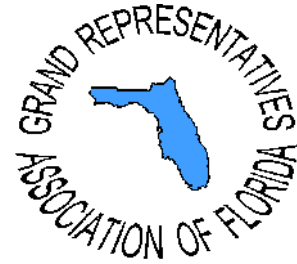


Grand Representatives Association of Florida



2023-2024 Officers

President

Judy Bellomy
P.O. Box 8545
Port St. Lucie, FL 34985

(772)359-9962
jbell1939@yahoo.com

Vice President

Debi Gulbrand
6619 Dove Creek Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32244

(904)881-7023
SDGulbrand@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Claudine Rogers
1417 Sunnyhills Dr.
Brandon, FL 22510

(813)215-3895
claudinerogers722@gmail.com

Membership Chair

Terri Justice
13269 Cumberland Dr.
Largo, FL 33773

(727)667-7050
oesjustice@gmail.com

Greetings from the President...

As 2023 rolls out and 2024 rolls in, let us be reminded of good memories and happenings of the year and begin making memories for 2024.

We have had setbacks this year, including myself, but new beginnings are there for us to brighten the path we are on.

Soon the chapters will end their year and begin a new year with new officers. Grand Chapter is coming up very soon after that.

I hope you are all planning on attending the luncheon and Grand Chapter. I urge you to order your tickets early; the luncheon cost is \$32.00 this year.

If you have plans to decorate a table, please contact Claudine Rogers at 813-215-3895 to get your name on the list. You must be on the list so there is no confusion at Grand Chapter.

Please be ready to help at the Grand Representatives table as we can use all the help we can get, and it is very much appreciated.

For our new Grand Representatives, you may join the Grand Representatives Association at our table in the lobby. Our annual Association dues can also be paid at that table.

I hope you can find time to greet the new Grand Representatives, and the ones visiting from other states, and make them feel welcome.

Our yearly Memorial service will take place immediately following the luncheon. If you are aware of any deaths of Grand Representatives, please give the names to Debi Gulbrand so that she may include them in the memorial.

Our annual meeting will be held after the luncheon. The election of officers is included in the business. If you know anyone who is interested in becoming an officer, please contact Mary Alice Main, the chairman of the nominating committee.

Corsages can be ordered from Tina Polsen. Use the updated form that is included in this newsletter.

I hope this year brings you many blessings, joyful times, peace and love.

Fraternally,
Judy Bellomy
President

Greetings from the Vice President

Good Morning Sisters and Brothers,

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and has survived Florida's latest cold snap. It's hard to believe that Grand Chapter will be here before we can turn around.

I am busily working on the Memorial Service. If anyone knows of a Sister or Brother that the association has lost since Grand Chapter 2023, please forward me the following information:

Name
Date of passing
Jurisdiction
Chapter Number

I do not want to miss anyone in the memorial.

I have also been advised that after Grand Chapter 2024 we will need someone to make corsages and boutonnieres for the 2025 Grand Chapter session as Sister Tina will be unavailable. If you would be interested in helping in this endeavor, please message me.

Please make sure to use the order form in the newsletter or the one online at the Grand Chapter website.

Fraternally,
Debi Gulbrand
Vice President

Greetings from the Secretary/Treasurer

It is with much eagerness that we anticipate our "A Song in Your Heart" session of Grand Chapter. Springtime! What a beautiful time of the year! A time of rebirth, new beginnings, beautiful flowers, chirping birds!

CALLING ALL GRAND REPRESENTATIVES CURRENT OR PAST WE NEED YOUR HELP!

If you would like to host and decorate a table for our Grand Representatives Luncheon on Monday, April 8, please contact me to get your name on the list. You will need to furnish a centerpiece and 10 favors. You can use a theme from your state, province or country or "Reflections of Spring."

With the cost of postage going up, it is becoming very expensive to mail out the newsletter. If you received this newsletter by mail but have an email address, please notify us by using the attached update form which is also on our website. Because of postage regulations, it is likewise too expensive to send the Association pin through the mail. However, they are still available and may be purchased at the Grand Representatives table at Grand Chapter.

A special welcome to all of all new Grand Representatives. If there is something we can do to help you, please come by our table. We would love to meet you!

