



# THE CROWN & SWORD

*The Newsletter of the*  
**SUPREME COUNCIL**  
**ORDER of the AMARANTH, Inc.**



**Honored Lady Marsha Weidinger, Supreme Royal Matron**  
**Sir Knight Bill Haas, Supreme Royal Patron**  
**2025 - 2026**

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**H.L. Kim May, Editor**

We invite you to visit our website: <http://www.amaranth.org>

This Edition: **November, 2025**



## **SUPREME ROYAL MATRON**

### **H.L. Marsha Weidinger**

Hello Honored Ladies and Sir Knights. Time has really flown by. I have been enjoying our Fall season - The crispness in the air; the beautiful gold, red, and orange fall foliage; the fall apple season; changing our clocks back - all signs that the holidays will soon be here.

I have been busy since Supreme Council. After bringing greetings at Supreme Job's Daughters, my Official Visits began. So far, I have officially visited 10 SCJ Courts and 6 Grand Courts. Thank you for all the courtesies and hospitality, you have extended to me at each of these events.

Membership continues to be a concern in many of our subordinate and Grand Courts. Are we all doing our part to promote Amaranth when we attend other Masonic and Fraternal Organization events? Do we invite them to our open events? When we initiate new members, do we make an effort to include them in our meetings, projects, and fundraisers? This decline in membership is affecting all our Masonic and Fraternal organizations and something we all need to actively address. If all of us will just bring in one new member this year, just imagine how we could grow and strengthen our Order.

I have enjoyed seeing all the creative ideas the Courts are doing to raise funds for our Amaranth Diabetes Foundation. I love all the pictures you have been sending in with the boxing gloves! Keep them coming!

I wish everyone a "Happy Thanksgiving" and "Merry Christmas". I look forward to seeing you along the Amaranth trail.





## **SUPREME ROYAL PATRON**

### **S.K. Bill Haas**

#### **Seasons of Change & Growth**

As the seasons change, we are reminded of the natural rhythm of life and our place within it. This transition invites each of us to pause, reflect, and reconnect—with ourselves, our fellow members, and the purpose that unites us through the Order of the Amaranth.

Our Supreme Amaranth year is already one quarter complete. In that time, many Grand Courts have elected and installed new officers. These changes bring fresh energy, new perspectives, and a renewed sense of commitment—much like the appearance of new blooms in spring or the vibrant transformation of leaves in the fall.

In the Southern Hemisphere, spring flowers are just beginning to blossom. These beautiful signs of new life are symbolic of our newly installed officers, who are growing into their duties with enthusiasm and grace. Like flowers, no two Courts are exactly alike. While we are all rooted in the same mission of philanthropy and friendship, the individual members of each Court bring unique character and spirit.

In the Northern Hemisphere, fall colors now paint a vivid picture of change and beauty. Each leaf turns a different shade, depending on its makeup—just as each of us brings different strengths, talents, and experiences. Together, those differences create a vibrant and dynamic organization.

Let us continue to embrace the gifts of each season—and each member. Let us support our leaders, celebrate our diversity, and recommit ourselves to our shared vision. By working together with mutual respect and unity of purpose, there is no limit to what we can accomplish.

**Together, we can make a difference and be Amaranth Proud.**



## **SUPREME ASSOCIATE MATRON**

### **H.L. Emily Moyer**

Here we are again approaching another holiday season. And with the holidays quickly upon us I can't help but reflect on the many blessings of this past year, the travels and opportunities to meet and work with so many beautiful Honored Ladies and Sir Knights. Since my last article I

have attended four SCJ Official Visits and seven Grand Courts. The Go-Getters are taking their place on the throne of their respective Grand Courts and it's such an exciting time for us all.

Thank you to the Grand Court of California for hosting S.K. Ernie and my reception. It was a fabulous weekend celebration with exceptional hospitality. And, of course, I can't overlook the tremendous support from my own jurisdiction, Pennsylvania. Thank you to those who attended and for the best wishes from those who could not. You are all so very special and important to me!

During my remarks at the reception, I restated one of my favorite quotes from Ghandi, "Be the change you wish to see in the world." As I focused and expanded upon this quote, my remarks from the reception were as follows:

Change, at its heart, is the catalyst of all meaningful success. Without change, progress stalls and communities simply maintain the status quo. But when individuals and groups commit to transforming themselves and their surroundings, they ignite a chain reaction—one that lifts everyone higher. When we embody Gandhi's words and become the change we wish to see, we set the foundation for achievements that matter not just to ourselves, but to everyone whose lives we touch.

Success is not solely measured by what we accumulate or accomplish on our own. It is woven from the collective threads of people who dare to adapt, innovate, and empower one another. When we welcome change, we move beyond personal boundaries and into shared victories, creating a legacy that lasts.

