



INSIDE THIS ISSUE.

Illustrious Sir Donald J.	Taylor & Lady Eleanor
Invite you and you	urs to attend the

VALENTINE

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fé	at	uring		
"PUR	E	GOLL)"	
SATURDAY, H	ſE	BRUAR	Y 8,	2020

Syria Shrine Center 1877 Shriners Way Cheswick, PA 15024-1075

6:00 p.m. Doors Open 7:00 p.m. Buffet Dinner 8:00 p.m. "PURE GOLD" -OPEN BAR-

Take your Valentine out for an evening of music, food and libation. Enjoy the top oldies group-"PURE GOLD" nationally known and Pittsburgh's own.

\$55.00 per person Casual Dress

Make checks payable to: SYRIA SHRINE Send payment and reservation to : Frank Sims 815 Clover Lane Murrysville, PA 15668



Number of persons @ \$55.00 each

Total \$____

Name

(please print)

RESERVATION DEADLINE JANUARY 25, 2020

Donald J. Taylor Potentate **Donald I. Green** Chief Rabban **Terry N. Steinheiser** Assistant Rabban Jerry A. Sciullo High Priest & Prophet Alan R. Tedeschi **Oriental** Guide **Thomas E. Prager** 1st Ceremonial Master **Randy L. Hobaugh** 2nd Ceremonial Master David J. Gardy, P.P. Treasurer Robert T. Addleman, Jr., P.P. Recorder

THE VOICE OF SYRIA SHRINERS Official Publication of Syria Shriners. Syria Shrine Center (724) 274-7000 1877 Shriners Way, Cheswick, PA 15024-1075 www.syriashriners.org Editor: Robert T. Addleman, Jr., P.P. Email news, photos and articles to voice@syriashriners.org Deadlines appear in each issue of The Voice POSTMASTER: Please return undeliverable copies to Syria Shrine Center 1877 Shriners Way, Cheswick, PA 15024-1075 The Voice of Syria Shriners is published bi-monthly for \$6 per year included in annual dues by Syria Shriners, 1877 Shriners Way, Cheswick, PA 15024-1075 USPS Acct. # 0870920-JXM Nonprofit Standard Mail Rate Postage paid at Butler, PA mailing Office





THANK YOU ! THANK YOU !

I would like to thank each and every one of you who made the Car Raffle a success. A lot of dedication and hard work went into this fund raiser.

If you were out in the scorching heat or the freezing cold, or the torrential downpours, or having the high winds blow the tent across a parking lot, you know what I'm talking about. In five short months, I think we experienced all four seasons.

You all know who you are. If you sold extra tickets, counted tickets, opened envelopes, pulled the car from event to event, or organized crews to sell at the events, THANK YOU SO MUCH !

As a new chairman for this project, I'm not afraid to admit that I made mistakes. But, I also learned a lot, and gathered valuable information that can be used to keep the Car Raffle a major fund raiser for our Shrine Center. We even managed to recruit a few new Nobles in our travels.

Nobles, think about this. At one time not long ago, we had over 20,000 members, and cars cost \$3,000. We now have 4000 members and cars cost \$40,000. We have to continue selling Car Raffle tickets, but maybe with a different marketing approach.

> THANK YOU and MAY GOD BLESS Al Tedeschi

DONALD J. TAYLOR POTENTATE - 2020



BIOGRAPHY

Donald J. Taylor's long history with Syria Shrine Temple began in 1968.

Don, a student of the late trumpet virtuoso Anthony L. Pasquarelli, is a member of the Syria Temple Band and served a two-year term as its president.

His history with our fraternal organization dates back to 1967 when he became a Master Mason affiliated with Duquesne Lodge, now Dallas Lodge No. 231. His tenure with the Scottish Rite began in 1968. Don also is a proud member of Islam Grotto, East Hills Royal Arch Chapter No. 269, Hillbilly Clan No. 53 and is past president of Cinosam Club of Mt. Washington.

Don's professional career began in 1960 when he joined D.E. Leonard & Associates as a structural draftsman. Shortly thereafter, he accepted a position as chief structural draftsman at Mulach Steel Corporation, eventually managing the structural engineering department. In 2007, after 23 years, he retired from Dick Corporation as a senior estimator specializing in concrete and structural.

Don attended Schenley High School and married his high school sweetheart, the former Eleanor Woods. Eleanor is a retired Pittsburgh Public School teacher. Don and Eleanor raised three children and have five grandchildren. They currently reside in Upper St. Clair.

