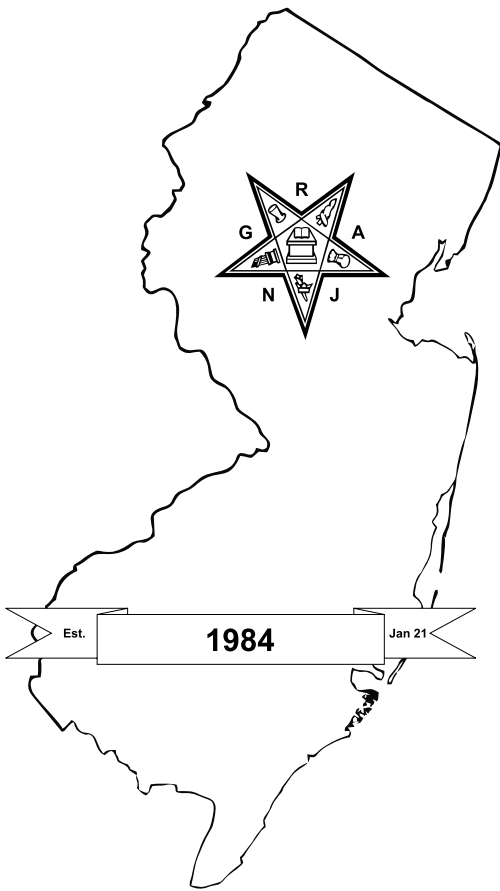


Grand Representatives Association of New Jersey

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings to All Grand Representatives, Past and Present.

I hope you all had a wonderful summer. As we enter into the fall season with all the events of our Star, one of which is our annual fall meeting on Saturday, October 5th at Burlington Lodge in Burlington. This is our meeting where we host the Rainbow Girls to lunch. This year's theme is a '18th Century Tea'. I plan to have Susan Braisted, who is a teacher of 18th Century dance, teach the girls some dances. 18th Century costumes are an option. I am looking forward to greeting all the attendees, the girls, pledges and members at this Luncheon. Please have your teacups ready, please see the attached invitation and RSVP early and, as always, your support and interest is very much appreciated. It was my honor and pleasure to attend the Rainbow Girls Grand Assembly this August at the Fellowship Center in Burlington, where I had the distinct pleasure of rewarding those Rainbow Grand Representatives prizes for their costumes from their costume contest. 1st Place went to Laura Elkin, Grand Love, Grand Historian, Grand Representative to North Carolina; 2nd Place went to Michaela Stevenson, Grand Chaplain, Grand Lecture Grand Representative to Maryland; 3rd Place went to Jocelyn Pascale, Grand Nature, Grand Representative to Texas; 4th Place went to Lilliana Sikorski, Grand Fidelity, Grand Representative to Louisiana; 5th Place went to Mary Moor, Grand Treasurer, Grand Representative to Tennessee. I believe they were all winners with the imagination, creativity and effort that each girl put into their costumes.



As I was on the Committee to put together an instructional booklet with Sister Elsie Van Dusen and Brother David Lorenc, I can say that it is completed, and Brother David has generously printed out the booklets. There are two forms of this booklet, one is a booklet style, and the other is a trifold for the Brothers to be able to have it in their suit pockets. The Committee will be working on a standard President book for the future Presidents of this Association.

Sister Elsie has the GRANJ pins available for sale. Please see her to get our Association Pin. I am hoping to get a newly designed Past President's pin and possibly a Presidents Pin that could be passed down from president to President.

As President this year, I have gone to many Rainbow's events; their Charity Ball, their last Grand Officers Day and Homecoming of their Grand Worthy Advisor. It is abundantly clear the importance of the IORG to these young ladies. The energy that is in the air no matter what the event is, it's enlightening. I have seen these young ladies being fun and silly then serious when doing their work. I was not a Rainbow Girl and as I see how close these Rainbow Girls are, I am a bit jealous. I want to be a Rainbow Girl. However, that boat has sailed but my admiration for this organization has grown, and I will always work hard to support the Rainbow Girls. I ask that you come and join us at our October meeting, luncheon and see how much fun our Association is and how exciting it is to spend time with the Rainbow Girls. I hope to see you there.

In Star Love and Friendship,
Lisa Helge, RWGT

FROM 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Greetings Fellow and Former Grand Representatives,

I am writing this in August. I am gearing up for Rainbow Grand Assembly Convention and their Grand Representatives' costume contest. It has been my favorite part of their convention since I returned as a Rainbow Grandmom in 2017. Unfortunately, that weekend is the same weekend as my Wyoming Grand Session. I will not be able to attend but I mailed my pens to my counterpart, Mary, for her to give out at their Grand Representative Luncheon.

I was blessed to accompany my Granddaughter when she went to her Grand Assembly in Louisiana to represent New Jersey Rainbow. I loved seeing this experience through her eyes. I also attended Supreme Assembly with both of my granddaughters. It got me excited to attend our Triennial in October. I love everything about being a Grand Representative and getting to visit other states. I love meeting people from other jurisdictions and comparing our similarities and differences. I believe that the international aspect of the Order of Eastern Star makes our organization outstanding.

