



Grand Chapter of New Hampshire
Order of the Eastern Star

Mrs. Joan L. Smith, W.G.M.

16 Cliff Rd.

Nashua, NH 03062

Tel. (603) 888-0891 or e-mail nhwgm19.20@gmail.com



May 17, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We hope a pray that you and your family are staying healthy and safe during this most difficult and perilous pandemic. We know how trying this has been for many of our members, having so many meetings cancelled, and enduring many disappointments when events do not get to be completed as planned. Our Eastern Star way of life has been altered in a way that has never, ever happened before. We have been forced to stay at home, stay away from family and friends, and stay away from our Sisters and Brothers, whose *cheerful companionship and social enjoyment does definitely lighten our burdens*.

We write today to tell you that after much deliberation and careful consideration of our members health and welfare, our Suspension Committee, which includes the Worthy Grand Matron, Worthy Grand Patron, Associate Grand Matron, Associate Grand Patron, Jurisprudence, a Past Grand Matron (who was not present 5/16), a Past Grand Patron, and the Grand Secretary, met with the Chair of Finance on May 16th and a vote was taken to postpone our Grand Chapter to August of 2021. Many New England Grand Chapters as well as other jurisdictions (30+) have cancelled or postponed already with the knowledge of the General Grand Chapter. We must assure you, this decision was not easy, but was made taking in many factors and especially with the best interest of the health and safety of our membership in mind. This procedure is in accordance with our Grand Constitution.

Our current Dream Builders Grand Officers, and the 2019-2020 Committees will stay in place until Grand Chapter in August of 2021. Visitations that were missed during the 2019-20 year will be the only Visitations during the 2020-21 year. The Worthy Grand Matron will be contacting the chapters to reschedule those new dates. Fundraisers missed which were schedule for the Charities "Shriners Hospitals" and "Blessings in a Backpack" will be rescheduled in the 2020-2021 year. Information regarding the Grand Chapter budget, which is normally reviewed at Grand Chapter, will go out to the membership this summer.

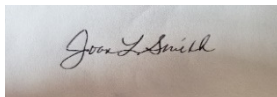
Through the summer the Committee will continue to meet, and we will keep you informed on necessary changes and plans as this COVID 19 crisis continues. Information on Subordinate Chapters, their Annual meetings, Installations, and reopening strategies, will be coming out in detail by July. In the meantime, Chapters are highly encouraged to have virtual Zoom or Gotomeeting call in meetings so that their Chapter membership can stay connected. It is essential that we stay in touch with

our membership with some sort of communication *'while we are absent, one from the other.'*

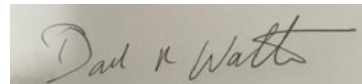
Finally, we thank the membership of NH Eastern Star for their continued support. Your thoughtful notes and caring responses to us as we have navigated these uncharted waters has been amazing, and we genuinely appreciate the kindness and cooperation that NH Eastern Star members are known for! If there is anything we can do for you or any suggestions that you might have we welcome your to contact us.

We leave you with this "To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream, not only plan, but also believe." Thank you for believing in Eastern Star as we continue our "Play -Dream -Build -Imagine" year.

Fraternally and Sincerely



Joan L. Smith
Worthy Grand Matron



David R. Walters
Worthy Grand Patron