
Grand Court of Wisconsin Order of Amaranth Newsletter

Volume 18, Issue 2

February, March, April 2024

Message from H.L. Mary Schultz, GRM

The days are getting warmer and daylight is getting longer. Spring must be here?

All of our courts have been dark for January and February. March brings us back together and back to the business of our Order.

Please check the schedule of Grand Lecturer Visits as the dates have changed for some of our courts. If dates need to be changed, it is important to let me know.

The School of Instruction and Leadership Training is on Saturday, February 17, 2024. Social begins at 9:00 am with the School beginning at 10:00 am. Lunch reservations should have been made with Gail Piper. Please make every effort to attend this event.

We have performed the Amaranth funeral services for HL Sondra Brelsford on Sunday, February 11, 2024. Thank you to SK Bob Miksch, SK Gene Hass, HL Lila Kimball, HL Marcia Earl, HL Vicki Kuharske, HL Sally Lutzke and HL Karen Bishop who assisted me in the ceremony. Thank you for HL Amanda Grunewald, SK Ernie Anderson and HL Jane Blackwood for attending the services as well. The family and friends of HL Sondra were very impressed with our ceremony.

An item I would like to address is the presentation of Grand Officers from the Order of the Amaranth when attending other Masonic functions. You may be introduced with your title; however, you should not speak on behalf of the Order if you do not have permission from the Grand Royal Matron. If you find that you will be in that situation, please contact me so we can discuss what is being said.

If you think there is a function that the GRM and GRP should be attending, please let us know and we will do our best to be there.

Please let me know if there is something I should know. We need to step up on our communications.

Message from S.K. Robert Miksch, GRP

Honored Ladies and Sir Knights,

A new year and it does not seem much is going on, since we all are dark, however some of us (our Grand Royal Matron) have been busy herding "us" cats to make sure what needs to be done gets done on time. I admit I am one of those cats and hopefully will try better for 2024 not to be one of the cats. Since the last newsletter we made it through 4 holidays, Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, and New Years, but one I never knew existed is National Cat Herders Day which was December 15, 2023 (who knew) hats

off to our GRM! We all need to strive to do what is expected or required and not just enough to get by. I remember a few years back working on the Grand Court Budget, HL. Gail Pippier questioned me when my response to an item was "because we always did it that way". We have to avoid that trap. Just because we may have gotten away with something in the past does not mean we should not do it correctly. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our School of Instruction in February. Keep warm and keep safe.

Until the next time, keep safe!

Robert Miksch Grand Royal Patron (Again hehehehe)

Message from H.L. Mary Lubach, GAM

Hi everyone Hope you all had a safe and Merry Christmas and New Year with family and friends. Stay safe and warm in this cold and snowy season. Hope to see everyone at Leadership Training in Feb. in Madison. Looking forward to the meetings planned for March.

H.L. Mary Lubach
Grand Associate Matron.

Message from S.K. Dale Holmen, GAP

Happy New Year to all! As I write this article, it is snowing quite heavily and we are looking at about 10 inches with more to come later in the week. It's January and winter is finally here. Our courts are still at rest until March, so we need to keep a close eye on all our members. In the winter time, we can have trouble walking or even leaving our homes. Having a

calling tree to talk with everyone is always a good idea. You might even convince some of our wayward members to attend a meeting down the road.

I look forward to attending your meeting once we start up again. If there is anything that I can help with, please feel free to contact and ask. If available, I will attend. There will be a leadership and grand lecturer day on Saturday, February 17th at Doric Masonic Center in Madison. Reservations are needed so we can make sure we have enough food to feed you. Check out the flyer that has been sent out.

Have a great day and I hope that spring comes soon to Wisconsin.

SK Dale Holmen, GAP

Message from S.K. Jamison Kifer Grand Secretary

Happy New Year Honored Ladies and Sir Knights!

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and welcome to 2024! Make sure to check your furnace filters as the winter progresses to help effectively keep your home warm! Keep your headlights and taillights clear for better signaling while driving, as a trucker I definitely advise this!

Now for Amaranth business. Court Secretaries, please make sure you are completing your annual reports and getting those to me in a timely fashion so I can get everything to our Supreme Secretary on time. If deadlines are missed, that means I can't complete what I need to get done and then we get fines from Supreme, which could be passed on to your court and no one wants that.

I am almost finished with the Directory and plan to have that completed and ready for everyone at

Leadership Training in February. The Proceedings aren't far behind and will be completed by Spring.

Stay warm and stay safe this winter and I look forward to seeing you all in February in Madison or wherever our paths cross down the Amaranth trail.

Which one is faster: Hot or Cold?

Hot. You can catch a cold!

S.K. Jamison Kifer, PGRP

Grand Secretary

**Message from
H.L. Michelle Varelas, GC**

New year's greetings! I hope you enjoyed the holidays and are having a great start to the new year.

We will soon find ourselves back in our court rooms for meetings and I look forward to seeing everyone's smiling faces. I am excited to see what the year has in store for us all and looking forward to all the new experiences ahead.

