call
June 20, 2017	Ritual Revision Committee Meeting	Stokes, Finley, Mahan Memorial Home- Louisville, Kentucky
July 7, 2017	Ritual Revision Committee Meeting	Stokes, Finley, Mahan Memorial Home-Louisville, Kentucky

**Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter  
Order of Easter Star of Kentucky, Inc., PHA  
122<sup>nd</sup> Annual Grand Communication**



**Annual Address  
of the  
Grand Worthy Patron**

**Galt House Hotel  
140 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Louisville Kentucky 40202  
Tuesday, August 1, 2017**

To: Grand Worthy Matron, Felecia J. Ballard, Grand Associate Matron, Brenda Murphy, Grand Associate Patron, Donald E. Thompson, Sr. and to all elected and appointed Grand Chapter officers, past and present and to all my Sisters and Brothers.

I bring you greetings from the Office of the Grand Worthy Patron.

It has been my pleasure over the last four years to serve you as a member of this Grand Cabinet. It has been an honor, and I hope that in some small measure I have lived up to the confidence you have shown in allowing me to serve you.

In preparing this address I struggled with what it is that I wanted to say to you, so if this address seems disjointed it is because I have so many mixed emotions regarding this Order.

As a member of this Grand Cabinet for the past four years I find myself dismayed by a number of issues that should be of concern to this Grand Body, but, for whatever reason seems to be of little importance to the membership. What I am going to say is in no way an indictment of the Order, it's leaders, past or present or its' members, but merely some of my concerns and food for thought.

One issue is the continual decline in membership. I have pondered this issue for a number of years to no avail. Maybe the Order, like many other organizations is simply no longer appealing to the masses or to the youth of today. Maybe it's our laws on recruiting. Maybe we're too structured; too ritualistic; too spiritual. Maybe we have forgotten what we are supposed to stand for and thus we can no longer attract people of character. Whatever the cause we owe it to ourselves and the Order to address this issue. Maybe we can't stem the decline, maybe it's simply beyond our control; then again, maybe it's not. Whatever the cause, we as members and our elected officers need to address this issue sooner rather than later.

Another issue that vexes me is fiscal accountability. For me this issue is twofold. First is that I have no idea where our money is, what it's spent on or how much is left. Second, I don't know why no one seems to care about this. How many of you know that 40% (\$24.00/member/year) of our assessed dues goes to the Stokes, Finley, Mahan Home? How many of you know how much we have paid into this home since we inherited it or how much has been expended for it? I don't. What is the annual cost of maintaining this property? Are we paying too much or too little into this fund? What about the ME Howe scholarship fund? Do you know that we are paying only \$2.00/member/year into this fund? At our current membership of 600 people that's \$1,200.00 a year for up to 5 scholarships. That's \$240 per award per year if we award 5 scholarships. Is this underfunded? Why are we paying into funds that we don't know anything about? Even more important, at least to me, is how do we, the members of this Grand Body manage our finances if we don't have accurate detailed financial reporting? Planning requires knowledge of what was and anticipation of what may be.

My final issue is the law. Every member of this Order should have read the Constitution. Did you? We can't enforce the law if we don't know the law. We can't obey the law if we don't know the law. We have lots of members that know everything that you can't do or how everything should or shouldn't be done, but do they. We often tell others what we have been told, but laws change. What was may not be, what wasn't is. Ask to see it in writing and if it's not in writing does it exist? If it's not in writing, you can add it. If it is in writing you can delete it. You have that right!

I remember Past Grand Master Pink Garner always saying, “you can’t grow if you don’t know”. I came to really hate that saying. I think I finally understand what he was trying to say.

At the same time, I have been inspired by the many selfless acts of kindness, charity community involvement and caring for our members and mankind. I stand before you today to acknowledge that through my travels to your various functions across the state, district meetings, your Star Gazer submissions as well as in general conversations with you, my Sisters and Brothers, that you deserve to be praised for all that you do.

