



Marcia Cherry

High Priestess

Arvida K Curry
Recorder



Cactus Chatter

Sphinx Court #65 - Phoenix, Arizona
August-September 2024

Lady LaDonna Seger, Grand High Priestess

Motto: "Believe in yourself and you will be unstoppable."

High Priestess

The month of July greeted us with record hot weather. It also was a remarkably busy month for our court. Many of our ladies returning from Imperial in Reno, which also had record hot weather, jumped in to preparing for our Grand High visit.



We had a wonderful time at Chompie's and an amazing turn out of support. Lady LaDonna had a wonderful time and we even stopped on the way out for a cinnamon cookie which she said she would enjoy while working on the books later. The Director Staff prepared an amazing meal. There was so much work involved in putting this dinner together and Lady LaDonna really enjoyed visiting with each of you. The Audit went great.



On July 27 we'll have our Arts and Crafts

fundraiser. I hope it will be well attended. You can make 1 craft for \$10 or 3 for \$25. Crafts can be made on site or you can take it with you and make it at home. Also, they come in kits, so you can buy the kits and give them as gifts. Also, this year we have an option where you can make the item and donate it back to be sold at CornFest. The ladies will be providing some delicious refreshments.



August 24-25 will bring yet another great CornFest with some wonderful vendors. Of course, the day starts out shucking corn and then bagging some for later sales. Our table will have our crafts and tickets for our upcoming Oct fundraiser to sell.

September will be remarkably busy. Starting with the Welcome back party on 9/7. The ladies are making an assortment of desserts that would make a bakery blush with envy. The Daughters of the Nile are working on the decorations and the Potentate, as promised, will put on a great dinner.

The Western Area Organized Unit is in September and will be held at Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park, CA. Several of our units will be performing.

Our fall Membership Tea will be held on 9/21 and should be a great success. It is hosted by our 1st and 2nd CL's Dennice Dunaway and Debbie Sise. Dennice can still send out invitations if you send her your friends' addresses.

Lady Marcia Cherry, High Priestess
Phone: 480-620-9570
Email: mscherry317@gmail.com

Officers' Offerings

Princess



Here we go again, another Summer is in full swing, and the quiet, relaxing, vacation days seem to be passing us by. I hope everyone is staying healthy and cool.

If you were not in attendance at the Grand Council Official Visit, you were missed and you missed a fantastic gathering of friends, family, visiting dignitaries and members of subordinate courts and a wonderful meal with beautiful decorations.

Let the travel fun begin. WAOUM, Western Area Organized Unit Meet, is just around the corner. Did you say what is WAOUM? It's a fun gathering of the unit members within the courts of a specific region whom get together for a fun weekend. Oh Yeah! I almost forgot about the 1 business meeting.

This year, Ra-Ma Court #95, is hosting the event in sunny Buena Park, California at the Knott's Berry Farm Hotel (cashless venue), \$159.00 per night plus taxes and parking. The event is Sept 12th - 14th, and the registration deadline is quickly approaching. Registration prior to August 1st is \$225 or \$252 after August 1st. If you have not yet seen the packet, or have questions, please let me know and I will make sure you receive the necessary information. A benefit to WAOUM being in Southern California, it is an easy drive of approximately 5 ½ hours or you may fly. If you would like to fly, let me know and I will do my best to help locate a flight that works best for your schedule.

Have an amazing Summer and I will see you soon.

Lady Mechelle Gaines, Princess,
Phone: 719-229-9226, Email: emeraldmermaid2526@gmail.com



Associate Princess



Hello Ladies! Hope you all are having a great summer and staying cool. July 10th and 11th we had our Grand High Priestess, Lady LaDonna, here for her O.V. On Wednesday the 10th we all went to Chompies and had dinner and a meet and greet, good food and great company. On Thursday the 11th was the O.V. The Director Staff prepared the meal and it was amazing, Way to go Chief Lady Judy Lough and Lady Mary Hammer, PHP for taking this on and to all the ladies that set up the room it was beautiful, you all Rock.

The court special project is off to a great start, thanks to all my wonderful sisters. The Saint Louis Hospital will be very pleased with what our court is doing for the kids, makes my heart warm and filled with love.

In August the Shrine has its annual CornFest. It's an event that our court ladies help out with. We also have a booth for our court. It is a fun event with lots of arts and crafts to buy. Our booth gives us a chance to put the word out about what our wonderful organization does for so many children.

