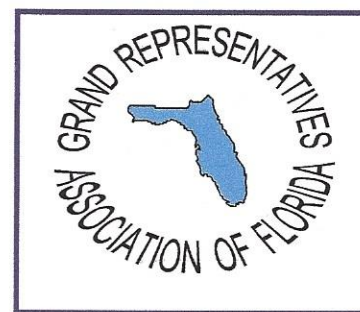


Grand Representatives Association of Florida



2021 - 2022 Officers

President

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Notes From the President...

Greetings!

Fall is fast approaching and I know we will all be happy for some cooler weather for sure.

Congratulations to all the new Grand Representatives that have been appointed. Remember that you can always be a member of the association even when your time as a Grand Representative is over. Dues are only \$5.00 per year. You can also show you are a member by purchasing a Grand Representative pin. These are also available for \$5.00. The form can be found on the FloridaOEAS.org website under GRA of Florida.

I would like to thank everyone for their concerns and support at Grand

Upcoming Events

Nov 13 9:00 AM

FALL FESTIVAL -

Okeechobee

To benefit the Worthy
Grand Matron's Special
Project, Moffit Cancer &
Research Center

October 16 1:00 PM

Ocala Chapter No. 29

Grand Officers School of
Instruction

October 23 10:00 AM

Magnolia No. 101, Largo

Corporate Board Meeting

1:00 PM Grand Officers
School of Instruction



Chapter on the day of our luncheon. Many of you may not have been aware but when I woke that morning, I found that my younger brother had passed away during the night. I knew that the Memorial Service was going to be difficult since my dad, John Hunsaker, Past Grand Representative of Illinois in Florida, had passed away in July 2020 but losing my brother that morning made my memorial that much more special.

I wrote the memorial picture that was on the member table at the luncheon. For those that were not able to attend, I include it here:

In Loving Memory

Our members have been part of our family and left lasting impressions upon us. Their smiles, laughter, gentle guidance and presence have helped us on our journey through life. Some we may have known for a short time and others we may have known for many years. Their passing has left holes in our tapestry of life.

This place setting is here for our beloved member who we miss dearly. It is a reminder of dinners eaten and fellowship shared, conversations, laughter and tears we shared through the years. As with each prayer we pray for our service men and women who protect our freedoms and allow us to meet, we have placed a second setting to be with you. Your support and prayers were welcomed as they fought to retain the freedoms so enjoyed by this country.

Our tears are shed in our grief, but the memories remain.

By: Vickie Hunsaker April 2021

There were a few members that had passed that were missed when I did the memorial. I apologize for that. If you could please be sure to email Luanne Burg their names, chapter and date of death, she can include them in her memorial.

I would like to also bring to the association an issue regarding our banking which will need to be addressed at the 2022 Grand Chapter Business Meeting of the Association. Our account currently resides with SunTrust. With the merging of BB&T and SunTrust to Truist, they are requiring information that is difficult to obtain to allow us to change signers as they want us to reset up the account. As signers are changed each year, this could prove to be problematic going forward. After discussion with Margaret Nathurst, Past Grand Matron/Grand Treasurer, we have determined that it will be in the best interest of the Association to move our bank account to Wells Fargo where the other accounts of Grand Chapter and the Grand chapter Committees reside. By doing this, we can benefit by the relationship that has been built by Grand Chapter as Wells Fargo will recognize our organization. This will be brought to a vote at Grand Chapter 2022.

Now to talk about Grand Chapter 2022. The theme is "A Luau of Friendship and Love". I am currently working on the flyer and hope to have it available soon. Watch the website when the flyers are posted. I hope to look out and see a bright and colorful group at Grand Chapter.

Also don't forget to order a corsage for your Worthy Matron and a boutonniere for your Worthy Patron or any special member of your chapter/district. There will be some available at Grand Chapter but on a first come first serve basis. Please make your chapters aware that they can pre-order. If anyone has any supplies that they don't need anymore that they would like to donate, please reach out to any one of the officers and we can put you in touch with the corsage chairman, Tina Polsen. The order form can be found on the FloridaOES.org website under GRA of Florida.

Luanne Burg is also asking for items to go into the bags for the visiting Grand Representatives. Please see her article for a list of items and details. If you wish to host a table at Grand Chapter, please contact Judy Bellomy.

The 2022 Grand Chapter will also be a visit by the Most Worthy Grand Matron so we may have a few visitors even though we are still experiencing COVID.

In November/December 2021, new information will be on EasternStar.org to join the International Grand Representatives Association. Once on the website go to the tab "Contact us", click on "International Association" and choose "International Grand Representative Association". There will be a link on the page to go to the form with dues, pins and other information. Dues are \$5.00 for 3 years for individuals.

