
Grand Court of Wisconsin Order of Amaranth Newsletter

Volume 14, Issue 2

February, March and April 2020



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Message from Grand Royal Matron Betty Miller

I am looking forward to our official visits in May and June. Take time to be familiar with your ritual and floor work. Read your speaking parts out loud. Think about what you are saying and try to memorize as much as you can.

I am anxious to learn how everyone is doing Mushing for Diabetes. Did you put your dog house together to hold your change. Our dogs need food to work hard for diabetes. Do you know a racing dog needs 10,000 calories a day. That is a lot of change. Last year WI gave \$10.00 per member to support the ADF. I would like to reach a giving level of \$15.00 per member. That is all members not just active. Enjoy the spring when it comes. I will enjoy the month of February in Alaska for the Yukon Quest Dog race.

Saturday April 4th Grand Court is inviting all Masonic bodies, friends and family to a Reception for our Grand Royal Matron, Betty and Grand Royal Patron, LeRoy. Plans are underway for lunch and a program. Details will be forthcoming.

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY.
Betty Anne Miller, GRM

Message from Grand Royal Patron LeRoy Kifer

Honored Ladies and Sir Knights, the first quarter of the year has passed and winter has finally arrived. Most of the courts are dark but now is the best time to prepare for many things that will happen very soon. We have the Grand Lecturer visits and the Grand Royal Matron visits coming up soon. Now is a good time to have a practice with the members of your court and go over the initiation of candidates. Get together and plan for these upcoming events. I hope to see some new members this year in the state. Go out and talk up what great things the Order of the Amaranth has to offer. I hope you also make plans on joining Honored Lady Betty and I when we travel to Supreme Council this June. Like I said at Grand Court "Be ready. Participate. Travel when you can. Get out and spread the word about the great things that Amaranth has to offer."

Respectfully yours,
SK LeRoy Kifer
Grand Royal Patron

(Note from the Editor: Still looking for donations to have LeRoy model his moose boxers. We are \$20.00 short for his modeling debut at the School of Instruction. Monies raised for this event will go to Diabetes)

**Message from
Grand Associate Matron
Lila Kimball**

Dale and I are will be talking to many of you to consider being officers and committee members for our year. Do you have anything special you would like to do. Looking forward to a great grand family. We need all of you to consider being an officer for us. As our members are older and the number of eligible H.L. and S.K. is getting smaller.

Leadership and School of Instruction will be coming up on the 23rd of February, 2020.

Grand Lecturer visits coming in March.

Lila Kimball, GAM

**Message from
Grand Associate Patron
Dale Holmen**

Time flies when you are having fun. Hope everyone is having fun in the New Year. It is hard to believe that we are in 2020 it just seems like we were talking about Y2K and the turn of the century. In Amaranth it is our dark season. I do hope this is not a dark time for you and your court. It is always nice to get together when not in a meeting or training. We are allowed to have some fun so get together and have fun and then you can report to everyone you were not dark but very active.

One of the project I have as GRP is to lead our Ways and Means committee for the year. We have a special event this year that has not been tried for a long time. It also is a good time that we have youth in our future. We are holding a "Guess the date and time of the baby's birth" If you have not heard yet our Grand Conductress is expecting this spring. What we need is your guess as to the birth date and time. The dates to consider are between Easter Sunday (April 12) and Memorial Day (May 25) and then a time of day and chances are \$ 1.00 each or 6 (six) for \$5.00. You can turn in your dates and money to one of the Grand Court Officers when you see them around. Remember vote early and often.

Once we get back to action I do hope to visit each Court again this year. Traveling can be fun and educational so if you are interested in travel let me know and I will try to go along if you wish.

Now in keeping up with tradition I will try to provide a joke for your pleasure.

Confucius says: "There are three kinds of people in the world: Those who can count – and those who can't."

