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GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER
Order of the Eastern Star
Established November 1876

TO BE SHARED WITH OES MEMBERSHIP

May 18, 2021

My Sisters and Brothers,

I have had the opportunity in some of the work I've been doing to review your websites and other informational materials. I am finding that the information relating to eligibility for membership is incorrect.

The information I've read on websites, new member brochures and other informational materials is the old, long, detailed "Eligibility for the Degrees" stating specific relationships, i.e., wives, daughters, etc. This information is not up-to-date. It needs to be replaced with the following correct information that was adopted at the 49th Triennial Assembly held in Orlando, Florida, in 2018:

"Affiliated Master Masons in good standing and any female relatives who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption to Affiliated Master Masons in good standing, or if deceased were in good standing at the time of death; as well as members – either active for three (3) years or majority – in the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls® or in Job's Daughters International®, each of whom having attained to at least the age of eighteen (18) years, are eligible to membership in the Order of the Eastern Star." (Ritual, General Regulations, Membership. Eligibility for the Degrees., pg. 163).

I am concerned that opportunities are being missed due to this situation when it comes to potential new members seeking to be eligible to join our Order. I am asking you to please update your websites, printed materials and other information with the correct wording regarding eligibility for membership. Thank you!

"Together is our favorite place to be!" --unknown

In friendship & love,
Marianne Shenefelt
Marianne R. Shenefelt
Most Worthy Grand Matron



copy: Henry S. Martin, MWGP
Alma Bane, RWGS