

Nebraska DARE YOU TO MOVE

Nebraska Grand Assembly

Winter 2023 Edition

Rainbow Rays







From GWA Katheryn

Welcome back another to segment of Katheryn's Music Notes of the "Dare You to Move!" Grand Year! Since September, we have been movin' and groovin' through the Fall and into the Winter. Nebraska Rainbow ended the Summer with Skyler Radloff, State Rainbow Beau, Abi Pickle, Grand Choir Director, and I singing the National Anthem at the SAC Museum in Ashland for the Legion of Honor Banquet.

September was the month of rest for the Grand Family and getting ready for the start of school. October was a busy month of the Gretna Craft Fair. the Masonic Youth Family Dinner and Information Night, and Mini Grand! Nebraska hosted a table with Magdalene Omaha where they were able to sell some Thistle Lights product and launch their newest scent. It was super exciting to see many members attend and interact more with some of the Magdalene Omaha staff.

The Masonic Youth Family Dinner happened at the Omaha Scottish Rite Center where all

three youth group leaders and some local Assembly, Bethel, and Chapter leaders were able to talk about the benefits of each individual youth group. This was an event where prospective members could show up, learn more, and fellowship with active members. Shout out to Savannah Kuiper who shared about what is happening at the local Assembly level!

Mini Grand was a whirlwind of fun activities and some all-around bonding and learning. Mini Grand was held at Camp Carol Joy Holling and Retreat Center in Ashland where we did some Co-op, making music, and learning more about Magdalene Omaha in hours! Members learned through cooperative operation how communication is key not only in a small group setting but statewide. We ended the first day with some recorded painting, a pumpkin scavenger hunt, and learning the Footloose line dance.

On Sunday, Tesa, Director of Programs at Magdalene Omaha, was able to share more about Magdalene Omaha programs and the situations many of their survivors come from to Magdalene Omaha. At the end of her talk, we were able to gift Magdalene Omaha with 485 tote bags from what we have collected so far from the tote bag drive! Before we parted ways, appointments were announced for Grand Assembly 2023 with the addition of a new appointment of Grand Choir Leaders!

The month of giving thanks started with our Fall Grand Cross Ceremony hosted by Westside Assembly #22. Our Grand Cross team was hard at work memorizing and working together to put on a smooth ceremony for the Grand Master of Nebraska. Thank you to all of those who made a

memorable and impactful impression on the Grand Master through your ritual work and graceful attitudes. I cannot wait to see the fantastic and flawless work at Grand Assembly by our Grand Cross Team!







GWA Continued...

Now it's the month of December which means it is time for Dressember. This month NE IORG has been challenged to dress up every day of December no matter the weather. Dressember is a collaborative movement leveraging fashion and creativity to restore dignity to victims and survivors of human trafficking.

Magdalene Omaha is our philanthropy for this year and I invite you to visit their website and consider a donation to this local safe space for those who are survivors of prostitution, addiction, and trafficking. Participation online has been so encouraging! Keep sharing on your socials.

On December 9th our Statewide Initiation was hosted by Benson Diana #2. We were able to initiate one new member and are so excited to welcome her to Rainbow. Following initiation was the Annual Benson Diana Winterball which was a Frozen theme. It was so fun to dance the night away. It was truly a magical night of dancing and fellowship!

NE IORG has some exciting things to look forward to in the New Year!! First your Junior Members have been hard at work selecting new songs for the Bow Stations that will roll out in the New Year.

Mark your calendars now for April 27th because we will be having a Spring Workshop! The choir will be able to have rehearsal. Grand Officers working on their memorization floor work. Representatives, Grand Pages, Assistant Outer Observers meetings, and fun later for the whole group to enjoy. It will be a great time of teamwork and fellowship across the state!

Lastly, do not forget to turn in your dance cards to me. There is a drawing at Grand Assembly to win a prize if you turn your dance card in! The first three people who read this entire article and sends a text or email to me will receive a prize! Thank you all for your dedication and hard work, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Katheryn Rice, Grand Worthy Advisor









From Supreme Faith Betty Garwood

Hello, Nebraska Rainbow! This issue I'm going to tell you about my trip to Brazil. I hope you saw some of the pictures on Facebook. But even pictures are not always worth a thousand words to describe an experience. So, I am going to have to give you a thumbnail sketch of some of the 10-day adventure.

