

History of Magdalene Chapter,
No 28 Order of the Eastern Star

Maynard, Massachusetts

1890 - 1969

"Time may bring us fame and fortune
Bless us in a thousand ways
But the friends we hold the dearest
And the scenes that shine the clearest
Trace we back to early days."

First Officers of Magdalene Chapter No 28

1890

Worthy Matron	Mrs. Louise Long
Worthy Patron	Mr. Thomas Deane
Associate Matron	Mrs. Lottie Connor
Secretary	Miss Ethelyn Jones
Treasurer	Mrs. Lida Hart
Conductress	Miss Laura Crossley
Associate Conductress	Miss Maggie Deane
Chaplain	Mrs. Matilda Fex
Organist	Mrs. Clara Maynard
Adah	Miss Liggie Wilcox
Ruth	Miss Lucie Haire
Esther	Miss Jennie Deane
Martha	Mrs. Nancie Haynes
Electa	Mrs. Abbie Clement
Warder	Mrs. Annie Whitehead
Sentinel	Mr. Theodoric Jones

Organization for 1969-1970.

Worthy Matron
Worthy Patron
Associate Matron
Associate Patron
Secretary
Treasurer
Conductress
Associate Conductress
Chaplain
Marshal
Organist
Adah
Ruth
Esther
Martha
Electa
Warder
Sentinel

Mrs. Theola Schofield
Mr. Raymond F. McCarthy, Sr., P.P.
Mrs. Mildred L. Tallant, P.M.
Mr. Robert H. Cook
Mrs. Christine E. Raisanen, P.M.
Mrs. Myrna Palmer
Mrs. Ruth R. Phelps
Mrs. Lynda A. Watters
Mrs. Georgina R. Gaebel
Mrs. Natalie E. Kelson, P.M.
Miss Marion L. Jones
Mrs. Phyllis L. Gopoian
Mrs. Dorothy L. Whipple
Mrs. Anna L. Chickering
Mrs. Jean L. Cook
Miss Grace A. Olsen
Mrs. Charlotte Maguire
Mr. Cleon E. Phelps

Magdalene Chapter No 28
Order of the Eastern Star.

1890 - 1969

It is with much pride and satisfaction that we the members of Magdalene Chapter, No 28 look back on our seventy-nine years as an organization of the Eastern Star.

As we scan back over these seventy-nine years, we find that truth, loyalty and loving kindness have ever been the keynote. This with the untiring efforts and achievements of the Officers and Members who from year to year, have given of their best and planned so wisely, have made it possible for us to reach this 79th milestone in our history.

It is but fitting that we should think lovingly of those dear ones, who by their presence and charm enriched our meetings and have since joined the Chapter above.

"They never quite leave us, our friends who
have passed

Through the shadow of death to the sunlight above,
A thousand bright memories are holding
them fast

To the places they blessed with their presence and love."

I will strive to recall briefly some of the highlights along the pathway that leads us to the present time. Some of which is taken from the history written by me for our 75th anniversary observed on March 30, 1965 with a little more added.

In 1889, fifteen persons, twelve Sisters and three Brothers having received the Degrees of the Order of the Eastern Star, in what is now known as Electa Chapter, No 19 of Waltham, Massachusetts, petitioned the Grand Chapter of the state for a Charter constituting them a Chapter of the Eastern Star. The same to be known as Magdalene Chapter, no 28, to be held in Maynard, Massachusetts. The petition was granted and the first meeting under dispensation was held February 20th 1890 in Masonic Hall.

The Constitution took place about two months later, on April 1st 1890. It was not until 1892 that Chapters were required to work six months under dispensation.

On this same evening the first corps of Officers were installed. It was not until 1897 that a Marshal was appointed to the list of officers, as previous to that time the Conductress performed all the duties pertaining to that office.

It is with some sadness that we note that, all of these, our first Officers have joined the Chapter above.

We were most happy that Sister Louise Long Perry, the daughter of our first Worthy Matron was able to be with us on the evening of our 75th anniversary. She has since passed away.

