



**HL Donna-Lee McMurchie, Grand Royal Matron**  
**SK John McMurchie, Grand Royal Patron**

**Grand Court of BC – Newsletter**  
**October 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.

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**ALWAYS looking for articles, fundraising flyers, fun events notices, etc. Tell us about your travels, your successes, your meetings. We would love to hear from you.**

**Deadline for submissions for the next newsletter –NOVEMBER 14!!**

Thanks to all who advised me of my typos in the last newsletter.

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



**COURT MEETINGS**

Wed, Oct 24, 2018  
Fri, Nov 2, 2018  
Sat, Nov 3, 2018  
Sat, Nov 10, 2018  
Tue, Nov 20, 2018  
Wed, Nov 28, 2018  
Sat, Dec 15, 2018

Tulip Court *GRM Official Visit*  
Mizpah Court  
Sequoia Court  
Cypress Court  
Dogwood Court  
Tulip Court  
Mizpah Court

*GRM Official Visit*  
*GRM Official Visit*



**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**SAVE / REMEMBER THE DATE**

Mon, Oct 29, 2018 Dogwood Court Bowling  
Sat, Nov 3, 2018 Sequoia Court Annual Murder  
Mystery Dinner  
Sat, Nov 17, 2018 Cypress Meat Draw  
Sat, Jan 19 Sequoia Trivia Night  
Sat, Jan 26, 2019 Grand Court Robbie Burns  
Dinner  
Fri, Feb 8, 2019 Sequoia Court Casino Night

Save the date for Sequoia Court's  
3<sup>rd</sup> Annual **Murder Mystery Dinner**  
on Saturday November 3<sup>rd</sup>, following  
an early meeting of our Court.

Details will follow shortly and tickets  
will be available soon.

Don't miss out on what is sure to be  
a spectacular event!



*"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old,  
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn,  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
We shall remember them"*

**Sunday, November 11**

## **Why Wear a Poppy**

by Don Crawford

"Please wear a poppy," the lady said,  
And held one forth, but I shook my head.  
Then I stopped and watched as she offered  
them there,  
And her face was old and lined with care;  
But beneath the scars the years had made  
There remained a smile that refused to fade.  
A boy came whistling down the street,  
Bouncing along on care-free feet.  
His smile was full of joy and fun,  
"Lady," said he, "may I have one?"  
When she'd pinned it on, he turned to say;  
"Why do we wear a poppy today?"  
The lady smiled in her wistful way  
And answered; "This is Remembrance Day.  
And the poppy there is a symbol for  
The gallant men who died in war.  
And because they did, you and I are free –  
That's why we wear a poppy, you see.  
I had a boy about your size,  
With golden hair and big blue eyes.  
He loved to play and jump and shout,  
Free as a bird, he would race about.  
As the years went by, he learned and grew,  
And became a man – as you will, too.  
He was fine and strong, with a boyish smile,  
But he'd seemed with us such a little while  
When war broke out and he went away.  
I still remember his face that day.

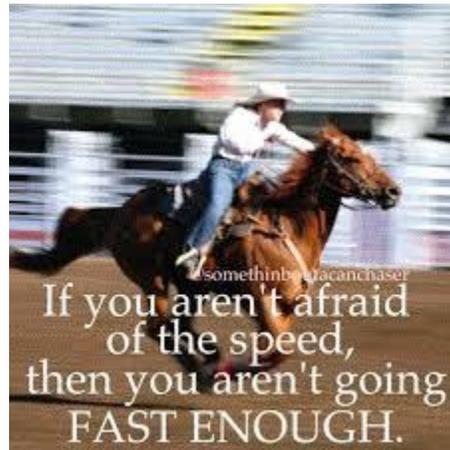
When he smiled at me and said, 'Goodbye,  
I'll be back soon, Mum, please don't cry.'  
But the war went on and he had to stay,  
And all I could do was wait and pray.

His letters told of the awful fight  
(I can see it still in my dreams at night),  
With the tanks and guns and cruel barbed wire,  
And the mines and bullets, the bombs and fire.