I met my traveling companions, SWA Mrs. Kay, Supreme Nature\SI ME Debbie Redmond, SD/NC Anna Popilock Nall, and GEB Chair NC Dannielle Williard. September 1 we flew from Miami on an overnight flight to Sao Paulo. After so many 10-hour road trips this summer, the 8-hour flight wasn't so bad. Arriving in Sao Paula, we didn't have to wonder about where to go; we were met by a contingent of Rainbow girls and adults including their mascot, a delightful 6-foot chameleon.

Tours were planned while we were in Sao Paulo. We went to a huge indoor market, a farmers' market, the art museum, botanical gardens, Batman artisan alley, and the Opera de Arame--an outdoor theater. Each

tour included lunch so we could try a variety of Brazilian foods. Cheese bread is a staple. There were birthday celebrations for Mrs. Kay--a party hosted by a Sao Paulo assembly and a tea with PSI Yvette and SD Sao Paulo Rosali Papst Moretti, a barbeque, an evening at a dance club with Rainbow and OES friends. You didn't need to know the language; hugs are the same in any language.

A short flight to Curitiba where the Grand Assembly was held and more warm welcomes from Parana SD Camila Simao Adachi and her associates, girls, and adults. We were treated like rock stars. Grand Assembly was held in a venue where they hold large concerts. The dining hall was just off the assembly room. There were many, many pictures taken with us the entire time we were there. When we took to the stage during their pajama party dance, the cheering was amazing. Assemblies had matching pajamas...and so did we!

Grand Assembly was three days, just like ours, and many things were the same, but there were differences. The girls dress in colored tailored pant suits. Each assembly has a different color for their suits. When it is time for the session, white robes are worn over the suits. Grand Officers identified by green capes. They also have pledges; the pledges were pretty dresses in colors matching their assembly and sit next to the Grand Officer when they present the pledge ceremony. The girls do drills, opening, initiation and closing. Assembly banners are designed by each assembly, presented followed by the WA, pledge representative something and representing the WA's term. There awards. recognitions, majority service, and Grand Cross ceremony. Seventy-nine girls and adults signed the Grand Cross book! And yes, I had happy tears when the GWA gave her closing remarks; you don't have to know language. We did have communicators to use and some of







Continued... Betty Garwood

our new friends translated, not word for word, but what was happening. They had a market where each assembly had something to sell with the proceeds going toward the GWA's project. That was fun; I wish I had had more time to shop. Oh, I have neglected to say there were 1000, yes 1000, attending this Grand Assembly! They even used drones for Pictures.

An especially heart-touching event was when we Supremes constituted two new Grand Assemblies for Paraguay. Paraguay had been part of Parana-Paraguay Grand Assembly, and it was time for them to be on their own. The efforts toward these constitutions had been in process for over ten years. I had the honor of reading the two charters in their entirety and which were then translated into Spanish for Paraguay and Portuguese for Brazilians. Charters, Altar Bibles, Rituals, copies of the Constitution/Statues were presented to each Grand Assembly and placed on the Altar, and then the two new Supreme Deputies for those Grand Assemblies were installed. It was a historical moment and such an honor to have been a part.

Supreme visitors were immensely impressed with the energy and enthusiasm for Rainbow we found in Brazil. We would love to that in our U.S. jurisdictions. I encourage everyone who can attend Supreme Assembly to seek out your international sisters and make new friends-adults as well as girls. Don't be shy. You don't need to know the languages; many speak at least some English. The Brazil trip was a somewhat daring move that I hesitated to make at first, but having done it, I plant to return. So many wonderful friends and memories were made. Now, I am wondering where 2024 will move me? While I am pondering that, Rainbow love to all and best wishes for the 2023 holidays and the new year continue to dare to move remembering...Rainbow Gets Girls Ready for Life













MINI GRAND

Mini Grand 2023 was awesome! Great to be together for a fun filled weekend once again. With the years of COVID restrictions and rescheduling of the MYLC this was our FIRST Mini Grand since 2019! Thank you to our Traveling Moms Tina and Laurel for their hard work and delicious food! Thank you to Mom Sheli and GWA Katheryn for their designing, planning and facilitating such a great experience for all who attended!

