

Stardust

Volume XV, Issue 3

Meetings held at Orange Masonic Center, 71 Plaza Square, Orange

February 2013

Worthy Matron, Cheryl LeFever

Worthy Patron, Mike Martinsen

Secretary, Brian Messenger, PP

Editor, Ris Prentiss, PM



Special dates of interest:

- Starbright Meeting, Feb 7th
- Stated Meeting "Valentine's Theme", Feb 14th
- Conductress/Associate Cond Retreat, Feb 16th
- Ami Tai OCPN, Feb 27th
- Stated Meeting "Slipper Night", Feb 28th
- OES Scholarship submission Deadline, Mar 1st

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Puff leads her Team into 2013!

by Cheryl LeFever, Worthy Matron

We've had a great time starting off 2013 with Brother Rob Prentiss, chairing the Mason's stated meeting dinner bringing the 'peace and love' comfort food for our 70's themed evening. It was an amazing meal which earned several complements and was presented by the support from our outstanding members. Thank you to all who came to help set up, cook, serve, and clean. It truly was an honor to work alongside you.

The lovely ladies of Rainbow put on a box social which was well attended by both Mason and Eastern Star to where there were more supporters then boxes! The girls had it covered though; some boxes (meals) fed more than two people and had a supply of enchiladas that could be purchased for a couple bucks a piece. Everyone had fun with the bidding wars and spending some time with the girls that made the meals you won in the auction. Great job ladies!

Then, before you knew it, the 2nd meeting of the term was upon us as we welcomed in the New Year at chapter. The cold weather has been making its way into most every household which made our first meeting of the year a few officers shy, but our loyal Past Matrons and Past Patron stepped up with full ritual for all stations. From my seat, that was pretty awesome.

Our last meeting of January was with celebration of the AFC and NFC Champions colliding for the title of Super Bowl Champions! We had a great time wearing our favorite team jersey, or sporting the team colors. Dedication, loyalty, honor, and respect are all part of being champions as a team no matter your goal. Make a

difference and be a part of Scepter's team of champions! If you would like to help and aren't sure where or how, contact myself or Jeani Scott, Membership Committee Chairman, for a review of areas we can always use the help.

Shivering our way into February we come upon a day to remind us to love one another. This year our meeting happens to fall on that day; Valentine's Day! It also brings us to the beginning of Orange County Party Night Season!! WOOHOO!! I'll be one of four Scepter officers serving at Ami Tai on February 27th. I'm looking forward to being transported into a Disney Fantasy theme park and hope to see you there! We'll be closing out the month with warm cozy feet at our next meeting as they will be covered with everyone's favorite slippers. Fun or practical it's bound to be a comfy cozy meeting.

So come on out to and visit our sister chapters for their party nights, or see us at the meetings. It's always enjoyable to be with so many friends and supporting our beautiful Order. Until next month; have a great February!

Can you help us? We have a few members who have moved and left us with no forwarding address. Please contact our Secretary, Brian Messenger, if you have any information on the following members:

Lorraine Poole

Felicia Webb





Magical words from Poof in the East

by Michael Martinsen,
Worthy Patron

Hello Sisters and Brothers! I hope that you had a truly wonderful New Year's Celebration, and welcome to 2013!

There's so much going on in our Chapter, Eastern Star as a whole, Orange Grove Lodge, Rainbow, Job's and DeMolay, that if I tried to deliver all of it to you, I think our editor would pull her hair out. (Don't worry, Ris, your hair is still safe.)

But if you ever have any questions about what's happening with any of the groups, you can go to the following website: <http://www.ormc.us/> and click on the little calendar link on the lower left that reads: "All Groups Combined"

If you are a new member who's trying to understand what OES is, and figuring out how it fits into your life, please know that we have one of the best chapters around with some of the best and most understanding people in all

of Eastern Star. Don't hold back on your questions! Ask away! And if someone doesn't know the answer, I'm sure they know someone who does.

Are you a seasoned veteran of The Order looking to connect, reconnect or maybe just "scout things out"? Then grab some Valentine's Day clothing and a pair of slippers, because you'll need them this month! But don't despair if you have neither, because what makes any Thursday great is meeting more and more of all of you.

Are you simply looking to find a way to get more involved? Then know that our very active chapter has many opportunities available with planning events, fundraisers, community service projects, membership activities, a Shadow Ritual Program, and much, much more. This year, our Worthy Grand Patron has chosen the following words as The Motto for the year: Fortune favors the brave. If you'd like to meet some of the bravest people I know, the planning team, Starbright, meets on the first Thursdays of the month at 7:30pm.