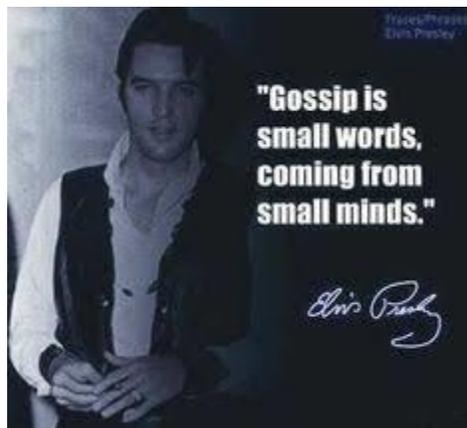
Till at last, at last, the war was won –  
And that's why we wear a poppy, son."  
The small boy turned as if to go,  
Then said, "Thanks, lady, I'm glad to know.  
That sure did sound like an awful fight  
But your son – did he come back all right?"  
A tear rolled down each faded cheek;  
She shook her head, but didn't speak  
I slunk away in a sort of shame,  
And if you were me, you'd have done the  
same:

For our thanks, in giving, if oft delayed,  
Though our freedom was bought – and  
thousands paid!  
And so, when we see a poppy worn,  
Let us reflect on the burden borne  
By those who gave their very all  
When asked to answer their country's call  
That we at home in peace might live.  
Then wear a poppy! Remember – and Give!

# HORSE SENSE



## *Elvis & Friends* QUOTES



## NOTES FROM THE GRAND OFFICERS

Grand Royal Matron, HL Donna-Lee  
Grand Royal Patron, SK John



Having just returned from Idaho Grand Court, seven BC members were there to witness HL Billie Reed installed as Grand Royal Matron for the second time. Her theme was “Second Hand Rose” and her dress and train were beautiful second-hand items that cost just over \$20.

It was nice having the baby of our Grand Line travelling with us and we hope that HL Carolina had a great time. The entire Supreme Line was in attendance, so HL Carolina was able to be introduced to her Supreme Mom.

While at Idaho Grand Court it was mentioned that our year was half over, so HL Kathryn that means you and SK Robert have less than 6 months till you take over, not meaning to scare you.

Cypress Court had their Official visit on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, and had a pot luck dinner beforehand. It was a very nice night of visiting, and the cake for the Grand Royal Matron and Grand Royal Patron was a very special one. A huge thank you to HL Julianne for the cake.



Next month we will be travelling to Albuquerque, New Mexico for their Grand Court. We have never been to New Mexico, so we are looking forward to this new adventure. Our Official Visit to Dogwood is on Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, and we hope that many of you are able to join us.

### Some Thoughts!

HL Kathy Stutt, DSRM

Idaho has always been one of those Grand Courts I didn't want to miss. It's not that it was anything super-duper or out of the ordinary (other than the huge potato and equally enormous onion); It just always made you feel good when you attended.

Well, due to family illness, deaths, a wedding and other commitments it had been 7 years since I was able to attend Idaho Grand Court. I attended this year with HLs Shari, Phyllis, Karen Yo, Carolina and our GRM, HL Donna-Lee and GRP, SK John.

I was thrilled to be greeted by people I had not seen for quite some time; it was just like old home week!



GRM, HL Frankie and GRP, SK Norm ran an excellent session and handled all business in a quick and timely manner. HL Billie Reed was installed as GRM almost exactly 28 years to the day from the last time she held the position. She was joined by SK Dowell, another repeat performer.

Idaho is a small jurisdiction, as we are; many people hold positions they have held many time before. They do this graciously and without hesitation. They want to keep their Grand Court going!!

Recycling “Old Has Beens” may not be ideal, but sometimes this is the only option – OOPS! – not calling HL Billie an Old Has Been; just referring to the filling of positions in general!!!!

On this trip I reflected on what Amaranth does for me. It gives me social contact; an opportunity to meet people I otherwise would never meet. Travel is another perk of Amaranth; visiting various Grand Courts adds another level of social contacts and widens my friendship circle.



But perhaps the most important part is the chance to make a difference, even just a small one, but still a difference; sometimes small differences become big change. And those differences or changes can come in our local meetings or in our efforts to help find a cure for diabetes.

As members we have to decide WHY we attend Amaranth. We need to reread our ritual and understand the obligation we took when we stood before the altar. It is sometimes difficult to overcome personalities in a group, but for the good of our Order perhaps it is time for all of us to put aside our egos and do what is best for the Order.

Leave your differences outside the court room door and enter so that peace and harmony may prevail. Our Amaranth time should and can be special; let's put our time in our meeting to the best possible use – friendship, camaraderie, social advancement and encouragement to each other.