24 HOURS TOGETHER

From 2pm Saturday October 21 until 2pm Sunday October 22 we share round the clock food, fun and fellowship! So much was packed into this 24 hours. We had great hands on time to build our communication practices and team building skills. Weather allowed us to be able to enjoy hiking, bonfire,



GOT THE BEAT

Street dancing, s'mores and a scavenger hunt. Indoors we painted vinyl records, shared team building activities and had an awesome session of feeling the (drum) beat and making music together. We also were able to learn more from Magdalene Omaha and hand off 485 tote bags for their use. Thank you to all who assisted, participated and attended!





23 Fall Grand Cross Ceremony

On Sunday November 12, Westside Assembly #22 hosted our Fall 2023 Grand Cross of Color Ceremony and Banquet. Under the direction of Mrs. Ann Daudt, Grand Executive Board and Mrs. Laurel Wolfe, Grand Executive Board the 2023-2024 Grand Cross Team performed the degree work beautifully and welcomed MW John L Millington Grand Master to the Grand Cross of Color designates. Thank you to the Team, Mary Ann Stevens as musician and the directors for a memorable ceremony and event. Special thanks to the sideliners who attended and supported the Team.





BANQUET

The Advisory Board, Boosters, and Members of Westside Assembly #22 hosted a delicious meal following the ceremony. Special thanks to Madie Newcomb who served as Mistress of Ceremonies for the meal and program.

IORG SERVING MAGDALENE OMAHA





TOTE BAGS AND SALES

Our 2023-2024 Grand Worthy Advisor's designated special project continues to be Magdalene Omaha. It is our privilege to support them by fundraising through accepting donations, selling bath and spa products they produce and offer in their store Thistle Lights. NE IORG also continues to collect and donate empty tote bags. So far more than 480 bags have

GRETNA CRAFT FAIR

been donated! We continue to collect bags as Magdalene Omaha uses about 500 bags every two months. On October 14 we hosted a sales and information table for Magdalene Omaha at the Gretna High School craft fair. THANK YOU to all!





DRESSEMBER

The month of December we were challenged to dress up, take a selfie, post, tag, share in participation of the DRESSEMBER a collaborative movement leveraging fashion and creativity to restore dignity to victims and survivors of human trafficking.



Thursday, December 21 was the longest night of the year. Magdalene Omaha hosted an over the night lighted candle and prayer vigil to drive away the dark and shower victims, survivors and their mission in the light of love and compassion. Our GWA and family traveled to Magdalene Omaha and participated in the schedule of candles and prayers. Many of our members and supporters lit candles in their homes and their own communities in support of Magdalene Omaha and driving away the darkness with our light.



ONE POST AT A TIME

Stepping up to our GWA's Dressember challenge, our Grand Officers, NE IORG Members, Mother Advisors, Adult Leaders, Grand Chapter OES, and other supporters joined the efforts to dress up and spread the awareness of Dressember and Magdalene Omaha. Daily we know that posts were shared and while it is impossible to know how many people we introduced to Magdalene Omaha and their mission we are certain our efforts were impactful!



OUR IMPACT

Our efforts to support Magdalene Omaha through tote bags, financial donations, sales of Thistle Light products, hands on service in Gretna, Vigil participation and our ongoing social media sharing of awareness make a dramatic impact on Magdalene Omaha and those whom they serve! THANK YOU! Let's keep up our pace and support! We are only at half time of our year long project! THANK YOU!



FROM MAMA BIRD











What an awesome fall and winter we are experiencing with NE IORG! It is awesome to visit you, attend meetings, initiations, installations and fun events! Our shared events have been outstanding. A huge thank you to GWA Katheryn, Sheli, Traveling Moms Tlna and Laurel, Grand Cross Team and directors, Mother Advisors and all who have engaged to facilitate our great experiences. Your efforts for making an awesome Rainbow journey for yourself and all those around you are significant! Keep spreading your love and service and making the most of each day!

Welcome to our new members! Congratulations to Assemblies who continue to be engaged with our "LEAP OF FAITH". Your efforts to reach out and increase how people can see you and reach you are so important! We have exciting marketing tools available. Please let me know which are a benefit for you.

