

2 0 2 3 S P R I N G E D I T I O N

the NEBRASKA IORG *family*

Stand Up! Stand Out! Stand Tall!



GWA Courtney

During our 2022-2023 Grand Assembly year our GWA Courtney has led us and represented Nebraska Rainbow in great style and effectiveness!

STAND UP!
STAND OUT!
STAND TALL!

Thank you Courtney
and Weeping Water #5!



✧ It Has Been A Busy Year for our Giraffes ✧

From Grand Assembly Installation to summer travels and into fall events and the MYLC, then onto the winter and spring meetings and events and arriving at the SPRING LEADERSHIP EVENT at the HENRY DOORLY ZOO and Bellevue Lodge, our



summer travels and into fall events and the MYLC, then onto the winter and spring meetings and events and arriving at the SPRING LEADERSHIP EVENT at the HENRY DOORLY ZOO and Bellevue Lodge, our STAND TALL 2022-2023 Grand Assembly year has been successful and FUN! Our GWA Courtney and Weeping Water Assembly have led us all year and in all ways! It has been great to have meetings and fellowship together! It has been awesome to welcome new members, new families and new pledges. It has been our privilege to support cancer patients and survivors! Thank you one and all for such a great year! Now it is time to gather once again for GRAND ASSEMBLY! Let's STAND TALL!

From GWA Courtney...

Writing my last Rainbow Rays, my heart is so heavy but so full at the same time. I first want to thank Nebraska Rainbow for this amazing opportunity and making my term and this year one I will never forget. We are almost one month away from the big weekend, and I am so excited to see it all put together with all the hard work everyone has put in. I want to take this opportunity to give some reminders as to what needs to be done before Grand Assembly and other general reminders.

Our first thing that should be at the very top of your list is getting your parts ready and memorized! I know some of you may have several things to memorize for different ceremonies and things throughout the weekend. So please be sleeping with your rituals and practicing and memorizing every day before Grand. We have many important guests that will be at our Nebraska Grand Assembly this year and I want everyone to be prepared and show off how amazing I know you all are!

Everyone should also be getting your dresses altered and ready to go whether you have a Grand Family dress or the formal/formals you will be wearing during the weekend. If you have a sage green Grand Family dress you need to have the inside slit sewn and the outside sheer, flowy, chiffon slit leave open please. If you are wearing a purple Grand dress your entire slit needs to be sewn, please and thank you! I'm very excited to see everyone in their dresses, I had so much fun picking them out this year!

For the Grand Representatives, you will need to start making your report and skit. You will need to turn it into either Katie Mogensen

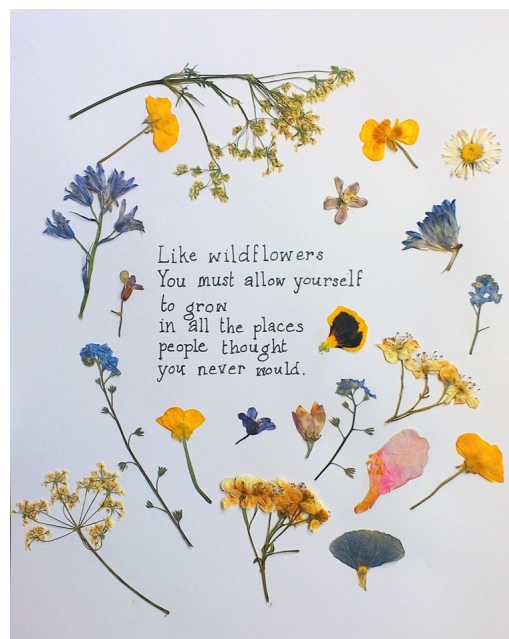
or Kylee Lichtenberg. They need to write their report based on the information you give them about your assigned states so please get this to them ASAP. The report does not have to be long. Just a few paragraphs about your state and some fun facts about their grand assembly. I will take your skits for Friday Fun Night. I don't need these until the weekend of

Grand Assembly. You can either email it to me or have it on a piece of paper that weekend. I just need it before you do your skit.

