

"The Lively Lady Bugs"
Grand Officers' Newsletter

June/July 2011

EMAILED June 10, 2011

AS ALWAYS - PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL EVERY DAY... AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR THERE ARE LOTS OF LAST-MINUTE QUICK THOUGHTS THAT I FEEL COMPELLED TO SHARE - or tidbits of information I need - or you need!!!

PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR THE MOST CURRENT SCHEDULE OF EVENTS -- YOU WILL WANT TO CONFIRM WHERE ENTERTAINMENT, ETC FOR YOUR ASSEMBLY IS SCHEDULED BEFORE YOU GET TO GRAND....., understanding there are sometimes last minute changes!

WHAT'S IN THE **LAST** NEWSLETTER?

- ✓ GRAND OFFICER RECEPTIONS
- ✓ GRAND ASSEMBLY - AND THINGS TO PACK - **medical release**
- ✓ WAYS AND MEANS, GRAND ASSEMBLY
- ✓ FROM OUR DIRECTORS
- ✓ SAPPY SI NOTES
- ✓ **NOTES FROM YOUR GRAND OFFICERS' HANDBOOK**

GRAND OFFICER RECEPTIONS

While our reception celebrations are always fun and exciting, they bring with them an element of sadness as we express our appreciation to the Grandies who will be taking their Majority Degree in just a couple short weeks - and it is always opportunity to thank our assemblies and others who have supported, encouraged, and loved these girls into the graceful young women they have become – right before our eyes.

I trust each of you have taken a moment to send a written thank you note to your assembly AND your Advisory Board, thanking them for their years of dedication **to you** - and to Nevada Rainbow. Don't let that moment slip by! Words of heart-felt appreciation are the pillars of future positive relationships. Put those thoughts in writing today! It is never too late to express your appreciation.

And, speaking of "thank you's"..... mine are, as always at this time of the year, lengthy and probably tearful as I (again) prepare this final edition of our Grand Officers' Newsletter..... albeit its later than it should be!!! As always I want to thank each of you for the wonderful and thoughtful gifts AND notes in cards you have presented during the year. Each shares a treasured memory of the event – and of each of you. The **DOVE HAT** continues to grow in "elegance".... so many wonderful memories have been created this year based on THE HAT.... With any luck, I will remember to take it to Grand Assembly for yet another performance.

We have had a great year this year - thank you for sharing your passion for our Order and its beautiful teachings, for enhancing your commitment to service within your community, for becoming the leaders of tomorrow. If you are continuing with the Grand Family next year, I am excited; if you are not, either by choice or Majority, I am sad - but I rejoice in the time and experiences we have shared! This has been a **LIVELY journey!**

GRAND ASSEMBLY 2011 . . . is just around the corner.... When this arrives in your email box, there will be just less than **ONE weeks** until our first practice. With that, I would again remind you of the same kinds of things we always need to remember at this time of the year.

Prepare yourself for a great experience by being prepared: know your memory work, whether it is ritualistic or a report - know every word, and know it well enough that you say it with meaning and conviction. REST... HOW many times do we show up at Grand Assembly totally exhausted.... (I am always guilty!).... then we expect everything to go smoothly.... *really - in who's world will that work???* **only** if we are prepared, rested, ready, and excited about Grand Assembly, will it be GRAND! You have each worked hard this year - this is the reward for such efforts!

Please remember, we have about 18 hours of Grand Assembly Session time – and 8 hours in which to practice it all - and have lunch!!! All Grand Officers are to “prove” their ritual and speeches before their Assembly prior to Grand Assembly.... I trust you each have done that!

BEGIN NOW TO PREPARE AND TO PACK THE THINGS YOU NEED TO BRING TO GRAND ASSEMBLY. Because you will arrive at the hotel before you can check in, pack those items which you can leave in the Grandie Dressing Room separate from those which will be left in your hotel room. While we are again in the same facility for all events, including housing, this does not provide an opportunity for us to “dash back to our rooms” for things we forgot to pick up in the morning! **PREPARE!!!** When I pack for Grand (and I probably pack lots more than each of you) I pack by day - I know on Friday I will need my new dress and shoes and my Supreme pin for our formal picture, my script, ritual, etc. On Sunday, I will also need the Grand Cross medallions, etc., on Monday the Assembly service and membership plaques.... get the picture?

