



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

Grand Court of BC – Newsletter
February 2019

Contact Information:

HL Donna-Lee McMurchie, GRM

16761 108A Ave, Surrey, BC V4N 5H6

604-953-0511

dmcurchie@shaw.ca bcqrm2018@gmail.com

SK John McMurchie, GRP

16761 108A Ave, Surrey, BC V4N 5H6

604-953-0511

jmcmurchie@shaw.ca

SK Kevin FitzGerald, Grand Secretary
#305 – 7155 Hall Rd, Surrey, BC V3W 4X4
amaranth.bc@shaw.ca

Note from the Editor, HL Shari Gillies

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

HL Shari Gillies, kinicki1949may@gmail.com or call 778-834-8860



To the Court Secretaries – please help by providing full information for your events.

Deadline for submissions for the next newsletter – March 5, 2019

Bylaws approved by Supreme are available in the Members Only section of the web site – amaranthbc.ca

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



COURT MEETINGS



Fri, Feb 1, 2019	Mizpah Court
Sat, Feb 2, 2019	Sequoia Court
Sat, Feb 9, 2019	Cypress Court
Tues, Feb 19, 2019	Dogwood Court
Wed, Feb 27, 2019	Tulip Court
Fri, Mar 1, 2019	Mizpah Court
Sat, Mar 9, 2019	Cypress Court
Mon, Mar 11, 2019	Sequoia Court – note date change
Tue, Mar 19, 2019	Dogwood Court
Wed, Mar 27, 2019	Tulip Court



MARCH MADNESS 2019

Grand Court of California
Thu, Feb 21 – Sat Feb 23 caamaranth.org

Grand Court of BC (more information below)
Thu, Feb 28 – Sat, Mar 2
amaranthbc.ca

(I look forward to hearing from you. HL Shari)

Grand Court of Oregon
Thu, Mar 7 – Sat, Mar 9 oramaranth.org

Grand Court of Washington
Thu, Mar 14 – Sat, Mar 16 amaranthwa.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

(Details, when available, can be found at the end of the newsletter)

SAVE / REMEMBER THE DATE

Fri, Feb 8 Sequoia Court Casino Night

Happy Valentine's Day



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



It's already February and Grand Court is just over three weeks away! So much to do and so little time. We want to thank all the members who have agreed to step up and fill in for the vacancies created due to sickness; we truly appreciate all your help. We are still looking for volunteers to shuttle guests to and from the airport and members to help look after the sale of hats, gloves, vests, \$5 Grab bags, and tickets for the bag auction. If you are able to help with any of these jobs, please contact SK John McMurchie. Thank you all in advance.

We hope that this Grand Court session attracts a good number of non-members. We have made efforts to advertise both our Masonic Family night and our Rock 'n Roll Banquet. Please let all your friends know about these two events as they are good ways to showcase our beautiful order and possibly grow our membership. All our Courts need to grow with new and excited members. Let's all invite friends and family to our fun events and fundraisers so we can show them how much fun we are.

We have enjoyed our year as Grand Royal Matron and Grand Royal Patron. During our year, we travelled to Oklahoma, Oregon, Washington, Massachusetts, Ontario, Arizona, Alaska, Idaho, and New Mexico to represent our beautiful jurisdiction and to promote our Grand Court session. Grand Court positions can be immensely fun and rewarding if you dedicate yourself and put in the time and effort the position requires. To anyone considering taking on an elected position this year or in the near future: go for it and give it your all!

Among the fond memories we have of our year, we have enjoyed travelling to other jurisdictions, making new friends and representing BC. These sessions have been a lot of fun.

Supreme this year is in St. Louis, Missouri at the Marriott Airport from June 30th - July 4th, 2019 and the following year will be in Portland, Oregon – just a day's drive from here. We should all plan on attending and show our B.C. Pride. We highly recommend making the trip to Supreme and/or other jurisdictions' Grand Court sessions.

We hope all the Grand Officers, both elected and appointed, have enjoyed this year as much as we have. We completed all our official visits ending with Mizpah's 107th birthday in December. We tried to make it to as many of the subordinate Courts' meetings and functions as we could. We regret that we couldn't make it to more of Mizpah's meetings, but weeknights are difficult to get off work in time to cross by ferry and get there in time for a meeting. Our apologies to the members.

The last few months have been very trying and emotional with HL Kathryn, SK Robert, and HL Kary not being able to continue their journey up the Grand Line, resigning from their positions due to illness and work. We hope that they will let their names stand for the Grand line again when their circumstances allow it. SK Daniel Wright and HL Fran Wright also had to step down as Dan has been in the Vancouver General Hospital with acute lymphoblastic leukemia and Fran has been staying with him or travelling back and forth from Abbotsford. Please join us in sending them healing prayers.

As we look back on our year, we hope our representation of the British Columbia delegation has lived up to your expectations. We truly did the very best that we could and thank the members for putting their trust in us. At this time, we don't know who our successors will be, but we wish them a very successful year and dedicate our assistance to whomever they may be.

HL Donna-Lee McMurchie, GRM, & John McMurchie, GRP (For 3 more weeks)

Court News

Dogwood Court #3

HL Kathy Stutt

Dogwood Court's January meeting was awesome. R.W. Bro. Erik M. Futrell-Fruhling, District Deputy Grand Master, was our invited speaker.

Erik spoke on his theme for his visits this year. He spoke about not how many, but the participation and commitment of members that count. Harmony was another item he mentioned -- if there is lack of harmony, how that can destroy any organization. Egos need to be left at the door. Once you are in the Lodge (court) room all are equal!

As the discussion progressed, members reflected on why they joined Amaranth and what keeps them coming. The overriding issue was friendship and comradery.

