



Sands through

# The Hour-Glass



1300 Avenue D • Plattsmouth, NE 68048 • (402) 296-7300

Vol. 22 No. 1 • March 2017

[www.thenebraskamasonichome.org](http://www.thenebraskamasonichome.org)



Philip Lorenzen  
15 years  
Omaha, NE



Dwight Smith  
15 years  
Chappell, NE



Gary Radil  
30 years  
Omaha, NE



John Parsons  
6 years  
Papillion, NE



Brett Bennett  
new in 2017  
Plattsmouth, NE



John McHenry  
15 years  
Lincoln, NE



Bruce Baker  
2 years  
Hastings, NE



Kenneth Beebe  
11 years  
North Bend, NE



Ron Brasel  
3 years  
Omaha, NE



Kent Broyhill  
7 years  
South Sioux City, NE



David Knutson  
27 years  
Omaha, NE



Robert Maline  
6 years  
LaVista, NE



Russell Clark  
8 years  
Omaha, NE



Jeff Coleman  
new in 2017  
Omaha, NE



Reginald Kuhn  
new in 2017  
Lincoln NE

As members of The Nebraska Masonic Home Board of Trustees and The Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation Board of Directors these gentlemen meet quarterly to discuss and vote on the pertinent affairs of The Home.

As with any non-profit, these 15 board members are responsible for directing the vision and the mission of The Home. They voluntarily give of their time and share their expertise.

We, the staff and Administration team, are grateful to work for an organization where **the board members care so deeply** about providing a well-kept facility and a quality life for members of the Masonic Family.

We hope you will join us in extending your words of appreciation for the deep passion these men demonstrate for The Home.

**THANK YOU, Gentlemen, from ALL of us!**

In addition to the 15 gentlemen saluted on page 1 we would be remiss in not paying tribute to those individuals who have served as board members at some time over the past 30 years. Living or deceased, we owe them deep gratitude for helping shape the historic past of The Nebraska Masonic Home.

## THANK YOU TO OUR PAST BOARD MEMBERS:



James F. Brown, Jr.  
 Jay H. Speck  
 Chris Nigro  
 James R. Erixon  
 Marlo Burg  
 Fran Crowe  
 Jack Price  
 Jack Nichols  
 Lawrence "Chip" James  
 Les Seiler  
 Richard Brasel  
 Gerald Patton  
 V. Kaye Ramsey  
 Harry A. Spencer  
 Frank V. Lawson, Jr.  
 Robert Metcalf  
 Sanford H. Nelson  
 Robert L. Bass  
 James N. DeMoss  
 Jerry Rittenberg  
 Dale E. LeBaron  
 John S. Pierce  
 Donald L. Pohlman  
 Donald L. Andrews  
 Warren D. Lichty  
 Charles A. Rasmussen  
 Jerry L. Sievers  
 Lewis R. (Dick) Ricketts  
 George S. Holman  
 Will Lantis  
 Thomas W. Tye  
 Merle M. Hale  
 Louis V. Sylvester  
 Harold Hultman  
 T. Leo Stines  
 Arthur R. Sharp



### *The Nebraska Masonic Home*

*Philip A. Lorenzen, President*  
*Gary W. Radil, 1st Vice President*  
*John T. Parsons, 2nd Vice President*  
*Kent B. Broyhill, 3rd Vice President*  
*Brett R. Bennett, Secretary*  
 Bruce A. Baker  
 Kenneth D. Beebe

Ronald E. Brasel  
 Russell A. Clark  
 Jeff Coleman  
 David L. Knutson  
 Reginald S. Kuhn  
 Robert S. Maline  
 John M. McHenry  
 Dwight E. Smith

### *The Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation*

*Gary W. Radil, President*  
*Philip A. Lorenzen, Vice President*  
*Brett R. Bennett, Secretary*  
*David L. Knutson, Treasurer*  
 Bruce A. Baker  
 Kenneth D. Beebe  
 Ronald E. Brasel

Kent B. Broyhill  
 Russell A. Clark  
 Jeff Coleman  
 Reginald S. Kuhn  
 Robert S. Maline  
 John M. McHenry  
 John T. Parsons  
 Dwight E. Smith



## Meet Janelle Krisko, RN . . . Assisted Living Coordinator

. . . Her son Thomas - her dogs - and The Masonic Home . . . they are her life, she says



Thomas and Janelle - Dogs: Apple and Luna

Janelle Krisko's roots are in Nebraska City where she was born. She attended Nebraska City Lourdes High School before finishing up with graduation from Nebraska City High School.

