

Grand Council Gazette

Seventh Edition of the Grand Council Gazette

Lady LaDonna Seger, Grand High Priestess



The word for this time is O-P-P-O-R-T-U-N-I-T-Y . Opportunity is a set of circumstances that makes it possible to do something. Our Organization and the Courts , we have opportunities to make a difference. We have been working with the Shrine Centers and local community organizations, and this has provided opportunities for us to tell our story about Ladies' Oriental Shrine of North America and what our purpose as an Organization is. The great story of helping the Children by supporting the Shriners Children's and the work and research performed by the physicians and others at the hospitals and outpatient clinics.

Opportunity gives us the desire to create a path where there is none. Our Organization and the Courts have been in a constant state of change by the opportunities that have been presented to us. Using the opportunities we are given, a world of possibilities lies ahead. This opportunity provides a means for growth, support and fellowship. It takes all of us working together to make our Organization and Courts successful. We are family and like a family, we will have our ups and downs. And like a family, when one of us is hurting or having a bad time, we are there to help, support and show love.

I have personally felt the love, prayers and support from each of you during the Official Visits and more recently, with the medical issue with my husband, Gary and his broken hip!! Thank you to Lady Carol Sue Roberts, Lady Laura West and Lady Cyndi Rudd! These ladies stepped up to finish the Official Visits for the Florida Courts so I could return home to be with Gary and his recovery from surgery and rehab. Thank you to Lady Diana Schmitz for handling the Official Visit for Sekhmet Court in Mexico City. Lady Sandy Newby gets my Thank you for being responsible for the Institution of Zara Court. I would like to end with a poem by Carol Grace Anderson from her book, "Get Fired Up Without Burning".

It's Up to You

*"You can reach....or you can rust.
And see your dreams just turn to dust.
Or you can break those chains and make a change.
Let perfection step aside.
There's no room to be perfect on this ride.
Whatever you do ...just remember it's up to you.
It's up to you if you want to give it all you've got.
Or hide behind excuses, fears and doubts.
It's up to you to go out there and be all you can be.
'Cause you can make a difference starting now.
Whatever you do ...just remember it's up to you!"*



Paddington Bear Love, Lady LaDonna Seger, Grand High Priestess

Submitted by Sandy Newby, PGHP,
Grand Chairman, FNC

ZARA COURT NO. 113
INSTITUTION FEBRUARY 15, 2025
SCRANTON, PA.



The Grand Officers and Members of Zara Court #113

It was truly a Valentine's weekend in Scranton, Pa. from Feb. 13-16 when, with much love and friendship, we gathered to institute our newest Court. Ladies and Nobles, Friends and Family came from across our country and Canada to share in this wonderful event. Mother Nature even showed up and gave us a light dusting of snow, but she didn't put a chill on our wonderful events. The warmth of friendship filled the air. Lady Rebecca Gresh, High Priestess of Zara Court, her officers and ladies provided a warm welcome which melted our hearts...not to mention the snow...LOL.

The Officers and members of Jobel Court No. 11 (the Mother Court of Zara Court) provided a beautiful Ceremony of initiation, which was just the "topping" on their commitment to the Zara Court ladies. Jobel Court has provided guidance and mentoring through the last couple of years; and it all came together as we witnessed twenty-seven (27) ladies become members of LOSNA. What a proud moment for all! Why...even Maude and Jennie showed up to join in the festivities!

We look forward to seeing and hearing wonderful and exciting things from our "Baby" Court as they begin their new phase. We also can't wait until May at Grand Council when they will receive their permanent Charter.

As the Chairman of Formation of New Courts, I wish to thank everyone who helped to plan this event and those who travelled to show support. A very special "Thank You" goes out to Lady Dorothy Needer, PHP, Yak-Rem-Pey Court No. 32, MAL, for taking time out of her busy schedule to come and provide her beautiful music. It added so much to the ceremonies.

We missed Lady LaDonna and the other Grand Executive Board members who were unable to be with us, but we knew you were there in spirit.

And now...we look forward to Grand Council and the institution of Auset Club, Topeka, KS. Lady LaDonna plans to present permanent charters to Bahiti Court No.112, Zara Court No. 113 and Auset Court which will be instituted as Auset Court No. 114. We hope that many will decide to come to Grand Council to witness this "first time" event.