SK Dale Holmen
Grand Associate Patron

**Message from
Grand Conductress
Amanda Grunewald**

Hello everyone,

I hope that your holidays were filled with fun, family and food. I know that I enjoyed my holiday being surrounded by the people I love.

I wanted to highlight our ways and means project for this year. SK Dale and I are working hard to raise money this year, and I hope that you will join us. As I hope many of you now know, I have a young one coming along in May of this year. For our ways and means, we are doing a "baby" raffle. Instead of getting a ticket this year, you are putting your name in to guess on the date and time that the baby is going to be born. It is \$1 for a single guess, \$5 for 6 guesses. The dates are from April 12th to May 31st. We have raised a small amount of money so far, but I'm hoping to raise more as the months get closer. Please join in this fun and worthwhile way to raise some money for our grand court. Please see SK Dale or I to add your guesses to the pool.

I hope to see everyone at our Leadership meeting coming up in a few weeks.

H.L. Amanda Grunewald
Grand Conductress

**Message from
Cheri Brus, PGRM**

Hi everyone:

Just writing to remind all of those crafty crafters out there. I am looking for items to sell at the craft table. You can bring your items on Wed. or Thurs of Grand Court. If possible please have them priced so I don't have to run around like a chicken with my head cut off, as I will also be doing hospitality. I will also accept anything that is like new to sell. The only condition is anything you wish to put on the table, if it is not sold you must take it back to your home. I do not have storage room where I live.

Thank you each and everyone of you. See you before you know it.

Cheri PGRM

**Message from
Milwaukee Court No. 2
Lila Kimball, RM
Gene Hass, RP**

Milwaukee Court Order of the Amaranth will start the new year after being dark January and February with the courts Grand Lecturer visits. We will be having a Soup Supper before the meeting on March 2, 2020 at 5:30 pm, meeting begins at 7:00 pm. Stay safe and healthy and look forward on seeing you there.

Lila Kimball, RM

**Message from
Racine Laurel Court #6
LuAnn Hansen, RM
Gene Hass, RP**

Our first Saturday morning meeting will be on Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 10:00 am. This is our Grand Lecturer's Visit. Lunch will be served following the meeting. The Jobies will be joining us for lunch. Please let us know if you are attending the meeting and lunch.

Saturday, April 18 meeting will begin at 10:00 am. A lunch will follow our meeting. Please let someone know if you are attending so we can prepare for our lunch.

**Message from
Madison Court No. 7
Gail Piper, RM
Dale Holmen, RP**

The holidays are over and a new year has begun. After taking January and February off, we look forward to our Amaranth program year and eventually Grand Court!

There's not much to share about Madison Court while we are dark over the winter months. But, I do have some information about our 2020 meetings I want to let you know about.

Madison Court will have some meeting date and time changes over the next few months. Other events taking place at the Madison Masonic Center, in addition to the 4th of July falling on the first Saturday, have made it necessary for us to reschedule some meetings. All meetings will be held at 10am with breakfast refreshments served at 9am. We have decided we will not be meeting in the evenings as we once did.

Here are our meeting dates and times for upcoming months:

Saturday, March 7 – Grand Lecturer Visit (no change)

Tuesday, April 21 – moved from 1st Saturday to 3rd Tuesday

Saturday, May 2 – Grand Royal Matron visit (no change)

Tuesday, June 16 – moved from 1st Saturday to 3rd Tuesday

Tuesday, July 21– moved from 1st Saturday to 3rd Tuesday

Again, all meetings are at 10am, even the Tuesday meetings.

Madison Court would love to have you visit but you might want to call me at 608-516-2098, or email me at gailpiper6@aol.com, to verify the date and time of the meeting.

**Message from
Friendship Court No. 14
Nancy Saggio, RM
Jamison Kifer, RP**

Hope to see all of you at the Leadership being held in Fond du Lac. March meeting is the 14th. A Potato Bar, in honor of The Irish, and a pie dessert, in honor of PI Day, will be at 6:00 pm with meeting to follow. April will be Passover Feast. Join the fun, but let us know you will be arriving for dinner so you will not have to watch us eat. Again, dinner at 6:00 pm with meeting to follow. We would love to have you join us!