She then took training to become a nail technician and ran a nail salon in Omaha before she felt a call to the field of nursing.

Janelle was intrigued with the variety of areas of health care available to a Registered Nurse. She settled on a career in psychiatric nursing for her studies at Iowa Western Community College. While attending school, Janelle was employed as a nursing assistant at Jennie Edmundson Hospital and Alegent Medical Complex at Omaha's Creighton University. Janelle worked a few years at the Lasting Hope Recovery complex, formerly Richard Young Hospital. This position strengthened her resolve to study the field of psychiatric nursing. Studying the brain and how it works intrigued Janelle.

A few years ago the Assisted Living Coordinator nursing position opened up at The Nebraska Masonic Home. Through the encouragement of previous coworkers and friends, Janelle applied for the position. What a good match this has been for Janelle and the residents.

Because of her positive attitude and bright outlook on life, family, and career, Janelle is a ray of sunshine to those around her. One can't help but know that the day will be just a little brighter because Janelle is there to care for you or be your friend. She enjoys the residents, her coworkers, and life in general.

Janelle's job is full-time Monday-Friday. True to her career and her interest in our residents she also enjoys working weekend hours in our Alzheimer's/ Dementia Special Care Unit.

For pure relaxation, however, you should join Janelle in the crowd at the ballfield in Union, Nebraska, during the spring and summer months when son Thomas (age 13) is chasing down flyballs in the outfield where cornfields encircle the dirt playing field. It's our "field of dreams" she says. Her eyes sparkled at the thought.

Another change recently happened for Thomas, Janelle, and the dogs (Apple & Luna). . . a move from the 60-acre family farm to a small home in Nebraska City. Janelle had wanted to move a little closer to The Nebraska Masonic Home, but a teenager's friendships and school ties took them to town.

Janelle has shown her friendship and love for our residents for some years now, and for that we can all be grateful. Her enthusiasm for her career and support of other staff and residents were instrumental in her being honored as Employee of the Year for 2016. Thank you, Janelle, for being a part of our team at The Nebraska Masonic Home.



Martha, Janelle & Apple



Janelle's gentle touch

## Meet Resident Sara Jane Hippe . . . “I love it here, I don’t have to cook!”



Sara Jane Hippe had an interesting career that included two of her passions in life . . . music and education. This career led her to virtually every corner of Nebraska.

Let’s start back at the beginning

. . . Sara Jane was born in 1927 in Norfolk and as a child moved to Crawford in the northwest corner of the state. Her family eventually settled in Scottsbluff where she taught piano lessons to the younger children who were studying under a friend of the family.

Money for college was scarce in the late 1940’s so her college education was “catch-as-catch-can”. She studied for a year at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln and a year at a junior college in Scottsbluff before a friend encouraged her to finish up at Peru State College in the southeast corner of the state.

At Peru, Sara Jane was able to expand upon her musical interests, both vocally and on the piano. There she met an interesting young man who had just returned from service in World War II – John (Jack) Hippe. To their delight he shared Sara Jane’s musical interests. They both loved to sing, he played the trumpet, and she played the piano. Their musical talents and those of members of Sara’s family made performing for others in Peru and nearby towns a favorite pastime.

In 1948 Sara and Jack returned to Scottsbluff to be married. They then began their teaching careers in schools in south central Nebraska. Eventually the Hipples made their way to the school system in Omaha where Sara taught elementary school and Jack taught social studies at the junior high and senior high levels and in special education classes.

In those days, Sara would recount, it was not unusual for teachers to trade classroom time to meet the special needs of their students.

The Hipples, with their backgrounds in music, were often sought out to provide vocal training and instrumental lessons. Their own students in exchange would receive extra training in the area of the other teachers’ interest or expertise.

Jack joined Papillion Lodge No. 39 in 1953, and they joined Papillion Chapter No. 114 Order of the Eastern Star soon after. Sara was also active in Job’s Daughters.

Jack joined the Tangier Shrine in Omaha and became a member of the Shrine Chanters. It was by performing with the Shrine Chanters that the Hipples became acquainted with The Nebraska Masonic Home. The Tangier Shrine Chanters have delighted The Masonic Home residents with a Christmas concert every year for many, many years.

