THE CROWN & SWORD

The Newsletter of the

SUPREME COUNCIL
ORDER of the AMARANTH, Inc.



Honored Lady Emily Moyer, Supreme Royal Matron
Sir Knight Ernesto Sayo, Supreme Royal Patron
2026 - 2027

The Crown & Sword is published four times per year by the **Supreme Council, Order of the Amaranth, Inc.**
H.L. Kim May, Editor
We invite you to visit our website: http://www.amaranth.org
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SUPREME ROYAL MATRON
H.L. Emily Moyer

Change is an inevitable part of life, but **positive change begins when people are willing to work together, embrace new ideas, and believe in the difference they can make.** Throughout the Order of the Amaranth, our members demonstrate every day that meaningful change does not happen by chance. It happens because people care, because they are willing to serve, and because they believe in the purpose and principles that unite us.

Across our organization, Amaranth members are doing remarkable things. They are giving their time, sharing their talents, supporting charitable causes, welcoming new members, strengthening relationships, and finding creative ways to make their courts and communities better. Whether organizing a fundraising event, supporting the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation, visiting a member in need, mentoring a new officer, or simply offering a word of encouragement, our members are creating a positive impact that reaches far beyond our meetings. They are bringing Amaranth to their community.

These acts of service may take many different forms, but they share a common purpose: making life better for others. Every charitable contribution, every hour of volunteer service, every new friendship, and every effort to bring people together represents an investment in our future. The true strength of Amaranth is not measured solely by the events we hold or the activities we organize. It is measured by the lives we touch, the communities we strengthen, and the example we set through our actions.

Positive change also means recognizing that we cannot simply rely on the traditions of yesterday to carry us into tomorrow. Our traditions provide a strong foundation, but our future depends on our willingness to grow, welcome fresh perspectives, and discover new ways to engage our members and attract those who share our values. We must continue to ask ourselves how we can improve, how we can become more effective in our service, and how we can ensure that every member feels valued and connected to our purpose.

Each member has something important to contribute. Some lead, some organize, some inspire, and others quietly work behind the scenes to make things happen. Every contribution matters. We must never underestimate the power of one person who takes the initiative, one member who encourages another, or one court that decides to try something new. When these individual efforts come together, they become a powerful force for progress.

Our guiding principles of **Truth, Faith, Wisdom, and Charity** remind us that positive change begins with what we believe and becomes meaningful through what we do. Truth calls us to be honest about where we are and where we need to go. Faith gives us the confidence to move forward. Wisdom helps us make thoughtful decisions. Charity inspires us to turn our concern for others into action.

The future of Amaranth will be shaped by the choices we make today. Let us continue to recognize the good work happening throughout our courts, share our successes, learn from one another, and encourage every member to become part of the progress ahead.

When we recognize the good, encourage the possible, and work together toward a common purpose, we demonstrate that positive change is not just an idea. It is something we create, one member, one act of service, and one opportunity at a time.

The future of Amaranth is not something we wait for. It is something we build together.


















Anchored
Hope









































SUPREME ROYAL PATRON
S.K. Ernie Sayo, Jr.

Its seems that time went by like a blur from the day I was installed as Supreme Royal Patron on June 24, 2026, in St Louis, MO. I missed attending some of the SCJ Court visits, and the Supreme Assembly of the IORG, because my priorities shifted to taking care of Joji. I slowly made up for my absence by keeping my promise to then GRP SK Keith Powell, to attend their Grand Court Session in Alexandria, Louisiana. This was followed by an SCJ meeting in Silver State Court No. 5, in Las Vegas, all in August.

My next travel was to join our SRM HL Emily and a whole bunch of our Honored Ladies and Sir Knights on the Alaska Cruise. That was an exciting and relaxing cruise filled with fond memories, an experience starting from Vancouver ending in Anchorage, Alaska, followed by taking part in Alaska Grand Court Session.

For me, however, the most moving experience was attending the Laying of the Wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, on September 18, in Arlington, Virginia. A lot of our Honored Ladies and Sir Knights were there as well to witness the event. An Amaranth Wreath was placed by HL Emily and me, under the solemn cadence of the Guards of the Tomb.

My travel then went from attending the ADA Walk in Washington and Supreme Associate Matron and Supreme Associate Patron Reception in Alexandria, VA. This was followed by the Supreme Associate Conductress reception in Indianapolis, IN, which I could not attend because I had to go home and check on Joji's status. October was a busy month and I had just finished attending The Grand Court Session of Iowa, and Wisconsin. In Wisconsin, both HL Emily and I participated in the Dunking for Diabetes which helped raise $800, just to see your SRM and SRP and well as the GRM and GRP of Wisconsin, got dunked. Overall, it's been a busy and hectic months but its all for the good of the Order and for the benefit of ADF.

More adventures to follow in the coming months. For now, please stay safe and well.



SUPREME ASSOCIATE MATRON
H.L. Hollie Dahm Stivers

WOW – it is hard to believe that we have already reached the end of the first quarter of the 2026-2027 Amaranth year. So much has happened to this point…Fun times in Ontario at Lily of the Valley and Heritage Court, Idaho unity meeting, Louisiana Grand Court, Baytown and BlueBonnet followed by Wichita and Silver State, Alaska Grand Court and of course our reception as Supreme Associate Matron and Supreme Associate Patron reception. Thank you, Grand Court of Virginia for hosting this amazing event. A highlight the day prior to our reception was attending the laying of the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. So very proud to have been in attendance while our own Supreme Royal Matron and Supreme Royal Patron represented the Order of the Amaranth for this honoured ceremony.

As always, it is fun to be at the various events and chat and laugh with our members. Congratulations to the Fascinators and Explorers who are now serving as Grand Royal Matron/Grand Royal Patron. So many more will be installed in the next few months.

