

HARMONY GRAND CHAPTER  
ORDER OF EASTERN STAR

P.H.A. F. & A.M.  
Missouri Jurisdiction

*Barbara A. Lattimore*

*~Grand Worthy Matron~  
July 12, 2023*



Warren Jackson  
Grand Worthy Patron

R.W. Lamont P. Mitchell  
Most Worshipful Grand Master

*Annual Grand Session  
July 12-14, 2023  
Marriott St. Louis Airport  
10700 Pear Tree Lane  
St. Louis, MO 63134*



## **Grand Worthy Matron Annual Address**

**Theme:** It takes "Teamwork" to make the "Dreamwork"

**Song:** I Need You to Survive- Hezekiah Walker

**Scripture:** Romans 12: 3-5

**"For by grace given to me I say to every one of you. Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgement, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you, for just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others".**

**To:** Most Worshipful Grand Master, Lamont P. Mitchell, All Elected and Appointed Grand Lodge and Harmony Grand Chapter Officers, All Past Grand Masters, Past Grand Worthy Matrons and Past Grand Worthy Patrons, Worshipful Masters, Worthy Matrons, Sisters, Brothers and Guests

Greetings:

I want to first give thanks to God for guiding me and giving me the strength to stand before you today as your 51<sup>st</sup> Grand Worthy Matron of Harmony Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star. When I took the Oath of this office, I humbly accepted the responsibility and the obligation to lead Harmony Grand Chapter.

I would like to thank Harmony Grand Chapter's Board members for their commitment to this beautiful organization. I appreciate our Past Grand Worthy Matrons and Past Grand Worthy Patrons for their words of wisdom and support. Thank you to all my District Deputy Grand Worthy Matrons and Special District Deputy Grand Worthy Matrons. You were given the daily task of monitoring, providing guidance, instruction and ensuring Harmony Grand Chapter programs were followed in your Districts. I understand there may have been some challenges. You were also tasked to help keep our sisters focused on our mission of charity, benevolence, and sisterly love. I applaud you for your work and appreciate all that you did for the good of Harmony Grand Chapter.

A special **"Thanks"** is extended to all Committee Chairpersons and your committee members for coming together, sharing your ideas, and successfully fulfilling your tasks. With your help this past year we held our first statewide neighborhood cleanup day, first statewide initiation day, our first appreciation day for all OES Past Grand Worthy Matrons and Past Grand Worthy Patrons and our first Statewide OES Charity fundraiser. All these events were highly successful. The website for Harmony Grand Chapter is up and ready for you to visit. Please visit [harmonygrandchapter.org](http://harmonygrandchapter.org). Within

this website, you will be able to see what is going on in the Missouri Jurisdiction and with a password, you can download forms.

**Thank-You**, Sister Shawanna Mills and PM Joseph Campbell, for your untiring service and commitment. Harmony Grand Chapter also has a Facebook page. My appreciation and thanks are extended to Past Matron Dawn Bell for your time and energy in setting up and monitoring this page. Every request I made of my sisters or brothers was accomplished. You truly showed that **"We do not compete with one another, We complete one another."** I genuinely appreciate the hard work and the dedication of our Grand Lecturer, Sister Nina Fauntleroy, and the OES University Instructors. With the unity, commitment, dedication, and tireless efforts of Sis. Fauntleroy, the instructors, and the commitment of the new members I really do not know or really do not want to know where we would be right now. Thank you so much!

The elected grand line officers were given the charge to meet quarterly (via Zoom) with the elected line officers of every Chapter. Together we are more transparent and have bridged the gap within the Missouri Jurisdiction. I know in my heart we are standing stronger together.

My first year serving as your Grand Worthy Matron was challenging, but it was also enlightening and rewarding. I had the pleasure of visiting all Districts except for one. I would like to thank the sisters and brothers for your kindness and hospitality. I appreciate each of you for taking the time out of your busy schedules to support me. A special thanks for those who visited other Districts to support me. I was genuinely surprised at all my visits with my special guests. You know who you are, and I will never forget you and the sacrifices you made to travel. All of you left your families and used your own money just to travel with me. I am forever grateful to you.

To our Grand Worthy Patron Warren Jackson, your humbleness and kindness will always be in my heart. Everything I asked of you for this Grand body on both sides you did it with kindness, commitment, and no complaining. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you. I could not have had a better person, or a better brother working beside me.

I want to thank my husband, Napoleon Lattimore, and my other family members for their support during this time because I missed a lot of time away from home. They were all supportive, I appreciate them and love them with all my heart. Thank you, Most Worshipful Grand Master, Lamont P. Mitchell, Deputy Grand Master, Torres Beckley, Grand Senior Warden, Tony Fisher and Grand Junior Warden, Keith Jefferson for including Harmony Grand Chapter as we move this organization forward, together in unity, knowing "Teamwork" makes the "Dream" Work. Last but not least I acknowledge and recognize my darling, devoted, and loving mother, and the mother to many in this organization, our very own, my very own, Past Matron, Hattie Fleming. Never did you or I know what the Master's plan was. Thank you for dragging and pushing and encouraging me into becoming an Eastern Star. You are the vessel God used to make me who and what I am today. I know my head was hard sometimes, and you may think I

was not listening or paying attention. But I want you to know I was listening, and paying attention, and today I salute you, and I love you so much mom.

