

History of the Silver Dollar Court

Reno's introduction to royalty began with a paper crown at the V.I.P. Club when Rex Ann was elected the first Empress of Nevada all in fun and camp. Shortly thereafter, the title was changed to Queen of Reno, with Keith Ann elected the very first, followed by Howard Rosenberg, then Wilma, and the last being Tom Vettors.

The community decided that the royal title should become the Snow Queen and began holding contests to select an annual winner. Treat Doowah was elected the first Snow Queen but moved to another state. Lynn Jefferies was the proclaimed the Eternal Snow Queen following Doowah's departure by the Widow Norton, Jose Sarria. It was then agreed that Reno begin to form an Imperial Court. Michael Deemer, Bob Bennett, Scott Brenneke, Dale Donathan, Joe Palanti, Lou McLean, Chris Chilton, Alexis and Natalie all contributed greatly to the efforts of the establishment of the Comstock Empire.

In March of 1975, the Biggest Little City in World's dream of an Imperial Court came true when Paul's Lounge in downtown Reno hosted the very first announcement of candidates. Candidates for the position of Empress I were Natalie, Keith Ann, Robbie, Trina, Marilyn and Jan Tut. Candidates for the position of Emperor I were Phil Ragsdale, Joe Palanti and Chris Chilton.

Planned with all the pomp and circumstance, the gay community of Reno came together for **Coronation I – Casino Royale**, on April 17, 1976 at the Centennial Coliseum. Crowned as the first Emperor and Empress of All Nevada were Phil Ragsdale – The Silver Dollar Emperor, and Natalie – The Silver Dollar Empress. Lynn Jefferies "Reno's Eternal Snow Queen" and Rex Ann "Reno Queen I" officiated and crowned Nevada's first Imperials.

During the first reign trouble beset Natalie when it was discovered that she was only 19 at the time of her election as Empress. With her abdication from the throne, Regent Keith Ann was named Empress I – The Silver Dollar Empress. Keith Ann's ascension to the throne came with the condition that she be allowed to reign one full year as Empress from June to June, creating Reno's traditional June Coronation date.

One of the many activities produced by the 1st Reign of Imperial Court of Reno was the 1st National Gay Rodeo. Phil and Keith Ann's vision would run for 9 years before giving birth to the modern day International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA). Phil and Keith traveled extensively during their reign promoting the new Imperial Court of Reno with their signature silver dollars. As the symbol of the first reign it quickly took hold as an iconic figure and name of Reno's – Silver Dollar Court. The colors of the 1st Reign are Red and Blue. Chris Chilton served as Imperial Crown Prince I and Terry Moul served as Imperial Crown Princess I.

Coronation II was held on June 6, 1977 at the Centennial Coliseum. The theme for Emperor Phil Ragsdale and Empress Keith Ann's stepping down was "**Notorious Characters of History Past and Present.**" Candidates for the position of Empress II were Rusty and Horelle. Candidates for the position of Emperor II were Joe Palanti, Marty Cox and Chris Chilton. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Kent Rosiek as Imperial Grand Duke, and Terry Moul as Eternal Imperial Princess Royale. The second Coronation ended in what many remember as one of the greatest blazes of glory as Emperor Phil Ragsdale and Empress Keith Ann were electrocuted into a cloud of smoke. When all the smoke had cleared the wall had rotated bringing forth the new reigning monarchs, Joe Palanti – The Blue Boy Emperor, and Rusty – The Headdress Empress.

During the 2nd Reign the Silver Dollar Court as a new organization would experience tremendous growth. Many local entertainers and community members became involved as Reno grew with more and more people moving to the area. Empress Rusty was the consummate entertainer and costume designer. Pair with these talents and the that great inflation of members, Reno became known along the Court Circuit for its "Best Out-of-Town" entrances. The colors of the 2nd Reign are Blue and Rust. Chris Chilton served as Imperial Crown Prince II and Robin St. John served as Imperial Crown Princess II.

Coronation III was held on July 6, 1978 at the Centennial Coliseum. The theme for Coronation was "**On with the Show: A Salute to Broadway!**" Candidates for the position of Empress III were Alexis, Natalie and Barbara Love. Candidates for the position of Emperor III were Chris Chilton, Bob "Bananas" Bennett and Jeff Benci. Presented at Coronation with a Royal Family lifetime title was Robin St John as Imperial Grand Duchess.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor III Chris Chilton – The Munchkin Emperor, and Empress III Alexis – The Tennis Shoe Empress. The Silver Dollar Court continued gaining momentum and Chris and Alexis spent a lot of time traveling to strengthening the connection between Reno and the Court Circuit as a "must not miss coronation city". The colors of the 3rd Reign are Blue and Silver. There was no appointed Imperial Crown Prince or Princess to the Monarchs.

