

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

of the
STATE OF NEW YORK



157th SESSION

of the

GRAND CHAPTER

**Thursday, Friday, Saturday
October 15th, 16th, 17th 2026**

**DOUBLETREE by HILTON
HOTEL &
CONFERENCE CENTER
BINGHAMTON, NY**

Dear Delegate:

The 157th Session of the Grand Chapter will convene in the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel & Conference Center, Binghamton, NY on Thursday, Friday and Saturday October 15th, 16th, 17th, 2026. Evening Sessions will be held on Thursday October 15th and Saturday October 17th.

Article I of the Constitution states: Section 3 page 12

The Grand Chapter shall be composed of the Present and Past Elected and Appointed Grand Officers; the Present and Past Accredited Grand Representatives of Sister Grand Jurisdictions; the duly elected Matron, Patron, Associate Matron and Associate Patron of each subordinate Chartered Chapter, and any **registered** member in good standing present.

CREDENTIAL CARDS

Section 4, paragraph 4, page 13 of the Constitution provides:

Every member of the Grand Chapter shall be required to exhibit a Credential Card, authorized and provided by the Grand Chapter, also a Membership Card or a Receipt showing payment of dues or Life Membership Per Capita tax to November 30th of the year immediately preceding the year in which the Grand Chapter Session or Convention is held. In the event of loss of the required credentials, application for admission shall be filed with the Grand Matron or Grand Secretary for reference to the Grand Chapter.

Each delegate should be provided with a Credential Card properly attested under seal of the Grand Chapter. **ALL PRE-REGISTRATION CARDS WILL BE BLUE THIS YEAR.** These credential cards will be issued by the Credentials Committee upon the member signing the registration book. There will be no different colors to designate office or previous office. (This will save money in the printing of the cards)... **BRIGHT YELLOW Cards** will be issued by The Chair of the Credentials Committee to those members who register at the door regardless of their office or rank.

The Credential Cards will be created upon pre-registration and will be given to the committee for distribution. The Credential Committee will register only those holding dues cards properly signed and sealed except as noted above for those registering at the door. Credential cards are not transferable and will be needed should a ballot be taken.

As soon as possible AFTER ARRIVAL, GO TO THE Registry Room and sign in by District with the Credential Committee.

Credential Committee will be in session to register delegates:

Wednesday, October 14th..... from 1:00 P.M. to 5:00P.M.
Thursday, October 15th..... from 8:00 A.M. to 9:15 A.M.
Friday, October 16th.....from 8:00 A.M. to 9:15 A.M.
Saturday, October 17th from 8:00 A.M. to 9:15 A.M.

The Hospitality Committee will be available during all of the listed hours to welcome all distinguished dignitaries and out of state registrants.

Votes and Voters

Article I Section 3 page 12 of the Constitution reads:

The Grand Chapter shall be composed of the Present and Past Elected and Appointed Grand Officers; the Present and Past Accredited Grand Representatives of Sister Grand Jurisdictions; the duly elected Matron, Patron, Associate Matron and Associate Patron of each subordinate Chartered Chapter and any registered member in good standing present.

The Credential Committee will be registering the voters from their respective districts. **Unregistered attendees** will not be entitled to cast ballots for the Election of Grand Officers or to vote on any business which may come before the Grand Chapter, but may be admitted to Session by presenting a valid dues card.

Article I Section 10, page 20 of the Constitution reads:

Each member of the Grand Chapter, as provided in Section 3 shall be entitled to cast one vote at the Annual Sessions and Conventions of the Grand Chapter. If a Grand Officer or Permanent Member of Grand Chapter is also a present Matron, Patron, Associate Matron, or Associate Patron, she or he may elect to vote as a Grand Officer or Permanent Member or as a Matron, Patron, Associate Matron, or Associate Patron, but cannot vote as both.

Pay to Officers and Representatives.

Article I Section 12, page 21 of the Constitution reads:

Present Grand Officers elected and appointed, all Grand Session Committees appointed by the Grand Matron, one representative from each Chartered Chapter in good standing and all accredited Grand Representatives to other Grand Chapters near the Grand Chapter of New York for each year of appointment, shall receive from the Grand Chapter fund, mileage at a rate of twelve cents per mile from the zone in which the Chapter is located as determined by the Pay to Representative Committee for attending the Grand Chapter Session. In addition thereto there shall be paid to one accredited representative for each Chartered Chapter the sum of twelve dollars per diem for expenses incurred on the days that each representative is in actual attendance at the Grand Chapter Session.

NOTE: The chapter representative must be elected by the chapter and the proper form must be filed with the Grand Treasurer for the representative to receive the per diem check.

Non-Delegates

Article I Section 9, page 18 of the Constitution reads in part:

..... Seats shall be provided for other visiting members in a section allotted to non-delegates, provided space permits. A non-delegate shall be required to exhibit a Membership Card or a Receipt showing payment of dues of Life Membership Per Capita Tax to November 30th of the preceding year.

*** Seats will be provided in the back of the room for all attendees who do not choose to register. No packets will be provided for these individuals and these attendees will not be allowed to vote on any business that comes before the convention.

Due to the Constitutional Amendments adopted at the 141st Grand Chapter Session in October of 2010, there will be no additional Chapter votes based on the size of the Chapter. Each delegate will cast one single vote, including the delegate who has been selected to be the Chapter representative.

Your Grand Matron and Grand Patron acknowledge with sincere appreciation the courtesies extended to the members of the Official Family during the year and desire at this time to pay special tribute to all of those who so generously contributed to our 2026 projects.

Cordially and fraternally



Karen Marshall-King

**Karen Marshall-King
Grand Secretary**

**Betty Pietrangelo
Grand Matron**

**Michael Kessler
Grand Patron**