



The  
**Iowa**

**F O E**  
*Connection*

**FEBRUARY 2024**  
VOL. 19 - ISSUE 7



## *Thoughts From an Old-Timer*

The old timer was a little busy last month helping the guy in the red suit get things delivered. State Board meeting is over and now it's time to finish out this year in a tremendous way.

As we begin to move in the direction of the State Convention, it is TIME for EVERY AERIE & AUXILIARY to look around and think about the people who are active or who have passed, who deserve some recognition. There are many ways for them to be honored. Make it difficult on the committees to make a decision on who should be honored. If you are not sure on qualifications for the different awards, check your State By-Laws. Let's look hard for nominees and get those letters submitted.

History lesson for the month: Each of the following Aeries are over 100 years old: Council Bluffs, Des Moines, Ottumwa, Burlington, Oskaloosa, Dubuque, Iowa City, Waterloo, Fort Madison, Le Mars, Creston and Hawarden. Tremendous accomplishment by these Aeries, I'm sure they had some trying times in the past, but they persevered. As far as I can count there have been aeries in over 90 locations throughout the years. Unfortunately, they were not all able to stay viable.

Focus on working together to get our Aeries and Auxiliaries to be the best that they can be. Read the Constitution, By-Laws, Officer Handbooks so that you know what your responsibilities are. Do your job and let the others do theirs. Until we meet along the trail...

*- Fraternally, Dennis Verploegh - Iowa F.O.E - PSP*

### **RESERVATION INFO for STATE CONVENTION 2024**

Please use the following to make reservations for State Convention 2024.

-- Convention dates are June 12th - 16th --

[Group Name: Eagles State Convention 2024](#)

Group Code: FOE      Reservations Deadline: May 21, 2024

Rates: Standard Two-Queen or King Executive \$122++ plus 12% tax per night

Junior King or Extended Suites \$142++ plus 12% tax per night

Family King Suites \$162++ plus 12% tax per night

Family Double Queen Suites \$182++ plus 12% tax per night

Rates Include: Four (4) vouchers each morning for Full Hot Breakfast at our own Bennigan's Restaurant from 6:30 am until 10:30 am. On weekends our Breakfast Buffet includes scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, breakfast potatoes, biscuits and gravy, French toast, Danish, muffins, yogurt, cereals, fresh fruit, assorted juices, coffee, decaffeinated, Herbal teas and milk.

To Reserve: Call us at: 515-278-4755 or 800-HOLIDAY (800-465-4329)

Click to: [www.holidayinn.com/desmoinesia](http://www.holidayinn.com/desmoinesia) and use the 3-letter code

Click to: [Eagles State Convention 2024](#)

**MESSAGE FROM YOUR:**

**AERIE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN**

We all know how important the recruitment and retention of members for the Eagles is. Without new members and retaining those we have, there is no growth.

Our order is in constant need of new members, the very lifeblood of our fraternity. They bring new ideas, fresh perspectives, new energy and new volunteer opportunities. We are all aware of the advantages of being an Eagle. Invite others a chance to enjoy the privileges, benefits and opportunities which our order offers by inviting a friend, relative or coworker to join the Eagles today. Remember a personal invitation from you will almost certainly mean a new member for your Aerie.

Let's all get on the calliope wagon for Kevin and hit that goal. With a little effort we can fill the circus tent!  
~ Chuck Weindler ~ ❤️ State Auxiliary Membership Chairperson ❤️

**MESSAGE FROM YOUR:**

**AUX MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN**

Hello sisters, so sorry for the delay in messages. I've had some user and technical issues. But let's get down to business.

Well we are halfway thru our year and everyone has been working hard signing up new members. We have two Auxiliaries that are in the green and working on a positive net gain. We have several that are close. October had 24 new members, November had 30 new and December had 12. So everyone keep up the good work and let's get to Lisa's goal. See you soon on the eagle trail.

~ Deb Kressley ~ ❤️ State Auxiliary Membership Chairperson ❤️

**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**

**Committee Chairman Needed**

I have several State Committee members needed for 2024-2025 fiscal year. If interested contact me at Mid Winter Conference, IM me on my Facebook page or email me.

Email address is [enrg@email.com](mailto:enrg@email.com).

