
Grand Court of Wisconsin

Order of Amaranth Newsletter

Volume 11, Issue 1

November, December 2016, January 2017

**Message from
Grand Royal Matron
Nancy Saggio**

A big thank you to all who made this year's Grand Court Installation so wonderful! Officers, Representatives, Committee Members, Installing Officers, Coronating Officers, kitchen help, without the help and work from all of you, nothing would have happened. One person cannot make it work, it take the WHOLE group to get things accomplished.

We, Phil and I, are looking forward to a good year with all of you. The first thing coming up are the Court Installations. Madison on the 5th, Milwaukee on the 7th, Racine on the 11th and Friendship on the 12th. Hope to see many of you on the sidelines supporting each others Court. Dates for future OV need to be set, so new Royal Matrons please check your calendars for a good time for this to happen. We just returned from Illinois' Grand Court where some new ideas might be put to work. It was a fun time and nice to not "Have to think too hard".

The Meercat is the animal for the year and Family is the Theme. Meercats live in groups called Mobs. Here they protect each other, help raise all of the young, work together and play together. In other words, sort of like our Masonic Family. We have the young, Job's Daughters, DeMolay and Rainbow. We also have the other organizations to which many of belong, who in difficult times are there for each other. Family is not always blood, but those who care. Let's all be part of the Mob this year and work together to be one big FAMILY!

MEERCAT MOTTO

Respect your Elders.
Teach the young to cooperate with the family.
Play when you can.
Work when you should.
Rest in between
Share your affection.
Voice your feelings.
Leave your mark.

Nancy Saggio
GRM

**Message from
Grand Associate Matron
LuAnn Hansen**

I hope everyone had a great time at Grand Court. I did enjoy talking with members from other jurisdictions and seeing friends from around our own state.

Thank you to everyone that gave your support to me and I look forward to working with Parker as we move through this year. Thank you also for electing Parker to join this journey. I also wish H.L. Nancy and S.K. Phil a successful year and safe travels.

Ways and Means Cross Stitch picture is one of the raffles that we are going to do this year. I will have tickets available as I travel the state. I will bring the picture with me for all to see. It is also included in this newsletter. Tickets are \$1 or 6 for \$5. The drawing will take place on September 8, 2017 in Racine.

As we head into installation season I hope to see many of you. Safe travels to all.

**Message from
Grand Associate Patron
Parker Dow**

Hello and Thank you one and all for your confidence in me and my service for the Grand Court, Order of the Amaranth of Wisconsin as the Grand Associate Patron. I will endeavor to do my best but I do have multiple obligations and organizations.

During this last Grand Court, I was asked for an article for the quarterly newsletter. Of course, I was not prepared for any article so if I miss any information that needs to be presented then please do excuse me.

For those who do not know me, I am Parker and my bride of nearly 35 years is Rita. We have 3 daughters and one son-in-law. Mom is still alive and I attempt to see her each morning and have her over for supper every day during the work week. Rita travels an hour one way to take her mom & dad to church every Sunday. Rita is a high school teacher. I am the only worker for Wil-Park Management Inc, Greeningame Condominium LLC, Waterloo Homes and PRD Heating & Cooling LLC all strictly serving manufactured homes.

I am only moderately involved with the fraternity. I am a Worshipful Master of a Lodge (1 lodge), Treasurer (3 other groups), some other officer (5 other groups) and of course on multiple committees plus being an officer and active committee member for the Grand bodies of Chapter, Council and Commandery of the York Rite.

Upon my installation as GAP, I have also been assigned to the Ways and Means Committee for this blessed order as chairman. Unfortunately, today & now being less than 24 hours since our installation the committee has not yet met to discuss any options for the membership. There is no I in team. However, I have made a request for the email addresses for the other committee members so we can get started as soon as possible. We will need your help, aid and assistance as these are all team events. Many hands make light work. Team members will get information out after we have an opportunity to make plans.

However for a fundraiser, my boss and fellow mobster, HL LuAnn GAM PGRM, has already presented a raffle for a beautifully done and framed stitching. The drawing will be in Racine on 8 Sept 2017 during the Stated Meeting. Tickets are \$ 1.00 each or 6 for \$ 5.00. Please show her your support for this project. Buy many, buy often.

Baskets, bingo and silent auctions all still remain as fundraising projects for our order. I believe that SK Norm PGRP is already working on parts of this item and I will verify my belief. We will need more team leaders for these items and to work with SK Norm PGRP. Please volunteer for your preferred project. Again, Team members will get information out after we have an opportunity to make plans.

Not everything has immediate results. A multiple year project would be to present a much needed class every spring. We will need volunteers to present this class on manners and etiquette to high school students in the spring in preparation for their Prom. Not only would this be good for them but it would be an excellent and needed refresher for many an old mobster like me. Please consider your ample participation in this weekday community service endeavor. We will need proctors and pro-tem dates. You do know that team members will get information out after we have an opportunity to make plans.