Fraternally,
Claudine Rogers
Secretary/Treasurer

Greetings from the Membership Committee

Please visit our Grand Representatives Association table in the Lobby area just outside the Grand Chapter Room. Check our Printed Roster to make sure your dues are current(\$5/year) and your contact information is correct. Check your membership card and verify the date you have paid thru is 2024 or greater. Last year we also instituted a new Perpetual membership for a one-time flat rate of \$100.00.

**RENEWAL
REMINDER**

We really don't want to remove your name from our membership roster. Stop by and see us at the table at Grand Chapter.

Welcome to our new Grand Representatives and visitors from other jurisdictions-we have a gift for you-stop by and visit us too.

Fraternally,
Terri Justice
Membership Chairman

"Reflections of Spring"

Grand Representatives Association
of Florida Spring Luncheon



Monday, April 8, 2024 11:00 AM Grand Chapter Session Renaissance Resort at the World Golf Village, St.
Augustine, FL Ballrooms A, B, C

Tickets \$32.00/person

Tickets must be ordered through Grand Chapter Social Events

Mrs. Roslyn Heath-Klenke, Chairman (904) 504-8446

When ordering, please advise Sister Roslyn of any Special Meal Requests

2024 CORSAGES AND/OR BOUTONNIERS ORDER FORM

We will again be selling silk corsages and boutonnieres at the "A Song in Your Heart" Session of the Grand Chapter of Florida, April 9-11, 2024. Recognize your Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Grand Instructor, a special Sister or Brother or even yourself with a gift of flowers.

Three bud silk rose corsage \$10.00

One bud silk rose boutonniere \$ 5.00

We hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to pre-order your corsage and/or boutonniere and pick it up at Grand Chapter. Please use the order form below for advance orders. We will have a limited number of corsages and boutonnieres on hand and cannot guarantee the availability if a pre-order is not placed.

The corsages and boutonnieres will be available for pickup at the Grand Representatives Hospitality table Sunday through Thursday morning at the World Golf Village Renaissance Hotel during Grand Chapter. **Please note: The hospitality table will NOT be open during any sessions of Grand Chapter.**

Deadline for advance orders is March 31, 2024.

Cut along this line.

ORDER FORM FOR CORSAGES AND/OR BOUTONNIERES

I wish to order the following from the Grand Representatives Association of Florida:

<u>Number</u>	<u>Circle Color</u>	<u>Amount</u>
_____	Three bud silk rose corsage (\$10.00 each) White Red	\$ _____
_____	One-bud silk boutonniere (\$ 5.00 each) White Red	\$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED		\$ _____

Name: _____

Telephone number: (Home or cell) _____

Mail the completed form and your check for the appropriate amount, payable to:
Grand Representatives Association of Florida:

Secretary/Treasurer
Claudine Rogers
1417 Sunnyhills Drive
Brandon, Florida 33510

Grand Representatives Association of Florida Membership Dues/Update Form

Please complete and return to the current Secretary /Treasurer with your dues
or to update any changes.

Today's Date: _____ New Member: Yes / No Information Update: Yes / No

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____ (Home or Cell)

Your Chapter Name and Number: _____

State/Jurisdiction of your Appointment: _____ in FL

Years of your Appointment: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Would you like the newsletter via e-mail? Yes / No (circle one)

Annual Dues: \$5.00/year – How many years? _____ or Perpetual Dues: \$100 _____

Cash or Check No. _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Dues are due in January of each year. Expiration is on December 31st of the year paid thru.

Per our By-Laws, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your payment.

Please make checks payable to: Grand Representatives Association of Florida.

PLEASE DO NOT MAIL CASH.

Mail form and check to: Current Secretary /Treasurer
 Claudine Rogers
 1417 Sunnyhills Drive
 Brandon, Florida 33510

Minutes Grand Representatives Luncheon and Business Meeting April 2023

President Sister Luanne Burg opened the luncheon:

"Good morning, Sisters and Brothers. Welcome to "Angels Around the World" Grand Representatives Association of Florida's Annual Luncheon. To our Distinguished Guests and visitors that have come from around the World: We hope you enjoy your time with us and get a chance to take home some Florida sunshine. To our Florida members we are so delighted you are here."

"We bid each and every one of you a hearty welcome. It is so heartwarming to see all the bright and cheerful smiles on everyone's face. The Officers of the Association and I want to thank everyone for coming and spending your afternoon with us and hope that you enjoy the friendships and fellowships we all share."

