



The Iowa

FOE

DECEMBER 2023
VOL. 19 - ISSUE 5



Connection

Thoughts From an Old-Timer

Many years ago, the FOE called the time from Thanksgiving until Christmas - Home and Family month. A good reason to plan things for families to spend time with their brothers and sisters and it gave everyone a reason to include children with the hopes that as they grew up they would become the new leaders of our aeries and auxiliaries.

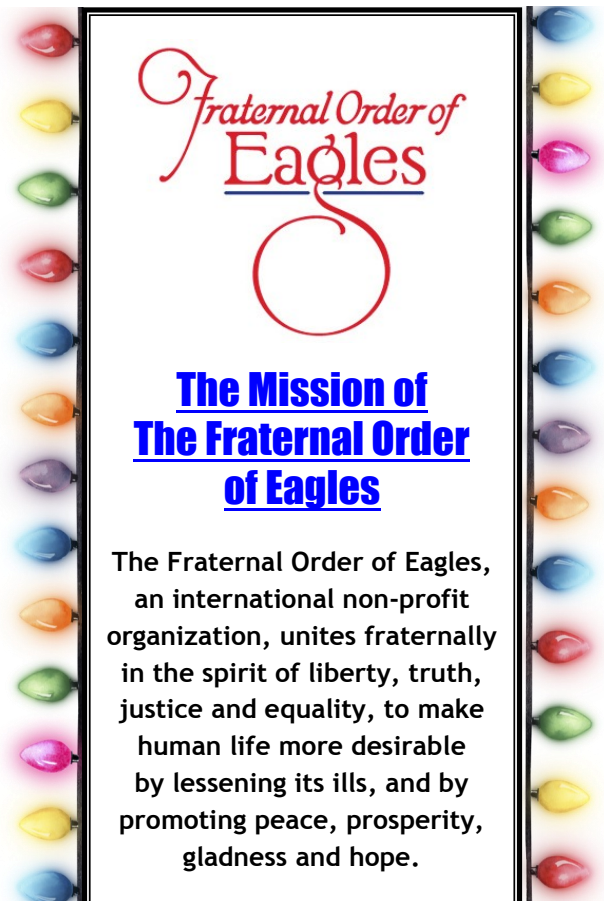
Looking into the history books, I came up with these tidbits of knowledge. What aeries and auxiliaries have had the most State Presidents since 1950? Sadly we have 9 aeries and/or auxiliaries who were home to a State President that are no longer active organizations. We have 5 current aeries/auxiliaries who have never had a State President.

It is very important that we work together to bring in new members, get them Initiated and get them involved. Please do your part, make the new members feel wanted and let them help. If they have ideas, give them the chance to try them. What didn't work before might work now. You will never know if you don't TRY!!!

Cedar Rapids aerie has been the home to 8 State Presidents, Ottumwa has been the home of 6 State Pres. and Davenport was the home of 5 State Pres. Ottumwa, Cedar Rapids, Tama-Toledo have all had 5 Madam State Pres. Davenport was also the home of 5 Madam State Presidents.

Don't be a stranger, stop in to your aerie and auxiliary and volunteer your time to help your aerie and auxiliary do what we do and continue to be an organization of People Helping People. If you don't do it, who will? Read your Constitution, it has all of the answers. Read your officer's handbook, it tells you what YOUR job is. Do YOUR job and let the others do theirs. Go out and talk to someone today and tell them about the BEST kept Secret in the World and see if you can get them to sign up and help us become not such a secret.

Happy Holidays to all! - *Fraternally, Dennis Verploegh*
- Iowa F.O.E - PSP - Secy./Treas.

Fraternal Order of
Eagles

The Mission of
The Fraternal Order
of Eagles

The Fraternal Order of Eagles, an international non-profit organization, unites fraternally in the spirit of liberty, truth, justice and equality, to make human life more desirable by lessening its ills, and by promoting peace, prosperity, gladness and hope.



State Worthy President's Notes



Hope everyone is fine. Travels continue after Intl Pool Tournament in Columbus, Neb. It was an amazing time, spent time with GA Worthy President Chuck Weber and family during the weekend. Second Star Children's Camp received 2 checks for a total of \$1008.00! 1 basket raffle from Neb. Had 18 teams, played 17 rounds 612 games. I also picked up another gnome named Spicy C, dressed in fall plaid pumpkin-like color and "C" for Columbus, so I won't forget where I got him. Lol.