I believe that our success as an organization relies on our involvement both in and outside the Court room. Exposure to the communities in which we live and serve is instrumental in educating others about the goodness of the Order of the Amaranth.

Community engagement matters because it does three powerful things. First, it builds connection—reminding us of the power of showing up for one another. Second, it fuels collaboration—bringing together our diverse skills and ideas to create solutions stronger than any one person could achieve. And third, it drives growth and success—because when people feel engaged, they step forward with pride, ownership, and commitment.

We've seen this firsthand in the work we perform for the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation. The work we do, the funds we raise touches countless lives. Our members and community rally together. The results go far beyond raising money—we raise hope, connection, and purpose. That success wasn't built by one person. It was built by all of us, engaged and united.

And that's the power of engagement. It doesn't always come from grand gestures—it grows from small acts of service, kindness, and generosity that ripple outward, creating waves of change. In the next two years, I'm going to be pushing for change. Change to make us stronger, more relevant, more effective and more visible.

Be the change you wish to see in the world.  
Be the change you wish to see in your community.

Be the change you wish to see in Amaranth.

I believe our opportunities for change are countless. We just need to find the energy, excitement and enthusiasm, the creativity, innovation and courage to be the change.



Go-Getters at S.K. Ernie  
and my reception:  
Rondel Bezner, CA  
Glenn Ryder, WA  
Jenny Harsin Reed, WA  
Shirley Naulty, PA  
Jerry Pinion, AK  
Wanda Pinion, AK  
Betty Bryan, AL  
Connor Bezner, CA

- S.K. Ernie's family
- Jess's girlfriend
- Jess Sayo
- Joji Sayo
- Ernie Sayo
- Seraphine Ellaga
- Loneca Sayo Ellaga
- Patrick Ellaga
- Carys Ellaga



Some flamingos flew  
in from Pennsylvania.  
H.L. Gloria Rodgers  
H.L. Cindy Keaton







Elizabeth Moyer, Sara Ann Seibert and Emily Moyer



Pennsylvania  
Delegation at  
SAM/SAP Rec



Members of Victory Court No. 149 in Pennsylvania. Emily's home Court.



California and Pennsylvania Courtesy Teams.



California Dance Team





Go-Getters at Job's Daughters International-  
H.L. Susan Coulter and S.K. John Coulter, AZ



Supreme Bethel Honored  
Queen, Natalie



Hollie and Emily ready for  
their dog sled ride before  
the Grand Court of Alaska



Go-Getters at Alaska GC- Wanda and Jerry Pinion



Kristina Donovan, Supreme Musician

2026-2027  
Supreme Officer  
Announcements



Elizabeth Scheffers, Supreme Standard Bearer



Go-Getters at the Grand Court of Louisiana  
Keith and Sharon Powell (LA), Mary Jo Jaska (TX),  
Betty Bryan (AL)



H.L. Sharon Powell, GRM, & S.K. Keith Powell,  
GRP Louisiana



• Iowa Go-Getters Angie and Brian Kelley



## SUPREME ASSOCIATE PATRON S.K. Ernie Sayo

It has been a hectic few months since Supreme Council in Arizona, and I find myself adjusting to the role of Supreme Associate Patron.

We started with a successful SAM/SAP Reception on September 6, in the Embassy Suite, in Walnut Creek, California, attended by more than 120 guests from different states and courts in California. The success was due to the great concerted efforts by the Event Chairman, HL Miranda Peruso and Coordinator HL Joji Sayo from California as well as the different Courtesy Team Chairmen and members from both California and Pennsylvania, who worked very hard and gave their all for the event to run smoothly and flawlessly. There was even a Hula dance presentation at the closing of the event, and through the insistence of HL Emily, I was made to participate in that Hawaiian dance; ME, a person with two left feet, dancing the Hula moves. My children had a blast watching their father make his awkward moves. But it all worked out and I thank all of those who made it possible, those who worked hard and made the event a success, and for the presence of all those who

attended. Your presence made a difference, and I am grateful for all your love and support. My article would be too long to Thank You all. I cannot fully express my gratitude but know that what you did meant a lot to me and HL Emily.

The reception was followed by a trip to the Grand Court of Alaska, on September 11-14, whereby at the close, HL Wanda Pinon and SK Jerry Pinon were installed as the GRM and GRP of Alaska for 2025-2026, part of our Go-Getters Family. I was requested to be the Captain of the Guards and luckily enough, I was able to hang on to my slippery sword.

The Grand Court of Alaska, though only composed of two Courts, showed us how a well-executed Session was done and revealed some of their secrets in raising funds for the Diabetes Research. HL Sandy and SK Joe Wallace, you both did an excellent job during the whole session. Congratulations!

