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*Supreme Council
Order of the Amaranth, Inc.*

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January 18, 2021

Dear Grand Royal Matrons and Royal Matrons (SCJ),

First of all I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. As we enter into 2021 we continue with our “new normal” during this pandemic and the rising numbers of those testing positive to COVID-19. Many of us thought there would be some relief after the start of the New Year, but this virus is stubborn and we can only hope the delivery of the vaccines will help to make a difference. This past year has been very difficult on everyone. Many of our members have been ill and some have lost their lives as a result of COVID. Many hearts are broken and find it difficult to move forward. With the help of each other we can get through this, together and be stronger. I ask everyone to follow the guidelines for safety for you, your family and friends so that we can be together soon.

We are still far from being back to where we are able to consistently meet with each other. The COVID-19 spikes are peaking in some areas and are on downward trends in other areas. But there is no consistency in the rise and fall of this pandemic. I am still encouraging those jurisdictions where meetings are able to be held, to hold those meetings. Make sure each court reaches out to your members and determine ahead of time if they are able to have a quorum. When holding a meeting remember to follow the guidelines sent out in September, 2020. These guidelines will help to ensure the rules of each lodge and governmental agencies are upheld while allowing our subordinate courts to have their meetings and perform their work as close to the ritual as possible. As a reminder the guidelines sent out in September do not follow the exact ritual but it is only temporary and sometimes flexibility is necessary to adjust to court room size and the circumstances we are given. The most important thing when adjustments are made, the ritual work is in keeping with the beauty of our ceremonies. Once this pandemic allows us to return to a safer normal we will return our ritual work to normal. **I will continue to set aside the requirement for courts to make up meetings if a quorum cannot be met during the pandemic. In addition, I will also continue setting aside the 10 meetings a year requirement if courts cannot hold their meetings during the pandemic. This will be in effect until Supreme Council in Portland Oregon, whereby, H.L. Mary Wyatt will readdress these guidelines. I only ask that where possible courts try to meet. The longer we are not together, the harder it will be to come together.**

Lastly, for those Jurisdictions that suspended in spring 2020, I hope you are thinking and planning for a plan B for your session. In 2020 the pandemic hit us with no ability to plan. So plan now! You should make every effort to hold a session to move your jurisdiction forward. This may mean moving your session from a hotel to another venue if the original location cannot accommodate you; shortening your session or moving the date of your session. We know what we have been dealing with, so please don't wait until your session is around the corner. If you need alternate dates, please contact me. We are all looking forward to coming to your jurisdictions and also seeing you at Supreme Council in Portland Oregon, July 4-8, 2021. Get your reservations in now. See the Supreme Web page.

The most important effort we can make is to stay in touch and help one another where and when needed. Most importantly, everyone needs to stay safe and stay healthy. Your welfare is the most important thing, so don't be afraid to reach out for help.

Let us always keep the health and safety of our members first in all the decisions we make. We will be together again soon.

In Amaranth Love and Service
Dorothy I Kippie
Dorothy I. Kippie
Supreme Royal Matron



Attest: *Patti Baker*, Patti Baker Supreme Secretary



C: George Ullrich, Supreme Lecturer
Sylvia Saunders, Supreme Jurisprudence Chair
Grand Secretaries
SCJ Secretaries

Aiming Higher in search of A Cure for Diabetes thru Research