



# REMEMBRANCE DAY

*Lest We Forget*

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**HL Shari Gillies, Grand Royal Matron**  
**SK Bill Duncan, Grand Royal Patron**

**Grand Court of BC – Newsletter**  
**November 2020**

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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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**I would love to hear from you and would gladly add any message you have to this newsletter**  
**Deadline for submissions for the next newsletter – November 25.**

**We are really excited!!! Amaranthbc.ca, our website, has been renewed. Please have a look and let us know what you think!!**

It is with great sadness we report the passing of SK Marvin Frost, PSRP 2004 – 2005, on Tuesday, October 27, 2020. SK Marvin was predeceased by wife Dottie in 2018. Online condolences can be made at [www.ulmerfh.com](http://www.ulmerfh.com).

He will remain Sweet in our Memory.

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



## **COURT MEETINGS**

That wretched COVID-19 Virus is still keeping us cooped up...so still no meetings.

**Ships don't sink because of the water around them.**  
**Ships sink because of the water that gets inside of them.**

**Moral of the story:**

**Don't let what is happening around you get inside of you and weigh you down.**

## **Grand Royal Matron, HL Shari Gillies**



Many thanks to HL Pat for a great job of writing the first section of the history of Dogwood Court from the beginnings in 1952 up to the installation of officers in January 1958. HL Pat requested the first minute book of the Court and has been spending her 'spare time' reading and typing. It is attached to this email for your convenience. It can also be read on our website at <https://amaranthbc.ca/?p=316>

The sun was shining yesterday and today it has already started to cloud over. Not a surprise here on the 'Wet' Coast. But we are accustomed to it even if we haven't grown webs between our toes.

My big events for the past month are my garage door broke, my dryer stopped drying and my fridge stopped chilling. The garage door fix it man was at my door within an hour of calling. I was stuck and it was fortunate I didn't have anything important to go out for. The big spring that hauls the door up broke. The man from 'Door Number 1', listed as the best garage door fixer in Maple Ridge had the spring replaced within an hour of arriving and the cost did not break the bank.

About a week later my dryer stopped drying for my third load of laundry that day. I'd been saving up!!! What a shock to go to empty the dryer and find the clothes were still damp. I called around to find the preferred repair guy for that; called and left a message. It was Thanksgiving Monday so I didn't expect a call back until the next day but Dirk called back to say he would be at my house the next day and would give me a call beforehand. By the afternoon my clothes were dry and my wallet was considerably lighter.





Now the fridge...the repair didn't cost me anything. I mean, really, how dumb could I be...putting a warm pot of freshly cooked spaghetti sauce in the fridge before going to bed. I had done it before with no problem but...In the morning my fridge interior was warm!!! EEEK! The pot wasn't really hot but, I guess, warm enough it worked the thermostat so hard it quit working. The happy ending for this one is by the time I had cleared everything out of the fridge and purged what should have been gone weeks, no, maybe months ago and cleaned the shelves and worried myself sick over my dumb move, like magic the next day I had to call "Dirk" back to say the fridge was working fine and there was no repair required. The spaghetti sauce was divided into single servings and now resides in my freezer.

Oh, I guess I should mention the other big event – my house trim has been painted. Beau and his wife Marie did a great job! Now just I need to paint the front door but that will wait until the spring. It's too cold and wet now to paint outside. I 'could' concentrate on painting the inside doors and trim but, right now that just seems like toooooo much work.

Everything else is much the same as the last time we talked...that d\*&m virus is still with us and if we don't smarten up a lot it's going to be with us a lot longer.

Our South of the Border and North of the Border (Alaska) friends (which makes us Canadians SNOBs (south and north)) will be celebrating their Thanksgiving in a few weeks. We hope you have a great time, are careful about gathering too many relatives and friends in one place, wear your masks when necessary and keep washing those hands. Eat lots of turkey so the hostess doesn't have to find too many different ways of serving left overs.

Ours was a small gathering as all the gatherings have been. But I cooked the turkey and made all the side dishes. Natalie brought dessert, so one less thing for me to do. She and Mya did all the cleanup which means some of my 'stuff' will remain hidden until I figure out where they thought it all should go. This happens with every family dinner at my house. Sometimes the 'new' place becomes the usual place.



That's it for me for now! Take care, practice social distancing, wear a mask and wash your hands. AND stop touching your face.

HL Shari

## **Grand Royal Patron, SK Bill Duncan**

Honoured Ladies and Sir Knights;

We hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving, and enjoyed a generous portion of Turkey with all the tasty trimmings that go with it. My favourite is cranberry and dressing, Joyce likes cabbage rolls and sweet potatoes. And this year our Brussels sprouts came from Cathy's garden.

Next up is Halloween. We hope to have a very quiet Halloween, which has become the norm in our neighborhood the last few years as most of the families have grown up and the kids have moved on. It's mostly seniors on our street now – and very few of them trick or treat.