Coronation IV was held on June 3, 1979 moving from its home at the Centennial Coliseum to the MGM Grand Hotel and Casino. The theme for Coronation was "**A Star Spangled Evening.**" Candidates for the position of Empress IV

were Vixen, Jack-E, Rocky, Norma Jean (who later became Rose Emperor 25 of Portland, Norm Nevers Sugarbaker) and for the first time a previous Emperor candidate Bob “Bananas” Bennett. Candidates for the position on Emperor IV were Fred Sipfle, Larry Mastropierro, Ron Jefferies and Michael Sterat. Presented at Coronation with a Royal Family lifetime title was Chuck Marx as Prime Minister.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor IV Fred Sipfle – The Silver Dollar Emperor, and Empress IV Vixen – The Silver Fox Empress inside the MGM’s Grand Ballroom. During the 4th Reign the Silver Dollar Court made changes to the by-laws concerning candidate qualifications and regulations. It was also a year of Camp...with Empress Vixen leading the way. Imperial Proclamations of the Reigning Monarchs were also introduced during the 4th Reign...with Emperor Fred Sipfle proclaiming “All Emperors will go in serious drag at least once during their reign.” The colors of the 4th Reign are Burgundy and Silver. Larry Mastropierro served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale IV and Jack-E served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale IV.

Coronation V was held on June 28, 1980 and returned to its home at the Centennial Coliseum. The theme for Coronation was “*A Floral Fantasy.*” There was only one Candidate for the position of Empress V, Jack-E. As an unopposed candidate, the Board was prepared to announce Jack-E as Empress Elect. Jack-E insisted though that she, like all Empress’ before and after her, be put onto the ballot and elected by the community. Candidates for the position of Emperor V were Fred Kelley, Ray Allen and Joyce Imes, a first time woman candidate for Emperor in Nevada. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Lou McLain as King Father for Life, Lady Roslyn as Czarina for Life and Ernie Devaux as Baron for Life.

The 5th Reign began with another first for the Silver Dollar Court electing TWO Emperors Fred Kelley – The Unicorn Emperor along with Ray Allen – The Desert Fox Emperor to reign alongside Empress Jack-E – The Pig Empress. The 5th Reign was a political year as the Court began taking stances assisting the Gay community facing issues for harassment, housing and AIDS. Many new ideas and functions created a contagious atmosphere for the 5th Reign which brought active participation from all aspects of the community. The colors of the 5th Reign are Blue, Red and Green. Larry Mastropierro served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale V and Brandi served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale V.

Coronation VI was held on June 6, 1981 at the Centennial Coliseum. The theme for Coronation was “*The Making of a Movie – A Salute to MGM.*” Candidates for the position of Empress VI were Terry Taylor and Natalie. Candidates for the position of Emperor VI were Larry Mastropierro and Ernie Devaux. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Jack Weddle as Imperial Prince of Reno, Steve Quintal as Imperial Prince of Tahoe, and Larry Mastropierro as Imperial Crown Prince Royale for Life. Empress V Jack-E added to the rich history of the Monarchy and Proclamations by restoring Natalie as Empress ½ of Nevada with all rights and privileges for her continued work and support on behalf of the Silver Dollar Court after being forced to abdicate her throne as the first elected Empress of Nevada.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Larry Mastropierro – The Pegasus Emperor, and Terry Taylor – The Clown Empress. Reno was ready for a year of fire and excitement and witnessed the dancers from the MGM Grand stage show “Hello Hollywood Hello” became actively involved with the court providing new ideas, new functions, and a shot in the arm. The 6th Reign worked tirelessly to branch out the Silver Dollar Court’s vision from its gay community to being the place the entire community could turn to for support. The colors of the 6th Reign are Black and Red. Carl “Pinky” Collins served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale VI and Trigger served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale VI.

Coronation VII was held on June 12, 1982 at the Centennial Coliseum. The theme for Coronation was “**An International Mardi Gras.**” The sole candidate for the position of Empress VII was Shannon (who had previously reigned as Empress V of Sacramento). Candidates for the position of Emperor VII were David Holland and Ernestine Williams. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Crazy Margaret as Imperial Crazy Lady, Carl “Pinky” Collins as Imperial Crown Prince Royale for Life and Trigger as Imperial Princess Suprema. Larry and Terry added to Reno’s ever growing court outreach with a proclamation creating the Ducal House of Reno and the annual election every January of a Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Reno to assist the Monarchs in their fundraising efforts.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor David Holland – The Owl Emperor, and Empress Shannon – The Orchid Empress. Unfortunately shortly into her reign, Shannon compelled by family concerns abdicated as Empress and returned to Sacramento. With her abdication Imperial Crown Princess Royale VII Rene was elevated to Empress VII Rene – The Diamond Empress, by the Board of Trustees. David and Rene both were fairly new to the Silver Dollar Court, but would prove to be very approachable people and much loved by their court. The 7th Reign brought by-law changes regarding un-opposed candidates to face a yes/no vote. The colors of the 7th Reign are Brown and Gold. Carl “Pinky” Collins served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale VII and Phillipe Maderia served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale VII.