I would appreciate any and all help. Your help makes our State run as we are "People Helping People".

*Fraternally Yours*  
*Iowa State President Elect*  
*~ Gene Kracht*

## State Madam President's Notes

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this finds everyone safe after the holidays and this crazy weather. It was very interesting to hold the mid-winter board meeting over zoom. It was very nice that everyone was attentive and understanding.

I'm ready to get back out on the Eagle trail to attend State Charities and visit with the different Auxiliaries. Membership from what I can tell seems to be going strong. Let's keep up the good work. I know this cold and snowy weather can keep everyone inside but let's think of creative ways to keep the members coming in. Once the weather changes plan a membership drive and let people know what we are all about.



Looking forward to seeing everyone soon. Until then stay warm and keep safe.

*~ Madam State President ~ Lisa Zook ~ aka Ring Mistress*

## State Worthy President's Notes

Greetings Brother's & Sister's,

With the holidays over and Winter arriving with bang, that included that we had to cancel Mid-Winter Conference in Des Moines and replaced it with Zoom meetings, which went very smoothly for most. Technology is such a wonderful thing in our day and age.

I'm so glad our travels are to begin soon, don't like the almost 2 months of no Charity or Presidential visits - about to drive us crazy. Lol. With that said we are half-way thru our year, which to me has been way too fast, but extremely enjoyable. Being your State President has been more than I could ever imagine. The hospitality, generosity, friendship, fraternalism from our brother's and sister's thru out Iowa and surrounding states is a true fact that we are the best in the nation and world simply leading the way for other's . With that being said, let's continue to do what we do best which is raising \$\$\$ for Second Star Children's Camp, and please never forget our other charities locally and state. As you know those charity \$\$\$ raised this year funds next year's grants for the State of Iowa Eagle grants submitted next year.

Well let's keep this article short & sweet. As our travels begin please everyone be safe out there and if all possible share show to others what we are all about " PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE " Please remember to sign up members, they are our lifeline and ask your local secretaries to print out a drop list of member's. Please reach out to our brothers and bring them back to the fold as we had them once, explain that we still need them. Let's make it our goal to get 75% back before May 31<sup>st</sup> so they may retain their years of service to our great Fraternal Organization.

See everyone on the eagle trail in our the next travels. Be safe, friendly, reach out with Eagle Love. GOD BLESS.

*~ Worthy State President ~ Kevin Kressley ~*



## AERIE MEMBERSHIP REPORT

AERIE	CITY	ROSTER a/o 01/15/24	GOAL	NEW	RE	YTD	# for NET GAIN
104	Council Bluffs	225	24	0	1	20	23
109	Des Moines	372	36	0	0	21	-13
114	Ottumwa	118	12	1	0	11	-44
150	Burlington	493	48	6	0	51	-71
276	Oskaloosa	68	12	0	0	5	-4
568	Dubuque	126	12	2	0	12	-19
695	Iowa City	393	36	5	1	30	-29
764	Waterloo	220	24	0	0	18	-22
1287	Ft Madison	312	24	4	2	40	1
1381	Le Mars	149	24	0	0	5	-24
1398	Creston	321	36	3	2	34	-14
1865	Hawarden	96	12	0	0	11	2
2272	Cedar Rapids	321	36	3	0	58	-59
2297	Sheldon	392	36	0	0	43	-21
2545	Grinnell	168	12	0	0	7	-11
2675	Centerville	149	12	0	0	12	-37
2715	Red Oak	105	12	0	0	10	-12
2774	Chariton	16	12	0	0	0	-2
2828	Tama-Toledo	266	24	0	0	24	-33
3369	Ft Dodge	53	12	1	0	22	21
3495	Osceola	97	12	0	0	3	-13
3583	Albia	48	12	0	0	1	-15
3784	Glenwood	310	36	1	1	44	-36
3849	Shenandoah	73	12	0	0	10	-22
3866	Maquoketa	156	24	0	0	2	-30
3876	Missouri Valley	137	12	2	0	19	-2
4074	Cedar Falls	158	12	0	0	22	-7
4114	Guttenberg	118	12	0	0	11	-4
4458	Asbury	199	12	0	0	17	-29
4466	Monticello	65	12	0	0	9	-5
4544	Independence	15	12	0	0	2	-3
~ ~ ~	<b>JAN TOTAL</b>	<b>5737</b>	<b>~ ~ ~</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>-580</b>

