

# JESSAMINE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

January 2012

## AHOY, MATEYS!

### From the East:

AHOY! We getting ready to pipe aboard the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron for their Official Visit and we want YOU to be there with us! We are expecting Grand Officers and visitors from all over the state, so you'll surely see a lot of old friends and can make new ones too. All the officers are working hard on their ritual work and we are determined to shine! You probably know that everyone does their best work for an audience, so come out and make our special day a success with your support. We have decided on a potluck luncheon rather than catering for the Official Visit meal. The Chapter will provide the meat – sliced ham and turkey breast – and several of the officers have already signed up to bring some side dishes. As we are expecting between 80 and 90 people, we need more than a few more dishes. Please bring what you can.

While we are working on our preparations for the Official Visit, we have also been trying to actively support our community. The projects we are supporting this year include:

- **Belen Food Panty:** We are continuing to request members to bring food stuff donations to our meetings for the Belen Food Panty. The staff has told us that this winter is a very hard one economically for Families and Seniors of Valencia County and the demand on the Panty has been great. Please bring any nonperishable food items to any chapter meeting and we will make sure that the Panty receives it immediately. They did say that donations of money allowed them to buy from the Road Runner Food Bank Reserve at great savings. If you wish to consider donating, please send your check to our Chapter Secretary, Karen, so we can register with Masonic Charities for matching funds.
- **Valencia County Animal Shelter:** Please help us care for the abandoned dogs and cats by remembering to bring dog food, cat food, old towels and blankets and Clorox to any of our meetings.
- **“Coupons for Service Families”:** We are also supporting the “Coupons for Service Families” committee, which is headed by Sister Pearl Dunigan. Please cut cents off coupons on the dotted lines and bring them to her at any chapter meeting. Be sure to check the dates – none older that 4months out of date!
- **“Soldiers Smiles” Care Packages:** Also, we're continuing to support “Soldiers Smiles” as we gather toiletries etc. for care packages for the troops. Bring them to any chapter meeting as well or you can contact Sister Kitt McKown for pick up. We have a list of needed items on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

As individuals and as a chapter, Jessamine has always supported our community and this year we really want to make a difference! So please come to chapter and help us make that difference. **Beth McKown, Worthy Matron**

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***What's Your Special Date? We know some names and some dates and need to know both for some!***

#### *Known January Birthdays:*

Jan 1 Teena and Boib Kaiser - Anniversary  
Jan 12 Linda Crow  
Jan 17 Larry McKown  
Jan 18 Iva Greiner  
Jan 27 Kitt McKown  
Jan 31 Bob Greiner  
Jan Patricia White  
Jan 24 Pete Issacs & Kathy Issacs – Anniversary

#### *Known February Birthdays:*

Feb 3 Karen and Tom Robertson – Anniversary  
Feb Joe Griffenberg  
Feb Betty Jones  
Feb Therold Cullumber  
Feb Lillie Gayle  
Feb Shirley Lindsey  
Feb Pete Issacs  
Feb Kathy Issacs  
Feb. 29 - Tina Kaiser  
Feb 21 Sue and George Forrest – Anniversary

To have your name and Birthdate included, please contact our Chapter Secretary, Karen at email: [ThmsRb2@aol.com](mailto:ThmsRb2@aol.com) or 505/864-7980 or at [Jessamine45@oesnm.org](mailto:Jessamine45@oesnm.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

**We are looking forward to seeing many members of Jessamine Chapter (and guests) at the meetings and special events. If you need information or a ride to Chapter, call WM Beth McKown (864-2347) or Sec. Karen Robertson (864-7980). If you are receiving this Newsletter hardcopy and would like it to be sent to your email address, please drop a line to Sec. Karen or to Kitt at [Kittmck@aol.com](mailto:Kittmck@aol.com) and we'll put your name on the email list. On the other hand, if you are receiving this by email and would rather have it mailed to you, then drop Karen or Kitt a line and we will put your name on the labels.**

**Upcoming events:**

**Feb 6** District Instructor's Visit District Instructor: Dorothy Lindberg, PM  
**Potluck 6:30 pm** Meeting 7:30 pm

**February 18 Official Visit of WGM Pam Mayne and WGP James Thomas**  
**Saturday** Noon Grand Officers' Reception and Luncheon > **Potluck by Jessamine Members**  
1:30 pm Initiation and Meeting (Initiate: Master of the Lodge, Jeffery Keeton)  
"On the Road Again" Refreshments following the meeting provided by the Past Matrons Club