"LEAP OF FAITH": Please keep communicating with your members and adults. People need communication and information to be able to engage. Please share.... WHAT IS WORKING FOR YOUR Assembly. Together let us strengthen and grow our Rainbow.

We have expanded our PARADE PRESENCE POSSIBILITIES. This 1948 Willy's Jeepster Convertible is ready to show off NE IORG in parades and static events. It comes complete with magnets and flags to share our identity! Please reserve your Assembly's DATES on our calendar so that we can be present in YOUR community!

INFO FOR MOTHER ADVISORS & OTHERS



FRIENDSHIP

As the year ends and we enter 2024:

REMINDER to Mother ADVISORS it is time for Annual Reports. Will keep you posted with the launch of the new platform for entering your data and records on the Supreme Site.

Are the adults to be on your 2024 Advisory Board certified via Sterling Volunteers?

Recommendations for 2024-2025 Grand Officers/Grand Representatives are to be sent immediately to TINA MOGENSEN (<u>tina@nebraskarainbowgirls.com</u>)

THANK YOU ALL! PLEASE ASK WHEN YOU HAVE QUESTIONS:) Mama Bird



















HOW WE LOVE AND SERVE

LOVE AND SERVICE are bound to together. They happen together. They bless together. They only exist when the other is present! As Rainbow Girls, you have chosen to live, love and serve. Let's take a moment to consider and SHARE how we love and serve!

In 2023-2024 our project with Magdalene Omaha has given us opportunities to spread awareness, speak up for the dignity of all women and girls, raise funds to support them, and even lend a hand with their events. We continue to serve them. KEEP COLLECTING TOTE BAGS! Magdalene Omaha uses approximately 500 every two months!

This page pictures a variety of the very important ways we love and serve in our Assemblies, communities, families, and with our pledges! Girls and adults work side by side to bring acts of kindness and service everywhere we are.

A CHALLENGE: PLEASE SHARE PHOTOS and examples of how you serve! Let's encourage each other! \$25 Dairy Queen certificate to the first four Assemblies to contact Mama Bird and share your acts of love and service!





Westside #22

Westside had a fun Fall. We attended Mini-grand and had a great time with girls from across the state and visiting from other jurisdictions. On November 9, we hosted a Rushee event at Its Yours Pottery. One Rushee (Pledge Age) attended and had a great time painting Holiday ornaments that they could give as gifts to their Family and Friends.

Westside hosted our annual Christmas Party on December 2. We decorated cookies with frosting and sprinkles. The girls and adults also participated in a service project. We decorated about 25 clear glass Christmas Ornaments with pom-poms and then donated them for the residents the Montclair of Nursing Home (which is across the street from West Omaha Masonic Center).

As Westside is a pretty small assembly currently, we are looking for help from local assemblies and Majority members so we can open at least one time per month. If anyone can help, please reach out to either Andrea Nelson or Jodi

Minino so we can create a schedule. Thank you all for your help and Support.

Respectfully Submitted, Andrea Nelson, Mother Advisor





Plainview #34

Plainview Assembly #34 had 6 members attend Mini Grand in October. Everyone had a great time building bonds with girls from other Assemblies. On Halloween members of the Assembly joined Mt. Vernon Chapter #84 to hand out candy and glow necklaces at the town Trunk or Treat. Members also handed out invitations to a rushee party and information about Rainbow.

November 12th, 3 members of the Assembly participated in the Fall Grand Cross Ceremony and did a wonderful job! Our rushee party was held on November 18th. Before the party, girls had a work day and completed the GWA quilt squares and made plans for our winter fundraiser with our Eastern Star Chapter. December 3rd members were invited to Plainview Masonic Family Holiday meal. Kayci and Jordynn attended and they will also be the newest members of Mt. Vernon Chapter #84. Kayci's initiation was December 7th and

Jordynn will be initiated in February. We will be selling Christmas cookies and candy trays again this year. December is filled with making lots of cookies and delivering them right before the holiday.



Elkhorn #38

In December, The Elkhorn Peony Pledges had fun by creating marbled ornaments while dressing up to support the "Dressember!"