## CONNECTION

### Article Submissions

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

Send to: Janel Miller at  
iowa.foe.bulletin@gmail.com  
or soulburnz@gmail.com

Cell: 319-721-1129

## IA FOE WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGE

### Submissions

To submit items for the Website or FB PAGE: Contact: Patty Kelvege  
email: pkavelage@yahoo.com

## 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:  
Dennis Verploegh (641) 670-1059  
or Eva Knepp **(563) 343-1357**

Please make sure to use this phone # for Eva. It was incorrect in several places. Apologies to Eva for all of the errors!

Thank you ~ *Dennis Verploegh*  
*Iowa PSP Secy./Treas.*

## 2ND ANNUAL WILD GAME FEED RAFFLE & AUCTION

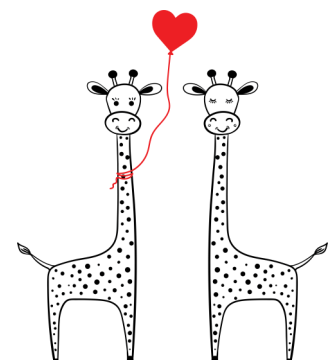
Saturday, March 2nd  
Doors Open at 5:00 pm

Sample a variety of wild game dishes, served with Cheesy Potatoes & Veggie!

**\$15 Meal**

Raffle Tickets Available at FOE #2272  
Live & Silent Auction Night of Event  
See <https://www.foe2272.com/future-events>  
for additional information

**Fraternal Order of Eagles #2272**  
**1735 - 11th St NW Cedar Rapids, IA 52405**



AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP REPORT							
AUX	CITY	ROSTER a/o 12/15/23	GOAL	NEW	RE	YTD	# for NET GAIN
104	Council Bluffs	163	24	6	0	15	-14
109	Des Moines	280	36	3	0	21	-18
114	Ottumwa	61	12	0	0	1	-12
150	Burlington	359	36	0	0	27	-38
276	Oskaloosa	52	12	2	1	11	4
568	Dubuque	39	12	0	0	0	-3
695	Iowa City	184	24	6	1	16	-7
764	Waterloo	142	12	0	0	6	-19
1287	Ft Madison	210	24	1	0	39	5
1398	Creston	198	24	1	1	15	-8
1865	Hawarden	56	12	0	0	1	-4
2272	Cedar Rapids	214	24	3	0	25	-25
2297	Sheldon	130	12	1	0	9	-5
2545	Grinnell	119	12	0	0	3	-12
2715	Red Oak	125	12	2	2	8	-13
2774	Chariton	20	12	0	0	0	-2
2828	Tama-Toledo	185	24	0	0	6	-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	59	12	0	2	2	-10
3876	Missouri Valley	129	12	4	0	10	4
4074	Cedar Falls	38	12	0	0	0	-7
4114	Guttenberg	66	12	0	0	9	-2
4458	Asbury	97	12	0	0	18	-12
4466	Monticello	24	12	0	0	2	-5
--	<b>JAN TOTAL</b>	<b>3099</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>-253</b>

Auxiliary Sisters,

The Grand Aerie Compliance Director for the State of Iowa - has changed. Contact info for the new director, Shay Kelleher is below:

SHAY KELLEHER ~ 614-883-2217  
[SKELLEHER@FOE.COM](mailto:SKELLEHER@FOE.COM)

Please change your records so that you now send your Compliance Info to Shay.

Thank you for your help!

~ Cindy Balsanek, IA State Aux Secretary

**To Contact the  
Auxiliary State  
Secretary**

Cindy Balsanek, PSP  
 PO BOX 11127

Cedar Rapids, IA 52410-1127

Email: [cmb1804@mchsi.com](mailto: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 Albia on Thursday, March 7th. 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. Visit details:

**TAMA-TOLEDO** - Wednesday, March 6th

- ~ Soup and Sandwiches at 5:00 pm
- ~ ALL STATE RITUAL: 6:30 pm - followed by Social Hour

**ALBIA** - Thursday, March 7th

- ~ Aerie Social Room opens at 4:00 pm for Social Hour
- ~ Dinner at 5:30 pm ~ Program after dinner
- ~ Circus Games and Fun!: 7:00 pm (proceeds going to GWP Becky's Special Project)

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](mailto:cmb1804@mchsi.com) or you can call my cell phone - **319-350-3966**.

