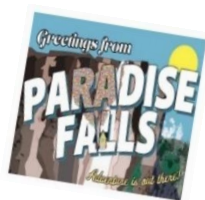


Amaranth Keystone Keynotes

SEPTEMBER 2025

Michelle Finisdore, Chairman
346 Morris Road, Wayne, PA 19087
Phone: 610-220-9675
E-mail: handbellstar1@verizon.net



Postcards from Paradise Falls

Honored Ladies and Sir Knights,

Summer has always been a season of adventure, a time for journeys, exploration, and discovery. In our Order, we too are adventurers, traveling paths of friendship and service that make our summer days shine even brighter. Whether gathering for picnics, parades, or official visits, each moment becomes a new story in our shared journey. Just as children chase fireflies on a warm summer night, we chase opportunities to bring light into the lives of others.

Since our last *Keystone Keynotes*, my travels have taken me far and wide! I enjoyed a groovy Grand Worthy Advisor testimonial for Sister (and Honored Lady) Jeannette Remaly, homecomings for our Grand Conductress and Grand Associate Patron, and the Official Visits of Jeannette, Juniata Valley, Farrell, and William A. Knecht. I joined the Pennsylvania Grand Chapter Eastern Star in Erie, where our own HL Marcia Holland presided beautifully as Worthy Grand Matron. I attended a stated meeting for Lansdale, Supreme Council in Arizona, Rainbow Grand Assembly in Altoona, DeMolay Convention in Breinigsville, Rainbow University Zoom Party in Reading, the Western Trivia Competition, and even saw *The Wizard of Oz* with Dr. J.M. Hyson Court. Add to that two Rainbow Patton Weekends, our Nashville bus trip, and now, as I write, I'm packing for the Virginia/Pennsylvania/New Jersey Friendship Weekend in Manassas. Whew—what a ride!

Along the way, memories have been plentiful: fire alarms in both formal gowns and pajamas, my near miss of Vince Gill at

the Ryman Auditorium (yes, I did get a picture of the back of his head as proof!), Shirley stealing the spotlight on the Showboat and again becoming “Shelley” at a magic show at the House of Cards, and Pat Ankney bravely letting people throw sponges at her to raise money for Grand Court Charity. These months have been filled with laughter, friendship, and snapshots I’ll cherish forever.

Back at home, SK Seth has been holding down the fort—as he always does—with patience and humor. Sparky and Enya have mixed reviews about my travels: Sparky loves having Seth all to herself, while Enya sulks on the couch in my absence. Only my outdoor railing planters seem to have suffered, which is a nice change of pace since I usually manage to kill my houseplants all by myself.

Looking ahead, fall promises even more adventures: additional official visits, Grand Courts, our Eastern Trivia Competition, the Grand Associate Conductress Homecoming, and the Supreme Associate Matron Reception in California. This year has already been the adventure of a lifetime, and I am deeply honored to serve as your Grand Royal Matron. As I often say, Pennsylvania truly is the best Grand Court. So go out, and in the words of a dearly departed friend, “*Have fun, do good.*” That’s how we’ll continue to make our Order grow and shine.

In Amaranth Love
Stacy Anthony, GRM



Campfire Chats

The Joy of Friendship in Our Travels

As I continue my journey as Grand Royal Patron, I am continually amazed by the spirit of camaraderie and friendship that surrounds our travels.

I have been able to attend meetings in courts I had never visited before — and yet, each one feels the same as the last. I may walk into a new building, in a new town, but the moment I open the door, I am greeted by old friends, some of whom I haven’t even met yet, who graciously welcome me as though I had been there all along. No matter where I go, it feels less like visiting a

new court and more like coming home to family. That is the true magic of our Order.

Every court we visit greets us with warmth, kindness, and a genuine sense of belonging. This Order has so much potential, and it is becoming increasingly apparent that our members have the ability and determination to make that potential a reality. With their dedication, I believe we are building not only a stronger fraternity for today, but a legacy for tomorrow. And it is through these bonds of friendship that we find the strength to serve, to lead, and to carry forward the mission of our Order.

In each handshake, each smile, and each shared meal, I am reminded that our fraternity is not only built on ritual and tradition, but also on the lasting friendships we create along the way. These friendships truly embody the values of Truth, Faith, Wisdom, and Charity — carried with love from court to court, and heart to heart.

