

# *Washington Amaranthian Dispatch*

*February 2024*



FROM THE TOTALLY COVERED DESK OF THE GRM:

Hello Members,

We have finished our official visits and are getting ready for Grand Court and handing the reins down to HL Andrea and SK Brian. To all those that have traveled with us this year, we thank you and know that your presence was important to us and the Courts. Grand Court is just a short month and a half away and there are still many preparations to be completed and a few reminders.

Our last Group will be held on February 10<sup>th</sup> at 10am at **Lakewood**, elected officers 9am. We will have a speaker on **Scams** and **security**, (mail, computer, in person and phone). Presentation by Robert Nelson, regional security manager with Lowes. As with our previous speakers, he has a lot of valuable information to present to protect ourselves.

Following lunch, we will have our Grand Court practice, if you are a floor officer, please try to attend. It makes practice easier if everyone is there. I know I will need a Marshal in the East for practice if anyone is able to step in.

For those that are members of Grand Court, there are additional openings for elected positions this year. Besides the regular sequential elections, we will be electing a new Grand Treasurer, two Grand Trustees, Grand Commissioner of Appeal and Grand Associate Conductress. The Benevolent Foundation also elects every year for a three-year term and the following Benevolent Districts will need to caucus. Districts 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. There is a redistricting amendment in place, but if passed will not take effect until amendments are approved by Supreme. Is there a place for you to help support and promote Grand Court?

To our elected Grand Court officers, thank you for giving of yourselves to help our Grand Court continue to grow. It's not about the title or the crown (in the Ladies case), it's about the order.

Hope to see all of you at Grand Court in Tacoma at the LaQuinta. March 14-16, 2024

Mizpah,

HL Joy, GRM



Honored ladies and Sir Knights,

It is a time of short days and long nights. It is cold, cloudy most of the time, with rain or snow, depending on where you are. It seems like the perfect time to stay home, curl up in your favorite chair, and watch: Football, a mystery, the Home Shopping Chanel, home improvement shows, Movies (or all of the above). Or maybe read a good book, do hobbies or crafts, or cook. Anything to stay home! However, it is also a great time to enjoy the fellowship of Amaranth. We haven't gone dark since the last OV. There are dinners and fund-raising events coming up. There are Grand Courts you can visit before ours. You can visit other courts at their meetings. I am sure they would love to have visiting members show up. It is a wonderful time to meet with your friends or make new friends in the lead up to Washington's Grand Court in March. Don't just vegetate at home. We would love to see you at the upcoming events and at our Grand Court sessions.

I do have a couple of reminders to go along with Grand Court.

First, because of the change of venue, we will have two entrances to the Grand Courtroom. Traditionally, it has been the duty of the Associate Patrons to aid the Grand Sentinel and Grand Warder in securing the extra entrance. Associate Patrons, if you can be at Grand Court, please coordinate with the Grand Sentinel and Grand Warder to ensure that the doors are guarded. Any other members that are free of other responsibilities at Grand Court that would like to volunteer would probably be greatly appreciated.

This year, we will need to elect two Grand Trustees, the one year (Chairman) and the three-year positions. In addition, we will need to elect a new Grand Treasurer, since Honored Lady Vicky has completed five years of service in that position. If you are interested and willing to serve in one of these positions, please consider running for them. The Grand Court needs these positions filled and would be grateful for your service.

Finally, there are six districts that will need to caucus and select a district representative for the Benevolent Board. These are:

District 3 (Golden Light, Opportunity, and Rhododendron)

District 4 (Lakewood)

District 5 (Bremerton and Capitol)

District 6 (Grays harbor and Halcyon)

District 7 (Artemisia and Wenatchee)

District 8 (Trinity)

If these districts could plan to caucus prior to elections, that would make that order of business run more quickly and smoothly. Thank you.

I hope you are all staying healthy and safe during the winter. See you soon!

Blair Thisted, GRP



Bruce Lee said

“Don’t speak negatively about yourself, even as a joke. Your body doesn’t know the difference. Words are energy and they cast spells, that’s why it’s called spelling. Change the way you speak about yourself, and you can change your life.”

*From the Desk of the Grand Court Duck Herder,*

♥ I must tell you all that I am nervous. I may appear calm and in control on the outside but am nervous and a little overwhelmed on the inside. Things are coming together nicely though, ducks are lining up, projects are getting completed, CO7's training is on track, and so many of you have said "Yes!" when asked to accept responsibilities for our Grand Court this next year. Brian and I are so happy to be blessed with such an amazing membership to work with and we look forward to our time with you. Thank you not just from our hearts but from the top of our heads to the bottom of our feet!

♥ With Grand Court just 6 weeks away there are some important dates for *AGLs, Associate Matrons and Associate Patrons* to pay attention to. The last two Ritual Classes for *AGLs* are *February 3<sup>rd</sup>* and *February 17<sup>th</sup>*. On *February 3<sup>rd</sup>* we will be attending class at Opportunity Court in Federal Way from 9:00am to 3:00pm with lunch from 11:30-12:30. For those who can stay we will be going out to dinner after the class and then attending Opportunity's Stop-and-Go meeting for another half-day of class. On *February 17<sup>th</sup>* we will be attending class from 9:00am-12:00pm at Rhododendron Court to meet with our assigned court's *A.M* and *A.P* to schedule practices and inspections, to practice the Coronation Ceremony and to answer questions about Installation. And again, for those *AGLs* who can stay, we are heading to Grays Harbor for their Crabby Chicken Dinner at 2:00pm and their Meeting with Initiation at 4:00pm for another half-day of ritual class. Of course, *A.Ms* and *A.Ps* can join us in supporting Grays Harbor Court as well!

