

Spotlight

FALL | 2020

A Publication of
The Ohio Eastern Star
Home Campus



*What a
Homecoming
it will be!*

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***Our Mission:** The campus of The Ohio Eastern Star Home is dedicated to leading the way into the future while providing the highest quality of services and enriching the lives of all we serve. Our innovation and adaptability support our environment for growth and promotes our commitment to being an industry leader.*

***Our Vision:** To create an atmosphere of companionship, empowerment and growth.*

EDITOR

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Find us on Facebook

For more information visit:

www.oeshome.org

It's Been Quite a Year!



So, COVID-19. It has certainly changed many lives — and those residing and working at the Home are no exception. So I would like to take this opportunity to say to each and every one of you, **THANK YOU!**

THANK YOU for the donations of food for our elders and staff!

THANK YOU for the donations of THOUSANDS of masks to keep us all safe and protected!

THANK YOU for your love and support — for it HAS been felt through your gifts and prayers!

But mostly, **THANK YOU** for helping us build the “neighborhoods” — for not only are they HOME for our elders, but they have also provided the VERY BEST shelter-in-place of ANY nursing home. Because of the private rooms, the building design and small neighborhood settings, we have been able as of this day, to keep COVID-19 out of our Neighborhoods!

And, it certainly goes without saying, if not for the dedication of our amazing staff members, the “champions of our campus” — we couldn’t have done it. *We are so proud of them all!*

So please know, that when we are on the other side of this pandemic, we WILL have a day when we can all come together again. We look forward to seeing everyone all together and OHHHH, what a Homecoming celebration it will be! Maybe there will even be fireworks! In the meantime, please stay safe, stay healthy and take care of each other.

From my heart and the hearts of our elders, THANK YOU!

Respectfully,

Michele Engelbach, CEO / The Ohio Eastern Star Home

It has been my pleasure...

to be part of the Board of Trustees of our Ohio Eastern Star Home for the past nine years, and chair for the past two. I have seen many changes at our Home during this time. We remodeled the Hamilton Assisted Living Suites, built a new therapy gym, remodeled the community room, and built the Health Care Neighborhoods. Can you imagine where we might have been without the Neighborhoods during Covid? I keep thanking our leadership for the foresight in the design and building of these to giving us the ability to be self-contained during these unprecedented times. It has been a difficult time for the elders as

they cannot visit with their loved ones. What an outstanding job the Life Enrichment team is doing to keep the elders engaged. I’m a little jealous of the games they’ve been playing and some of the food they’ve been able to try.

I know many of our members do not live close, but we should all take the opportunity to visit every chance we get when we can gather together safely again. The elders do enjoy our visits. Each Chapter can do something to brighten an elder’s day.

Joell Buchanan, Past Chairman
OESH Board of Trustees



Greetings...

Sisters and Brothers

While the year did not turn out quite like WGP Brother Chuck and I had planned, we have still had a wonderful year adding notes to our "Symphony of the Stars." We were so happy we were able to reopen the Chapters and see our Sisters and Brothers. Wearing masks, watching our distance, washing hands and virtual hugs are the norm right now until we can safely gather.



In March, COVID-19 shutdown all Eastern Star activities and closed the Masonic Lodges. This was disappointing. There were no Chapter inspections, no dinners, no visitations/receptions, and no talent competitions for

charity. Jennifer Maynard, Charity Co-chairman noted, "As the pandemic continued, as well as distancing and meeting restrictions, it was evident the Charities Extravaganza, in its usual format, would not be possible this year." It was decided a mail-in campaign would be conducted instead.

We are overjoyed by the response of our members. The Charitable Extravaganza raised \$9,350 and the Eastern Star Charities raised \$30,343. We are proud of our Charities Directors and grateful to our members who gave generously to these campaigns.

The OES Home Project, a Security System for the Elders, has almost met the goal of \$12,000. As of September, \$11,221 had been raised and more money is still coming in for that project.

A Zoom meeting was held in July with members of the Regenerative Medicine Committee, WGM Sister Margi, WGP Brother Chuck, and representatives from Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine. A check for \$40,000 was virtually presented to Dr. Atala and WFIRM. This was a great commitment for Regenerative Medicine and healthcare for the future!