I look forward to the many more experiences, memories, and friendships that this year of travel will bring. As I continue my travels, I invite each of you to take part in this journey — to reach out, to welcome, and to strengthen the ties that make our Order a true family.

Fraternally,
Matt Green, GRP

Celebrating Life



When they say time moves quickly, they are not joking. I am very busy emailing, calling and mailing to fulfill the positions needed. I can then move on to Committees and other things that need to be done before April. Thank you to all who have responded so far and said yes and to those who will say yes as we build our Team.

I took time to go on HL Stacy's Nashville trip and had a fantastic time. Interesting sights, good music, great meals. The fellowship made it the best time ever.

I have a flyer out with the permission of HL Stacy for a Caribbean Cruise in January of 2027. I know it seems so far off, however, I have been told that they are becoming very popular and

fill up quickly. Put in your reservation as soon as possible and join us for relaxation and fun.

I know that with the Love and Support of the members in PA, we can look forward to a wonderful, fulfilling year ahead. The support we give each other makes every day worth celebrating and keeps us going on stronger than ever.

No one should walk alone and that never occurs with an Amaranth Friend by your side. Celebrate Life each day and the memories will fill your heart with joy.

Love Always
Shirley Naulty, GAM

Hear That Thunder

I hope everyone is having a great summer despite the heat and humidity. We started out at Sarah Collins in June with the temporary loss of elevator and air conditioning for our June meeting. We made it work and continued on into the summer.



Over the summer, there were a couple of annual picnics and other activities happening so that everyone can stay engaged while on vacation.

As the summer call off draws to a close, I'm looking forward to getting back into rhythm not only in my own court but also with the Grand Officers. Our next official visit is at Sarah Collins No. 86 in Philadelphia on September 24th which is the 4th Wednesday of the month and all are welcome.

Welcome to the fall and the restart of all of our activities.

Howard Naulty, GAP

Tales of the Sand Dollar

It is hard to believe summer is almost over and so much has happened since my last letter. Thank you to all who came to my homecoming May 31, 2025, and help celebrate my special day.



It was nice to also have friends from VA and CT join us. By the time you read this I will have attended Multi State weekend with our VA/NJ friends, several official visits and the GAC homecoming in Pittsburgh as HL Shelley shares a bit of her thoughts with us.

I will also have traveled to Oregon for the Supreme Conductress reception to see who my Supreme Dad will be. I hope you can all attend the Friendship with CT, NY and MA and Official visit Of Our GRM and GRM in October it's a fun time and lots of laughter.

I also hope you can join me on October 25, 2025, at Stouch Tavern where I will be sharing who I have chosen to take to the Grand Throne with me and Kermit will get a new owner.

I hope to see you on the Amaranth Trail and remember BEACH: Believe Exemplify Achieve Charity and Hospitality to all we meet.

In Amaranth Love and Service,
Melody Newhard-Kirk, GC

Stories from the Shoe Closet

Even though Pennsylvania's Subordinate Courts are dark July and August, there were several events to socialize with members and friends alike.



The Western Trivia event held on August 2nd was a great opportunity to test your knowledge on various topics in assorted question formats with a partner. The competition inside was just as hot as the weather outside. Between trivia rounds, HL Pat Ankney and her committee kept the action moving with a variety of break-

out games for fun prizes. Surprisingly, SK Scott and I placed third even without a plethora of English literature questions or obscure musical references.

If you were unable to attend, there are two more trivia events on the itinerary. It's a wonderful way to spend the afternoon and support the Grand Court Charity Project.

While the deadline to submit this article is before my Homecoming, I know HL Kathy Henkel, GR and her committee have planned an amazing celebration for my Homecoming at Oakdale Court. I am grateful for the support of members both across the state and in my own Court and look forward to sharing stories as we visit.

IAL,
Shelley Krall, GAC

Travels from the Ark



I love technology. I love the ease at which you can reach many people at one time. I love immediate responses and reactions. I love that you can communicate at any time to any place in the world.

Yet, there is something fundamentally human about sharing a physical space with another person: the warmth of a handshake, the nuance in a smile, the resonance of laughter echoing in a room. Meeting our members in person transforms names and profile pictures into living, breathing individuals with histories, aspirations, and dreams.