Wonderful news – the information to reserve your spot for the 2027 trip to Australia is on the Amaranth.Org website under upcoming events. Go online and get your reservation set.

Reservations are scheduled to be made by October 20, 2026 with final payment in September 2027. The trip will begin with a trip to Caloundra Court in Brisbane where we will be placing flowers in tribute to the fallen soldiers of Australia. This is at the Grand Lodge and we are looking forward to this. Then Australia Zoo, Sydney Opera House, and a visit to Central Lakes Court. We will finish up our Australian tour with a visit to the Penguin Sanctuary – home of the tiny blue penguins. Royal Victoria Court is a great way to complete our adventure and then fly home around the 12th or 13th of December.

Information to sign up for DSRM/DSRP will be on the website November 1, 2026 if you are eligible. If you have any questions please email HollieDahmStivers@comcast.net and put DSRM/DSRP in the subject line.

Thank you, all Amaranth members for your continued support. See you on the Amaranth trail.



SUPREME ASSOCIATE PATRON
S.K. Richard Whidden

Why do we serve in the Order of the Amaranth?

One of the most profound leadership thinkers of the past 15 years is Simon Sinek. His TED talk is one of the most viewed speeches on leadership ever. Mr. Sinek's concept is that businesses, individuals and groups that are the most successful can clearly say "Why" they do what they do. For Sinek, "Why" more than products, money or metrics, that is How and What an organization does. According to Sinek, "Why is the thing that inspires us and inspires those around us."

For me this Supreme year, is a personal exploration traveling the Amaranth trail to meet and learn "Why" we all serve in this Order. I know the work of countless Honored Ladies and Sir Knights for over 150 years can guide us as to "Why". It is also the innovations and positive energy of our members young and young at heart where that "Why" lives. The new member who is just starting and the member whose work has gone far down the Amaranth trail have much to tell us about the "Why" we do what we do.

So, in this next year if I ask you "Why" I hope that you will share your thoughts and passions on "Why" you work for the Order of the Amaranth. I'll keep you posted on what I learn.

My thanks to Virginia Amaranth and the committee who put together the Supreme Associate Matron/ Supreme Associate Patron reception in September. You all are awesome!

I also want to thank the Grand Court of Arizona for sponsoring a team of walkers for the American Diabetes Association charity walk in Scottsdale, Arizona on October 10. I was privileged to take

part in this community event with the Honored Ladies and Sir Knights of Arizona. Thanks for the hospitality while my wife Sherry and I were in Arizona.

May we all keep exploring the Amaranth trail in service and a positive spirit.



SUPREME CONDUCTRESS
H.L. Claudia Wilms

Fall is upon us. We see the changing colors of the leaves and feel the crisp air nipping at our nose. We hear the giggles of the children as they knock on your door with those famous words “trick or treat”, in their wild costumes. The sparkles in their eyes as you drop a piece of candy in the bag and they dash off to the next house, you think to yourself oh to be that young again, with that much energy.

Before we know it, we will see our first snowfall with beautiful snowflakes heralding the approaching holiday season. There will be logs in the fireplace to warm the chill in the air. Soon we will be enjoying our holiday meals with family and friends. There will be the sampling of festive holiday treats at our court celebrations. We will be spreading glad tidings to all mankind as we send out our cards or sing traditional holiday carols at our meetings.

As we join in with the hustle and bustle of the approaching season, let us all remember there are many of our members who are confined to their homes or nursing facilities. Take a moment, give them a call, or send them a note to let them know they are not forgotten. Perhaps we could include our direct link card in that note to let them know they still can take an active role in the Order of the Amaranth by helping us to find that cure for Diabetes, even though they may not be able to attend a meeting or participate in one of the courts many projects. Encourage them to make a donation in honor of a family member or a very special friend in lieu of a Christmas gift, if they are able. Don’t forget that people tend to be generous during the holidays and include that Direct Link Card in your holiday cards to your family and friends. That extra dollar or two that we may receive may make the difference in finding that cure.

May each of you find the peace which passes all understanding and the love and joy of the season yet to come.



SUPREME ASSOCIATE CONDUCTRESS
H.L. Cheryl Kuritz

Cheryl‘s Notes from the Crossroads!

The leaves are starting to change their apparel to the colors of fall. The air is getting crisper and that’s a sure sign that we are on the road in the Midwest.

Since supreme council, I have traveled from the heat of Louisiana, through Texas and into Kansas. The cruise to Alaska was a wonderful opportunity to get to know our supreme officers and the weather and sites in Alaska were incredible.

Now we journey to the Midwest in Iowa and up north to Wisconsin. Illinois is on the horizon.

My thanks to everyone who made my reception such a wonderful success. It truly takes a village and I thank my hospitality team for their work. Thank you to all who came and celebrated with me.

It doesn’t seem possible that we’ve experienced so much already. This also means that the holidays are right around the corner.

Thanksgiving and Christmas are roaring toward us as I write. I pray that each and every one of you will take the time to enjoy the holidays with family and with friends. I hope and pray that we all remember to invite Him to our table and our celebrations. Without him it would not be possible.

So even though a little early, or maybe a little late, Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and a safe and prosperous New Year’s .

AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION
Susan Dishart
Amaranth Liaison

November is **National Diabetes Awareness Month**. Over 38 million Americans (roughly 11.6% of the population) live with diabetes, with millions more undiagnosed or living with prediabetes. The Order of the Amaranth and the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation are important partners in the fight to find a cure. Many of you know of the research you are supporting and others may have questions. Please know there are resources available. Whether you're newly diagnosed, have had diabetes for a while, you're helping a loved one, or you are just a caring member of Amaranth who would like to know more, here are a few definitions to help you.

