Rainbow Connection

March 2009
Rainbow Chapter No. 276
Order of the Eastern Star

Special Events

Mar 28 – Open Installation
4:00pm

May 3 – Pancake Breakfast
8:00am – 12:00pm

Aug 5 – Annual Picnic
6:00pm

Nov 1 – Spaghetti Dinner

Individual Highlights

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"Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."
Mathew 5:16

Good Bye from the East by Joyce McCurdy

This will be my last article for a long time. My tenure of Worthy Matron for the past three years will be coming to a close in a few short days. I'm leaving the office with some regrets but a "heap" of relief! I know that you will be in good hands in the upcoming year with a new first time Worthy Matron, Kay Bolduan, and of course you are always in good hands with Brother Glen who will remain in the East for this third consecutive term.

As I leave office, I feel very confident that our beloved Rainbow Chapter has made great strides in strengthening itself once again. We've gone through some tough times with few active members but they were extremely dedicated and worked hard at restoring it to what it once was. We still have a ways to go, but with determination and hard work, I know we will make it.

The good news is we initiated six new members and brought in two dual members this year. It is a pleasure to watch as new members come into the fold and start to make our chapter what it once was. Over the past few years, our activities have been limited due to lack of able members and it is such a joy to see that some of the good works we used to do are slowing returning. We've gone from only seven attending a meeting to around 14 – that's double our active membership. Collectively we can all be proud of the job we've done in keeping our Chapter together and helping it grow.

This year like in the past we worked with the Ames School (across the street from our former home) and a Cottage Grove School (in honor of our new home). For the beginning of the school year we once again supported our Tools for Schools project bringing school supplies, clothing and alarm clocks to those children who really need the help. We were honored by Masonic Charities for our combined efforts with Accacia Lodge in making this project a success. This will be discussed more in another part of the newsletter. We also continued a project that was started many years ago to supply Ames School with mittens, scarves and hats in

January to help during the cold season. Both schools greatly appreciate our help and look forward to the yearly donations.

The highlight of the year was when Rainbow hosted a triple meeting with Granite Chapter, St. Cloud and Cedar Chapter, Owatonna. Where possible, we had all three officers from each chapter in one station. We shared the opening, closing and business sections of the meeting. A great time was had by all who attended and I sincerely hope this will become a tradition within Rainbow Chapter. This year we also had the opportunity to show off our new home by hosting an Official Visit where the Grand Officers performed the Degrees for four new members and honored AM/AP/Cond/AC's. In all, I believe this was a very good year for our Chapter and we have seen a turnaround in membership and activities.

Star Love,
Joyce

Tools for Schools Receives Recognition by Rita Glazebrook

At the 2008 *Minnesota Masonic Charities (MMC) Gala*, Rainbow Chapter No. 276 and Accacia Lodge No. 51 were recognized for jointly sponsoring the *Tools for Schools Project.*

Rainbow was one of ten Lodges and Chapters in Minnesota honored "…for outstanding community commitment and successful participation in the MMC Matching Funds Grant Program," as a cooperative Lodge and Chapter program "…which has contributed to the well-being of others in your community and demonstrated by your efforts the Masonic tenets of true charity."

During the social hour poster exhibits were displayed that described the community projects of the honored Lodges and Chapters.

Following dinner representatives from the Chapter and Lodge were acknowledged and presented with the poster to display in their building or community.

Since 2006, and in addition to individual contributions, the *Tools for Schools Project* has provided $1200 annually to elementary schools including Ames School in St. Paul, Pine Hill, Grey Cloud, and Woodbury Schools in South Washington County. The Chapter and Lodge together contribute $600 which is matched by MMC.

Tools for Schools
Receives Recognition
by
Rita Glazebrook
(Continued)

This project has supported a variety of needs identified by school principals including a mentoring program between older and younger children, acquisition of library resources for reading programs, supplies for education in the creative arts, an emergency clothing and food closet for families in need, a teacher and student recognition program for community and character building projects, and adaptive equipment for children with special physical needs.

Rainbow Chapter and Accacia Lodge are committed to continuing this project in 2009 and a renewal grant request will again be submitted to Minnesota Masonic Charities. School principals are being asked to identify projects in need of support and the grant request will be submitted by early summer. If you want to make an individual donation to this worthwhile project, please send a check to Secretary Rita Glazebrook, 8941 Jasmine Lane South, Cottage Grove, MN 55016-3422.

And remember, every dollar raised will be matched resulting in double the amount of "tools for schools."

Cheer
and
Condolences
by
Glen Carlson

During the past year Rainbow Chapter has been saddened by the loss of many members who gave much of their time and talents to Eastern Star over the years. Through our faith we know that they continue to look down on our beautiful Order and are with us in the memories we have of each of them.

Sister *Marjorie Scandlen* was initiated into St. Paul Chapter #24 on May 9, 1947 and became a member of Rainbow Chapter through the consolidation of St. Paul Chapter #24 on June 17, 1991. She served as Worthy Matron of both chapters and is truly missed. Our Heavenly Father called her Home on March 22, 2008.

Sister *Elizabeth Gruber* was initiated into Merriam Park Chapter #199 on March 21, 1941 which consolidated with St. Paul #24 and later became a member of Rainbow Chapter through the consolidation of St. Paul Chapter on June 17, 1991. I can remember visiting her in the Presbyterian Home for many years during holiday time. Sister Elizabeth left us on June 2, 2008.

Sister *Esther O'Connor* was initiated into Rainbow Chapter May 4, 1959 and was within a year of being a 50 year member at the time of her death on June 3, 2008. In her early years of membership she was a very active member and officer of our chapter. She was called to her Eternal Home on June 3, 2008.