### STATE OF HARMONY GRAND CHAPTER

In the year 2021 the Grand East building was closed because of the coronavirus. Once the Harmony Grand Chapter section of the building was reopened for inspection, unfortunately we found that our paraphernalia had been watered damaged. I want to thank Past Matron Cherize McClendon for stepping up to the plate and cleaning the building. Thanks to Right Worshipful Tony Fisher and Right Worshipful Keith Jefferson for charge in the restoration of our building. To Past Matron Tiffany Greer McLemore, Lisa Reid, Worthy Matrons and Chapters of Districts 1 & 5 for donating the new Starpoint chairs and a Starpoint rug. Thank you to Past Master Karl Reid, Jr., and Junior Warden Demarcus Smith of Albert Holman #179 for refurbishing our furniture.

Shortly after my official visit to District 2, in January of this year, their building was severely damaged due to a fire. In putting out the fire, the building also suffered severe water damage. Damage was not only to the building, but to the contents including chapter and lodge paraphernalia. Consequently, they have not been able to meet in their building. As of now we do not have a date that they may resume meeting in their building, but they are working diligently to have repairs and remodeling done. I along with Harmony Grand Chapter officers have been supportive in all their efforts to keep things going. I would like to commend them for coming together and working together. I am so proud of them for all their hard work, dedication, commitment, and creativity. They are taking care of their business within their chapters, and to Harmony Grand Chapter. In the face of adversity and what some may consider a tragedy, District 2, is meeting the challenge head-on. Again, I reflect on "Teamwork" makes the "Dreamwork." Thank you District 2, and we will continue to support you and keep you in our prayers.

Due to the Coronavirus, our membership and organization has changed. Some members have lost interest in the Order, or they are afraid to come to in-person Chapter meetings. Some members find excuses not to support each other, their chapter, or this organization. But I am happy to report our membership has increased with eighty-five (85) new members. This is not just a number. These are our new Eastern Star sisters and brothers, and they are working and are excited to be a part of this great organization. Let us keep them excited and busy. (anyone initiated in 2022 or 2023, please stand and be recognized).

We welcome you to this historical opening. This is the first time the Grand Master has invited Harmony Grand Chapter to their opening day. Grand Master, Lamont Mitchell and I are presenting our annual addresses to all our sisters and brothers on this afternoon. I am happy to say it has been a pleasure and an honor working side by side with **OUR** Most Worshipful Grand Master, Lamont P. Mitchell, and the Grand Lodge Line Officers. We appreciate the Prince Hall Grand Lodge for including Harmony Grand Chapter to be a part of the endowment for Historical Black Colleges in Missouri. With

Harmony Grand Chapter participation, the following assistance was provided, first endowment Harris-Stowe College \$50,000; second-Lincoln University- \$25,000, third SEMO-amount to be determined. Harmony Grand Chapter Scholarship \$2,500, Flood Relief \$6,000 and Prince Hall Grand Lodge Scholarship \$4,000. Sisters and brothers, as you have just heard we need to get the information out to **All** our members why the Car give-a-way project is so important. The proceeds help our Historical Black Colleges in Missouri and our scholarship recipients. Harmony Grand Chapter and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge are working together to help conquer many obstacles that plague our communities.

### **OFFICIAL ACTIONS**

Disciplinary actions are never easy, but sometimes they are necessary. Unfortunately, I had to remove two (2) Sisters from their Chapter and place them in the holding Chapter for forty-five (45) days, for not showing sisterly love toward each other.

Two (2) Chapters financial books were seized and audited by Harmony Grand Chapter. One (1) Chapter was temporarily closed, and the members were placed in a holding Chapter for six (6) months. In May 2023, the chapter members were placed back and are working back in their Chapter. However, the Chapter is under supervision for one (1) year. One Chapter Pride of the West #112 was permanently closed.

### **IN CLOSING**

I could not end my address without recognizing and acknowledging our Prince Hall Grand Youth Department. All those who work in the Grand Youth Department I appreciate you and thank you for your hard work, dedication, commitment, and sacrifices. Most of you know Grand Master Mitchell and I worked together in this department for many years. He served as treasurer and Prince Hall Grand Lodge Youth director, and I served as the Grand Youth Supervisor for Harmony Grand Chapter. We know and we remember what it takes to work in the Grand Youth Department. Working together we make many accomplishments, and we continue to make strides in our Grand Youth Department. This year our youth went to Atlanta, GA for their annual session. Thank you to all of you who supported our youth.

