# 2024 ~ 2025 Committee Descriptions

#### **BAG OF BOOKS**

Assist with packing and distributing the Bag of Books pre-orders.

## BEES AND BINGO~TIME AND TALENT COMMITTEE

We continue our tradition of giving parties for the residents living in the Texas Masonic Retirement Center. True to the long-time name of this Committee, the members will use their Time and Talent to plan and present three parties during the year to be held in December, April and July. The Committee will seek assistance from members in their District planning for the parties including help with decorations, refreshments, programs, and gifts.

The committee will also reach out to their Chapter members to look for ways to do something special for members who live in local care facilities or have become confined to their homes. Remembering these members with a visit or party is a wonderful way to express our love for our Sisters and Brothers and continue the Legacy of our Order.

The Committee is also responsible for encouraging Chapters to participate in the TMRC Family Day to be held October 12, 2024. By reaching out to the Chapters to remind them of the event and the opportunity to reserve a booth to sell items as approved by the event Chairman, they will show support for Texas Masons and enjoy a day filled with fellowship and fun.

## BEE KEEPERS~ENDOWED MEMBERSHIP STAMPS

This committee will sell endowment stamps from the Grand Secretary's office. An endowed member helps their Chapter beyond their lifetime.

## BEE NEWS ~ IN THE KNOW BULLETIN

The committee will be promoting all members to purchase a subscription to the OES Bulletin online or printed.

#### **BEE SMART ~ RITUALISTIC RECOGNITION**

This committee assists at the schools by administering the requirements of Ritualistic Recognition.

## **BEE WISE ~ PROFICIENCY**

An ongoing study of our Ritual and Constitution and Code of Laws is important to aid the membership in developing an understanding of the beauty of our Ritualistic Work as well as a knowledge of our Rules and Regulations. This Committee will encourage Chapters and members to hold regular study classes. Not only do the classes help members become more proficient in their knowledge, but the classes also help prepare members for the Proficiency Examinations held at each School of Instruction.

The Committee Members will also assist the Grand Examiner in the Exam Room during the Schools of Instruction.

## **BUZZ AROUND TEXAS - WHO'S WHO**

This book has become a "must have" for the Eastern Star members of Texas. When needing to contact a member or send a letter, one can easily locate a member in the index. The member's address, phone number, email address, spouse and Chapters are included. This Committee will have the Who's Who Books on hand to make available to members in their District and Section.

## **BUZZIN' BEES - MUSIC COMMITTEE**

Nothing makes a meeting more enjoyable than good music during our ritualistic work and introductions. This Committee will be charged with promoting the music composed for the Worthy Grand Matron and the Worthy Grand Patron.

#### DRIVE WITH STYLE ~ OES LICENSE PLATE

This committee will encourage members to purchase personalized OES License Plates from the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

## FRIENDS FAR & WIDE ~ 4 STATE EXCHANGE

Texas participates in the 4-State Friendship Exchange Program. The states included in this program are Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. This Committee will work to promote attendance at the 4-State Exchange, which will be held in Arkansas as well as attendance at each of the four state's Grand Chapters.

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#### **GOLDEN STAR AWARD**

Each chapter will elect or award to one female or male the Golden Star Award. This award will be given in the Chapter annually and is by a vote of the Chapter. The award is similar to the Golden Trowel Award in Masonry.

### **GRAINS OF SAND ~ FRATERNAL TIES**

Members of the Committee will work toward promoting a strong relationship between the Masonic Lodges and the Eastern Star Chapters. Working together, our two fraternal orders have the opportunity to make a positive impact on their communities. This Committee should also encourage members of the Lodge and their families to consider membership in the Order of the Eastern Star. We are also asking that each member of this committee visit a Masonic Lodge and speak on the Blue Slipper program, the Order of the Eastern Star, and our benevolences.

## HONEY HELPERS ~ GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER PROJECTS

This Committee will assist Texas General Grand Chapter Committee members in promoting the project for their committee and selling the associated items. They will also assist General Grand Chapter Committee members in performing various tasks assigned to them.

#### HONORING OUR VETERANS

In times of war and peace, veterans and their families devote their lives to the service of our country and the ideals we hold dear. God bless and thank you to the men and women in uniform, past, present, and future.

## WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA -

Each December is National Wreaths Across America Day, the mission is to Remember and Honor our Veterans by participating in the wreath laying ceremonies at our local cemeteries in Texas, as well as at more than 2,100 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad. We are asking that each Chapter participate in this program to represent Texas and said chapter will be responsible for purchasing their own wreaths to lay in their local cemeteries.

## **TEXAS FOUNDATION FOR WOUNDED WARRIORS.**

This foundation raises awareness, and honors and empowers our United States Military Warriors who reside in Texas, enabling them to assimilate back to their return from combat. Our aim is to provide injured and wounded Veterans with funding to defray the basic costs of living incurred as a result of the short and long-term care of those injuries.

## **PATRIOT PAWS**

This committee continues the Grand Chapter of Texas support for Patriot Paws, a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to providing our Veterans with Service Dogs at no cost. In addition to the training and placing quality service dogs to disabled Veterans, Patriot PAWS continues to support the Veteran's service dog by providing quality dog food, veterinary care, grooming services, special equipment, dog walkers and ongoing training for the service dogs.

## **ROB MORRIS AUCTION AND CELEBRATION**

Members of this Committee will oversee the silent auctions held at each Eastern Star School of Instruction. The Committee is responsible for setting up, collecting money, and ensuring that all unsold items are taken home and delivered to the next School, where they will be included in its auction.

## SHARED HISTORY ~ HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

The Historical Highlights Book contains a summary of each year in the history of our Grand Chapter in Texas and is available to all members. Each year after Grand Chapter, the recent year's page is made available. Committee members should promote the Historical Highlights Book, in their District and Section.

#### SHARING OUR LEGACY ~ PEARLS OF OUR PAST

We all enjoy finding a bargain. This Committee will be responsible for seeking donations from the membership for gently used or new accessories, clothing, and jewelry. The items will be made available to members for donation at the Eastern Star Schools of Instruction.

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## **SKIPPING THROUGH TIME - SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH**

The fraternal organizations, the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls and Texas DeMolay-International, teach leadership and community service to youth. In today's world, these two organizations offer an environment where youth may develop strong moral values.

## **TRAVELING TEXAS - TRAVEL BOOK**

This Committee will encourage the membership to attend the Schools of Instruction offered in each District of the state. By sharing excitement about all that can be learned at the Schools and the opportunity to see old friends and make new ones, the Committee will assist in growing the attendance at our schools. This Committee will make the Travel Books available to the members in their District and Section.

## TRAVELING THROUGH TIME ~ CALENDAR COMMITTEE

The calendar has become a much-needed tool for Eastern Star members to plan which events during the year they wish to attend. The Grand Chapter Calendar includes Fraternal Visits, Schools of Instruction, Chapter Anniversaries, Round-Ups, and other important events. This Committee will offer the calendars to the members in their District and Section.

### TREASURED MAGNOLIAS

These are members who have served well and have worked for many years to preserve the continuity of our beautiful Order. We honor them for their years of service. They have our highest regard and ultimate respect and love.

## WAGONS FOR HEROES - ONE RIDE AT A TIME

The Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children treats complex orthopedic cases as well as certain related arthritic and neurological disorders. As you know, all children love red wagons! These cute red flyer wagons are used as wheelchairs for children who need mobility assistance. Our goal is to offer these children one ride at a time by purchasing these red wagons. We will also be contributing to a brace that will be used to correct Scoliosis, which is the most needed treatment for children at the Scottish Rite Hospital.