Let's start with the basics. Diabetes causes your blood glucose (blood sugar) levels to rise too high (hyperglycemia). When you eat, your body breaks food down into glucose and sends it into your blood. Insulin then helps move the glucose from your blood into your cells. When glucose enters your cells, it is either used as fuel for energy right away or stored for later use. If you have diabetes, your body either doesn't make insulin, can't use the insulin it does make well, or both. Your blood glucose (blood sugar) will be affected in different ways depending on what type of diabetes you have.

- **Prediabetes** is a condition that comes before 2 diabetes. It means your blood glucose levels are higher than normal but aren't high enough to be called diabetes. There are no clear symptoms of prediabetes. You can have it and not know it. If you have prediabetes, you're at higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and stroke.
- **Type 1 diabetes** is an autoimmune disease where your immune system mistakenly treats the cells that make insulin (beta cells) in your pancreas as foreign invaders and destroys them.
- In **type 2 diabetes**, your body doesn't use insulin properly—this is called insulin resistance. Type 2 is the most common form of diabetes and is managed with lifestyle changes and medication(s).
- **Gestational Diabetes GDM** is diabetes that develops during pregnancy. For most women, blood glucose levels return to normal after giving birth. If you've had GDM, your risk for developing type 2 diabetes is higher.

Your work and commitment make lives better for people living with all types of diabetes. 100% of the funds you raise go to support important research projects selected by your members of the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation. Brochures are available for you to distribute in your efforts to raise awareness and funds to support these grants. If you would like a supply, just send an email to giving@diabetes.org and provide your mailing address.

Thank you for all your work and be well.



AMARANTH DIABETES FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
H.L. Miranda Peruso, President

A New Way to Give to ADF!

Are you age 70½ or older? Did you know there may be a tax-smart way to support the **Amaranth Diabetes Foundation** directly from your IRA?

A **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)** allows eligible individuals to make a gift directly from a traditional IRA to the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation, Inc. In 2026, individuals may make qualified charitable distributions of up to **$111,000 per year**.

Making a QCD is easy! Contact your IRA administrator and request that your gift be sent directly to:

Amaranth Diabetes Foundation, Inc.
Attention: Miranda Peruso
11080 Piney Ridge Road
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Then, let us know your gift is on its way so we can properly acknowledge your generosity! Contact us at **adf_inc.board@amaranth.org** or **814-599-4300**. The ADF Board also has a sample letter available that you can provide to your IRA administrator to help make the process easier.

Planning an end-of-year gift? We recommend submitting your request to your IRA administrator **no later than December 13, 2026,** to allow time for processing and receipt by ADF before December 31. As always, we encourage you to consult your tax advisor about your individual circumstances.

Your generosity helps us continue our fight for a cure and make a difference for those affected by diabetes. **Consider putting your IRA to work for ADF this year!**

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.

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:

Donate to ADF

GRAND COURT OF ALABAMA
H.L. Peggy Tillman-Young, PRM
Reporter

Alabama has enjoyed wonderful fellowship with Honored Ladies and Sir Knights from several jurisdictions. GRM Betty Bryan, her guest, and Billie Sue Smith, DSRM, were delighted to join SRM Emily Moyer and SRP Ernesto Sayo on the Alaskan cruise. Alabama was represented with four delegates attending Grand Court of Alaska, seven attending Grand Court of Louisiana, and five traveling to Indianapolis for SAC Cheryl Kuritz's reception.

Alabama Court No. 1 has completed its elections and appointments and is preparing for its Installation and Coronation on October 15.

Montgomery Court No. 17 recently hosted a reception honoring GRM Betty Bryan and GRP Brian Autrey. The decorations and refreshments were exceptional, and sincere appreciation is extended to all who contributed to the success of this event. Montgomery Court continues to grow, with an initiation held in August. Their Court will hold its Installation and Coronation on October 10.

Mobile Court No. 7 concluded its year with a full slate. Their Bingo fundraiser was a success, and they are grateful to the Masons of Howard E. Blackwell Lodge for the use of their Lodge. The second annual Purse-A-Palooza awarded two designer purses to one lucky winner and eight other purses to eight additional winners. In September, Mobile Court hosted a bake sale at the Grand Bay Masonic Shrimp Boil, enjoying the fraternal fellowship. In August, Mobile hosted the School of Instruction, and their members also staffed a booth, giving away clothing and spreading awareness. Their Installation and Coronation is scheduled for October 2.

All three Courts are busy preparing for Grand Court Session. We invite Honored Ladies to bring your prettiest Hawaiian dress and Sir Knights to pack your ugliest Hawaiian shirt and come join us for fellowship at Lakepoint State Park in Eufaula, November 12–14, 2026.



Purse-A-Palooza Winners Present: Top Left Column: Patsy Shirley, Teresa Redding, Debbie Goff; Top Right Column: Amy Matthews (for Brett Matthews), Mary Ellen Motley, Patsy Shirley



Bake Sale at Grand Bay Masonic Shrimp Boil: Left: Julie Gilsdorf, Peggy Tillman-Young, Janeese Bank, Brett Matthews, and Betty Cox

GRAND COURT OF ALASKA
H.L. Victoria Ault, PSRM
Reporter

Nineteen Jurisdictions!! Fantastic for Alaska Grand Court to have so many represented at the 53rd Session "Bee-Lieve in the Cure" led by GRM Wanda Pinion and GRP Jerry Pinion. The Wednesday night get-together was held at the Native Heritage Center with a delicious dinner catered by the Alpha Lodge Prince Hall Masons. The opportunity to walk through the indoor museum and travel the paths on the Native Heritage Site was enlightening. Native dancers performed several dances after dinner. Compliments to H.L. Wanda and S.K. Jerry for choosing a fine beginning for the Session.