In November, the Elkhorn Masonic Youth Program split into teams, had a list of items and budget to stay under. After shopping, the groups donated the items to Bethany Lutheran Backpack for Kids program.

October, we decorated pumpkins and had a Halloween party!!



Weeping Water #5

This year has been super busy for Weeping Water #5! In October a few girls attended Mini Grand where we learned to line dance, painted vinyls, ate delicious food, and did many more fun activities.

At Mini Grand, we donated our tote bags to the Magdalena Omaha house. Later in October we held a Masonic Monster Bash and invited our local Eastern Star and Lodge

members to join us for a fun-filled Halloween costume party. We enjoyed delicious food, played fun games, and ended our party by taking our Leap of Faith. Next, we attended Grand Cross at Westside. Tina and **Alexis** Mogensen attended while Katie Meyer was Keeper of the Doors and Katie Mogensen was a Bread Server. We had a delicious Italian dinner provided by the assembly.

On December 2nd we participated in Weeping Water's Parade of Lights with a beautiful rainbow float. Tim ended up delivering Santa in style! After the parade, we headed over to the lodge where we drank hot chocolate and did a sock gift exchange. On February 11th we will be installing Katie Mogensen as our new Worthy Advisor.









Friday Fun
Night at Grand
Assembly!
All Masonic
Youth and
Prospects are
invited to join us
and move to the
beat!
6.14.2024



Benson Diana #2

Benson Diana has been busy last couple of months. We went to mini grand in October and had so much fun being able to get to know people from other assemblies and even a few people from other states.

At the end of October we had our Halloween tea party, where we all dressed up and had tea, hot chocolate and popcorn. We also decorated trick or treat bags and played games.

In December, we had our Christmas party where we wore Christmas pajamas or ugly sweaters.





We started off by setting up and decorating the Christmas trees for the lodge. Then we had our gift exchange and decorated cookies.

In between our regular meetings we got together to make decorations for our upcoming winter ball. Before the winter ball we had an initiation where we welcomed Kaylee and we had rainbow girls from all over the state helping out. Then we had so much fun dancing the night away with our sisters and brothers from Rainbow, Job's Daughters and DeMolay.









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Lynn Broyhill #12

Lynn Broyhill has been very busy since the start of the fall. We started off this season with a Rainbow Sunday at the St. Thomas Episcopal Church. There were 6 girls who attended the church service. At this church they have a labyrinth painted on the floor and we were taught what the meaning of labyrinth was to the church.

Shortly after Lynn Broyhill started collecting items for the Parade Of Trees at the Abu Bekr Shrine Temple. The items that we were collecting were college dorm items and stationery items a college/ high school students may want. Two girls and a pledge went to the Shrine Temple to set the tree up for the opening night.

Five members attended Mini Grand. The feedback from the girls was that everyone had a lot of fun. The three girls who stayed in the gym had said they had a lot of fun playing the games, while the two older ladies had fun going on the mini

participated with the older girls.

to

the

hike

When Lynn Broyhill got home they started Worthy Advisor Madalynn's fundraiser which was selling dog treats. There were 3 sizes and 3 flavors and they were sold for 3-5 dollars. We sold treats for 3 months and at the end of the fundraiser we donated \$100 of the proceeds to Noah's Hope.

Every year Laura Chapter does a baked potato lunch and the girls were asked to help serve. Each girl had a different job; these jobs were to serve drinks and help people through the line. The girls did a tiktok and explained what their favorite part of helping was.

Halloween was right around the let the rainbow corner SO halloween party commence! This year the adults did a group costume - the Spice Women and Men, while the girls had various individual costumes. Everyone took part in a game of jeopardy and enjoyed a halloween dinner.

Next there was a hockey game that Lynn Broyhill attended. It was the Sioux City Musketeers VS. the Fargo Force this night had a theme night which was military night. Sadly the muskies ended up losing but everyone had a fun time hanging out with each other and we got a visit from the mascot Charlie Battle.

A few days later 7 girls and 1 pledge went to Omadi lodge and performed the Ribbon Ceremony each girl walked to the altar and gave their part some had more than one. The lodge members also gave us a donation to put towards the Parade of Trees. As well as a few members had asked some questions about what Lynn Broyhill was currently doing.

So this season has been very full of different activities and getting our Rainbow name out into the community.