Everyone please have a safe fall season and a happy holiday season. Until we meet again.

Vickie Hunsaker, Grand Representative of Louisiana in Florida 2010 – 2012

President

From the Vice President

Congratulations to all of our new Grand Representatives. It is such an honor to represent the Grand Chapter of Florida. It is an experience of a lifetime, so please take every opportunity to attend your state Grand Chapter and/or meet with your counterpart. You will develop long lasting friendships.

Serving as a Grand Representative has made it possible for me to serve the Grand Representatives Association of Florida. A sincere thank you for the confidence and faith you have in me by electing me to this position. If you are interested in becoming an officer, please check out our website for our By-Laws which explains the duties of our officers and other important information and forms at <https://floridaoes.org/grafi>.

As your Vice President, one of my duties is the memorial service at our annual meeting at Grand Chapter. Please provide me with information on any past or present Grand Representative who has passed away so that we can honor them one last time. Please provide their full name, birth date, day initiated into Eastern Star, their Chapter name and number and years and state or country they were a Grand Representative.

Items are needed for our goody bag for our new and visiting Grand Representatives at Grand Chapter. Donations needed can be cookies, crackers, hard candy, water, and any other items you would like to donate. Please NO peanut items due to allergies. A huge thank you to those who already donated hand sanitizers, tissues, tissue holders and ID holders. Please let me know what you will be donating so I can make arrangements with you to get the item(s) the bags are filled.

Wishing everyone a wonderful fall and winter season with family and friends. Please remember to practice safety and be aware of restrictions when attending meetings, shopping and visiting family and friends.

Star love and service,

Luanne Burg

Vice President

From the Secretary/Treasurer

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

We are approaching the year and half mark in the Pandemic of the COVID virus...just when we thought all was well, another variant of the virus was upon us, and we are still canceling some major events, some school closings and travel restrictions. The good news is...the worst of the Pandemic has passed and from my understanding, we are finally out of the acute stage and ready to meet our every day responsibilities.

Grand Chapter is a special event to each of us and as we plan our activities, the Grand Representatives Association will again be selling corsages. Remember, those who have placed an order for a corsage may pick them up at Grand Chapter.

We will also be available to collect dues at the Grand Representative table at Grand Chapter. Dues are \$5.00/year. Please stop by and see us and if we can help you in any way, do not hesitate to ask.

Again, may I remind you to take safety precautions, stay safe and healthy.

In Star love and service,

Judy Bellomy
Secretary/Treasurer



Grand Representatives Association of Florida Spring Luncheon and Business Meeting Minutes April 19, 2021

Sister Roslyn Heath, President, opened our luncheon then introduced Brother Martin Schwebel, past Grand Representative of Saskatchewan in Florida, National Commander, Heroes of 76, dressed as a Continental Soldier. He presented an inspiring flag tribute. Brother Gale Ruskosky, Grand Representative of Wisconsin in Florida presented our flag with dignity.

The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited, then Sister Elizabeth Eldridge, Past Grand Organist played the National Anthem. Sister Roslyn thanked Brothers Martin and Gale for the flag tribute.

Invocation was given by Debra Kleinsmith, Grand Chaplain. Sister Roslyn thanked her.

Sister Roslyn introduced Sister Lois Ann Wolfe, Past Grand Matron, who then introduced Sister Heather Earnhardt, Worthy Grand Matron, Brother Lance Kleinsmith, Worthy Grand Patron, our Grand Officers, our General Grand Chapter Committee Members, Special Appointments, Marilyn Lambert, Past President of the International Grand Representatives Association, and the officers of the Grand Representatives Association of Florida.

Sister Vickie Hunsaker, Vice President, introduced the past Presidents of the Grand Representatives Association of Florida that were present.

Lunch was then served. We then enjoyed a wonderful lunch in a beautifully decorated setting. The head tables were decorated with train tracks to various states. There were state flags at each setting. All our tables were decorated by our members showing off their skill and ingenuity in bringing to life our theme "This Land is Your Land."

Sister Roslyn asked everyone to help her thank the serving staff for all they have done to make the luncheon successful. Then Sister Roslyn thanked Sister Elizabeth for the wonderful music played during our luncheon.

Then we had the introduction of the Grand Representatives of Florida in Other Jurisdictions, Grand Representatives of other Jurisdictions in Florida, and Grand Representatives of Other Jurisdictions in Other Jurisdictions, for the past two years. Visiting Grand Representatives of Florida in Other Jurisdictions were presented with an Honorary Membership and state of Florida pin.

Presentations: Sister Roslyn then presented love gifts from our Association to our Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Heather, our Worthy Grand Patron, Brother Lance, and our donation to the Worthy Grand Matron's Special Project, Youth. Sister Roslyn then presented love gifts to the Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and Membership Committee chair.