Wonderful news included SAM Hollie Dahm Stiver naming H.L. Sandy Thompson Wallace Supreme Standard Bearer for 2027-2028, and S.K. Richard Maulden for Chief Commissioner of Appeal. S.K. Richard is a dual member of Alaska and Washington, so both jurisdictions are very proud. H.L. Tracie Pierce of Alaska Court #1 was presented with the "Unsung Hero Award." The check for the Amaranth Research Foundation was approximately $14,000.



GRM Wanda had several visitors being protem Officers. Many had arrived on the cruise planned by H.L. Emily Moyer, SRM. They all said they enjoyed the cruise. There were many Supreme Officers on the Throne, far more than is usual for Alaska Grand Court.

H.L. Victoria was installed as Grand Royal Matron for her third time with the theme of "On the Trail of a Cure" using a red lantern to light the way. SRP Ernesto Sayo was Coronation Marshal and her new "Supreme Parents", H.L. Hollie Dahm Stiver, SAM and S.K. Richard Whidden, SAP, were Crowning Matron and Sword Bearer.

Gaining new members is a need for both Courts in Alaska. Some possible new fund raisers to attract interested people are hoped for.

October found S.K. Del and H.L. Victoria attending Iowa Grand Court and H.L. Sandy Thompson Wallace attending Wisconsin Grand Court. The next plan is to go to the Grand Court of New Mexico in November.

GRAND COURT OF COLORADO
H.L. Lula Ellsworth
Reporter

I can truly say Colorado members of Amaranth have been busy! By the pictures that have been shared by other jurisdictions, the same can be said for them.

"The Bridgerton Masonic Family Tea" a Murder Myster was lots of fun on July 11th. Quite the "who done it" event.

The annual 5K Diabetes Walk Run was well attended again. Aug. 16th Socializing with others, visiting the park, sharing Amaranth brochures. Fun and fellowship. Raising money for ADF.

Aug. 1st Faith Court, in Greeley, held a Craft Day. Everyone brought their own crafts to work on. Lunch, snacks, and drinks were provided. Members from "Eastern Star", Jobs' Daughters, Amaranth, and guest not affiliated with any organization attended. Good conversation and laughs.

October 4th. Summer fun finally. Queen Christina Table Lodge, at Colorado Springs Masonic Center. Members and guests, some in period costume. Elegant and beautiful. Many Colorado members have never attended this type of event. These memories will be cherished.

Next week, Oct. 17th and 18th, will be a "Masonic Family Craft Show" in Colorado Spring. Pikes Peak Court # 20 and Centennial Chapter #58 are hosting this event. Time to start our Christmas shopping. Always love beautiful hand work.

Please enjoy some pictures from our events. Just too many to choose from. Reminder February 18-20, 2027, Grand Court of CO. "80 Years of Chari-Tea' Session.

More visitation to other jurisdictions are scheduled. See you on the Amaranth trail!



CO Grand Line Officers at Queen Christina Table Lodge HL Deb Deselms G.C., HL Kim Fairchild G.A.M. HL Kristine Tucker GRM SK Dana Fairchild GRP, S.K. Jason Deselms, GAP. & HL Drina Johnson GAC



SK Dana Fairchild GRP and HL Kristine Tucker GRM at 5 k Run Walk. Fighting for the cure!



Participating at the Queen Christina Table Lodge



SK Lyle Wilkes and HL Mary Wilkes, Dressed up for Queen Christina Table Lodge



Gathered for fellowship and doing crafts at Faith Court.



"Murder Mystery" at Bridgerton Masonic Tea.

GRAND COURT OF FLORIDA
H.L. Ann Marie Williams, DSRM
Reporter

We can't believe it's October already with only 11 Fridays til Christmas!

Florida is pleased and proud to have received the $750,000 milestone for money raised for Diabetes, at our session in May, wherein HL Beth Strayer and SK Chris' donation to Supreme Council put us over this record. We are beaming with pride.

At Supreme Council, our Florida Grand Court was recognized for reaching the $750,000 milestone for monies raised for Diabetes and HL Margaret Woody, GRM accepted the award, which was accomplished at the Grand Court during HL Beth Strayer and SK Chris Van Duyne's annual session in May. HL Judy Mosing, ADF State Coordinator should be recognized for all the years she has been the State's Coordinator and we thank her for her years of service as she announced her retirement from this assignment.

HL Sylvia Saunders, PSRM is now residing at an assisted living facility. Cards may be sent to her address which is 609 Sheridan Boulevard, Orlando, FL 32804-6382. I'm sure she would be tickled pink to receive cards. Please noted that HL Sylvia is not accepting phone calls.

On behalf of the Grand Court of Florida, HL Margaret Woody, Grand Royal Matron, SK Sean Stenson, Grand Royal Patron and Officers, wish everyone a very Happy Holiday Season and Peace on Earth from our State to yours.



1st row: HL Margaret Woody, GRM, SK Russ Beechly, GAP
2nd row: HL Debbie Maust, HL Cathy Edson, HL Kathy Seichko, HL Roslyn Heath-Klinke, HL Janet St Jacques, HL Jill Beechly, HL Fleda Sparrow, HL Joanie Schwebel
3rd row: HL Ann Marie Williams, HL Judy Mosing, HL Joy Keenen, HL Theresa Goddard, SK Rick Klenke, HL Judy Barnes, SCA, SK Charles Woody, HL Christine Tucker, GRM-CO, HL Beth Strayer, Jr. PGRM, SK Ron St Jacques



