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# Grand Court of Wisconsin Order of Amaranth Newsletter

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Volume 18, Issue 1

November, December 2023, January 2024

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## **Message from H.L. Mary Schultz, GRM**

I would like to first start with a big thank you to all of you, officers, committee members and whatever else you may have been asked to do, for this next year and for the years to come. We are a small group, but we are mighty. I will do my best to lead this organization for the 2023-2024 year.

Installation season is upon us, most of our courts will not have a new Royal Matron this year, thank you to those who are serving again and to those who are serving for the first time. I know it is hard for people to travel, but if we can network and carpool it makes our trips more enjoyable.

I also know that many of us belong to many different organizations. I am asking each of you to find a balance between all of them so that Amaranth has an equal share in your time. I am afraid that we are walking on a thin rope to keep our organization going.

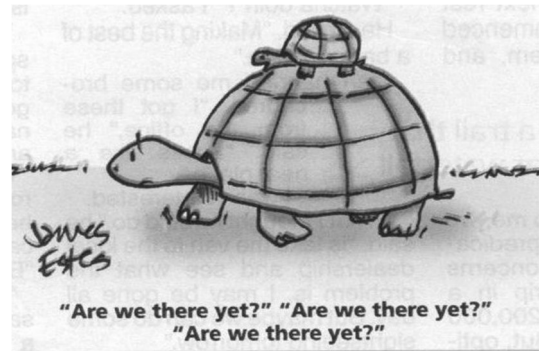
Please read the newsletter closely, we have events already scheduled and ask that you get these dates on your calendars.

I have resurrected the Wild Wild West theme for the upcoming year – with a Return to Deadwood. Time to dust off your cowboy boots.

I know it is a little but I want to wish all of you a very blessed holiday and a Happy New Year.

If you need assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

HL Mary Schultz  
Grand Royal Matron



## **Message from S.K. Robert Miksch, GRP**

Honored Ladies and Sir Knights,

We survived another Grand Court, and I am truly honored to be your Grand Royal Patron again. Remember you voted for me – no one to blame but yourselves mua'hahahahaha. I am looking forward to working with HL Mary and the rest of the officers. We have a tough year ahead of us. We are a small Court, and it will take ALL OF US to make our Court survive. HL Mary has many ideas to get us on track and I am excited to see how we grow.

Make sure you stay nice and warm in the coming months.

Not much more to say for this newsletter.

This is about where I would stick a joke, however I will continue to place the joke(s) in the Humor column, so look for some good and some not so good jokes there. I challenge anyone to also supply a joke to HL Mary for the Humor column (we could use some "better" jokes ~grin~).

Until the next time, keep safe!

SK Robert Miksch  
Grand Royal Patron

### **Message from H.L. Mary Lubach, GAM**

I would like to thank Grand Court for electing me to Grand Associate Matron. This will be a busy year and I hope everyone can join in the fun activities that HL Mary Schultz and SK Bob Miksch have planned. I know I always look forward to the Delafield Brewhaus.

Congratulations to HL Amanda Grunewald and SK Jamison Kifer on a Great Grand Court. You did an awesome job and we had fun.

Congratulations to SK Dale Holmen on his appointment as Supreme Sentinel. Looking forward to seeing everyone along the Amaranth trail.

H.L. Mary Lubach Grand Associate Matron.

### **Message from S.K. Dale Holmen, GAP**

Fall is here and our Grand Court is history for another year. For those that were present, it was well-run and a fun few days in the Dells. It is always nice to meet

up with friends of old and friends of new. We are now off to a new adventure in the old west.

I had the privilege to go to the West again this year with HL Mary Lubach and we are looking forward to an exciting year for sure. I am working on a special project for the year, so keep looking for more details that will be coming.

In our Courts, it is time for installation of officers and the moving into a new year. If you need any help, feel free to ask and if at all possible, I will try to attend and be of whatever assistance needed.

Looking forward, it is hard to believe that we are approaching the holiday season in our life. I wish you and your families the happiest of all holidays where ever you may be.

Peace and Love to everyone.

Dale Holmen

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

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Grand Court of Wisconsin membership for the trust and faith you have in me as your newly elected Grand Conductress. I look forward to what the 2023-2024 year brings for us all. I do hope to see you over the coming months but if our paths do not cross, enjoy the upcoming holiday season.

#### **Four Seasons – Unknown**

Winter, Spring, Summer, or Fall,  
What is your favorite season of all?

Winter has holiday sheer and bright white snow,  
Spring with flowers to plant and grass to mow,

Summer days are hot, lazy, and carefree,  
Fall's beautiful colors are falling gently from the tree.

When Fall is over and Winter is here,  
It starts all over for another year!

Michelle Varelas,  
Grand Conductress

**Message from  
H.L. Christin Kifer, GAC**

Happy Fall!! This is my favorite time of year!! I hope everyone had a great time at Grand Court! We are getting ready for Installation of officers at all of our courts! I look forward to trying to attend as many as possible and helping our new officers celebrate a new year with Amaranth.