Lady Cynthia Rudd
Gran Princess
Whimsical Mystic Ladies

Whimsical Mystic Ladies-it is time for you to shed your Tiera and wear your High Priestess Fez! I love seeing the photos of your installations and the Forever Dresses are stunning. I'm so proud of you and from what I see as your decorations in your Court-you are having fun. If you can, visit your neighboring Courts during the installations and share your Elephant Hugs and Mermaid Splashes.

Everyone looking forward to attending 111th Grand Council?!! Remember how you are feeling because I will be going through all of those emotions on Friday evening during my installation. Thank you so much for taking that Climb with me throughout the years - I love each of you.

Flamingo Kisses,
 Mamma Cyndi



After considerable time working on renaming and approving our website, we are pleased to announce that:

www.ladiesshrine.org

is available.

Many thanks go to the committee who has worked diligently over the last year to create a website which addresses public relations and information for our many members. With this new website, we have the ability to offer to any court who wishes to have their own website their own URL at no charge to the Court.

This is still a work in progress as we have plans to add more features in the coming months.

We are working on the map to show locations of our Courts where you can hover and it will bring up limited information such as a URL or contact information. We are working to secure our site for Recorders to access some of our forms and print them as needed.

We welcome any suggestions to improve or add to our website.

Please direct any corrections or suggestions to Lady Janet Larson, Grand Recorder, Chairman, Website Committee.

111th Grand Council Session

May 18 - 24, 2025

Kansas City, Missouri

Hosted by Tarrara Court No. 83

**Looking forward to seeing
 you all in Kansa City.**



**Lady Roberta Ensor
Grand Associate Princess**

If it is to be,
It is up to me.
SHINE!

April will soon be here and with it our new year starts. I hope everyone has a year filled with fun, friendship and philanthropy. I pray for a safe, healthy and happy year for all our Courts. Please make time within your busy schedule to call and check in on other Court members. Remember, we are here for each other as well as for the children. You never know when your phone call may be the one thing that makes a difference in someone's day.

With Phoenix love and a warm Dragon hug,
Lady Roberta, Grand Associate Princess
Roberta's Rising Phoenix



**INSTITUTION
Auset Court**

We are excited about the Institution of **Auset Court** being held at the 111th Grand Council Session in Kansas City, Missouri in May 2025.

If you have not been able to attend an Institution of a new court, here's your opportunity to witness the three (3) "I"s - Institution, Initiation, and Installation.

The Event Schedule is as follows:

Saturday, 5/17/25

5:30 pm to 6:30 pm - Institution of Auset Court- Open to the Public.

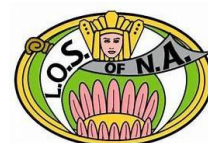
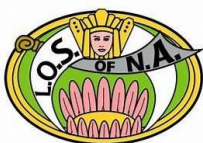
Sunday, 5/18/25

2:00 pm to 3:30 pm - Ceremonial of Initiation of Auset Court Members - Closed to the Public
(Current Dues Card is Required to attend)

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm - Installation of Auset Court Officers - Open to the Public

This has been a great year for our Organization. We are going to be able to present Charters to three (3) Courts.

Permanent Charters to Bahiti Court and Zara Court. As of this date, Charter under Dispensation to Auset Court, however, the ladies of Auset Club are working endlessly to have forty (40) ladies before the time of Institution.