We are looking at creating and selling bibs, a challenge coin or jewel and a concert. We will find out more after the committee has a chance to discuss everything that has been placed on the table. We will need ample assistance on these multiple items. And need I say again, Team members will get information out after we have an opportunity to make plans.

**Now, onto something that developed the very day of
our installation.**

While sitting at a table enjoying meatballs and cheese / sausage / cracker sandwiches immediately after the Grand Court Officer installation, I heard and was informed that one of the MOB has disappeared. I went to see our HL Nancy GRM to find out more information. She was very and extremely distraught and upset, barely able to keep her composure, that one of the family is already missing. She produced the

ransom note which said; "Meerkat is missing by George you must buy George back more to follow". (George is also short or used for Georgina) (I did not talk with them prior to nor after the abduction so I do not know which is truly correct).

HL Sally PGRM, because you are our Grand Secretary, we need you to keep a separate accounting of funds sent in to the Free George Fund. By the way, Have you received a further note?

There was no mention of an amount needed to free him/her nor how much funds are needed or who/which project they are intended for. Mobsters, one and all, we need to keep our eyes and ears open for traces of George and all notes about and for George. My email address is parker@wil-park.com. Please send me all sightings and memorable stories about George, his/her MOB history and travels while we wait for More To Follow. If you don't want to send them to me then that is fine but then please do send them to our HL LuAnn GAM PGRM for inclusion in our next newsletter.

ON Second thought and by no means or desire is this to be thought or considered to be an accusation - You do know that his/her buddy and protector the Warthog, DID NOT give an alarm. Is something fishy going on there? SK Phil GRP, What have you learned?

Joke

A piece of string walks into a bar and tries to order a drink. The bartender says, "Sorry, we don't serve pieces of string here." The string goes back outside, ties himself up and messes up his hair. The string goes back into the bar and orders again. The bartender asks, "Aren't you that piece of string?" "No," says the string, "I'm a frayed knot."

Message from Grand Conductress Cheri Brus

Dear Members of Wisconsin Grand Court;

I am very pleased that you put your faith, trust into me again by electing me Grand Conductress. I will do my best and if anything is needed please feel free to call or email me. I will help wherever I can.

This year I have the permission of our Grand Associate Patron to sell 50/50 raffle tickets. So every time I visit your courts I will have the tickets with me. Please help our ways and means as much as you possibly can. Remember the saying of our Grand Royal Matron "Dig deep."

Once again please feel free to call or email if you need help or even a ride.

See you at the meetings.

Cheri Brus, Grand Conductress

Message from Past Grand Royal Matron Barbara Foster

Dear Honored Ladies and Sir Knights!

The *Circle of Friends* Session is now part of our history, my bags are unpacked, stuff is put away, Violet is reconnecting with her heggie family, and I have had a bit of time to reflect on our session. Because of all of your hard work and being prepared, the business was finished in a very timely manner and we had time for fellowship and fun! I send a heartfelt thank you to each of you for making the session and this year memorable. A new chapter to our Grand Court has started. I wish HL Nancy and SK Phil much fun and safe travels this year and may this year exceed all your hopes and dreams.

Hedgehog hugs, HL Barb Foster, PGRM

**Message from
Milwaukee Court No. 2
Lila Kimball, RM
Michael Brus, RP**

Milwaukee Court will be having a 6:00 pm meeting with Installation at 7:00 on November 7th with HL Laura Dessereau and SK Robert Mehle going to the East looking for another great year!

Congratulations to HL Cheri Brus and HL Betty Miller election to the Grand Line. I would like to thank everyone for their support and understanding this past year.

Thanks!
HL Lila

**Message from
Racine Laurel Court No. 6
LuAnn Hansen, RM
Robert Miksch, RP**

A fundraiser for Racine Laurel Court will be held on Saturday, October 29th at 1:00 pm at LuAnn's house at N6271 Paradise Dr., Burlington. This is a Princess House Party. Do you remember their products? They have expanded their inventory to include not just crystal dishes but cookware, kitchen utensils and food storage. I will have catalogs at Racine's installation on November 11th. Please let H.L. LuAnn know if you will be coming to her home.

Installation of officers will be Friday, November 11th at 7:30 pm. We will have a 6 pm meeting. Please come and join us. May God hold you in the palm of his hand until we see each other again.

**Message from
Madison Court #7**

Installation of officers is on Saturday, November 5. Please contact Barbara Lee Overton for details.

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

Friendship Court

**Please join Friendship Court
for the
Installation of officers
on**

**Saturday, November 12, 2016
Installation 7:00 PM
Refreshment after.**

**H. L. Diana Kifer RM-Elect
S. K. Leland Burlison RP-Elect**

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT GRAND COURT
NEWSLETTER IS JANUARY 15 FOR ALL
EVENTS FOR THE MONTHS OF FEBRUARY,
MARCH AND APRIL 2017.**

**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. Thank you.

Robbie

Submitted by H.L. Gail Piper

Robbie stared down at the piece of cake the waiter had placed in front of him. His mother and father, seated on either side, continued talking and hadn't noticed the desserts being served.