I thank all the members of WI Grand Court for electing me as Grand Associate Conductress and I will need lots of love and support on this journey. I am really looking forward to the coming years and working with all the grand officers in continuing to make Amaranth an amazing organization!

Stay healthy and warm as we head into the holiday season, and I hope everyone has an amazing end of the year!

With Amaranth Love,  
H.L. Christin Kifer  
Grand Associate Conductress

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

Milwaukee Court is holding their annual Installation of Officers on Monday, November 6, 2023 at 7:00 pm during a closed meeting. Royal Matron Marcia Earl and Royal Patron A. Gene Haas will once again be installed in their respective stations for next year along with the other officers of Milwaukee Court. There will be refreshments served after the meeting. All members of Amaranth are invited!

Our December meeting will be held on Monday, December 4, at 7:00 pm. We will celebrate the holidays by wearing our favorite ugly holiday sweater or if you prefer, you can wear your nice Christmas sweater.

We are dark in January and February. Stay safe and warm until we meet again in March 2024.

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

Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Racine Laurel Court will be having our stated meeting at 2:00 pm with an open installation at 3:30 pm.

Friday, December 10, 2023 – Supper at 6:00 pm; stated meeting at 7:00 pm.

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's installation will be on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be the usual brunch at 9 am, with the meeting to follow at 10. Installation immediately following the meeting.

December 2<sup>nd</sup> is our Christmas meeting. Looking forward to seeing everyone's Christmas finery! Come join us for this special time.

We do not have actual meetings in January and February. However, we join each other for brunch at Dairyland Restaurant on the first Saturday of each month at 9 am. We welcome those who would like to join us. Just let me know, as we do have to make reservations.

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

Happy fall y'all!! I hope everyone is enjoying this fall weather and watching the leaves turn! Grand Court is over, and another successful session is in the books. Congratulations to S.K. Jamison and H.L. Amanda on your year and I think we successfully defied gravity. To all the new officers, congratulations!! Friendship Court is looking forward to seeing what fun things are planned for the Wild Wild West: Return to Deadwood!

Our November meeting will be held on the 11<sup>th</sup>, and this will be our installation! We will have a potluck dinner at 6pm and meeting and installation at 7pm. Since almost everyone is not changing positions or has done their positions before we will be doing our installation during our meeting. We look forward to having you there as guests and celebrating a new Grand Court year with Friendship Court!

December 9<sup>th</sup> is our last meeting of the year. We will be doing a holiday potluck at 6pm and meeting at 7pm. Wearing your holiday sweaters and share your holiday traditions to celebrate the end of the year!

January we are dark, but we are hoping to have some social events with Fond du Lac lodge and the Fond du Lac Eastern Star to share our Order and have some fun!

We hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season and stays safe and warm as we head into the colder weather. We will see you on the Amaranth trail!!  
With Amaranth Love,

H.L. Christin Kifer  
Royal Matron

S.K. LeRoy Kifer  
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.

Deadline for the next newsletter is January 21, 2024, to cover the months of February, March and April 2024.



**You are cordially invited  
to attend the  
Installation of Officers at  
Friendship Court No. 14  
Fond du Lac, WI  
Saturday Nov. 11, 2023  
Potluck Dinner 6:00 PM  
Meeting at 7:00 PM  
Closed Installation during our  
meeting**

**HL Christin Kifer, RM Elect  
SK LeRoy Kifer, RP Elect**



**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](mailto: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.

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**

Thank you to all who supported the projects this past year for Diabetes. Grand Court of Wisconsin raised \$11,971.30. This total included the final payout of HL Lila and SK Dale's year of \$2421.46. Congratulations to Wisconsin.

Letters to Santa are back. Application is attached to this newsletter or may be found on the Grand Court Website.

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

Please contact me if you have any questions at [greeneyesgerman@wi.rr.com](mailto: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  
9:30 am**

**Or Saturday, February 24, 2024  
Snow date**

## **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](http://www.wintergreen-resort.com)

Check out our Website:

[www.wisconsinamaranth.org](http://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, May 4, 2024
Friendship Court #14	Saturday, April 13, 2024

### **Humor Corner**

**From Bob Miksch**

Garden Snakes can be Dangerous.

Snakes also known as Garter Snakes (Thamnophis sirtalis) can be dangerous. Yes, grass snakes, not rattlesnakes. Here's why.

A couple in Sweetwater, Texas, had a lot of potted plants. During a recent cold spell, the wife was bringing a lot of them indoors to protect them from a possible freeze.

It turned out that a little green garden grass snake was hidden in one of the plants. When it had warmed up, it slithered out and the wife saw it go under the sofa.

She let out a very loud scream..

The husband (who was taking a shower) ran out into the living room naked to see what the problem was. She told him there was a snake under the sofa.

He got down on the floor on his hands and knees to look for it. About that time the family dog came and cold-nosed him on the behind. He thought the snake had bitten him, so he screamed and fell on the floor.