♥ We hope to see as many *A.Ms* and *A.Ps* as possible at our next group meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup> at Golden Light Court as we are finalizing plans for Grand Court. Your input and help will be appreciated!

This is for you on this special day,  
You opened my heart, showed me the way,  
I love you to bits more than words can say,  
To our Beautiful Amaranth Members, Happy Valentine's Day!

*In Love with Amaranth,*

*Andrea G.A.M*

*(Affectionately, M)*

We all want to live better, happier, and more fulfilling lives. But sometimes, the idea of making big changes can seem overwhelming and daunting. How can we achieve our goals and dreams without giving up or burning out?

The answer is simple: making small, consistent, and incremental changes that add up over time. This is the principle of 1% improvement, also known as the Kaizen method. It is based on the idea that if you improve by just 1% every day, you will be 37 times better in a year.

But how can you apply this principle to your own life? Here are some examples of simple things you can do to improve by 1% every day:

- Read a book for 10 minutes. Reading can expand your knowledge, vocabulary, imagination, and creativity. It can also reduce stress, improve your memory, and boost your mood. You don't have to read a whole book in one sitting; just pick a topic or genre that interests you and read a few pages every day.
- Memorize 2-3 words of your ritual. Learning just 2-3 words each day will have you completely memorizing most roles in just a month. It can also enhance your cognitive skills, such as problem-solving, attention, and memory. You don't have to master ritual in a few months; just learn a few words every day and practice them, this will in turn have you on the way to being a great example to others.

These are just some of the ways you can improve your life by 1% every day. You can also come up with your ideas, based on your goals, interests, and preferences. The key is to start small, be consistent, and celebrate your progress. Remember, small changes can lead to big results. You can do it!

Now, we are running out of time before Grand Court and I know you all have registered already. Why do you ask Brian; well, we still have a couple of fundraisers going on. Our drawing for the Resin River Coffee Table is just \$10 a ticket or 10 for \$100, such a deal on such a great one-of-a-kind item. We also will be drawing for the winner of a week's stay on Orcas Island in your private cottage in Deer Harbor with a hot tub on the deck for you to relax in. Take a short trip to one of the other islands as a free walk on passenger aboard WA Ferries. Again, this opportunity will only cost you \$10 a ticket or 10 for \$100.

Please consider sharing these opportunities with your friends and family as you do not need to be present to win but it does make it more exciting!



SK Brian Wheeler, GAP, OO7  
425-530-1162  
Grand Squirrel





Singin' in the rain, I'm just singin' in the rain....



Well, at least it's not snow.

Hey Washington Amaranth, let's talk initiations.

You have absolutely amazed me. I have been to so many initiations this year! I'll share all the news in my full report with you at Grand Court.

And speaking of initiations, there are two more coming up this month!

February 11 at Welcome Court and Feb 17 at Grays Harbor Court.

Common out and protem! You know we need the help, and it's always a good time

listening to the guys sing.



Well, we're counting down to Grand Court, are you ready? I can't wait to see you all there where we can celebrate another successful year!

As always, be kind to one another,  
HL Lori Hanson



It's hard to think that February is right here!!! Right now, today in fact. It is February.

The poor Groundhog will soon be roused from his snug little bed, interrupting his sleep with not even a Thank you! He will tell us that we will have an Early Spring or 6 more weeks of winter. No matter how you count the days.... We will get 6 more weeks of winter because Spring is March 21<sup>st</sup>. You can't change that, so I think someone ought to let that poor little Groundhog get his beauty sleep.

Then we have Valentines Day.... A day for sharing love, or at least eating chocolate hearts!!! Or, if you are like me, I will take the Cherry Jelly hearts with the sugar on them. I just find them difficult to locate. I see Cinnamon ones, Sour Cherry ones and Plain jelly in both Cherry and Cinnamon but Sugared Cherry Jelly Hearts are tough to find.

Somewhere in between these days, we will have our very last Group Meeting for the 2023-2024 term. If you are an AC that hasn't gotten her notebook, I will have them at Grand Court. The Beauties will be getting together at GC for a short meeting and snacks. I truly hope to see you all there!!!

Have a Fun Groundhog Day (sleep in) and a fabulous Valentines Day!

Love, Jenny

Grand Associate Conductress



## From the Grand Secretary's desk

Hi, all. First off, I want to thank the court secretaries for all they do, especially for the hours spent this month preparing the annual report! I'd like everyone to support and thank them as well. They deserve it!

I also sent the wrong street address for the LaQuinta Hotel. It is 1425 and not 1325.

To our credentialed members-Please bring your proposed amendments to the by-laws with you to Grand Court. At 16 pages, two sets per person is a lot! Thanks all, and Happy New Year!

Sent from my iPhone  
Linda L Millo

## **NOTICE:**

Honored Ladies & Sir Knights,  
On February 10th, following Group, there will be practice for Grand Court.

We will be practicing, entrance, crowning, and taking positions.

Practice will be led by HL Tonia Alderman & HL Ann Phelan.

Please contact Kären Ekrem,  
[karenekrem@gmail.com](mailto:karenekrem@gmail.com) or 206-819-3044,  
if you are unable to attend this practice.

## REMINDER:

The reservations for the Crabby Chicken dinner will need to be made by the 12th of February. Contact HL Diana Moulden for reservations.



Flyers, Court Articles, and Announcements need to be in to  
[lowery.camille@gmail.com](mailto:lowery.camille@gmail.com) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of February to be in the  
next newsletter.



## February

- 2 Groundhog Day
- 10 Chinese New Year
- 13 Mardis Gras
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 19 President's Day

### *Final thought*

Staying positive  
doesn't mean you have to  
be happy all the time

It means that even on  
hard days you know that  
there are better ones  
coming.

Charles Ward

**Happy February!**