Sister Marilyn Lambert, past President of the International Grand Representatives Association gave a heartfelt thank you to all the members for the beautiful glass plaque given to her and for all those who worked so hard and stood beside her before and during her 2018 General Grand Chapter

appointment. She received many complements on how well our members served in our hospitality room and the many items available, decorating the banquet room for the luncheon and seeing so many smiling faces. She felt very loved and honored.

Greetings were given by Sister Heather Earnhardt.

Sister Vickie then conducted the Memorial Service, reflecting on our members who has passed on during the past two years: Linda Dudley, Past President, Past Grand Secretary; Barbara Moffatt, Past President; Joseph Earnhardt, Past Grand Patron; John Hunsaker; Magnolia Chapter No.101 date of death 7/4/2020; Sue R. Siket, Sebastian Chapter No. 204, date of death 7/10/2020; Richard Holt, Ruth Chapter No.7, date of death 3/2/2020; Mary Venable; Ruth Phelps, Lakeland Chapter No.26 date of death 4/14/19; Georgia Smith, date of death April 2019; James Clyman; Dorothy Mart, date of death September 2018; Helen Owen; Elaine Brandl; William Marti, Tri-Gate Chapter No. 276, date of death September, 2020; Ruth Szemer.

She had a table with two place settings for us and one for those missing. She had another table with a vase of flowers. Sister Vickie read a beautiful poem she found on all.greatquotes.com. As each name was read, a butterfly was placed in the vase.

Sister Roslyn then asked table host/hostess to decide who at their table would receive the centerpiece. She then asked all to stand for the Mizpah benediction. She then invited our members to stay for our business meeting and asked those not members to leave.

Business Meeting:

Sister Roslyn call the business meeting to order. She gave a heartfelt welcome and was delighted so many could attend after an unusual year. She thanked everyone for attending.

Motion was made and seconded that the minutes of our October 26, 2019 meeting be approved as printed in the 2020 Spring newsletter. Motion was approved.

Investment of excess funds carried over from 2019 Fall meeting. Motion was made and seconded to table the investment of excess funds since BB&T was in the middle of purchasing SunTrust Bank. Motion was approved.

Finance Committee Reports:

Sister Mary Ann Holt, Chair, and Darlyne Devany, the Finance Committee, reported that the books for the past two years were well maintained and presented their budget for 2021-2022.

The committee presented the proposed budget for next year.

2021-2022

Receipts:

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Dues 260 @ \$5.00 | \$ 1,300.00 |
| Sale of Pins 20 @ \$5.00 | \$ 100.00 |
| Luncheon Tickets 316 @\$32 | \$10,112.00 |
| Corsage Sales | <u>\$ 250.00</u> |

Total Receipts \$11,762.00

Disbursements:

Love Gifts

| | | | |
|---|----|-----------------|--------------------|
| Worthy Grand Matron | \$ | 50.00 | |
| Worthy Grand Patron | \$ | 50.00 | |
| Outgoing President | \$ | 100.00 | |
| Outgoing Vice President | \$ | 50.00 | |
| Outgoing Sec/Tres | \$ | 50.00 | |
| Membership Chairman | \$ | 50.00 | |
| WGM Special Project | \$ | <u>200.00</u> | |
| | \$ | | 550.00 |
| Supplies for Corsages | \$ | | 200.00 |
| Newsletter 2 per year | \$ | | 677.00 |
| Includes printing, envelopes, labels & postage. | | | |
| Luncheon @ Grand Chapter | | | |
| Printing Flyers & Tickets | \$ | 185.00 | |
| Programs | \$ | 150.00 | |
| Bags & Labels | \$ | 225.00 | |
| Memorial Supplies | \$ | 75.00 | |
| Decorations for Head Table | \$ | 200.00 | |
| Luncheon Tickets 308 @27.75 | \$ | <u>9,520.00</u> | <u>\$10,335.00</u> |
| Total Disbursements | | | <u>\$11,762.00</u> |

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Budget. Motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report:

As of April 1, 2020, for April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020:

| | | | |
|-----------|----|-----------|--------------|
| Beginning | \$ | 4,632.68 | |
| Receipts | \$ | 18,759.82 | |
| Expenses | \$ | 2,986.10 | |
| Balance: | | | \$ 20,406.40 |

As of April 1, 2021, for April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021:

| | | | |
|------------------|----|-----------|--------------|
| Beginning | \$ | 20,406.40 | |
| Receipts | \$ | 820.00 | |
| Expenses | \$ | 383.70 | |
| Current Balance: | | | \$ 20,842.70 |

Corsages Committee:

Sister Tina Polsen reported on the corsages that as of before our meeting a total of \$290 of corsages had been sold besides the pre-orders. Sister Tina asked that a deadline be placed on the order form of March 15, 2022. After discussion, motion was made, seconded, and approved.

