

Grand Representatives Association of New Jersey

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings Sisters and Brothers!

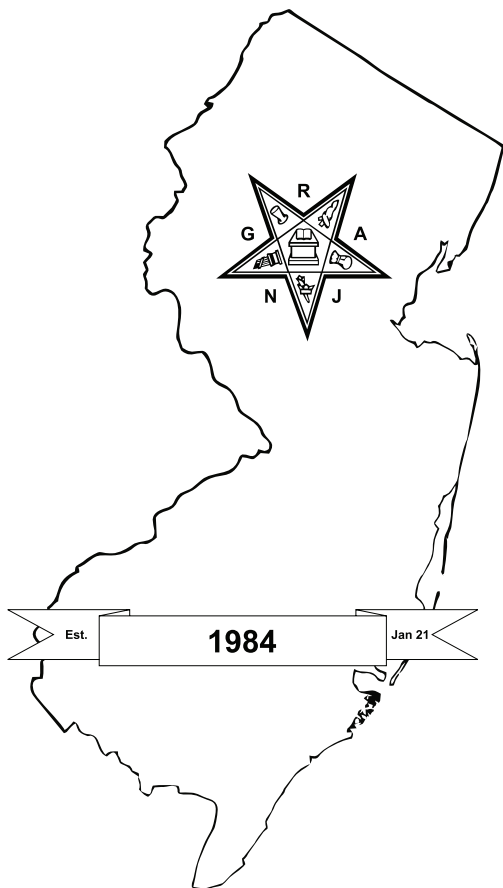
Summer activities are winding down and we are looking forward to an active Star season. Our annual fall meeting will be held on October 7th at Olive Branch Lodge in Freehold. I tried for centrally located and also near an active IORG assembly. Hopefully there will be many of us, the girls, and pledges in attendance. We will be having a Game Show *"Let's Make A Deal"* style activity and I'm looking forward to fun and fellowship, laughter and luck. The response form is included in this newsletter. Please RSVP early and, as always, your support and interest is appreciated.

In August I was honored to attend the Rainbow Girls Grand Assembly in Burlington, and to present the monetary prizes for the Grand Representatives costumes. All of the girls did a great job and deserve praise for their efforts and enthusiasm. This year's winners were: 5th place – Rosella Valencia, GR of Maine & OK, 4th place – Abbey Wilkie, GR of Virginia, 3rd - Bella Storie, GR of California, 2nd – Samantha Kidwell, GR of Nevada & KY, and 1st place – Gia Mondacci, GR of Arizona & WV. The PGMs said it was a difficult choice this year, with the top 3 spots requiring a lot of discussion.

I'm looking forward to working with the Executive Committee to review processes and procedures documents and update them for members coming up the line in our Association. Hopefully a meeting date will be set for some time before December that all can attend.

Come out and support your Association and the Rainbow Girls! If you know a Grand Representative that has not joined, please invite them to the meeting (and let me know) so we can show them the excitement of our group and let them enjoy the social time with us.

In Star Support and Friendship,
Jennifer Schiffrin, PGO



GRANJ OFFICERS 2023-2024

1st Vice Pres.	Lisa Helge, GO
2nd Vice Pres.	Barbara Helfrey, GO
Secretary	Judy Brown, GO
Treasurer	Dorothy Westdyke, GO
Chaplain	Linda Penin, PGO
Parliamentarian	Joan Smith, PGM
Jewelry Chair	Candy Walling, PGO
Audit Committee	Alice Good, PGM
	Dale VanHouten, PGO
	Norman Sloan, PGO
Newsletter	JoAnn Bingenheimer, PGM •
Organist	Pamela DeLisa, GO

District Ambassadors

31 Susan Whitty, GO 201-388-5414
33 Stephanie Bowen, PGO 908-418-2727
34 Jeanne Gionfriddo, PGO 908-614-4001
35 Adair Ruane, PGO 732-270-5976
36 Barbara Juniewicz, PGO 609-287-7310
37 Susan Sharpe-Corliss, PGO 856-912-2146
38 Heather Shoppas, GO 609-234-6980
39 Carol Hart, PGO 908-852-0234



Officers 2023-2024



Linda Starzman receiving her certificate.