Nancy Saggio, RM and Jamison Kifer, RP

DEADLINE FOR NEXT GRAND COURT NEWSLETTER IS APRIL 20 FOR ALL EVENTS FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY, JUNE AND JULY 2020.

**Message from
The Diabetes Committee
H.L. Mary Schultz and
H.L. Diana Kifer**

Did you get your doghouse put together? If not, join us at the Leadership Training and School of Instruction on February 23, 2020 and we will help you put your doghouse together.

We are raising monies for our GRP to model his new moose boxers that were presented to him at Grand Court. We have \$80.00 raised so far. Maybe we could have a goal that for every \$100.00 raised for the GRP boxers, the GRP needs to wear them visibly for the next Grand Court event that is planned. So the first event would be the School of Instruction/Leadership Training; however, we are

\$20.00 short for this event. For another \$100.00 he could wear them for the GRM/GRP reception.

Paint a Board project for diabetes on Saturday, March 14, 2020 beginning at 3:00 pm in the afternoon before the Grand Lecturer's visit at Friendship Court, Fond du Lac. Cost is \$10.00 per board. RSVPs are a must as I have a limited amount of boards. You do not need any creative skills to make a board and we will have all the supplies you need to do this project. Please let me, Mary Schultz, know if you have any questions.



**Message from
Sunshine Committee
Mary Schultz, Chairman**

Honored Ladies and Sir Knights: Please contact me when you know of someone in our Wisconsin Grand Court family or other jurisdictions that may be in need of sunshine. I can be contacted at 414-526-2715 or greeneyesgerman@wi.rr.com.

Note from Vicki Kuharske:

Thank you for the cards you have sent they have brightened my day. Leg is healing but will take a while. Now I just have to get my mind back in the game. Hope to see everyone soon.
Vicki

Note from GRM Betty:

Over the holidays I had the opportunity to visit with Jan Nielsen, PGRM in her home at the Pro Health Muskego independent facilities. She is well and misses being able to attend meetings. She no

longer drives at night and day trips are short. She wishes all the members a good year. Her sister who was a member, lives in a memory facilities. It is great to visit with members who no longer can attend. I challenge everyone to call or visit one non-active member. Report your visits in our newsletter. Betty Miller GRM

Newsletter

Do you have an email address? Does the Grand Court know that you have an email address? If not, please let your court know. A suggestion at our last Grand Court session is to ask those members who receive the newsletter via the United States Postal Service to give a donation of \$10.00 to help defray the costs of this newsletter. Please let me know if you have any questions.

The Humor Column

Submission from Robert Miksch

A few months ago, there was an opening with the CIA for an assassin. These highly classified positions are hard to fill, and there's a lot of testing and background checks involved before you can even be considered for the position. After sending some applicants through the background checks, training and testing, they narrowed the possible choices down to two men and a woman, but only one position was available.

The day came for the final test to see which person would get the extremely secretive job. The CIA men administering the test took one of the men to a large metal door and handed him a gun. "We must know that you will follow our instructions whatever the circumstances," they explained. "Inside this room, you will find your wife sitting in a chair. Take this gun and kill her." The man looked horrified and said, "You can't be serious! I could never shoot my wife!" "Well," said the CIA man, "you're definitely not the right man for this job then."

So they brought the second man to the same door and handed him a gun. "We must know that you will follow instructions no matter what the

circumstances," they explained to the second man. "Inside you will find your wife sitting in a chair. Take this gun and kill her." The second man looked a bit shocked, but nevertheless took the gun and went in the room. All was quiet for about 5 minutes; then the door opened. The man came out of the room with tears in his eyes. "I tried to shoot her; I just couldn't pull the trigger and shoot my wife. I guess I'm not the right man for the job."

"No," the CIA man replied, "You don't have what it takes. Take your wife and go home."