The Alaska trip was followed by another trip to Portland, Oregon, on September 20, for the revelation of HL Hollie's chosen one. "Snoopy", in full attire showed himself and everybody started to wonder who the Man behind the costume was. Finally, with the assistance of HL Emily and with instructions from HL Hollie, "Snoopy" costume came off and out came a sweating SK Richard Whidden. CONGRATULATIONS! SK Richard. Excellent choice, HL Hollie.

After the trip to Portland, I unfortunately had to go back to work and make up for my absences and so I missed a couple of Grand Court sessions. My next trip would be on October 17-19, 2025, to attend the last day of North Carolina's Grand Court Session and be present during the installation of our Go-Getters. I made a promise to HL Emily that I will try my best to be present when she is representing and hopefully, I will be able to keep that promise and beyond.

In closing, always remember our mantra; "May you be proud of the work you do, the person you are and the difference you make."

God Bless you all, Stay safe and well.



**SUPREME CONDUCTRESS  
H.L. Hollie Dahm Stivers**

Hi Amaranth members,

What a wonderful three months it has been. I was so honored to travel to Australia to represent H.L. Marsha Weidinger, Supreme Royal Matron. The members of Central Lakes Court,



Caloundra Court, and Royal Victoria Court sure rolled out the true spirit of friendship and hospitality to myself and my travel partner – H.L. Sandy Thompson-Wallace, GRM of Alaska. The Fascinators are gathering our partners - the other half of our group – they will be known as the Explorers. Welcome to S.K. Timothy Sibley – Louisiana, S.K. Del Militare – Alaska, S.K. Jason Delzell – Iowa, S.K. Michael Heitke – Wisconsin. We also want to welcome a new Fascinator from Iowa – Huge hugs to H.L. Chris Breckenridge, Grand Associate Matron.

This is such an exciting time of the year. The members of Amaranth have been so welcoming, and I know that will never change.

Alaska Grand Court I was able to experience the sled dogs. The top two dogs in our group were part of the Iditarod and finished with our musher.

Thank you to everyone for the good wishes on my reception as Supreme Conductress. It was much fun to introduce the Sir Knight inside the Snoopy Costume. The revealing showed my choice as Supreme Associate Patron as S.K. Richard Whidden, Jr. from Virginia.

I wish more of the photos I took from Australia were available – I will do better next time! My wish is that each of you have a happy and healthy holiday season!

Amaranth Love!



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## **SUPREME ASSOCIATE CONDUCTRESS H.L. Claudia Wilms**

The days are getting shorter and the nights are longer. The temperatures are dropping, as we sit by the fire and look at the coming holidays, I think of the snowflakes which will soon be falling. Anthony T. Hinchs said, “Snowflakes are pretty patterns etched in water dreams.” In this quote the emphasis is placed on their very delicate beauty. Our Honored Ladies and Sir Knights are individually unique with their own individual beauty. While snowflakes are one of

nature's most beautiful and very fragile things, our members can accomplish so very much when they stick together and work hard for their philanthropy.

Biblically we are reminded that the unique beauty and intricate design of the snowflake is a reminder of God's creation, care, and craftsmanship of mankind. Some people have religious traditions that a snowflake is a symbol of purposeful order and the uniqueness of all things visible and invisible. It is also said that the snowflake is a symbol of the birth of Christ.

In Europe and North America the snowflake symbolizes purity. They are also seen as being unique because each one tends to follow a different path through the sky as it is subjected to changes in the atmosphere where its intricate patterns change. We could say the same thing about our membership in the Order of the Amaranth. We as Sir Knights and Honored Ladies grow in our relationships as we meet and greet new friends or rekindle those bonds as we travel far and wide for the good of our order.

If you think about it, one only needs a few snowflakes to begin a snowfall as it only takes a few Ladies and Gentlemen to start a new court to grow our Order. Is it possible that we can be like that first snowflake forming a snowball by starting new courts? In turn we each will benefit from the friendships we will form and Amaranth will grow allowing the membership to gain and prosper for the work which lies before us to find a cure for Diabetes. I say let's be that single snowflake that begins the avalanche of new members.

LET THE AVALANCHE BEGIN!

