

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Season’s greetings! It is the time of year when we can’t help but make wishes and examine the year just past. This year, my fondest wish is that I may serve this Grand Chapter (YOU!) faithfully and well in the coming year. I hope that I may meet and exceed your expectations when you elected me way back in October of 2014.

What do you wish for when this time of year rolls around? Is your wish the same every year (a healthy family, happy children, world peace) or does it change each year (a brand-new Lexus, diamonds, a pony)? Realistically, it is likely a combination of the two and that’s okay. Hey, we’re talking wishes here! Santa never said you only get one. My wish for you is that the Jolly Old Elf finds room on his sleigh for every one of your wishes and that he grants you a few you didn’t even know you had!

Finally, a holiday quiz. What do these words culled from Christmas catalogs refer to: carbide, cinder, daybreak, eclipse, flag, fog, fossil, gargoyle, lava, lichen, lily pond, mallard, muleskinner, Nero, oasis, saddle, sprig, thunder, tobacco. Hint: they’re not rejected first names for Sarah Palin’s kids. They’re *colors*!?! … “Remember our first Christmas, darling? You were standing in my muleskinner foyer, your mallard hair perfectly matching your gargoyle dress. I wore tobacco slacks and a Nero tie with fossil stripes to complement the warm earth tones of my carbide cape.”

The Grand Family would like to extend to you our warmest regards and wish for you a wonderful, magical, unforgettable Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Yours in Faith and Service,

**Jim Sweet**

**Tammie Chance**

Worthy Grand Matron Worthy Grand Patron

**Karen Pullman**

Grand Secretary