**Buckeye Links Spring 2025 Meeting:**

The Buckeye links spring 2025 meeting occurred on May 17, 2025 at Findlay Masonic Lodge in Findlay Ohio prior to the Worthy Grand Matron’s Chapter Inspection. In attendance were the Worthy Grand Matron Marla Barber, Worthy Grand Patron Ray Dennis, one Past Matron, five Grand Officers, ten Deputy Grand Matrons, six past presidents of Buckeye Links and four current Buckeye Link officers along with many former Grand Representatives and guests.

**Call to Order:** Cathy Adams, Buckeye Link President

**Invocation:** Worthy Grand Patron Ray Dennis

**Pledge of Allegiance:** was led by Cathy Adams, Buckeye Link President

**Memorial Service** was led by Roberta Ekleberry, Buckeye Link Vice President

**Business Meeting:**

1. Minutes: were approved without changes: they were on the tables for review and available online on the Grand Chapter website.

2. Communications: There were three all read by Stephanie Ott Buckeye Links Secretary

A. A Thank you note from Past Grand Matron /Cheryl Maslowski for her honorary membership and love gift from the Buckeye Links

B. A Thank you note from Past Grand Patron/Harless Maynard for his honorary membership and love gift from the Buckeye Links

C. A letter from Donna Miller 2008 Buckeye Links President that related her report from the General Grand Chapter meeting in October 2024 was read and a bill for $175 for the cost to decorate the tables at the IGRA luncheon held there was submitted and approved for payment.

3. Treasurer’s report was read by Teresa Pience Buckeye Links Treasurer

4. Audit report: 4/6/2024 (Committee: Dru Knoop, Milly Beth New, Carrie McGlaughlin) report was approved

5. Bylaw’s Committee (Jen Garringer, Vicky Gresh, Susie Mayer): proposed changes

1. Proposed changes to Article VI Fee, Dues and Gifts:

Membership dues for Buckeye Links to be paid according to the following schedule based on the members’ age at the time of their appointment, to be paid at the first Buckeye Links meeting following the appointment:

Section 4:

Under age 50 $50.00

50-55 $45.00

56-60 $35.00

61-65 $25.00

66-70 $20.00

70-75 $10.00

76 and older $5.00

It was approved to read:

Life Membership dues for Buckeye Links to be paid according to the following schedule-based on members’ age at the time of her appointment. The one-time fee can be paid any time after her appointment. Those paying annual dues as of 2025 will change to the lifetime membership and pay according to her age at the time of her appointment per the schedule listed.

6. Nomination Committee: Donya Wright, Annie Gilkison, Vicki Laudermilk proposed Willa Tomlin for election as secretary of Buckeye Links and the nomination was approved.

**Election of 2025-2026 Buckeye Links Officers:**

The following were elected to serve President: Roberta Ekleberry, Vice President Stephanie Ott, Secretary Willa Tomlin (who was unable to be there in person that day), Teresa Pience Treasurer

**Old Business:**

Vote held to eliminate the annual dues given the new changes voted on and approved earlier in the meeting.

**New Business:**

**Installation of 2025-2026 Buckeye Links Officers:**

Led and performed by Past Grand Matron Gail Walsh where she asked questions about each officer’s former jurisdiction they represented, and all passed with flying colors and were deemed : “true Grand Representatives” in a fun and enjoyable Installation. New officers for the ensuing year are:

President: Roberta Ekleberry, Vice President Stephanie Ott, Secretary Willa Tomlin (who was unable to be there in person that day), Teresa Pience Treasurer

The new president, Roberta Ekleberry, gave remarks and information on her plans for this year.

Theme: There's no place like home in Ohio. Flower red carnation. Symbol red cardinal.

Nominating committee: Thelma Boos, Shirley Olmsread & Rhea Widmer.

Other committees: audit- Cathy Scarlelli, Kelly Sparks & Marion Johnson. Parliamentarian -Millie Holzer.

**Announcements:**

Reminder about joining the IGRA and how to do so was given. The centerpieces on today's tables were given away to various members present. Stories from current representatives' travels were shared, and the budget was passed for the ensuing year. The following remarks were given to close the meeting and no Benediction was given.

Worthy Grand Matron Marla Barber: Thanked Buckeye Links and spoke about being a Grand Representative and to enjoy their travels and a thank you for her honorary membership and all the kindness given to her and then read a poem about how kindness grows within a person.

Worthy Grand Patron Ray Dennis: Spoke about being a lucky group to represent our Order and our Grand Chapter. He mentioned that Grand Representatives are the front line for greeting and welcoming at meetings and the important role that plays. He thanked all for the love gift and honorary membership.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 with lunch served at 11:30am

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Ott Buckeye Links Secretary

District 27 Reber Chapter #161 former representative of Quebec in Ohio 2018-2020