The Colors of Life— Unknown

Red, yellow, blue,
Colors so bright and true,
The colors of life,
All around me, a beautiful sight.

Green, orange, purple,
Colors that sparkle and twinkle,
The colors of nature,
A blissful pleasure.

Black, white, grey,
Colors that fade away,
The colors of sorrow,
A path that we all follow.

But colors bring hope and joy,
A promise of better tomorrow,
So cherish the colors of life,
In every moment, in every strife.

Michelle Varelas,
Grand Conductress

**Message Regarding
Grand Associate Conductress**

I have accepted the resignation of H.L. Christin Kifer from her position as Grand Associate Conductress. Please be considerate of her decision and wish her well in her future endeavors.

**Message from
S.K. LeRoy Kifer,
Grand Trustee - Chair**

Honored Ladies and Sir Knights

The Grand Trustees would like to inform everyone the Dr. Ruth Miller estate that bequeathed funds to the Grand Court of Wisconsin has been dissolved and our share of those monies have been transferred to the hands of the Grand Trustees. We will now take this money and invest it properly.

During this transition, the Grand Royal Matron, HL Mary Schultz and the Grand Trustees donated to the Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star. This was given to the Worthy Grand Matron/Worthy Grand Patron project Riverside Memory Care, Three Pillars and a second donation to Vest-A-Dog, their service dog project.

A full report of totals and all matters regarding this will be given at Grand Court.

**Message from
S.K. Dale Holmen,
Grand Lecturer - Protem**

Greetings to all as we move into a new year. We will have Leadership training and Grand Lecture day on February 17th at Doric. I am working on a special program at the suggestion of our Grand Royal Matron. Looking forward to seeing you ALL there.

Starting in March, our courts will be having their official Grand Lecturer visits. Madison Court is on Saturday March 2nd, Racine Laurel Court is on Friday April 12, Friendship Court is on Saturday May 11 and Milwaukee Court is on Monday May 6th.

I will be asking all Royal Matrons what they would like to cover in their court. This is only as good as those who participate, so I ask you all to attend your court date and any of the others you can make. Practice makes us all better and we all want that.

**Message from
Milwaukee Court No. 2
H.L. Marcia Earl, RM
S.K. A. Gene Hass, RP**

Happy winter greetings from Milwaukee Court! Even though we are dark January and February, we are looking forward to seeing all of you on March 4th when we will celebrate all things Irish! Until then, be careful with this Wisconsin winter weather. Stay warm and when you do have to venture out, please be careful.

Marcia H. Earl, Royal Matron

A. Gene Haas, Royal Patron

**Message from
Racine Laurel Court No. 6
H.L. Larissa Hermans, RM
S.K. Robert Miksch, RP-Protem**

Racine Laurel Court will be coming back to business on Friday, March 8, 2024 beginning with an Irish Dinner at 6:00 pm for \$10.00. Our meeting follows at 7:00 pm. Wear your favorite green.

We welcome spring and our Grand Lecturer's Official Visit at our meeting on Friday, April 12, 2024, at 7:00 pm. We will have dinner at 6:00 pm for \$10.00.

Please remember we meet at the Union Grove Masonic Lodge, 1021 – Eleventh Avenue, Union Grove, WI 53182-1305.

The Union Grove Chapter #71 OES has made it possible for the building to have a chair lift for our members and visitors to use to attend our meetings and special events. Don't be shy – come and visit us.

**Message from
Madison Court No. 7
H.L. Judy Emerson, RM
S.K. Dale Holmen, RP**

Madison Court is dark during the months of January and February. However, we plan to meet for breakfast during these months, so we don't get too lonesome for each other.

This January 6th, however, we decided to have a make up meeting, since we had a snow day for our December meeting. So, we did just that. Got some

business done and went to lunch at nearby Dennys Restaurant. A good time was had by all!

Saturday, February 3rd, will find us at the Dairyland Restaurant in Madison, for breakfast at 9:00 am. If you'd care to join us, please do, and let me know you are coming so the reservation can include you.

Our March 2nd meeting will be with the usual 9:00 am brunch, followed by the 10:00 am meeting. We will have the Grand Lecturer, our own SK Dale, as our official visitor that day, as it will be his official visit to Madison Court. We welcome any visitors.

April 6th will be a welcome to Springtime Meeting. 9:00 am brunch, with meeting to follow at 10:00 am.

We are wishing you all a good winter, keep warm, stay safe and healthy.

HL Judy Emerson, Royal Matron

SK Dale Holmen, Royal Patron

**Message from
Friendship Court No. 14
H.L. Christin Kifer, RM
S.K. LeRoy Kifer, RP**

Happy New Year Honored Ladies and Sir Knights!

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and are staying warm now that we officially have winter weather!

Friendship Court is dark and trying to stay warm in the month of February, but we have a social event planned for our members so we can stay in touch and spend some time together before we get back in the swing of things for March.

Speaking of March, our meeting will be on the 9th with a meal at 6 pm and meeting at 7 pm. We will be having corned beef and cabbage with the fixings to make Reuben sandwiches! Cost is \$10. Please RSVP to me christinkifer@hotmail.com, so we have enough food for everyone! Since we are having corned beef and Reuben's, wear your favorite shade of green and bring some luck of the Irish and celebrate St Patrick's Day with us!

