



**HL Susan Bay, Grand Royal Matron**  
**SK Bill Duncan, Grand Royal Patron**

## Grand Court of BC – Newsletter February 2018

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### Note from the Editor, HL Shari Gillies

Please feel free to call, email or text me with or for more information.

HL Shari Gillies, [gillies@shaw.ca](mailto:gillies@shaw.ca) or call 778-834-8860



**In a nut shell**  
**Dates of Note:**



**COURT MEETINGS**

Fri, Mar 2, 2018	Mizpah Ct
Sat, Mar 3, 2018	Sequoia Ct
Sat, Mar 10, 2018	Cypress Ct
Tues, Mar 20, 2018	Dogwood
Wed, Mar, 28, 2018	Tulip Ct, WA

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

Thu, March 1, 2018	Grand Court of BC
Thu, March 8, 2018	Grand Court of Oregon
Thu, March 15, 2018	Grand Court of Washington

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT THE FUND RAISER FLYERS AT THE END**

**NOTES FROM THE GRAND OFFICERS**

**Grand Royal Matron, HL Susan**

Inside the Carpet Bag....

The time has come to pack my carpet bag, hang up my hat and return from whence I came.

This past year has flown by fast to say the least. It has been a most rewarding journey in many ways and has given me many happy memories that I will treasure always.



We have all been extremely fortunate to see much growth in our Order and I can only hope this trend will continue for years to come.

SK Bill and I have done our best to extend our Amaranth hand of friendship to all we met and we were given many opportunities from other concordant bodies to educate others and share our love for the Order of the Amaranth.

I am so very proud of each and every one of you and extremely grateful for your dedication to our Order. Without all your willingness and hard work this past year our events and fundraising projects would never have been as successful as they were.

Thank you all for my many memories and a "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" year. You are the BEST!



Grand Royal Matron

## Grand Royal Patron, SK Bill



Honoured Ladies and Sir Knights, we are well into our final week before Grand Court, and it's snowing. It's a winter wonderland outside. What a wonderful way to finish off the year.

I would like to thank our Grand Royal Matron, Honoured Lady Susan for giving me the opportunity to represent our Grand Court with her at many functions within and outside our jurisdiction this year. I think we had a very pleasant and productive year.

I would also like to thank all the Honoured Ladies and Sir Knights of BC for the wonderful support we received this year. We couldn't have done it without you. I hope you had as much fun as I did. Thank you for a great year.

I hope to see all of you at the Grand Court Sessions coming up on March 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup>. I'm looking forward to a very enjoyable weekend.

Sir Knight Bill Duncan  
Grand Royal Patron

## Grand Associate Matron, HL Donna-Lee And Grand Associate Patron, SK John



As the 2017 – 2018 year draws to a close and Grand Court is almost upon us, we congratulate HL Susan and Bill for a very successful year.

We look forward to serving this jurisdiction in the upcoming year. There will be elected positions coming open at Grand Court, so please consider letting your name stand to help serve Grand Court.

We had our final Ways & Means event at Mr. Ho's on Sunday and my fortune cookie said next month was going to be hectic, yet delightful. Do you think they saved it for us?

We would love to have as many of you as possible travel with us on our upcoming adventures. We hope to have a Rockin' Good Time next year.

HL Donna-Lee McMurchie, Grand Associate Matron

SK John McMurchie, Grand Associate Patron



## Diabetes Coordinator, HL Phyllis



### DIABETES REPORT

As reported just after our Golf Tournament in June, we made \$13,915 that went directly to BC Diabetes Research. I know that fun, good friends and good food helped to make for such good results.



I thank all those who helped and most of all my thanks to Joey and Len Gibbons. This has been a big project for them and we will be forever grateful.

I am sorry to report that, due to health issues, Joey and Len are no longer able to organize further golf tournaments. With their help over the past 10 years and adding donations from our Courts and individual members we have donated approximately \$200,000 to BC Diabetic Research.

We look forward to and will support the new Grand Court Diabetes Committee in whatever project(s) they choose.

### Thoughts from a member HL Shari Gillies, PGRM

Just to clarify my title of PGRM – first I am a member – there is no second – I'm still and only a member and all of the offices and titles I have held are in the past.

I have been a member of this Order since 1994. I have lifelong friends from this association and treasure them immensely. They have helped me through some of the most trying times of my life – divorce, death of family and friends. I don't know how I would have survived without you. My membership is really important to me and I'm worried...

I know that the majority of the non-participating members are older. I truly admire the fact that they are still willing to pay their dues, which certainly helps the Courts financially, even when they are no longer able to participate actively. But what has happened to those able-bodied members who no longer choose to join us for a meeting, fun night or dinner?

