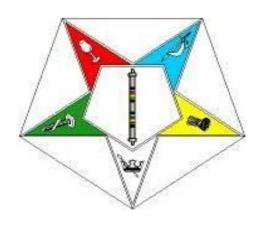
Myra Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliated State of Maryland and its Jurisdiction

Constituent Chapters Conductress and Associate Conductress Class

January - May 2018





The Honorable Emanuel J. Stanley, Most Worshipful Grand Master Sis. Lillie M. Jones, Grand Worthy Matron (11) Bro. Jeffery M. Jones, Grand Worthy Patron (85)

Sis. Carmen F. Kearney, Grand Conductress (20)
PGWM Mary T. James, Acting Grand Associate Conductress (84)

How To Get The Most Out Of This Class

SMILE BE POSITIVE KEEP AN OPEN MIND ASK QUESTIONS

1. Be respectful of all. Only one person should speak at a time. Please avoid private conversations.

- 2. Enter discussions enthusiastically; say what you are thinking tactfully and courteously.
- 3. Confine your discussion to the issue at hand.
- 4. Appreciate the other person's point of view. You may learn something valuable.
- 5. Give freely of your experience.
- 6. Be patient with others. They may have far less experience than you.
- 7. Write down questions as they occur, so you may ask them later.
- 8. Practice Communication/Cooperation/Coordination/Consistency.

THIS CLASS AND THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IS UP TO YOU ON HOW YOU USE IT.

Carmen F. Kearney

Carmen F. Kearney Grand Conductress

Mary T. James

PGWM Mary T. James

Acting Grand Associate Conductress

Course Objectives:

To examine the roles and responsibilities of the Conductress and Associate Conductress.

To increase the understanding of ritualistic work in the chapter meetings and degree work.

To assist the Conductress and Associate Conductress on their journey towards the East.

CLASS AGENDA:

JANUARY 2018

- Introductions & Ice Breaker
- Class Overview
- Proper OES Dress
- Duties: Conductress/Associate Conductress
- Questions & Answers
- Announcements

FEBRUARY 2018

- Review
- Chapter Room Set-up
- Identify officers, responsibilities and stations
- Lineup Opening with Flags
- Depositing and Lifting the Pass
- Attending the Altar

GAC - Opening

GC – Closing

- Questions & Answers
- Announcements

MARCH 2018

- Review
- Introductions:

District Staff

Grand Worthy Matron and staff

Addressing the East and Escorting officers to East

Biblical References for Degree Work/Star Points

DDGM, DDAM, DDGP

Grand Worthy Matron and Grand Worthy Patron

- Questions & Answers
- Announcements

APRIL 2018

- Review
- Balloting
- Winding of the Labyrinth

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Adah	Martha	_	
Ruth	Fsther	Flecta	

- Covenant of Adoption
- Questions & Answers
- Announcements

MAY 2018

- Review January thru April
- Duties OES Degree Dialogue W/Worthy Patron Signs and Passes Queen of the South Degree

Amaranth Degree – Grand Chapter

- Questions & Answers
- Wrap Up
- Announcements





Symbol of the South

The Order of the Eastern Star has placed in the South one of the most important officers of the Order, "The Conductress." All through the Initiatory Ceremonies she acts as the Guide, symbolic of the truth that Conscience can only point the way.

Symbol of the North

In the Order of the Eastern Star the North is very important. There is perhaps no other side of the Square that calls for such careful consideration. It is the sacred duty of every member of a Chapter to be very sure that they place officers on the Square who have the ability to rule and govern. The North is the place where the office must be considered before the person, as it is the first step upward.

The Associate Conductress and the Conductress are synonymous in their work; therefore, the Associate Conductress also teaches Conscience. In balloting she takes her place at the entrance to the ballot box, and in this position, she symbolizes "Conscience at the Door." Everyone who goes into the Heart of the Star to cast a ballot must first pass Conscience, and if each one sees and understands aright, the ballot is right, no matter what color it may be.



Conductress - Scroll and Baton

The conductress escorts a line of officers into the chapter room. Escorts Worthy Matron to the east. Lifts the pass, reports to the Associate Matron, receives and introduces visitors, closes the bible. (Attends at the Altar).

During the OES degree work, she places the bible(s) for the candidates under Esther's chair, answer alarms at the door, reports to the Worthy Patron. Admits candidates and introduces them. Conducts candidates through the labyrinth. The Conductress with her scroll and baton, teaches that there must be plans if there is to be success.

Associate Conductress – Baton



The Associate Conductress assists in setting up the chapter room (page 26 in ritual), invites the Worthy Matron and officers into the chapter, escorts a line of officers into the chapter room, assists the Conductress in escorting the Worthy Matron to the east, assists in lifting the pass, attends the altar (Opens the Bible), and conducts balloting under the direction of the Worthy Matron.

During degree work, she prepares candidates for initiation. The Associate Conductress with her baton, represents discipline. We must all move in harmony if we are to accomplish much.

Conductresses' Prayer



Lord, make me an Instrument of Thy Peace... Lord, help me to be an Industrious, Committed, Concerned and Creative leader; to represent myself and the members of this great organization in a positive way. Help me to do my job, to the best of my ability; and to be a role model for those around me.