Then back to Charity travels with Albia next on Friday before WZ Conference. Outstanding job done by all, food and auction and Yes, I took pie in the face for \$120.00! Vada took a graham cracker crust with whipped cream, apparently not enough whipped cream, ended up with cut nose and scratch on forehead. Remember all for the kids. Thanks for our room, hospitality, friendship, fraternalism. Big shout out to GA reps Ray Measel, & Annie Taylor. 2 checks, one from Aerie #150 for \$1,000 and then from the outstanding bartender from a month of Sunday Funday \$2,000 with auction, food, OUTSTANDING amount was raised for Second Star Children's Camp.

Our next travels took us SW Iowa Trifecta. Shenandoah on Friday, thank you for the food, auction totally amazing. Thank you for our room, & your brothers and sisters outstanding GENEROSITY for Second Star Children's Camp. Afterwards we drove back to Red Oak to the hotel, kind of nice to stay both nights. My wife and I did miss those famous glazed donuts in Shen. Next time. Lol. Relaxed most of day, running into sisters at lunch at the Buck Snort. Then a little shopping around the square, bought another gnome, staring at me from the 40% off area. Named CBRO - which means Charlie Brown of Red Oak / now the Guardian of the Gnomes. Thank you Sindie for helping name him, also Kim thought I needed another gnome, with him being named Graybeard, oh my. Also bought a towel with the saying "Ringmaster of the Shit Show" lol, Thanks to the officers and staff from Red Oak all dressing up as circus performers, nice touch. Very fun and entertaining during auction, while Aerie President a/k/a Bearded Lady made amazing funnel cakes. All was reminded to set the "fall back clocks" so nobody was late for Charity Breakfast next morning in Glenwood. I'd like to throw out huge shout to Glenwood, for breakfast, presidents and officers chats, hearing that they need a larger venue as they are growing out of old bar location ~ awesome news!

Long, safe, drive home afterwards, Thank the good Lord for keeping my vehicle running well. The last part of the current trip was back to Albia for PSP Darwin Thomas a/k/a BFD - benefit held Sat. And as usual Albia shines again, huge turnout great food, very large auction. Saw eagle brothers & sisters haven't seen for long time. It was a great time to visit with them. Off for home again after a very long enjoyable day. Deb and I did go see BFD beforehand. We had very nice conversations. Prayers to the little fellow. Please remember our other charities, as it's what is earned this year gives us our grant \$\$\$ for next year. And re-enroll those dropped members keeping their years of service. MEMBERSHIP IS OUR LIVELIHOOD *"Ask not what the Eagles can do for you, but what you can do for the Eagles"*

See you all down that Eagle trail ~ Thank You All ~ be safe ~ Merry Christmas and GOD BLESS.

~ Worthy State President ~ Kevin Kressley



State Madam President's Notes



Hello Brothers and Sisters,

This last month has been full of travels. It was very exciting to be at my home club for a state charity event and zone conference. I just want to thank everyone who helped to make it successful. The next weekend was some time off from traveling. I took the time to put on a dinner at the club for a local charity. Plus, it was an exciting time for me as I got to surprise Johnny with his daughter coming home to visit after 8 years. It was awesome to be able to spend some quality time with her at home.

Burlington was the next charity stop. Lots of fun was had by all. It was nice to see everyone and to raise lots of money for Second Star Children's Camp. I bought a very large chocolate cake in their auction, and it was nice to cut it up and give it away.

Western Iowa was the next stop. Shenandoah was our first stop. It was so nice to be able to visit with so many different people. Auction, food & goody bag were amazing to receive.

Red Oak's charity day found me extremely busy. I had a funeral that morning in Centerville for my best friend's mother. Then just 4 hours later I was at my nephew Trever's wedding. So glad I got to attend. Then it was the drive back to Red Oak where I arrived around 15 minutes before the introductions. The circus decorations were amazing as well as all the costumes worn by the different members. Then of course the ladies from Tama were looking for a job in our circus in their clown costumes. What a fun filled evening with old and new friends.