H.L. Robin Fridy and I had the great opportunity to travel to the Grand Court of the Philippines in May. Many of us enjoyed Supreme Council in Glendale, Arizona in July. I have been to New York, Indiana, Job's Daughters International, Texas, Louisiana and many other places where our members are excited about the Order of the Amaranth, the work we do for our members and for our community. And, of course, the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation is always a huge selling point to nonmembers.

I can't thank the members of Pennsylvania enough for your continued support, love, dedication and friendship. No matter where I go, there's no place like home. As we start the fall season and are back to our Court meetings, I hope we all

remember why we joined Amaranth and why we keep coming back. It's the friendships, comradery, love, support, encouragement and, of course, the people. I look forward to seeing many of you again, hopefully before Grand Court. You're the best!

Stay well and be safe,
Emily... .. Think pink!

Jeanette Court #25

A warm hello to my Amaranth friends as it is 93 degrees here today. Our court has been busy with a lot of fundraisers. We had a successful BINGO basket party, HL Pat Ankney's fundraiser for charity. Next time we hope to see more people, but we were very pleased to raise well over \$750 for the charity.

HL Pat dressed in a flamingo costume for the event. You got to purchase tickets to throw wet sponges at her... we all had a good laugh with that. There was a little bit of trivia time featuring questions from HL Stacy, GRM and SK Matt, GRP, that was a lot of fun.

In September, we look forward to starting our meetings again and some of us will be headed to California for HL Emily's, SAM and SK Ernesto's, SAP Hawaiian Luau Reception.

See you all on the Amaranth trail and at Etown weekend.

P. June Sharp, Grand Rep to NC
Court Reporter

Corinthian Court #35

Members of Corinthian Court #35 held a fund raiser at their June Meeting. We auctioned off brown paper bags filled with, let us say unusual items that went up for auction.

H.L. Tina Jesionowski R.M., the auctioneer, started bidding, on what began calm, but became more intense as the bidding wars went on! Members were really excited to get a hold of these bags! When the bags were all gone, everyone opened to see the surprises inside.

Ultimately the Court was the winner, reaping the funds collected.

Dawn Murray
Court Reporter

(From HL Michelle Finisdore ...with my apologies to Corinthian Court, I am adding in the photo that I sadly could not find in time for the last issue of the memorial honoring HL Norma Voellger, PGRM.)



Lansdale Court #65

Welcome from Lansdale Court. Sure, it was a hot summer but I hope everyone stayed as cool as possible. Our summer was quiet but we were honored to have HL Stacy Anthony, GRM and SK Matt Green, GRP, attend our June meeting when HL Stacy filled the station of Charity and our GRP installed a Grand Representative. Looking forward to Sept. 3rd when they will visit us officially.

Nancy Linberger
Court Reporter

Lancaster Court #70



Lancaster Court ended the summer with a picnic at the home of HL Mary Ann Nagley, PRM. Although it was a very warm day, everyone enjoyed the fellowship and especially the food served. We were fortunate to have SK J. Michael Stoner, Grand Prelate, presiding over the grill. Our SK does seem to work magic when he cooks. All members and friends were very happy with the burgers and especially the chicken.

We were happy to have several members of the Grand Family join us for the picnic and several other members from visiting Courts who were substitutes for us this past year.

We are looking forward to hosting the Central PA Past Officers in October. The secretaries of CPAPO Courts have copies of the Invitation.

Fall is just around the corner and we look forward to seeing you on the Amaranth Trail.



Marlene Arnst,
Court Reporter

Amy F. Schmidt Memorial #104

On June 30th our court moves from Bristol to the Lower Bucks Masonic Temple in Woodside, the new home for Amy F Schmidt court 104.

We had a picnic and pool party over the summer. We are now getting ready for our Official visit and Friendship with NJ and Virginia which will be held on September 19th. And Trivia Day on September 20th. Starting in October Amy F Schmidt will be meeting on the 4th Thursday at 7:30 pm which will be our new meeting night going forward

Mary Ellen Greiner, PRM
Court Reporter

Dr. J.M. Hyson Memorial #106

Dr. J.M. Hyson Memorial court had a busy summer. A group of 22 enjoyed dinner and watching “The Wizard of Oz”. The show was fabulous and being with friends made for a fun filled evening.

We also enjoyed a beautiful day at Cooper farm for a picnic. Everyone brought fabulous food and the weather was perfect.