Help me to know and understand that I cannot just want the accourrements of success; but that I and the Team selected must Work for them – very hard! Help me to remember to "Look before I Leap!" Remind me to THINK before I ACT, or SPEAK. Provide me with the Wisdom, Compassion and Knowledge to make the right decisions for the Good of the Order.

Guide me to learn from every Mistake made, as well as from Positive resulting actions. To remember that no man or woman is an Island; and that I CAN ACCOMPLISH NOTHING ALONE!

Lead me and Guide me every step of the way, remembering that Leadership means CONTINUOUS SERVICE.

Then finally Lord, help me to Demonstrate, in all ways, my appreciation for the efforts and contributions of the Elected and Appointed Official Team (as well as the General Membership) by My Support of the programs and activities endorsed by us all.

I ask these blessings in Your name. Amen!

OES Dress Code Reminder

Females

- White Dress, White Skirt (Below the knees/no extra-long splits/no short sleeves)
- White Undergarments
- White Hosiery
- White Shoes (with white heels) No Boots
- White Jewelry (Earrings should not hang on shoulder)
- White Gloves
- White Scarf or Handkerchief
- White Purse or Bag
- White Shawl
- No Sheer or see through material
- No Hair ornaments (barrettes, hair clips, hair bands)
- No See-through tops
- No Off-White material

Males

- Black Suit
- Black Tie
- White Shirt
- Black Shoes
- Black Socks
- White Gloves
- OES Apron (For WP/AP/PPs)

Take one last look in the mirror before leaving home just to make sure you are looking like a STAR!

Badges of Office

1) Worthy Matron Gavel within a Star

2) Worthy Patron Square and Compasses within a Star

3) Financial Secretary Crossed Pens within a Star

4) Trustee in the South (2yr) Key within a Star

5) Treasurer Crossed Keys within a Star

6) Associate Conductress Baton within a Star 7) Trustee in the North (3yr) Key within a Star

8) Conductress Scroll and Baton within a Star 9) Sentinel Crossed Swords within a Star

10) Associate Patron Rayed Star within a Star

11) Warder Dove within a Star

12) Associate Matron Refulgent Sup within a Star

12) Associate Matron Refulgent Sun within a Star 13) Electa Cup within a Triangle

14) Ruth
 15) Adah
 16) Martha
 Sheaf of Wheat within a Triangle
 Sword and Veil within a Triangle
 Broken Column within a Triangle

17) Esther Crown and Scepter United within a Triangle

18) Chaplain Open Bible within a Star 19) Christian Flag Bearer Christian Flag within a Star

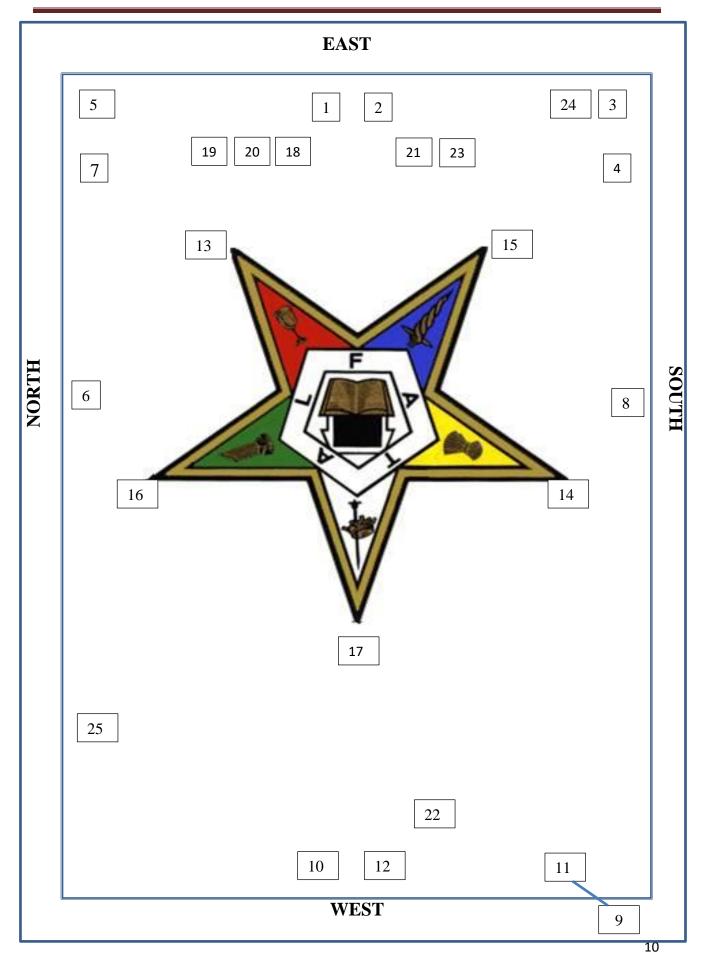
20) U.S. Flag Bearer US Flag within a Star

21) Marshal Crossed Batons within a Star

22) Chairman of the Trustees (1yr) Key within a Star

23) OES Flag Bearer OES Flag within a Star 24) Recording Secretary Crossed Pens within a Star

25) Musician Lyre within a Star



Depositing and Lifting the Pass

The Password is taken at every meeting from the **Sisters Only**. When the Worthy Matron directs the Associate Matron (to ascertain), she rises and gives directions to the Conductresses and remains standing during the work.