Coronation VIII was held on June 4, 1983 and moved from its home to the Flamingo Hilton. The theme for Coronation was *“Man, Myth and Magic.”* Candidates for the position of Empress VIII were Natalie and Brandi. Candidates for the position of Emperor VIII were Fred Sipfle and Carl “Pinky” Collins. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Phillipe Maderia as Imperial Princess for Life and Joyce Evans as Godmother for Life. Emperor David Holland set before all future Monarchs by proclamation that they must host at least one function every month of their reign. Empress Rene proclaimed that only an Empress shall wear a full crown.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Carl “Pinky” Collins – The Silver Dollar Emperor, and Empress Natalie – The Silver Dollar Empress. With her election Natalie became the first twice elected Empress in the history of the Silver Dollar Court. During the 8th Reign, Emperor Carl actively sought out various factions within the community getting them involved. The 8th Reign also began the scholarship program of the Silver Dollar Court, which is today named the Nathan Liepold Scholarship in memorial honor of Empress Natalie who helped create it. The 8th Reign was also the first year where half the funds raised from Coronation would be donated to charity. The colors of the 8th Reign are Burgundy and Pink. Ray Martin served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale VIII and Michael Yeager served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale VIII.

Coronation IX was held on May 26, 1984 returning to its home at the Centennial Coliseum. The theme for Coronation was *“Pizzazz – An Evening of Feathers and Flash.”* Candidates for the position of Empress IX were Terry Taylor and Rosa. Candidates for the position of Emperor IX were Bob “Bananas” Bennett and Suzanne Jacobs. Presented at Coronation with Royale Family lifetime titles were Cinnamon as Imperial Lady of the MGM, Phillip Palumbo as Eternal Arch Duke, Anne as Imperial Chancellor and Iola Salbacka as Imperial Arch Duchess. Emperor Carl began one of the Silver Dollar Courts long held traditions by proclamation “That one minute of silence will be observed at the beginning of every Reno Coronation in remembrance of those no longer with us.” We will never you “Pinky” or all those that left us too early.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Bob “Bananas” Bennett – The Bananas Emperor, and Terry Taylor – The Lips Empress. The 9th Reign was goal oriented and helped to create the annual food drives during Thanksgiving and Christmas for the needy families in the area. The colors of the 9th Reign are Yellow and Red. Ron Jefferies served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale IX and Donna Crockett served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale IX.

Coronation X was held on June 5, 1985 at the Centennial Coliseum. The theme for Coronation was *“Erte – A Fashion Revolution.”* Candidates for the position of Empress X were Jack-E and Brandi. Candidates for the position of Emperor X were Larry Mastropierro and Jerry Mott. This was a first for Reno with two past monarchs running again for Emperor and Empress. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Francesca as Keeper of the God Awful Green Gas, Ron Jefferies as Imperial Crown Prince and Uncle Bobby as Imperial Exchequer

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Larry Mastropierro – The Pegasus Emperor, and Empress Jack-E – The Pig Empress. For the first time in Reno, two lovers were elected to reign together. Also Emperor Larry became the first twice elected Emperor of the Silver Dollar Court. The 10th Reign was active both in the community and across the court circuit. It was also during the 10th Reign that the Nevada AIDS Foundation was formed by Emperor III Chris Chilton, Reigning Emperor X Larry Mastropierro and Imperial Crown Prince Royale X Dennis Sutton. The colors of the 10th Reign are Black and Green. Dennis Sutton served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale X and Brandi served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale X.

Coronation XI was held on June 7, 1986 at the Centennial Coliseum. The theme for Coronation was *“Follies.”* Candidates for the position of Empress XI were Brandi and Linda Crawford. Candidates for the position of Emperor XI were Dennis Sutton, Jerry Mott and Trent Coti. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Dennis Sutton as Imperial Crown Prince Royale for Life and Lynn Jefferies as Empress Emeritus. Empress Jack-E proclaimed Lynn Jefferies as Empress Emeritus bestowed with all rights and privileges as well and member of the Royal Family for Life due to her extensive involvement in the first ten reigns of Reno which preceded her as the Eternal Snow Queen.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Dennis Sutton – The Smurf Emperor, and Empress Brandi – The Tigress Empress. During the 11th Reign the Emperor did majority of the traveling and Out-of-Town public relations, while the Empress was an In-Town Monarch who traveled minimally and focused on her home court and affairs. The 11th Reign was actively involved with the continued growth and outreach of the Nevada AIDS Foundation. The colors of the 11th Reign are Blue and Silver. John Torres served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XI and Lisa Monica served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XI.

Coronation XII was held on June 6, 1987 at the Centennial Coliseum. The theme for Coronation was *“An Evening of Elegance and Sleaze.”* Candidates for the Position of Empress XII were Linda Crawford, Hawaiian Jackie

and Iola Salbacka. Candidates for the position of Emperor XII were Jerry Mott and Lewis Jones. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Bobbi Guss as Imperial Contessa and John Torres as Imperial Prince of Virginia Street.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Jerry Mott – The Hawk Emperor, and Empress Linda Crawford – The Dove Empress. The 12th Reign saw the new involvement of a group not heard from before...the Gay Community on the Hill (The University of Nevada-Reno). It was again a year of High Camp...this time led by Emperor Jerry Mott who went in Camp Drag so often it led his Empress Linda Crawford proclaiming a limit to it. The colors of the 12th Reign are Red and Blue. Kevin Ryan served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XII and Iola Salbacka served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XII.