In case you were wondering about a few things:

- Why do they call it the "Novel" coronavirus? It's a long story....

- You know what they're saying about 2020. It went viral faster than anyone thought it would.
- The best way to avoid touching your face - a glass of wine in each hand.
- And my favourite - If coronavirus isn't about beer, why do I keep seeing cases of it?



We hope that all are keeping well and we wish you all a very pleasant and safe autumn.

Honoured Lady Joyce,  
Sir Knight Bill, Grand Royal Patron

Lockdown can only go 4 ways...  
You'll come out a Monk, a hunk, a chunk or a drunk!  
Choose wisely!

**Grand Secretary, SK John McMurchie, PGRP  
And HL Donna-Lee McMurchie, PGRM**

We have sold our house and purchased a new townhouse on the Surrey, Langley border. It will be nice to move into our brand new home, but it will be quite a change as it is about half the square footage.

We are been selling off a lot of our possessions and boy did we have a lot of things. We will moving sometime between November 15<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> and the new owners will take possession of our house on December 15<sup>th</sup>. So we can do small moves over time instead of those stressful one day moves that we have all done.



That's all that is new from the McMurchie household.

We hope you are all keeping well and safe.

**Grand Treasurer, HL Phyllis Fox, PGRM**

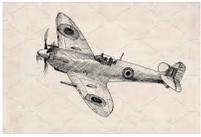
It is hard to believe that Thanksgiving has come and gone and we still have to social distance from our family and friends. It was a quiet Thanksgiving for me but was also a good weekend. On the Saturday, my grandson Kyle set it up so we could all zoom. It was wonderful to see them altogether and to be able to speak to and hear them. On Sunday my daughters and I had a very good turkey dinner and again zoomed with Jackie's son and his wife and daughter while we were all eating dessert. If only I could understand all the technology. Just one year ago we were all together here for Thanksgiving and an early celebration of my 90th birthday. It is a good job I have not lost all my memory.

I hope all of you had a good Thanksgiving. I was thinking of everyone and my wish was that one day soon we would be together.

Kids are all back in school and so far all is good. My grandson Kyle facetimes me every Saturday at 7pm, so I get to see what is going on in his household. I get songs from my grandson Leo and I get to watch his little brother grow.

Now it is our time to give thanks to our veterans. Many of us had family in WWI and WWII. I know I did. My father fought in WWI with a regiment from Winnipeg. He came home wounded; he lost his

left eye and had shrapnel in his head to the day he died. In those days the artificial eyes were made of glass so the severe winters in Winnipeg were too much and he also suffered from being gassed. So we moved to BC. Good Plan.



In WWII my three brothers served in the RCAF; two made it overseas and ended as prisoners of war. This happened just 15 months apart. My younger brother, much to his dismay found that flying did not agree with him health wise. This was a very difficult time for my parents, my sister and I. Luckily all came home safe.

A much better time for my husband who served 25 years in the Canadian Army. He had travels out of the country but did not encounter any problems. I was the one who stayed home. We moved several times but always in Canada.



**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VETS.**

Our next big celebration will be Christmas, but I do not think things will be too much better. I just hope Santa does not run into any problems.

Take care everyone and watch out for the snow.

Phyllis

**You can't change what's going on around you until you start changing what's going on within you!**

**HL Pat Haywood, PGRM**

"Funny things that happened in November"

*6 November 1810: A union of drinking and medicine*

Only in Australia would one find a Rum Hospital. On 6 November 1810 Lachlan Macquarie, Governor of New South Wales, gave the valuable rum monopoly to a consortium of local businessmen on condition that part of their profits were used to build the Sydney Rum Hospital, parts of which still stand today.

*10 November 1871: 'Dr Livingstone, I presume?'*

Welsh-born journalist Henry Morton Stanley found his quarry, the Scottish missionary and explorer David Livingstone, in present-day Tanzania, but did not say "Dr Livingstone, I presume?" The statement was invented the following year by the editor of the newspaper who had sent Stanley to Africa

*13 November 1914: A big day for ladies' underwear*

The fast-living Caresse Crosby, co-founder of the Black Sun Press, which numbered Laurence Sterne and Ernest Hemingway among its writers, was granted a patent for the first backless bra. Distracted by hedonistic adventures, she sold the patent for \$1,500 to a company that went on to make a fortune. (The Warner Brothers Corset Company)

**DOGS IN SPACE** - The first animal to go into orbit was a dog named Laika, shot off by the Russians on 3 November 1957 in Sputnik II. The capsule wasn't designed to return to Earth, and Cosmodog Laika died a few hours after departing from earth.

The following 3 questions I got from an old game show called Split Second. - the host was Monty Hall. His reply to the question about the money was "yes, I've seen that in Johnny Carson's backyard.