The Conductresses both advance to the East by way of the South and North. The Conductress deposits the pass and the grip to the Worthy Matron first then the Associate Conductress follows in like manner.

The Conductress collects the pass and the grip from the officers and members on the South and the Associate Conductress collects the pass and the grip from the officers and members on the North.

When the pass and the grip have been collected from all except the male membership, the Conductresses will meet behind the chair of Esther. If all are in possession of the pass, the Associate Conductress will report: "All on the North are in possession of the pass." If all are not in possession of the pass, the Associate Conductress will advise the Conductress of that. The Conductress will report the findings to the Associate Matron and the person in question (if any) will be escorted out and questioned.

Note: The Conductresses do not touch one another nor give each other the pass or grip.

Conductress (South)
Recording Secretary
Financial Secretary
OES Flag Bearer
Marshal
2 Year Trustee
Members on the South
Chairman of Trustees
Warder
Adah
Ruth
Associate Matron

Note: Depending on how your room is set up, the Warder may be on the North or South side of the room.

Opening the Bible

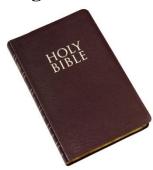




- 1. **Associate Conductress** enters the altar between Ruth and Esther
- 2. Moves the Bible towards the edge of the altar
- 3. Opens the Bible
- 4. Places the Bible in the center of the altar
- 5. **Salutes** and leaves the altar between Esther and Martha, returns to her station

Closing the Bible





- 1. Conductress enters the altar between Ruth and Esther, and Salutes
- 2. Moves the Bible toward the edge of the altar
- 3. Closes the Bible
- 4. Places the Bible in the center of the altar
- 5. Leaves the altar between Esther and Martha, returns to her station

(Done in Three Motions)

Bible References for Star Points

Adah The Daughter Judges 11:35

Ruth The Widow Ruth 2:5

Esther The Wife Esther 5:3

Martha The Sister John 11:26

Electa The Mother 2nd John 1:5

Bible References for Degree Work

O.E.S. Degree Matthew 2:2 (Winding the Labyrinth)

Queen of the South Degree 1 King 10:1-13

Amaranth Degree Matthew 27:24-29

Administrative Degree Judges 5th Chapter

Facts to Remember

It takes **25 Officers** to make up a Constituent Chapter:

- 12 Elected Officers
- 13 Appointed Officers



You must have at least <u>7 Officers</u> to open a Constituent Chapter for Meeting:

Worthy Matron

Associate Matron

Conductress

Secretary

Warder

1 Star Point

Chaplain

Any number <u>under 7 Officers present</u> – will result in Round Table Discussion

You must have at least <u>14 Officers</u> to perform Degree Work – And (1) must be the Worthy Patron/Past Patron

Setting Up the Chapter Room

A complete Constituent Chapter is comprised of 25 Officers, 12 elected and 13 appointed officers.

The Trustees are the custodians of the property regalia, investments and securities of the Chapter. The Trustees in most cases are responsible for setting up the Chapter room. It is however, a duty of the Conductresses to inspect the Chapter room and insure that it is properly set up and the membership is properly regaled.

East – Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron (seats left of the Worthy Matron)

West – Associate Matron and Associate Patron (seats left of the Associate Matron)

South – Conductress

North – Associate Conductress

Southeast – Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, 2 Year Trustee

Northeast – Treasurer, 3 Year Trustee

Southwest – Chairman of the Trustees (right of the Associate Matron)

At the foot of the dais in front and to the **Right** of the Worthy Matron are the:

Christian Flag, US Flag and Chaplain

At the foot of the dais in front and to the **Left** of the Worthy Patron are the:

OES Flag and the Marshal

The Five Star Points are placed around the Altar with Adah, Ruth on the South, Electa and Martha on the North and Esther directly in the middle facing the East.

The Musician, Warder and Sentinel will be stationed based on the room configuration.

Grand Officers

There are a few titles you should familiarize yourselves with and be prepared to introduce at any time:

Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland and Jurisdiction, Inc.

The Honorable Emanuel J. Stanley, Most Worshipful Grand Master

Right Worshipful Noel C. Osborne, Sr., Deputy Grand Master

Right Worshipful Kevin L. Barney, Senior Grand Warden

Right Worshipful William Davidson, III, Junior Grand Warden

Right Worshipful Reginald E. Jefferies, Grand Treasurer

Right Worshipful James L. Vaughan, Grand Secretary

*The Appointed Officers of the MWPHGL are also addressed as Right Worshipful (Name) and (Title)

Myra Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliated, Jurisdiction of Maryland, Elected Grand Chapter Officers:

Sister Lillie M. Jones, Grand Worthy Matron

Brother Jeffery M. Jones, Grand Worthy Patron

Sister Barbara J. Henderson, Grand Associate Matron

Brother Robert K. Perry, Grand Associate Patron

Sister Carmen Kearney, Grand Conductress

PGWM Mary T, James, Acting Grand Associate Conductress

Sister Adele E. Osborne, Grand Treasurer

Sister Juanita Brinkley Hall, Grand Secretary

Sister Robbie Skinner, Grand Financial Secretary

Sister, Jeanette Randall, Grand Assistant Secretary

Sister Cecilia Vandervall, Grand Chairman of Trustees

Sister Desirae Williams, Grand Trustee of the South

Sister Barbara Peace, Grand Trustee of the North

It is recommended that all members (especially the conductresses) purchase a Grand Chapter roster for the current year, to be up to date on the grand chapter's officers, meetings and the GWM's calendar of Events.