~ Cindy Balsanek, Iowa State Auxiliary Secretary

# - CIRCUS - Calendar of Events

## FEBRUARY - 2024

THURSDAY - Feb 15 ~ Sheldon State Charity  
 February 16 ~ Hawarden State Charity  
 February 17 - Le Mars State Charity  
 February 24 ~ Iowa City State Charity

## MARCH - 2024

March 2 ~ Oskaloosa State Charity  
 March 3 ~ Ottumwa State Charity

GMP Becky Wilson's Iowa Visits

Wednesday - March 6 - Tama-Toledo  
Thurs - March 7 - Albia - All-State Initiation

March 9 ~ Council Bluffs State Charity  
 March 16 ~ Creston State Charity  
 March 22 ~ Waterloo State Charity  
 March 23-24 ~ Eastern Zone Conference

## APRIL - 2024

April 5 ~ Cedar Rapids State Charity  
 April 6 - Tama-Toledo State Charity  
 April 12-14 ~ MINK Conference  
*Embassy Suites - Omaha*  
Wednesday - April 17 - Chariton State Charity  
 April 19 - Grinnell State Charity

## MAY - 2024

May 4 ~ Cash Bash ~ Creston

## JUNE - 2024

June 12-16 ~ Iowa State Convention

## JULY - 2024

August 4-9 ~ International Convention  
 New Orleans

# CASH BASH



~ 2024 ~

Saturday, MAY 4th - 4-9 pm

Creston Aerie #1398

Five - \$1,000 Drawings  
 Five - 50/50 Drawings  
 ~ FOOD, DRINK & ENTERTAINMENT ~  
**Tickets: \$30.00**

**Get Your Tickets in Advance from any  
 State Officer or Randy Woods**

- Need Not Be Present to Win \$1,000 Drawings -

# 2024 ANNUAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN OYSTER DINNER

Saturday, March 9, 2024  
 5:00 - 7:00 pm  
 (or until gone)  
 \$12 per plate

Everyone Welcome!



Menu:  
 Rocky Mountain Oysters  
 OR Ham, Scalloped  
 Potatoes, Corn, Roll &  
 Dessert

350 Legend Raffle  
 Basket Raffles  
 Silent Auction  
 50/50's

Fraternal Order of Eagles #2272 • 1735 - 11th St NW Cedar Rapids, IA 52405  
 319-363-5571 (take out)

**MESSAGE FROM YOUR:**  
**STATE CHARITY CHAIRMEN**

♥ Happy Valentines Month ♥. Things are getting busy for Second Star Children's Camp - we have a full calendar coming up and are super excited to see everyone. It is cold outside, so come on inside and visit with us. Don't forget- this month we have an extra day due to it being a leap year, February 29.

If you are hosting a state charity event, please get your details such as times, meal, and other activities going on, to Patty Kalvelage so she can put it on the website and Facebook. You can also write up an article for the bulletin and let Janel Miller get it added to the bulletin. This lets people know what is going on and you may have more in attendance for your event.

Thanks to everyone for all your hard work and for your support of Second Star Children's Camp. Remember to check the calendar and try to attend as many as you can. If you need state charity information, please let Kevin, Lisa Z, Lisa M or Jim know the information needed to assist you for your event.

**Camping Facts you might not have known:** Crickets can calculate the temperature. Lyme disease takes longer to take effect than you'd think. Raccoons may sound like cats, but you shouldn't cuddle them. Your campfire may be a hazard.... so be careful. Camping will relieve stress and depression.

♥ *State Aerie and Auxiliary Charity Chairmen* ♥ ~ *Jim Zumbach and Lisa Miller*

**MESSAGE FROM YOUR:**  
**REENROLLMENT CHAIRMAN**

Hello Ladies! I hope this finds you all well and that you had an incredible Christmas & New Year. I am sad that I was not able to join everyone for Winter Conference and hope that you all had a blast!