A beautiful Tribute to our Flag was given by Sister Carol Hemmis, PM. The Flag was presented by Sister Carolyn Kranz, PG Marshal.

"Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance."

"Sister Carol, thank you for a beautiful tribute to our Flag. Being a retired Army Nurse and best friend for many years, I knew you were the best person for the task! Thank you for accepting to do the Flag Ceremony for me."

"Sister Carolyn, thank you for presenting our Flag with such pride, honor and dignity."

Sister Brenda Hendricks, Grand Chaplain, gave our Invocation.

"Our Distinguished Guest Chairman, Sister Sharon Strosnider, PGM of the Grand Chapter of Florida, you always have a smile on your face and light up a room when you enter, and I am so happy to have you introduce our Distinguished Guests."

"Sister Michelle "Mickey" Wise, Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of Florida, introduced our Grand Officers. "Thank you, Sister Mickey and Grand Officers for your dedication and service to our Order. We hope you have made many new friendships and treasure your year as you have travelled not just in Florida, but around the world."

Luncheon

Lunch was then served." We hope everyone enjoyed their lunch. Let us show the serving staff how much we appreciated their service today".

Introductions

"Please listen carefully as each group is announced."

"We will be following our Rainbow Sisters and **ONLY CLAP ONCE** after each person is introduced. Rainbow Alumni, Past and Present Mother Advisors and Board Members, I'm counting on you to help us!" All Grand Representatives were introduced. "The Grand Representative Association of Florida is delighted that you could join us today. We are pleased to present our visiting Grand Representatives with an Honorary Membership to our Association. We hope each of you will enjoy your stay in Florida. If there is anything we can do to make your stay more pleasant, please don't hesitate to reach out to any one of our officers or members."

Sister Judy Bellomy, Vice President of the Association, introduced the Past Presidents of the Association.

Grand Representatives of Florida in other Jurisdictions were introduced. Followed by Grand Representatives of other Jurisdictions and Grand Representatives of other Jurisdictions in other Jurisdictions. All were warmly greeted by the Association.

Sister Luanne then presented Sister Mickey and Brother Bill, on behalf of the Association, a small token of our appreciation of their work for our Order. "We appreciate your dedication to our membership and especially to those who have received their commissions from you this past year."

"Sister Mickey, on behalf of the Association, I am honored to present to you this check for your Special Project this year, the "Fisher House." It is our sincere hope that our donation will help our military and veteran families while visiting a loved one who is in the hospital."

"We would be pleased to hear your remarks at this time."

Table drawing was completed.

Sister Luanne then presented love gifts to the Association Officers:

"Outgoing Vice President, Sister Judy Bellomy and Outgoing Secretary/Treasurer, Sister Debi Gulbrand and Sister Terri Justice, Membership Chair. This is a love gift from the Association to show our appreciation of your support through this past year and your continued dedication to our Association. It has been my honor to serve with you all."

"Are there any other presentations?"

A love gift from the Association was presented to outgoing President, Luanne Burg.

Memorial Service

A beautiful memorial service was presented by Sister Judy – Vice President. The following members were remembered:

Sister Patsy Black – Arkansas – Okeechobee Chapter No. 128 – Died June 16, 2022

Sister Audrey Buttery – Indiana – Palma Ceia Chapter No. 234 – Died October 19, 2022

Sister Juanita Causey – North Carolina – Cocoa Chapter No. 35 – Died July 4, 2022

Sister Claudie Dees – Utah – Keystone Heights Chapter No. 279 – Died April 15, 2022

Sister Virginia Douglas – South Dakota – Fort Myers Chapter No. 31 – Died July 18, 2022

Sister Vivian Edwards – Alabama – Oveida Chapter No. – Died June 27, 2022

Sister Shirley Goodwyne – Connecticut – Riverside Chapter No. 218 – Died October 13, 2022

Brother Donald Hampton – Delaware – Gainesville Chapter No. 44 – Died December 10, 2022

Sister Dana Haxton – New York – Palma Ceia Chapter No. 243 – Died September 18, 2022

Brother Alvin Hickox – North Dakota – Fernandina Chapter No. 55 – Died July 28, 2022

Sister Beulah Radcliffe – Tennessee – Bethlehem Chapter No. 169 – Died October 10, 2022

Sister Ruth Titus – Connecticut – Deland Chapter No. 16 – Died February 14, 2023

Sickness And Distress

"Please keep the Lambert and Main families in your thoughts and prayers."