Off to Glenwood for breakfast. This was the first time for me to visit their club. Want an amazing group of eagles. Veterans Day found us back in Albia for a very special event, as it was a cancer benefit for my eagle Dad of the year Darwin Thomas. It was absolutely awesome to see all the eagle's members, family and friends come together for this amazing eagle, auctioneer and all-around great guy. I heard while in Albia from the men's membership chairman that he wants us to slow down on membership because we are possibly beating them right now. So, ladies keep those quality members coming into those auxiliaries so they can attend the Big Top celebration come June. Hope this finds that everyone had a fantastic Thanksgiving with family and friends.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Also wishing everyone safe travels and good health throughout this holiday season.

Hope to see you down the Eagle trail soon.

~ Madam State President ~ Lisa Zook ~ aka Ring Mistress

- AUXILIARY HISTORIAN REQUEST -

Please either email or mail them to:

Anyone having pictures from events this year:
MSP Lisa Zook would like to be able to put them
in her albums to capture her visits this year.

Vada Penfield
332 North D Street
Albia, IA 52531

AERIE MEMBERSHIP REPORT

AERIE	CITY	ROSTER a/o 11/15/23	GOAL	NEW	RE	YTD	# for Net GAIN
104	Council Bluffs	224	24	1	3	19	-24
109	Des Moines	375	36	5	0	21	-10
114	Ottumwa	117	12	0	2	8	-45
150	Burlington	481	48	5	2	39	-83
276	Oskaloosa	68	12	0	0	5	-4
568	Dubuque	124	12	2	1	10	-21
695	Iowa City	380	36	0	0	17	-42
764	Waterloo	218	24	0	0	17	-24
1287	Ft Madison	298	24	3	5	25	-13
1381	Le Mars	149	24	1	0	5	-24
1398	Creston	316	36	10	3	29	-19
1865	Hawarden	96	12	0	0	11	2
2272	Cedar Rapids	317	36	3	1	48	-63
2297	Sheldon	382	36	4	4	33	-31
2545	Grinnell	166	12	0	0	7	-11
2675	Centerville	149	12	3	0	12	-37
2715	Red Oak	99	12	0	0	4	-18
2774	Chariton	16	12	0	0	0	-2
2828	Tama-Toledo	264	24	2	3	22	-35
3369	Ft Dodge	52	12	1	0	21	20
3495	Osceola	97	12	1	0	3	-13
3583	Albia	48	12	0	0	1	-15
3784	Glenwood	308	36	0	0	40	-38
3849	Shenandoah	73	12	0	0	10	-22
3866	Maquoketa	157	24	0	0	2	-29
3876	Missouri Valley	132	12	2	0	14	-7
4074	Cedar Falls	158	12	0	0	22	-7
4114	Guttenberg	121	12	0	0	11	-1
4458	Asbury	187	12	0	0	5	-41
4466	Monticello	65	12	0	0	9	-5
4544	Independence	15	12	0	0	2	-3
~ ~ ~	NOV TOTAL	5652	~ ~ ~	43	24	472	-665

CONNECTION

Article Submissions

Deadline for articles
to be included in
the *Connection* is
the 15th of the month
prior to publication

Send to: Janel Miller

Email:

iowa.foe.bulletin@gmail.com

or soulburnz@gmail.com

Cell: 319-721-1129

To Contact the Aerie State Secretary

Randy Woods, PWP

2937 Avenue J

Council Bluffs, IA 51501

Email: rwoods17@cox.net

712-328-8612

Any PSP (men/women) who are
interested in being involved on the
Memorial Team at
State Convention, please contact:
Eva Knepp (319) 322-8932
or Dennis Verploegh (641) 670-1059
Thank you ~ *Dennis Verploegh*
Iowa PSP Secy. / Treas.



MINK CONFERENCE 25th ANNIVERSARY

APRIL 12 - 13 - 14, 2024

THEME: Lights - Camera - Action!

A Red Carpet affair to be had.

Come dressed as your favorite actor or actress.

Hosted by: Nebraska

PLEASE BOOK YOUR ROOM - ASAP!