There was a story I heard about a homeless man that received two pairs of shoes from the Chapter in Richmond and how thankful he was to have a pair of shoes that fit him, not to mention a hot dog or two! Then there was the letter received from a single father in Frankfort that was so thankful for the Chapter’s Christmas presents for his three children, stating that single fathers are often forgotten. In Hopkinsville, at a Black history program I learned from the Diamonds about the many contributions made by Blacks throughout history. Impressive as these children were, I am equally impressed by the many Guardians who give of their time to nurture our children. Our Order continues to be a force in this crazy world in which we live. We may not do all we can do, but we should take pleasure and pride in the fact that no matter how small our deeds may seem to us, they are infinitely large to the recipients of our kindness.

We may not receive Presidential Awards or Nobel Prizes but there are those among of us who are truly deserving.

Your kindness, love, and dedication to this Order is something you all can be proud of. I am proud of, respect and love all of you who uphold the ideals of the Order.

Respectfully Submitted

Frank D. Bush,

Grand Worthy Patron



### **The OES Academy Report OES Academy Class of 2017!**

The OES Academy was created due to the response from the OES Membership Survey. The majority of the responses received indicated a need for more training and teaching about the OES organization. With these things in mind, the development of the OES Academy was initiated. The focal point of the OES Academy is membership retention as we know that the more we educate and train the more we will retain the members. Felecia J. Ballard, Grand Worthy Matron appointed the following members to serve on the OES Academy Committee:

Brenda A. Murphy, GAM\Chairperson  
M. Denis Watt, GL\Co-Chairperson  
Marva A. Harris, GC  
Carla D. Thomas, GAC

Felecia J. Ballard, GWM  
Frank D. Bush, GWP  
Donald E. Thompson, GAP  
All District Deputy Grand Matrons

The committee began its work after the 2016 Grand Communications. Sis. Brenda A. Murphy, GAM, presented a “New Members Packet,” to the committee, which she created for new members of Larue Chapter No. 110. The OES Academy Committee reviewed the materials and made adjustments to make sure were in compliance with the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and Code. On Saturday, November 5, 2016, at the Line Officers’ Training, the OES Academy was formally introduced to Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter. Following the introduction of the Academy, communication was sent to each Chapter and the initial sign-up was conducted at the 2016 OES Workshop.

The Academy covered, General Chapter Information, General Chapter Procedures, General Chapter Instructions, Short Stories, Signs and Passes and the Labyrinth. The Committee members served as facilitators and members assisted when called upon. Criteria to receive certification were as follows:

1. Membership two years or less.
2. Sign-In and attend all District meetings, unless excused by their District Deputy Grand Matron.
3. Complete all training materials
4. Complete Testing- verbal and written

A total of 23 members participated in the Academy. Testing for the Academy was Saturday, June 3, 2017 in Louisville, Kentucky and Saturday, June 17, 2017 in Oak Grove, Kentucky. Congratulations to the following graduates;

1. Chandra Peyton- Aurora Chapter No. 96
2. Deborah Peyton-Aurora Chapter No. 96
3. Kenetha Byrant- Evening Star Chapter No. 126
4. Lori Lowery- Evening Star Chapter No. 126
5. Deborah Claypool- Evening Star Chapter No. 126
6. Leigha Davis- Lily White Chapter No. 132

On August 1, 2017, at the 122<sup>nd</sup> Grand Session, our graduates received recognition and made history as the first to fully complete the OES Academy and graduate. Each graduate was presented with a Certificate of Completion and a pink rose. Sis. Chandra Peyton of Aurora Chapter No. 96 maximized the test and was given the opportunity to speak on behalf of the graduates and also encourage others to sign-up for the Academy when the next class starts.

Can't wait to see you all during the next OES Academy Class!

Humbly Submitted,  
The OES Academy Committee

# Grand Lecturer Session Report

Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter  
Order of the Eastern Star of Kentucky  
Prince Hall Affiliated, Inc.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose. (Romans 8:28)

To Grand Worthy Matron Felecia J. Ballard, Grand Worthy Patron Frank D. Bush, all Grand Officers present and past, elected and appointed; to all Worthy Matrons, Worthy Patrons, and members of subordinate chapters owing allegiance to Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter, my sisters and brothers in Christ Good afternoon.

I first want to thank the Grand Matron for allowing me once again to serve as the Grand Lecturer for the term of 2016-2017. I am also thankful for being allowed to serve as Co-Chairman along with the Grand Associate Matron Sister Brenda Murphy for our jurisdiction's first OES Academy. I hope that during this Academy or the Line Officer Training in November or the workshop held in January that some knowledge was shared to enhance your membership in this great sisterhood. Thank you for also sharing with me because even after 36 years of being a part of this order there is still room for me to grow also.

