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## Message from our GWA Brenna Wrinn

With a new back-to-school season, it also means time for new beginnings and change. Change beyond the new sneakers and new backpacks. Change to overall become the best version of ourselves. Change to make a difference and positive impact in our community. It was just twenty-one years ago when 9/11 occurred, it was a time when many communities came together to help each other in whatever ways help was needed. Whether it was physical help to rebuild or to even being there for others during times of distress. It was a change that also allowed people's radiance to shine brightly and bring others out of a place where hope did not seem so tangible. It is important to be the light each and every day. Be kind and empower others. Be the change you want to see in the world. Always let your light shine bright.

*Brenna, GWA*

## Contributions Requested

Your help is needed to keep our Supreme Temple in Oklahoma ready for future generations of Rainbow Girls. There is an ongoing Century Campaign to restore and renew the building in McAlester, Oklahoma. The Century Campaign is divided into three parts - Heating/AC replacement, Exterior repair of the building, and last to establish an Endowment Fund for future needs. Phase 1 - The Heating/A replacement has been completed. Phase 2 - fixing the exterior of the building is our current goal of which \$388,000 is needed to complete the repairs. During Supreme Assembly in Oklahoma City this past summer, the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma gifted the Century Campaign with \$100,000. They also issued a challenge to all other jurisdictions - They will match all contributions up to another \$100,000 through the end of the year. CT Rainbow will also match all contributions to this fund, up to \$1,000, donated before November 30th, 2022. So your donation can be tripled! We will also be collecting at our visitations in September and November. Mail your donation to Mom Needham before the deadline of November 30th, so that we can tally these donations, and send a check to Supreme Assembly. Please consider supporting this worthy cause, it is a big part of the heritage of Rainbow.

[Supreme Century Campaign Message](#)

## **Save your gently used purses/pocketbooks!**

Our SWA, Kay Letterman, has asked each jurisdiction to fill pocketbooks with needed personal care items to be donated to Women's Shelters in each jurisdiction. Please start saving/gathering gently used purses/pocketbooks and items such as travel size shampoo/conditioner, nonscented soaps, disposable razors, comb/hairbrush, chapstick/lipstick, feminine products, pen/notepad, toothpaste/toothbrush, slipper socks, and hair ties/bands. We will arrange for a statewide event to fill the pocketbooks, but please start gathering items now. If anyone knows of any businesses that would be willing to donate items, please contact Mom Needham.

## **Membership**

Congratulations to those assemblies that have reached out in their communities the past few months, several assemblies have had great success in gathering names and contact information from interested girls! Just a reminder, we have several promotional items (Mini Mazes, keychains, etc) with our website information printed on them to hand out. Let Mom Needham know if you would

like some. We are also reordering the IORG postcards if you need to replenish your stock.

Our JML, Darcy Needham, continues to be available to provide information to girls and adults regarding how to describe IORG benefits to those who don't know about our organization. Please reach out to Darcy - the assemblies that have worked with her have had great success when they have done community events.

Grand Officers Night will be held on September 24th - Please let Mom Needham know if you have a candidate ready for initiation. As a Statewide incentive, we continue to work on each assembly having 2 initiates before the end of the year. If all assemblies are successful, the girls will get to chose a fun event for everyone to enjoy!

Supreme Incentive Program - The new incentive program for the next two years was announced after Supreme Assembly. Each girl is able to earn charms on a bracelet - Shoe charms in the 7 Rainbow colors! The red shoe is given to a girl who is the first line signer on an application for membership, or one who has been the second line signer on two applications. The other charms are earned by participating in Service projects, one charm for each 20 hours of service. Forms to record your service hours will be distributed this month. Adults can earn charms also, but must pay for the cost of the bracelet and charms.

## Upcoming Events

**September 10** - Visitation - Rose and Norwich Assemblies

This visitation will start at **4pm**, and will be held at **Bayview Lodge, 32 Society Rd, Niantic.**

Grand Officers and Grand Representatives should wear white gowns for the visitation which will include opening, introductions, remarks and closing. After the visitation, we all will be enjoying time together with Field Day activities. Please bring casual clothes so that you can participate in all the games!

Theme - Awesome Acrobats

Activity - Field Day

**September 24** - Grand Officers Night - Newington Lodge

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE. The Grand Officers will be performing our

Initiation Ceremony. The program starts at 4 pm, with dinner following the program, Grand Officers will need to arrive at noon, new GO gowns are to be worn that night. Do you have anyone ready to join IORG? Please let Mom Needham know of any candidates for degrees. Ansonia Assembly will be our hosts for the night.

### **October 1-3 - Rainbow Retreat - Camp Hazen**

Information for the retreat is online at the link below. The deadline for reservations is September 14, 2022.

<https://ctiorg.org/rainbow-retreat/>

### **October 15th - GWA Reception - To be held at Riverview Bistro in Stratford.**

Invites will be sent out soon. You **must** RSVP by the response date in order to enjoy the afternoon.

### **November 5th - Visitation - Ansonia and Valley Assemblies**

We will have a short business meeting and then we will be baking cookies to be distributed to First Responders in our own communities.

An important reminder that any Rainbow Girl who is traveling to an out-of-state event needs to notify Mom Needham prior to traveling.