**Feb 20** Patriot's Night and Honor Marshal  
Refreshments: Lori Crain and Linda Crow

**March 5** Honoring Robert Morris and Our Heritage Night  
Refreshments: Ruth Prater and Dorothy and Larry Lindberg

**Mar 17 "Shamrock Shindig" Corned Beef, Cabbage**  
**Saturday and Irish Potato Dinner Fund Raiser 4:30pm to 7pm**

**March 19** Honor Past Matrons and Past Patrons  
Potluck 6:30 pm Meeting 7:30 pm

\*\*\*\*\*

**Yearbooks** have been mailed out. We hope you have yours in hand and are enjoying using it. Since nobody's perfect, not even our proof readers, we have some up-dates and corrections for you to note: Bob Kaiser's correct email address is [raksr1@dishmail.net](mailto:raksr1@dishmail.net) and Ryan Puckett's correct email is [rpuckett@comcast.net](mailto:rpuckett@comcast.net) – note only one t in pucket and .net not .com) Velma Smith's address in Farmington has changed to **5200 Villa View Drive # 9-A, Farmington, NM 87402**. John Tipton recently died, but condolences can be sent to the house address or daughter Ruth's Cell phone **288-8767**. Patricia White's correct phone # is **505/814-8104**. Carol and Quent Hudson have been transferred to Portland, Oregon with his Intel job. We don't have a new address yet but we do have a new cell number: **(505) 504-1725**.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Past Matron's Club:** Belen Past Matron's Club meets on the second Wednesday of every other month, so **March 14<sup>th</sup>** will be our next meeting. Calls will go out to everyone about the plans for the day. We would love to have all Past Matrons join us. If you'd like to be included on the calling list, please tell Linda Crow (864-8913). Come and give us your news, your sisterly love-filled gossip or just your presence at our next meeting and enjoy some fellowship with your Eastern Star sisters.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Bethlehem Dames:** The Dames will be meeting at Emma Willbank's house on the first Friday of the month. Call her for directions at 864-8946. Any Masonic Widow is welcome to come for fun, fellowship, some crafts – or a just good time talking!

\*\*\*\*\*

**DUES ARE DUE!!** The 2012 Dues cards are available for just \$25 per member. Send to P O Box 111, Belen, NM 87002. The chapter needs our dues money in order to meet its operating expenses. Please remit to the Secretary as soon as possible. And when you send in your dues, tell us what you've been up to. Whenever our Secretary receives notes from our members, she reads them in Chapter, so please know that we all are happy to hear from our members near and far.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Sunshine Chairman** January thru March will be **Ruby Waggoner**. Please contact her with member concerns at **864-8785 or at her email [rubyjalin@aol.com](mailto:rubyjalin@aol.com)**. We do want to know if you are ill or in distress so please, please let us know! If you'd like a ride to Chapter meetings, please call Worthy Matron Beth (507-4197) or Worthy Patron Larry (688-9974) or Secretary Karen (864-7980). We have several Brothers who have volunteered to give rides to any one wishing a ride to Chapter. We'd all loved to see you in Chapter again! Please call.

\*\*\*\*\*

We extend our **deepest sympathy to the family of Brother John Tipton** who died Jan 2, 2012. Brother John was a Past Patron of Jessamine Chapter twice. In 1998-1999, he served with his wife Melva (who preceded him in death) and in 2005 - 2006 with Kimberly Wickens. He also served as Master of Bethlehem Lodge #56. His **MEMORIAL Service** was held at the Lodge Jan 28 (Sat) from 11 AM to 2 PM. If you were unable to attend, condolences can be sent to the home address: P O Box 246, Bosque, NM 87006 or daughter Ruth's Cell phone 288-8767.

We also send our **deepest sympathy to Sister Ruth Chesney**, whose brother Bill Huckabay recently died. Let us all keep both families in our prayers.