Last, if you are a Grand Officer or Grand Representative, I need \$10 from you for Traveling Moms gift! This can be sent through mail or Venmo. Please get that to me ASAP!

General Grand Assembly information for everyone:

- Your shoes for Grand Assembly should be white closed toed shoes.
 - The canvas shoes from Walmart work best and are usually pretty cheap!
 - You do not have to wear them for practice but please wear appropriate shoes throughout the weekend.
 - It is a good idea to practice in them at least one time before session starts!
- On practice days for Grand you must wear a dress or skirt.
 - It does not need to be a formal but a street length appropriate dress of some kind.
 - The room may be (usually is) cold, you may want and are allowed to wear a cardigan over your dress. NO SWEATSHIRTS PLEASE!
 - Wear something you are comfortable in as long as it looks nice and appropriate.
- On formal meeting days, you must wear your Grand dress!
 - Hair should be clean, nice, and out of your face!
 - Minimal jewelry!
 - You can pack a different formal dress for Sunday Installation if you would like!



Our Village that effectively focuses on THE GIRLS:

It is such a privilege to serve with our Nebraska Rainbow adults, workers, and supporters! WE ARE BLESSED! Your continuous focus on the girls and what makes RAINBOW rich and successful for them is AMAZING! It is awesome to watch you all and hear your ideas and energy! THANK YOU for being difference makers! Your hard work is valued and VALUABLE!

WHAT'S NEXT? THANK YOU AS YOU PREPARE FOR A NEW GRAND ASSEMBLY YEAR! LOOKING FORWARD TO INITIATIONS, VISITATIONS, FELLOWSHIP AND MORE PLEDGES! THANK YOU IN ADVANCE.... AND PLEASE ASK IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS!

Mother Advisor Zoom Socials

Look forward to seeing you all on the fourth Sunday of June at 7pm. A great time to share news, projects, and visitation plans!

Mother Advisors: 990N season

The time is upon us! THANK YOU for your effectiveness and faithfulness! Please ask if you have any questions.

Mother Advisors:

In September...We will begin renewals of background checks with the hopes of getting all handled before you get into your annual report season:)

THANK YOU ALL!



PLEDGE UPDATE

IT IS AWESOME TO HAVE BENSON DIANA #2, LINCOLN #6, LYNN BROYHILL #12, ATHENA #24 AND ELKHORN/WATERLOO #38 WITH ACTIVE, GROWING, ENERGETIC AND CONTAGIOUS PLEDGES! WE WELCOME ALL THESE NEW GIRLS AND FAMILIES TO THE FAMILY OF RAINBOW AND LOOK FORWARD TO THE YEARS WE WILL SHARE!



GIVING TO THOSE AROUND US

IT IS ONE OF OUR DRIVING FORCES AND GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO GIVE TO THOSE AROUND US! CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH ASSEMBLY AND OUR GRAND ASSEMBLY FOR REACHING OUT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR WORLD!



LET'S BE GRAND!

PACK YOUR BAGS AND GET READY TO HEAD TO OUR STAND TALL GRAND ASSEMBLY SESSION AT THE MARRIOTT RIVERFRONT AND CENTER IN SOUTH SIOUX CITY SCHEDULED FRIDAY - SUNDAY JUNE 9-11, 2023. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING OUR SPECIAL GUESTS FOR THE 5 STATE OES GATHERING!

ASK IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS!



THANK YOU to Weeping Water #5

What an awesome year we have had for Nebraska Rainbow! THANK you to Weeping Water #5 for hosting us and leading us and preparing for an great STAND TALL 2023 Grand Assembly Session! Your joy, energy, dedication and hard work are APPRECIATED!