Magdalene Chapter has always held its meetings in Masonic Hall. They were held on the first and third Tuesdays in each month, with the exception of July and August. An amendment to the By-Laws was adopted on November 13, 1943 since which time there has been only one meeting a month, that being on the third Tuesday.

In the early days the rent for the hall was one dollar a meeting which included having the Cupola lighted. Today the rent is ten dollars a meeting and the Cupola is not lighted.

Despite the fact that most everything else has advanced in price, our dues were \$2.00 a year until 1952, when they were increased to \$3.00. Which was the lowest in the State. On March 16th 1965 it was noted to raise our dues to \$5.00 a year, in order to help meet the Chapter expenses.

The first Official Inspection of Magdalene Chapter was held on October 7th 1890. Up until 1892 all the Chapters in the State were personally inspected by the Grand Matron, or as she is now known the Worthy Grand Matron, during her year in office. As the number of Chapters in the state increased this work so taxed her time and strength, that it was decided to appoint deputies to help with the Inspections. Eight deputies served in 1892. Today there are thirty-two Deputy Grand Matrons.

Magdalene Chapter was indeed happy and proud of the honor which came to them, when Sister Effie F. King, one of our own Past Matrons was elected as Grand Matron in 1906. We rejoice that Sister King is still with us and though living in Brookline, still attends some of our meetings. She is now the Senior Past Grand Matron in Massachusetts.

Magdalene Chapter has been honored by the following other appointments:

P.M. Sister Louise Long	Grand Martha in 1891
P.M. Sister Clara S. Maynard	Grand Esther in 1893
P.M. Sister Clara S. Maynard	Grand Chaplain in 1906
P.M. Sister Emma P. Flagg	Grand Marshal in 1906
P.M. Sister Kate C. Goodenow	Deputy Grand Matron in 1917
P.M. Sister Lilla A. Childs	Deputy Grand Marshal in 1917
P.M. Sister Eva M. Frye	Grand Warder in 1924
P.M. Sister Rachel Barlow	Deputy Grand Matron in 1934
P.M. Sister Margaret Gates	Deputy Grand Marshal in 1934
P.M. Sister Leita Hooper Gray	Grand Martha in 1936
P.M. Sister Esther E. Goodwin	Deputy Grand Matron in 1949
P.M. Sister Margaret S. Merrick	Deputy Grand Marshal in 1949
P.M. Sister Freda L. Davis	Deputy Grand Matron in 1961
P.M. Sister Geraldene Prentiss	Deputy Grand Marshal in 1961

On October 15, 1917, Magdalene Chapter had its first Past Matrons night, when a group of Past Matrons from surrounding towns under the direction of Sister Effie F. King, Past Grand Matron, exemplified the degrees. A year or so later present Matrons and Patrons nights became popular throughout the state and have continued ever since. These evenings are the means of bringing the Chapters into closer relationship with one another.

Several dramatical productions have been staged by the members of Magdalene Chapter. In 1917 with the proceeds of the "Polyanna Comedy" given in Colonial Hall the Dramatic Committee was able to present the Chapter with a new set of Regalia. Another play worthy of note was "Valley Farm" presented in May 1921 in Parker Street Hall. Many whist and bridge parties have been held.

It was the custom of the Chapter, that as each Worthy Matron retired from office she was presented with a Past Matron's jewel in recognition of her year of service to the Chapter. It was not until January 24th 1924 that our Past Patrons were recipients of jewels. On that evening eight Past Patrons, Brothers George Hart, Harris A. Clement, Lucius A. Maynard, Joshua J. Edwards, Harry E. Burnham, Roderick D. MacIver, Lawrence Jones and Amory Maynard were presented with their Past Patrons Jewels by Sister Effie F. King, Past Grand Matron. Since then the Patron receives his jewel when he retires from office the same as the Matron.

Many gifts have been presented to Magdalene Chapter during these past seventy-nine years. Some are still in use, others replaced by new equipment as needed.

A partial list is as follows:

The Bible still being used on our Altar was presented by Sister Matilda Fix in memory of her daughter, who was a member of the Chapter for only a very short time.