Today I would like to speak on somethings that we learned during this last 12 months. An important brother who has left us since our last communication would always say "You can't grow if you don't know."

Did you know that sleeves on suits or dresses should be 3/4 or long sleeve. This means all sleeves should be at least below your elbow.

Did you know that there is no "Amen" at the end of the opening prayer said by anyone other than the chaplain. However at the end of the closing prayer we all say "Amen" in unison after the chaplain.

Did you know that skirts or dresses should fall below the knees when seated. If not a lap scarf is required.

Did you know that all white hose should be worn when regaled. No designer hoses and no knee hi.

Did you know that small white earrings are to be worn and no more than two pair. No rhinestones, silver or gold trim is allowed.

Did you know that your string of pearls shall not consist of more than one strand.

Did you know that when we are regaled NO Eastern Star jewelry is permitted to be worn.

Did you know that at last rites NO jewelry is permitted PERIOD.

Did you know no ankle bracelets are allowed.

# Copeland Grand Chamber Session Report

August 2, 2017

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” Matthew 5:16 KJV

To: Grand Worthy Matron Felecia J Ballard and Grand Worthy Patron Frank D. Bush:

Good Morning,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as grand guardian for Copeland Grand Chamber of Diamonds. It has truly been a blessing and an honor to work with our youth.

Copeland Grand Chamber of Diamonds has 6 chambers and 84 members on roll. We began the year with a conference call meeting for the guardians and associate guardian to bring us all on one accord. Our plans for this past year were to be united, and visible in our communities, and to allow God to order our steps.

On June 12, 2017, we celebrated our 2nd Statewide Copeland Day in Louisville, KY, hosted by Diamonds Chamber No 96. Our speaker for Copeland Day was Sister Gladys Miller, Past Worthy Matron of Phyllis Wheatley Chapter No. 39, where she taught etiquette class. It was very educational and informative for both the adults and youth.

Copeland Grand Chamber of Diamonds 48th Annual Grand Session was held Saturday, July 29, 2017 at the Galt House Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky. We had 54 registered, 7 first time attendees. We attended Dixie Bowling Lanes with the KOP. Our winners for the talent contest were as followed: first place Lyric diamond chamber 96, second place Lydell Nash, third place RiNya Bell. Our winners for the King and Queen Contest are as follow: first place Chamber No. 105, second place Chamber No. 126, and third place Chamber No. 96. We ended the evening with a joint dance at Prince Hall Grand Lodge with the KOP. This was truly an amazing time had by all.

I would like to Thank everyone for the love and support for Diamonds. Thank you to all the participated and volunteered to help make our 48<sup>th</sup> Grand Session a success. May God continue to bless and keep each of you.

Humbly submitted,

Tonya L Miller  
Grand Guardian

**122<sup>nd</sup> Annual Grand Communication  
Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter  
Order of Eastern Star of Kentucky Inc. PHA**



**2017 List Serve Committee Report**

**August 1, 2017**

There are currently 390 members in our List Serve contact group. The goal to collectively share information in a timely matter and keep our entire OES PHAmily informed is working very well.

If you would like to receive List serve emails please sign up today. If you have given me your email address and you are still not receiving emails, then something is wrong with the address I received. Please sign up again so you can be added.

The committee would like to remind everyone to send your information to your District Point of contact and she will forward it to me.

It is our pleasure to serve on the List Serve Committee. We look forward to sharing more news, special events and occasions with you.

Humbly Submitted,

Carla D. Thomas, List Serve Committee Chair

List Serve Committee Members and District Point of Contacts:

Central District, Sister LaTonia Watkins

Eastern District, Sister Alicia Spivey

Far Western District, Sister Ericka Emerson

South Central District, Sister Diana Kimball

Western District, Sister Angela Prude

# *Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter, O.E.S., Inc., P.H.A*

## Ritual Revision Committee Report

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

TO: Grand Worthy Matron Felecia J. Ballard, Grand Worthy Patron Frank D. Bush, Grand Associate Matron Brenda A. Murphy, Grand Associate Patron Donald E. Thompson, Sr., all Present and Past Grand Officers elected and appointed, Worthy Matrons, Worthy Patrons, all Past Worthy Matrons and Past Worthy Patrons and members of subordinate chapters.

