



ANGELS ON ASSIGNMENT NEWSLETTER #1 — April 2010



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL GRAND REPRESENTATIVES ASSOCIATION, O.E.S.:

What a wonderful time we had in Tulsa! A big “**THANK YOU**” to the Oklahoma Grand Representatives Association for your gracious hospitality to the visiting current and former Grand Representatives from all around the world, and to Sister Mary Thompson and her corps of officers and committee members for the beautiful IGRA luncheon.

I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve as the IGRA President and am looking forward to attending many of the Grand Chapter sessions during this triennium with Sister Rennie Ofton, MWGM, and Brother Fred Clarke, MWGP.

As this new triennium begins, we look forward to reaching out to the vast membership and attracting those who are eligible to become members in this Association. Please encourage those in your particular areas who are not currently members to want to be a part of this group. We hope you will enjoy our newsletters as well as our updated web site, <http://igra.txoes.org> (or the IGRA link on the General Grand Chapter web site www.easternstar.org) where you will find the list of officers and committees for the new triennium, current bylaws, our annual communications, forms to download for paying dues (\$5.00 for the three-year term) and for ordering merchandise and clothing, including the formal which can be worn by current and former Grand Representatives anytime during this Triennium. We also have the IGRA pins, the President’s angel pin, and the updated Handbook which is a guide for Grand Representatives.

The officers elected to serve for 2009-2012 are **Phyllis Macon**, President, from Texas; **Jewel Lusk**, First Vice President, from West Virginia; **Marilyn Lambert**, Second Vice President, from Florida; and **Linda Carney**, Secretary-Treasurer, from Texas. The appointed officers are **Carolyn Bell**, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer; **Georgia Orr**, Chaplain; **Joann Drescher**, Pin Chairman; and **Willie Mae Shaw**, Parliamentarian. Our Webmaster is **Gay Carnes**, and the Liaison for Canada is **Carolyn Galley Card** from Nova Scotia & PEI. All of these officers are eager to serve the IGRA membership.

We want you to get acquainted with the officers of the I.G.R.A. First, I am a retired federal employee, having worked in the United States Courts in Dallas for 42 years, first in the United States Attorney’s Office and then Secretary/Administrative Assistant to Federal Judge Barefoot Sanders. It truly was an exciting career. My husband, Carrol, and I have been married for 42 years. He is a retired structural draftsman. We have been members of Mesquite Chapter No. 887 in Texas since 1972. I was honored to serve as Grand Marshal in 1992-1993 and as Grand Representative of Washington in Texas 1993-1995 and of Mississippi in Texas 2008-2010. We enjoy Eastern Star and visiting other chapters in our area as well as traveling to other Grand Jurisdictions. The next Newsletter will include information about other officers.

The I.G.R.A. was organized at the Assembly held in Dallas in 1964. Our Purpose has not changed – “To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas beneficial to the Grand Representatives; to work for the good of the Order, bringing love, happiness and enthusiasm to every Grand Jurisdiction of our Order throughout the United States, Canada, Scotland, Puerto Rico, the United Grand Chapter of Australia, Bolivia, and Sao Paulo. Also, it is to promote interest in our General Grand Chapter and to support its officers.”

One of the nicest things that can happen in your Eastern Star life is to be chosen to serve as a Grand Representative. You have an opportunity to represent your Worthy Grand Matron and state as you travel to other Grand Jurisdictions. The I.G.R.A. pin has clasped hands in friendship. And as you travel, by extending the hand of friendship, you are making this a “Small, Small, World”.

We invite all current and former Grand Representatives to be a part of this Association, and if you have a club, we invite your state or province to be a part also. Your area clubs are very important. You have the opportunity to contact those who have become inactive or perhaps never joined. Encourage them to join, to become active again, and most of all, let them know they are wanted and needed.

Individual membership is \$5.00 for the triennium and state associations/clubs is \$10.00. You will find the form included in this newsletter. Each current member will receive a Newsletter and a copy of the Bylaws. If we are to keep in touch with the clubs, it is very important that immediately following your jurisdiction elections that you furnish a complete list of the new officers and their addresses for our files. I would ask each jurisdiction, if possible, to appoint a member to be the Membership Chairman in that jurisdiction, in an effort to increase our active membership. If your jurisdiction does not have a club, why not ask your Worthy Grand Matron’s permission to form a club. We will be happy to assist any jurisdiction in forming a club.

It is always exciting to be a part of your Grand Representatives' activities, and how proud I am when I see the State Flags being presented by the Grand Representatives and their counterparts. Your hospitality, hugs, and smiles are always appreciated as we enjoy fellowship together.

I have chosen the following for the triennium:

Motto:	May you always spread your Wings of Love and Friendship as you travel.
Emblem:	Angels
Symbol:	Goodwill Ambassadors
Theme:	Making Friends
Scripture:	Proverbs 15:13 "A happy heart makes the face cheerful."
Colors:	Fuschia, Purple, Apple Green
Flowers:	All God's Flowers
Our Song:	"It's A Small , Small World"

The President's pin for the triennium is a praying kneeling angel. It can also be worn on a chain as a necklace. You can view the pin on our web site. This pin can be worn by anyone, not just Grand Representatives or Eastern Star members. I want it to be a constant reminder to pray for our Order and for each other. It would be a great gift for your neighbor or friends and the price is only \$6.00.

Since Tulsa, I attended the Grand Chapter sessions in Arkansas and Louisiana, and will be in Florida, Maryland and DC in April; Minnesota and Nebraska in May; Idaho, Montana and Oregon in June. It is a joy to be with you and learn more about Eastern Star around the world. Thank you, in advance, for providing me information on your sessions. I would also enjoy hearing from you and knowing what is happening in your jurisdiction (*e.g.*, your Club Newsletters).

As Texas prepares to host the Eastern Star world in 2012, we extend an invitation for you to attend the IGRA Luncheon in Fort Worth, Texas, on Saturday, November 3, 2012.

"May you always spread your Wings of Love and Friendship as you travel."

Fraternal Love,

Phyllis Macon

President, IGRA