1st row: HL Judy Mosing, HL Beth Strayer, Jr. Past GRM and Roxie 2nd row: HL Cathy Edson, HL Kathy Seichko, SK Russ Beechly, GAP, HL Jill Beechly, HL Fleda Sparrow, HL Joanie Schwebel, HL Margaret Woody, GRM-FL 3rd row: HL Debbie Maust, HL Ann Marie Williams, HL Joy Keenen, HL Theresa Goddard, SK Rick Klenke, HL Rosyln Heath-Klinke, HL Judy Barnes, SCA, SK Charles Woody, HL Christine Tucker, GRM-CO, SK Ron St Jacques



Florida 2026 Unsung Hero Award
HL Sybil King, HL Kathy Parlmer
SK Tom Mitchell – Century Court

GRAND COURT OF GEORGIA
H.L. Tami Awe
Reporter

Unity Court #21 Shoots for the Cure



On Saturday, August 28, 2026, Unity Court #21, Order of the Amaranth, Inc., raised $3317 for Diabetes Research by bringing back their annual skeet shoot (shotgun) and Powder Puff Pistol shoot! Bottles of wine were given to first, second, and third place winners along with gift cards. There were also several raffle baskets and a fifty-fifty cash drawing. Participants and guests were served an amazing pulled pork lunch with all the fixin's and various desserts. The event was held at the Pinetucky Gun Club in Hephzibah, GA. A big shout-out to H.L. Vickie Shipp and her hubby, S.K. Jim Shipp, for organizing this massive event!



Sharon Baker, Terry Westbrook, Mary Sawilosky, Larry Davis, Claudia Davis



Tammy Leonard, Katie McDaniel, Vicki Shipp



Jacque Hawkins, Ron Awe



George Taylor, DJ Moon,, Randy Moon

GRAND COURT OF ILLINOIS
H.L. Susan McKinney, DSRM
Reporter

Grand Royal Matron Barbara Eccles and Grand Royal Patron Gene Erickson are preparing for October 16th and 17th. The Grand Court of Illinois is in a week! All the Honored Ladies and Sir Knights are finishing their reports, getting their 60s Sock Hop costumes ready, and looking forward to another Grand Court Session. Festivities will kick off Thursday night with our Past Grands Dinner (all are invited). Informal Opening and Formal Opening will be Friday morning.

We had a solid representation at Supreme Council in June. Pictured below (front to back, left to right): HL Jo Ellen Reed, HL Juanita Cox, HL Barbara Eccles, HL Merlene Mundhenk, SK Brian Cox, HL Jenna Long, SK Lawrence Knowles, HL Susan McKinney, HL Ramona McNeil.

Have a safe and healthy Autumn.



GRAND COURT OF NEW YORK
H.L. Cheryl Hackett, GAC
Reporter

September saw two Official Visits. Mystic Court's Official Visit was in Highland, NY on September 12, 2026.



Capital City Court's Official Visit was in Ballston Spa, NY on September 13, 2026.



Several Grand Officers were in attendance for the Seventh Annual Margaret Kenney/Chuck Talbot Memorial Euchre Tournament hosted by Hamilton Court #2 and the Olean-Portville Lions Club on Saturday, October 3, 2026. Kudos to S.K. Bruce Kenney and Hamilton Court #2 for a fun-filled afternoon!



New York Grand Court will be hosting our annual retreat at the Masonic Care Community in Utica, NY, November 13-15th. We have a fun weekend planned with some leadership and ritual training, lots of fellowship and fun.

We'd like to wish everyone Happy Holidays and Safe Travels!

GRAND COURT OF OHIO
H.L. Roxanne York
Reporter

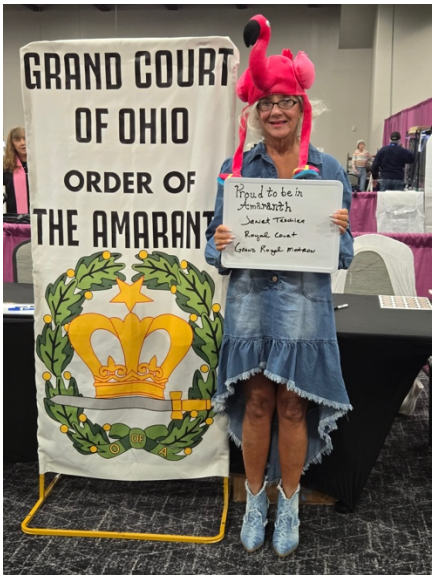
This summer Ohio Amaranth held our School of Instruction, Leadership Training, and a Reception for our Grand Royal Matron & Patron. Then we visited many Courts for their friendship nights and inspections. Many of our Courts are initiating new members. We also held a promotional table at the Ohio Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. We were able to distribute several petitions and talk about our Order with the members. We are now in the full swing of Official Visit season. Our Courts each have an opportunity to win the attendance award and take home Miss Sparkles, the flamingo. So far she has been gifted with a train and a crown. It will be interesting to see what she looks like once traveling season is over.



Grand Line Officers at Ohio Rainbow Grand Assembly



OES Grand Chapter table



Progress Court winning Miss Sparkles

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

Oklahomans are sitting back patiently waiting for the cool temps promised to us by the arrival of fall. Fingers crossed we see those dropping temps soon. We've experienced fires and losses but we preserver and are excited about what fall will bring.

Now that courts are meeting again with regularity the Official Visits of our Grand Royal Matron, HL Sara Eccard and Grand Royal Patron, SK Ridge Smith are about to start. Many travels ahead and much fun to be had as we travel and connect with our members.

I do want to shout out HL Stephanie White, Grand Lecturer, on an excellent school of instruction held on August 22, 2026 in Tulsa Oklahoma. We, for the first time, had instruction with swords and many practiced with them. This was a great success and many who participated found this informative and hope to see it revisited at future schools of instruction.

We hope to see everyone on the Amaranth trail and look forward to all that fall can bring!