Greetings:

A Special Committee was assigned by Grand Worthy Matron Felecia J. Ballard to develop a Ritual specifically for Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter members in Kentucky.

The Committee thoroughly reviewed all sections of the current rituals. Changes were made throughout the OES, Queen of the South, Amaranth and the Palm Sunday Ceremony program.

We tried to align the document, to the best of our ability, to the way we operate in Kentucky. This enormous task was completed and turned over to GWM Ballard. The assignment was not easy and we had different opinions but in the end we were all on one accord for the best interest of the Grand Chapter.

Grand Worthy Matron, thank you for the opportunity to serve on this committee.

### Committee Members:

Betty J. Bell, PGWM, Chairperson

Brenda A. Murphy, GAM

Donna N. Hawkins, PGWM

M. Denise Watts, GL

Felecia J. Ballard, GWM

Donald E. Thompson, Sr., GAP

Eleanor S. Kavanaugh, PGWM

Frank D. Bush, GWP

Carla D. Thomas, GAC

Robert Harrison, PGWP

**Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge  
Free and Accepted Masons of Kentucky, Inc.  
150<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Communication**

**Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter  
Order of Eastern Star of Kentucky, P.H.A**



## **Annual Report of the Star Gazer**

**Frank Bush, Grand Worthy Patron  
Star Gazer, Editor-in-Chief**

**Sister Aletha Fields, Zorah #20  
Star Gazer, Assistant Editor**

**Sister Alethea Bernard, Queen Vashti #37  
Star Gazer, Grand Publisher**

**Galt House Hotel  
140 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Louisville Kentucky 40202  
Tuesday, August 1, 2017**

To: Grand Worthy Matron Felecia Ballard

All elected and appointed Grand Officers, Past and Present and to All my sisters and brothers,

I bring you greetings from the Star Gazer of Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star of Kentucky Inc., Prince Hall Affiliated where Felecia J. Ballard serves as the Grand Worthy Matron.

As Star Gazer Editor-in-Chief, Assistant Editor, and Grand Publisher, our primary duty is to provide a stellar online communication newsletter to share activities of the Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star.

As aforementioned in previous communications, one major initiative of The Order aimed at improving communication within the jurisdiction, was “the resurrection of the Star Gazer, which is the official publication of the Eastern Star. The reactivation of the Star Gazer was made possible due to the technology available to us today. The delivery is now totally electronic, via email as well as posting each issue on the Prince Hall web page. The Star Gazer is published four times a year.”

The online version of the Star Gazer began in December 2015. Wherein, it was determined that the Star Gazer would be published quarterly – March, June, September, and December. Since 2015, we have published seven issues of the Star Gazer. The Star Gazer has incorporated communications reflective of Grand Elected and Appointed Officers and Deputy District Grand Matrons. Furthermore, 20 chapters submitted articles since December 2015. Star Gazer content has also included special sections such as special addresses from our Grand Worthy Matron Felecia J. Ballard and our Grand Worthy Patron Frank D. Bush, as well as articles from the Copeland Grand Chamber of Diamonds. Additional highlighted sections include “In Remembrance” and “New Members.”

The Star Gazer has reached all members within the Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star either via the List Serve, or as shared at Chapter meetings. In addition, the Star Gazer has been positively received, as reflected by multiple compliments and words of appreciation.

It is with great honor and pride, with humbled spirits, that we work diligently to distribute a quality newsletter. We respectfully encourage all Officers and Chapters to submit entries to the Star Gazer; Thus, maintaining an ongoing communication within our Order.

Humbly Submitted,

Sister Alethea Bernard, Queen Vashti #37

Star Gazer, Grand Publisher

**REPORT  
OF  
WATHETTA BUFORD  
GRAND HISTORIAN  
2017**

**IF YOU WANT TO UNDERSTAND TODAY, YOU HAVE TO  
SEARCH YESTERDAY.**

**PEARL BUCK**

To: Grand Worthy Matron Felecia Ballard, Grand Worthy Patron Frank Bush, Grand Associate Matron Brenda Murphy, Grand Associate Patron Donald Thompson, all past and present Grand Officers elected and appointed, all members of Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter and visitors.