Cheer
and
Condolences
by
Glen Carlson
(Continued)

Sister *Gloria Herbst* was initiated into St. Paul Chapter #24 on October 24, 1947, and became a member of Rainbow Chapter through the consolidation of St. Paul Chapter on June 17, 1991. She was also a Dual member of St. Anthony Park Chapter in Roseville. Sister Gloria said her final Farewell on June 26, 2008.

Sister *Ruth Sokolik* was initiated into St. Paul Chapter #24 on October 11, 1957, and became a member of Rainbow Chapter through the consolidation of St. Paul Chapter on June 17, 1991. Ruth was a Past Matron of St. Paul Chapter and took a very active part in Rainbow Chapter after the consolidation. We lost our dear Sister Ruth on July 26, 2008.

Sister *Mayme Gruening* was initiated in St. Paul Chapter #24 on October 23, 1953, and became a member of Rainbow Chapter through the consolidation of St. Paul Chapter on June 17, 1991. Sister Mayme was a Past Matron of St. Paul #24, but had resided in Peoria, AZ for many years where she continued to be active in a local chapter. We were notified that she had passed away on September 22, 2008.

Sister *Avis Morrison* was initiated in Rainbow Chapter on October 17, 1955, and helped at many of our chapter activities in the earlier years of her membership. She had three sisters that were initiated with her, all preceding her in death. I can remember presenting her with her 50-year pin in 2005 in the nursing home where she resided for a number of years. Our Heavenly Father called her to her Eternal Home on October 26, 2008 while in the comfort of one of our members.

Sister *Thelma Roller* was initiated in Merriam Park Chapter #199 on June 18, 1954, which consolidated with St. Paul Chapter #24, and became a member of Rainbow Chapter through the consolidation of St. Paul Chapter on June 17, 1991. Sister Thelma was taken to be with her Heavenly Father on December 5, 2008.

Sister *Dorothy Cramoline* was initiated in Merriam Park Chapter #199 on November 1, 1935 which consolidated with St. Paul #24 and later became a member of Rainbow Chapter on June 17, 1991. Our Sister Dorothy was a 73-year member at the time of her passing on January 2, 2009.

With the exception of one who was a forty-nine year member, all of the above were 50-year plus members. What a record of Eastern Star membership … 524 years between nine members. That is certainly a tribute, and a lot of love and devotion for the Order of the Eastern Star.

Our Altar was draped for a period of 30 days and a memorial tribute given for each of them. 'til we meet again … Farewell.

Cheer
and
Condolences
by
Glen Carlson
(Continued)

Besides sending comfort to bereaved families of our members we do try to remember those who are sick or in the hospital or nursing homes but that can only be done if we know who they are.

If you know of anyone in our chapter who needs cheer or a visit, please call Glen Carlson or Kay Bolduan on the Cheer Committee and let him/her know.

Glen Carlson, 651-636-7986
Kay Bolduan, 651-738-8130

Calendar 2009-2010
Meetings Begin at 7:00PM
Unless Otherwise Noted

Mar 28	Open Installation – 4:00 PM (Dinner to follow)
Apr 06	Honor Jr. Past Matron & Patron – Mary Loritz
Apr 20	Stated Meeting – Alvina Wilson
May 03	Accacia Lodge Pancake Breakfast 8:00am – 12:00 pm
May 18	Honor Mothers – Glen Carlson
Jun 01	Honor Fathers & Line Officers – Rita & Harold Glazebrook
Aug 05	Accacia Lodge Annual Picnic – 6:00pm
Sep 21	School of Instruction; Rob Morris Night / Honor Brothers; Back to School Supplies Pot Luck – 6:00pm - Joyce & Charles McCurdy
Oct 05	Official Visit – Kay Bolduan
Oct 19	Friendship Night – Jean Breuer
Nov 01	Accacia Lodge Fall Spaghetti Dinner
Nov 02	Sweatshirts & Slippers; Bring Food for Food Shelf - Chris & Jeff Peterson
Dec 07	Stated Christmas Meeting / Community – Everyone bring cookies to share
Jan 18	Stated Meeting – Ann Kellerman
Feb 15	Stated Meeting – Dorothy Ehrhardt
Mar 01	Annual Meeting & Elections – Marlene Kachelmyer
Mar 15	Stated Meeting & Farewell – Kay Bolduan & Glen Carlson

2009 – 2010
Elected Officers

Kay Bolduan	WM
Glen Carlson	WP
Joyce McCurdy	AM
Charles McCurdy	AP
Rita Glazebrook	Sec'y
Harold Glazebrook	Tres.

Rainbow Chapter No. 276

Joyce McCurdy, WM
(651) 735-0359

Rita Glazebrook, Secretary
(651) 459-2330

E-Mail:
rainbowchapter@gmail.com

Website:
www.rainbowchapter.com

2009 Dues Due Now

Do you have a cream colored dues card with your name on it? If not, you need to pay your 2009 dues now. Remit $27.50 to the Chapter Secretary, Rita Glazebrook, 8941 Jasmine Lane South, Cottage Grove, MN 55016-3422.

Are you a fifty year plus member? You should have already received your card that mailed in December 2008 at no charge.

Kay Bolduan, WM Elect & Allen Carlson, WP Elect

Cordially Invite You
To an Open installation of 2009-2010 Officers

To be Held
Saturday, March 28, 2009 at 4:00 PM
Dinner to Follow

Accacia Lodge No 51
11094 70th Street South
Cottage Grove, MN

RSVP to 651-738-8130 for dinner reservations.

Kay Bolduan
Editor 2009-2010
2550 Stillwater Rd E
Maplewood, MN 55119
(651) 738-8130

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Rita Glazebrook, Secretary
8941 Jasmine Lane South
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