

culture

Fanfare Please!

Imperial Sovereign Rose Court crowns Don Hood and Dawna Creation

by Joshua Ryan • Photos by Marty Davis

The Imperial Sovereign Rose Court crowned new royalty Oct. 14 at Crystal Ballroom. Portland's new royals are Rose Emperor XXXIII Don Hood and Rose Empress XLVIII Dawna Creation. They will assume the titles from Rose Emperor XXXII Mark Hollywood and Rose Empress XLVII Alycia Day in December.

Coronation 2006 was attended by an estimated 300 guests who were served appetizers, celebrated with libations and enjoyed entertainment from visiting imperial courts from as far away as Texas and New York City.

Hood was the only candidate for Emperor but ran an aggressive, positive campaign and was easily elected. Tsunami Foxx was also in the running for the title of Empress, but Creation eventually prevailed.

In the first "official comment" of his reign, Hood remarked, "What a trip!" He went on to add: "Dawna and I literally walked across the city after we won and visited nearly every bar. We're off to a great start and are looking forward to a wonderful year."

According to Rose Emperor XXX Scot Bishop-Walker, vice president of ISRC's board of directors and dean of the college of monarchs, attendance was "appreciable." He added, "In light of the expense of travel nowadays, we're really delighted with the turnout."

During their nearly yearlong reign, the present Emperor and Empress achieved several milestones. Among the many accomplishments, Hollywood, Day and the 65 members of the court helped raise \$25,000 for nonprofit organizations such as the Audria M. Edwards Scholarship Fund, the Pride of the Rose Scholarship Fund, Our House of Portland and Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. The board also succeeded in coming together and becoming a well-run, cohesive organization—something many long-term nonprofits are challenged with sustaining.

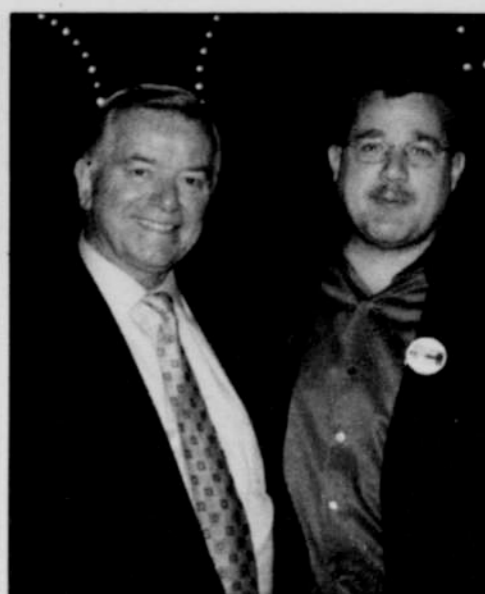
Finally, Hollywood and Day represented Portland at nearly 20 other coronations. Although ISRC provides a small travel stipend for the Emperor and Empress, all other expenses are paid directly by the individuals from their own pockets. 10

The Imperial Sovereign Rose Court's next major event is INVESTITURES 2006/PRINCE & PRINCESS BALL, where Hood and Creation will officially assume their reign. The event begins 6 p.m. Dec. 9 at Embers, 110 N.W. Broadway. Cover is \$12. For more information visit www.rosecourt.org.

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Portland Mayor Tom Potter (second from far right) was on hand to congratulate Rose Emperor XXXIII Don Hood and Rose Empress XLVIII Dawna Creation (top right).

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