Greetings,

He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:6 NIV. I greet you in the matchless name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Webster's Dictionary describes the word History as events of the past, a branch of knowledge that explains and records past events, an established record. I have attempted to do this during the month of February (Black History Month). Attached are the items that I sent out for each week of February.

This year Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter implemented the OES academy for new members and those who have been initiated within the last two years. This was such a great idea that some of the other members participated in the academy. A session was held during each district meeting and after all meetings were held a test was given. You were required to attend at least 3 sessions and notify your District Deputy Grand Matron if you were absent. I hope to obtain further information on the academy, number of attendees, etc.

My recommendation is that a History fact be done once a month and not just the month of February. I am attaching a form to my report to be filled out by all elected grand officers. My sincere thanks to Grand Worthy Matron Felecia Ballard for appointing me to this position.

Humbly submitted,

Wathetta Buford

Grand Historian

## **CECELIA DUNLAP GRAND CHAPTER BLACK HISTORY FACTS**

1. In 1894 in Danville, Kentucky, a resolution was passed resulting in the institution of the Grand Chapter in 1895 in Frankfort, Kentucky.
2. The first Chapters were called Courts, styled after the Amaranth degree. At the institution of the Grand Chapter there were 8 chapters or courts in Kentucky. They were: Deborah #1 – Lexington; Susannah #3 – Paducah; Naomi #3 – Mayfield; Queen Esther #4 – Paducah; Elizabeth #5 – Columbus; Bethsheba #6 – Clinton; Rebecca #7 – Henderson; Golden Star #8 – Louisville.
3. The first chapters instituted after 1895 were Celestine #9 – Danville and Hagar #10 – Earlington.
4. Sis. Fannie Shannon of Frankfort was the first officer who served from 1895 – 1900. Her title was Grand Royal Matron.
5. No Grand Patron was elected until 1901 when Brother D. C. Morton of Paducah was elected. He served until 1913.
6. Sis. Cecelia Dunlap, for whom our Grand Chapter was named, served as the third Grand Royal Matron. Her term was from 1901 – 1909.
7. The Grand Royal Matron title ended at the end of Cecelia Dunlap's term 1909. From then on the title Grand Worthy Matron was instituted.
8. GRM Dunlap recommended that consideration be given to becoming incorporated. Several references have been made that the Grand Chapter was incorporated at that time, but the oldest incorporation papers found are those of 1914.
9. In 1958, a meeting was called to establish districts for Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter. The seven districts were: Central, North Central, South Central, Northern, Mountain, Western and Far Western.
10. District Deputy Grand Matrons were named for all Districts. They were:
  - Central – Sis. Floretta Thompson, Fairest #4, Nicholasville
  - North Central – Sis. Nancy Dean, Golden #8, Louisville
  - South Central – Sis. Willa Ball, Celestine #9, Danville
  - Northern – Sis. Amanda Garrett, Nightingale #62, Ashland
  - Mountain – Sis. Ovetta Basey, Mt. Pride #88, Hazard
  - Western – Sis. Louise Bell, Progressive #63, Hopkinsville
  - Far Western – Sis. Mayme Copeland, Progressive #63, Hopkinsville

**Wathetta Buford**  
**Grand Historian**

## **CECELIA DUNLAP GRAND CHAPTER BLACK HISTORY FACTS**

About 100 years after the first lodge of Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons was established, Brother Thornton Jackson realizing that Mothers, Wives, Sisters and Daughters of free Masons should have the privilege of the Adoptive Rite, procured the degree himself from Brother Robert MaCoy, who was the Patron of the Supreme Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star and instituted Queen Esther #1 in the District of Columbia. This became the first chapter of the Order of Eastern Star among Colored people in America. Some years later (1895) Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter was instituted.