Coronation XIII was held on June 4, 1988 at the Centennial Coliseum. The theme for Coronation was ***“The Stud Gulch Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary Box Lunch and Social...Call Girls and Cowboys Welcome.”*** WOW...now that’s a mouth-full! Candidates for the position of Empress XIII were Sally Slammer, Iola Salbacka and Sophie. Candidates for the position of Emperor XIII were Lewis Jones and Carlos Brito. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Amanda as Imperial Rose and Marcia Slochmonster as Imperial Princess of Commercial Row. Emperor Jerry Mott would have his year filled with outings in Camp Drag, but the last laugh went to his Empress Linda Crawford proclaiming that “The Emperor can be in drag once, and ONLY ONCE during his reign.”

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Lewis Jones – The Garfield Emperor, and Empress Sally Slammer – The Nurse You Back to Health Empress. With the election of Empress Sally Slammer the Silver Dollar Court had another first electing Phil Ragsdale, Emperor I, as Empress. Sally Slammer was all about “Camp” and thus the theme of the reign was such. The colors of 13th Reign are Red and Orange. Joe Drake served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XIII and Amanda served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XIII.

Coronation XIV was held on June 3, 1989 for what would be the final time at the Centennial Coliseum. The theme for Coronation was ***“A Night at the Soaps.”*** For Lewis and Sally their pin design would not be created in time for Coronation. So to solve the situation they came up with a unique solution by taking the pin design and having it labeled on packages of hotel soap bars. An original idea still remembered today! Candidate for the position of Empress XIV was Natalie. Candidates for the position of Emperor XIV were Jerry Mott and David Holland. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Joe Drake as Imperial Grand Marshall and Bobbi Guss as Happiness and Good Friends Lady of Love.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Jerry Mott – The Hawk Emperor, and Empress Natalie – The Pink Flamingo Empress. The election of Natalie made her the first three time elected Empress of the Silver Dollar Court. The 14th Reign would involve many young members of the community along with active support of other charities beginning a new direction for the court. The colors of the 14th Reign are Black and Red. Russell Novak served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XIV and Christy Love served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XIV.

Coronation XV was held on June 2, 1990 moving to the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. The theme for Coronation was ***“Be-Dazzled, Be Jeweled, Be There.”*** Candidates for the position of Empress XV were Jack-E and Sandy Dee. Candidate for the position of Emperor XV was Ray Allen. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Jennifer as Imperial Princess of Love and Sandy Dee as Eternal Crown Baroness.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Ray Allen – The Desert Fox Emperor, and Empress Jack-E – The Pig Empress. The 15th Reign saw heavy involvement from the leather community while still involving everyone working together to benefit all. Empress Jack-E hosted her first Annual Benefit for the Nevada AIDS Foundation that continues to this day twenty years later. The colors of the 15th Reign are Red and Green. Stan Miller served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XV and Delilah served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XV.

Coronation XVI was held on June 8, 1991 at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. The theme for Coronation was ***“Leather and Feathers: A Night of Your Fantasy.”*** Candidates for the position of Empress XVI were Christy Love, Hawaiian Jackie and Sandy Dee. Candidates for the position of Emperor XVI were Ray Martin and Kathy McKay. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Glenn Terrio as Imperial Baron of Leather, Martin Fitch as Imperial Czar and Joe Hesselguesser as Imperial Prince of Leather. Empress Jack-E added to the Royal Family by proclaiming Emperor 18 Simeon Traw and Empress 25 Marlena of San Francisco as Emperor and Empress for a Day of Reno because of their dedicated support to the Silver Dollar Court and the Annual Reno Shuttle Run.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Ray Martin – The Giraffe Emperor, and Empress Christy Love – The Champagne Love Empress. The 16th Reign saw heavy involvement with Out-of-Town courts through the wide and varied travels of the Emperor and Empress. It was a year of by-law changes affecting voting procedures. Empress Christy Love

and the 16th Reign would formalize the Empress' State Crown. The 16th Reign began the Annual Gay Night at the Sierra Safari Zoo and produced the first Mr. Miss. Ms. Reno Gay Pride Pageant. The colors of the 16th Reign are Red, Silver, Blue and Gold. Robert "Bubbles" Douglas served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XVI and Ellie Mae St Peters served as Imperial Crown Princess XVI.

Coronation XVII was held on June 6, 1992 at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. The theme for Coronation was "*Legendary Hollywood Babes in Toyland – A Grand Illusion.*" Candidates for the position of Empress XVII were Delilah and Sandy Dee. The sole candidate for the position of Emperor XVII was Larry Mastropierro. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Michael Yeager as Imperial Wizard and Robert "Bubbles" Douglas as Imperial Prince of Nevada. To preserve the memory of Empress Natalie, Emperor Ray Martin proclaimed "During all Reno Coronations there shall be a Pink Flamingo visible on the stage at all times."

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Larry Mastropierro – The Pegasus Emperor, and Empress Delilah – The Legs Empress. With his election, Emperor Larry became the first three time elected Emperor of the Silver Dollar Court. During the 17th Reign the Gay-Lesbian Student Union at the University of Nevada-Reno became heavily involved. Fundraising was the focus point for the 17th Reign raising more money than any previous reign. The colors of the 17th Reign are Black, Blue and Silver. Martin Fitch served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XVII and Amber served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XVII.

