

For Immediate Release

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Eastern Star's Grand Matron's Project off to a Great Start

The Cardiac Research Institute at Masonic Medical Research Laboratory (MMRL) is honored to have been chosen by the Most Worthy Grand Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star, Sylvia Moravia, as her Grand Matron's Special Project for 2014.

To mark this year's Special Project, the MMRL and the Grand Matron together designed a special *Every Heartbeat Counts*[™] pin that is available through Eastern Star District Deputy Grand Matrons for a \$5 donation to the Laboratory. These pins raise awareness and funds for the lifesaving cardiac research at the MMRL. A special Eastern Star brochure *Women and Heart Disease* is available upon request from the District Deputy Grand Matron.

The excitement is palpable between the two organizations and the remainder of the year will be filled with opportunities for OES and MMRL to work together. The Grand Matron has invited the MMRL to several Grand Matron's Official Visitations around the New York State, in addition, many Chapters are planning dinners to be followed by presentations or Friendship Nights.

Barb Horwald, Worthy Matron of Evening Star Valley Chapter 82 in Ilion, held a Friendship Night to benefit the MMRL on March 4th. District Deputy Grand Matron of the Fulton-Hamilton-Herkimer-Montgomery District, Donna Sudol, was in attendance for this wonderful evening. The Order of the Eastern Star had a total of five prospective members at the Friendship Night, two turned in their petitions for membership during the evening. Over 60 people were in attendance during the event with the sidelines so full that it was nearly standing room only in the Chapter Room. The response that the MMRL is receiving is overwhelming. If any Chapters are interested in hosting a Friendship Night or an open house please contact Myron Thurston III at the MMRL to coordinate representation from the Laboratory.



Photo Legend:

Sylvia Moravia, Grand Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star
George Walter, Grand Patron of the Order of the Eastern Star