Lady Valarie Byrd
Grand 1st Ceremonial Lady
Valerie's Heavenly Hawks



What an exciting time of year this is, with Elections and Installations of new officers. As each of my Heavenly Hawks take another step on their journey to the East, it has been a pleasure hearing about, witnessing, and seeing all the fun pictures of different Installations of Officers. This has been an awesome year; we have all grown closer together as a family and the relationships that are evolving make my heart SMILE. You ladies have recently stepped out and started jumping from the nest, as you are putting together ZOOMs to come up with different communication ideas and fundraising ideas. That is the way to use that keen insight that Hawks have and rise above to combat the situation. LOVE IT! I'd like to welcome all my new Heavenly Hawks that have joined our class this year. I'd like to let our new ladies know that this class is made up of many beautiful and fun-loving ladies that enjoy the company of one another and working together to help us all become more successful in our roles in our Courts. I hope many of you will jump right in and join us monthly on our ZOOM calls. Our class Zooms are on the fourth (4th) Sunday of each month. Plus reach out to get logged in to our GroupMe App. On GroupMe, we share anything from our life experiences to what we are doing in our Court. Please get connected by reaching out to myself, Lady Valarie Byrd, grandhawk2728@gmail.com or (918)693-4375 or our Class Secretary, Lady Carol Schulz, carolmschulz@gmail.com or (216)389-3759. As I tell all, "You get out of this, the more you put into it." From the words of Ellie, from the Movie Up, "Adventure is out there!" Get connected and plugged into our Class, and what an amazing Adventure you will experience.

Ladies, this year at Grand Council in Kansas City, will once again be a very exciting time for us as a class, as we learn a little more information about our journey to the East. From learning the dates, I have picked to travel to your great Courts, seeing your High Priestess Fez, and best of all, a look at our classes 'Forever Dress'. What an honor it has been to put these items together for us as a class. I sure hope I have not disappointed anyone as I've tried to consider all our ladies. In the weeks to come I will be sending out a 'What to Wear and When' so each of you attending Grand Council can start planning your packing plans for the week of Grand Council. This year we will be having a Class Silent Action during our Class Luncheon. If you have any items that you would like to donate to the Action, please let Lady Carol know a brief description of your item or items, so we can prepare Silent Action Sheets. I look forward to seeing each of you who plan on attending Grand Council and for all my other Heavenly Hawks I hope I get to see you on our ZOOM calls. I wish you all a Magical Year.

Hawk Hugs and Cheshire Cat Smiles,
 Lady Valarie (Momma) Byrd, Grand First Ceremonial Lady
 PHP Aaba Court No. 4, Tulsa, OK





Lady Kim Cook
Grand 2nd Ceremonial Lady
Kim's Salty Anchors



Aloha Ladies,

By now, hopefully most of the Courts have had their 2025-2026 Court Installations. CONGRATULATIONS to all the new High Priestesses and Officers. I had the privilege to attend my Court's Installation and 3 other Court Installations. It always puts a smile on my face watching these Ladies be installed.

This past year has flown by. I've attended many Court & Unit fundraisers. We hosted our first annual Basket Bingo as a fundraiser for the 115th Grand Council Session. It was a huge success. I enjoyed traveling with our Grand High Priestess, Lady LaDonna. This was a great learning experience for me. I love going to other Courts and meeting the Ladies. Virginia had our annual 4-Courts event. These Officers find this as an amazing weekend of education and getting to know their counterparts. I recommend that if you have several Courts close, that you plan one of these events. My husband, Matt & I attend MASA (Mid-Atlantic Shrine Association Convention) and I got to see some of my Salty Anchor Crew. I love every minute I get to spend with them. The only Unit Meet I was able to attend this past year was Mid-States Unit Meet in Oklahoma City and I had so much fun. Great Job Rehema Court. We instituted a new Court and I was grateful to be part of their Installation as their Inviting Marshal. What an exciting time! Now we are working towards instituting a new Court at Grand Council. I am the Grand Deputy for Auset Club and I can tell you these Ladies have been working very hard over the last couple of months to make sure this happens. I hope you are planning to come to Grand Council in Kansas City, MO, and be there in time to watch this wonderful occasion.

Safe travels to all Ladies attending Grand Council. I can't wait to see you!

Salty Kisses & Pirate Hugs

Lady Kim Cook, Grand 2nd Ceremonial Lady.
 Grand Second Ceremonial Lady



SHRINE YOUTH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

IN MEMORY OF NOBLE JEFF FIGLER

Funded by Past Grand High Priestess Lady Linda Figler in honor of her Noble Jeffrey David Figler, this Memorial Scholarship was created to assist Shrine Patients and Shrine Organizational Youth in acquiring higher education and/or vocational skills to become positive successful members of society. There will be four (4) annual scholarships of \$1,000.00 each designated for (1) Shriners Children's Patients, (2) Order of Job's Daughters, (3) Order of Rainbow, and (4) Order of DeMolay.