Coronation XVIII was held on June 6, 1993 at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. The theme for Coronation was "*Arabian Nights to City Lights – Anything Goes.*" Candidates for the position of Empress XVIII were Hawaiian Jackie and Rusty Lee Stevens. Candidates for the position of Emperor XVIII were Gene La Porte and Carlos Brito. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Kathy Miles as Imperial Prince of Onyx & Sapphire and Cherie Kimsey as Imperial Princess of Onyx & Sapphire.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Gene La Porte – The You Gotta Love Me Emperor, and Empress Hawaiian Jackie – The Hula Girl Empress. Unfortunately due to several personal problems Emperor Gene La Porte abdicated his throne. The Board then elevated from Imperial Crown Prince Royale to Regent Emperor, Rick Heinrich – The Golden Stallion Emperor. The 18th Reign raised monies for several charities with a special emphasis towards Muscular Dystrophy which was near and dear to the Empress' heart. The colors of the 18th Reign are Gold and Red. Jerry Tholl served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XVIII and Sandy Dee served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XVIII.

Coronation XIX was held on June 18, 1994 at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. The theme for Coronation was "*Lost Island in Paradise.*" Candidates for the position of Empress XIX were Rikki Romman and Sandy Dee. Candidates for the position of Emperor XIX were Jeff Hudson and Stevie Miller. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Robert Young as Imperial Prince to the Golden Stallion and Shelley Palmer as Goddess to the Eternal Red Flame. The Board of Directors at Coronation would also award Rick Heinrich the permanent title of Emperor XVIII for the outstanding job he had done during his time as regent.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Jeff Hudson – The Yosemite Sam Emperor, and Empress Rikki Romman – The Grandma Empress. The 19th Reign saw for the first time the role of Imperial Crown Prince Royale take on greater involvement due to that Emperor Jeff Hudson lived and worked up at Lake Tahoe. Winter travel between Lake Tahoe and Reno could be very difficult. The Empress though kept jazzing along throughout the 19th Reign with her signature St. Louie performances. The colors of the 19th Reign are Red and Gold. Rodney Sumpter served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XIX and Tiffany Ross served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XIX.

Coronation XX was held on June 3, 1995 at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. The theme for Coronation was "*Dungeons, Dragons and the Magical Reign.*" Candidates for the position of Empress XX were Glammer and Tiffany Ross. Candidates for the position of Emperor XX were Kathy Miles and Carlos Brito. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were James Stark as Czar Protector to the Tahoe Basin and Rodney Sumpter as Imperial Czar to the Realm.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Kathy Miles – The Dragon Emperor, and Empress Glammer – The Diamond Glove Empress. With her election Kathy Miles became the first woman elected Emperor of the Silver Dollar Court. During the 20th Reign the Board of Trustee began its process of the Silver Dollar Court of the Comstock Empire becoming a 501(c)3 Non Profit Corporation. Imperial Crown Prince Royale XIX Rodney Sumpter played a leading role providing legal counsel for rewriting of policies and procedures and by-laws. The colors of the 20th Reign are Black and White. Michael Yeager served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XX and Vanna served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XX.

Coronation XXI was held on June 1, 1996 at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. The theme for Coronation was *“Hollywood: Past, Present and Future!”* Candidates for the position of Empress XXI were Tiffany Ross and Sandy Dee. The sole candidate for Emperor XXI was Robert Young. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Garry Fisher as Prince of Diamonds and Rubies and James St Marie as Imperial Prince to the Diamond Glove Goddess. The Silver Dollar Court Board of Trustees approved a third member at Coronation with Aubrey as Silver Dollar Grand Duchess for Life. Coronation XX would also be the night of Monarch Proclamations being done away with affecting anyone other than the Monarch themselves.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Robert Young, and Empress Tiffany Ross – The Blackjack Empress. The 21st Reign saw for the second time an Emperor abdicated his throne. In conjunction with the advice of the Empress, the Board of Trustees appointed Garry Fisher as Regent Emperor – The Diamond & Ruby Emperor. Following this the reign gathered its forces and over came adversity and smiled with the satisfaction of success that came. The Board of Trustees would dissolved the Silver Dollar Court of the Comstock Empire during the 21st Reign and reorganize simply as the Silver Dollar Court, Inc. a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Corporation. The colors of the 21st Reign are Red and Black. Carlos Brito served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XXI and Christina Taylor served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XXI.

Coronation XXII was held on June 2, 1997 at the Reno Hilton Grand Ballroom. The theme for Coronation was *“Motown, Hitsville USA.”* Candidates for the position of Empress XXII were Xavi LaDouche, Sandy Dee and Adrian Klyne (who later became Empress 29 of Sacramento). Candidates for the position of Emperor XXII were Richard “Opie” Phillips and Scott McCoy. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Randy Glass as Imperial Prince of Love and Kindness and Scott Brenneke as Imperial Blackjack Prince of All Nevada.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Richard “Opie” Phillips – The Red Wagon Emperor, and Empress Xavi LaDouche – The Double Diamond Empress. The reign was one of high camp – camp – camp led by both the Emperor and Empress into the court and across the court circuit. During the 22nd Reign the Imperial Royal Barony of the Desert Empire was born, giving the Silver Dollar Court a daughter in Las Vegas. The colors of the 22nd Reign are Red, Green and Gold. Stephen Sadler served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XXII and Bella DeBall served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XXII.