Now they only had the woman left to test. They led her to the same door to the same room and handed her the same gun. "We must be sure that you will follow instructions no matter what the circumstances; this is your final test. Inside you will find your husband sitting in a chair. Take this gun and kill him." The woman took the gun and opened the door. Before the door even closed all the way, the CIA men heard the gun start firing, one shot after another for 13 shots. Then all hell broke loose in the room. They heard screaming, rashing, and banging on the walls. This went on for several minutes; then all went quiet.

The door opened slowly, and there stood the woman. She wiped the sweat from her brow and said, "You guys didn't tell me the gun was loaded with blanks. I had to beat the son of a bitch to death with the chair!"

Chili Judge

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Recently I was honored to be selected as an Outstanding Famous Celebrity in my Community to be a judge at a chili cook-off because no one else wanted to do it. Also the original person called in sick at the last moment and I happened to be standing there at the judge's table asking directions to the beer wagon when the call came. I was assured by the other two judges that the chili wouldn't be all that spicy, and besides they told me I could have free beer during the tasting, so I

accepted this as being one of those burdens you endure when you're an internet writer and therefore known and adored by all. Here are the scorecards from the event:

Chili # 1: Mike's Maniac Mobster Monster Chili

JUDGE ONE: A little too heavy on tomato. Amusing kick.

JUDGE TWO: Nice, smooth tomato flavor Very mild.

CAMERON: Holy smokes, what is this stuff? You could remove dried paint from your driveway with it. Took me two beers to put the flames out. Hope that's the worst one. These people are crazy.

Chili # 2: Arthur's Afterburner Chili

JUDGE ONE: Smoky (barbecue?) with a hint of pork. Slight Jalapeno tang. JUDGE TWO: Exciting BBQ flavor, needs more peppers to be taken seriously.

CAMERON: Keep this out of reach of children! I'm not sure what I am supposed to taste besides pain. I had to wave off two people who wanted to give me the Heimlich maneuver. Shoved my way to the front of the beer line. The barmaid looks like a professional wrestler after a bad night. She was so irritated over my gagging sounds that the snake tattoo under her eye started to twitch. She has arms like Popeye and a face like Winston Churchill. I will NOT pick a fight with her.

Chili # 3: Fred's Famous Burn Down the Barn Chili

JUDGE ONE: Excellent firehouse chili! Great kick. Needs more beans.

JUDGE TWO: A beanless chili, a bit salty, good use of red peppers.

CAMERON: This has got to be a joke. Call the EPA, I've located a uranium spill. My nose feels like I have been sneezing Drano. Everyone knows the routine by now and got out of my way so I could make it to the beer wagon. Barmaid pounded me on the back; now my backbone is in the front part of my chest. She said her friends call her "Sally." Probably behind her back they call her "Forklift."

Chili # 4: Bubba's Black Magic

JUDGE ONE: Black bean chili with almost no spice. Disappointing.

JUDGE TWO: A hint of lime in the black beans. Good side dish for fish or other mild foods, not

much of a chili.

CAMERON: I felt something scraping across my tongue but was unable to taste it. Sally was standing behind me with fresh refills so I wouldn't have to dash over to see her. When she winked at me her snake sort of coiled and uncoiled--it's kinda cute.

Chili # 5: Linda's Legal Lip Remover

JUDGE ONE: Meaty, strong chili. Cayenne peppers freshly ground adding considerable kick. Very impressive.

JUDGE TWO: Chili using shredded beef; could use more tomato. Must admit the cayenne peppers make a strong statement.

CAMERON: My ears are ringing and I can no longer focus my eyes. I belched and four people in front of me needed paramedics. The contestant seemed hurt when I told her that her chili had given me brain damage. Sally saved my tongue by pouring beer directly on it from a pitcher. Sort of irritates me that one of the other judges asked me to stop screaming.

Chili # 6: Vera's Very Vegetarian Variety

JUDGE ONE: Thin yet bold vegetarian variety chili. Good balance of spice and peppers.