Closing Remarks

"As I started my journey to President, 4 years ago, yes, 4 years ago, I was the Secretary/Treasurer for two years due to Covid! I still couldn't wait to fulfill my obligations. I immediately communicated with Sister Mickey on her theme for her Grand Chapter. Then during an honor night trip, just a few weeks later, with sisters from my chapter, my theme was born "Angels Around the World." It seemed so perfect. I love angels, and you are all "angels" and we have Grand Representatives all around the world!"

"Not everyone is given the opportunity to have the honor to serve as a Grand Representative. You represent our state wherever you go and you form new friendships that go beyond this state. Sometimes you may not be able to physically visit the jurisdiction that you are representative to but with today's technology, you can. May you treasure your new friendships for many years to come."

"To our Distinguished Guests, thank you for joining us today. Words cannot express the gratitude I have for your presence. You have brought your own ray of sunshine to Florida, and we sincerely hope that you enjoy your time with us."

"To our General Grand Chapter Committee Members and Special Appointments, congratulations and best wishes as you represent Florida's Grand Chapter and thank you for coming today."

"To the General Grand Chapter Officers, we are so happy that you were able to join us and wish you safe travels and fond memories. Looking forward to seeing you down the road!"

"To our Florida Grand Officers, enjoy your Grand Session and we look forward to you serving."

"To our Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons of Florida, we would not be here today if not for your appointments. We thank you for giving us this opportunity to represent our state wherever life takes us."

"To Sisters Lois Casaccia, General Chairman 2023 Session, Sharon Strosnider, Distinguished Guest Chairman, and Mary Ann Holt, Social Events Chairman, from the bottom of my heart, thank you so much for all your friendship, help, guidance, love, and support in preparing for this luncheon."

"To our table hostesses, thank you for volunteering to host a table. It is always so much fun to walk around the room and see your wonderful talents. Anyone wishing to host a table next year, please be sure to stop at our table in the hallway and sign up."

"A very special thank you to our committees: Membership, By-Laws, Nominating, Finance/Budget, Emeritus, Handbook, and Corsage for all your help with these committees and during Grand Chapter. We couldn't do this without you. You are valuable members of this Association."

"Sister Elizabeth, thank you for agreeing to play for us today. We greatly appreciate the beautiful music you provided."

"A huge thank you to everyone who helped with setting up this banquet. It takes many, many hands to make an event successful."

"You are all "Angels!"

"Finally, to everyone, thank you for attending our luncheon. I am so glad that you are here and hope you enjoy our Grand Chapter."

"For those who are a member of the Grand Representative Association of Florida, we will have our business meeting shortly. We have important decisions to make and we hope you will stay and participate and provide your knowledge and input."

"Now, a poem from Helen Steiner Rice:

BLOOMS OF FRIENDSHIP
Friendship, like flowers,
Blooms ever more fair
When carefully tended
By dear friends who care."

"Please stand, hold hands with your neighbor, if you choose to, and join me in the Mizpah Benediction. Thank you and have a wonderful afternoon."

"Those staying, please move to the front of the room. Those providing a report, please join us up front."

BUSINESS MEETING

Call to Order "I now call the Grand Representatives Association of Florida, Spring 2023 meeting to order."

Reading of the Minutes "Sister Judy, may we have the reading of the 2022 Spring Meeting. Motion has been made a seconded to accept the minutes as printed in the 2022 Fall Newsletter with corrections. Any discussion? All those in favor. All those opposed. Motion carried."

Treasurer's Report "Sister Debi, may we have a Treasurer's Report (attached). A motion has been made a seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. Any discussion? All those in favor. All those opposed. Motion carried."

"Due to changes with Wells Fargo Bank, we have had difficulties opening an account with them this past year. After talking with Sister Margaret, Grand Treasurer, Past Grand Matron, it has been discussed to keep our account with Truist, at this time. Since there was a motion last year to move our account to Wells Fargo Bank, we need a motion to allow the Association Officers, along with Sister Margaret to continuing working with the banks and making changes, if necessary, when in the best interest of the association."

"A motion has been made and seconded to allow the Association Officers along with Sister Margaret Nathurst, Grand Treasurer, Past Grand Matron, to continuing working with Truist and Wells Fargo Banks and make changes for, if necessary, when in the best interest of the Association. Any discussion? All those in favor. All those opposed. Motion carried."