Coronation XXIII was held on June 20, 1998 at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. The theme for Coronation was *“Mayberry Trailer Park, Space 22.”* Candidates for the position of Empress XXIII were Crystal Towers-Jar, and Sammora Mann. Candidates for the position of Emperor XXIII were Michael Carroll and Earl Smith. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Dr. Ed Angelini as Imperial Prince of Hope, Promise and 20/20 Vision and Lei Miona Davenport as the Jewish Princess of Roadside Distress. Absent from the royal affair was the Reigning Emperor Opie who was hospitalized right before Coronation. Opie would take his final walk later that year in Anchorage, Alaska who graciously offered him the opportunity.

Due to voting improprieties during Election Day, no Emperor or Empress was crowned the night of Coronation. A Special Board meeting cancelled the results of the election forcing a special election to be held as soon as possible. Following the special election, the Silver Dollar Court crowned Emperor Michael Carroll – The White Tiger Emperor, and Empress Crystal Towers-Jar – The Eternal Flame Empress. During the 23rd Reign the Barony of Las Vegas was elevated to Imperial Royal Sovereign Court of the Desert Empire, Inc. making Emperor Michael and Empress Crystal the last Monarchs of All Nevada. The colors of the 23rd Reign are White and Red. The 23rd Reign was also the first to have TWO Imperial Crown Princes Royale’s XX Earl Smith and Glo Stanton.

Coronation XXIV was held on June 5, 1999 at Reno Hilton in the Grand Ballroom. The theme for Coronation was *“Heaven, Earth and Hell – An Ascent to a Higher Realm.”* Candidate for the position of Empress XXIV was Cherie Lee Boxx (Cherie Kimsey). Candidate for the position of Emperor XXIX was Robert “Bubbles” Douglas. Present at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Earl Smith as Imperial Prince & Protector to the White Tiger and Jeff Blynn as Imperial Prince & Protector to the Eternal Flame.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Robert “Bubbles” Douglas – The Effervescent Crown Jewel Emperor, and Empress Cherie Lee Boxx – The Sparkling Crown Jewel Empress. With her election Cherie Lee Boxx became the first woman elected Empress of the Silver Dollar Court. The 24th Reign took the bull by the horns and aggressively worked to raise funds throughout its year, resulting in one of the largest fundraising years of the Silver Dollar Court’s history. Empress Cherie would earn special induction during her reign to the all make club of the Juice Girls. The colors of the 24th Reign are Purple, Silver and Magenta. Patrick Crabb served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XXIV and Mia A Menn served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XXIV.

Coronation XXV was held on June 3, 2000 at the Reno Hilton in the Grand Ballroom. The theme for Coronation was *“A Silver Jubilee Celebration of Our Family Jewels.”* Candidate for the position of Empress XXV was Bianca Del Sol. Candidate for the position of Emperor XXV was Stephen Sadler. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Mia A Menn as Diamond Star Imperial Crown Princess and Frank “Paco” Poli as Prince & High Herald. Emperor Bubbles and Empress Cherie saved the best secrets for the end of the night when it was revealed that their stage elements had incorporated can goods of food that would be donated to the Northern Nevada Food Bank.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Stephen Sadler – The Sapphire Moonlit Emperor, and Empress Bianca Del Sol – The Celestial Sunburst Empress. The 25th Reign would put on several food functions, from the “Mystery Who Dunit” dinner to buffets to bbq’s. Stephen and Bianca were also avid travelers across the Court Circuit. To help with their dedication of raising funds for the community the Emperor and Empress appointed TWO Imperial Crown Princes and Princess’. The colors of the 25th Reign are Gold and Silver. Scott Brenneke and Orin Saunders served as Imperial Crown Princes Royale XXV and Haley Ricardo and Kathy Douthitt served as Imperial Crown Princess’ Royale XXV.

Coronation XXVI was held on June 2, 2001 at the Reno Hilton in the Grand Ballroom. The theme for Coronation was *“Mayan Myths, A Celestial Journey to the Sun, Moon and the Stars.”* Coronation XXV holds the distinction as one of the biggest, flashiest, and costliest stage productions for a Reno Coronation to date. Candidate for the position of Empress XXVI was Trixxxxy. Candidate for the position of Emperor XXVI was Paul Anthony. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Orin Saunders as the Celestial Moonlit Prince of Golden Aspirations and Moonlit Dreams and Kathy Douthitt as the Celestial Sunburst Princess of Golden Aspirations and Moonlit Dreams.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Paul Anthony – The Rising Fire Opal Phoenix Emperor, and Empress Trixxxxy – The Emerald Crystal Snow Leopard Empress. During the 26th Reign the youthful monarchs reached out and saw renewed interest from the younger crowd of the community. Many new ideas and functions were tried. The Emperor and Empress traveled both near and far away becoming close with many empires along the court circuit. The colors of the 26th Reign are Orange and Green. Dean Bates served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XXVI and Lei Miona Davenport served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XXVI.