There is a lot of speculation on why folks are initiated and then we don't see them again; or they participate for a short time and then they seem to disappear. We have lost so many members, some due to thoughtless remarks, disagreements in the Court room, or for some the Order is just not their cup of tea. We may never know all the reasons but we must react to the obvious ones.

We must keep those remarks and disagreements to ourselves. The folks who join us must be allowed to see the positive side of belonging – the friendship, camaraderie and support – and not be subjected to personality conflicts, off-hand remarks about or to others such as the appropriateness of their attire, whether their ritual was spot on or some other negative, hurtful comment.

We are supposed to be a benevolent organization for the betterment of women, specifically, and mankind generally. We enjoy the fact we have Masons as members as they provide another aspect of our purpose. And on the flip side of that they receive insight to the feminine half of the population.

For me membership has been a learning and positive experience for the most part. Unfortunately some of the learning has not come from a positive experience, though it has given me some tools for dealing with difficult situations.

The social time after a meeting is supposed to be a time to get to know our fellow members better, to find out what is happening in people's lives, to share, to have some fun. It's counter-productive to exchange whispered comments about others, voice negative feelings about some event or the Order in general. It's so much more enlightening to find the positive side of someone you may have difficulty with, find a solution to the problem encountered at an event or work on making the Order the best it can be.

Hey, I may joke about being 'perfect' when in reality I'm well aware of my own not so positive traits and the errors I have made and continue to make. I have held on to bad feelings and at times felt helpless to change that. I do hope that being aware of my faults is the road to being a better person eventually.

So let's all take a good hard look at ourselves and see what we can change. Let's be kind, be nice, smile a lot, send out good vibes, call someone who hasn't been to a meeting for a long time and find out why, participate in the fund raising efforts of our subordinate Courts and our Grand Court.

All of us would like to see this Order grow but it's not going to happen if we lose members as fast as we gain them.

The Grand Court of BC, Order of the Amaranth presents...

Fill Yer Freezer!!!

Git Yer tickets for a chance to win a Hind ¼ pack of Canadian Beef.

No ropin' or tyin' required!!

**Draw Date March 2, 2018**

Your winning ticket will get you 30 pounds of beef to include: 3# (that's pounds) each of T-bone steak, sirloin tip roast, stewing beef, lean ground beef, round steak, NY striploin steak, 2# each of sirloin steak, beef sausage, beef burger patties, Maui beef, and 4# baron beef roast. (Substitutions are available.) Please allow 1 – 3 days for your order to be ready. You will be called for pickup.

Freezer Pack Facts:

- Always fresh – freezer packs are created with high quality fresh meats; nothing is previously frozen
- Custom wrapping – every item is wrapped in pack sizes to suit your needs
- Lasts longer in the freezer – wrapped with wax coated freezer paper for prolonged freshness and avoid freezer burn

**Tickets: \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00 eTransfers are welcome. For more info/tickets: Contact Shari 604-463-8860 or [gilliess@shaw.ca](mailto:gilliess@shaw.ca)**

# Check out -- SHOP AND SUPPORT!!!

[FundScripBC@gmail.com](mailto:FundScripBC@gmail.com)

Slightly different format but the same fund raiser...Please go to the website for details on how it works. Or contact our GRM for additional information.



[FundScripBC@gmail.com](mailto:FundScripBC@gmail.com)

1

## Buy \$100, Get \$100

Buy cards at face value, get face value at the retailers - you lose nothing



2

## Shop As Usual

With cards from over 180 leading retailers, there's no need to change your shopping habits



3

## Pay With Gift Cards

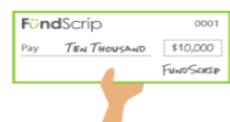
Pay with gift cards instead of credit/debit/cash for your everyday items & gifts



4

## Generate Earnings

Each purchase generates earnings for your group that can quickly add up over time



Be the first to have an  
Amaranth and/or  
Masonic Ball Cap -  
\$15.00



These hats are black only (as shown) with a full back.



Call or email your order soon  
to receive them at B.C.  
Grand Court.

Contact John or Donna-Lee McMurchie  
604-953-0511 or [bcgrm2018@gmail.com](mailto:bcgrm2018@gmail.com)

# FUN IN ACAPULCO

A Mexican Themed Dinner Event  
The Grand Court of BC  
Order of the Amaranth  
Invites you to our theme event.



Saturday, May 19, 2018  
6:00 pm Getting to know you  
7:00 pm Dinner  
Prince David Masonic Hall  
22272 116 Avenue  
Maple Ridge, BC

**\$30 per person**



Find your inner Elvis or come dressed in your favourite serape and sombrero. Enjoy a buffet dinner of a variety of Mexican dishes.

RSVP: by Friday, May 12, 2018  
Shari Gillies—604-463-8860 or [gillies@shaw.ca](mailto:gillies@shaw.ca)