## Grand Chapter of Georgia Order of the Eastern Star

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 21, 1901

From the Desk Of Tina Spier Worthy Grand Matron



Phone (404) 731-5637 154 Killian Hill Road Lilburn, GA 30047 Email tinaspier@gmail.com

June 9, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I hope and pray that this letter finds you and your family safe, healthy, well and enjoying the hot weather.

Normally, at this time of year we would be packing our vehicles and headed to Grand Chapter to enjoy socializing and seeing ones that we had not seem in a while, but we are far from having a normal year.

I am sure that most of you are aware that the Georgia Worshipful Grand Master has given permission to our masons to start reopening up the lodges under certain guidelines. I understand from conferring with some of our members that some lodges have not decided if or when they will reopen.

Please remember we are still under a public health state of emergency until July 12, 2020 unless the Governor extends it again. Now, with all these unprotected protesters no one knows what may happen.

I have conferred with the other grand line officers and members of the jurisprudence committee and we all agree that with the uncertainly of this virus and the health and safety of our members in mind we will remain closed at this time.

At the present time, my plans are to open on September 1, 2020, unless the virus remains a threat to the health and welfare of our members. I will reassess the situation and advise you of my decision closer to September.

When we do start opening our chapters, we will still have our temporary guidelines from our MWGM, the CDC and the Grand Master to follow. He has asked that there be no cooking or food preparation in the lodges and suggested that temperatures be taken on all those entering the building until October 28, 2020.

At this time, I am readjusting some of our guidelines as new information has been received and some good suggestions have been shared with me:

## **ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES**

- 1. <u>Meals before meeting</u>: If you choose to eat together before a meeting each person can bring their own stack dinner but remember to maintain Social Distancing (6) feet apart. This is something we will have to revisit as things get better. This guideline keeps us within the Grand Master's wishes.
- 2. <u>Use of thermometers</u>: It is recommended that infrared forehead thermometers be used for all of those entering the building (temperature of 100 or more should not be allowed to enter)
- 3. <u>Love Offering:</u> (**updated**) To protect the Conductress and Associate Conductress, the members would place their love offering on the secretary's desk as they enter the chapter room prior to the meeting and the Secretary could retrieve it while wearing gloves.

As we continue to try to keep everyone safe and updated, I ask that our Worthy Matrons and Secretaries please check with your members to be sure they are aware of our updated information and guidelines.

I will continue monitoring this situation and update you as changes need to be made. Stay safe, well and until we meet again, may each you keep the faith, hope, love and peace.

Blessings of Love

Tina Spier Worthy Grand Matron