Our altar by Sister Jennie L. Salisbury, P.M.

A box for the Regalia by Sister Clara S. Maynard, P.M.

A hand painted floor rug by Sister Ella Begelow of Mispah Chapter, No 29 of Marlboro Massachusetts.

An illuminated Star by Brother John Ogden.

A signet by Brother Benjamin A. Harris, P.P.

A ballot box by Sister Ottillie Drechsler, ritual box by Sister Leita Hooper Gray, P.M., boxes for the identification buttons by Brother William K. Walters, P.P.

When the Grand Chapter requested that emblems be used by the Star Points, these emblems were presented as memorials: The Sword and Veil by Sister Esther E. Goodwin, P.M. and Sister Natalie Goodwin Parks, the Sheath of Wheat by Brother Malcolm Trees, P.P. and Sister Doris Trees, P.M. of Hawthorne Chapter, No 48. The Crown by Sister Grace A. Olsen, P.M., the Scepter by Brother Frank E. Sanderson, the Broken Column by Sister Eva M. Frye, P.M., and the Cup by Sister Helen Nicola.

On January 17, 1922, Sister Isadore Forbes, Past Grand Matron, an Honorary Member of Magdalene Chapter, No 28 presented the Chapter with a check for one hundred dollars. This money was deposited in the bank and is known as the Isadore Forbes Fund.

In October 1947 Sister Harriet Naylor presented the Chapter with an Electric Signet, which is now used at all of our initiations and adds much to the ceremony.

A new floor rug was presented by the Past Matrons and Past Patrons Association in October 1954. The Association has taken charge of having this rug cleaned. Due to a generous gift from Sister Anne Steele Atwood P.M., gifts from Sister Dorothy L. Whipple and money raised from bridge parties for the fund the Chapter was able to purchase an electric organ in 1962.

The Past Matrons presented the Chapter with a Clothes Rack for the Dressing Room in 1967 and in September 1968 presented seven star point chairs.

In 1929 the members divided into groups, under various Captains, raised enough money to present the Chapter with a complete service of dishes, plus one hundred dollars.

In 1926 Maynard Assembly Order of the Rainbow for Girls was started, sponsored by Magdalene Chapter. Sister Lillian Goettler, P.M. was the first Mother Advisor.

Our membership reached its peak in 1930 when we had 347 members. Today we have about 200. Of these twelve Sisters have been members for fifty years. Sister Effie King P.M. and P.G.M. has been a member since 1892. Sister Eva M. Frye P.M. since 1906.

The largest number of candidates to be initiated during any one year was in 1923, when the Degrees were conferred upon thirty five new members, nine more being affiliated during this same year.

The banner year for attendance was in 1933. The meetings being so well attended that we had an average attendance of ninety eight for the year. Today the lack of an elevator in building and the effort of climbing two hard flights of stairs, together with television have been partial cause in the decrease in the attendance at our meetings.

Loyalty is manifested in the long and faithful service of some of our officers. Some of our Worthy Matrons have served more than one year, whereas several of the Worthy Patrons have served more than one year consecutively or have returned to serve in that Office again a few years later.

Sister Lessie G. McGarry was Adah for two years, then held the office of Treasurer for seventeen years. Since then several Sisters have filled that office, each serving more than one year terms namely Sister Jennie K. Tuttle, P.M., Sister Bertha Stevenson, P.M., Sister Harriet Naylor, Sister Enid Wheeler, P.M., Sister Melba Henley and Sister Freda L. Davis, P.M. who retired from the office in 1969, as she had moved to another State. At this same time we lost another of our faithful officers. Sister Melba L. Henley who having served as Treasurer continued on to the east to serve as Worthy Matron 1965-1966 then was Marshal for three years. Melba also moved from the State. It was with much regret we had them leave us.

In April 1961, Sister Eva M. Frye, P.M. retired after having served the Chapter as an officer for slightly more than 47 years. A little over 43 of which were served as Secretary. Other officers held were Conductress, Associate Matron, Worthy Matron and Marshal. Since that time we have had four Secretaries.