JUDGE TWO: The best yet. Aggressive use of peppers, onions, and garlic. Superb.

CAMERON: My intestines are now a straight pipe filled with gaseous flames. No one seems inclined to stand behind me except Sally. I asked if she wants to go dancing later.

Chili # 7: Susan's Screaming Sensation Chili

JUDGE ONE: A mediocre chili with too much reliance on canned peppers.

JUDGE TWO: Ho Hum, tastes as if the chef threw in canned chili peppers at the last moment. I should note that I am a bit worried about Judge Number 3, he appears to be in a bit of distress.

CAMERON: You could put a hand grenade in my mouth and pull the pin and I wouldn't feel it. I've lost the sight in one eye and the world sounds like it is made of rushing water. My clothes are covered with chili which slid unnoticed out of my mouth at some point. Good, at autopsy they'll know what killed me. Go Sally, save yourself before it's too late. Tell our children I'm sorry I was not there to conceive them. I've decided to stop breathing, it's too painful and I'm not getting any oxygen anyway. If I need air I'll just let it in through the hole in my stomach. Call the X-Files people and tell them I've found a super nova on my tongue.

Chili # 8: Helen's Mount Saint Chili

JUDGE ONE: This final entry is a good, balanced chili, neither mild nor hot. Sorry to see that most of it was lost when Judge Number 3 fell and pulled the chili pot on top of himself.

JUDGE TWO: A perfect ending, this is a nice blend chili, safe for all, not too bold but spicy enough to declare its existence.

CAMERON: Momma?

Submission from Gail Piper

What's the difference between bird flu and swine flu?
One requires Tweetment, the other requires Oinkment.

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Why can't "beefsteak" be used as a password?
Because it's not Stroganoff.

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What did the detective in the Arctic say to the suspect?
"Where were you on the night of September to March?"

Amaranth Shirts

Orders may be placed by sending or giving me the Order form. You do not need to pay UNTIL your order is received. Proceeds will be shared between our Diabetes Foundation and Ways and Means. Logo will be on all shirts. Available shirt colors: black, yellow, green and white. Prices are: Polo \$35.00, long sleeve \$25.00 and t-shirt \$25.00.

Nancy Saggio
N5109 Oak Hill Road
Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Underground Railroad Tour

February 29, 10:00 am tour followed by lunch out. 716 College Ave., Racine. 1st Presbyterian Church. Parking lot on south side of church. Reservations are needed by February 9 to LuAnn.

CONTEST FOR THE 2019-2020 WISCONSIN GRAND COURT YEAR

COLLECT THE DOG PARTS

1. EYES = Court Installations
2. FEET = Leadership
3. WHITE TAIL = GRM & GRP Reception
4. GREY TAIL = Official Visit
5. RIGHT EAR = Grand Lecturers Visit
6. RUFF = Grand Court Installation
7. LEFT CHEST = Donation to Diabetes
8. RIGHT CHEST = Donation to Ways and Means
9. LEFT EAR = Racine Court
10. HEAD = Milwaukee Court
11. NOSE = Madison Court
12. TONGUE = FDL Court

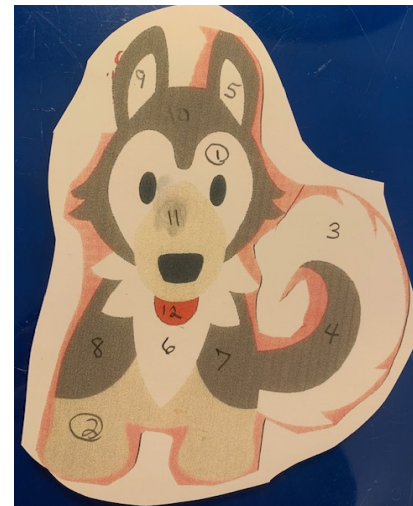
Collect ONE of these pieces ONE time only.