I have been a member of Amaranth for over 20 years. HL Kerri and I both joined the same night.

I was a crazy Jobie Mom for our two girls. I took them everywhere, attended most everything they did and even took my holidays to chaperone at Grand Sessions.

It was the other Jobie Moms who persuaded me to join Amaranth once our girls had finished with Jobies. I missed their friendship and needed something for me.

I was working, fulltime, as were most of the other members of Amaranth when I first joined. Some nights our meetings were really **LONG!!** It was tough to get up the next day, but that didn't stop us from attending.

The first out of Jurisdiction Grand Court I went to, with a van full of other ladies, was in southern Oregon! I mean just about a 10 minute drive from the California Border!!! Going was OK, we took a little extra time, but coming home-----all that way in just one day!!! Man talk about a long drive.

For many years a group of us regularly attended March Madness, coming home between Oregon and Washington as holiday days were precious. Now we have the luxury of staying with good friends that we have made over the years, between these sessions.

Why am I telling you this -- the age old adage, "You Only Get Out of it What You Put Into It!". The time getting to know people in our organization is probably the most rewarding part of Amaranth. I encourage you all to participate, communicate and enjoy.

HL Kathy Stutt

PS from HL Shari – Please consider joining us at Dogwood Court. We are planning guest speakers on a regular basis. Just ask!!

Diabetes Raffle

HL Phyllis Fox

HL's and SKs I am asking for support of our raffle for Diabetes Research.

We have been very good about helping out our Grand Court, which is as it should be, but I have been able to get some good prizes for the raffle and only because I said it was for Diabetes. The golf prize was donated by Joey Gibbons, Joey has been a huge supporter of our cause. She took charge of our Golf Tournaments for 10 years but now, due to ill health, is unable.

The donator of the stay at the Hilton is another of our great supporters and the golf luggage was also donated. The tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20. I will have some with me at both Cypress and Dogwood meetings and of course at Grand Court.

Thank you.

A little bit of Trivia

HL Pat Haywood

What you didn't know about the month of February

February frequently occurs in lists of the most commonly misspelt words in the English language

History:



February was added to the Roman calendar in 713 BC. The length of the month changed over time and, at one time, it had as few as 23 days. When Julius Caesar remade the Roman calendar, the month was assigned 28 days during normal years and 29 days during leap years which occurred every four years.

February in Other Languages

- Chinese (Mandarin) – èryuè
- Danish – februar
- French – février
- Italian – febbraio
- Latin – Februarius
- Spanish – febrero

Together with January, it was the last of the months added to the Roman calendar.

The largest American sporting event of the year, the Super Bowl, is held in February.

The Saxon term for the month, Sol-monath, means “cake month”. This is because they offered cakes to the gods during this month.



Princess Elizabeth became Queen Elizabeth on February 6, 1952.

Weather Concerns from Vancouver Island

HL Betty Fennell

Chilled Vancouver island commuters faced their second day of winter hell today, as an additional ¼ centimeter of the peculiar white stuff fell, bringing the lower island to its knees and causing millions of dollars worth of damage to the marijuana crops. Scientists suspect that the substance is some form of frozen water particles and experts from Saskatchewan are being flown in. With temperatures dipping to the almost but not quite near zero mark, Islanders were warned to double insulate their lattes before venturing out.

Victoria police recommended that people stay inside except for emergencies, such as running out of espresso or biscotti to see them through Victoria's most terrible storm to date. The local Canadian Tire reported that they had completely sold out of fur-lined sandals.

Drivers were cautioned to put their convertible tops up, and several have been shocked to learn that their SUV's actually have four wheel drive, although most have no idea how to use it.

Weary commuters faced soggy sushi, and the threat of frozen breast implants. Although Dr. Richard Stanwick of the Island Health District reassured everyone that most breast implants were perfectly safe to 25 below, down-filled bras are flying off the shelves at Mountain Equipment Co-op.

"The government has to do something," snarled an angry Trevor Warburton. "I didn't pay \$950,000 for my one bedroom condo so I could sit around and be treated like someone from Toronto..."

Nine Important Facts

- Number 9 - Death is the number 1 killer in the world.
- Number 8 - Life is sexually transmitted.
- Number 7 - Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.
- Number 6 - Men have two emotions: hungry and horny, and they can't tell them apart. If you see a gleam in his eyes, make him a sandwich.
- Number 5 - Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years.
- Number 4 - Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in the hospital, dying of nothing.
- Number 3 - All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.
- Number 2 - In the 60's, people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take Prozac to make it normal.
- Number 1 - Life is like a jar of jalapeno peppers. What you do today might burn your ass tomorrow.

...and as someone recently said:

- Don't worry about old age; it doesn't last that long.
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The Grand Court of BC
Order of the Amaranth
invites you to our theme event.

Mamma Mia Revisited

A Greek Themed Dinner Event

Saturday, June 15, 2019

6:00 pm Getting to know you

7:00 pm Dinner

**Maple Ridge Masonic Hall
22272 116 Ave, Maple Ridge**

\$35 per person

The food will be Greek; the attire will be ABBA or beach or whatever is comfortable.

Enjoy a buffet dinner of a variety of Greek dishes. Entertainment to be announced -- be prepared to join in!!

RSVP: by Friday, June 7, 2019

Shari Gillies—778-834-8860 or kinicki1949may@gmail.com or gillies@shaw.ca

Kathy Stutt—604-948-2013 or kestutt@telus.net

Etransfers to amaranth.bc@shaw.ca; Credit cards also accepted (VISA, Mastercard, Discover, Amex). Cheques to be made out to Grand Court of BC.



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.



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HL Donna-Lee
or
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