Embassy Suites - Omaha NE

Booking dates: April 11 - 14, 2024

Booking link: Copy the link below into your

browser to book your room

<https://bit.ly/MINKlink2024>

~ Look for an email with more details in the next few days

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP REPORT

AERIE	CITY	ROSTER a/o 11/15/23	GOAL	NEW	RE	YTD	# for Net GAIN
104	Council Bluffs	156	24	0	1	8	-21
109	Des Moines	277	36	0	0	18	-21
114	Ottumwa	61	12	1	0	1	-12
150	Burlington	352	36	0	0	15	-45
276	Oskaloosa	47	12	1	0	4	-1
568	Dubuque	39	12	0	0	0	-3
695	Iowa City	179	24	0	0	9	-12
764	Waterloo	143	12	3	1	6	-18
1287	Ft Madison	207	24	7	1	36	2
1398	Creston	196	24	3	1	13	-10
1865	Hawarden	56	12	0	0	1	-4
2272	Cedar Rapids	212	24	2	0	20	-27
2297	Sheldon	129	12	1	0	7	-6
2545	Grinnell	119	12	1	0	3	-12
2715	Red Oak	124	12	0	0	4	-14
2774	Chariton	20	12	0	0	0	-2
2828	Tama-Toledo	185	24	1	1	4	-32
3495	Osceola	56	12	0	0	0	-4
3583	Albia	53	12	0	0	3	-9
3849	Shenandoah	40	12	0	0	6	-5
3866	Maquoketa	57	12	0	0	0	-12
3876	Missouri Valley	125	12	0	0	6	0
4074	Cedar Falls	38	12	0	0	0	-7
4114	Guttenberg	64	12	0	0	7	-4
4458	Asbury	90	12	0	0	11	-19
4466	Monticello	24	12	0	0	2	-5
~ ~ ~	NOV TOTAL	3049	~ ~ ~	20	5	184	-303

STATE AUXILIARY FUNdraiser

The Iowa State Auxiliary Cash Calendar is **ONLY \$20** per entry with the chance to win money **ALL YEAR LONG!** Money for entries can be mailed to: Bobbi Jo Reed at PO Box 387, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501 - with a check written to "Iowa State Eagles Aux". Your name gets entered on our CASH WHEEL and stays there until the end of the year - no matter how many times you win! Calendar chances for sale at various places throughout this Fraternal Year! There are still some Months of prizes to win! Total Winnings for this Fraternal Year = \$900.00. Enter now!

September 2023 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	October 2023 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	November 2023 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
December 2023 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	January 2024 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	February 2024 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
March 2024 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	April 2024 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	May 2024 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

QUARTERLY DRAWING \$25.00
HOLIDAY DRAWING \$20.00
MONEY MONTH DRAWING \$10.00

To Contact the Auxiliary State Secretary

Cindy Balsanek, PSP
 PO BOX 11127 - Cedar Rapids, IA 52410-1127
 Email: cmb1804@mchsi.com (319) 350-3966

Grand Madam President - Becky Wilson's Iowa Visit

Hi Sisters,

GMP Becky Wilson will be visiting the State of Iowa on **March 6th & 7th, 2024**. She will be in Tama-Toledo on **Wednesday, March 6th** and **All State Initiation** will be held on **Thursday, March 7th** in Albia. We hope you will join us and meet this great sister from the State of Missouri while she is in Iowa. Please mark your calendars and watch the State Bulletin for more information as we get closer to the dates.

It is customary each year that our State Madam President presents a monetary gift to the GMP during her visit from all of the Auxiliaries in the State Of Iowa. Please consider sending a contribution to GMP Becky's gift. Your check should be made out to the "Iowa State Auxiliary, F.O.E." and mailed to the Iowa State Auxiliary Secretary no later than **Feb. 20, 2024**.

Please mail your check to the following address: **P.O. Box 11127, Cedar Rapids, IA 52410-1127**. If you have any questions please email: cmb1804@mchsi.com or you can call my cell phone - **319-350-3966**.

- Cindy Balsanek, Iowa State Auxiliary Secretary

- CIRCUS - Calendar of Events

JANUARY - 2024

January 12 ~ Mid-Winter Conference
January 19 - Waterloo Breakfast/Dinner

FEBRUARY - 2024

February 15 ~ Sheldon
February 16 ~ Hawarden
February 17 - LeMars
February 24 ~ Iowa City

MARCH - 2024

March 2 ~ Oskaloosa
March 3 ~ Ottumwa

GMP Becky Wilson's Iowa Visits

March 6 ~ Red Oak

March 7 - Albia - All-State Initiation

March 8 ~ Mo Valley
March 9 ~ Council Bluffs
March 16 ~ Creston
March 22 ~ Waterloo
March 23-24 ~ Eastern Zone Conference

APRIL - 2024

April 5 ~ Cedar Rapids
April 6 - Tama-Toledo
April 12-14 ~ MINK Conference
Embassy Suites - Omaha

MAY - 2024

May 4 ~ Cash Bash ~ Creston

JUNE - 2024

June 12-16 ~ Iowa State Convention

JULY - 2024

August 4-9 ~ International Convention
New Orleans

Notes from: REENROLLMENT

Hello Sisters!!!