1. Who could not sing, dance or act yet won more than 50 Oscars?
2. If you stacked 1 trillion dollar bills on top of each other would they be higher than Mt. Everest?
3. Can you drink a glass of water while standing on your head?

See the answers at the end of the newsletter

## **HL Barbie Glaspey, PRM, Oregon Dual member, Dogwood Ct, BC**

Hi Shari and all of BC



I apologize for not sending information until now. I went to Hawaii in June as there were a few repairs that were needed and I had to be there to take care of them. While there were more things needed tending my two weeks ended up being quite expensive and very frustrating. I left Hawaii with my house on the market and hopes of getting it sold. I had to take it off AirBNB as most people come for two weeks and with the Covid they were to quarantine at the property for 2 weeks. If caught off the property they would be charged \$2000 and I would face the same charge. I couldn't afford it so felt it was time.

I got back to my little condo in Eugene and started putting up with homeless rummaging through the dumpster outside my window at all hours of the night. I have had them step out in front of me when I have come home late and that is a scary sensation. My car had been broken into twice and I decided I needed to get back to Springfield as soon as I could. I put my place on the market on Aug. 28th and it was sold the next day. We close tomorrow.



I had to quickly look for someplace else and was so lucky. I found a manufactured home in a 55+community where I also own the land. My agent, who is also a very good family friend and sold me the condo in the first place and knew the owner of the place I really wanted to see. She contacted the son, they have been friends for years and got me in to see it. I put an offer and because of her, I got a real break. We closed on Sept 21st and except for unpacking a few boxes, I am moved in and very happy. Much closer to places I go and feeling much more secure. It is a Gated Community. Across the road and down a block is my doctor, and across the road is Albertsons, JoAnns Fabric, Hair Salon and Drug Store.

My phone numbers stay the same but my mailing address is now: **2404 Maia Loop, Springfield, OR 97477.**

I close with a huge "Miss ALL of YOU"  
Lots of love  
Barbie G

Tom Foolery: 'The Great Realisation'  
(It's a little long but worth the read)  
A bed time story after the pandemic of 2020

"Tell me the one about the virus again, then I'll go to bed".  
"But, my boy, you're growing weary, sleepy thoughts about your head".  
"That one's my favourite. Please, I promise, just once more".  
"Okay, snuggle down, my boy, but I know you all too well.  
This story starts before then in a world I once would dwell".  
"It was a world of waste and wonder, of poverty and plenty,  
Back before we understood why hindsight's 2020  
You see, the people came up with companies to trade across all lands  
But they swelled and got much bigger than we ever could have planned  
We always had our wants, but now, it got so quick  
You could have anything you dreamed of, in a day and with a click  
We noticed families had stopped talking, that's not to say they never spoke  
But the meaning must have melted and the work life balance broke  
And the children's eyes grew squarer and every toddler had a phone  
They filtered out the imperfections, but amidst the noise, they felt alone.  
And every day the skies grew thicker, 'till you couldn't see the stars,  
So, we flew in planes to find them, while down below we filled our cars.  
We drove around all day in circles, we'd forgotten how to run  
We swapped the grass for tarmac, shrunk the parks 'till there were none  
We filled the sea with plastic because our waste was never capped  
Until, each day when you went fishing, you'd pull them out already wrapped  
And while we drank and smoked and gambled, our leaders taught us why  
It's best to not upset the lobbies, more convenient to die  
But then in 2020, a new virus came our way,  
The governments reacted and told us all to hide away  
But while we were all hidden, amidst the fear and all the while,  
The people dusted off their instincts, they remembered how to smile  
They started clapping to say thank you and calling up their mums  
And while the car keys gathered dust, they would look forward to their runs  
And with the skies less full of voyagers, the earth began to breathe  
And the beaches bore new wildlife that scuttled off into the seas  
Some people started dancing, some were singing, some were baking  
We'd grown so used to bad news, but some good news was in the making  
And so when we found the cure and were allowed to go outside  
We all preferred the world we found to the one we'd left behind

Old habits became extinct and they made way for the new  
And every simple act of kindness was now given its due”  
“But why did it take us so long to bring the people back together?”  
“Well, sometimes you’ve got to get sick, my boy, before you start feeling better  
Now, lie down and dream of tomorrow and all the things that we can do  
And who knows, if you dream hard enough, maybe some of them will come true  
We now call it The Great Realisation and yes, since then, there have been many  
But that’s the story of how it started and why hindsight’s 2020”

Amaranth and Masonic Vests for order  
\$50 per vest

Please contact SK John McMurchie to order  
or for additional information.

Jmcmurchie56@shaw.ca



The answers are -

Walt Disney; yes, almost double the height of Mt. Everest; and yes to drinking the water and no  
I haven't tried it.