For more information
 Please see the Application attached to this newsletter.

**Silent
Auction
Fundraiser****Grand Council Silent Auction****Request for Donations****Kansas City, Missouri****Monday Night May 19, 2025**

This Silent Auction has been an ongoing and very profitable fundraiser for our Grand Council General Fund. As in the past, we would be very happy and thankful to receive any and all donations to this project from our very talented and giving ladies.

Should you wish to offer an item to the Silent Auction please contact me, Lady Jan Hiebert, GT1Y, PGHP, at my email: grandexplorer@att.net with details of what the item is, and how it will be transported to Grand Council, and when it will arrive. Should the item need to be shipped, we have Grand Officers willing to receive them and drive them to Kansas City, MO, saving the receiving charge from the convention hotel.

Keep in mind any "free rewards" you maybe eligible for; less expensive close out items; think outside the box, kitchen, art pieces, etc. Not sure check with me. I already have commitments for a charcuterie board, a concealed carry purse and a computer roller bag.

As always, the members of your Grand Executive Board of Directors look forward to seeing our ladies at Grand Council and working with them to ensure the future of the Ladies' Oriental Shrine of North America.

Ladies' Oriental Shrine of North America**Mission Statement**

Promotes fun fraternal fellowship and philanthropic endeavors supporting Shriners Hospitals for Children and community-based charities.

Ladies, We would like to share your special events with everyone also. Please let us know if you have events, with pictures, you want to share.

Please forward them to me at diane.wehmeyer2@gmail.com

or

Lady Valarie Byrd at grandhawk2728@gmail.com.



Submitted By Lady Jan Heibert, GT1Y, PGHP

FEMALE HEART ATTACKS

From Inspirations Kindness Viral



An ER nurse says this is the best description of a woman having a heart attack that she has ever heard. Please read, pay attention, and SHARE.....

I was aware that female heart attacks are different, but this is the best description I've ever read.

Women rarely have the same dramatic symptoms that men have ... you know, the sudden stabbing pain in the chest, the cold sweat, grabbing the chest & dropping to the floor that we see in movies. Here is the story of one woman's experience with a heart attack.

I had a heart attack at about 10:30 PM with NO prior exertion, NO prior emotional trauma that one would suspect might have brought it on. I was sitting all snugly & warm on a cold evening, with my purring cat in my lap, reading an interesting story my friend had sent me, and thinking,

'A-A-h, this is the life, all cozy and warm in my soft, cushy Lazy Boy with my feet propped up.

A moment later, I felt that awful sensation of indigestion, when you've been in a hurry and grabbed a bite of sandwich and washed it down with a dash of water, and that hurried bite seems to feel like you've swallowed a golf ball going down the esophagus in slow motion and it is most uncomfortable. You realize you shouldn't have gulped it down so fast and needed to chew it more thoroughly and this time drink a glass of water to hasten its progress down to the stomach. This was my initial sensation--the only trouble was that I hadn't taken a bite of anything since about 5:00 p.m.

After it seemed to subside, the next sensation was like little squeezing motions that seemed to be racing up my SPINE (hindsight, it was probably my aorta spasms), gaining speed as they continued racing up and under my sternum (breastbone, where one presses rhythmically when administering CPR).

This fascinating process continued into my throat and branched out into both jaws. 'AHA!! NOW I stopped puzzling about what was happening -- we all have read and/or heard about pain in the jaws being one of the signals of an MI happening, haven't we? I said aloud to myself and the cat, Dear God, I think I'm having a heart attack!

I lowered the footrest dumping the cat from my lap, started to take a step and fell on the floor instead. I thought to myself, if this is a heart attack, I shouldn't be walking into the next room where the phone is or anywhere else... but, on the other hand, if I don't, nobody will know that I need help, and if I wait any longer I may not be able to get up in a moment.

I pulled myself up with the arms of the chair, walked slowly into the next room and dialed the Paramedics... I told her I thought I was having a heart attack due to the pressure building under the sternum and radiating into my jaws. I didn't feel hysterical or afraid, just stating the facts. She said she was sending the Paramedics over immediately, asking if the front door was near to me, and if so, to un-bolt the door and then lie down on the floor where they could see me when they came in.