In addition to playing trumpet in several bands and orchestras, Don lends his talents to worship services, funerals and marriage ceremonies.





Potentate Donald J. Taylor Chief Rabban Donald I. Green

n Assistant Rabban Terry N. Steinheiser HighPriest & Prophet. Jerry A. Sciullo Oriental Guide Tra Alan R. Da Tedeschi Gan

Treasurer David J. Gardy, P.P. Recorder 1st C.M. Robert T. Thomas E. Addleman, Prager Jr., P.P. 2nd C.M. Randy L. Hobaugh

A MESSAGE FROM THE POTENTATE...

I want to thank each of you for your support over the last six (6) years. The Divan and I will be working very hard to make 2020 an interesting and fun year.

We will be working on a very tight budget with losing the circus and the caterer that was renting our kitchen.

We are also listening to the membership and bringing back some of the events that had gone away, such as the Valentine Dance, Stag and Oktoberfest. There will be some changes to these events to try to improve and make them more exciting to our Nobles.

There will also be many other events and activities throughout the year. We will keep you informed through the VOICE. Most importantly, we need our Nobles and their families to support our events. Without your support, our hard work will just be in vane.

If you have any concerns or questions that need an answer, please contact me, Chief Aide Bill Woods or Deputy Chief Aide Fritz Richardson and we will do whatever it takes to get you an answer. My personal Aides are David Gardy and Bob Addleman, these two Nobles have a wealth of knowledge...they have done it all.

With this said, every decision that is made, will be made with Syria's best interests in mind.

My trip this year is to Alaska, August 14 to 21, 2020. The majority of people asked if I was going to have this trip that they wanted to go. We worked very hard with Marita Williams from AAA to make this work. There is information in the VOICE and kiosk in the lobby. Nobles let's remember Syria is just not my fraternity...It's also your fraternity. So, let's all try to work together and make 2020 a successful year.

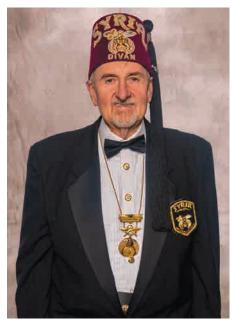
YITF, Donald Taylor



official transferred of presiders international

Please be reminded that the Recorder's Office MUST be notified of any and all parades you may be participating in. A simple email will suffice, but we must have prior record of your involvement so you may be assured of insurance coverage. Send it to: "syriarecorder@gmail.com" and please put the word "PARADE" in the subject line. A letter or memo to this office will also be sufficient. Fraternally, Robert T. Addleman, Jr., P.P.,

RANDY L. HOBAUGH 2nd Ceremonial Master



BIOGRAPHY

Randy Hobaugh was born and raised in Irwin, PA. He graduated from the University of Pittsburgh and started his career as Field Engineering Coordinator for Reactor Operations for Westinghouse Nuclear Division. Currently, he is employed at Bombardier Transportation in West Mifflin, where he has worked for the past 25 years, most recently as Lead Project Manager.

He is proud to celebrate 41 years of marriage with his wife, Debbie. They have two adult children and three grandchildren they enjoy spoiling, since all live locally.

He has been a member of Paintertown Lutheran Church his entire life, and currently serves as President of the Church Council. Additionally, he is an active member of Paintertown Volunteer Fire Department for the past 45 years, having served as President, Financial Secretary and Fire Captain.

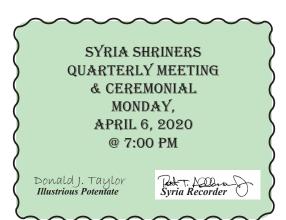
Randy joined Shidle Lodge # 601 F&AM in 1983, and became Worshipful Master in 1990. He has served in all the York Rite Bodies - as High Priest of Bushy Run Royal Arch Chapter #192 in 1993; Thrice Illustrious Master of Olivet Council #13 (Now Washington #1) in 1998 and 2001; and Commander of Kedron Commandery #18 in 1995. For having served in all four York Rite Bodies, he received the Knight York Cross of Honor. Randy is also Past Grand Tall Cedar of Westmoreland Forest #77 - serving in 1998 - and he is currently their Financial Treasurer.

He also served as Grand Pursuivant of the Grand Lodge of PA in 1998-1999 for RWPGM Jay Ernette.

Randy is an active member of the Syria Camel Wheels; Vice President and course scheduler of the Syria Golf Club; and 2020 President of Penn Hills Caravan #20.