COLLECT MOOSE pieces EACH TIME YOU VISIT A COURT

You should have or ask for the sheet with the dog on it. You will also receive an envelope to keep the parts in. Glue the DOG parts onto the sheet so you don't lose them. Moose parts can be glued on the back.

Most Dog parts and Moose parts (TOGETHER) will receive a free night at 2020 Grand Court Nancy Saggio, sultana313@charter.net

Will be at Leadership to give out parts.



Dates to Remember

School of Instruction/Leadership Training

I encourage EVERYONE to attend our Leadership and School of Instruction on Sunday February 23, 2020. We planned a Noon Lunch, so everyone has an opportunity to attend church. Lunch at noon will be an opportunity to MUSH for Diabetes with a free will donation. The afternoon will get us ready to assume our meetings for the year. Our leaders for the day, Bob, Mary & Mary, have put a lot of effort into the day's activities. We all can benefit. See you there. Betty GRM.

Grand Lecturer Visits

Monday, March 2, 2020

Milwaukee Court #2, Soup Supper at 5:30 pm, meeting at 7:00 pm.

Saturday, March 7, 2020

Madison Court #7, Breakfast at 9:00 am, meeting at 10:00 am.

Saturday, March 14, 2020

Friendship Court #14, Dinner at 6:00 pm, meeting at 7:00 pm.

Saturday, March 21, 2020

Racine Laurel Court #6, meeting at 10:00 am; lunch to follow.

Grand Royal Matron and Grand Royal Patron Reception Saturday, April 4, 2020

Saturday April 4th Grand Court is inviting all Masonic bodies, friends and family to a Reception for our Grand Royal Matron, Betty and Grand Royal Patron, LeRoy. Plans are underway for lunch and a program. Details will be forthcoming.

Grand Royal Matron's Official Visit Accompanied by the Grand Royal Patron

Milwaukee Court	June 1, 2020
Racine Laurel Court	May 8, 2020
Madison Court	May 2, 2020
Friendship Court	May 9, 2020

(Remember dates and times are subject to change)

Supreme Council Order of the Amaranth

Red Lion on the River Hotel
Portland, Oregon
July 5-9th, 2020

Grand Court of Wisconsin Order of the Amaranth

Clarion Hotel & Suites and
Wintergreen Conference Center
Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin
October 8-10, 2020

A Little Corner of the Grand Secretaries Desk



Honored Ladies and Sir Knights,

I hope everyone had a beautiful Christmas Season. Spending time with family and friends.

All of our Courts are dark in January and February, but your Court Secretaries are busy as always. They are working on your Court's Annual Reports. If you have not filled out a Philanthropic Report please contact your Secretaries and do so ASAP.

At the 2019 Grand Court Session, a motion was presented and passed that we reprint our By-laws in a larger format size 5 1/2" x 8 1/2" at \$10.00 per set. The by-law changes were approved and returned from the Supreme Council Grand Court By-laws Committee. No amendments will be printed to fit the old size GC By-laws. So, they are ready to go the printer. They will have a 3-hole punch so you can put them in with your Small Rituals or Manual of Procedures. Binders are not included. I am adding \$1.00 for postage. To order yours either let your court secretaries know, or email, call or snail mail your order to me. Checks to: Grand Court of WI, O of A for \$11.00 and sent to Diana Kifer 375 Emma St. Fond du Lac, WI 54935-4009. Phone is 920-922-6012 or email: ldkifer@charter.net

I am still waiting on a couple of reports and greetings from the Grand Court session to make it to my desk. Then the Proceedings will be ready to go to print also.

Remember that if you have moved, or changed your email and/or phone number let your Court Secretaries know. We can only keep you informed if we have your current information.

Now a little point to ponder: If a No. 2 pencil is the most popular why is it still No. 2.

REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE IMPORTANT.

Till we meet again,

*In Amaranth Love and Service
H.L. Diana L. Kifer, PGRM
Grand Secretary of Wisconsin*