Coronation XXVII was held on June 15, 2002 at the Reno Hilton in the Grand Ballroom. The theme for Coronation was *“A Fire and Ice Masquerade Extravaganza.”* Candidate for the position of Empress XXVII was Haley Ricardo. Candidate for the position of Emperor XXVII was Carlos Brito. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Dean Bates as Allstate Red Diamond Imperial Crown Prince Royale XXVI and David Courtney Corn as Imperial Prince of Glitz and Glam.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Carlos Brito – The Crystal Jewel Crown Lion Emperor, and Empress Haley Ricardo – The Big Sissy Cow Empress. Halfway through the twenty-seventh reign Emperor Carlos was removed from his throne by the Board of Trustees. With the support of the Board, Empress Haley made the decision to finish out her reign alone. With the tremendous support of her Imperial Crown Princess Royale XXVII Kittie Glitter, they took hold of the reign and made it work without an Emperor. During the 27th Reign Empress Haley would with the help of “A Rainbow Place” formally decree the creation of the “Half Dollar Court” for the youngest of our ever-growing gay community that becoming more and more of vocal and visible. Also during the 27th Reign, the Empress’ Express came into reality with a whole week of events sponsored by the Empress around the community at various locations. The colors of the 27th Reign are Black and White – preferably “Cow Print!!” John Sabini served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XXVII.

Coronation XXVIII was held on May 31, 2003 at the Reno Hilton in the Grand Ballroom. The theme for Coronation was *“An Evening at the Cow Palace, Where Broadway Meets the Barnyard.”* Candidates for the position of Empress XXVIII were Mona Lott, Ava Grab-Mor and Wendy. Candidates for the position of Emperor XXVIII were Kent Rosiek and Allen White. Presented at Coronation with a Royal Family lifetime title was Kittie Glitter as the Campiest Pussy in the Barnyard Imperial Crown Princess Royale XXVII.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Kent Rosiek – The Trident Emperor, and Empress Mona Lott – The Guinea Fowl Empress. Kent and Mona would travel extensively promoting the Silver Dollar Court. During the 28th Reign Gay Rodeo would return to Reno with the creation of the High Sierra Rodeo Association, bringing Gay Rodeo back to where it began as a Silver Dollar Court function in 1976. The colors of the 28th Reign are Silver and Purple. Rick Restuch served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XXVIII and Cha Cha served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XXVIII.

Coronation XXIX was held on June 19, 2004 at the Reno Hilton in the Grand Ballroom. The theme for Coronation was *“Atlantis Rediscovered.”* Candidate for the position of Empress XXIX was Cookie LaJar. There was no

candidate for the position of Emperor XXIX. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Leona Floming as Imperial Crown Princess and Cha Cha as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XXVIII.

Elected and crowned to serve was Empress Cookie LaJar – The Cookie Jar Empress. Shortly into the 29th Reign Empress Cookie elected to have a Regent Emperor. Mikey LaChoy, who had previously reigned as Denali Emperor 25 of All Alaska, was presented to the Board of Trustees for approval. Mikey LaChoy went on to assume the throne as Regent Emperor. The decision proved to be controversial as Mikey was not a former monarch of the Silver Dollar Court., but also an important one for the court. Not long after Mikey ascended to the throne, Empress Cookie was forced to abdicate her throne for failing to fulfill her duties as Empress. Regent Emperor Mikey LaChoy teamed with his Imperial Crown Prince Royale XXIX Jackie LaRiviere and Imperial Crown Princess Royale XXIX Holiday to guide the Court through the rest of the 29th Reign. At its conclusion, the 29th Reign would out raise all previous reign to the point with the exception of the twenty-fifth reign. The colors of the 29th Reign are purple and silver.

Coronation XXX was held on June 4, 2005 visiting for the first time ever Reno Harrah’s Resort Casino. The theme for Coronation was **“30 Years of Glitz, Glamour, Guys and Gals.”** Candidate for the position of Empress XXX was Felicia Jewel Halston. Candidate for the position of Emperor XXX was David Courtney Corn. Presented at Coronation with a Royal Family lifetime title was Rosie Rotten as Imperial First Lady to the 29th Reign.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor David Courtney Corn – The Lion King Emperor, and Empress Felicia Jewel Halston – The Entertainment Empress. The Emperor and Empress wanted to increase the visibility of Reno both within the community and across the court circuit. Collectively together Courtney and Felicia worked hard conducting and attending several fundraisers and Coronations. During the 30th Reign the gay Latino community became heavily involved with the Silver Dollar Court. The 30th Reign saw the return of the Reno Gay Contest and the Imperial Crown Prince & Princess Royale Ball. The colors of the 30th Reign are Yellow and Green. Daniel Surreal Foxx served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XXX alongside with Anna Duvet and Mary Ring served as Imperial Crown Princesses Royale XXX.

Coronation XXXI was held on June 10, 2006 at the Reno Hilton in the Crystal Ballroom. The theme for Coronation was **“Night of a Thousand Crowns.”** Heavily attended, Coronation XXX is remembered not only for the many great performances that night including Imperial Crown Princess Royale XXI Christina Taylor’s Tree and the Double Decade mass production number for Emperor and Empress X Larry Mastropierro and Jack-E, which included over 200 entertainers, but also remember for its 3:00am finish as one of Reno’s longest balls. Candidate for the position of Empress XXXI was Sandy Dee. There was no candidate for the position of Emperor. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Nedi Tollerstad as Imperial Counselor to the House of Corn and the Latin Community and Anna Duvet as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XXX to the Royal Family.