Sara Jane and Jack were blessed with three daughters during their marriage. For 34 years of their married life they lived in the Papillion/LaVista area. Two daughters still live close by in Lincoln, Nebraska, and the other enjoys the year-round warmth of Texas.

Jack passed away in 2011 . . . and in May 2015 Sara Jane left Lincoln to make The Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth her forever home.

And this is where she happily resides today in her independent living apartment. “I do love it here” she says with a twinkle, “the food is great, and I don’t have to cook!”

We love having Sara Jane here too. . . she adds so much to our church services with her lovely voice, and she thoroughly enjoys playing the occasional piano duet with other residents. Thank you for always sharing your passion and your talent, Sara Jane.



Sister, Polly Ann and Sara Jane



Spring 2017

Dear Friends,

Have you ever heard the term “**hydraulics**” mentioned in the nursing care arena??

Patient lifts (*in photo 1*) are an integral part of the nursing care setting. Hydraulics are the core mechanism of these innovative pieces of equipment—often referred to as Hoyer or EZ Lifts.



Photo 1 - EZ Lift



Photo 2 - Sit to Stand Lift

EZ Lifts make transfers and daily activities easier. They help protect against injury both to the caregiver and to the resident. Here at The Nebraska Masonic Home they are much used tools in the Nursing Care Center where many of our residents have limited mobility. We currently have 2 of the EZ lifts and 2 of the Sit-to-Stand Lifts (*photo 2*). The Sit-to-Stands provide less, but similar assistance to those residents who need an extra hand when rising from a sitting position to move from their chair to their bed.

You are probably wondering why I’m telling you about hydraulics and lifts.

**Here is why:** The current census at The Home has created a greater need for using these lifts for more individuals, more times each day; **14 residents need the EZ Lifts and 2 need the Sit-to Stands.**

*On a typical day the Hoyer/EZ Lifts are used to lift immobile residents:*

1. out of bed . . . in the morning,
2. into their wheelchairs . . . to go for breakfast,
3. on their bed . . . if they want a morning nap,
4. into their wheelchair . . . to go for lunch,
5. on their bed . . . for an afternoon nap,
6. into their wheelchair . . . to go for the evening meal and
7. on their bed . . . when retiring for the evening.

**That is 6 times a day one of these machines is needed in just one resident’s room.** The 16 residents mentioned earlier need the lifts *every time* they are moved. The staff must shuffle the lifts from one end of the hall to the other or from one wing to the other—wherever the need is at the moment. With that kind of usage these machines need to be in top-notch working order 24/7. Unfortunately, **ours are waning and need to be replaced.**

**Today I am asking you to help us replace our existing lifts. We need 4 new EZ Lifts and 2 new Sit-to-Stands which will cost a total of \$34,000.** Increasing the number to 4 EZ Lifts will make a lift more readily available for the residents who sometimes have to wait patiently to be repositioned while staff locate an available lift. **A gift from you will help ease that wait!**

Wishing you and your loved ones a spring filled with meaningful moments . . .



**PS As you count your blessings this Easter please think of the members of the Masonic Family that are relying on us to help with their every move!**

*Jo Peters*

Foundation Director

**The Bus has been ordered!**

**Thanks to you our wonderful Donors!**

**We were able to purchase a brand new Activity Bus that will give our residents a safer and more comfortable ride!**



### Tree of Life



**Thinking about your legacy????**

A one-time gift of \$2,500 or more to The Home will place your name on our beautiful donor wall to serve as a lasting reminder of your generosity toward those who reside here.

- Bronze leaves=\$2,500
- Silver leaves=\$5,000
- Gold leaves=\$10,000
- Small Stone=\$25,000
- Medium Stone=\$50,000
- Large Stone=\$100,000

For more information on giving a gift to The Home, please call Jo Peters@ 402-296-7334.



### **Address Corrections**

Please contact Lisa Davis in The Foundation Office (402)296-7336 or ldavis@nemh.net  
**Thank You**

### **Donor Spotlight**



“The Nebraska Masonic Home has a rich tradition of providing outstanding care and quality of life to its residents. We would like to see that continued for many, many years to come.”

*-Chuck and Anita Sohm  
Bellevue, Nebraska*



Mary Stockton  
Executive Director  
mstockton@nemh.net  
(402)296-7303



Chris Abbott  
Administrative Assistant  
Admissions Coordinator  
cabbott@nemh.net  
(402) 296-7302



Jo Peters  
Foundation Director  
jpeters@nemh.net  
(402) 296-7334



THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME