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**AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION**  
**Susan Dishart**  
**Amaranth Liaison**

Dear friends,

Each year we honor November as National Diabetes Month, a time when communities across the country seek to bring attention to diabetes. We are thankful that you work EVERY month to rally support for those who are living with diabetes. Your work to fund research is so important. With the amazing gift of your combined efforts presented at Supreme, 2 additional grants were funded. Here are some descriptions from the newest 2 grants:



**Maria Golson, PhD** Johns Hopkins University

**Project Title:** Reducing age-associated onset of diabetes in women with beta-cell-targeted 17beta-estradiol

Estrogen plays a key role in maintaining the health of insulin-producing cells, and its decline after menopause contributes to increased diabetes risk in women. While hormone therapy can help, it also carries serious risks. This study explores a targeted approach to restoring estrogen's protective effects—delivering it directly to insulin-producing cells to avoid systemic side effects. Using a well-characterized mouse model that mimics age-related diabetes risk, the research aims to generate insights that could inform safer, more precise therapies for women. While early-stage, this work lays important groundwork for future human-focused strategies.  
*(Grant funded through June 30, 2026)*



**Yilin Yoshida, PhD** Tulane University

**Early-Onset Type 2 Diabetes and Women's Excessive Cardiovascular Risk**

Women with type 2 diabetes are up to 50% more likely than men to develop heart disease, and this risk may begin much earlier in life. Early-onset type 2 diabetes—when the disease starts in the teen years or early adulthood—is becoming more common, especially in women, and may lead to a heavier lifetime burden on the heart. This study will use health data from two large groups of people who have been followed from youth into midlife, allowing researchers to track how diabetes-related risks build up over time. By using advanced machine learning techniques, the study will identify which women are most at risk and when they are most vulnerable. The findings could help shape more personalized, sex-specific care strategies—and ultimately improve how we prevent and treat heart disease in women with diabetes.  
*(Grant funded through June 30, 2026)*

The Amaranth Diabetes Foundation Inc. and your donations are currently supporting 6 research grants. New brochures are available for you to distribute in your community. There is new contact information for ordering the brochures (available in packages of 25): email [Giving@diabetes.org](mailto:Giving@diabetes.org) or call 703-719-8617 or 888-700-7029.

Your work is important and so appreciated.

## AMARANTH DIABETES FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### H.L. Miranda Peruso, President

Are you fighting for a cure? The Amaranth Diabetes Foundation Board is and we want you to join us! Our ADF Board has red boxing gloves to share with our members. Our goal is to get photos of YOU wearing them at your Grand Courts, Official Visits and other events so that we can add them to our social media pages using the hashtag #fightingforacure. Our partnership with the American Diabetes Association is stronger than ever and they graciously gave us the gloves to help us promote our mission. Be thinking of creative ways to showcase the gloves when we are in your jurisdiction!

Our Individual Distinguished Service Award has received a revamp! This year, each of our Unsung Heroes will be considered for the IDSA. The ADF Board will review each nomination and select the one that highlights exemplary service for the ADF and the recipient will be recognized at Supreme Council next June. Grand Royal Matrons and Royal Matrons of SCJs, please be sure to nominate one of your members for the Unsung Hero. We look forward to recognizing a worthy individual this year for their commitment to finding a cure.

We continue to promote our direct online donation link. Using this link when donating ensures that Amaranth receives credit for the gift. Each month, the report is reconciled and shared with the jurisdictions who have received gifts in the previous month. Here is the donation link for you to use: <https://donors.diabetes.org/page/Amaranth>. The ADF Board members also have cards that feature the link and a QR code for you to use to distribute to your members, community, or Masonic bodies. If you need these cards or our new brochure, please contact [adf\\_inc.board@amaranth.org](mailto:adf_inc.board@amaranth.org) and we will be sure to get them to you.

Be sure to check out our Facebook page, Amaranth Diabetes Foundation, for all the latest ADF news and information.

Here is the QR Code that takes you to the direct donation link:



## **GRAND COURT OF ALASKA**

### **H.L. Victoria Ault, PSRM**

#### **Reporter**

The Grand Court of Alaska held its 52<sup>nd</sup> session September 11-13 with a registration of 59 members from 14 Jurisdictions. GRM Sandy Thompson Wallace and GRP Johnnie Wallace did a stellar job. Every detail was clearly thought of and prepared. HL Marsha Weidinger, SRM, SK William Haas, SRP and HL June Chalquist Haas, PSRM came early and attended Alaska Ct. 1's meeting Tuesday night. HL June had driven them down to Seward and up to Wasilla earlier.

"Jazzin' it up for a Cure" session was preceded on Wednesday night by a BBQ and Bingo. Guests were transported to the Al Aska Shrine Temple where a delicious BBQ was prepared by the Prince Hall Masons.

Friday's banquet – "Roaring 20's Gala"- saw many HLs dressed in shimmering dresses with lots of fringe, feathers and sparkles. No one was doing the Charleston but there was much laughter and gaiety all evening.

PSRM Stella Joiner, SAM Emily Moyer, SAP Ernesto Sayo, and SC Hollie Dahm Stivers were on the Throne with three Grand Royal Matrons-HI Joji Sayo, HL Lori Hanson, HL Mary Wilkes and two Grand Royal Patrons- SK Jack Hutchins and SK Lyle Wilkes. The Amaranth Diabetes Foundation was represented by HL Dee Barger, HL Tiffany St. John and HL Carol Addison Lippert.

Installation for HL Wanda Pinion, PGRM and SK Jerry Pinion, PSRP was held Saturday evening. Lavender and shades of purple were the colors for the evening. Bees were in several decorations as they are the emblem for the year. SK Jerry's daughter, HL Elizabeth Schefers, PGRM was installed GAC and her husband SK Monty, PGRP. is Grand Trustee 1 yr.

The evening was truly "topped" off when HL Emily, SAM and SK Ernie, SAP announced HL Elizabeth was to be their Supreme Standard Bearer in 2026-2027.

HL Sandy and HL Victoria attended the reception for HL Hollie in Portland, Oregon where HL Hollie presented her choice for SAP. HL Sandy and SK Johnnie attended the Grand Court of Wisconsin in October. HL Sandy and HL Victoria will attend New Mexico's Grand session in November.

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## **GRAND COURT OF COLORADO**

### **H.L. Jacque Cann, PGRM**

#### **Reporter**

On July 27, The Grand Court of Colorado hosted a Masonic Family picnic at Phillip S. Miller Park in Castle Rock. All groups were encouraged to bring brochures & petitions, network, and make new friends. We had a good turnout, with representation from most of the organizations, including all 3 youth groups. It was a true family affair, with several children & grandchildren of our members in attendance. There was plenty of fun had by all, both indoors and out. Most of us enjoyed eating in an air-conditioned building, but several folks enjoyed the 90°+ sunshine outside. Activities included face painting, corn hole toss, and bingo games with a variety of prizes awarded. It is doubtful that anyone walked away hungry, as we had plenty of sloppy joes, hot dogs, several side dishes, cookies, and fresh watermelon!

On September 20, our GRM & GRP, HL Mary & SK Lyle Wilkes, and several other members of Colorado Amaranth attended the Installation of Officers of the Grand Chapter of Colorado OES to support our sister organization and cheer on 2 of our own Sir Knights installed in the Grand Line – SK Herbie Carr, Worthy Grand Patron, and SK Jim Miles (PSRP),



Associate Grand Patron. Several other Amaranth members were installed as grand officers as well. Much to our delight – and their utter surprise – 2 of our members received Grand Representative appointments: HL Mary Beth Messer (current RM of Pikes Peak Ct. #20 & Grand Representative to Arkansas), to South Carolina; and SK Jason Deselms (current RP of Faith Ct. #18 & Grand Historian), to Nebraska. We congratulate all of them, and hope that they have a great time during this year of service.

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## GRAND COURT OF FLORIDA

### H.L. Ann Marie Williams, DSRM Reporter

Our meetings have resumed after the summer hiatus. We in Florida are so very glad to welcome September and the cooler weather. Our favorite time of year as we welcome back the Snowbirds.

HL Beth Strayer, GRM and SK Chris Van Duyne, GRP are enjoying this time of year as their Official Visits have begun. The Panhandle Courts had a School of Instruction, conducted by HL Ann Marie Williams Grand Lecturer. Her Goal is if a member has learned one new thing during her Official Visit to the Courts, then she has accomplished her Goal. Her Fishing Pool (the fun Sword) and Horse (her attention getting squeaky) have made the rounds and her Official Inspections are winding down and will be completed by the beginning of January.

A lot of fun activities are scheduled to raise money for Diabetes: Harmony Court No. 25 is having a Quarter Auction; Daytona Beach Court is sponsoring a Poker Run with Bike Clubs and Century Court is having a Holiday at the Castle Dinner.

HL Margaret Woody, GAM and SK Sean Stenson, GAP are looking forward to their Disco Banquet on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

The members of Florida Grand Court wish all a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy Holidays. Stay safe, bring cheer and remember kindness goes a long way.



Florida Elected Line Officers at Rush L Darby Court  
Official Visit – Sept 2025

L-R: HL Carol Stansbury, GAC; HL Margaret Woody, GAM; HL Beth Strayer, GRM; HL Sher Allan Johnson, RM; SK Bryan Johnson, RP; SK Steve Edson, DSRP (filling in for SK Chris Van Duyne, GRP); HL Athena Mock, GC



Silver Sands Court Official Visit Sept 2025

Front row: HL Debbie Maust; HL Sher Allan Johnson, HL Beth Strayer, GRM; HL Claudia Denham, RM; SK James Patterson, RP, SK Steve Edson, (filling in for SK Chris Van Duyne, GRP); HL Margie "Mamma Margie" Vassie Second Row: HL Cathy Edson, HL Michelle Cook Zimmerman, SK Brian Johnson, HL Ann Marie Williams



HL Ann Marie Williams, Grand Lecturer; HL Elizabeth Youngs, RM and. SK Tom Moore, RP

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## GRAND COURT OF INDIANA

### H.L. Sandy Grogan Sills Reporter

Indiana is moving along. We have had our school of instruction and now the Official visits have started.

Indiana is so proud to be supporting our Youth groups again this year. Not only are our Grand Royal Matron and Grand Royal Patron very active with the Rainbow Girls, our Grand Royal Matron is also Supreme Treasurer for the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. Terre Haute Court is very proud to say that the Grand Worthy Advisor for Rainbow is a member of their Court. Also one of the newest members of Terre Haute Court is an executive office for DeMolay. Many Amaranth members serve on the boards of our local Bethels, Chapters and Assemblies. We are so proud to support our future leaders.

Each Court has their own special way of collecting money for diabetes. We have one Court that loves to shake cans for Diabetes.

This time they chose to shake their cans at the IGA across the street from where we hold our Indiana Grand Court. The weather was perfect for a day of raising money for our great fight for diabetes. We have one Court that has had a yard sale to raise funds. Some have special collection baskets at their meetings.

Indiana is so proud to have HL Lynn and SK William leading us this year. We look forward to seeing many of you out on the road this year as we spread the Amaranth love around the state. Please make your calendar for June 4,5,&6 2026 in beautiful Nashville, Indiana, for our Indiana Grand Court.

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## GRAND COURT OF MISSOURI

### H.L. Judy Woods, PGRM Reporter

Missouri Grand Court officers and Representatives have been traveling from Pennsylvania to Florida and Arizona to the Philippines, visiting Grand Courts of Arkansas, Indiana, and Oklahoma, with Iowa and Illinois also in sight. Locally, they attended our School of Instruction, Leadership Training, Grand Court Ways & Means BBQ Dinner, and Official Visits. In September, the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of our youngest court, Eternal No. 17, where six of the ten charters members were recognized for their 25 years in our Order.

The Grand Royal Matron and/or Grand Royal Patron have visited the state conferences and local events of our Masonic Youth. We are proud to have SK Jim and HL Judy Inukai named Missouri Rainbow's *Advisors of the Year*. HL Katie Underwood was installed as Supreme Guardian of Job's Daughters International and another HL who is the proud mom of Teagan, the Jr. Miss MO Job's Daughter also named Supreme



Representative to Mato Grosso, Brazil. Congratulations! Keep up the great work!

Our GRM was honored to bring greetings on behalf of Amaranth at the Annual Grand Council of the Ladies of the Oriental Shrine of North America; to attend the Grand Master's Service Day at the Mt. Vernon Veterans Home, and to be introduced at their Annual Communication. As this goes to print, we anticipate welcoming another of our Honored Ladies into the EAST at the Missouri Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star.

Courts are selling everything from poinsettias to fudge, pumpkin bread, and cookies to personalized children's books. Upcoming events include our Grand Court *Philanthropic Rock and Roll Bingo* & chili dinner. In November, we will raffle off a TD1 Barbie, as its popularity has made it a rather difficult commodity to come by, which only emphasizes the importance of our work for finding a cure for diabetes.



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## GRAND COURT OF OHIO H.L. Donya Wright, PRM Reporter

Ohio held a School of Instruction on Saturday, July 26, 2025 in Zanesville, Ohio led by H.L. Sheila Turner, Grand Lecturer, DSRM.

The members shared a wonderful day with the Grand Officers going over marches and floor

work including the opening and closing. We then enjoyed a wonderful lunch and basket auction and the funds raised were used for Grand Court Ways and Means.

Following the meal and auction we enjoyed information on Leadership given by H.L. Michelle Rognon, DSRM.

We then returned back to learning with a fun question and answer session playing family feud.

We ended the day with the Grand Royal Patron, S.K. Robert Esarey receiving pies in the face to earn funds for Diabetic Research. \$180.00 was raised and we realized some members really delighted in throwing pies at our Grand Royal Patron. A good time was had by all!

Our inspection season is over and we are currently visiting Courts for their Official Visit of our Grand Royal Matron H.L. Cheryl Richter and Grand Royal Patron S.K. Robert Esarey.

Our Grand Royal Patron is collecting monies for the ADF banks as well as reminding members of a dime a day for Diabetic Research ending in March.





Megan Sudol, Grand Royal Matron  
Paint Party Fundraiser on August 15, 2025

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## GRAND COURT OF OKLAHOMA H.L. Stacey Harris, DSRM Reporter

OOOOOKlahoma!

The year is underway. A Grand Royal Patron and a Grand Royal Matron have a bit of a red river rivalry in Football going. Nothing of note to say about that game recently. Congrats to the winner, I guess.

Onto other news, Amaranth is back in business baby. Many courts were dark over the summer months but are back and going strong again. Assistant grand lectures and Grand Royal Matron visits are in full swing. Congrats to the courts who have hosted these special visits, and we look forward to ending this Oklahoma session strongly with the homecoming meetings in November and December.

This time of year we typically visit our Masonic friends with state meetings for Eastern Star and our Masonic Brothers at Grand Lodge. This is an exciting time where Oklahoma will shine and share the beautiful work of our Amaranth order.  
See you soon on the Amaranth trail!

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## GRAND COURT TENNESSEE H.L. Cindy Brooks, DSRM Reporter

Our GRM, HL Amy Jones, with GRP SK William Jones, traveled to Sunrise Court #20 for their OV. The Court, under RM Donna Winstead and RP HL Cindy Brooks, welcomes them with lunch and a brand new candidate to be initiated. All of the Grand Line Officers were there, most serving in some capacity, and all of our six courts were represented, including four members from Magnolia Court UD.

We are thankful our two Supreme Appointed Officers were there as well - many thanks to HL Reba, Supreme Page and HL Amy, Supreme Marshal in the East!

We are thrilled to hear of the travels of our SRM, HL Marsha, and SRP, SK Bill, and continue to pray for travel mercies, good health and growth in our Order!





## GRAND COURT VIRGINIA H.L. Jennifer Brooks, PRM Reporter

The summer brought lots of fun for Virginia! We raised money for our Courts and diabetes research through various fundraisers, such as Panda Express, Pampered Chef, a trip to Tangier Island, a trip to the National Botanic Gardens, lots of sipping & painting, and more. Summer also brought Supreme Council in Arizona and Virginia was well represented! We were happy to see our friend SRM HL Bizzy preside with grace and dignity, while still enjoying the week.

We had the first of our Official Visits at our Multi-State Visit from friends in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Destiny Court hosted the weekend beautifully, with a picnic on Friday, a reception, visit, and dinner on Saturday, and a farewell breakfast on Sunday morning. A good time was had by all who were able to attend.

Virginia Amaranth is excited to learn that GAM HL Hollie is planning to nominate our own SK Rich Whidden, PGRP, for Supreme Associate Patron in 2026! We are very proud!

The Grand Officers of Virginia held a lovely funeral service for PGRM, HL Peggy Goldsmith. It was a beautiful ceremony and a heartfelt way to say goodbye to a friend and sister.

In September we held our annual Statewide Picnic in Richmond. It was a very rainy day outside, but we played games and enjoyed good food and fellowship inside so nobody minded the weather.

We continue to support our youth, our GRM and GRP attended both the VA Job's Daughters Grand Session, and VA DeMolay Conclave. They also attended VA's Masonic Family Day where the weather was beautiful and the camaraderie was great!



Virginia supports the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation!



We are excited for our PGRP SK Rich Whidden!



PGRM HL Anita Nochisaki and PGRP Rich Nochisaki playing giant Connect 4  
At the rainy-day indoor picnic!

## SUPREME DIABETES COORDINATOR H.L. Meta Nay, PGRM

**Together we can make a difference!**

I've nicknamed our diabetes pin this year the "traveling pin," as its shipment journey has been quite the adventure—starting in Tucson, detouring through Texas to Georgia, then back to Texas, and finally arriving in Phoenix! Despite the rocky start, the response has been overwhelmingly positive, and I've already placed our first reorder this morning.

We have two options available: a silver pin priced at \$5.00 and a pendant, which includes a silver chain, for \$10.00. The design features an angel, a frog, and a wolf—the emblems of the SRM and SRP.

If your jurisdiction has not yet received your pins or pendants, please let me know. I will arrange payment and promptly ship them to you. My email is [wrandmetanay@embarqmail.com](mailto:wrandmetanay@embarqmail.com).

If you prefer to prepay, you can send me your payment along with the number of items you wish to receive. My address is Meta Nay, 660 Spring Lake Drive, Earlysville, VA 22036.



We are not selling additional items this year but are proudly promoting our "Dime a Day for Diabetes" project. Just imagine—if every jurisdiction raised only \$365, that's just a dime a day for one year. Do the math! Now imagine the impact if we take it even further.

This is just a snapshot of how far a simple dime can go in our fight against diabetes. I challenge each jurisdiction to take this idea and run with it. Dream bigger than \$365.00. Get creative. Be bold. Everyone has a dime and that dime will make a difference!

Remember that this isn't just about raising money—it's about raising awareness, building momentum, and proving that even the smallest act can lead to something truly powerful. If you would like a copy of the flyer, please email me. I also have a fundraising manual that I have written. Please let me know if you would like a copy of that.

The time has come to make our voices heard and amplify our message: "**Amaranth Fights Diabetes.**" I am here to partner with you in your work this year. Together, we can make a difference—one dollar, one conversation, one act of kindness at a time.

<b>Supreme Itinerary</b>		
<b>November 2025</b>		
November 1	Pineland Court #6	SRM
November 6-8	Grand Court of New Mexico	SRM
November 13-15	Grand Court of Alabama	SRM
November 22	SAC Reception	
<b>February 2026</b>		
February 12-14	Grand Court of Virginia	SRM
February 19-21	Grand Court of Colorado	SRM
February 21-22	Grand Masters Conference	SRM
February 26-28	Grand Court of California	SAM
February 26-28	Grand Court of South Carolina	SRM
<b>March 2026</b>		
March 12-14	Grand Court of Oregon	SAC
March 13	Lily of the Valley Court #12	SRM
March 16	Heritage Court #13	SRM
Marh 19-21	Grand Court of Washington	SC
March 19-21	Grand Court of Georgia	SRM
March 26-28	Grand Court of Connecticut	SRM
<b>April 2026</b>		
April 9-11	Grand Court of Tennessee	SRM
April 9-11	Grand Court of Kentucky	SAC
April 16-18	Grand Court of Arkansas	SRM
April 19-21	Grand Court of Pennsylvania	SRM
April 23-25	Grand Court of Missouri	SAM
April 23-25	Grand Court of Massachusetts	SRM
April 30-May2	Grand Court of New Jersey	SRM
<b>May 2026</b>		
May 7-9	Grand Court of Arizona	SRM
May 10-12	Grand Court of the Philippines	SRM
May 14-16	Grand Court of Florida	SAC
May 14-16	Grand Court of New York	SRM
May 21-23	Grand Court of Ohio	SRM
May 28-30	Grand Court of Oklahoma	SAM
<b>June 2026</b>		
June 4-6	Grand Court of Indiana	SRM



## Guidelines for Submitting Articles to The Crown & Sword

§ **ARTICLES** may be submitted on paper by mail, or via email, to the EDITOR. All copy should be typewritten and single spaced on 8 ½ x 11 ½ “white paper. The name, address, and title of the Authorized Representative doing the submitting must be included. Please use only a single space between sentences and a single line space between lines. **Articles should be a maximum of 300 words per Jurisdiction.** The editor has the authority to edit the article to conform to size requirements.

§ **DATES:** Articles should be timely with reference to the publication date. All articles must be submitted by or through the Authorized Representative of your Jurisdiction. Articles **MUST be received by the Editor by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the months of JANUARY, APRIL, JULY, and OCTOBER.** This deadline will be complied with firmly. Please do not include Grand Royal Matron’s detailed itineraries, names of members who are or have been ill or have died. DO NOT send any articles for publication in the Crown and Sword to the Supreme Secretary. The Supreme Publication Committee gives the Editor the right to fill unused, available space.

§ **PHOTOGRAPHS** are encouraged and can be either color or black and white. However, **people and situations MUST be identified.** Emailed photographs should be in .jpg format and sent as separate files, i.e., attachments, not as part of the message.

§ **ADDRESSES:** Your address label carries the MONTH and YEAR that your subscription expires. You should renew your subscription before the expiration date is reached to avoid missing any issues of the Crown and Sword. This can be done either through your Authorized Representative who was appointed by your Grand Royal Matron, or directly with the Supreme Secretary. Send all address and subscription information directly to the Supreme Secretary whose address is given below. DO NOT send subscription requests or changes of address to the Editor. Please send email articles to: **crownandsword@amaranth.org. The Editor will get them from there.**

§ **DEADLINE** for articles for the next issue is **January 10, 2026!**

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Patti Baker, Supreme Secretary  
9100 W. Jewell Ave, #105  
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Trivia Answers: 1971, Nana, Aurora (Sleeping Beauty), Oswald the Lucky Rabbit, No Worries, Pixie dust, Hot dog!



Ms. Patti Baker, Supreme Secretary  
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#### AMARANTH FIGHTS DIABETES

We invite you to visit our web page, <http://www.amaranth.org>

"Order of the Amaranth"

MEMBER:

#### **The Crown and Sword** Newsletter Publication Data.

**The Crown & Sword** is published four times per year by the Supreme Council, Order of the Amaranth, Inc. Contact the Supreme Secretary at the address given above or the Guidelines page.

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