



ROYAL GRAND CHAPTER OES NEWSLETTER

Brenda J. Barnes, Acting GWM

Johnny H. Carolina, GWP

April 30, 2024

Greetings to The Royal Grand Chapter, OES-PHA

Our 139th Annual Grand Session was held February 22-24, 2024.

Thanks to everyone for your attendance and support.

A Special Thanks and what kindness shown to each of you that presented gifts to
Our Grand Chapter Officers.



Appreciation to everyone that worked to make the **139th Grand Session** a success. It takes a lot of hard work, effort and time. You know who you are. **Kudos!!!** to each of you.

Thursday night the Masonic Memorial services and Friday night the C.N. Toney Banquet both were well attended.

District 8 was in charge of the OES Gala.
The Wild Wild West of Arkansas was

Phenomenal...The Arkansas Jail was filled with Outlaws!!!

There were approximately **417** in attendance. This included visiting Worthy Matrons, Worthy Patrons or representation and guests from Texas, Missouri, Illinois, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Mississippi.

2024 Car Raffle

Winner of the 2024 Car: Mary Hill of Jefferson, AR

2nd Place Toni Lowe \$500.00

3rd Place Tamara Jolley \$500.00

4th Xavier Young \$500.00

Seller of the Car Raffle Winning Ticket: Tekelia Rawls #364 Awarded \$50.00

2024 Theme:
“Making Efforts to Move Beyond the Basics”

The 2024 OES-PHA Elected Officers are:

Flora J. Simon, Grand Worthy Matron
Brenda J. Barnes, Deputy Grand Matron
Linda C. Hunter, Grand Associate Matron
Nancy Sowers, Grand Conductress
Danielle Terry, Grand Associate Conductress
Barbara Dixon, Grand Treasurer
Magigor Love, Grand Secretary
Linda K. Hunter Watson, Grand Financial Secretary

Trustees: Hester Handley
Tonelisa Johnson
Patty Dyer
Etta Marks
Paul Isbell

Appointments by Grand Master Mark A. McGraw

Johnny H. Carolina Grand Worthy Patron
Alvin Flenory Grand Associate Patron

District Deputies

District #1 (6)

Marvie Womack, SDDGM #374

Linda McGhee, #106
(Open slot)

District #3 (7)

Tonilesa Johnson, SDDGM, #340

Carolyn Norman, #22
Arnetia Singleton, #352

District #4 (14)

Degdra Eldridge, SDDGM, #75

Patricia Torrence, #348
Hester Handley, #306
Barbara Smith, #348
Ebony Jackson, #411

District # 5 (8)

Vanessa McCraw, SDDGM, #427

Karen Harper, #192
Terese Jones, #19 ***

District #6 (7)

Mary Williams, SDDGM, # 395

LeQuandra Hale-Banks, #336 ***
(Open slot)

District #7N (3)

Lois Bryant, SDDGM, #295

Anita A. Mahathay, #175
Linda C. Hunter, GAM #362

District #7S (8)

Tylisha Charles, SDDGM, #362

Mary McKenzie, #362
Eutica McHenry, #425 ***

District #8 (5)

Vivian Eaton-Jenkins, SDDGM, #145

Felicia Hester, #424 ***
Brenda Barnes, DGM, #145

*** indicates a new deputy.

District Deputy Advisors:

GC Nancy Sowers, DGM Brenda
Barnes & GAM Linda C Hunter

58 active chapters

Reminders:

New Member Initiation Changes

- (1.) Effective July 1, 2024, there will be no initiation of a new member until a copy of the approved application has been returned from the GWM.
 - (2.) A denied application must be sent to the RGC office with the word “**DENIED**” written across the top.
 - (3.) The investigation form must be returned with the application.
- These changes are being made because of concerns about sending incorrect amounts, memberships that are denied, and incomplete forms submitted.

New Member Application Fees

The 2024 application fee increased to **\$90** from \$85, the OES ritual increased to \$15 which is the actual purchase price, the Constitution and Policy & Procedures Manual increased to \$15. **The total new member application fee will increase to \$120, effective July 1, 2024.**

Mid-Year Audits

Each chapter must conduct a mid-year audit (6 months) of finances from the date of the last audit in 2023 to April 2024. This audit will be presented to the chapter in May of 2024, and a copy sent to the district deputy. The final audit is given before election & it will be for 12 months, **not 6 months.**

RGC OES Building Little Rock Rental Fees

All OES Chapters meeting monthly the rental fee will increase to \$40.00
All OES Chapters meeting twice a month the rental fee will increase to \$60.00

RGC SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship applications have been sent to each worthy matron. The deadline is June 30, 2024. We give three \$700 scholarship to students already in college. We also give two \$700 scholarships to two students graduating from high school this May. The applicants must live in Arkansas, but do not have to attend school in Arkansas. If you have not received a copy of the application, get a copy from your Worthy Matron or Deputy. This information can be posted on your Facebook page. Some students need financial help. **Encourage students to apply.** The applicant does not have to be a member of the OES or have a relative who is Masonic organization.

Worthy Patrons

A worthy patron should have been assigned to your chapter at this time. If not, you are to contact the worshipful master of your sponsoring lodge. After you contact him and get no results, contact Grand Patron Johnny Carolina for assistance.

Toss the Coin

This project is the responsibility of the entire chapter. The amount is a minimum of \$150.00. More is greatly appreciated. The deadline is June 30, 2024. Members please exchange your loose coins for dollar bills during the months of May, and June before turning in your donation to your chapter. We will greatly appreciate you doing so as it saves us lots of time.

OES Youth Fraternity

Statewide Youth Workshop May 4, 2024 at the Masonic Temple, Pine Bluff AR
10:00am – 3:00pm. Registration **\$5.00** (Lunch will be served onsite.)

2024 OES Relief and Building Fees

All 2024 OES Relief and Building fees must be paid in full by June 30, 2024.
Financial secretaries inform the members and start collecting the fees.

JUNE 29 OES WORKSHOP

Masonic Temple Pine Bluff – 9:00am – 4:00pm

- Please mark your calendars for the workshop, registration forms are attached. Please register through your local OES chapter.

Car Raffle tickets should be ready for distribution in June.

Things to Remember:

District Deputies Advisors will visit District Meetings this year and will also make some local meetings. They are in attendance to assist as needed and give positive feedback.

Masonic Calendar:

Refer often to the 2024 Masonic Calendar for upcoming events and be prepared to attend.

