

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Words of Encouragement and Caution

“What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.”—Ralph Waldo Emerson

This world seems to be coming at us in very challenging ways, but this quote by Emerson I find to be so true. You each have such beauty and specialness within you, that I know together we can get through this.

I want you to know that I find such calmness in being able to visit with you, my OES brothers and sisters when we can. Though my time has been very limited, each time I see or hear from one of you, it is such a lift to my soul. Even if I have not been able to talk to you in sometime, when things are at their hardest, I go to a special place in my heart and in my mind and I begin to reflect on each and every one of you. I think back to wonderful memories, see your face, hear your voice in my head, feel your warm hug around my shoulders, and feel your love inside my soul. You give me strength. Even though I cannot talk with you by any means as much as I would like, EVERY ONE of you I think about. Everyone of you I hold so dear. I have often picked up the white book, chapter year books, and chapter rosters late at night, then read through the names when I need a lift. I think of each of each one you and send you a prayer, hope you are safe, and will take the threats of the pandemic seriously. I have seen too many tragically impacted that I know. I want you to be safe and long for the time together again.



As far as what is going on in my life, I am very, very busy working on public safety messaging campaigns for our region of the state, working with legislators, elected leaders, community planners, tasks forces, and public safety officials for health protocols, action plans, and economic recovery. This has been on top of managing a very complex political broadcast fall season while working with hundreds of businesses in southwestern United States with COVID messaging and business strategies through this. In addition, I teach at NMSU-A and WNMU. My greatest love is being able to help OES in our state and at the General Grand Chapter level in all the ways I can. You truly all mean the world to me. If you need anything at all, even though I am busy, I will gladly pause and help you in any way I can.

I have this closing message for you:

Martin Luther King said, **“You don’t have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.”** If you are feeling down, tired, discouraged, or even if you are simply getting through this, remember to just keep taking another step. We will come through this. Reach out to your OES sisters and brothers. We all need each other. I am truly thankful for each of you. Stay strong.

Happy Thanksgiving. Keep your family gatherings small, reduce your family’s exposure risk, so we can gather for future holidays together.

Sabrina Pack
Grand Conductress