In September we head off to California for Western and it is always a great time. Thanks again to all the ladies in the court for your continuous support as I go forward on this journey. And may the force be with you...

Lady Lou Ann Speas, Associate Princess,
Phone: 480-510-2896, Email: littletyrant1960@aol.com

Officers' Offerings



First Ceremonial Lady

I want to thank everyone who has given me names and contact information so I can invite prospective members to our Tea on September 21st. If there is anyone you know that is a good fit for LOSNA please let me know. I will be reaching out to the Units for help in August so we can get started on the Tea preparations. Stay cool and see you in September

**Lady Dennice Dunaway, 2nd Ceremonial Lady,
Phone: 602-628-7820, Email: dundealaz@gmail.com**



Second Ceremonial Lady

Hi ladies,

I hope you have been enjoying your summer so far. The national convention held in Kalamazoo MI was a very productive, and fun time. I'm not a mushroom any more! My class name is Kim's Salty Anchors. Unfortunately some ladies became ill at the end. Thank goodness all recovered nicely. I also discovered that Zoom meetings are not as scary as I had thought.

The menu for September will be Roast Beef, salad with Blue cheese or Raspberry Vinaigrette dressing, green beans, rolls and pudding for dessert. For October it will be Grilled Chicken, salad with the same two dressings to choose from, squash, rolls and cake for dessert. Please RSVP 10 days prior to the meetings so that I can get the numbers into the office for ordering the groceries.

I do need to remind everyone that if you order a meal and are a no show, I will try and sell your ticket. But you will ultimately be responsible for the price. You order it, the Shrine provided it, and you left it. You need to pay for it. (Mamma Bear mode over.)

Looking forward to catching up, and having fun, while helping the kids.

**Lady Debbie Sise, 2nd Ceremonial Lady,
Phone: 810-923-0024, Email: mypolasha@icloud.com**

Recorder

ROSTER CHANGES

*******2024 DUES ARE \$35.00 ARE DUE ON APRIL 1, 2024*******

Make your check payable to Sphinx Court #65 and mail to c/o Linda Curry, 1550 N El Camino Drive, Tempe, AZ 85288-1426 Your self-addressed, stamped envelope for your dues card is appreciated.

**Lady Linda Curry, PHP
Phone: 602-619-4313, Email: lkcurry1@cox.net**

CACTUS CHATTER UPDATE EMAILS

If you are not receiving emails from the Cactus Chatter Updates list, please contact Linda Curry, PHP to be added. lkcurry1@cox.net

NOTICE

If you would like to have your email address in the next Court roster, please send an email to lkcurry1@cox.net from the address you would like included giving permission to publish it.

Join Sphinx Court #65 for some Arts and Crafts
Saturday July 27, 2024, 1 to 4 PM
El Zaribah Shrine Center
552 N. 40th St
Phoenix, AZ 85008



- Wreath making, Garland making, Kitchen Scarfs, and Gnome making
- Make 1 craft for \$10 or Make 3 for \$25
- They will be prepackaged kits so you can either make it on site or take it and make it later.
- If you don't want to keep what you made you can donate it back to us
- Light refreshments will be included with the event

To RSVP please send an email to janet_label@yahoo.com

2024/2025—Sphinx Court Ways & Means

The fundraising for the court is underway for the year and we need your help to reach our goal. Our first event is fast approaching on July 27th with our Arts & Crafts event. Please feel free to stop by the Shrine on Saturday, July 27th between 1:00-4:00 to make any of the four crafts, enjoy a light snack, and visit with friends.

Ways and Means is also sponsoring a Cash Opportunity Drawing this year with the drawing to take place after our February 24th court meeting. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20. First prize is \$250 in cash, Second prize is \$150 in cash and third prize is \$100 in cash.

Upcoming Events:

8/23 & 8/24 CornFest Table: Selling crafts, treats, and offering Cash Opportunity Tickets

10/12/24 Dinner at Count Dracula's (More information to come)

December - Festival of Trees Table: Selling crafts, treats, and offering Cash Opportunity Tickets

02/01/25 Mardi Gras Shrimp Boil (More information to come)

02/24/25—Cash Opportunity Drawing

**Kacy Baxter,
Ways & Means Chairman**

Unit and Club Happenings

Sphinx Patrol

Welcome to the summer. Oh my goodness it's a hot one. The Grand High Priestess OV was really great. Lady LaDonna is a lot of fun to be around. It was also great to see Past GHP Linda Figler. We love it when she comes to be with us.