His wife thought he had had a heart attack, so she covered him up, told him to lie still and called an ambulance.

The attendants rushed in, would not listen to his protests, loaded him on the stretcher, and started carrying him out.

About that time, the snake came out from under the sofa and the Emergency Medical Technician saw it and dropped his end of the stretcher. That's when the man broke his leg and why he is still in the hospital.

The wife still had the problem of the snake in the house, so she called on a neighbor who volunteered to capture the snake. He armed himself with a rolled-up newspaper and began poking under the couch.. Soon he decided it was gone and told the woman, who sat down on the sofa in relief.

But while relaxing, her hand dangled in between the cushions, where she felt the snake wriggling around. She screamed and fainted, the snake rushed back under the sofa.

The neighbor man, seeing her lying there passed out, tried to use CPR to revive her.

The neighbor's wife, who had just returned from shopping at the grocery store, saw her husband's mouth on the woman's mouth and slammed her husband in the back of the head with a bag of canned goods, knocking him out and cutting his scalp to a point where it needed stitches.

The noise woke the woman from her dead faint and she saw her neighbor lying on the floor with his wife bending over him, so she assumed that the snake had bitten him. She went to the kitchen and got a small bottle of whiskey, and began pouring it down the man's throat.

By now, the police had arrived. They saw the unconscious man, smelled the whiskey, and assumed that a drunken fight had occurred. They were about to arrest them all, when the women tried to explain how it all happened over a little garden snake!

The police called an ambulance, which took away the neighbor and his sobbing wife.

Now, the little snake again crawled out from under the sofa and one of the policemen drew his gun and fired at it. He missed the snake and hit the leg of the end table. The table fell over, the lamp on it shattered and, as the bulb broke, it started a fire in the drapes.

The other policeman tried to beat out the flames, and fell through the window into the yard on top of the family dog who, startled, jumped out and raced into the street, where an oncoming car swerved to avoid it and smashed into the parked police car.

Meanwhile, neighbors saw the burning drapes and called in the fire department. The firemen had started raising the fire ladder when they were halfway down the street. The rising ladder tore out the overhead wires, put out the power, and disconnected the

telephones in a ten-square city block area (but they did get the house fire out).

Time passed! Both men were discharged from the hospital, the house was repaired, the dog came home, the police acquired a new car and all was right with their world.

A while later they were watching TV and the weatherman announced a cold snap for that night. The wife asked her husband if he thought they should bring in their plants for the night.

And that's when he shot her.

### **From Judy Emerson:**

WHAT DID EYORE SAY WHEN HE WAS CONSTIPATED? NOTHING. HE JUST WHINNIED THEN POOHED.

### **Jokes from Culvers:**

What do you call a dog who loves Culver's?

A Butterbarker

What's a Pirate's favorite type of cheese?

Chedd-ARRR

What do cheese curds say when they smile?

Human!

What do you call a curd that's been asked a lot of questions?

A grilled cheese!

# Notes from your Grand Secretary



Thank you all for the confidence in electing me as your Grand Secretary for this, our 74<sup>th</sup> year as a Grand Court! I will do my utmost to do the job justice and fill the shoes of those who have sat in this position before me. Please feel free to contact me with any questions that I can possibly assist in answering.

The 74<sup>th</sup> Grand Court Session will be held once again at the Wintergreen Conference Center in Wisconsin Dells on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, & 12<sup>th</sup> of 2024. Before leaving the 73<sup>rd</sup> Session, we did find a Sir Knights sword sling after the Installation and it is in my possession, if you know who it belongs to, please let me know! It was great to see you for this “Defying Gravity” Session and I hope to see you all throughout this year leading up to the “Return to Deadwood” Session in 2024. Congratulations to the newly installed Officers of the Grand Court and the subordinate Courts. You will all do amazing things!

If you have any updated contact details, please make sure to inform your Court Secretary as they need to have this for the directory and for all other purposes. If you need to reach me personally, please send a message to: [wiamgsec@gmail.com](mailto:wiamgsec@gmail.com) as that is the easiest way to contact the Grand Secretary. As soon as I have received your message, I will do my best to reply. You can also send me a letter to: 2200 Antelope Trail, Kaukauna, WI 54130-4568.

Have a wonderful Holiday season and Happy New Year!!!

Until we meet again,

*S.K. Jamison E. Kifer, PQRP*

*Grand Secretary*







# Letters from Santa Order Form

Amaranth  
Diabetes  
Foundation

Individual's name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address

\_\_\_\_\_

City

State

Zip

Good Deed:

\_\_\_\_\_

Accomplishments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to have more specific information included in your letter, please write it here:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Order forms and \$10 donation per letter must be submitted to Mary Schultz at 9170 South 41 Street, Franklin, WI 53132-8615 by December 12, 2023. Cash or checks made payable Grand Court of Wisconsin, O of A, write in memo: Diabetes.