"Yes, we are so happy, and every time we see the Masonic Center or set foot in that building we think about everything the Masons are doing for Robbie and our whole family. Getting help for his dyslexia has meant so much to us and has made such a difference in our lives. Robbie is now excelling in his school work and no longer resists doing homework or going to school," his mother shared with me with a huge smile.

We were at an event in Madison this June of 2016, a banquet held to kick off a week of fundraising efforts for the local NFL Alumni Association-Madison Chapter. The Children's Dyslexia Center-Madison is one of their three sponsored charities. Robbie G. was chosen by the center director to speak on behalf of the center. He and his parents agreed to have him share his success story with the 500+ people in the huge banquet hall at the Concourse Hotel just down the street from the Madison Masonic Center where Robbie had been receiving tutoring for his dyslexia for over two years. It was a way to "pay the dyslexia center back", they explained. Robbie told me during the main course that he was all prepared and eager to share his story.

His mother then noticed Robbie staring at the cake. "Oh, I guess you'd better not eat that, Robbie. Too much sugar in it." She glanced my way and added, "Yes, Robbie has diabetes. We have to be careful about sugar intake, you know."

I then told Robbie's parents that the Madison Masonic Center houses another organization that they might be interested in hearing about. I told them about the Order of the Amaranth and our work in supporting diabetes research. When I got to the part of my "elevator speech" about how our funding had helped develop the insulin pump, Robbie's mother immediately jumped in, "What! Well, Robbie uses an insulin pump! Oh, my! There are TWO

organizations in the building helping our family? That's incredible!"

Robbie's dad who had been attentive but relatively quiet, just taking all this in, shared, "We will be ever grateful to all the Masons and other folks who meet in that Masonic Center for all the help you have provided to us. You have made a wonderful difference in our lives. Thank you!"

(H.L. Gail Piper serves on the Board of Governors for the Children's Dyslexia Center-Madison as Assistant to the Treasurer, and is Co-Chair of the Walk for Dyslexia-Madison. The other Co-Chair of the walk is S.K. Dale Holmen of Madison Court.)



Raffle tickets may be purchased from GAM
LuAnn Hansen; tickets are \$1.00 each or 6
for \$5.00; proceeds to benefit Wisconsin
Grand Court Ways and Means





World's Greatest Cookie Sale 2016

It's that time of year again time.

For what you might ask.

Time to dust off those Christmas cookie recipes.

Time to gather all your baking equipment.

Time to start baking for the World's Greatest Cookie Sale.

That's correct. The World's Greatest Cookie Sale is just 30 days away.

We need bakers, packers and sellers.

We need 250 Dozen

All proceeds go to the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation

Sale Date: Friday, November 25, 2016

Country Springs Hotel - Grand Ballroom

2810 Golf Road • Pewaukee, WI 53072

Time: 12 pm-4 pm

Admission and Parking are Free!

Other highlighted events to include:

A great way to get away before the hustle and bustle of the holidays.

Holiday Music Performances • Visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus • Magic Show Puppet Show • Cookie Decorating •
Face Painting • Gingerbread House Decorating

Contact H L Diana Kifer for more information

ldkifer@charter.net or 920-922-6012



There's Fun For Your Whole Family at The World's Greatest Cookie Sale!



Choose from tens of thousands of homemade holiday cookies from 25+ participating non-profit organizations. Best of all, the proceeds go directly to the non-profit organization that you purchase from.

Friday, November 25, 2016 12 pm – 4 pm

Country Springs Hotel – Grand Ballroom

Admission and Parking are Free!

Other highlighted events to include:

*Holiday Music Performances • Visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus • Magic Show
Puppet Show • Cookie Decorating • Face Painting • Gingerbread House Decorating*

Call today to find out about our overnight holiday guest room packages!
A great way to get away before the hustle and bustle of the holidays.

COUNTRY
Christmas
PRESENTED BY **TOWN BANK**



**\$5.00 Off One
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November 25, 26 & 27, 2016

5pm-9m • Sunday-Thursday

5pm-10pm • Friday, Saturday & Holidays

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Help Support These Organizations at The World's Greatest Cookie Sale

Adaptive Community Approach Program

Amaranth

ARCh

Brain Injury Resource Center of Wisconsin

Calvary Academy Ministries

Christmas Clearing House (JS Events)

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

Danube Cultural Society Youth Dancers

Door County Sled Dogs

Eagle American Legion Auxiliary

Elmbrook Humane Society

Faith Springs Presbyterian Church

Feeding His Flock Food Pantry

Happy Endings-No Kill Cat Shelter

Main Street Song & Dance Troupe

Redeemer United Church of Christ

Shelomoth Temple 106 - Daughters of the Nile

St. Bruno Parish School

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

Team Up! With Families

Tomorrow's Choice Family Resource Center

True Life Church

Urban Cat Coalition

Vernon Lutheran Church

Welsh Club of Milwaukee Area

Wildlife In Need Center

Wisconsin Adopt A Golden Retriever



Celebrating 26 Years!