I unlocked the door and then laid down on the floor as instructed and lost consciousness, as I don't remember the medics coming in, their examination, lifting me onto a gurney or getting me into their ambulance, or hearing the call they made to St. Jude ER on the way, but I did briefly awaken when we arrived and saw that the radiologist was already there in his surgical blues and cap, helping the medics pull my stretcher out of the ambulance. He was bending over me asking questions (probably something like 'Have you taken any medications?') but I couldn't make my mind interpret what he was saying, or form an answer, and nodded off again, not waking up until the Cardiologist and partner had already threaded the teeny angiogram balloon up my femoral artery into the aorta and into my heart where they installed 2 side by side stints to hold open my right coronary artery.

I know it sounds like all my thinking and actions at home must have taken at least 20-30 minutes before calling the paramedics, but actually it took perhaps 4-5 minutes before the call, and both the fire station and St Jude are only minutes away from my home, and my Cardiologist was already to go to the OR in his scrubs and get going on restarting my heart (which had stopped somewhere between my arrival and the procedure) and installing the stents.

Why have I written all of this to you in so much detail? Because I want all of you who are so important in my life to know what I learned firsthand.

1. Be aware that something very different is happening in your body, not the usual men's symptoms but inexplicable things happening (until my sternum and jaws got into the act). It is said that many more women than men die of their first (and last) MI because they didn't know they were having one and commonly mistake it as indigestion, take some Maalox or other anti-heartburn preparation and go to bed, hoping they'll feel better in the morning when they wake up... which doesn't happen. My female friends, your symptoms might not be exactly like mine, so I advise you to call the Paramedics if ANYTHING is unpleasantly happening that you've not felt before. It is better to have a 'false alarm' visitation than to risk your life guessing what it might be!

2. Note that I said, 'Call the Paramedics.' And if you can take an aspirin. Ladies, **TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE!**

Do NOT try to drive yourself to the ER - you are a hazard to others on the road.

Do NOT have your panicked husband who will be speeding and looking anxiously at what's happening with you instead of the road.

Do NOT call your doctor -- he doesn't know where you live and if it's at night you won't reach him anyway, and if it's daytime, his assistants (or answering service) will tell you to call the Paramedics. He doesn't carry the equipment in his car that you need to be saved! Paramedics do, principally OXYGEN that you need ASAP. Your Dr. will be notified later.

3. Don't assume it couldn't be a heart attack because you have a normal cholesterol count. Research has discovered that cholesterol elevated reading is rarely the cause of an MI (unless it's unbelievably high and/or accompanied by high blood pressure). MIs are usually caused by long-term stress and inflammation in the body, which dumps all sorts of deadly hormones into your system to sludge things up in there. Pain in your jaw can wake you from a sound sleep. Let's be careful and be aware. The more we know the better chance we can survive.

A cardiologist says if everyone who sees this post would Share or re-post, you can be sure that we'll save at least one life.

*Please be a true friend and SHARE this article to all your friends, women & men.



Ladies' Oriental Shrine of North America

<https://www.ladiesshrine.org>



Please take some time to go on the NEW website for more LOSNA Information

UPCOMING EVENTS

Grand Council Session 2025

May 18 - 24, 2025

Kansas City, Missouri

Hosted by Tarrara Court No. 83

Grand Council Session 2026

May 10 - 16, 2026

Orlando, Florida

Hosted by Kismet Court No. 86

2025 Unit Meets

WAOUM - Western Area Organized Unit Meet

Hosted by Sphinx Court #65, Scottsdale, Arizona

September 18 - 20, 2025

GLUM - Great Lakes Unit Meet

Hosted by Dendarah Court No. 10, Petersburg, Ohio

September 26 - 28, 2025

MEUM - Mideast Unit Meet

Hosted by Jobel Court No. 11, Altoona, Pennsylvania

October 3 - 4, 2025

MSUM - Mid-States Unit Meet

Hosted by Aaba Court No. 4, Tulsa, Oklahoma

October 17 - 19, 2025

SSUM - Sunshine Unit Meet

Hosted by Cairo Court No. 97, Zephyrhills, Florida

October 30 - November 1, 2025



Attested by:



LaDonna H. Seger

Lady LaDonna Seger, GHP

Janet Larson

Lady Janet Larson, GR, PGHP



LADIES' ORIENTAL SHRINE OF NORTH AMERICA, INC.