Once Grand Officers arrive at the hotel on Friday afternoon, no one can go home – even if you live in the south – so pack appropriately!! No last minute runs to WalMart, Starbucks, etc.

THINGS TO PACK:

- A positive attitude; if you are prepared now, being positive about the things you need to do and the experiences you will have will be easy. If you fail to spend adequate time in preparation, the entire week we spend together is guaranteed to be stressful, exhausting, and less than rewarding. Regardless, a positive attitude is the only acceptable attitude during these **Ride of Our Lives Sessions**.
- your props for presentations
- **Three hole-punched copies of** your APPROVED Representative reports for your last minute review. You will be expected to give the report that has been approved....now is not the time to improvise... we can not possibly help with a prompt if you just start talking....
- Personal items, including your make up, perfume, personal hygiene products, shampoo, hair spray, bobbie pins for your hairpiece, etc.
- appropriate undergarments for your Grand Officer Dress (be sure to wear the bra, for example, that Mrs. Buchanan fit your dress to)
- pantaloons – multiple pairs.... (they are like undies and need to be changed daily!)
- your pantaloon parade pantaloons -- they will be displayed from Friday through Monday morning. Please turn them into **one of the Directors' Shannon** on Friday upon your arrival!
- if you forgot to turn your **mascot bag** in to me at Lander's reception (and many of you did) please do so on Friday afternoon. The mascots are packed in bags, but after announcements you can retrieve your special pass-down bag and give it to the new Officer, returning the borrowed bag to me.
- nylons (knee high to panty hose) in a neutral (not white) color - at least one pair per day!
- pajamas – remember these are NOT worn outside YOUR hotel room. If you need to run across the hall way to someone else's room or down the hall to the vending machine WITH YOUR BUDDIE – you must put something on over what your night wear ... there are thousands of other hotel guests who will be doing the same thing....not in their pjs – we are not an exclusive group!
- your CLEAN hoop
- hairpiece and bobbie pins
- shift to be worn to all practices; actually at least two shifts work best - one for Friday and one for Saturday (and perhaps one for Tuesday afternoon's practice)
- CLEAN Grand Officer shoes (on the inside and the outside -- no one appreciates stinky shoes!!!)
- appropriate casual wear for Friday's Grandie Party and Saturday's Fun Night.
- GRAND CROSS: a pastel formal if you are receiving the Grand Cross this year; an appropriate short dress (not your shift) if you are attending the Degree and Brunch as a Master of the Grand Cross and your Grand Cross of Color Medallion and card; be sure your short dress is an appropriate length and there is not lots of bare skin visible....not the time and place for a "sun dress"
- CLEAN formal for Installation (you may not wear the 2010 Grand Officer dress to Installation - regardless. It is bound to be less than fresh!)
- your dressed mascot
- a token gift for the girl who will receive your current office
- your page basket filled with goodies for your page if you have one

- some \$\$ just in case..... or you need a soda/Starbucks along the way.....
- some \$\$ to spend in the Ways & Means Booth
- a casual outfit appropriate to the hotel (Rainbow appropriate pants/shorts and shirt)
- stuff to decorate your door but only that which can be “glued” on with TAC ‘N STICK – NO TAPE, staples, glue, ETC.....
- Your ‘white elephant” gift to be EXCHANGE IS AT OUR GRANDIE PARTY, FRIDAY NIGHT - I believe you set a \$10 limit to any purchases
- **your Medical Release (available from your MA/GD)** - please give this to me upon your arrival on Friday
- Following the rules clearly includes good attitudes, following direction, no drugs, alcohol, cigarettes (or anything resembling anything like these substances!).
Nevada Rainbow has a ZERO tolerance policy.
- _____(use this space to add your own list)
- _____
- _____

Excerpt from Adult Newsletter --

Please remind your Grandie Moms they **are not allowed on the Grandie Floor -- and their daughters are not allowed on the Girls’ floor** - with the exception of meeting up for breakfast, etc. There are no opportunities, once the Grandies leave the Grand Assembly Room floor with their Grand Deputy, for that list kiss and hug g’night between moms and Grandies.