Introductions

Note: The presiding Officer or the individual with the gavel is always recognized first or addressed first. However, when the Grand Master or his representative is in attendance the protocol is altered.

- The Honorable Emanuel J. Stanley, Most Worshipful Grand Master
- Grand Worthy Matron Lillie M. Jones
- Grand Worthy Patron Jeffery M. Jones
- All Right Worshipful Sirs of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge
- All Present and Past Elected and Appointed Grand Officers of Myra Grand Chapter
- Worthy Matrons, Worthy Patrons, officers and members of Constituent Chapters
- Sisters and Brothers

It is important to remember that once protocol has been established by the highest ranking Grand Lodge officer or Grand Worthy Patron that you are to follow the Protocol.

Ways to Address the East

Standing before the altar or at your seat, wait to be recognized by the
presiding officer, face the east and say Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron,
(look over right shoulder if at the altar) to the West, say Associate
Matron, Associate Patron, officers and members of
Chapter No

Good Morning (etc.).

Escorting to the East

Who is escorted by way of the North:

- **❖** Worthy Matron
- **❖** Associate Matron
- ❖ District Deputy Grand Matron
- ❖ District Deputy Grand Associate Matron

Who is escorted by way of the South:

- **❖** Worthy Patron
- ❖ District Deputy Grand Patron

Who is escorted by way of the North through the Labyrinth:

- **❖** Grand Worthy Matron
- ❖ Past Grand Worthy Matrons

Who is escorted by way of the South through the Labyrinth:

- ❖ Grand Worthy Patron
- ❖ Past Grand Worthy Patrons
- ❖ Most Worshipful Grand Master
- ❖ Past Most Worshipful Grand Masters

Living Past Grand Worthy Matrons and Past Grand Worthy Patrons

Affectionately Known by GWM Lillie M. Jones and GWP Jeffery M. Jones Administration as: Emeralds and Helmsmen





PGWMs - Emeralds		PGWPs - Helmsmen
	1980-1981	Michael W. Marshall
Virginia B. Vauls	1981-1983	
	1985-1987	Fred L. Bennett
Frances W. Parker	1987-1989	Richard C. King
Josephine DeLeon ◆		
Norma L. Barkley◆		
Elizabeth K. Stevenson	1991-1993	
Evelyn Buford ◆		
	1993-1995	Ernest Hull
Dorothy V. Palmer	1995-1997	Ernest R. Thomas Sr.
Dorothy S. Camper◆		
Betty M. Goode	1997-1999	Richard V. Johnson
Mable L. Bratcher ♦		Warren Statesman ♦
Bettye T. McLeod	1999-2001	Thomas Phillips, Jr.
Elizabeth M. Naylor♦		Mexico Stephens ◆
F. Victoria Hutt-Scott ♦		
Mary T. James	2001-2003	Lee A. Taylor
Bonnie Burger ◆		Alphonso Burger ♦
		Warner G. Johnson ♦
	2003-2005	James W. Skinner, Jr.
		Gregory Purnell ◆
Joyce S. Venable	2005-2007	Kenneth S. Turner
	2007-2009	Michael E. Jones, Sr.
Shirley M. Price◆		
Juanita L. Clarke	2009-2011	Robert E. Williams
Gwendolyn Moore ◆		MWGM Melvin M. Thorpe ♦
Viola Millburn ♦		
Faye H. Williams	2011-2013	Herman I. Williams
Carol D. Simon	2013-2015	Kevin Cunningham
Bettye T. McLeod	2015-2017	Roscoe A Murray
Joycelyn Hill Johnson ♦	2016	
Altamesa Pankey◆	2017	

Balloting

Landmark No. 8 of our Order States that the Ballot for candidates for membership must be unanimous, and is to be kept inviolably secret.

Landmark No. 9 of our Order states it is the right of every chapter to be the judge of who shall be admitted to its membership and to select its own officers, but in no case, can the ceremonies of the Order can be conferred unless a Master Mason in good standing in the Masonic fraternity presides.

Note: In this Jurisdiction, the petition of a Master Mason is not balloted upon.

- All Candidates for membership are balloted on separately
- All members who are present and in good standing are entitled to one vote
- When ballot is in process, the ballot shall not be postponed or suspended
- No one is permitted to enter or exit while balloting is in progress
- White balls elect, black balls reject.
- If the WM finds one black ball, she may order a second ballot
- If two **black** balls are found the balloting is declared final and the petition is rejected

Balloting (Continued)

Associate Conductress Duties:

The Ballot box should be kept under the seat of the Associate Conductress and it should have sufficient black and white balls to accommodate the number of voters.