In 1930 Brother Albert A. Tallant was installed as our first Associate Patron, he held that office for two years, then served as Worthy Patron one year. Again in 1940 served as Associate Patron followed by another year as Worthy Patron after a longer lapse of time in 1964 again assumed the office of Associate Patron becoming Worthy Patron in 1965.

At the present time Sister Anna L. Chickering is serving her eleventh term as Esther. Sister Effie F. King our Past Grand Matron has served in the East of Magdalene Chapter at sixteen Installations of our officers.

The Annual Meetings were held in December each year with the Installation of officers being in January until 1947 when by a new rule of the Grand Chapter, the Annual Meeting was changed to March, with the Installation in April. Thus the 1947 Corps of officers served from January 1947 to April 1948.

On March 30, 1965 we observed the 75th anniversary in Fellowship Hall, of Union Congregational Church. This was attended by many Past and Present Grand Officers and guests from other chapters. It consisted of a reception to Sister Effie F. King, P.G.M., Grand and Past Grand Officers, Past Matrons and Past Patrons of the chapter and present officers.

This was followed with the chapter, history, entertainment and collation. It was a most enjoyable evening. One long to be remembered.

So on through the years, through sunshine and shadow, we find the same ardent spirit of devotion and love which inspired our charter members has ever prevailed.

We have had seventy-five Sisters serve as Worthy Matron with forty-seven Brothers serving as Worthy Patrons. All of these with their officers have given of their best and have helped to weave a beautiful fabric, each thread recording the lights and shadows of this precious tapestry.

So now as we journey along and our 79 years become past history and the future beckons may the officers and members still "carry on" with

the same enthusiasm that has been evident over the years. It is this enthusiasm and whole-hearted cooperation that makes for progress and success.

"When we're young and look to the future
The Future seems so far away
But time ticks on
And each rosy morn
Marks the start of a brand new day

Today looking back through the seasons
The years have melted away
As time ticked on
And each rosy morn
Marked the start of a brand new day.

Today the future still beckons
Years of plans - and the will to be gay
While time ticks on
And each rosy morn
Marks the start of a brand new day."

History written by

Eva M. Frye, Past Matron

1969.

Magdalene Chapter No 28, Order Eastern Star

Past Matrons

*Louise Long 1890, 1891
*Nancie Haynes 1892
*Clara S. Maynard 1893
*Maggie Deane Whitney 1894
*Minnie Durkee 1895
*Jennie K. Salisbury 1896, 1897
*Florence Fletcher Charles 1898
*Lida A. Hart 1899
Effie F. King P.G.M. 1900, 1901
*Liggie S. Hodges 1902
*Emma P. Flagg 1903
*Mary Flood 1904
*Emma Jones 1905
*Lilla M. Childs 1906
* I. Kate C. Goodenow 1907
*Bessie P. Richardson 1908
*Maude E. Gutteridge 1909
*Erie B. Willis 1910
*Lizzie W. Newton 1911
Margaret Gates 1912
Jennie F. Adams 1913
*Lizzie Chandler 1914
Bertha M. Lowden 1915
Emma Greenghalph 1916
*Ethel M. Dart 1917
I. Lillian M. Goettler 1918
*Agnes G. Howe 1919
Martha Champagne 1920
*Hazel Easthope Brown 1921
Eva M. Frye 1922
*Grace B. Tries 1923
*Martha E. Hortin 1924
*Annie P. Naylor 1925
*Nellie J. McInnes 1926
Doris Miller Sims 1927
*Agnes B. French 1928
*Huldah N. Taylor 1929
Bertha M. Carmichael 1930
*Nellie L. Trombly 1931
Dorothy E. Alving 1932
Rachel Barlow 1933
Leita Hooper Gray 1934
*Helen MacPherson 1935
Evelyn E. Lent 1936
Dorothy Warren Burbridge 1937
*Mary A. Jones 1938
*Jennie K. Tuttle 1939
I. Grace E. Brunham 1940
Mildred L. Tallant 1941
Gladys T. McLane 1942
Margaret S. Merrick 1943
Mary A. Eaton 1944
Martha D. Johnston 1945
*Bertha Stevenson 1946