I so admire that our group, GRANJ, focuses on Rainbow Grand Representatives and supporting them. I know that this is an awesome experience for the girls as well.

I hope that you all have had a restful summer and are looking forward to getting back to Star this Fall.

In Star Love,

Barbara Helfrey, 1st Vice President



Back Row: Barbara Helfrey, Jennifer Schiffrin, Lisa Helge,

First Row: Bobbie Bechtal, GR of Manitoba
Nancy Rudolph Myers, GR of Oklahoma
Kathy Haughy, GR of DC

FROM THE TREASURER

As treasurer it is my duty to remind you to pay your dues. *PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES.*

We have just returned from the annual convention of the New Jersey Order of Rainbow for Girls. These girls are so proficient in their work. So lady like as they do their floor work. I'm looking forward to October when we will entertain them at our fall meeting. I know Lisa has some great plans for the day,

See you then.

Dottie Westdyke, PGO

FROM THE 2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Thank you for the honor of being 2nd Vice President. I look forward to working with, and supporting Lisa, Barbara and our membership.

I enjoyed my time as a Grand Representative and have enjoyed being a part of this association. Please encourage past & present Grand Representatives to join and attend our biannual meetings.

Please send your reservation early for our October 5th meeting. We will be hosting our Rainbow girls for lunch. Lisa has a wonderful program planned for all of us. I'm sure it will be a lot of fun.

In star friendship,

Heather Shoppas, PGO

2nd Vice President

JEWELRY:

GRANJ pins are available from Sister Elsie Van Dusen for \$10.

DUES:

Dues are \$5. Please send them to the secretary, or with your lunch reservations, or pay your Ambassador. Checks should be made payable to GRANJ.

TO OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS:

"...for the Lord your God is gracious and merciful, and will not turn away his face from you, if you return unto him."

2 Chronicles 30:96

Our prayers are for you to feel the Lord with you and our hugs for you.

TO THOSE WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES:

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:7

May your memories of cherished times bring you peace during this difficult time.

If someone you know is in need of a card, healing, encouragement, sympathy or joy – please notify the Chaplain,

Sister Deborah Mundy, PGO
905-337-7077

FROM THE SECRETARY

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I hope you have been able to enjoy some relaxing time with friends and family this summer. I look forward to seeing many of you at the October meeting. I received a couple dues checks so far this summer, but all other membership cards have been processed and given to your District Ambassador. Your District Ambassador also has a list with your name, address, phone, and email (if provided), and it is important that we keep this information up to date.

Thank you, Ambassadors, for taking care of these records and for reaching out to new and renewing Grand Representatives.

Members, please send your dues (\$5) and email changes to me or your Ambassador promptly and if you have any questions or concerns, you can call/text me 201-704-7049.

Checks are made payable to Grand Representatives Association of NJ (GRANJ) and please do not send cash. My mailing address is 42 Two Bridges Rd., Towaco, NJ 07082.

You can also email me with questions at jschiffrin@yahoo.com - please put GRANJ in the subject line.

Fraternally, Jennifer Schiffrin, PGO,
Secretary GRANJ 2024-2025

GRANJ OFFICERS 2024 - 2025

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| 1st Vice Pres. | Barbara Helfrey, GO |
| 2nd Vice Pres. | Heather Shoppas, GO |
| Secretary | Jennifer Schiffrin, PGO |
| Treasurer | Dorothy Westdyke, PGO |
| Chaplain | Deborah Mundy, GO |
| Parliamentarian | Lynn Billingham, PGM |
| Jewelry Chair | Elsie Van Dusen, PGO |
| Audit Committee | Alice Good, PGM Sue Witty, GO David Lorenc, GO |
| Newsletter Organist | JoAnn Bingenheimer, PGM Pamela DeLisa, GO |

District Ambassadors

- 31 Joan Sharma, PGO, No. 59, 201-218-0516
- 33 Stephanie Bowen, PGO 908-418-2727
- 34 Joyce Calabro, GO, No.198, 732-865-3237
- 35 Adair Ruane, PGO 732-270-5976
- 36 Virginia "Ginny" Dickinson, GO, No. 155, 609-513-0906
- 37 Isabella Cooper, PGO, No. 219, 856-371-4008
- 38 Elizabeth "Betty" Young, PGO, No. 257, 609-371-0153
- 39 Kim Lorencz, GO, No.166, 908-537-0151/908-413-4625

GRANJ – MEETING AND LUNCHEON

Burlington Lodge
2308 Burlington-Mt. Holly Road
Burlington, NJ 08016

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

AN 18TH CENTURY TEA

Meeting: 11am – Luncheon 12 Noon

Cost: \$20.00

Make Checks Payable: GRANJ

Reservations by October 2nd.

**Send Reservations to
Heather Shoppas, PGO
517 Fountain Avenue
Burlington, NJ 08016**

NAME: _____ (Past) GR of _____

PHONE: _____ CHAPTER _____

EMAIL: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

DUES _____