**Wathetta Buford**

**Grand Historian**

## **CECELIA DUNLAP GRAND CHAPTER BLACK HISTORY FACTS**

**Our Grand Chapter was named for Cecelia Dunlap, our third Grand Worthy Matron. Sister Dunlap was short in stature (about 5'2" or 5'3") and a full blooded Cherokee Indian. She married Simon Dunlap in the state of Georgia and moved to Kentucky in the 1800's. She was the mother of three children, James, Albert and Carrie. Her son James served several terms as Grand Worthy Patron. Sister Dunlap made the following observation during one of the Grand Sessions: "Our work here should be of such a character and so thoughtfully and well done that it will not only serve the present, but should serve as beacon lights up the rugged hill of progress for guidance for future generations. I hope we do not meet in the Annual Grand Sessions for mere pleasure alone, but as an opportunity for leaving foot prints on the Sands of Time." Sister Dunlap passed away in 1908.**

**This information was received from the works of previous Grand Historians.**

**Wathetta Buford**

**Grand Historian**

## Matron, Patron and District Deputy Projects



And the winners are...!

### ***Matron of the Year:***

3<sup>rd</sup> place winner is Sister Deyla Johnson of Evening Star Chapter No. 126

2<sup>nd</sup> place winner is Sister Defriece Williams of Rising Star Chapter No.102

And the Matron of the year is:

Sister Patricia Goulsby of Lily White Chapter No. 132

### ***Patron of the Year:***

3<sup>rd</sup> place winner is Brother Elijah Oliver, Sr. of Lily White No. 132

2<sup>nd</sup> place winner is Brother Charles Hawkins of Phyllis Wheatley No. 39

And the Matron of the year is:

Brother Leon Faulk of Rising Star No.102

### ***District Deputy Grand Matron of the Year:***

3<sup>rd</sup> place winner is Sister Darlene Croom – Central District

2<sup>nd</sup> place winner is Sister Carolyn Walker – Eastern District

And the District Deputy Matron of the Year is:

Sister Deny Gonzales – Far Western District

**Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter, OES of Kentucky, Inc. PHA**  
**P.O. Box 358**  
**Radcliff, KY 40159-0358**



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Date: August 12, 2017

To: All Subordinate Chapters Owning Allegiance to Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter,  
Order of Eastern Star of Kentucky, Inc. PHA

Re: Line Officers' Training

Greetings,

Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter cordially extends the invitation to you to participate in its upcoming  
Line Officers' Training.

The Line Officers' Training is scheduled for Saturday, November 4, 2017, at Parkland Masonic  
Temple located on 1304 South 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40211. Registration will begin at 9:00  
a.m. and Devotions will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m.

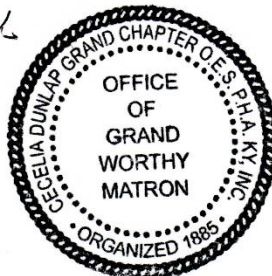
Registration fee is \$5.00 per member. This includes lunch. Please list all members who plan to  
participate on the attached form. Also include one check from your Chapter made payable to Cecelia  
Dunlap Grand Chapter. Please note the memo line: Line Officers' Training. Check payments are to  
be postmarked no later than Friday, October 21, 2017. Please send to:

M. Denise Watts, Grand Lecturer  
1260 Cobblestone Lane  
Clarksville, TN 37042-5890  
931.302.6639

Looking forward to seeing you at the Line Officers' Training!

Sincerely,

Felecia J. Ballard  
Grand Worthy Matron





## *Fifty and Sixty Year Honorees*

### **60 YEAR MEMBERS**

Mollie Bradley, PGWM  
Queen Vashti Chapter No. 37  
Georgetown, Kentucky

Naomi Deal  
Amaranth Chapter No. 46  
Owensboro, Kentucky

Eleanor Kavanaugh, PGWM  
Phyllis Wheatley Chapter No. 39  
Richmond, Kentucky

### **50 YEAR MEMBERS**

Jean Coleman  
Amaranth Chapter No. 46  
Owensboro, Kentucky

Anges Bartleson  
Celestine Chapter No. 9  
Danville, Kentucky

Iva Snodgrass  
Fairest Chapter No. 104  
Nicholasville, Kentucky



From Our DDGMS



I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.  
Philippians 4:13

GREETINGS!!!

First, I want to thank the Lord for bringing us through another year and I thank each chapter in the Eastern District for your continued support and your hard work. Thank you Grand Worthy Matron Ballard for allowing me to serve as District Deputy Grand Matron 2017/2018. We are looking forward to another great year working together and dwelling together in unity. Be good, be safe be blessed in His name.