Past Patrons

*Thomas Deane 1890, 1891
*Theodoric A. Jones 1892
*Frank Salisbury 1893
*Frank Connor 1894
*Thomas Denniston 1895, 1896
*George H. Hart 1897
I Walter Currier 1898
I Walter Currier, P.P. 1899
I. Walter Currier, P.P. 1900, 1901
*Wallace Starr King 1902
Wallace Starr King, P.P. 1903
*Harris A. Clement 1904
*Harris A. Clement, P.P. 1905
*Benjamin Harrie 1906
*Theodoric A. Jones, P.P. 1907
*Theodoric A. Jones, P.P. 1908
*Fred Chandler 1909
*Fred Chandler, P.P. 1910
Fred Chandler, P.P. 1911
*Lusius H. Maynard 1912
Lucius H. Maynard, P.P. 1913
*Lucius H. Maynard, P.P. 1914
*Lucius H. Maynard, P.P. 1915
I * Lawrence Jones 1916
*Amory Maynard 1917
* I Ralph Baker, P.P. 1919
*Joshua J. Edwards 1920
*Roderick D. MacIver 1921
*Roderick D. MacIver, P.P. 1922
*Harry E. Burnham 1923
*Harry E. Burnham, P.P. 1924
I William Mann 1925
William Mann, P.P. 1926
Ralph D. Jones 1927
Ralph D. Jones, P.P. 1928
Frank H. Goettler 1929
Richard Allan 1930
Richard Allan, P.P. 1931
Albert A. Tallant 1932
*Frank W. Case 1933
*Frank W. Case, P.P. 1934
*David Walker 1935
° A. Franklin Croft 1936
William K. Walters 1937
Harold H. Lerer 1938
° A Franklin Croft, P.P. 1939
Charles L. Gray 1940
*Albert A. Tallant P.P. 1941
William F. Baron 1942
William F. Baron, P.P. 1943
*George H. Gohlke 1944
*William H. Johnston 1945
° A. Franklin Croft P.P. 1946

Up to this time, term of Office was January to January. Now
it is April to April.

Past Matrons

*Esther E. Goodwin 1947
Ruth P. Steeves 1948
Grace A. Olsen 1949
Barbara P. Hayward 1950
I Mildred Braman 1951
Enid Sadler Wheeler 1952
Bearl P. Koskinen 1953
Bertha M. Deane 1954
I Barbara L. Stewart 1955
I Mabel Wagner 1956
Geraldene Prentiss 1957
*Edith A. Loggie 1958
Freda L. Davis 1959
Grace A. Olsen, P.M. 1960
Christine E. Raisanen 1961
Anne Steele Atwood 1962
I Jane Maloney 1963
Priscilla E. Dingee 1964
Melba L. Henley 1965
Anne Steele Atwood, P.M. 1966
Geraldine Dingee 1967
Natalie E. Kelson 1968
Thecla Schofield 1969

*Deceased

I Demitted

° Membership ceased.

Past Patrons

°Robert Lawton 1947
E. Clayton Steeves 1948
George H. Wheeler 1949
Russell D. Hayward 1950
I Walter Stevenson 1951
George H. Wheeler, P.P. 1952
Auno O. Koskinen 1953
Richard F. Deane 1954
Francis E. Stewart 1955
Williard Wagner 1956
Wentworth Prentiss 1957
*George W. Loggie 1958
Charles M. Davis 1959
George H. Wheeler, P.P. 1960
*Francis E. Stewart, P.P. 1961
Raymond McCarthy, Sr., 1962
Richard F. Deane, P.P. 1963
Wentworth Prentiss, P.P. 1964
*Albert A. Tallant, P.P. 1965
Carleton Atwood 1966
Edward Kelson 1967
Edward Kelson, P.P. 1968
Raymond McCarthy, Sr. P.P. 1969