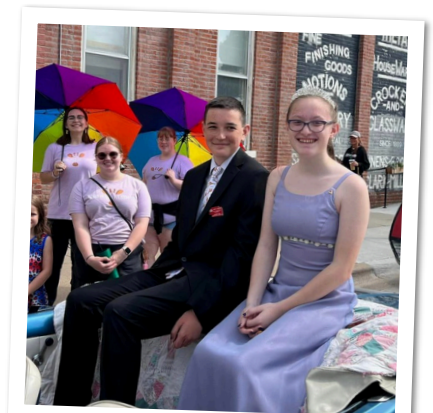


Placing flags for those Who Have Sacrificed with Their Lives for Our Nation and freedom

What a powerful Memorial Day it was for our Assemblies and Pledges who served their communities by placing flags to honor our military members who sacrificed for our freedoms with their lives. Everyone gives a little, but some of our troops have given it all and we salute their ultimate sacrifices by pausing in orayer and showing our respect. Congratulations to all our members who served in these acts of respect and honor.

Shrine Bowl 2023

On Saturday June 4 nebraska Rainbow participated in the parade and pre game ceremonies for the 2023 Shrine Bowl in Kearney. Pictured here are Amelia 2022-20223 Miss Nebraska Rainbow and Jack our 2022-2023 State Rainbow Beau. THANK YOU to Nebraska DeMolay for hosting a Masonic Youth Picnic at Harmon Park. Great food and lots of fellowship, fun and games! THANK YOU to all who assisted and participated!



From the Desk of Betty G

Supreme Faith, Past Supreme Inspector and Member of the House of Gold



Happy Spring!!! And even though I still haven't taken my snow brush and boots out of the car, summer will be here before we know it.

♦♦Since my last report I have participated in two Supreme Executive Board telephone conferences. The updated Statutes and Uniform Code of Bylaws are available. *Anyone* may purchase a copy. Our Ritual is updated every 10 years and the updated Ritual has gone to print.

♦♦I attended Grand Lodge and provided several items for their Silent Auction. The proceeds from that Silent Auction are divided among the three Masonic Youth Groups in Nebraska. ♦♦I attended the Grand York Rite banquet in Kearney in April.

♦♦Two days later I blew in for Courtney's Spring Event. That was a little chilly and windy, but I had a good time at the zoo, and *I* got to see the baby giraffe. The School of Instruction went well and there was good feedback from the girls. Thanks, Courtney; it was a grand day—sorry you didn't get to see the giraffes. Bummer!

♦♦Recently I was invited to an Iowa Job's Daughters Reception. Their Supreme Guardian, Supreme Bethel Honored Queen and Supreme Miss Job's Daughter were there the Supreme Treasurer, two Supreme Representatives and a Supreme Deputy. I was honored to bring greetings on behalf of Supreme Assembly.

♦♦I am getting ready to go to Grand Chapter where Courtney and Karan will be introduced (maybe me, too); Courtney will present the Rainbow flag and bring greetings on your behalf.

♦♦Shrine Bowl with parade and new activities is on the schedule for June just before Grand Assembly.

♦♦And Grand Assembly is always a big deal but this year it is an even bigger deal! New meeting place, the Supreme Worthy Advisor Mrs. Kay Letterman is coming (when you see her be sure to say hello...she would love to visit with the girls), the Eastern Star 5-State Get-together is scheduled at the same place at the same time so there should be many guests, a Silent Auction, the Majority Girls Boutique and much more. Someone said, "Oh, you'll get to sleep in your own bed." No...I'll be at the hotel with the rest of you and looking forward to it. Not much time for sleep anyway, so why worry about the bed? It will be a grand time. Hope to see you there!

I am sending my best Rainbow wishes and Rainbow love to all as we end a year standing tall and looking forward with excitement to what is planned for the new year ever remembering...*Rainbow Gets Girls Ready for Life!* 5-3-2023

Betty G



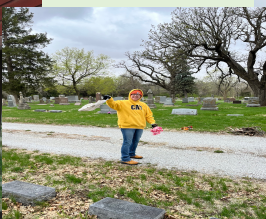
Weeping Water #5

The Weeping Water #5 Rainbow Girls have been busy! We are happy to have a petition for a new member who joined us on our recent trip to the zoo on April 16. Although it was a cold day, we were warmed by all the smiles! We had the opportunity to go on a selfie scavenger hunt around the zoo and got to see a variety of animals.