- Examines the ballot box
- Reports to the WM the status of the box
- Takes the box to the East by way of the West for the WM and WP to inspect the box
- Hands the box to the WP for him and the WM to inspect the box and to ballot
- Takes the box to the West for the AM and AP to ballot
- Takes the box to the Altar and places it on the Altar, (or on a chair next to the Altar, not on the Bible) for the membership to ballot or the AC can take the box around the room
- If balloting is done at the Altar, the AC remains (behind the seat of Ruth)
- Reports to the WM that all members have balloted
- Takes the box to the West for the AM and AP to inspect the box
- Takes the box to the East for WM and WP to inspect the box

Opening with Flags

1. The Marshal brings in:

Sentinel

Associate Patron

Worthy Patron

Associate Conductress

(Corners are Squared) the Marshal will then return to the entry point to prepare to escort the flags into the Chapter.

- 2. The Associate Conductress will be given orders by the Worthy Patron, in which she will go to the door and invite the rest of the members in: "By order of the Worthy Patron, I invite the Worthy Matron and the other officers to enter the chapter room."
- 3. Flags:

The flags will march in two (2) at a time go to back of Esther's chair, first face the East then turn back-to-back, momentarily and march to the end of the Matron Line. When all the flags are on line with each other, the Marshal will signal them to precede, thru the labyrinth, side-by-side (if space permits; if not, single file is acceptable) to their stations in the East. Upon reaching their stations, the Marshal will signal them to turn right, simultaneously, until facing the West.

Christian Flag – US Flag Esther Station OES Flag

4. Officers will enter in by twos:

North
Associate Conductress
Treasurer
Trustee (North)
Electa
Martha
South
Conductress
Rec. Secretary
Fin. Secretary
Trustee (South)
Adah

Martha Adah Esther Ruth

Warder Ch. Trustee

Chaplain

(The Chaplain will march in between Esther and Ruth to the Altar holding the Bible)

Worthy Matron

Associate Matron

- 5. The Worthy Patron instructs the Conductress and Assoc.
 Conductress to escort the WM to the East. The Conductresses will turn and march behind the line of officers but in front of their Stations, until opposite the Worthy Matron, thus forming a triangle. They will bow to the Worthy Matron, and she will return the same. They will turn facing the East the Conductress leading followed by the Associate Conductress and Worthy Matron. As the Worthy Matron passes them on her way to the East, both lines of officers will turn to face the East. After escorting the Worthy Matron to the East, the Conductresses bow to her and return to the head of their respective lines. The AM will assume her station, arriving there at the same time the Worthy Matron ascends the dais, and they will exchange bows to each other.
- 6. Worthy Patron hands the gavel; handle first to the Worthy Matron. After the Worthy Matron says, "The officers will resume their several stations and prepare for the active duties of the Chapter," the Conductresses turn in unison the Associate Conductress makes two left turns, the Conductress makes two right turns, leading their line of officers in front of their Stations, to the Matron Line. The Chaplain will place the Bible on the Altar and fall in line behind the Treasurer as the line passes the altar. The Star Points will assume their stations as they come to them, passing in back, half rounding their chair.

OES Degree

OES Degree – Associate Conductress' Duties:

- Retires and reports to the WP if there are any candidates in waiting
- Ask the candidates the necessary questions
- Prepares them for initiation
 - Makes sure they are properly dressed
 - Removes all jewelry
 - Have veil to cover the face
- Alarms the door when they are ready to enter
- Returns to her station unless there is more than one candidate
- If more than one candidate takes the last one by the right Arm

OES Degree – Conductress' Duties:

- Places the small white bible(s) under the seat of Esther
- Advises the WP that there is an alarm at the door
- Knocks before ascertaining the cause of the alarm
- Ascertains the cause of the alarm
- Asks the necessary questions of the Associate Conductress
- Reports back to the Worthy Patron the cause of the alarm
- Admits the candidate(s) and conducts her/them (**first candidate** held by the left arm) around the room ending in the West
- Conducts the candidate(s) to the Altar and places the small bible(s) in her/their hands
- Removes veil(s) and places on left shoulder after the Covenant of Adoption and returns bible(s)
- Conducts the candidate(s) around the Labyrinth
- Assists the Worthy Patron with the examination
- Conducts the candidate(s) to the Secretary's station

OES Degree and the Star Points

According the Landmarks of our Order only the **Daughter**, **Wife**, **Widow**, **Sister or Mother** of a Master Mason has the bloodline to become a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. This "Masonic" bloodline is represented in the Five Heroines that have been chosen to represent the Ideals and Principles of our Order.

First Point of the Emblematical Star is Adah

- .:. Relationship to the Master Mason: Daughter
- .:. Color: Blue
- .:. Emblem: Sword and Veil
- .:. Flower: Violet
- .:. Pass: Alas my daughter Pass can be found: Judges 11:35
- .:. Lesson: Obedience
- .:. Story is located: Book of Judges, Chapter 11:29-40 (Old Testament)
- .:. Beatitude-6: Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God

Second Point of the Emblematical Star is Ruth

- ... Relationship to the Master Mason: Widow
- .:. Color: Yellow .:. Emblem: Sheaf
- .:. Flower: Yellow Jasmine
- .:. Pass: Who is this Pass can be found: Chapter 2:5
- .:. Lesson: Unselfish love
- .:. Story is located: Book of Ruth Chapter 1-4 (Old Testament)
- .:. Beatitude-3: Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Third Point of the Emblematical Star is Esther