HL Sara Eccard, GRM and SK Ridge Smith, GRP

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

Greetings from Tennessee!

Our Royal Matrons and Royal Patrons are almost through their terms -we have elections in December - and are excited about what they have accomplished but still making plans for the next few months. We have worked with other Masonic bodies, assisted schools, animal shelters and provided food for those who need assistance. We are also actively working to keep our Courts, our Grand Court and philanthropic projects viable.

Honored Ladies and Sir Knights are keeping in touch by phone, email and visiting. We have had several deaths and a good bit of illness, but our Grand Secretary and Sunshine & Cheer chairman help to keep us informed so we can keep lifting up each other in prayer.

The weather is starting to cool off here and the trees are just starting to show off their fall colors. As you travel, I hope you can appreciate the beauty in nature around us, the friendship from those you meet and the everyday blessings we receive.

I hope you can join us at Grand Court in Gatlinburg this April!

GRAND COURT VIRGINIA
H.L. Becky Eagleson, PRM
Reporter

Autumn finds our GRM, Ange Malmquist, GRP, Clancy Nidell and our members "busy beavers" with official duties, as well as fraternal and social functions. Like the NFL and NHL, H.L. Ange's Official Visit season kicked off in September with visits to the Grand Courts of Wisconsin and North Carolina in October. In November, they will speak at the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons in Virgina and the Grand Annual Communication, Grand Lodge of Virginia A.F. & A.M.

Fraternal and social functions continue this Fall, following our summer with the Fredericksburg Nationals Baseball game, Mid-Atlantic Tri-state Association weekend with NC, SC, VA, and Friendship weekend with NJ, PA and VA Grand Courts. In September, several members volunteered and participated in the annual American Diabetes Assoc. "Step-Out Walk", and attended the reception in Virginia honoring SAM, H.L. Hollie Dahm Stivers and SAP, S.K. Rich Whidden. Then off for fun at the VA Masonic Family Day festivities and the Supreme Conductress reception honoring H.L. Claudia Wilms.

In November, H.L. Ange and S.K. Clancy will attend the Virginia Miss Job's Daughter's Pageant. Virginia Grand Court congratulates and extends our best wishes to Miss International Jobs Daughter, Natalia Revollo-Aguilar. It has been 43 years since Virginia has held this honor. We also congratulate H.L. Ellen Garrabrant, PRM who is Grand Guardian of Virgina, JDI. Virgina Amaranth continues its honored tradition of supporting our Masonic Youth by participating at all levels in JDI, IORG and DeMolay International.



Figure 1- GRM H.L. Ange Malmquist with Snoopy at the SAM/SAP Reception in Virginia, September19, 2026

GRAND COURT WASHINGTON
H.L. Lori Hanson, PGRM
Reporter

Boy, does time fly; the Grand Court of Washington is already halfway through this Grand year. Our Grand Royal Matron, HL Jenny Harsin Reed, and our Grand Royal Patron, SK Glenn Ryder, have encouraged our members to get out and support other courts this year. I am very happy to report our members are doing just that!

Imagine having a regular meeting on a Monday night and having the entire Grand Line attend! In one month, many of us traveled over the Cascade Mountains twice to support our two courts on the east side of the state.

What we've found is that traveling can be fun when planned in groups. Create a caravan, share a hotel room, plan a group dinner. It's not just attending a meeting, it can be a weekend of fun!

Washington is also working on membership. Three courts will have initiations in the next two months. Our membership committee, the GC HL Ann Phelan and the GAC HL Leanndra Ickes, are busy gathering attendees and pro tems to assist at the initiations. Again, it's a group effort!

Finally, we are looking forward to our Annual Diabetes Research Benefit "A Day of Enchantment" this month. We will be enjoying a trip through the story of *Beauty and the Beast* while we wine, and dine, and bid on some fabulous auction items and vacation getaways. This is our biggest diabetes research fundraiser of the year, and we all look forward to attending.

In November, we will again participate in the Auburn Veterans Day Parade and honor our Vets as well as get our name out into the community. I'll be sure to include pictures of both events in the next Crown and Sword.



Our newest Court, Perlas Court #90 marching at the 4th of July Parade in Everett WA

GRAND COURT WISCONSIN
H.L. Larissa Hermans, GAM
Reporter

As our Grand Court year has come to a close we want to congratulate H.L. Christin Kifer and S.K. Stephen Britton on year well spent! Not only did you accomplish your goal for raising awareness but you also blew your own goal of raising $5,000 for diabetes research out of the water. This year our grand total was $12,337.13.

A very special thank you to H.L. Emily Moyer and S.K. Ernesto Sayo Jr on being willing victims I mean participants in this years dunk! I truly think it brought just the right splash to the Grand Court Session!

And now to wish a year full of fun, happiness and memories to the newly installed Grand Court Officers and wishing H.L. Nancy Saggio and S.K. Michael Heitke an absolutely amazing year full of laughter and memories.

BLUEBONNET COURT NO. 3
H.L. Martha Pengelly
Reporter

It has been a long, hot and dry summer here in Texas in the DFW area. No measurable rain since July 15th and over 100 degree temps every day. We finally got some wonderful rain on Oct 1st and temps in the 80's. Fall has finally arrived.

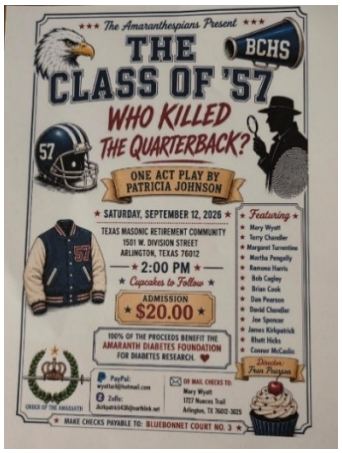
August 14th, Bluebonnet Court was delighted to have it's Supreme Official Visit with Supreme HL Emily Moyer, Other Supreme Officers, Visitors and Friends. It was a beautiful and informative meeting.