I hope everyone is planning on going to Western Area Unit Meet. It is going to be in sunny California and a little cooler than here. Plus it's at Knott's Berry Farm which means more fun.

We have the art and craft event coming up for the court and I sure hope that you, your friends, neighbors and family are able to attend 27 July at 1pm. We will have wreath marking, garland making, kitchen scarves and Gnomes. Don't forget we will have snacks and laughs as well.

If you're traveling please stay safe and we will see you soon.

Lady Janet LaBell PHP, Captain



Greeters

Ladies: Hope you are staying cool this summer. We had our "Un-birthday" party on June 8th and entertained 20+ ladies. All enjoyed "ballpark" food, friendship, fun and our chosen game for the day, bingo. Thank you again ladies for help with setting up and cleaning up - sometimes it takes many hands and you come thru every time. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, September 7th, 11:30 a.m., place TBD. Hope you have time to join us. And last, but not least, we are looking forward to traveling to Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park, California for WAOUM the week after our meeting.

Lady Andie Lacombe, President

Ceremonial Pageantry

Happy summer to all! I hope this finds everybody staying reasonably cool. It was great seeing so many ladies at the Official Visit of Lady LaDonna Seger, GHP.

The next meeting for Ceremonial Pageantry will be in November prior to our Ceremonial on November 16th. The date and time will come later, so please watch for it.

Remember to keep hydrated and out of the hot sun!

Lady Bobbie Balthazor, PHP—Secretary

Past High Priestess Club

I hope everyone is having a great summer! Remember to drink water and stay indoors if possible!

Kudos to Judy Lough and the Ladies of Directors Staff for the impressive Court Dinner they catered for the OV of GHP Lady LaDonna! Everyone was impressed with the outstanding job that they did.

We are all looking forward to CornFest in August, WAOUM in September, and the return of our regular meeting schedule. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wed. Sept. 25th, location to be determined. We will be working on our Fill-A-Purse program, so start collecting purses and stuff to put in them. See you all soon!

Lady Mary Lou Burger, PHP, President

<p>SPHINX NO. 65</p> <p>Contact: Andie Lacombe 602-329-2015 Andie@curtismanagement.biz</p>	<p>GREETERS</p> <p>Court and Unit Name Tags Choice of Red or Blue Ink Magnetic Name Tag - \$15.00 Pin Back Name Tag - \$10.00 Unit Bar - \$7.00</p>
---	--

Cactus Chatter Editor

Lady Karen MacDougall, PHP
623-337-3226 Email: kcmac999@cox.net
8103 W. Hess Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85043
www.sphinxcourt65.org

Unit and Club Happenings

Director Staff

Director Staff is planning on cooking and serving dinner to the homeless on August 29, 2024. If you are interested in helping or donating to the group we are helping, please reach out to me.

Some of us have been working at the stadium as "extras" to get some experience in running the Court stand for the upcoming Football Season. We opened the stand for a soccer game on June 30th. THANK YOU LADIES, that participated. We were short helpers but we made it. Remember if you attended orientation you still need your food handlers card and alcohol permit to serve.

We haven't had a gathering yet this summer as we have been focused on the Grand High OV and casual dinner. That is upon us now. Moving into the rest of the summer hoping to practice for WAOUM at Knott's Berry Farm in September.

We will participate at the CornFest in August hosted by El Zaribah Temple. September 4th is our next unit meeting at the Temple social hour dinner/5:30PM with meeting at 7:00PM. Our October meeting will be same time and place on October 2, 2024.

Lady Judy Lough, PC—Chief

2025 W.A.O.U.M. Coming to Sphinx!

Howdy Ladies! Well it is an exciting time around our Court! We will be submitting a bid to host the 68th Annual Western Area Unit Meet next year September 18th-20th 2025. We have secured the Hotel (Embassy Suites in Scottsdale). Same hotel that we had in 2017. There is much to do to make this a success. I will need everyone's help with committees and lending helping hands, so start thinking about how and where you want to help. Be on the look out for upcoming meeting dates. I would like to have one in August. Your Unit Leaders will be talking about the cool items you will put in your goodie bags.

Thank You in advance for all your help and support.

**Lady Debbie Smith, PHP
W.A.O.U.M. Committee President**

Clown Unit

Happy summer to all. The Clowns have been darkish, but plans are afoot. We are looking forward to the Crafty Fundraiser on July 27, and in August, makeup/costume/face painting/puppets refresher events are planned. Save Sunday, Aug. 11th for Pam's tutorial, and emails will go out once time and place are determined.