Carolyn S. Walker, DDGM  
Eastern District



## From Our DDGMS

*To: Grand Worthy Matron, Felecia J. Ballard, Grand Worthy Patron, Bro. Donald Thompson, and All officers past and present, members of Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star*

*Greeting,*

*I would like to thank you Grand Worthy Matron, Felecia J. Ballard, for allowing me this opportunity to serve as Western District Deputy another year. It is a pleasure working with a leader with such understanding, motivation, and a willingness to teach. As the leader, your spark ignited the flame for each Deputy to be strong, have ambition, and be an effective leader.*

*The Western District is striving to do their best. I commend all of you for letting your light shine in everything you do and your support to me and each other's. In Colossian 3:13-14, it states "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity." As a district, we will continue to be a Bright and Shiny Star.*

*Thanks to all the chapters who worked so hard last year in the Western District. To the Matrons and Patrons, I know it can be challenging in a leadership role, but I want you to know that I appreciate the enormous work that you do. Thanks to everyone for all your hard work and dedication to me, your chapter, and to Cecelia Dunlap Grand Chapter. Job well done.*

*Yours in the faith,*

*Alitta Leachman,*

*District Deputy Grand Matron of the Western District*



## From Our Chapters

**Aurora No. 96** – Even in the dark, our light shines bright...

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### EVEN IN THE DARK OUR LIGHT SHINES BRIGHT

*Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life”. John 8:12*



Greetings to all!

Aurora Chapter No. 96 has been on the move again.

We would like to welcome our newly initiated siSTAR, Johnetta Anderson (in the center). Johnetta's own sister, Vivian Hawkins, who is a member of Utopia Chapter No. 76 and Grand Deputy in the state of Ohio, had the pleasure of being in attendance during her initiation.

During Grand Communications 2017, two of our members, Sis. Chandra Peyton and Sis. Deborah Peyton, participated in OES Academy. Congratulations, Sis. Chandra for graduating Valedictorian.





## From Our Chapters

We will be holding our annual Gospel Explosion on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. Please join us in this spirit-filled event. It will be held at Hughlett Temple AME Zion Church located at 2115 W. Jefferson Street, Louisville, KY. If you would like to be a patron or place an ad in our program, please contact any member of Aurora Chapter or the chairperson, Sis. Giselle Williams.

This is also that time of year where we especially reflect on our blessings. Continue to send prayers and strength to those in Texas.

Aurora family has also been visited by sickness and death. Please continue to pray for us. Your kind words of expression have been greatly appreciated.

Sending prayers and strength to everyone under the eyes of this publication.

Humbly submitted,

Sister Wanda Armour, PWM – Star Gazer reporter

Sister Yolanda Johnson, Worthy Matron  
Brother Michael Armour, Worthy Patron

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### Amaranth Chapter No. 46 and Mount Pisgah Lodge No. 20 – The Spirit of Giving...

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*On August 6th,  
The Owensboro Black Expo  
presented*

*Mount Pisgah Lodge #20  
and Amaranth Chapter #46*

*with The Spirit of Giving Award.*

*Accepting the award was  
Worthy Matron Renee Wright*



## *From Our Chapters*

### *District Deputy Grand Matron of the Year*



**Sister  
Deny Gonzalez**

### *Matron and Patron of the Year*



**Sister Patricia Goulsby  
Lily White #132**



**Brother Leon Faulk  
Rising Star #102**



# Submission Deadlines

## Star Gazer Submissions

Please send your articles to:

Frank D. Bush  
140 Strawberry Lane  
Frankfort KY. 40601  
Email:  
FRANKBUSHIII@NETSCAPE.NET

Phone: (502) 223-0691



If you have email, please send your articles in electronic format as a Microsoft Word (.doc) document or as a notepad (.txt) document. The Star Gazer will be published four times a year as follows:

<u>Publication Month</u>	<u>Submission Deadline</u>
December	November 10th

All issues will be available on the web at <http://www.phglky.com/>

PLEASE NOTE: Submissions received after deadline are published in the next publication. For example, submissions received after February 10<sup>th</sup> are published in the June publication, received after May 10<sup>th</sup> are published in the September publication, etc. **Submission Deadlines must be Hard Deadlines due to publishing technicalities.** Thank you for your understanding. – F.A.T.A.L, Sister Alethea Bernard, Grand Publisher