Sr. Sharon pinning Elsie with her Past President



CHARTER MEMBERS: Dot Himerlick, Sharon Rosequist and Alice Good with Elsie Van Dunsen Past President

JEWELRY:

GRANJ pins are available from Sister Candy Walling 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 Linda Penin, PGO – LindaPenin@aol.com / 201-602-7412 (cell)

FROM 1st VICE PRESIDENT

Hello Again, my Grand Representative Pals (Past and Present),

As I write this message, I just returned from my travels up to New Brunswick, Canada’s Living in the Light Grand Session. I was fortunate enough to not only go to my Grand Session in Vermont but also accompany Sister Debbie Mundy, Grand Representative of New Brunswick in New Jersey to her Grand Session. We also attended the New Brunswick Grand Representatives’ Association meeting. I found it very interesting and informative. I have met many Sisters and Brothers in these jurisdictions, and we have become fast friends. I intend to continue the friendships I have made for years to come.

As Sister Debbie and I traveled home, I thought about what I would write, well Sisters and Brothers, I would encourage you to travel to your respective jurisdictions. Not to just go to the sessions but to make friends. I know of many of New Jersey Grand Representatives, past and present, who have made lasting friendships that continue to this day. Isn’t that what being a Grand Representative is all about? As I assume the role as First Vice President, I look forward to working with Sister Jennifer, our President, to make her year fun and productive and to get the word out about Our Association.

I also hope to help the newly appointed Grand Representatives with any questions or concerns they may have about traveling to their jurisdictions.

In Fraternal Love and Friendship,
Lisa Biczi-Helge, 1st Vlice President

FROM THE 2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Dear Members of New Jersey Grand Representatives’ Association,

Thank you for electing me to serve our organization. I am looking forward to our Fall meeting when we will welcome the Rainbow and Pledge sisters to our luncheon. I hope that you will be able to join us. I served Rainbow as the Grand Representative of California in New Jersey and made some of my fondest Rainbow memories while going to California. I think that hosting these young people is a great opportunity for all of us.

I loved serving NJ OES as Grand Representative of Maryland. I visit my counterpart, Florence, every year when the Grand Staff visits her district.

I am currently serving as Grand Representative of Wyoming in NJ. I am enjoying getting to know my new counterpart, Mary and hope to get out West to Wyoming next August.

I agree with the saying that we have the best seat in the house but I truly believe that ours is the most important as well. Being an Ambassador of NJ Star is such a rewarding experience. I hope that you are able to communicate with your counterparts, share and compare stories and make memories.

Stay Well,
Barbara Helfrey , 2nd Vice President

MESSAGE FROM OUR SECRETARY

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Greetings to all our members. I hope you had an enjoyable summer and I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

I would like to thank our Ambassadors for all their support. Reaching out to our members and providing me with updated information is a tremendous help and I thank you so very much.

Members, please send your dues (\$5.00) and any changes to your information to your Ambassador or myself. Please contact me with any questions at 856-495-1255.

Checks are to be made payable to the Grand Representatives Association of NJ (GRANJ) (please do not send cash) and sent to me at, 35 Sheffield Place, Southampton, NJ 08088.

If you sent your dues and have not received your card, please email me at jandd11@verizon.net or give me a call.

Fraternally, Judy Brown, PGO, Secretary, GRANJ

GRANJ – Meeting and Luncheon

Olive Branch Masonic Lodge

2 Dutch Lane Rd.
Freehold, NJ 07728

October 7, 2023

“Let’s Make A Deal!”

Meeting 11am

Cost \$17

Lunch 12 noon

Checks Payable to GRANJ

Reservations by October 1st

to Sister Barbara Helfrey, GO

97 Sherwood Ave.
Hamilton, NJ 08619
Babs0602@optonline.net

Name _____ (Past) GR of _____

Phone _____ Chapter _____

Amount enclosed _____ Check # _____