HL Pam Kilgore, Gr. Historian
Court Reporter

Dorothy Lim Memorial Court #110

Greetings everyone!!

Here is what’s happening this fall for Dorothy Lim #110! October 20 and 21, we will be hosting Friendship Nights with Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and New York Grand Courts. The 20th will be a fun evening, and the 21st will be a stated meeting, with the Grand Families of PA and Ct and hopefully NY as well.

Monday, October 20, we’ll be hosting our annual Pound Party. Members bring items, weighing about a pound, and wrapped so that no one knows what they are. They will be auctioned off to raise money for our Diabetes Research project. The highest bidder wins the item, which may be something useful and/or beautiful, or something silly, like a rock, or a potato.

It’s all fun! In between auctions we’ll be line dancing, for something fun and different! The following evening, Tuesday, there will be a stated meeting. We hope to have a good turn-out for our guests from other Grand Courts.

Saturday, October 25, the Sand Dollies Club Board will host the “Seafaring Soiree” for our own H.L. Melody Newhard-Kirk, Grand Conductress, at the Stouch Tavern in Womelsdorf, PA. Social time is at 11:30 with luncheon at 12:00.

Reservations are \$40.00 by October 4 to H.L. Tara Smith, 377 Purple Heart Highway, Danville, PA 17821.

Jan Jacobus, PRM
Court Reporter

Farrell Court #120

Farrell Court #120 celebrated "Christmas in July" with Royal Matron Charlotte Webster leading us in making a Santa gnome. He would make a striking Sir Knight, all decked out in red and white. We started our summer by hosting G.R.M. Stacy Anthony and G.R.P. Matt Green along with their grand family. We had a good meal, a great meeting, and an eventful social time. Thanks to all the subs from near and far.

Then we had a food booth on the 4th of July for the fireworks on "The White House Lawn." We sold cupcakes, cookies, buckeyes, chocolate-covered pretzels, caramel corn, plain popcorn, and ice-cold water. If you were looking for a sugar boost, we were the place to stop. It was a very successful project.

In August, we will have our family picnic. It will be a night of good eating and lots of visiting. In September, we will start off with a greeting card craft taught by a "Stampin' Up" representative. That will be a fun night of crafting and snacking. Then we get on to our regular meetings with our charity cup going to a different local charity each month, annual fundraising projects, a couple more craft classes, and the Polar Express.

Georgia Perkins
Court Reporter

William A. Knecht #144



Tis the season of fall equinox and the day when we officially tip from summer into fall.

Here in central PA where we live, there are already some signs of fall, if you slow down enough to look.

It's not just cooler temperatures, although those would help after such an extended heat wave that we experience this summer. It's also the way some of the trees no longer look exactly green: they have taken on a yellowish or orangish/reddish coloring here and there... The ornamental grasses are going to seed and are starting to turn brown. Acorns will soon be falling. There is a coolness at the edge of each breeze, reminding us of that autumn, and then winter, is coming.

We are surely ready to go out and buy fall mums to put at the front door and start to use our fire pit. My fall wreath is already adorning the front door. But first we will recap our summer...

July is always a busy month for our court as we hold our Annual Picnic at Spangler Grove along pristine Penns Creek with 24 members and family members in attendance. We brought a variety of delicious dishes to share and held our Past Officers Meeting at the conclusion of the picnic. Lovely time was experienced by all members at each summer event for sure!!



Kay Trick
Court Reporter

Victory Court #149



Our Grand Royal Matron, H.L. Stacy of Victory Court and her GRP S.K. Matt of Lancaster Court have certainly been having adventures around the state and in other jurisdictions as well. Our Court held the June meeting and wished all our members traveling to Supreme safe travels and lots of fun. We also had a contingent from Victory Court and that picture is shown which included two of our members from Scotland (in the white on left is Kathleen Dinardo and on the right is Aileen Brand). So glad they could join us this year

We were so happy to witness the installation of H.L. Emily and S.K. Ernie as Supreme Associate Matron and Patron. E and E will make such a great team for Supreme Council.

There will also be a delegation traveling to Walnut Creek, California on September 5th and 6th for their Supreme reception. This will be S.K. Ernie's first introduction in California as SAP.

We also have a contingent of members traveling to the multi-state meeting in Manassas, Virginia for a weekend of fun and fellowship with the members of VA/NJ and PA. Safe travels to all.