Dare to be brave in 2013. Ask a question; decide to go out; come find your reason you became involved.



From Our 2013 DGM

by Robin Reeves,
Deputy Grand Matron, District 32

Wow! Isn't it amazing how fast time flies these days? It seems the older I get...the faster it goes! Does that happen to you, too? Well, at least we are all in the same boat! I wish everyone a wonderful 2013! This year will sure to be "Magical" indeed! Won't you try to come out and support Scepter Chapter in their meetings, fundraisers, and other events? It just won't be the same without you!

This year, the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron are launching a "Web Magic 2013" Project that will bring our beautiful Order into the future! The idea is to have a professionally designed Website for our California Eastern Star that will include user friendly links, member rosters, searches, current information, detailed locations, and calendars on a statewide level, and more! It will also have multiple levels of security, as well, so that only members with a Passcode can receive the private information. The Web Magic 2013 Project will need all of our monetary support.

As the Deputy Grand Matron – I will be bringing a darling glass jar to meetings to accept your donations for this project. It is such a cute jar – I know you'll want to see me to see for yourself. However, if you are unable to attend Chapter – certainly any donation made to the project will also help. The best way to describe it is as a "pinless pin sale" of sorts. This is the way to get our name out into the millions of people who are using computer search engines using current technology that is right at our fingertips. But, this project will be expensive...won't you please consider a donation to such a worthwhile cause?

It has been nice to see so many members attending

workshops and visiting other Chapters. Soon the Orange County Party Nights will be upon us and I encourage all to attend, as your busy schedules allow. In my travels – there is nothing quite like the friendship and fellowship that abounds in Orange County! Please support these interesting themed Party Nights and attend as many as you can. They are each unique and all enjoyable.

Well, thanks for letting me get this information to you. I do hope you come out to Chapter so I can get to know each of you a little better.



From Our Secretary's Desk

by Brian Messenger, PP, Secretary

#*muffle>"#, ..yuck! Phooey!! All those stamps and envelopes really gum up the old mouth. Those of you that heard me read the minutes at the first meeting of the year know what I mean.

So, the new year is here and with it your 2013 dues receipt. What? Didn't get yours? Did you send your payment or are you a life member? No? Why not send yours in today?

So far, we've mailed out over 270 dues receipts. That means that there are more than 100 still out there who haven't paid. If you did send your payment in and haven't seen your card, it could be that the old Post Office is playing hide & seek again. Did you move recently? Did you tell us? Whatever the cause, let me know so we can make things right.

Please make sure to send all correspondence to:
c/o Brian Messenger, PP, Secretary
(Current address per 2013 Roster)

The address in last years roster is no longer valid.

Star Dates to Remember

All events are held at the Orange Masonic Center unless otherwise noted. For the most up-to-date calendar go to:

<http://www.scepter163.org/calendar>



FEBRUARY

- 2 Lodge Movie Night, 7pm
- 4 Rainbow Installation, 7pm
- 7 Starbright Meeting, 7:30pm
- 10 WGM/WGP OV **SLC**, 1:30pm
- 12 Lodge Dinner & Valentine's Program, 6:30pm
- 14 *Valentine's Day*
- 14 Stated Meeting, "Valentine's Day Theme", 7:30pm, Attire: Business; Red, White, Pink, Purple, Silver Colors, Dining Room Chairman: Angie Taylor
- 15 March Stardust Newsletter Article Deadline
- 16 Line Officers Assoc Breakfast, 9:30am - 11:30am, **YL MC**
- 16 Cond/AC Retreat, 9am - 5pm, **McCallum MC, Riverside**
- 18 *President's Day*
- 27 Ami Tai OCPN, 7:30pm, "Disney Fantasy", **Brea MC, Scepter Courtesy Officers: WM, AM, Treasurer, Electa**
- 28 Stated Meeting, "Slipper Night", 7:30pm, Attire: Dressy Casual, Dining Room Chairman: Rebecca Majoros

MARCH

- 5 Yorba Linda OCPN, 8pm, "Route 66", **YL MC Scepter Courtesy Officers: Secretary, Organist, Martha, and Flag Bearer**