- .:. Relationship to the Master Mason: Wife
- .:. Color: White
- .:. Emblem: Crown and Scepter United
- .:. Flower: Lily
- .:. Pass: What wilt thou Pass can be found: Chapter 5:3
- .:. Lesson: Fidelity to principle
- .:. Story is located: Book of Esther (Old Testament)
- .:. Beatitude-7: Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God





OES Degree and the Star Points

Four Point of the Emblematical Star is Martha

- .:. Relationship to the Master Mason: Sister
- .:. Color: Green
- .:. Emblem: Broken Column
- .:. Flower: Fern or Pine Leaf
- .:. Pass: Believeth thou this Pass can be found: Chapter 11:26
- .:. Lesson: Faith in the living God and His promises to man
- .:. Story is located: St. John 11th Chapter (New Testament)
- .:. Beatitude-2: Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted

Five Point of the Emblematical Star is Electa the Elect Lady

- ... Relationship to the Master Mason: Mother
- .:. Color: Red
- .:. Emblem: Cup
- .:. Flower: Red Rose
- .:. Pass: Love one another Pass can be found: 2 John 1:5
- .:. Lesson: Christian Church
- ... Story is located: 2 John (New Testament)
- .:. Beatitude-8: Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- * The central points of the Star are made up of triangles
- * The five lines outside the Star represent the five senses: sight, taste, smell, hearing and touch.
- * The equilateral triangle is symbolic of God.
- * The sides of the equilateral triangle signify all knowing wisdom, all mighty power and all embracing love.
- * The significances of the triangle are Birth, Life and Death; Mind, Body and Soul; Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; Father, Mother and Child.
- * Adah and Electa are the only two star points not specifically named in the bible.



Winding the Labyrinth

Taken to the Point of Adah, then around the Point of Martha, we see that Adah an only daughter and Jesus, an only son, were offered as human sacrifices

Adah

Adah is the First of the Star Point Heroines. Adah represents the **Ideal Daughter** because her sense of duty and her devotion to her father so guided her actions that by her deeds, she exemplified the highest type of filial obedience. The ideals of the First Star Point are self-sacrifice, integrity and obedience. These ideal characteristics may be achieved by emulating the spirit and actions typified in the life of Adah. The clear blue of the cloudless skies is the color dedicated to the First Star Point. Blue, ever the symbol of fidelity, loyalty and intelligence represents both Adah's excellent use of her intellect in determining the right course of action and her unparalleled loyalty to her father. Adah represents the Spring of Year because her life is representative of the springtime or early womanhood of life itself. The story of Adah challenges us to carry throughout our lives, the innocence and sweetness of a young girl and to approach our life problems with the enthusiasm and willingness with which Adah approached the problems with which she was faced.

On to the Point of Ruth, and then around the Point of Electa indicates the love of both for friend and God

Ruth

Ruth is the Second Star Point Heroine. Ruth represents the **Ideal Widow** because she cherished the family, faith, and inheritance of her husband above her every personal ambition, her original native allegiance and her originally heathen religion. The ideals of Ruth are Loyalty and Friendship. If we would become the ideal friend to another of if we should like to be recipients of another's friendship, we must first be deserving. Only by being loyal to the furthering of the best interest of our fellow man and by being loyal to the tenets of our faith do we merit the giving or gaining of a friendship. Yellow represents constancy, exalted and richness and it is dedicated to Ruth. Ruth was certainly characterized by a radiant and strong personality and it is therefore that the color of the sun exalted in the heavens, is dedicated to her. Her position in the ancestral line of Chris is sufficient testimony to the richness of her own personal worth. Her faithful adherence to Naomi has become an endless tribute to her constancy.

On to the Point of Esther, and then around the Point of Adah again simulates willingness to give up life itself if need be to save honor.

Esther

Esther is the Third Star Point Heroine. Esther represents the **Ideal Wife** because she not only succeeded in fulfilling her duty to her husband but also maintained her high standards and performed her duty to God and her nation. Esther discovered that her exemplary conduct helped Ahasuerus to act in a fashion more in keeping with the higher, finer, inner man. Because of Esther's influence and example. Ahasuerus used his power and authority to save the whole Jewish race from extinction. The ideals of the third Star Point are purity and self-sacrifice. We may emulate these attributes by remaining faithful to our high standards and by conducting ourselves in every situation in such a fashion that we remain above reproach. The white billowy clouds and drifting snow is the color dedicated to Esther. It is appropriate to this Star Point heroine because Esther, feted and crowned, beautiful and wealthy, succeeded in remaining pure, upright and simple. Her life and actions were free from blemish and in every way, Esther was above reproach.

On to the Point of Martha, and then around the Point of Ruth, the ancestress of Jesus, in direct line and spanning 42 generations to bring us the Prince of the House of David showing again faith in immorality.

Martha

Martha is the Fourth Star Point Heroine. Martha represents the **Ideal Sister.** Martha assumed the responsibility for the care and comfort of her brother Lazarus and her sister Mary in their parentless home. Her devoted sisterly love for her brother contributed to the circumstances that led to the resurrection of Lazarus by Christ. The vibrant deep green color of the springtime foliage is dedicated to Martha. Green the symbol of renewed life and growth is the symbol of the new life which is eternal life and faith in the immortality of the soul. We can strive to achieve these ideals in our lives by so familiarizing ourselves with the Word of God and Life Teachings of Jesus Christ that our faith in eternal life may become as unshakeable as was the faith of Martha. Martha represents the winter season because she represents the knowledge that the winter of mortal life or death comes to all. It is then that Faith in Eternal Life is a force that will strengthen the individual so that he may face mortal death with calm and enter eternal living with peaceful heart and spirit.