Elected and crowned to serve was Empress Sandy Dee – The Cockatoo Empress. Following Coronation Sandy Dee elected to have a regent appointed as Emperor and presented the name of Jerry Tholl. Jerry was approved by the Board of Trustees and ascended to the throne as Regent Emperor Jerry Tholl – The Cowboy Emperor. The Emperor and Empress focused their attention on fundraising at home. During the 31st Reign the Silver Dollar Court worked closely with the High Sierra Rodeo Association to help produce The International Gay Rodeo Finals Championship. IGRA Finals brought the biggest national gay rodeo championship back for its 30th anniversary of creation to its birthplace – Reno, Nevada. The colors of the 31st Reign are Pink and Purple. Bill Black served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale and Wendy served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale.

Coronation XXXII was held on June 2, 2007 at the Reno Holiday Inn. The theme for Coronation was **“Let’s Go To The Movies, A Tribute to Hollywood Musicals.”** Candidate for the position of Empress XXXII was Pandora. Candidate for the position of Emperor XXXII was Gene La Porte. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Barbara DeWitt as Imperial Crown Counsel Woman to Emperor XXXI and Mary Ring as Imperial Crown Godmother to the Royal Family. The Board of Trustees also awarded Jerry Tholl with the removal of regent from his title for announcement as Emperor XXXI Jerry Tholl.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Gene La Porte – The Cobalt Blue Gem Emperor, and Empress Pandora – The Amazon Goddess Empress. Emperor Gene and Empress Pandora were two determined monarchs bound with strong local desires to help less fortunate. Their high energy and visibility help breathe new life again into their labor of love the Silver Dollar Court involving and working very closely with “The Diva’s on the Run.” Also during the 32nd Reign began the Annual Gong Show produced by Rose Empress 48 of Portland Dawna Creation with huge flare and entertainment everyone enjoyed. The colors of the 32nd Reign are Blue and Pearl. Allen Crawford served as Imperial Crown Prince Royale XXXII and Denise De Martis served as Imperial Crown Princess Royale XXXII.

Coronation XXXIII was held on June 14, 2008 at Reno Harrah's Resort Casino. The theme for Coronation was **"Around the World in 32 Reigns – A Night of Global Adventures."** Candidate for the position of Empress XXXIII was Anna Duvet. Candidate for the position of Emperor XXXIII was Daniel Surreal Foxx. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Pete Dube as Imperial Crown Equestrian and Charity Case as the Sapphire Butterfly Czarina to the Realm for Eternity. The 32nd Reign and the Silver Dollar court would award a first ever at Coronation a "Lifetime Achievement Award" to Emperor XXIV Robert "Bubbles" Douglas.

Elected and crowned to serve were Emperor Daniel Surreal Foxx – The Golden Samurai of Charity Emperor, and Empress Anna Duvet – The Big, Bold and Beautiful Bombshell Empress. From their step-up Emperor Daniel and Empress Anna set a different tone in attire by promoting their love for high camp and costume for both in and out-of-town functions. Costumes and hairspray aside, the goals of the 33rd Reign worked to involve many groups within the gay and straight community bringing awareness to community of the importance of the Silver Dollar Court as the oldest and longest serving organization serving the GLBT community of Northern Nevada. The 33rd Reign saw the return of Monarch Proclamations allowing the practice after a thirteen year absence. The colors of the 33rd Reign are Red and Green. Rocky Winnebago and Chanel served as Imperial Crown Princesses Royale XXXIII.

Coronation XXXIV was held on June 6, 2009 at the Grand Sierra Resort (formerly the Reno Hilton) in the Grand Ballroom. The theme for Coronation was **"Party at the Palace: RENO Carnivale!"** Candidates for the position of Empress XXXIV were Rocky Winnebago and Ruby Holliday. There were no candidates for the position of Emperor XXXIV. Presented at Coronation with Royal Family lifetime titles were Athiwan Yeammuan as Golden Lotus Princess Royale of Reno and Christina Taylor as Imperial Queen Mother of Both Sides of the Sierra's – Reno and Sacramento. Emperor Daniel added a third member to the Royal Family with his proclamation of "Rose Empress 48 of Portland Dawna Creation as Reno's Rose Empress For A Day" in recognition of her love and dedication to Reno and the Annual Gong Show. Coronation XXXIII also began the formal presentation two awards, the "Citizens of Reno for Life" awarded to Grand Duchess 13 of Chico Angie Delicious and Empress 13 of Chico Debbie Delicious for their long-standing support and involvement with the Silver Dollar Court, along the "Delilah Lifetime Achievement Award" named in recognition for the life long dedication of our beloved 17th Empress Delilah. Holding in their hands Empress Delilah's State Crown, Emperor and Empress Larry Mastropierro and Jack-E accepted the honor with tears.

Elected and crowned to serve was Empress Rocky Winnebago – The Spastic, Plastic, Mattel Empress.

Coronation XXXV is being held tonight at the Reno Siena Resort Spa Casino on June 12, 2010. The theme for Coronation is **"Wedding Bells to Divorce Court – A Trip to the Original Sin City."** Candidate(s) for the position of Empress XXXV are (is) ? . Candidate(s) for the position of Emperor XXXV are (is) ? .