### **News from Our Members and maybe some Sickness and Distress**

- \* Heard that Kenton Berry fell and injured his elbow, hand and head and was taken to Urgent Care to be patched up with a few stitches in his hand and sent back home. He seems to be going along ok as does Alta Lee but both would love to chat on the phone.
- \* George Forrest has had his knee surgery and is enjoying the turnabout of having Sue wait on him now that she's spry from her surgeries.
- \* Terri Sue Vrabel has been visiting Mom Mary Boucher, who has had some ear and hearing problems recently, and of course, to see Kim and grandson Conner.
- \* Heard from George Culp who swears he isn't slowing down one bit but has had a few bumps and bruises in past couple of months.
- \* Billy and Betty Jones said "Thank you so very much for your love, prayer and support!" Billy's cancer and treatments remain a fact of life and are slowing them down.
- \* Keep Bob Ramsdell in your prayers – he has cancer treatments and /or surgery to face as well.
- \* Lillie Gayle has had another stroke. It's only been about a month since the last one so she's been put on a stricter diet in the hopes of settling her blood sugar down. Carl is doing well but has had Bronchitis all winter (probably from all those years of smoking, Lillie said). They would love to hear from any Sister or Brother with a minute or two to yak.
- \* Karen saw Katherine Hayes at church-- who says she's 91 years old?! Still enjoying life, she declares!
- \* The Holidays were a mixed bag for Jean and Earle George. They are mending slowly from falls around Thanksgiving and are both on walkers, but Jean says her therapy is working and she expects to be walking with only a cane soon. Thanksgiving Day saw them Great Grandparents – for the 6th time- as Grandson Seth Wilson's wife Marisa had a baby girl named Bayla Holly.
- \* Heard from Mary Lou and Jim Ottino who report that they continue to roll along with all the assorted aches and pains one can gather on Life's road, except the most recent twisting turn is that Mary Lou has been diagnosed with Glaucoma.
- \* Maurine Nelson is going right along – good days and some not so good, she says, but she was at chapter the other night! It was great to see her on the sidelines again.
- \* Karen talked to Hazel and Sammy Rocco and found out they're both 83 this year! Hazel has Glaucoma and it's slowing her down a bit and Sammy says he's doing better than she is but it sure is getting harder to move around. Otherwise they're hanging in there!

**When all is said and done, I think there aren't too many of us that will be running any foot races any time soon, but we all would love to hear from a Sister or a Brother! So folks, let's pick up the phones, note cards, post cards, or emails and Keep In Touch!**

**Please remember our Sisters and Brother with cards, calls and prayers. Your voice at the end of a telephone line is a God sent act of love to someone is ill or lonely.**

### **A lot of news and up-dates came in to us from members that sent Christmas cards:**

- \* Debi Caldwell reports she's busy as can be with kids, job and her dad who is suffering from Alzheimer's.
- \* Therold and Bonna Cullumber say hello to all – said they're hanging in and going along.
- \* Grace and Al Honeycutt are hanging in there too. Grace said it seems strange not to have a craft project going in her hands for a Grand Officer, and that they really miss being at Chapter.
- \* Mary Yantis and Helen Collins send their love to all. They miss being able to come down to our meetings, but traveling at night from Albuquerque has become too difficult for Mary who eyesight is nearly gone.
- \* George Tash sends greetings (especially to all the ladies) from Surprise, Arizona.
- \* Molly Cole sent a Christmas card filled with love for her Sisters and Brothers of Jessamine Chapter;
- \* As did Susan (Mountain) Myers – we all still miss Bea's music.
- \* Barbara Nicholson and daughter Charlotte Young also sent a Christmas card remembering the great times their family had in Belen with all of us in Masons, Star, DeMolay, and Rainbow!

Please share your news and how you're doing with us! We' love to hear from you! Newsletter Editors: Mary Carolyn at email: [mcpuckett@comcast.net](mailto:mcpuckett@comcast.net) or Kitt McKown at email: [Kittmck@aol.com](mailto:Kittmck@aol.com) or Secretary Karen at email: [ThmsRb2@aol.com](mailto:ThmsRb2@aol.com) or 505/864-7980 or at [Jessamine45@oesnm.org](mailto:Jessamine45@oesnm.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

**Masonic Notes:** Bethlehem Lodge is planning to hold Family Dinners every 3<sup>rd</sup> month starting Thursday, March 8th and monthly Breakfasts on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month starting April 21<sup>st</sup>. Stay tuned for more information. We encourage Jessamine Chapter members to come out and support of our Brothers in these fundraisers for the Lodge.