Do you still have questions about what you need to do or bring to Grand Assembly? First, give your Grand Deputy a call – she/he “has been there/done that” and probably has just the right information Still in doubt? Call your Director Still in doubt? call or Email me..... Surely someone will have the information you need.

WHEN YOU RETURN HOME AFTER GRAND ASSEMBLY, CHECK IMMEDIATELY TO SEE WHAT YOU OWE YOUR ASSEMBLY WHO HAS PAID UP-FRONT FOR YOUR PIN DEPOSIT, PRESENTATION FEES, PICTURE FEES, AND INSTALLATION PRACTICE lunch (FOR FIRST YEAR GRANDIES ONLY!) AND DRESS FITTING DEPOSITS THESE EXPENSES ARE YOURS TO BEAR – THE ASSEMBLY HAS JUST PAID YOUR BILL IN ADVANCE. Please remember, if you did not complete your quilt square for Lander’s quilt, it was done for you by someone else and therefore, we paid for it.... if you have not reimbursed Nv Grand for that expense.... it will be among those items you will be charged for through Pins/Presentations. For 2012, please remember this.... most of the squares are about \$10... which is a whole lot less than the \$25 we are CHARGING Once again NOAH has paid for your mascot - remember this as you take Majority -- and join NOAH and pay your annual dues and support their dress sales - both by purchases and donations.

2012 GRAND OFFICER DRESSES WILL BE \$150 – \$75 IS DUE AT LEADERSHIP, but feel free to pay for your entire dress any time earlier than that.... LEADERSHIP IS August 12 (at noon for Line Officers), Saturday August 13 (at 8 am for everyone) through noon on Sunday, August 14. This date was on your Grand Officer

Application Form - which you and your parents signed -- LEADERSHIP IS MANDATORY..... and as much fun as you each make it!!! Be your own cheerleaders and come with a progressive and happy attitude.... ready for a new year!

WAYS AND MEANS - GRAND ASSEMBLY 2011

It's almost time... Grand Assembly is just around the corner and your Ways and Means Committee has been working hard to bring you all the gifts that you could ever want for your special friends... and yourselves. We will have available many "Rainbow Items", plush animals, accessories and much, much more. So be sure to bring ample funds with you for those "shopping opportunities" that you won't want to miss.

SAPPY SI NOTES

My notes are brief this month.

Please remember the ceremonies we have been working hard on this year... all must be memorized.... almost all are on Sunday....so be prepared...don't count on one extra night to brush up on

Parents Ceremony

Ceremony to Pledge

Majority Degree

Memorial

Grand Cross Tributes

Girls, this, like each Grand Years, has been a wonderful and exciting year. I am very proud of each of you and the commitment you have made to Nevada Rainbow. We have seen each of you grow into even more lovely (lively) young women. I hope this year has been equally positive for each of you AND that you have made time to share with our young and impressionable girls what a great experience this is. If you don't make this a positive experience for them..... who will?

Those of you with projects have done a great job. The Grand Bow, as you will hear at Grand Assembly, have stretched into new areas this year with their projects; I am equally anxious to hear each of the Grand Representative reports to learn of your experiences. Its been great that many of you have been able to travel this year to other jurisdictions.