## Where are the Supremes?

HL Pat Haywood, PGRM



I was just looking on the Supreme Council website and see that our SRM and SRP are busy in the next little while. In October they are in Idaho, Kansas, Wisconsin, Illinois, Maine, West Virginia, North Carolina and to General Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star in Florida. In early November it's off to Inverness and Aberdeen in Scotland, New Mexico, Alabama, Minnesota and Nevada. This year they headed down under in September instead of the usual November time, giving them the opportunity to celebrate Thanksgiving at home with family, which is really important to all of us. In March the SRM and SRP will be visiting our Grand Court Session in Abbotsford.

DID YOU KNOW? The two Canadian Supreme Royal Matrons came from Ontario, HL Olive Avery (1991–1992) and HL Lillian Worton (2011-2012). The two Canadian Supreme Royal Patrons came from British Columbia, SK Donald Yerxa (1983-1984) and SK David Cook ((1987-1988). We also have had a Supreme Royal Matron from the Philippines, HL Elizabeth J. Araneta (1983-1984) and New South Wales, HL Joan Foran (1987-1988). This is truly an International Order.



Also of interest – the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation is a recognized partner of the American Diabetes Association. Since 1979 it has donated in excess of \$16 million. All

funds raised in British Columbia are donated to the Diabetes Canada which was founded by Charles H. Best.

## Introducing “Maggie”

HL Leslie Greene



There is a new face in Dogwood Court. She is unofficial and off the books. She won't take office or wear a dress. In fact, she refuses to wear anything at all...a visual feast not helped by the fact that she also doesn't shave her legs. I'd like you all to meet Maggie – my support dog.

Maggie is a 3 ½ year old Cavachon – a 50/50 cross of Bichon Frise and Cavalier King Charles Spaniel. She is very sweet and she adores people – although technically on-duty while we're out, there's nothing she loves more than getting a friendly pat. And far be it from me to get in the way of her being adored!

Many of you know that I've returned to BC due to a disability that has had me off work since April of 2014. What I don't talk about is the severe anxiety I deal with daily. It's a side-effect of the medications I have to take, and is further hampered by the isolation of being off work for so long, etc. The anxiety affects my concentration and memory, which has been a huge problem for me at Amaranth as the two then feed off each other – the worse my concentration is, the worse my anxiety becomes, and so on.

A support dog is different than a service dog, in that they receive no particular training – her role is simply to act as a calming, stabilizing influence for me. While my particular health problems entitle me to a certified service dog, I choose not to have one. First, I already have a dog – I don't want another and I know Maggie wouldn't want me to have another. Second, a fully-trained dog is mostly wasted on me. Third, service dogs don't belong to the people they serve and can be taken back at any time. None of that works for me. There are owner-trained service dogs and that was our plan when we purchased Maggie. But then she was attacked by another dog while still a puppy, and no longer has the ability to pass the certification test (which includes sitting and remaining seated when approached by another dog) without extensive outside training. So we are content with her current status. I carry a letter that identifies Maggie as a prescribed support dog and describes the role she plays, as well as documents that show my medical diagnosis and recognition as a disabled person. I usually carry her in an open, front-facing knapsack, and I find that most businesses are extremely understanding about her presence.

These days, I don't leave my house very often without either Maggie or a family member, and Mom and I spent a long time discussing whether or not we should try introducing her to Amaranth. We weren't sure she could remain quiet and still for the length of a meeting – especially when I'm away from my seat, doing floor-work. But it became a matter of having Maggie with me or leaving Amaranth, and so she donned her glittery pumpkin collar and made her debut at Dogwood's October meeting. I felt she did beautifully – for her first experience, I don't think any trained service dog could have done better. I was very proud of my girl, and I think that she will be a loyal friend and member as we continue back up the line – together, this time!

# SEQUOIA COURT #15



Did  
you  
know?

## TRIVIA NIGHT

**SATURDAY JANUARY 19 2019**

**730PM—\$15.00 PER PERSON**

**WHITE ROCK MASONIC HALL**

**15302 PACIFIC AVE WHITE ROCK**

Come join us for some fun

And friendship. Beer , Wine,

Soft Drinks Available to purchase.

