

# **OES Study Guide II**

## **ANSWER SHEET**

### **DUTIES OF A CHAPTER**

**1. *What is the least number of meetings a Chapter must hold during a year?***

**Answer:** A Chapter shall hold at least ten monthly stated meetings each year. A two-month “vacation period” is optional with the Chapter

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws Article III, Section 1.a (page 32 in Red Book).

**2. *Chapters holding two stated meetings a month must do what to dispense with a stated meeting?***

**Answer:** *If provided in its bylaws*, a Chapter that holds two stated meetings per month may dispense with stated meetings that conflict with Grand Chapter, General Grand Chapter, regional School of Instruction, various holidays, and in case of extreme hazardous weather conditions or a natural disaster.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws Article III, Section 1.b (page 32 in Red Book).

**3. *A Chapter holding one stated meeting a month must do what to dispense with a meeting?***

**Answer:** Chapters that hold only one stated meeting per month may *change the date* of a stated meeting due to conflicts *if specified in its bylaws*. In the event of hazardous weather conditions or natural disaster, a regular stated meeting may be postponed to an alternate date, if specified in its bylaws.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws Article III, Section 1.c (page 32 in Red Book).

**4. *What must a Chapter present new members?***

**Answer:** Each new member should be given a current copy of the Bylaws of the Chapter.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article III, Section 1.q (page 34 in Red Book).

**5. *May only one person be authorized to open the safety deposit box?***

**Answer:** At least two members are to be present to open a Chapter’s rented safety deposit box at a bank.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article III, Section 1.h (page 33 in Red Book).

**6. *What are some other duties of a Chapter?***

**Answer:** To annually elect and install officers; keep a complete and proper record of its transactions; vote to pay all obligations; make a full annual report to the Grand Chapter; adopt a code of bylaws; exemplify the initiatory work at least three times during each term of office; contribute to Grand Chapter and General Grand Chapter projects, and recognize members who achieve 50 years (or more) of membership in OES.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article III, Section 1 has complete list (pages 32-34 in Red Book).

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **1. *What age must a lady be to petition the O.E.S.?***

**Answer:** A female petitioner must be related to a Master Mason in good standing, or must have been active for three years (or have reached majority) in Job's Daughters or Rainbow, and must be at least 18 years of age.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 1.a.1 (page 36 in Red Book).

### **2. *May a person NOT a USA citizen petition for membership?***

**Answer:** Applicants for initiation must have been residents of the State for six months immediately preceding the presentation of the petition. A citizen of a foreign country who fulfills other requirements for membership is entitled to petition a Chapter.

**Source:** Article V, Section 1.a.2 (page 36 in Red Book) and Article V, Section 1, 7 (page 37 in Red Book).

### **3. *Does a Chapter pay per capita on Honorary Members?***

**Answer:** No. Honorary membership is a "distinction." Dues are collected for each member on the roll of a Chapter by initiation, affiliation, or dual membership, as specified in the Chapter bylaws.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Standard Bylaw Form for Subordinate Chapters, Article IV, Section 3 (page 62 in Red Book); Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article VII, Section 1, b-f (page 19 in Red Book); Article II, Section 1.a (page 31 in Red Book).

### **4. *May a Chapter confer LIFE membership on a member NOT affiliated with the Chapter?***

**Answer:** No. A Chapter may confer the distinction of Life Membership upon one or more of ITS members. It is the highest honor a Chapter may confer and is given for dedicated service to the Chapter. Life members do not pay Chapter dues. Life membership does not exempt the Chapter from the payment of the Grand Dues.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article II, Section 1.b (page 31 in Red Book).

### **5. *Where is a member presented to receive a 50-year pin; how is he/she escorted to the East?***

**Answer:** Members eligible to receive 50-year pins (or more) are to be presented at the Altar for pin presentation, following the presentation of the Chapter's own Past Matrons and Past Patrons. After the pin presentation, they are escorted to the East, through the labyrinth, for Grand Honors (given this time only).

**Source:** Book of Instructions, page 18.

## **AFFILIATION**

### **1. *How are petitions for affiliation voted upon?***

**Answer:** A ballot must be taken on all petitions for membership, either for initiation or affiliation, immediately after the favorable or unfavorable report of the investigation committee.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 3.c (page 39 in Red Book).

**2. How does a petition for affiliation differ from a petition for membership?**

**Answer:** Masonic qualifications need not be checked except for brothers (to be sure they are in good standing) and no residence qualification is required for affiliation. Also, if the petitioner holds a letter of good standing from a Chapter that has surrendered its charter, he/she should be granted the courtesy of joining without a fee.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 2.c. and Article V, Section 2.a.3 (page 38 in Red Book).

**3. How are affiliated Past Matrons and Past Patrons presented?**

**Answer:** Affiliated members who are PMs and PPs of Chapters from which they have demitted, consolidated, or merged should be presented as Past Matrons and Past Patrons.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 7 (page 42 in Red Book).