PGP Brother Trevor Sproul and members of the Service Dog Committee presented a check to *Wags for Warriors* for \$25,000 with funds received from the 2020 projects.

A check for \$24,394.84 was presented to the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine in support of diabetes research at the Diabetes Institute. This was from your generous donations for "*D*" Dollars for Diabetes.

The generosity of our members is overwhelming. You have given of your time, talents, and have supported our charities through loving kindness. You make the Order of the Eastern Star what it is by practicing Charity and Service, engaging in social activities and fellowship, performing Ritual, Officer Excellence, great public relations, and promoting membership. Through all this, you demonstrate EXCELLENCE and live the Mission and Vision of the Order of the Eastern Star... and you continue to "Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord!"

The WGM and I are humbled to have served as the WGM & WGP of the Grand Chapter of Ohio. You the members make everything possible. Each of you is a note in the "Symphony of the Stars." Together we have made beautiful music and are in harmony!

Sisters and Brothers, May your light shine for all to see ~ May your cup be full of blessings as they are your notes in God's Symphony!

Margi Wheeler, PWGM

Chuck Merckle, PWGP

Welcome!

Carol Gramm Wise, WGM & William Murphy, WGP

We look forward to your leadership and direction in 2020 – 2021!



The 2020-2021 Grand Family.

Spotlight on Our Donors

Gifts noted were given to various funds including Operations, Memorials, Endowment, Campus Dog Park, and WGM/WGP Project
January 1 – August 31, 2020.

Grand Benefactor

(\$25,000 & Over)

Estate of Wroena Dusthimer

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(\$5,000 – \$9,999)

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(\$1,000 – \$4,999)

Estate of Mary Katherine Shrider

OES District 3

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Bryan Chapter #248

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Groveport Chapter #440

Guernsey Chapter #211

Harry & Donna Headley

Home City Chapter #258

Howard Laudermilk

Thanks for Giving

We have so much for which to be grateful. In addition to your monetary donations, thank you for your kindness and tangible expressions of care and concern. Your generous gifts enable us to be healthy, safe and as comfortable as possible during this most trying time. Additionally, your plentiful gifts and sweet treats have spurred us onward. You can imagine our life is much different – yet we all continue to be blessed by our supportive Eastern Star members, *and we are extremely grateful for you!*

James and Cheryl Maslowski

Jennifer Brady Wilson

Joan Wedge

Joell Buchanan

Knox Chapter #236

Knox County Foundation

Larry Groves

Larry Mayer

Maeanna Lindamood

Marilyn Elikofer

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 Elaine Pumphrey
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 Triune Chapter #344
 Venus Chapter #76
 Vickie Clouser
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 Wilkesville Chapter #207
 William Mahaney
 Windermere Chapter #388
 Woodbine Chapter #61
 Worthington Chapter #287
 Wroena Chapter #597

***This season is a perfect time
 to reflect on our blessings and
 seek out ways to make life better
 for those around us!***

Our Campus Dog Park is completed!

Enjoy a day at the park when we are able to have visitors inside our doors again. We invite our elders' families to bring their well-behaved, properly vaccinated dogs to visit.

TOGETHER we enhance LIVING at The Ohio Eastern Star Home!
 THANK YOU to all the Eastern Star members who have helped to make the Campus Dog Park a reality!



Cyndi Wyatt and Lu enjoy the dog park!



*Deb Deboard,
 Director of Nursing, with her dog, Koda*

The background of the entire page is a vibrant, festive collage. It features several large balloons in shades of blue, red, yellow, and green, each adorned with a large, colorful bow. Scattered throughout the scene are numerous small, multi-colored confetti pieces and streamers, creating a celebratory atmosphere. The overall color palette is bright and cheerful, with a mix of primary and secondary colors.

Homecoming 2021!

**You've heard us say,
"CHANGE IS GOOD,"
and this year
is no different.**

Embracing this change has been a challenge but we have found ways to be creative and engaged, all while keeping our top priorities... providing the best care, safety, and security for our elders and guests. We've kept a positive outlook and have been able to focus more on being together while being apart from so many.

