



Ruth Chapter No. 8
 Order of the Eastern Star
 April 2017



Stated Meeting:
 Tuesday, April 11
 7:30p.m.

Dress:
 Colors

Honoring:
 Members of District
 25

Program:
 Holy Week and
 Easter
 Discussions on our
 plans for the year

Refreshments:
 Jeanette Johnson

Worthy Matron
 Jeanette Johnson
 986-8864

Worthy Patron
 Bob Hertless
 270-3833

Secretary
 Joyce Banton
 266-5834

Thank you so much for the honor of your trust in electing us to serve as your Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron for the ensuing year. It is humbling, and an honor to serve. We will do our best.

We look forward to this year with optimism. The past years have been hard on most chapters, Ruth included. Times have changed, but the heart of our beautiful order remains. Our goals and our focus remain. Charity, truth and loving kindness is our foundation. To support each other and those in need. And we ALL have ways to do this. We are individuals with our own gifts and talents. Together we are strong!

Our theme this year is "Soaring on the wings of eagles". The scripture is from Isaiah 40:31. "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint". Let us be strong and SOAR!

Our goals this year are a balance of work and fun and fellowship. Our work focus will be our membership and local cause chosen by the chapter. First: our membership continues to decline. As I mentioned earlier, most chapters are struggling. We as a chapter need to decide how important it is to stay together. And are we willing to work for it? Grand Chapter recognizes the chapters need help. The Membership Committee has been working hard the past several years to assist and guide chapters. Membership seminars have been given across the state with much success. We plan to join with Mizpah Chapter in hosting a seminar. This takes active participation from our members and we need to have commitments to attend. We need to work together to strengthen our ties. Second: we would like to choose a local charity or cause to work for. Let's discuss and find need and reach out a helping hand. We will discuss

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further in chapter with a follow-up in the next newsletter.

A quick note about our fun and fellowship. We both agree that fellowship is a key to our membership. Spending social time together. We will be planning some fun activities and hoping you will plan to join us. In years past, it was encouraging to have our members invite family and friends to join us in our trips and fellowship. It is also a great way to show non-members what a great organization we are. Stay



tuned for more details!

Simply put Sisters and Brothers, we want this year to be about you, the members of Ruth Chapter, our past, our present and our future! And we want to hear from you.

If you have suggestions, ideas, concerns or questions for our chapter, please let us know. We are here for you.

Looking forward to seeing or hearing from you!

Jeanette and Bob

A Note of Thanks!

Thank you to Sister Norma Jean Miller for her service to Ruth Chapter last year. Agreeing to serve as Worthy Matron for the first time is a huge decision, but agreeing to take on that task at 86 is no small task. She truly shows her love for Ruth Chapter and the Eastern Star. Thanks also go to Brother Richard Nochisaki for serving as her Worthy Patron, support, and guiding hand. They did a wonderful job!

Membership Milestones ~ Shining Stars

Congratulations go to the following members:

- Sister Lenora Mitchell celebrating 50 years on February 18 and
- Sister Norma Jean Miller celebrating 60 years on March 17

That's a lot of years of service! Thank you for your dedication!

April Birthdays

4-	Joyce Banton	25-	Patricia Bailey
5-	Elizabeth Shields	27-	Shirley Thrower
12-	Doris Cannon	28-	Helen Payne



Sickness and Distress

- Sister Jeanette Johnson, WM, has been sick with strep throat (and this is why your newsletter is a few days later than planned!)
- Sister Lenora Mitchell has been sick with bronchial issues



Please remember these and others in your prayers and with a card or call. Brighten someone's day!

Sister Dotty Williams is our chair of this committee this year. It is her first time serving in this capacity, so give her a hand and keep her informed of anyone that may need to be remembered. You may reach her at 405-1060. If you were at installation, the program had the wrong number. The above number is correct.

Grand Chapter

Installations are over and new chapter years have begun. That means Grand Chapter is right around the corner. Details are as follows:

Grand Chapter of Virginia

May 22-24, 2017

Doubletree by Hilton, Williamsburg

If you plan to attend, you may pre-register by May 1. The forms are located on Grand Chapters website, easternstar-virginia.org, and also available from your chapter secretary. Sister Lenora Mitchell is being nominated for Associate Grand Conductress. Let's have a good turnout to support her!

Grand Chapter is also making state directories available by pre-order again this year. Directories are \$16 each. Checks should be made payable to Grand Chapter and to our chapter secretary by our April meeting. Any questions, please contact Sister Joyce.

“And He will raise you up on eagles’ wings; Bear you on the breath of dawn;
Make you to shine like the sun; And hold you in the palm of His hand.”