For More Information or tickets

Email [seq15sec@telus.net](mailto:seq15sec@telus.net) or call

Kevin FitzGerald 778-886-7318

Stacey Kumar 604-837-1165



SEQUOIA COURT NOW ACCEPTS THE  
FOLLOWING CREDIT CARDS FOR A

3% SERVICE FEE





## CYPRESS COURT #5 PIES & COOKIES FUNDRAISER

| PRICE LIST                                       |             |                               |        |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| 9" GOURMET PIES                                  |             | GOURMET COOKIES               |        |
| FRUIT PIES - UNBAKED                             |             | FROZEN PUCKS                  |        |
| 1300 g. EACH                                     |             | 1 oz. EACH                    |        |
|                                                  | Each        |                               | Each   |
| Apple Pie                                        | \$15.00     | Chocolate Chips               | \$6.00 |
| Apple Caramel Crumble Pie                        | \$15.00     | Chocolate Coconut Truffle     | \$6.00 |
| Blackberry Pie <i>(While supplies last)</i>      | \$15.00     | English Toffee                | \$6.00 |
| Blueberry Pie                                    | \$15.00     | Macadamia Chocolate           | \$8.00 |
| Blueberry & Peach Pie                            | \$15.00     | Oatmeal Chocolate Chips       | \$6.00 |
| Royal Cherry Pie <i>(While supplies last)</i>    | \$15.00     | Oatmeal Raisin                | \$6.00 |
| Peach Pie                                        | \$15.00     | Peanut Butter Chocolate Chips | \$6.00 |
| Pumpkin Pie 1100 Grams                           | \$12.00     | Shortbread                    | \$8.00 |
| Raspberry Peach Pie <i>(While supplies last)</i> | \$15.00     | Rainbow Candy                 | \$6.00 |
| Razzleberry Pie <i>(While supplies last)</i>     | \$15.00     | White Chocolate Chunks        | \$6.00 |
| Pie Shells (6 shells/box)                        | \$8.10/ box |                               |        |

**All pies are 9" deep dish pans, 1300 grams in size, and unbaked.**

### BAKING INSTRUCTIONS

**Pies:** Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. (350 degrees F. convection oven). DO NOT thaw pies. Whip an egg and brush the top of the pie. Place pie on baking sheet, then place it on the middle oven rack (about 6 inches from bottom) baking time is approximately 50-55 minutes (60-65 for apple). Look for good coloring and a little bubbling of the filling. Let pie sit for at least 2 hours to cool before slicing it.

**Cookies:** Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. DO NOT thaw cookies. Place on cookie sheet, place sheet on middle rack and bake for about 10-12 minutes. Do not over bake. Cool for about 20 minutes before eating. Should be soft and chewy for best taste.

### ALLERGY ALERT

Despite all our precautions, trace of nuts may be present in our products as peanuts, macadamias and pecans are used in our facilities.



## BC Order of the Amaranth Winter Fundraising Program

This winter the Order of the Amaranth in British Columbia is selling beautiful, locally grown Poinsettias, Holiday Planters and wreaths to help raise money for our special charities and programs.

We hope that you will see something you like and help support our efforts by sharing with your friends, family and neighbors and by placing an order with us through our fundraising website:

<https://orderofthamaranth.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home>

Please let us know if you have any questions by emailing us at:

[GCGrowingSmiles@shaw.ca](mailto:GCGrowingSmiles@shaw.ca)

We thank you in advance for your support! We couldn't do this without you!

On Behalf of,

GC Ways & Means

## STILL AVAILABLE

Join those who  
already proudly wear  
an Amaranth and/or  
Masonic Ball Cap -  
\$15.00 each



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



Call or email your order to  
HL Donna-Lee  
or  
SK John

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

**Just for Fun   Just for Fun   Just for Fun   Just for Fun**

As I get older I realize:

I talk to myself, because sometimes I need expert advice.

Sometimes I roll my eyes out loud.

I don't need anger management. I need people to stop ticking me off.

My people skills are just fine. It's my tolerance of idiots that needs work.

The biggest lie I tell myself is, "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."

When I was a child I thought naptime was punishment. Now it's like a mini-vacation.

The day the world runs out of wine is just too terrifying to think about.

Even duct tape can't fix stupid, but it can muffle the sound.

Wouldn't it be great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for 10 minutes; come out wrinkle free and three sizes smaller?

"Getting Lucky" means walking into a room and remembering why I'm there.

Isn't getting older fun???!!!

Good Friend signs

They are thoughtful and considerate

They show support during stressful times

They are respectful of your boundaries

They are a good listener

They do not give you unsolicited advice

They are not controlling

They always encourage you

They are trustworthy and honest

They are very dependable

They are fun to be around

They love you in spite of your flaws.