SHRINE YOUTH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF NOBLE JEFF FIGLER

Funded by Past Grand High Priestess Lady Linda Figler in honor of her Noble Jeffrey David Figler, this Memorial Scholarship was created to assist Shrine Patients and Shrine Organizational Youth in acquiring higher education and/or vocational skills to become positive successful members of society. There will be four (4) annual scholarships of \$1,000.00 each designated for (1) Shriners Children's Patients, (2) Order of Job's Daughters, (3) Order of Rainbow, and (4) Order of DeMolay.

APPLICATION

Read and follow the instructions carefully prior to submitting your application. All winners will be notified on or before June 30. If selected you will be asked to provide additional documentation in support of all the information you provide. Applications will be accepted by members of the Ladies' Oriental Shrine as listed at the end of this application.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility Criteria for this Ladies' Oriental Shrine Scholarship

- Must be an active member of a Masonic Youth Organization for at least a year, or a current or former patient of Shriners Children's.
- Must live in a country which has a Ladies' Oriental Shrine Court. Currently a limit of applicants to North America and North American training and education facilities.
- Must provide information on type of training or educational goal and an employment need for the specific training or educational pursuit.
- Application must be for education or training with a fully accredited institution within the above stated geographic area.

Name and full contact address of Masonic Organization or Shriners Children's Facility:

(Name)
(address) (city) (state) (zip code)

Proof of Affiliation:

I have been a member of (*name of organization*) for (*number of years*) and my dues card and/or written attestation is attached.

I am a current or former patient of Shriners Children's for *(number of years)* and written attestation is attached.

Members of Masonic Youth Organizations:

Describe community activities, volunteer work, honors or offices held in these organizations, include why your membership in your organization is important to you and what you have gained from your experiences.: (If more room is needed attach a separate page)

PERSONAL DATA

Full Name:

(First) (Middle) (Last)

Permanent Residential Address:

(address) (city) (state) (zip code)

Mailing Address (if different from above):

(address) (city) (state) (zip code)

Birthdate:	(mm/dd/yyyy)	Email:
Home Phone:	Mobile Phone:	
Are you a US Citizen? (Yes) (No) (circle one)		

Full Name of Parent or Legal Guardian:

(First) (Middle) (Last)

Permanent Residential Address:

(address) (city) (state) (zip code)

Mailing Address (if different from above):

(address) (city) (state) (zip code)

ACADEMIC OR TRAINING GOALS

Where do you intend to use the scholarship money for training or academic pursuit?

Name and Address of College or Vocational Institution:

(name)
(address) (city) (state) (zip code)
(Accreditation)

Have you applied for admission? (Yes) (No) (circle one)

Have you been accepted at the time of this application? (Yes) (No) (circle one)

If you answered no, when will you be advised of acceptance? (date)

What is your intended major area of study?

--

Please check status at the time of application:

- I will be graduating high school in spring or summer of 2025

- Name and address of High School:

(name)
(address) (city) (state) (zip code)

- Current cumulative GPA:

 (attach transcript)

- I have or will receive my GED on
- I have never attended college or vocational school
- I have less than one year of college or vocational training credits
- I have more than one year of college or vocational training credits

Full Names and contact information of advisors, teachers, non-family members from the Masonic Community and/or hospital staff you have worked with, as a member or patient, who are providing attached letters of recommendation.

(full name)
(phone) (email)

(full name)
(phone) (email)

(full name)
(phone) (email)

Essay: In 2000 words or less describe your educational or training goals and the reason you have chosen this particular field as your goal. Describe the advantages received by this particular education or training in the current employment market. What will be the resulting accreditation which can be earned from attendance at this institution. Why is this scholarship important to you in meeting your goal? Include any work history, academic, non-academic, personal experiences or interests that make you uniquely worthy of receiving this scholarship.

Applications can be submitted to any current member of the Ladies' Oriental Shrine of North America, an authorized staff member of Shriners Children's Medical Facilities or emailed to: scholarshiplosna@gmail.com.