All summer Bluebonnet Court #3 has been practicing on Sunday afternoons for our annual Mystery Play which raises funds for the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation for diabetes research. We always have fun and fellowship during these practices.

This year's play was "The Class of '57 Who Killed The Quarterback?" and featured most of our members and several friends. The play was written by one of our members, HL Patricia Johnson and directed by HL Fran Pearson, past Royal Matron. It was presented on Friday, Sept 11th at the Texas Masonic Retirement Community for any of the residents that wanted to attend. We had a very nice attendance and it was well received. It was presented again on Saturday, Oct 12th for the public, also at TMRC. After the play everyone enjoyed fellowship, cupcakes, snacks and drinks.
We are very happy to report that with ticket sales and donations we are donating $3,280 to the ADF this year.

We are looking forward to our next Court meeting on October 9th. Then Family Day in the beautiful Pecan Grove at TMRC will be on Saturday, Oct 10th. This is an annual event at TMRC for any Masonic affiliated organizations to have a free booth to sell items for their fundraising projects. Bluebonnet Court #3 will have a booth there to promote the Order of Amaranth. We are hoping for nice weather and a lot of visitors to our booth.

















CROWN AND SWORD EDITOR
H.L. Kim May, DSRM

I just want to take this space to remind everyone to reach out to someone today. The holidays can be very difficult for many people and very lonely. People get caught up in their own life and their own family and tend to forget about those who don't have family this time of the year. So, this year I encourage you to reach out to someone. Ask someone to dinner, make a phone call, go sit with them for a while, send them a card. You will never know how much a small gesture will mean to them. I hope that over the next few months you find the time to reach out to others. Don't let the "busy-ness" of the season diminish true connections with people you care about.

BE A VOICE NOT AN ECHO!





Australia Adventure
with Order of the Amaranth

Hosted by Hollie Dahm Stivers
November 30 — December 12, 2027

Join Hollie as she adventures through Australia in 2027! From November 30th through December 12th, your group will travel through three of Australia's most iconic cities, each with its own distinct personality and a lineup of experiences that go well beyond the typical tourist trail. You'll start in Brisbane with a private charter day along the Sunshine Coast and a full-day exploring the Australia Zoo. From there it's on to Sydney for a private backstage tour of the Opera House, harbour views, and everything the city has to offer. The final leg brings you to Melbourne, where a twilight visit to Phillip Island to watch the Penguin Parade is a true standout. Private transfers throughout, hand-selected hotels, and a group-focused pace make this a trip that's as seamless as it is memorable.

What's *Included*

- 12 nights in a 4-star city hotel with daily breakfast
- Guided transfers and tours (tickets included)
- Optional tours available to those not attending meetings
- Detailed day-by-day itinerary



Dates & *Pricing*

Starting at:
$6,500 per person*
*does not include flights
Non-Refundable Deposit
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Deposit
due by Oct 20, 2026

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due by Sept 1, 2027

Any quote provided to potential clients of Happy Travels is accurate at the time of delivery. Prices are subject to change due to fluctuating costs of airfare, fuel, client demand or change of travel dates. Space is not held without deposit.

Scan below to
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Australia Adventures
Itinerary

11.30 - 12.04 Brisbane

- Arrival into Brisbane from the US
- Transfer to hotel for 4 nights
- 12.01 Meeting at Caloundra Court with transfers from hotel
- 12.03 Crikey Clubhouse at Australia Zoo

Escape the crowds and enjoy your own private retreat during your visit to Australia Zoo. Inspired by Bindi Irwin's original treehouse from Bindi the Jungle Girl, the Crikey! Clubhouse serves as the perfect home base for your adventure.

12.04 - 12.08 Sydney

- Transfer from hotel to airport, flight to Sydney
- Transfer from airport to hotel for 4 nights
- 12.05 (Optional) Blue Mountains Diamond Daytour

Discover the breathtaking landscapes of the UNESCO-listed Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area on a full-day guided tour. Travel beyond the typical tourist route to explore scenic lookouts, ancient eucalyptus forests, and dramatic sandstone escarpments while learning about the region's history, wildlife, and Aboriginal heritage.

- 12.06 Sydney City Luxury Diamond Half Day Tour

Experience the best of Sydney on a private half-day sightseeing tour showcasing the city's iconic landmarks, historic neighborhoods, and stunning harbor views. With a knowledgeable local guide, you'll explore Sydney's fascinating history while visiting many of its most famous attractions.

- Sydney Opera House Private Tour and TBA Opera House Performance
- 12.07 Meeting at Royal Crown Court with transfers from hotel

12.08 - 12.12 Melbourne

- Transfer from hotel to airport, flight to Melbourne
- Transfer from airport to hotel for 4 nights
- 12.09 Phillip Island Penguin Parade

Start with up-close animal encounters at Moonlit Sanctuary Conservation Park then over to Phillip Island for the main event, the Penguin Parade. You will sit and possibly see hundreds of little penguins waddling onto the beach. Fabulous natural spectacular.

- 12.10 Meeting at TBA with transfers from hotel
- 12.11 Optional: Twelve Apostles Tour

Journey along one of the world's most spectacular coastal drives on a private tour of Victoria's iconic Great Ocean Road. Stretching 243 kilometers along Australia's southern coastline, this unforgettable route showcases dramatic cliffs, pristine beaches, lush rainforests, and charming seaside towns.

- 12.12 Transfer from hotel to airport

Contact Jodie at
Happy Travels LLC
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603-995-4019

Supreme Council, Order of the Amaranth, Inc.