I hope that this bulletin has found you well and that you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving! It is so crazy to think how fast this year has flown by - how can it possibly be December already with Christmas just around the corner? WILD! Speaking of wild, the wild animals of the reenrollment bunch - Lion (Denise George), Tiger (Rhonda Lanphier), and Bear (Cindy Brinson) - and I are really excited to let you know that you gals are seriously rocking it out this year! As you may know, SMP Lisa's goal was 150 reenrolled members we are getting close to HALF-WAY THERE!!! That is incredible, just coming into December as we still have quite a bit of time left to keep bringing former Auxiliary members back into our Eagles Sisterhood!

I wish the Merriest of Christmases and Happiest of Holidays to you and yours! May God Bless you all during this Magical Season!

Fraternally, *Bobbi Jo Reed a.k.a. Whippy*
~ Reenrollment Chairman



MESSAGE FROM YOUR: STATE CHARITY CHAIRMEN

It is **MERRY CHRISTMAS** and **Happy New Year** month and we are so ecstatic and joyful... as Second Star Children's Camp has had so much generosity from everyone so far for this fraternal year.

The weather outside has turned quite chilly so if you're looking for any state charity merchandise, (stocking hats, sweatshirts, t-shirts, ball caps and much more...) we are the ones to talk to, please let me know and I can have it sent to you - give me (Lisa Miller) a call or text 563-542-2915. We have the ability to take credit cards and want to make this a smooth and easy process.

The circus calendar is getting very full, if you have any other charity circus events you are planning, call us and we can come to help at the event.

Dreaming of the CIRCUS:

Dreaming of a circus symbolizes your desire for excitement and adventure.
It may also represent your need to escape from the monotony of your daily routine. Alternatively, it may indicate that you are feeling like a clown or that you are not being taken seriously.



MID-WINTER CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Here is the information for room reservations for the Mid-Winter Conference January 12th & 13th, 2024

at the Holiday Inn -

Merle Hay Rd in Des Moines. Breakfast is not included in these prices.

Here are the instructions for reservations:

Group Name: **Eagles Winter Board Meeting**

Group Code: **BRD**

Reservations Deadline: **December 27, 2023**

RATES: • *Std 2-Queen or King Executive \$89.00 - plus 12% tax per night*

• *Jr King or Extended Suites \$109 - plus 12% tax per night*

• *Family King Suites \$129.00 - plus 12% tax per night*

• *Family Double Queen Suites \$149.00 - plus 12% tax per night*

To Reserve: Call us at: **515-278-4755**

FRIDAY NIGHT HOSPITALITY - MINNESOTA ROOM - 4:00 pm to 11:00 pm - Bring your food, munchies and BYOB !!

AUCTION STARTS AT 7:00 pm - AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED FRIDAY NIGHT

Bring an Auction Item to help the State Aerie Raise Funds for Grand Madam Trustee - Kim Haidsiak

SATURDAY MEETINGS: STATE AUXILIARY - MINNESOTA ROOM - 9:00 am STATE AERIE - SALON A - 10:00 am

SATURDAY AFTERNOON JOINT MEETING: SALON A - 1:00 pm

Any questions, contact Mike Gilson @ 319-241-6840 or email: mrgilson456@gmail.com

- See you then! Mike Gilson - JrPSWP



★ ★ ★
SECOND STAR
CHILDREN'S CAMP

★ ★ ★ **SECOND STAR CHILDREN'S CAMP** ★ ★ ★

Raising funds for the Iowa State Charity 2023-24

Top photo: Lisa, Kevin with his "MOM" Nellie and his Long Lost Sisters "Looking for Work" With shots of Kevin taking a pie to the face! Join Us, at the next State Charity Night - There's no telling what abuse Kevin's face will take on next !