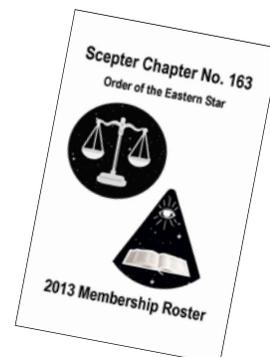
- 7 Starbright Meeting, 7:30pm
- 9 Orange Grove Lodge 125th Anniversary, 12pm
- 10 *Daylight Savings Time Begins*
- 14 Stated Meeting, "Chapter BD/WM WP BD/Awards", 7:30pm, Attire: Formal, Chairmen: Cheryl LeFever and Rhea Turek
- 15 April Stardust Newsletter Article Deadline
- 16 Line Officers Assoc Breakfast, 9:30am - 11:30am, **HB MC**
- 17 *St Patrick's Day*
- 28 Stated Meeting, "Easter", 7:30pm, Attire: Business - your Sunday Best!, Colors: Pastels, Dining Room Chairmen: Crystal Moore and Mamie Wilson
- 31 *Easter*

APRIL

- 4 Starbright Meeting, 7:30pm
- 6 Scepter Chapter's Dollar Dippin' Dinner & Dance Fundraiser, 6pm - 10pm
- 11 Stated Meeting, "April Showers", 7:30pm, Attire: Business with Raincoats, Galoshes, etc., Dining Room Chairman: Barbara Klungreseter
- 13 DeMolay Installation, 7pm
- 15 May Stardust Newsletter Article Deadline
- 19 Grand Lodge/Masonic Family Event, Disneyland, Anaheim
- 20 Line Officers Assoc Breakfast, 9:30am - 11:30am
- 20 Joint Grand Lodge/Grand Chapter Community Service Event
- 20 Grand Master's Reception, Orange County
- 25 Scepter Chapter OCPN, "Paris in Spring", 7:30pm, Attire: Dressy Casual, Colors: Pink & Black, Chairman: Courtney Pedersen

2013 Membership Roster Updates

Not Available for Public Viewing





Sweet Words from Hope and Joy!

by Courtney Pedersen, Associate Matron

Hello Sisters and Brothers, Orange County Party season has officially started this month! Our first one is Ami Tai on February 27, 2013. The theme is "Disney Fantasy". The following officers will be filling the stations: Worthy Matron, Associate Matron, Treasurer, and Electa. I can't wait to see you all there.

We had our first planning meeting for Scepters party night last month. Our next meeting will be on February 7th right after the Starbright meeting. Our party night theme is Spring Time in Paris. I am still looking for more help with the night. I would love to see you all there. There is a lot to be done and we would love it if any of you would like to be involved. Please give me a call to let me know.

The sweetheart and princess Ice Cream social was fun! It was nice to see some of our sisters and brothers come! It is wonderful to be a part of our youth organization. The fundraiser was a success!

Le cœur a ses raisons que la raison ne connaît point.

The heart has its reasons which reason knows nothing of. (Blaise Pascal)



A Word from our Associate Patron in the West

by Ruben Gallegos, Associate Patron

Hello my Sisters and Brothers!

I hope this Star newsletter finds you in good health and good spirits. As for myself, I am glad to see January pass us by and take with it the wet, cold, and windy weather. We had many of our members and friends in sickness and distress. Hopefully in February our weather will start to change for the better, and our members will start to feel better.

Speaking of February, remember the 14th is Valentine's Day. It's that special day to remember that special person in your life. Flowers, candy, or maybe dinner and a movie are always nice. Happy Valentine's Day.

Now I would like to say thank you so much to three wonderful ladies for all their years of service and hard work. These ladies, I feel, have gone above and beyond what is expected of an advisor. Let me introduce them to you. Miss Patty Holmes is a Majority Member and Past Grand Officer of Rainbow for Girls. She is also a member of Eastern Star; in fact she was initiated into Scepter Chapter. Patty has been on the Advisory Board for Orange Assembly Rainbow for three years. She has done a lot of traveling with the girls to Grand Assembly, Rainbow Camp, and many other activities and trips. I believe her favorite was working at the Street Fair. Miss Holmes has returned back to school and is working; she is stepping off Orange Assembly's Advisory Board, having served her three year term limit. We will miss you. Good Luck!