AMARANTH CHALLENGE COIN

SUPPORT THE AMARANTH DIABETES RESEARCH FOUNDATION (ADF)





PURCHASE YOUR CHALLENGE COIN TODAY!

ONLY $20 EACH

100% of the proceeds benefit the Amaranth Diabetes Research Foundation (ADF) and its mission to support diabetes research and education.

The Challenge Coin Tradition

Any member carrying an Amaranth Challenge Coin may challenge another member to show their coin.

- If the challenged member presents their coin, the challenge is successfully met.
- If the challenged member does not have their coin, they are encouraged to contribute **$5** to the Amaranth Diabetes Research Foundation (ADF).
- Donations may be made by scanning the QR code on the challenging member's coin or by making a cash or check contribution.

Carry Your Coin with Pride.
Support Diabetes Research.
Accept the Challenge!

Amaranth Diabetes Foundation, Inc.
We Fight Diabetes

$20 PER COIN

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE ADF

Amaranth Diabetes Research Foundation (ADF)
Making a Difference Through Research

2026–2027 ADF ITEMS ORDER FORM

Amaranth Diabetes Foundation, Inc.

Supporting the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation (ADF) *We Fight Diabetes*

Every purchase helps fund diabetes research through the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation.

Orders can be made through your Jurisdictional Diabetes Coordinator
or by contacting SK Brian Wheeler at bk.wheeler@me.com or 425-530-1162

Orders and check may be mailed to: SK Brian Wheeler
7816 Beverly Lane, Everett, WA 98203

ITEM #	ITEM	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
1	 **ROSE PIN** Beautiful pink rose design.	$5	_____	$_____
2	 **ROSE PENDANT NECKLACE** Beautiful pink rose pendant necklace. Available in 18-inch or 24-inch lengths.	$10	Length (circle one): 18" 24" Qty: _____	$_____
3	 **ROSE BRACELET** Matching bracelet featuring the pink rose charm.	$10	_____	$_____
4	 **ADF LAPEL PIN** Display your support for diabetes research.	$5	_____	$_____
5	 **AMARANTH MAGNETIC BRAG RAG** A convenient magnetic display for showcasing your Amaranth and ADF pins on your dress, jacket, or suit.	$5	_____	$_____
6	 **2027 ADF CHALLENGE COIN** Commemorative challenge coin supporting the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation. *Any member carrying a challenge coin may challenge another member to produce theirs. If the challenged member does not have their coin, they are encouraged to donate $5 to ADF.*	$20	_____	$_____
			TOTAL ORDER AMOUNT	$_____

CUSTOMER INFORMATION

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____
Phone: _____
Jurisdiction / Chapter: _____

PAYMENT METHOD (Check one)

☐ Venmo ☐ PayPal ☐ Zelle
☐ Check (Payable to: Amaranth Diabetes Foundation, Inc.)

Payment Reference / Notes: _____

ORDERS AND CHECK MAY BE MAILED TO:

SK Brian Wheeler
7816 Beverly Lane
Everett, WA 98203

Thank you for your support!

Thank you for your support!

PRICING SUMMARY

1 ROSE PIN	2 ROSE PENDANT NECKLACE (18" OR 24")	3 ROSE BRACELET	4 ADF LAPEL PIN	5 AMARANTH MAGNETIC BRAG RAG	6 2027 ADF CHALLENGE COIN
$5	$10	$10	$5	$5	$20

Support Research • Support Hope • Support ADF

Supreme Itinerary		
November 2025		
November 5-8	Grand Court of New Mexico	SRM
November 12-14	Grand Court of Alabama	SRM
November 20	Yellow Rose Court #4	SC
November 22	RAMP UP! Town Hall Zoom	
November 21-December 19	Australia/New Zealand Tour	
November 21	Caloundra Court #12	SRM
November 27	Royal Victoria Court #21	SRM
December 2026		
December 2	Central Lakes Court #20	SRM
December 5-19	New Zealand Cruise	
January 2027		
January 24	RAMP UP! Town Hall Zoom	
February 2027		
February 11-13	Grand Court of Virginia	SRM
February 18-20	Grand Court of Colorado	SRM
February 21-24	Conference of Grand Masters of North America	SRM
February 25-27	Grand Court of California	SRM
February 25-27	Grand Court of South Carolina	SC
February 28	RAMP UP! Town Hall Zoom	
March 2027		
March 6	Dogwood Court #3, British Columbia	SRM
March 11-13	Grand Court of Georgia	SRM
March 11-13	Grand Court of Oregon	SAC
March 18-20	Grand Court of Washington	SRM
March 21	RAMP UP! Town Hall Zoom	
April 2027		
April 1-3	Grand Court of Tennessee	SAC
April 1-3	Grand Court of Missouri	SRM
April 9-10	Grand Court of Kentucky	SRM
April 11-13	Grand Court of Pennsylvania	SRM
April 15-17	Grand Court of Arkansas	SAM
April 17	Pineland Court #6, Maine	SRM
April 18	RAMP UP Town Hall Zoom	
April 22-24	Grand Court of Massachusetts	SRM
April 25-May 5	Philippines' Tour	

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§ **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 10th 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.

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§ **DEADLINE** for articles for the next issue is **January 10, 2027!**

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Mary Wyatt, Supreme Secretary
1727 Nueces Trail
Arlington, TX 76012
supremesecretary@amaranth.org

Trivia Answers: 1971, Nana, Aurora (Sleeping Beauty), Oswald the Lucky Rabbit, No Worries, Pixie dust, Hot dog!

Mary Wyatt, Supreme Secretary
Supreme Council, Order of the Amaranth, Inc.
1727 Nueces Trail
Arlington, TX 76012

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Contact the Supreme Secretary at the address given above or the Guidelines page.

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