

Sister F. Pauline Allan, PGM

Sister F. Pauline Allan was initiated into membership in Saint John Chapter #14 on February 28, 1940. The chapter only 5 years old at that time, was Instituted on Jul 5, 1935; and, Constituted on May 27, 1936. She well remembers the details of the evening, even the dress she was wearing.

Five years later, she became a Charter Member of Philip A. Jerguson Chapter #18, West Saint John when it was instituted on Jan 26, 1945, and later Constituted on Sep 10, 1946. Pauline's energy and interest was not divided by her dual membership, but was multiplied by her faithful participation in the activities of both Chapters. Few are the years in which she has not held an office.

Pauline's early exposure to the wider Eastern Star world occurred in 1946 in Tampa Florida where she attended the installation of our New Brunswick Brother R. Donald Stewart as MWGP and in Sept. 1949 with Sisters Florence Wilson, Lynch & Hagerman at the Triennial Assembly in Toronto – Canada's first since 1925. She has attended eleven Triennial Assemblies since 1976.

From our own Eastern Star Magazine, we learn in May 1949 – Pauline and her sister Florence donated 1 of 7 small white bibles to Saint John Chapter #14 and that in Aug 8-11, 1949, “under the “capable convenorship” of Sis. Pauline a Rummage Sale resulted in a “substantial sum of money.”

Sister Pauline was installed as WM of Philip A. Jerguson Chapter #18 in January of 1950, by her sister Florence G. Allan, PM. Her WP was Bro. Cyril C. Merryweather. At that time, the chapter year began in Jan and ended in December. The report of the event in the spring 1950 issue of the Eastern Star Magazine states, “As the new WM was escorted to the East, ten of the officers formed a guard of honour bearing colored wands surmounted with stars of corresponding colours, while the organist played ‘The Sunshine of your Smile’. On ascending the dais, the WM was presented with a bouquet of red carnations by her mother.” A family affair, yes; yet Sis. Pauline was much loved even then. The editor of the Eastern Star magazine wrote a rare comment, “Congratulations, Pauline! . . . wish I could have been there.” That year was the 100th anniversary of the writing of the Eastern Star Ritual and at her Feb meeting, Sis. Pauline ended her program with the following, “Enthusiasm is our greatest asset. Enthusiasm is Faith in Action. The future holds many promises for the success of our order. Let us grasp the opportunities today in order to build tomorrow. Let us strive for peace and harmony.” Later, on three other occasions she served as Worthy Matron for the two Chapters.

Sister Pauline served as a Grand Representative of Pennsylvania, in New Brunswick and in 1981-1982 she was elected Worthy Grand Matron of New Brunswick along with WGP Douglas Hannah. She was honoured by an appointment as Worthy Grand Warder from 1982 – 1985 by Sister Carol Strizek MWGM 1982-1985. As an officer of the General Grand Chapter Pauline attended the Grand Sessions of most jurisdictions throughout the United States and Canada. During this time, she recounts with pleasure the ocean voyage with sisters and brothers from the U.S. and Canada to Naples, Italy for the Institution of Naples Chapter No. 1 in 1967. This was the first chapter in Italy formed under General Grand Chapter. Pauline served as Ambassador to New Jersey from 2000-2003, an appointment of distinction by MWGM Dorothy Dewing. In 2010 Sister F. Pauline Allan was presented with a seventy-year membership pin from her mother Chapter, Saint John No. 14, of Saint John, New Brunswick. She expressed her appreciation of what the Order has meant through her life, with emphasis on the value of the Ritualistic lessons and the strong fraternal bonds which she has enjoyed. In 2013 Sister Pauline was currently serving in an appointive station in both Chapters, Chaplain and Ruth. Her willingness to share her knowledge of the Order with such good humour is much appreciated by those of us who have the privilege to serve with her. In August of that year she pinned Bro. Don Williams with the PGP pin of her own WGP Douglas Hannah. As of Feb. 28, 2017, Sister Pauline has been a member of Eastern Star for 77 years.

- Betty Boyer, PM Saint John #14
- Don Williams, PGP