Our next lady is Mrs. Mary Stechmann. Mary is a Majority Member and Past Grand Officer of Rainbow for Girls. Mary has been on the Rainbow Advisory Board for many years, she has served in just about every capacity. Mary has been playing the piano for Rainbow meetings, making dresses for Rainbow Girls, and providing excellent advice to all the girls. Her advice is helpful, her dresses are outstanding, and her music is beautiful, especially when she plays Over the Rainbow. Mary's daughter, Sydney, is also a Majority Member and Past Grand Officer of Rainbow, and was initiated into Scepter Chapter last year. She is currently attending Humboldt University. Mary and her husband Bob, and her sons Troy and Taylor will be missed at the Street Fair for all their work.

Last, but by no means least, is Denise Gallegos Womack. Denise is a Majority Member and Past Grand Officer of Rainbow for Girls, and a Past Matron of Scepter Chapter. Denise has been serving on the Advisory Board for three years as Mother Advisor, and now because of term limits, she must step down. Denise has traveled with the Rainbow Girls to Grand Assembly, Rainbow Camp, secret trips, many Official Visits, and many other activities. Denise is also a member of the Funnel Cake Booth club. Denise, the

(Continued on page 5)



Circle of Concern

by Courtney Pedersen, Associate Matron

recovery.

Sister Pat Pedersen's husband is doing well. He went in the hospital for a heart procedure and they found nothing life threatening to his heart. He is home and doing well with the recovery.

Our Associate Conductress, **Sister Madeline Gallegos** went in the hospital on Monday, January 14th to have skin cancer removed (it was not the bad kind) she is home resting.

Brother Paul McDonough, a member of Scepter Chapter and the Senior Deacon of Orange Grove Lodge, has been feeling pretty terrible. He had stomach pain.

Sister Pat Davis is doing better and is ready to see visitors. Please call in advance to make arrangements.

Please keep all of our ill Sisters and Brothers in your prayers. Don't hesitate to call or drop me an email if you know of a Sister or Brother in need of a call, card, or warm thought.

(Assoc Patron's Article Continued from page 4)

Advisory Board will surely miss you, but your Rainbow Girls will never forget you and they will always remember your guidance. Good luck in your up-coming ventures.

Patty, Mary, and Denise the Advisory Board thanks you for all you have done for Rainbow; you will all be missed. I wish you well in your endeavors. And don't forget, if you ever find yourself with nothing to do during Labor Day weekend, come down to the Street Fair where you will find the Rainbow Girls booth right where you left it on All American Street selling Funnel Cakes! Good luck ladies!



A Word from our Dolphin in the North

by Madeline Gallegos, Associate Conductress

Hi everyone,

It's official. We are in the year of Twenty Thirteen. It's going to be a very good year, I bet ya. The very first dinner we served for our Masons was on the 8th. and let me tell you, it was delicious. Thank You Rob Prentiss. Everyone there loved it. I know because I was picking up plates after all had eaten and their plates were wiped clean. Way to go! These Brothers and Sisters love Meatloaf, Mac-n-Cheese and Greeny Beanies.

Our second meeting (for sure this time) was pretty well attended, being it was so cold and almost freezing outside. Once we were in Chapter we got warmed up. Some of our members were ill so we wished them well. After our meeting the dining room goodies were good; strawberry's with whipped cream on sponge cake, Yum! All sugar free and just right for us who do not, or can not, have sugar. Thanks Judy! We had our 2013 IMPACT sessions on the 12th and 13th of this month in Riverside and Bellflower. These were very educational for all, especially for those who wanted to know more about what we do and how things work. Then my very first line association meeting-breakfast. WOW, the things I did not know about and what goes on in the North, that I have now learned.

Now it's done. Just loved it. Now I'm prepared for stuff that will be coming my way. On a sad note the memorial service for our dear friend and Brother Gene Stiles, Past Grand Patron, was heart-warming. It seemed that everyone and I do mean everyone was there to give their respects. He was so loved and will be missed by all.

After that we went to the Superbowl! Our second meeting in January, it was fun. Members dressed in their favorite team colors, Jerseys, and whatever they had to show off their team. The refreshments after were great. Thanks Becky. Our next meeting is in February, the month of LOVE and ROMANCE. Brothers and Sisters get ready for all that Pink stuff.

A Word from Speedy in the South

by Hollie Mann, Conductress and Starbright President



January did not get off to a good start for many of us health wise. I know many of us came down with the flu even though we got flu shots. Then there were colds and virus's going around, followed by some of us getting pneumonia or bronchitis. So let's hope all of the illness is over with and we can be healthy the rest of the year.

We also lost two members that were very dear to us. It was a comfort to be able to celebrate the gift that their life was to us with memorial services at our chapters. Gene (from Scepter) and Karen (from San Clemente/Saddleback) will both be missed by their Eastern Star Family as well as their immediate family. I will especially miss Gene's presence at our meetings. He brought a warmth and class that will not be replaced by anyone else. I am thankful that I got to know him.

I want to thank everyone for attending our dining out fundraisers, every little bit helps! They are also a great way to sit around and socialize, have a night out and not have to cook a meal at home. From the Chili's dining out we made \$50.00. We are still waiting to hear from CPK. I am planning some more dining out events and will send out emails with information and announce them at the meetings as soon as I get them planned.

Everyone is invited to our next Starbright meeting on February 7 at 7:30. We will be stuffing envelopes for our next fundraiser. Does this sound boring to you? Well it's anything but, we laugh so hard at these working meetings that I go home with a sore stomach. Rhea is the chairperson for this fundraiser and I know she would enjoy seeing everyone and having your help.

We are still selling light up lip gloss. If you have not seen these, they are unique. It's a lip gloss, light and mirror all in one unit. They would make a great valentine gift for that special gal in your life. Contact Courtney Pedersen our Associate Matron if you would like to see or purchase one.

Don't forget about our Dollar a Dip and Dance that is coming up. Mamie is our chairperson and she will have sign up sheets available at our meetings for food help. Please help and get the word out to our youth groups about attending, everything is more interesting when the kids are involved. All of the line officers have tickets available for purchase. One dollar gets you one dip of food. I think about \$5.00 will get a nice sized meal. And the dancing is free.

I hope everyone has heard about the wonderful donation that our Rainbow girls made to Scepter Chapter. They donated \$1,000.00 to us as a thank you for helping them with the street fair. What a wonderful surprise from some very outstanding girls. My heart swells with pride and gratitude.

Have a great February everyone and a Happy Valentines Day.



Looking up at the Star

By Rebecca Majoros, Esther

After spending the past three and a half years as a sideline member of Scepter Chapter. I realized something, there is so much about Eastern Star that I did not know. So I did what all curious (or foolish) people tend to do, and I became an officer. Sitting in the elegant white chair of Esther is quite an eye opening experience. There is so much about ritual, why we do what we do, and the meaning behind it that I never knew before. My inquisitive mind went on for a spell musing and mulling over all of the little tidbits of information that it was being filled with. Then I came to a realization. For three and a half years, I *knew* nothing. Honestly, I was clueless. Now, I feel like I am starting to know just a little something.

Most of what we know about our beloved organization is by doing. The other parts are by asking. If there is something you don't know about what we do or why we do it – just ask. I encourage each and every one of you to ask questions and get involved. Ask questions, volunteer, support another who may be asking questions, and most of all, come sit in the sidelines. Even if you can't make it to the meetings all the time, make an effort to come out for a fun night (like slipper night, game night or the Star -b-q Bar-b-q), write an article for the newsletter about what Star means to you or come and be social at one of our dinner fund raisers (since we all need to eat!) Just because you are not an officer doesn't mean there isn't plenty to do! I am sure Puff and Poof can use the help.



In Memoriam



Our Golden Chain has been broken by the passing of Brother

William Eugene (Gene) Stiles, PGP

Born on October 4, 1931 in Blythesville, Arkansas

Initiated on October 5, 1964 into Hermosa Chapter No. 105 which through consolidations became Scepter Chapter No. 163

He served our Chapter as Worthy Patron in 1970 and 1991, Associate Patron in 1969, 1990 and 2007

And was Secretary in 1988

Brother Gene served our Grand Chapter as

Associate Grand Patron in 1992 and

Worthy Grand Patron in 1993

He served on the following Grand Chapter Committees:

Aims & Objectives, 1994; Dispensations & Charters, 1994 & 2008; Constitution & Bylaws, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, & 2010; Speakers Bureau, 1996; Distribution, 1999; Finance, 2004

He became a life sponsor of our Eastern Star Homes in 1993

Brother Gene was a Past Master of Tustin Lodge No. 241 F & AM, Tustin and a former Grand Lodge of California Inspector and received his Golden Veteran's Award in 2012

Brother Gene Stiles passed away on December 21, 2012 at the age of 81 and is survived by his Wife, Barbara, his Son Steven and daughter-in-law Terri who are also members of Scepter Chapter.



Our Golden Chain has been broken by the passing of Sister

Dorothy Ann Carroll

Born on August 22, 1920 in Pickaway County, Ohio

Initiated on October 10, 1961 into

Harbor Star Chapter No. 568, Newport Beach

Which through consolidation became

Scepter Chapter No. 163

She became a life sponsor of the Home in 1992

and received her 50 year recognition in 2011

She had been a member of Scepter Chapter for 51 years Sister Dorothy passed away December 10, 2012 at the age of 92.



Our Golden Chain has been broken by the passing of Sister

Mary Jane Rodieck

Born on January 4, 1920 in Idaho Falls, Idaho

Initiated on April 12, 1945 into

Scepter Chapter No. 163, Orange

She received her 50 year recognition in 1995 and became a life sponsor of the Home in 2011

She had been a member of Scepter Chapter for 67 years Sister Mary passed away November 8, 2012 at the age of 92.



Our Golden Chain has been broken by the passing of Brother

John Charles Sleppy, PP

Born on September 30, 1933 in Piqua, Ohio

Initiated on September 13, 1979 into Scepter Chapter No. 163

He served our Chapter as Associate Patron in 1980

and Worthy Patron 1981,

Warder in 1992 and Sentinel in 1993

He became a life sponsor of our Eastern Star Homes in 1984

And received his 25 year recognition in 2004

Brother John was a Past Master of Orange Grove Lodge No. 293 F & AM, Orange and Havasu Lodge No. 64 F & AM, Lake Havasu City, Arizona

Brother John Sleppy passed away on January 3, 2013 at the age of 79 and is survived by his Wife Sharon and Daughter Kellie who are also members of this Chapter and two Sons.



Put on your dancing shoes and bring your appetite

Scepter Chapter # 163



Is having a

Dollar

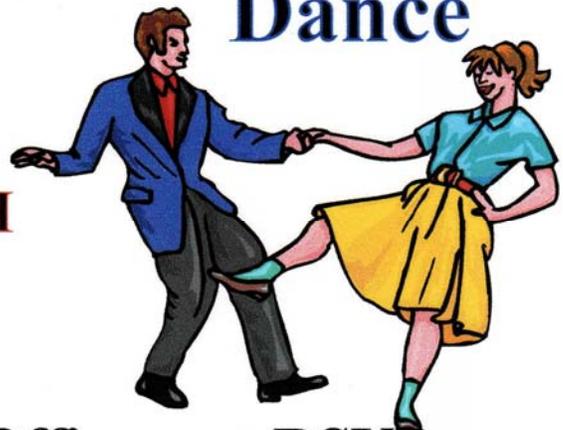
A Dip



And

Dance

(Fun for all ages)



Saturday April 6th. 6:00 PM

Orange Masonic Center

71 Plaza Square, Orange CA.

Tickets available from the Officers or RSVP

By Email or by Phone to Mamie Wilson, PM

Tickets available at the door but please RSVP by date below

RSVP BY: March 28th

Proceeds will be used to support the sponsor's fraternal purposes.



OES Scholarships



Members, if you or someone you know is interested in applying for one of the OES Scholarships, the deadline is **March 1, 2013**. The OES Scholarships are available for all ages, not just graduating High School students. If you are a member or have family members that are getting ready to start your college education or are currently attending college, you can apply for an OES Scholarship. You can find information at the following links:

<http://oesca.org/>
<http://oesca.org/CESF/charities/scholarships.htm>

The Members of Scepter Chapter send Special February Happy Birthday Wishes to:

FEBRUARY

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|----|--------------------|
| 3 | Barbara Roesch | 17 | Sabrina Dwyer |
| 3 | Andrew Saez | 18 | Katheleen Osburn |
| 4 | Madeline Gallegos | 19 | Janette Blasinski |
| 5 | Marshall Tipton | 21 | Larry Griffin |
| 5 | Marshall Tipton | 21 | Gladys Smith |
| 6 | Karin Lankin-Bryant | 22 | Loretta Anderson |
| 7 | Frieda Bennett | 22 | Kristia Check-Hill |
| 7 | Steven Stiles | 26 | Mary Jane Huggins |
| 8 | Christian Hansen | 28 | Miriam Moser |
| 8 | Bonnie Liles-Serrano | | |
| 9 | Rowene Conn | | |
| 10 | Jessica Chavez | | |
| 10 | Jerry Murphy | | |
| 14 | Emiko Schowengerdt | | |
| 16 | Lino Castillo | | |