After our day at the zoo, we warmed up at Athena's Assembly to begin school of instruction! It was a productive day of learning and preparing for upcoming Grand Assembly! Our girls can't wait to support our GWA! Courtney has been working hard in our local assembly, as well as for the state of Nebraska, and we are so excited for Grand Assembly this year.

On April 22nd, we cleaned up our local cemetery, with the help of some of our community members. Tina found a fun surprise during cleanup! We also had the opportunity to cook and serve the Chamber of Commerce end of the year banquet.

Katie Meyer, Worthy Advisor



Elkhorn Waterloo #38

The Elkhorn Waterloo Assembly Pledge group gained five more members on April 30th with the

help of other pledge groups. The girls went to the zoo with the Grand Family, and have matching

pledge shirts now to wear to the pledge service projects!



Benson Diana #2

Our most recent Installation with the help of King Chapter DeMolay. It's been a long time coming, but Amelia Nelson was finally installed as Benson Diana's Worthy Advisor!

We figured out our design for our door decorations. Which came to life with the help of our advisors and pledges.

These two pictures are of a recent and very beloved traditions suggested by one of our advisors –

a potluck before each of our Rainbow Business Meetings, which tend to be combined with pledge meetings.

The soup cook-off had many judges this year, alongside many delicious soups to taste. First place went to one of our wonderful advisors, Caity Todd. Second place went to one of our very own Rainbow Girls, Camelia Abu. My own step-father earned himself 3rd place in the competition.

After nearly 8 years in Rainbow Girls, it's hard to think of a life without it being a constant presence. But I'm afraid to say that my journey, although not ending, will be at an indefinite pause until I can finally return to Nebraska Rainbow.

Samantha Zustra (who is heading to the Army this week!)



Athena #24

Athena Assembly had a good start to their year.

In February Bre Deming had her meeting on February 5th where they had lodge cleaning afterwards where we cleaned both buildings.

On February 11th Athena assembly was able to participate in the DeMolay sweetheart's dance where Bella crowned Abi as Omaha chapter's sweetheart. We all took photos and danced the night away with DeMolay, Job's daughters, and other rainbow assemblies.

Bre had her Galentine's Day party with our last care modules training afterward on February 19th. We made cards for the Masonic home in Plattsmouth Nebraska and afterward, we learned the E in CARE.

Once March Came when Bre had her last meeting as Worthy Advisor and Savannah presented her term. On March 5th, Bella wrote Bre's addendum, where She had to find the lost star dog and collected stars along the way and collected gifts the star dog had left her. After the meeting, they had a lodge cleaning and some snacks.

On March 11th, Bre and Bella helped serve Meatball subs at the

OES craft retreat. The next day Bella and Savannah worked on scrapbooking and had done our 2nd bi-monthly Lodge cleaning.

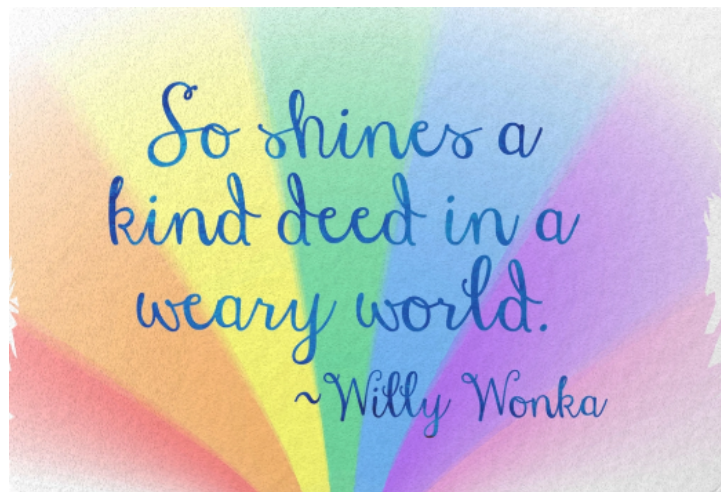
On March 19th, was Athena assembly's Installation of officers where Savannah Kuiper was installed as worthy advisor. Her term is Sail the 7 Seas with Athena Rainbow. She had a nice installation of officers and a nice reception. On the morning of the installation, they had their installation practice where the girls practiced marching. Soon afterward they had pizza and were given time to get ready.