Also on that calendar is the CornFest, August 24 & 25. Clowns will be needed.

Several of our clowns will be heading to California in September, joining in the WAOUM annual gathering. This event starts on the same day (Sept. 12) as our regular meeting, so that will be changed to Sept. 5, at the Shrine. (sorry, no food available). We'll have a puppet practice prior to our dazzling performance at WAOUM. Emails will confirm time, but probably 6:30 pm.

If your friends are jealous of how much fun you're having, encourage them to attend the Membership Tea on Sept.21. Spread the love, it's all about the kids. Until then, Hippo hugs!

Lady Emy Bartula – Vice President



- Web Design
- Brand Analysis
- Online Marketing
- Print Publication

Web Designs Arizona, LLC

Leo Balthazor
Project Manager • Owner

5915 East Woodridge Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85254

email: leo@webdesignsarizona.com Cell: 602.740.5635
 website: www.webdesignsarizona.com FAX: 602.237.5526
 Facebook or Twitter: [@webdesignsarizona](https://www.facebook.com/webdesignsarizona)

**Dancing puppets in parades,
Shriners kids with painted faces,
Creative costumes made with love,
Clowns excel in many places.
If you would rather smile than frown,
We like your style, become a CLOWN!**



Contact the Sphinx Court #65 Clown Unit
Pam Wade, President @ 602-758-2370
sphinxcourtclovnunit@gmail.com

Committee Reports

Membership @03/16/2024 212	
Correction	0
Initiated	0
Dual	0
Reinstated	0
Demitted	-0
Deceased	-4
Suspended	-0
Membership @05/20/2024 208	

**Be A
Lady in Red
Join the
Ceremonial Pageantry**

Contact **LADY JANE SHELDON**
480-710-5975





SPHINX PATROL



Water Bottle Holders - \$5.00

LOS Folding Fans \$3.00 each or 2 for \$5.00

See any Patrol member



Sunshine Report

06/23—Lady Sharon MaGee’s husband, Mike, had a stroke.

05/17—Lady Carol Shephard, PHP—Passed

04/25—Lady Sue tice, PHP—Heart Surgery Recovering at home.

04/20—Lady Jean Glover, PHP—hospitalized With broken hip

04/16—Lady Sherrie VanAsperen Barnes, PHP Passed

04/11—Lady Dorothy Stanfield, PHP—Passed

04/06—Lady Ginny Turney—Passed

04/04—Lady Sandy Stegen—Passed

If you hear of anyone with good news or sickness, contact Lady Linda Curry, PHP at 602-619-4313 or email lkurry1@cox.net. She will send out the Cactus Chatter Updates via email and Lady Karen MacDougall, PHP, is her back up. Lady Kacy Baxter and Lady Taime Benogchea will be sending out cards.


Director Staff



Fez Hard Cases \$55

Plastic Fez Cases \$15

Ginny Fain
480-548-2725




Jim Reid, CMCA, AMS®
Community Association Manager

Curtis Management, L. L. C.
745 N. Gilbert Rd., #124-269
Gilbert, Arizona 85234
(480) 497-6061
jim@curtismanagement.net

Andie Lacombe
Community Manager

Specializing in Management of Community Associations
website: www.curtismanagement.com



Sphinx Court No. 65
Ladies' Oriental Shrine
of North America

Linda Curry
1550 N. El Camino Dr.
Tempe, AZ 85288-1426

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Phoenix, Arizona
Permit No. 369

Calendar of Events for 2024 — UPDATED 07/14/2024
All activities are at the Shrine Auditorium unless otherwise stated.

July 2024

**07/27—Arts & Crafts Court Fundraiser
1-4pm**

August 2024

08/24-25—CornFest 2024, 1-4pm
08/29—Director Staff—Dinner for Homeless
Call Judy Lough to help with this one.

September 2024

09/04—Director Staff Meeting—7pm
09/05—Clown Unit Meeting—7pm
09/07—Welcome Back Party
09/07—Greeters Meeting—11:30am
Location TBD

September 2024

09/12-14—W.A.O.U.M.—Knott's Berry Farm
09/17—Sphinx Patrol Meeting—7pm
09/21—Membership Tea— 1pm
09/23—Court Meeting— 7pm
Dinner at 5:30pm
09/25—PHP Club Meeting
Location and Time—TBD

October 2024

**10/12—Dinner at Count Dracula's
Court Fundraiser**