Come to Grand Assembly this year to do your very best and to have a great time doing it! **Leave your expectations for Grand 2012 at home** – you have done your part in that process by completing your application and have relinquished it to your Advisory Board and Grand Deputy to make recommendations - and to me to wrestle with those final appointment decisions. **Enjoy these moments for what they are – not what might be next year.....**

PLEASE BE AWARE NOW - WE WILL HAVE 22 GRAND OFFICERS STARTING OUR NEXT YEAR. WITH 20 JEWELLED OFFICERS, FLAG BEARERS AND OTHER SPECIALTY OFFICERS - you each can do the math.... everyone will have more responsibility. HOW do we end this “more responsibility” problem.... Initiate and retain more members. Every time we have a “repeat” Worthy Advisor, our pool of Grand Officers shrinks!!! While we all appreciate it when one of you steps up and “does it again”.... we are shooting ourselves in the foot the FIX....initiate, retain, and help new girls be their best as Worthy Advisor...so they are eager, anxious and available to be great grand officers!!!

And, in light of the “more responsibility” concerns, I NEED EACH OF YOU TO COOPERATE AGAIN WITH POSITIVE ATTITUDES! ALMOST EVERYONE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR STATES - IN ADDITION TO HER OTHER OFFICE RESPONSIBILITIES. SO, LISTEN CAREFULLY. APPOINTMENTS WILL BE SOMETHING LIKE, GRAND LOVE AND GRAND REPRESENTATIVE OF XXX and YYY **and** ZZZ. BY DOING THIS, I THINK WE CAN MEET THE MANDATE FROM SUPREME ASSEMBLY THAT ALL JURISDICTIONS HAVE REPRESENTATIVES - I am grateful we are able to appoint girls with some experience in and knowledge of our order!!!

ADDITIONALLY THIS YEAR we will continue to have the mandated Jr. Grand Executive Committee Members who will be the 5 Line Officers. These girls will be having dinner with other members of the GEC on Friday night of Leadership to work on budget, etc. They will also at least meet with us while at Camp next March. Each will be assigned to a specific Director or myself to assist in our duties and tasks.

MAJORITY - While we will miss those of you who will be taking your Majority Degree, we welcome you with open arms into the “adult” Rainbow World. We look forward to helping you transition into that world. I encourage you to remain active – as adults on the sidelines - in your local assemblies. Look around at Grand Assembly and notice the majority members who are actively helping and think how you might help out next year and at future Grand Assemblies with those miscellaneous little things that need to be done, the words of encouragement and inspiration you will receive from these majority members who obviously understand and appreciateand that you can and should share with others in the future. Look at your adult leaders and know that, if we have done our job well, some of you will hold our positions at some point in your life With our gratitude! **And remember how important it has been to you to always have someone in your Grand Officer FAMILY here during sessions to encourage you to be your best.....** I must say that for several years, the Grand Faith Family has been the strongest (*he he he -- though I was never Faith as a girl, this year I can be part of the Grand Faith Family picture -- I am SO excited!!!*) -- I am always looking to each of you to enhance your Grandie Family with your continued support -- **and don't forget to attend those receptions!**

Be an active part of NOAH - Nevada's Oldies Are Helping! Encourage and support YOUR Office Grand Family -- ie the Faithful Flock... (Grand Faith's Family) ...support

your Grand Family as a whole. **Never** miss Grand Assembly and escort. Be one of those girls we see every year....and give Lander someone to introduce from our Lively Lady Bugs of 2011. With your pins and presentation money... pay for your 2011 dues - \$10 per year -- payable to Nevada Grand Assembly, noted for NOAH....

Rainbow has not ended for you - it has just taken on a new set of possibilities. **BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT THE WORLD TO BE MAKING!**

Calendar Information

GRAND OFFICER LEADERSHIP 2011 IS noted above. WHILE we have our Deputies together at Leadership, we can usually finalize the fall calendar and the balance of the calendar soon after that....

With all my LIVELY love for each of our 2011 Lady Bugs!

Mrs. J

RAINBOW HAS A REAL PLACE IN OUR HEARTS SO WE ASK EVERYONE TO REMEMBER RAINBOW IS INTENDED TO BE THE TIE THAT BINDS US TOGETHER WITH HANDS OUTSTRETCHED TO TOUCH ANOTHER WITH LOVE, RESPECT, FIDELITY, CONCERN AND TO TEACH BY EXAMPLE IN THE WAY WE LIVE EACH DAY!