On March 26th, Athena assembly had a Memorization party where the girls were able to eat snacks and go through their parts. Abi and Lily went through their marches in the opening, Abi went through the Bible opening and closing, Zoe learned confidential observers' parts and the bow stations went through their parts in initiation together. Once they were done Susan helped the girls go through entering and going out marches. On March 29th, Athena Rainbow had a dessert stand where there was a free-will donation and were able to raise money for Savannah's service project "The Tourettes Foundation".

April was more of a calmer month. April 2nd was Savannah's first meeting as a worthy advisor. After the meeting, the girls cleaned the dining hall while the adults were hiding eggs in the meeting room. We had our small Easter egg hunt, had snacks, and finished cleaning the main building afterward.

On April 16th, Nebraska Rainbows' spring grand event at the Henry Doorly Zoo Athena, assembly broke off into three groups team Athena Lincoln where Lincoln assembly Adi, Gabby, and Rochelle joined Bre and Kathryn and team Sparrow Emily and Savannah joined by 5 other adults. And Judy Pickle took the pledges Charlie and Piper joined by Piper's mom Dria. Team Sparrow Eventually finds Bella and Abi along the way after they get separated by their group. After the zoo event, Athena hosted the school of instruction where the grand officers learned their parts and participated in a fun game of trivia and awards for the scavenger hunt.

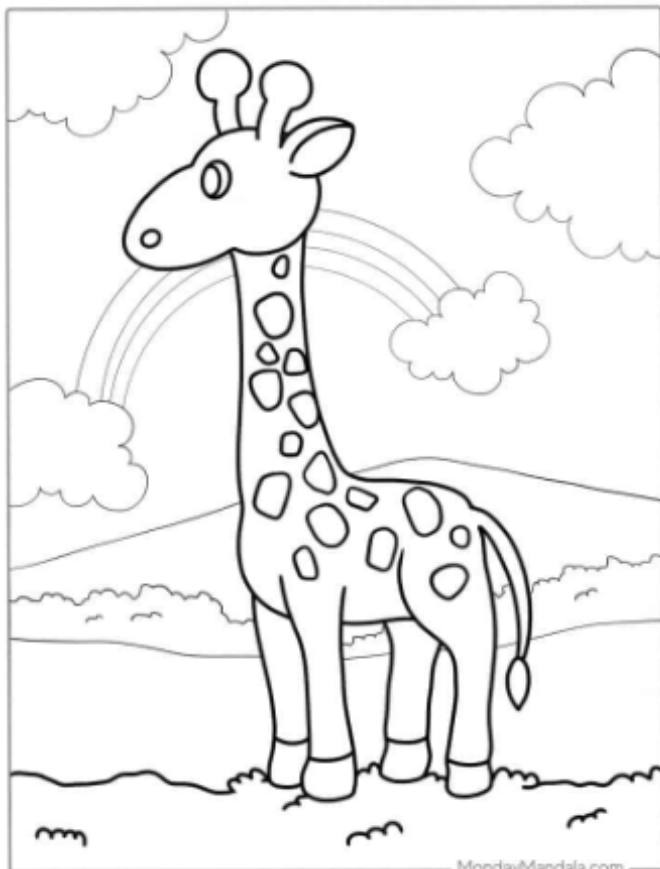
April 29th was the OES Craft retreat where Bella and Savannah served pasta and worked on scrapbooking throughout the event. The next day Bella and Abi attended the scrapbooking and our bi-monthly lodge cleaning.





Nebraska IORG

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take time

take a moment to see the good.
to remember the smiles.
to remember the moments.
to remember the little things.
to be thankful.
to be grateful.
take time to see the wonderful
in this world.
the more you see the good,
the more you will inspire others
to see it as well.
ripple.

words by rachel marie martin
findingsjess.net