Dianne Dean, PSRM
Court Reporter

Oakdale Court #150

Oakdale Court #150 had a busy summer. In August, the Court prepared for and conducted a successful Bunco at the Masonic Village at Sewickley. It took the work of many members for this success. People are already asking when we will be having the next Bunco. Stay tuned!

Oakdale Court has also been preparing for the Homecoming of our Grand Associate Conductress HL Shelley Krall which we will celebrate on Saturday, September 13, 2025, at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center. The Court is looking forward to honoring HL Shelley and welcoming our guests at the luncheon and meeting following. We are always so appreciative for everyone's help with these events.

V. Lynne Engleka, G.R.
Court Reporter

Youth Organizations

Job's Daughters

Hello! I am Delaney Stains, and I am the newly installed Jurisdictional Bethel Honored Queen of Pennsylvania! I am a Past Honored Queen of Bethel 16 Chambersburg. In May, I was not only selected to be the next Jurisdictional Bethel Honored Queen, but I also graduated from Waynesboro Area Senior High School. This Fall I started my Freshman Year of college at Lock Haven

University where I am majoring in Sports Management and swimming competitively for the Women's Swim Team.

My term will begin at Rally in August with a "Cheeseburger in Paradise" themed installation as a nod to Jimmy Buffett as a lifelong fan. August 29th, 2025, is known as Jimmy Buffett Day. This day is dedicated to honoring Jimmy Buffett's life and legacy through acts of service. One of my goals this term is to promote acts of service for others and our communities to our members across the state. I hope to accomplish this by holding canned food and hat and mitten donation drives at our Fall and May Jurisdictional Bethel Weekends as well as volleyball weekend in January.

Job's Daughters International is known for their philanthropic charity, the HIKE fund. The HIKE fund raises money for families with children with hearing disabilities to help provide them with the devices and tools to necessarily help them hear. This year, I hope to work closely with the Pennsylvania Daughter HIKE coordinator with her fundraising efforts as another way to help promote service to others.

The next Jurisdictional Bethel Meeting will be held November 15th at Patton Campus in Elizabethtown during our Nashville themed Jurisdictional Bethel Weekend. Please look forward to an invitation to the Fall meeting, which I hope you can join us and all the fun.

Sincerely,

Delaney Stains, Jurisdictional Bethel Honored Queen of Pennsylvania

DeMolay

Hello members of Pennsylvania Amaranth. I am Chris Misko, the 91st State Master Councilor of Pennsylvania DeMolay. Earlier this year, I was also initiated into the Order of the Amaranth, so I am thrilled to have both organizations working together this year. Past State Scribe Ian Bellamy was also initiated into Sarah E. Collins Ct. 86 with me, making us

the only active members in both DeMolay and Amaranth. I am excited to introduce my theme for the year, “Blitzing for Brotherhood.”

My term will be centered around sports and connecting their lessons and values to what we learn in DeMolay. Both sports and DeMolay help us learn about brotherhood, teamwork, determination, and much more.

This year, I am introducing a few initiatives to my program. Our membership initiative will encourage members to bring in new recruits and compete for the Executive Officer’s Membership Cup at the end of the year to see who will be crowned the Champion of Membership. I will be coaching the Master Councilors around the state on how to run a chapter and will teach them all the skills they need to know.

My Training Camp initiative will bring joy and education to our ritual, giving members an understanding of why we do what we do. Finally, I would like to discuss our DSPN media initiative, which will transform our normal media efforts into a sports broadcast-style production.

If you have questions, please reach out to chrismisko.pasmc@gmail.com. It’s going to be an awesome year for both orders, and I can’t wait to get started!

Autumn's Embrace

In the crisp embrace of autumn's light, Pumpkin spice dances in the air, a delight. Leaves of amber, gold, and crimson bright, Whisper tales of seasons' gentle flight. Amaranth meetings, a cherished return, Gathering hearts where memories burn. Laughter echoes in the cool, clear night, As friends reunite, spirits ignite.

Journeys beckon, horizons wide, with wanderlust, we take each stride. Through cities, forests, mountains tall, we embrace the wonders of the fall.

So let us savor each fleeting day, in autumn's glow, we'll find our way. With pumpkin spice and travels near, Amaranth meetings bring us cheer.