NOTES FROM YOUR GRAND OFFICERS' HANDBOOK WHICH MIGHT BE HELPFUL RIGHT NOW

- **MAKE UP:** Moderate amounts of make up provide a finishing touch for all women. Do not overdue! Except at Grand Assembly, nail length, nail polish and nail decoration can be worn; at Grand Assembly, only extremely moderate, very light pinks or natural nail color may be worn. – a French manicure is really good option if you are having your nails done.
- **Shoes - Grand Officer shoes - Sketcher style - WHITE soles.**
- **Pantaloons must be worn under Grand Officer dresses.** You may want to enhance one pair, or make a special pair, to participate in the Grand Officers' Pantaloon Contest. Pantaloons are ankle-length - they do not drag on the floor or ruffle over the top of your shoes.
- **Jewelry is limited to your Grand Officer Pin and ONE small pair of stud-type earrings, one small ring per hand.** If you are a Master of the Grand Cross, your Grand Cross will be worn to all Grand Assembly Sessions. Do not wear watches, necklaces or bracelets.
- **Hairpieces are worn at all times - beginning with Friday's practice.** The Grandie Party and Fun Night are great times to let your hair down!

General Dress Guidelines for Grand Assembly

- **Practices - Grandie shift, pantaloons, hoops, hairpieces, appropriate shoes, hose.**

- Grandie Party - Casual clothing which may include (nice looking) shorts, jeans, sandals; no hairpieces!
- Grand Cross Degree -
 - If you are receiving the Grand Cross, a Rainbow-appropriate formal of your choice.
 - If you are observing the Service, a short or long dress of your choice.
 - If you are participating in the Grand Cross Banquet as a bread server, an appropriate short dress, white shoes.
 - If you are participating in the Grand Cross Banquet (i.e., giving a tribute), a long pastel formal, white shoes.

Vespers Service

- If you are taking part in the Service, short light colored dress - robes will be provided.
- If observing the Service, your Grandie shift, without pantaloons; or a short dress.
- Luncheons - Grandie Shift with or without pantaloons, depending on your choice of hose.
- General Banquet - this year's Grand Officer Dresses.
- Grand Installation - a FRESH, long Rainbow-appropriate dress with hoop, hairpiece, etc.

THE 2011 GRAND OFFICER GROUP PICTURE WILL BE TAKEN FRIDAY FOLLOWING DRESS CHECK AND PRACTICE – BE SURE YOUR MAKEUP, HAIR, ETC. IS PERFECT.... **BEGINNING FRIDAY AFTERNOON.** TAKING OUR PICTURE ON FRIDAY ELIMINATES SOME OF THE CONFUSION AND LATENESS OF SUNDAY EVENING AND ENSURES WE ARE MUCH MORE FRESH-LOOKING. **(This includes our State Rainbow DAD!!)**

GRAND ASSEMBLY STARTS ** PROMPTLY ** AT 1 PM FRIDAY AFTERNOON!
(GWA AND GDL NEED TO BE AT THE HOTEL AT NOON! GCL and Grand Faith need to meet with Heidi to work on March in formations at 8 am....)
 GRAND ASSEMBLY IS OVER – WHEN YOU GET HOME (TUESDAY NIGHT IF YOU ARE IN THE SOUTH – SOMETIME WEDNESDAY IF YOU ARE TRAVELING HOME).

****PLEASE REMEMBER, FOLLOWING GRAND INSTALLATION, YOU ARE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF YOUR GRAND DEPUTY. SHE WILL ENSURE YOU HAVE DINNER, GET PACKED, DO BED CHECK THAT NIGHT, ETC.... SO IF YOUR ASSEMBLY IS PLANNING DINNER “OUT”.... THAT’S WHERE YOU SHOULD BE...with them!**