**4. How is the rejection handled on a petition for affiliation?**

**Answer:** If an applicant for affiliation is rejected, the demit which accompanied the petition for affiliation, and the fee, shall be returned to the applicant. This rejection shall not prevent the renewal of the application to the same Chapter, or any other Chapter, at any time thereafter.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 4.a.3 (page 40 in Red Book).

## **DEIMITS**

**1. Is a motion necessary when granting a demit?**

**Answer:** No. If no objection is made, and the member requesting the demit is in good standing, the presiding officer shall order the issuance of the demit.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article X, Section 1.a (page 47 in Red Book).

**2. Must dues be paid when requesting a demit?**

**Answer:** Yes. However, a request for a demit filed with the Secretary on or before the first stated meeting in October may be granted without payment of dues for the year beginning with that meeting

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article X, Section 1.a and 1.b (page 47 in Red Book).

**3. How long may a member visit on a demit?**

**Answer:** A member on demit may visit the Chapter or any other Chapter until the expiration date of his/her most recent dues card.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article X, Section 1.a (page 47 in Red Book).

**4. What is the limit of time a demit may be held?**

**Answer:** There is no limitation of time a demit may be held.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article X, Section 9 (page 48 in Red Book).

## **DUAL MEMBERSHIP**

**1. Is dual membership permitted in two subordinate Chapters in Ohio?**

**Answer:** Dual Membership in two subordinate Chapters is permissible within the boundaries of one District or in two separate Districts.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 4.a (page 36 in Red Book).

**2. What is the fee for a petition for affiliation as a dual member?**

**Answer:** Members seeking dual membership in a Chapter petition for affiliation and pay the accepting Chapter's affiliation fee.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 4.a (page 36 in Red Book).

**3. Are dual members responsible for paying dues to both Chapters?**

**Answer:** Yes. Dual members are responsible for payment of full dues in both Chapters. Both Chapters will pay the annual per capita and all other fees to the Grand Chapter.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 4.a and 4.d (pages 36-36A in Red Book).

**4. What happens if a dual member's Primary Chapter merges with another Chapter?**

**Answer:** When a Primary Chapter merges with another Chapter, the receiving Chapter becomes the Primary Chapter for a dual member.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 4.h (page 36A in Red Book).

**5. Can a dual member hold offices in both Chapters?**

**Answer:** Dual members shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of membership in both, except that they may not hold an *elective* office, including Trustee, in more than one Chapter at the same time.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 4.d (page 36A in Red Book).

**6. Who must be notified of membership changes (affiliations, demits, suspensions or expulsions) by a dual member?**

**Answer:** A Dual Chapter must notify the Primary Chapter when a member of that Chapter becomes a dual member. The Grand Secretary and both Subordinate Chapter secretaries must be notified of all affiliations, demits, suspensions or expulsions of Dual Members immediately.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Sections 4.c and 4.f (pages 36-36a in Red Book).

## **FEES AND DUES**

**1. When are dues payable?**

**Answer:** Current year's dues must be paid by the Chapter's first stated meeting in October of each year.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article XII, Section 2.c (page 49 in Red Book).

**2. Does an increase in dues after October 1 apply to all members?**

**Answer:** An increase in dues after the first meeting in October is applicable only to newly initiated or affiliated members.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article XII, Section 2.h (page 49 in Red Book).

**3. When are members suspended for non-payment of dues?**

**Answer:** Members will be suspended from membership if dues are not paid by the first stated meeting in October.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article XII, Section 2.c (page 49 in Red Book).

**4. *What is the amount of the gratuity when a Deputy Grand Matron inspects a Chapter?***

**Answer:** At the time of inspection, the DGM (or her substitute deputized by the WGM) shall receive a minimum of \$25 as a gratuity when making the official visit.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 2.j and 2.k (page 17 in Red Book).

**5. *Is it recommended that the gratuity fee be paid in cash?***

**Answer:** No. Gratuities should be paid by Chapter check.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 2.j and 2.j (page 17 in Red Book).

**6. *What is the amount of gratuity given a Worthy Grand Matron, Worthy Grand or Line Grand Officer?***

**Answer:** The Chapter shall issue a Chapter check for not less than \$35 as a gratuity when it has a scheduled installation, inspection or official visitation by the Worthy Grand Matron, Worthy Grand Patron, or (in the case of an emergency) their representative (Past Grand Matron, Past Grand Patron, or Line Grand Officer).

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 2.k (page 17 in Red Book).

**7. *Is the inspection gratuity the same for a Line Grand Officer?***

**Answer:** Yes. When a Line Grand Officer has a scheduled inspection, they shall receive the \$35 gratuity.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 2.k (page 17 in Red Book).

**8. *Should a gratuity be given for an installation by a Past Grand Matron, Past Grand Patron, or Line Grand Officer?***

**Answer:** No gratuity is required for an installation by a PGM, PGP, or Line Grand Officer.

**Source:** Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article V, Section 2.k (page 17 in Red Book).