Worthy Advisor Madalynn Newcomb







Here Comes 2024







As we enter in 2024, it is time to plan and prepare for what lies ahead! Keep traveling, visiting, and attending performance and fill your DANCE CARD to qualify for a prize at our 2024 Grand Assembly Session! MARK APRIL 27 on your calendar and reserve it for our SPRING EVENT which will include preparation for our ceremonies of Grand Assembly AND A GRAND CHOIR REHEARSAL! Of course, we won't be ALL WORK.... Fun will happen too! KEEP MOVING and sharing our opportunities with friends, family and those NEW to IORG!

GRAND ASSEMBLY 24 June 14-16

Preparations are underway for the 2024 Dare You to Move Grand Assembly Session. We will gather for rehearsal and FUN on Friday June 14 in the Marriott Riverfront Hotel in South Sioux City, Nebraska. We will again enjoy the Marriott Hotel guest rooms, pool, Starbucks, and parking at the door. For the 2024 Session we will be "all under one roof" as the facility has broken ground to renovate and expand the Marriott Center which will be available in 2025. (Team Ritual competition will be in the Lynn Broyhill Assembly Room again this year.) We are making some changes in arrangements and space usage that should prove to be positive, engaging and awesome adaptations. Start planning now to attend! June 14-16 at the RIverfront! SEE YOU THERE!

July 17-24 SUPREME 2024 Heading to the BEACH!



Pack your red high heels.....we will be traveling to Hampton Roads, Virginia for our 2024 WALKING THROUGH LIFE WITH RAINBOW Supreme Session! **MARK YOUR CALENDARS....** Set aside some travel money so that you too can enjoy this awesome trip and opportunity to connect wit Rainbow Sisters from all across the world! Bill and Judy Pickle, along with other members of our Supreme Team are planning and preparing for a great experience for our Nebraska Delegation. We will let you know when travel details and registrations are available!

Take a Leap of Faith

Trying something new or in a little different way

HOW DO WE BEST COMMUNICATE?

"If you want to go fast,
go alone.

If you want to go far,
go together."

African Proverb



Our Fundamental

Communication is essential:

- For successful activities
- For successful meetings
- For successful events
- For healthy relationships

Communication must be:

- · Timely and repeated
- Clear and include details
- Accessible for recipients
- Responsive and ongoing
- In recipient's best possible manor

Successful activities are the product of:

- ► Collaboration
- ► Delegation
- ► Teamwork

TOGETHER WE ARE BETTER THAN ALONE!

► Thank you California IORG:)





- Be obsessively organized.
- Start early and be timely.
- Leave time for the unexpected.
- ► Reach out and ask for help.

GORAINBOW.ORG HAS A NEW LOOK!

Visit our IORG website and see the new look, new content and new opportunities! GREAT invitation/ tool for sharing RAINBOW with family, friends, prospects, pledges and strangers. 1/6/24 was the launch of the new site so be among the first to check it out! SHOPPING IS NOT YET AVAILABLE through the website. Contact Mama Bird if you have needs.

https://gorainbow.org











VISIT THE IORG WEBSITE

Get acquainted with RAINBOW GIRLS all over the world!





By being a part of the Giving Club, you can help offset the costs of our various programs and activities, including printing & distribution of Rainbow Rays, and girls' cost to attend Grand Assembly, Mini Grand and Supreme Assembly.

Giving Levels:

LOVE

\$25-\$50: Rainbow Ray \$51-\$150: Rainbow Bow

\$151-\$250: Rainbow Faith

\$251-\$350: Rainbow Hope

\$351-\$500: Rainbow Charity \$501+: Rainbow Pot of Gold



bit.ly/3RL7OFT



COMING IN MARCH!

Our Junior Members of the Grand Executive Board have an extra exciting collaboration in the works for us during MARCH 2024!

ALL MONTH LONG music videos will be made, posted and shared!

WATCH FOR DETAILS AND INSTRUCTIONS and get ready to move to the beat and celebrate music/dance with our Sisters!

I wonder who will be the next SUPERSTAR:)?????

A great way to move through National Music in Our Schools month!





NEBRASKA IORG

Rainbow Rays Winter 2023

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Leadership Friendship Service