New Business:

Sister Luanne Burg, Secretary/Treasurer read a letter from Sister Lillian Green, past president. Motion was made and seconded to add Sister Lillian Green to Emeritus. Motion was approved. Sister Luanne made a motion to keep Sister Margaret Ann Davis on Emeritus. Motion was seconded and approved.

Since our meetings are now held annually, Sister Roslyn suggested that voting been done the same way that the Secretary/Treasurer Guild and Past Grand Officer association are done. Which is, the candidates leave the room, voting is done by standing for the candidate, association officers count and share their count with each other. Candidates are returned to the room and election announced by the President. Motion was made and seconded to follow this procedure. Motion was approved.

Elections were held. Motion was made and seconded to move Sister Vickie Hunsaker to President. Motion was approved. Motion was made and seconded to move Sister Luanne Burg to Vice President. Motion was approved.

Sister Mary Alice Main, Chair, read the resumes received from Sisters Judy Bellomy and Sister Debi Gulbrand. Each stood while their resume was read. Floor was opened for any nominations. None were received. Candidates were asked to leave the room. Elections were held. Sister Judy Bellomy received 34 votes; Sister Debi Gulbrand received 22 votes. Candidates were asked to return to the room. Sister Roslyn announced that Sister Judy Bellomy is our new Secretary/Treasurer.

Sister Roslyn gave her comments and thanked everyone. Sister Roslyn turned the meeting over to Sister Vickie to introduce her Installation team.

Installing Officer, Sister Marilyn Lambert, Past President of the International Grand Representatives Association; Installing Marshal, Sister Roslyn Heath, Past Grand Adah, and Installing Chaplain, Sister Elizabeth McAbee, Past Grand Chaplain. The Installation of Officers was performed with dignity, beauty, and grace.

Sister Vickie thanked her Installing Team and Present Sister Roslyn with her love gift and thanked her for all her hard work.

Sister Vickie announced her committees:

Membership:

Bobbie Elmore, Chair
Terri Justice
Susan Ferrell

Finance/Budget:

Roslyn Heath, Chair
Gerri Rosenthal
Scarlet Ehlers

Nominating:

Mary Alice Main, Chair
Mary Ann Holt
Theresa Nelson

By-Law:

Jane Stewart, Chair
Patrice Barker
Carolyn Kranz

Corsages:

Tina Polsen, Chair

Sister Vickie closed with an Irish Blessing.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Luanne Burg, Secretary/Treasurer

2021 TABLE HOSTESS LIST

If you wish to host and decorate a table, you **must** contact the Association Secretary/Treasurer to get your name on the list. Please do not "assume" because you have hosted a table in the past, you are doing one this year.

My contact information is listed on the front of this Newsletter.

Thank you, Judy Bellomy, Secretary/Treasurer

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Carol Hemmis | 7. Beth Strayer |
| 2. Valerie Harper | 8. Kathy Kasmark |
| 3. Cindy Lou Downs | 9. Patty Roach |
| 4. Barry Rosenthal | 10. Susan Ferrell |
| 5. Jane Hammelman | 11. Crystal Hill |
| 6. Judy Bellomy | 12. Fran Johnson |



The Florida Grand Representatives Association offers our sincere congratulations to the
2021 – 2024 Triennial General Grand Chapter Appointments
(Official appointments will be effective as of November 4, 2021)

Lois A. Casaccia, *Co-Chairman, Appeals & Grievance Committee*
Margaret Nathurst, *Benevolence Committee*
Charlene Williams, *By-Laws Committee*
Sylvia Morrow, *Credentials Committee*
Betty Beasley, *ESTARL Committee*
Patricia Williams, *International Headquarters Committee*
Linda Rae Every, *Youth Committee*
Billy Williams, *Co-Chairman, Regenerative Medicine*
Michael Harrell, *Service Dog Committee*

Special Appointments – Past Grand Matrons

Triennial Other Assembly Appointments

Joy W. Feit, PGM, *Triennial Other Assembly Committee (Personal Page to Right Worthy Grand Trustee)*
Heather Earnhardt, PGM, *Triennial Other Assembly Committee (Assistant to the Right Worthy Grand Conductress)*

Special Appointments – Not Past Grand Matrons or Past Grand Patrons

Triennial Other Assembly Committee

Rabbi Shafir "Candy" Lobb, *Triennial Assembly Committee (Prayer Council Committee)*
Joan Schwebel, *Triennial Other Assembly (Personal Page to the Most Worthy Grand Matron)*
Elaine Howell, *Triennial Special Assembly (Faithful Note)*