Continuing to the Point of Electa, to hear the story of the Love of God, and all of mankind. Following this again around the Point of Esther, here we have Love and purity linked together which are the crowning glories to womanhood. However, the Master made no distinction between man and woman. What was pure for one was also pure for the other.

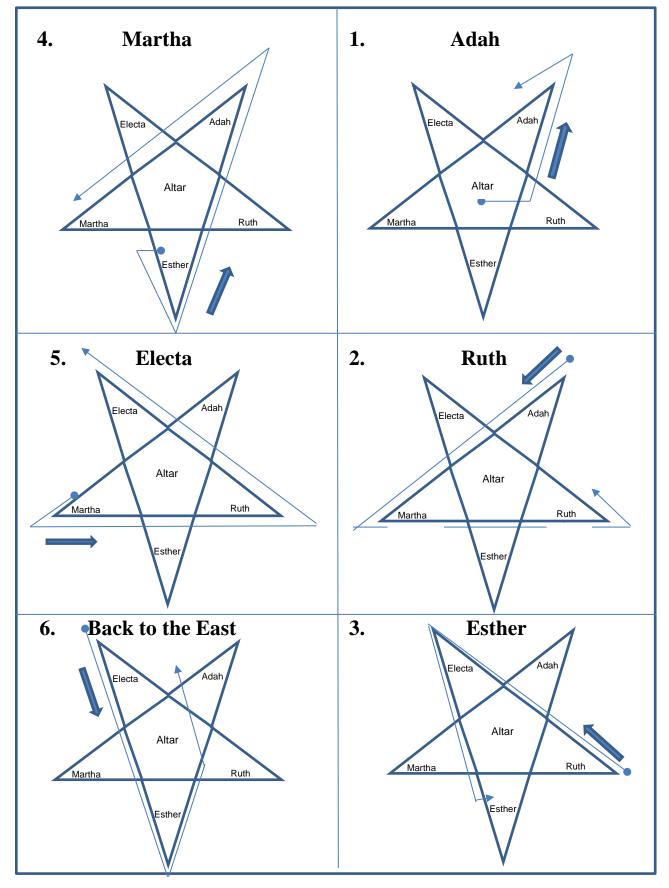
Electa

Electa is the Fifth Star Point Heroine. Electa represents the **Ideal Mother** because she sacrificed everything to establish a Christian heritage for her children and because she fully accepted the responsibility for the spiritual welfare of her children. The ideals of Electa are love and hospitality. These characteristics may be emulated by consistently acting with love toward one's fellow man and by loving Christ and God with all the mind and heart. The brilliant red is dedicated to Electa because it has ever been the color of fervency, hospitality and love. It was also selected because it has been a symbol of Christ's sacrifice on the cross for the sake of man and Electa was crucified on the cross for the sake of Christ. Electa represents the autumn of the year or the period of full maturity in the lifetime of an individual. A mature Christian woman has the capacity to reap a spiritual and intellectual harvest of great value.

"Our Labyrinth ends as does life itself before the altar of God"

And so, we have completed the Labyrinth March; joining the Points that seem to have something in common. We have shown the relationship between Adah and Martha, of Ruth and Electa, of Esther and Adah the message to Martha with the Point of Ruth and that of Electa with the Point of Esther.

EAST



Queen of the South Degree

Bible Reference: 1st Kings 10th Chapter 1-13

Conductress: Princess Oziel
Associate Conductress Princess Zorah

Queen of the South Degree – Conductress Duties

- Observes the room to ensure all are entitled to be present
- Advises the King who is waiting to receive the degree
- Retires with her escorts to get the Queen of the South
- Presents the Queen of the South to the King
- Speaks on behalf of the Queen of the South

Queen of the South Degree – Assoc. Conductress Duties

- Prepares the Queen of Sheba to enter the Place
- Speaks on behalf of the Queen of the South

Amaranth Degree

Bible Reference: 1st Matthew 27th Chapter 24-29

Currently in this Jurisdiction it is administered by the Grand Chapter. Only those persons who have previously received this degree can be in attendance.

Symbolism of the Eastern Star

Pentagon:

A geometrical figure having five sides and five angles; also representing man or the human body. The four rays or points are the limbs, and one ray or point, the head. The Altar in the Pentagon represents the heart of the individual.

Altar:

The Eastern Star the Altar is the symbolic heart and when prepared (Bible open) symbolizes the spirit of God in the human heart.

Bible:

The Bible has the most prominent place on the chapter room floor and when opened on the Altar, symbolizes the spirit of God in the human heart.

Five - Fold Cord:

The Five-Fold Cord is the symbolic interblending of the stations and thus encircles the Pentagon, or shape of the altar arc. A cord is used to symbolize strength. The strength of this cord is in the combination of the attributes of loyalty, constancy, kindness, faith and hospitality. The Five - Fold Cord used about our Grand Officers, emblems, etc., carries gold instead of colors. Each strand of the symbolic representation stands for sacrifice, diligence, courage, integrity and love.