April 11th is our next meeting. Meal at 6pm and meeting at 7pm, as usual! Our meal for this meeting will be a potluck. Our Grand Lecturer visit has been rescheduled to our May meeting since we will have several members attending the Eastern Star function that day. More details to come on our May meeting.

We look forward to seeing you all down the Amaranth Trail!

H.L. Christin Kifer S. K. LeRoy Kifer

Royal Patron Royal Patron

Newsletter

Do you have an email address? Does the Grand Court know that you have an email address? Did your court bring in a new member? Has your membership changed in your court? It is important to let the Secretary of your court know. These secretaries then let the Grand Secretary know so that the directory has the most current information.

I apologize on the lateness of this newsletter. I did not realize that the version of Word I have is no longer supported and I found this situation out when it came time to try and format some of my documents. The newsletter included.

Deadline for the next newsletter is April 21, 2024, to cover the months of May, June and July.

**Message from
Sunshine Committee
H.L. Mary Schultz**

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.

It is extremely hard for me to do my job as a member of the Sunshine Committee if I do not know of people who may need sunshine. Please if you know something, say something.

Some of our members need sunshine:

Jack Heady, car accident
Carol Hoyt, fell and broke her wrist
Roger Reukauf, does not leave his home

I hope everyone has been enjoying the sunshine notes I have sent by snail mail and by email.

**Message from
The Diabetes Committee
H.L. Mary Schultz**

More projects and events are in the making, stay tuned.

Please contact me if you have any questions at greeneyesgerman@wi.rr.com or 414-526-2715.

**Leadership and School of
Instruction
Doric Lodge #356
85 South Stoughton Road
Madison, WI 53714
Saturday, February 17, 2024
9:00 am**

**Grand Court of Wisconsin
Order of the Amaranth
Annual Session**

October 10, 11, and 12, 2024
Clarion Hotel & Suites and
Wintergreen Conference Center
Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965-0296
Email: www.wintergreen-resort.com

Check out our Website:

www.wisconsinamaranth.org

Grand Lecturer's Official Visits

Milwaukee Court #2	Monday, May 6, 2024
Racine Laurel Court #6	Friday, April 12, 2024
Madison Court #7	Saturday, March 2, 2024
Friendship Court #14	Saturday, May 11, 2024

Humor Corner

From Bob Miksch

Fishing in the Rain

The rain was pouring down. And there standing in front of a big puddle outside the pub, was an old Irishman, drenched, holding a stick with a piece of string dangling in the water.

A passer-by stopped and asked, "What are you doing?"

"Fishing" replied the old man.

Feeling sorry for the old man, the gent said, "Come in out of the rain and have a drink with me."

In the warmth of the pub, as they sip their whiskeys, the gentleman cannot resist asking, "So how many have you caught today?"

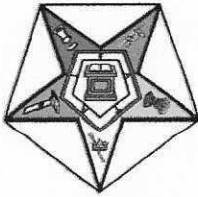
"You're the eighth," said the old man.

Bob, Nora & Dan are fishing in Northern Wisconsin one summer.

Dan accidentally drops his sunglasses in the water and decides to go in after them. After a while, he fails to come up and Bob & Nora both remember Dan can't swim. Bob goes in after him and after a bit, gets the body up into the boat.

After starting mouth-to-mouth. Bob says "I don't recall Tim having breath this bad"...

To which Nora replies..."I don't think he was wearing that snowmobile suit either".



Grand Chapter of Wisconsin ~ Order of the Eastern Star

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December 13, 2023

Officers of the Grand Court and Members of The Order of the Amaranth of Wisconsin

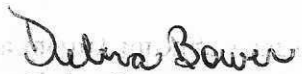
We truly can't thank you enough for your generous gift to our Worthy Grand Matron/Worthy Grand Patron project at Riverside Memory Lodge, Three Pillars Community in Dousman Wisconsin.


The project itself is a Memory Water Fountain feature. Your contribution was given to us at our Annual All State Christmas party. With your donation, we reached our initial sum to order the fountain and have begun working with the designer and Three Pillars maintenance to have this completed in early May. We will plan a dedication ceremony and you will certainly receive an invitation to attend. We are grateful for your donation and for being a part of our cause. Thank you for choosing to work with us in making a small difference in the lives of the residents at the Memory Care facility through your donation.

We are also appreciative of the additional gift of support for our Vest-A-Dog project which provides vests to Sheriff Departments or City Police Department K9s. These vests are purchased from a non-profit organization in Janesville Wisconsin and protect those that protect us. These vests are available for three important facets in the life of a working K9 – basic, stab proof and bullet/stab proof combination. With your donation to this, we are pleased to let you know we have purchased 6 vests so far at 5 different departments.

Once again, thank you for your generous donations to our projects.

Sincerely,


Debra Bower
Worthy Grand Matron
Order of the Eastern Star of WI


LeRoy Kifer
Worthy Grand Patron
Order of the Eastern Star of WI