Many of our youth from our Grand Youth Department graduate from college, find jobs in their area of study, and are doing very well, which makes us proud. And then there are some that return to give back to this organization. I requested every Worthy Matron to send me their stewardship report. All were excellent, and they all did a fantastic job, but one of them stood out to me, and I would like to commend her for a job well done. She was an active member of our youth department when she was growing up. She went on to graduate from college, she got a job, got married, and she decided she wanted to give back to this organization, and be a part of the adult Eastern Stars. She served as the Worthy Matron for Twinkling Star #89 for not one, not two, but three (3) years. And while serving as Worthy Matron, she continued to serve as the Area Youth Supervisor

for the Nellie Shoats/ Lucille Douglas Youth Council #8. When I visited District 2 for my official visit she presided as the Worthy Matron AND opened the chapter without reading from our Ritual. Did ya'll hear me, WITHOUT READING THE RITUA!!! Please stand and help me salute Sister Brittany Barker as the "Worthy Matron of The Year."

As I close in this moment and at this time, I want to say Thank-You, Thank-You, Thank-You. It does not seem to be enough to say Thank-You, but I want you to also know that I appreciate you. For everything you did or said to encourage and support me, thank you! For your prayers, I thank you! For your kind words, for making me smile, for making me laugh, for your hugs, for your financial support, for doing what I asked you to do, for the phone calls, the cards, the gifts, I say to you thank you! May God bless you and God keep you, may his light ever shine upon you, and I pray that God showers you with blessings beyond measure. I am looking forward to a new year with you, with new beginnings, continuing **OUR** "Teamwork" to make **OUR** "Dream" work.

God bless you my sisters and my brothers!

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Ann Lattimore".

Barbara Ann Lattimore  
Grand Worthy Matron  
Harmony Grand Chapter  
Order of Eastern Star  
Missouri Jurisdiction

## My Journey July 2022- July 2023

### July 2022

- 11- 15 130<sup>th</sup> Harmony Grand Chapter Grand Session  
Installed 51<sup>st</sup> Grand Worthy Matron  
24<sup>th</sup> Past Master Bennie Gordon Fraternal Rites

### August 2022

- 1<sup>st</sup> Eureka Grand Chapter Session, Springfield Illinois  
18<sup>th</sup> Official visit St, James #6  
27<sup>th</sup> HGC Board Turnover Mtg. Columbia, Mo  
28<sup>th</sup> Zoom Mtg- Grand Lodge Disaster Relief  
28<sup>th</sup> Lone Star Lodge #2 Annual Picnic

### September 2022

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln University Endowment presentation  
10<sup>th</sup> OES Statewide First Degree  
17<sup>th</sup> Official Visit District 6 Haiti, MO  
24<sup>th</sup> Associate Matrons Zoom MTG  
25<sup>th</sup> HGC Website zoom Mtg  
29<sup>th</sup> Terry Hall Fraternal Rites  
30<sup>th</sup> Lincoln University Homecoming, Jefferson City, MO

### October 2022

- 1<sup>st</sup> Allah Court #6 Ball, Kansas City  
8<sup>th</sup> OES Statewide Second Degree  
15<sup>th</sup> HGC Board Mtg. Columbia, MO  
Grand Youth Black Light Bingo, St. Louis  
16<sup>th</sup> Albert Holman #179 Banquet  
22<sup>nd</sup> OES Statewide Neighborhood Cleanup  
ER Bryson Banquet, St. Louis  
27<sup>th</sup> Official Visit District 7, Fort Leonard Wood , MO  
Green and White Ball, Kansas City, MO

### November 2022

- 5<sup>th</sup> OES Statewide Third Degree  
Vianna Chapter #57, Mtg, St. Louis  
9<sup>th</sup> Official visit Alma A. Clark #54  
11-12<sup>th</sup> HGC Retreat, Columbia, MO

**April 2023**

1<sup>st</sup> HGC OES Initiation Second Degree  
2<sup>nd</sup> Hattie B. Bradford #95 Anniversary  
8<sup>th</sup> Official Visit District 1 & 5  
16<sup>th</sup> Founder's Day District 1 & 5  
20<sup>th</sup> Official Visit St. James #6  
22<sup>nd</sup> HGC Public Relations Banquet

**May 2023**

17-20<sup>th</sup> 72<sup>nd</sup> Prince Hall Conference Grand Matrons and Patrons  
New Orleans  
21<sup>st</sup> Annie Malone Parade, St. Louis

**June 2023**

22-24<sup>th</sup> MWPHGL Youth session, Atlanta Georgia

**July 2023**

2<sup>nd</sup> Grand Master Appreciation Concert  
9<sup>th</sup> Grand Master and Grand Matron Grand Session  
Worship Service  
Check-in 131<sup>st</sup> Grand Session

**All Dates Not Listed, with God's Grace and Mercy, I made it. Thanks For all the invitations and Hospitality Missouri Jurisdiction showed me**