It is time to get back into the (trapeze) swing of things and work together to welcome our former Eagle Sisters back into this wonderful organization. We started out the Fraternal year extremely strong on the reenrollment side of things, but we have slowed down a little bit which is understandable with all the Holiday activities that everyone had going on.

To date (as of 01/05/24 when this report was pulled) we have a total of 61 reenrollees. State Madam President Lisa's goal is 150 reenrolled members which means we need 89 more to hit that goal. I would love for us to exceed it! Please help us to build momentum back up on getting these gals back so that we can beat the goal (AND THE MEN)!!!

I look forward for all the events to get started back up soon! Hope to see you all soon down the Eagles Trail! Fraternally, ~ *Bobbi Jo Reed* ~ ♥ *aka - Whippy the Auxiliary Reenrollment Chairman* ♥

**"AUCTION"**

**LE MARS EAGLES CLUB**

**SAT.FEB.17, 2023**

**EAGLES CHARITY NIGHT**

**CHICKEN & CHOP BUFFET**

**5:00 TILL GONE**

**AUCTION  WILL FOLLOW**

**DONATIONS BY LOCAL  
MERCHANTS AND INDIVIDUALS**

**PROCEEDS GO TO**

**EAGLES CHARITY'S**

**KENNY'S KARAOKE**

**WILL FOLLOW THE AUCTION**

**Fraternal Order of Eagles – Iowa City #695**

**Iowa State Charity Night**

**Saturday, February 24, 2024**



**SOCIAL TIME 5 PM – DINNER 5:30 – AUCTION TO FOLLOW**  
**SMOKED IOWA CHOPS DONATED BY THE JOHNSON COUNTY PORK  
PRODUCERS served w/Cheesy Potatoes, Very Green  
Green Beans, Homemade Cole Slaw, roll and butter for \$14.00**

**LIVE AUCTION – Auctioneer Bobbie Jo Reed–  
50/50's, Silent Auction Baskets, Piggy Bank,  
Past Presidents Lottery Tree and more!**

**Come help us raise funds for  
"Second Star Childrens Camp"**

**OSKALOOSA EAGLES  
CLUB 276**

**STATE CHARITY**

**SATURDAY MARCH 2ND**

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FUN  
AND GAMES AS WE RAISE MONEY  
FOR OUR STATE CHARITY:  
SECOND STAR CHILDREN'S CAMP!

CLUB OPENS AT 12PM  
CARNIVAL GAMES FROM 2PM-3:30PM.  
INTRODUCTIONS BEGIN AT 3:30PM.  
MEAL WILL BE SERVED FROM 4PM-5PM.  
LIVE AUCTION TO BEGIN AFTER MEAL.  
KARAOKE STARTING AT 7PM.

MEAL WILL CONSIST OF:  
PULLED PORK SANDWICH, CHEESY POTATOES,  
BAKED BEANS, AND DESSERT FOR \$12.

OSKALOOSA EAGLES #276  
215 HIGH AVE E  
641-673-4227

**SECOND STAR  
CHILDREN'S CAMP**

**OTTUMWA EAGLES #114**

**IS GOING "UNDER THE BIG TOP"**

**FOR SECOND STAR STATE CHARITY**

**DUAL OF STATE MADAM PRESIDENT LISA ZOOK!!!**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2024**

**\* BRUNCH FROM 9:30 AM TO 11:30 AM ONLY \$12.00!!!**

**MENU: BISCUITS & GRAVY, SCRAMBLED EGGS,  
SAUSAGE, CHICKEN & NOODLES, MASHED POTATOES,  
CORN, VARIOUS SALADS, & CAKE**

**\* INTRODUCTIONS @ 11:30 AM**

**\*LIVE AUCTION @ NOON**

**\* 50/50 RAFFLE**



**2023-24 STATE CHARITY: SECOND STAR CAMP**

Second Star Camp provides a fun, empowering, and completely  
free camp experience for children with life-threatening illnesses  
and their families across the Midwest.

OTTUMWA EAGLES, 109 S GREEN STREET, OTTUMWA, IOWA 52501