We hope to celebrate a Homecoming in 2021 more than ever by welcoming you all back on campus! You will see new protocols in place but will witness firsthand the strong sense of community, care, and compassion.

Plans are being discussed for a day full of fun when we can safely gather together to see smiles on the faces of our elders, their family members, and all our friends that we have been missing for so long.

Imagine a day filled with:

- Fun and games such as corn hole, pie-eating contest, face painting and more
- Smiling, laughing and enjoying food together
- And concluding the day with a fireworks display!

Pencil in our Homecoming on your calendar during *National Nursing Home Week* in May of 2021. The date and details are still unsure because we must follow the guidelines put in place by Centers for Disease Control, The Ohio Department of Health and our local Health Department — and they are ever changing. We're hopeful we can get together, but as you know, it's day-by-day.

Please check our website **www.oeshome.org** for updates as they develop.

Giving is about **Making a Difference!**

Thank you for the many ways YOU enhance Elder Living at The Ohio Eastern Star Home!

Few aspects of life make us happier than our Elders. Several times each day, every day of the year, our 117 Elders are engaged with our Care Partners including Nurses, Life Enrichment, Environmental Services and Culinary Staff, each seeking to enhance one another's lives. As visits with Families have been greatly altered during 2020, the gifts you provide to us have even more significance.

Reclining massage chairs for the Neighborhoods, phone to Photo printers and indoor/outdoor games are examples of granted Wish List items that have greatly enhanced our Elders' lives. Additional opportunities are noted under the Wish List tab on our website **www.oeshome.org**. The Campus Dog Park and other amenities also make our lives much richer. WE THANK YOU, Eastern Star Partners. You make a difference!

At this very special time of year, please consider partnering with us again by including The Ohio Eastern Star Home in your YEAR END GIVING.

To make a donation complete the card below or contact Diane Henwood, Director of Development, 740-397-1706 ext 3035. Credit card gifts are accepted by phone or online at oeshome.org (Click on the Donate tab). Please make checks payable to: The Ohio Eastern Star Home.

It was a joy and a privilege to be a member of my friend's weekly posse of volunteer caregivers while she lived at The Ohio Eastern Star Home. She was able to complete her life with dignity, surrounded by love and encouragement. I am thankful for that and grateful to all of you who made it possible.

You are truly remarkable for your professionalism and your genuine compassion. Many thanks to you all.

With gratitude, Her Friend

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for being so kind, so caring, supportive and encouraging during the last year of my Mother's life. Your job is hard - VERY HARD - but each and every one of you that stepped into my Mom's room made a difference. You gave me valuable, precious time to spend treasured moments with her.

Whether it was crocheting, doing puzzles, telling jokes or just being there, I wouldn't have had those special times without you. I'll never be able to thank you enough but please know that your dedication truly touches and enriches the lives of your residents and their families and for that I'll be forever grateful.

Love to ALL, Her Daughter

Gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Enclosed is my gift of support: ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other \$_____

☐ The Ohio Eastern Star Home – OPERATIONS

☐ The Ohio Eastern Star Home – WISH LIST (general donation) OR specific item: _____

Please credit and receipt my contribution as follows: (please print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____



The Ohio Eastern Star Home
1451 Gambier Road
Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050
www.oeshome.org

Giving
thanks

TODAY, TOMORROW
and ALWAYS!

From our Home to yours:
Sending warm thoughts
and wishes for you
and your family.

Happy
Thanksgiving

We're **THANKFUL** for our Board of Trustees

The support and guidance we receive from our Board of Trustees is invaluable and we're thankful for all they do. We welcome our newest Trustee, Suzanne Griffin from District #12. We also welcome back re-elected Board members Becky Thatcher and Barbara Stuart.



Left to right:

Bob Vanderhorst;
David Merkle;
Larry Mayer;
Howard Laudermilk;
Michele Engelbach, CEO;
Joan Wedge;
Becky Thatcher;
Suzanne Griffin;
Ron Hardesty,
Board Chairman
(Not pictured,
Barbara Stuart)