Old Business Reports

Finance Committee

Vickie Hunsaker, Chair

"A motion has been made and seconded to accept the Finance Committee report, Audit Report and Proposed Budget (attached). Any discussion? All those in favor. All those opposed. Motion carried."

"Sisters Vickie, Colleen and Judy (Bell), thank you for your hard work and dedication to the Association. This committee is an important committee and the association greatly appreciates your time."

Membership Committee

Terry Justice, Chair

"Sisters Terry, Susan (Ferrell) and Tonya, thank you for your hard work and dedication to the Association by working on this committee."

By-Laws Committee

Mary Ann Holt, Chair

"A motion has been made and seconded to accept the proposed changes to our By Laws as changed? All those in favor. All those opposed. Motion carried."

"Sisters Mary Ann, Roslyn and Sandy, thank you for your hard work and dedication to the Association. You did a fantastic job in presenting and explaining the recommended changes."

Handbook Committee

Mary Ann Holt, Chair

"Sisters Mary Ann and Marilyn, thank you for your hard work and dedication in determining if Florida needed a Handbook."

Emeritus Committee

Judy Bellomy, Chair

"A motion has been made and seconded to keep Lillian Green on the Emeritus List. Any discussion? All those in favor. All those opposed. Motion carried."

Corsage Committee

Tina Polson, Chair

"Sister Tina, thank you for all you do for our Association and for agreeing to continue as chair of this committee."

New Business

Nominating Committee

Mary Alice Main, Chair

Nominees for Secretary/Treasurer were as follows:

Claudine Rogers & Susan Metcalf – both sisters retired from the meeting for voting to take place. Upon returning Sister Louanne stated, "Sister Claudine Rogers congratulations, you have been elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Grand Representatives Association of Florida for 2023-2024 year."

"Sisters Mary Alice, Nancy Law and Carol Poole, thank you for your hard work and dedication to the Association by working on this committee."

"Due to postage regulation changes, we will no longer be able to mail out membership pins. The USPS wants to charge us \$4.50 to mail our pin. If you wish to have a membership pin, you will need to pick it up at Grand Chapter at the Grand Representatives table."

"Our form has been changed to reflect this change. We are sorry we had to make this change."

Installation of 2023-2024 Officers

Installing Officer:

Mary Ann Holt, PG Martha
Grand Representative of Kansas
1996-1997

Installing Marshal:

Grace Perry, WM
Grand Representative of New Hampshire
2021-2022

Installing Chaplain:

Marti Gleason, PG Esther
Grand Representative of New Jersey
2022-2024

2023-2024 Officers

Judy Bellomy, President
Debi Gulbrand, Vice President
Claudine Rogers, Secretary/Treasurer

Mizpah Benediction in Unison – by Judy Bellomy

Music

Elizabeth Eldridge, Past Grand Organist

Debi Gulbrand, Secretary/Treasurer

Budget Report 2023-2024

RECEIPTS

Dues 200@\$5.00	\$ 1,000.00	
Sale of Pins	\$ 100.00	
Luncheon Tickets	\$ 8,928.00	
(Does not include 26 tickets comped)		
Coursage Sales	\$ 377.00	
	\$ 10,405.00	\$10,405.00

Disbursements

LOVE GIFTS

Worthy Grand Matron	\$ 100.00	
Worthy Grand Patron	\$ 100.00	
Most WGM (If attending)	\$ 100.00	
Most WGP (If attending)	\$ 50.00	
Outgoing President	\$ 100.00	
Outgoing Vice President	\$ 50.00	
Outgoing Sec/Treas	\$ 50.00	
Membership Chair	\$ 50.00	
WGM Special Project	\$ 200.00	
	\$ 800.00	\$800.00

MISC EXPENSES

Corsages	\$ 500.00	
Newsletter (2)	\$ 450.00	
(Includes envelopes/postage)	\$ 950.00	\$ 950.00

Luncheon Grand Chapter

Printing Flyers & Tickets	\$ 100.00	
Programs	\$ 125.00	
Bags & Labels	\$ 225.00	
Memorial Supplies	\$ 75.00	
Decorations Head Table	\$ 200.00	
Luncheon Tickets 305@26.00	\$ 7,930.00	
	\$ 8,655.00	\$8,655.00

\$10,405.00 \$10,405.00