Four Cardinal Points:

These points, being North, South, West and East are represented by the symbolic arrangement of the chapter room and the four major points of direction- Associate Conductress, Conductress, Associate Matron and Worthy Matron.

Symbolism of the Eastern Star

The Number Five:

- 1. There are five raps at the door.
- 2. There are five points to the star.
- 3. There are five emblematic colors.
- 4. There are five emblems and five symbols.
- 5. There are five letters in the cabalistic motto.
- 6. There are five words in the cabalistic motto.
- 7. There are five signs and five degrees.
- 8. Five triangles compose the Pentagon.
- 9. There are five divisions to the Eastern Star degree.
- 10. There are five degrees of relationship of women to the Master Mason.

<u>The Open Bible</u> – Symbol of Direction

The Light, the Word, the Way

<u>The Lily of the Valley</u> – Symbol of the Christ like Spirit

Associated with religion and chivalry

The Sun – Symbol of Light

The all-conquering force of nature, the ruler of day and the promoter of life and growth.

The Lamb – Symbol of Innocence and Humility

Meekness is a characteristic of all who profess to know the truth and light.

<u>The Lion</u> – Symbol of Strength and Power

A symbol of unyielding virtues, untrampled and untrammeled religious life and a willingness to suffer.

Symbolism of the Eastern Star

I. The Beatitudes

Biblical Reference (Fifth Chapter of Matthew)
Some of these Beatitudes have been associated with the five heroines.

ADAH (The Sixth, v. 8) Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

RUTH (The Third, v. 5) Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth.

ESTHER (The Seventh, v. 9) Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.

MARTHA (The Second, v. 4) Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted.

ELECTA (The Eighth, v. 11) Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my name sake.

II. THE FOUR SEASONS

ADAH – Spring - Symbolizing youth of life.

RUTH – Summer - Symbolizing abundance and growth of life.

ELECTA – Autumn - Symbolizing harvest or the period of full maturity of life.

MARTHA – Winter - Symbolizing the end of the year, or lifetime when one must rely on faith in eternal life

In this comparison, a whole year is used to represent the span of a lifetime.

The Inspiration of the Labyrinth

When a candidate has accepted the pledge, and is accepted into the order the Worthy Patron instructs the Conductress to conduct her through the labyrinth so that she, (the candidate), might receive instruction in the characteristics of the order. Due to her newness, a candidate might not grasp all of what is said, but it is important for us to understand how each point is connected.

Taken to the point of ADAH then around the point of MARTHA, we see that ADAH, an only daughter and Jesus an only son, were offered as human sacrifices.

On to the point of Ruth and then around the point of ELECTA, indicates the love of both friend and GOD.

On to the point of ESTHER, then around the point of ADAH again, simulates the willingness to give up life itself if need be to save honor.

On to the point of MARTHA, fourth point, then around the point of RUTH, the ancestress of JESUS, in direct line, and spanning 42 generations, to bring us the Prince of the House of David showing again faith in immortality.

Continuing to the point of ELECTA to hear the story of the love of GOD and all mankind. Following this again around the point of ESTHER, here we have love and purity linked together which are the crowning glory to womanhood. However, the Master made no distinction between man and woman. What was pure for one was also pure for the other.

And so, the labyrinth march was completed. In every instance there was some characteristic of one point to another point, a characteristic that bound one to another, and with the link and having the open Bible on the altar as the candidate was led by, it indicated the absolute reliance.

UNDERSTANDING OUR EASTERN STAR SYMBOLS

A symbol is a figure of something intellectual, moral, or spiritual; a visible object as a representative to the mind. More briefly, it is an object that on sight will bring something else to mind and if sincerely observed, will teach a lesson. Such are the symbols of our order.

Below are symbols of this great order to lessons which can be carried with us each day.

The SENTINEL with the CROSSED SWORDS represent protection and justice; that none enters the chapter room with unclean thoughts and that when we leave, all transactions are secret and shall forever be locked within.

The WARDER wears the DOVE of peace, a symbol of harmony. While we have opinions and can express them; let us not forget that others have the same privilege.

The ASSOCIATE CONDUCTRESS, with her BATON, represents discipline. We must all move in harmony if we mean to accomplish much. It is everlasting teamwork that has enabled the world to progress.

The CONDUCTRESS, with her SCROLL and BATON, teaches that there must be plans if there is to be success.

The MARSHAL, with her CROSSED BATONS, is the one who teaches us that he, who loves best, serves best.

The ORGANIST seldom realizes just the extent of her influence and its meaning, but a chord, a note, may awaken in a heart a burst of song, or a discord that produces sorrow and trouble.

The CHAPLAIN bears the emblem of an OPEN BIBLE, the Word of God, which teaches us that we cannot live by bread alone, but by the will of God.

The SECRETARY, with her CROSSED PENS, would indicate that two pens are used. One a pen of COMMENDATION, the other a pen of CONDEMNATION, representing that our deeds may be recorded as being either good or bad.

The TREASURER with her KEYS, emblems of security, needed to conserve the funds necessary to conduct the business of the order.

The three officers, WORTHY MATRON, WORTHY PATRON and ASSOCIATE MATRON make up a trinity which combines WISDOM, STRENGTH, and LOVE. The ASSOCIATE PATRON adds strength to all.