In his spare time, Randy's hobbies include golfing and touring Civil War Battlefields.

Randy L. Hobaugh





FROM THE RECORDER'S DESK...

Greetings, Nobles, Ladies and friends of Syria Shriners.

First, thank you for affording me the opportunity to serve as your Recorder for another year. I look forward to working with you for the advancement of our fraternity and its philanthropy.

Congratulations to Illustrious Sir Don Taylor and First Lady Eleanor, as they embark on an exciting year of service to Syria Shriners. We wish you much success and look forward to assisting you in whatever way you see fit.

Congratulations, also, and thanks to Ill. Sir Bill Weiss and Lady Phyllis for guiding Syria Shriners in 2019. I'm sure I can speak for the Nobility in wishing you well as you continue your service to our Temple and our kids.

At the recent Kick-Off event, I spoke about some of the financial challenges that face Syria Shriners this year, and moving forward. I mentioned that we need to be diligent in monetizing our assets, chief among them, the Pittsburgh Shrine Center. Paulette Zanotti, our Event Coordinator, and I have been working hard to increase rental activity at our facilities, particularly weekday corporate and organization rentals. We ask your understanding and cooperation on facilities use. I also ask you to keep in mind the opportunity cost to Syria Shriners when we schedule an event on weekends, particularly on Saturdays. When one of our units, caravans or clubs schedules an event in our ballroom on a Saturday, even in the morning, it quite likely costs the Temple \$10,000 or more in lost

business. If you can use a Friday, Sunday, or even more preferably, a weeknight, you would be helping us to better make ends meet. The pavilion is less of an issue, but weekends are at a premium there, too. Please consider this notion when looking to book our facility.

Dues collection is off to a good start, but we can always do better. Pull out your Shrine Card right now, and check to see whether you have a 2020 sticker on it. If not, you need to pay your dues for this year. It breaks my heart to suspend Nobles for non-payment of dues. I pray you are never in that situation. If hardship is preventing you from paying your dues, please contact my office. We are here to help you.

There are many exciting events planned for this year. Please support them when you are able.

Yours in the faith, *Bob*



Get that Petition!

NIGHT AT THE RACES -Units, Clubs, Caravans and Nobles

Our first NIGHT AT THE RACES this year will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2020. If you or your Unit, Club, or Caravan would like to sponsor a race, the cost is \$100. We are also looking for baskets for the Chinese Auction. Any size or amount would be appreciated. With all of your help and generosity, the two Night At The Races we held last year were very successful, and we are hoping to make this year's even better. There will not be a Circus again this year, so we are helping to fill the void in lost revenue by having our NIGHT AT THE RACES fundraiser. Volunteers will also be needed.

For more information, to sponsor a race, to donate, or to volunteer to help please contact: John Handshue 412-461-3186, 412-877-4263, jjhpm@aol.com

SHRINER HAPPENINGS

Make it your business to attend as many Syria Shrine, Unit, Club, Caravan, & Committee events as possible.

There are Parties, Spaghetti Dinners, Potentate parties, and many more Get-Togethers for you.

This is a good way to meet and greet your fellow Shriners for fun activities.

The Voice of Syria February 2020

SHRINE CENTER VIDALIA ONION SALE 2020 NOW THRU APRIL 4, 2020			
•		TOTAL ITEMS	TOTAL \$
ONIONS 10# BAG	\$10.50		
ONIONS 5# BAG	\$6.50		
DRESSINGS:	-		17
CREAMY ONION - 120Z.	\$6.00	Ĩ	Ĩ
CREAMY RANCH - 120Z.	\$6.00		
RED FEZ - 120Z.	\$6.00		
SAUCES: ONION STEAK SAUCE - 12OZ. ONION BBQ SAUCE - 12OZ. APPLE CINNAMON BBQ SAUCE - 12OZ. ALL DRESSINGS, RELISH, AND SAUCES COME 12 PER CASE @ \$66.0 DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS APRIL 4, 2 APPROXIMATELY THE FIRST WEEK O All Orders to Picked Up at Shrine Cent	2020. DELIN F MAY 202	0.	
SEND ORDERS TO: SYRIA SHRINERS CENTER 1877 SHRINERS WAY CHESWICK, PA 15024			
NAME:		PHONE#	
ADDRESS:			
QUESTIONS? CONTACT: JOHN KOEI	— — DEL at 412	-855-4890	
All proceeds are for the benefit of Syria Shriners	and are not Tax Dedu	ctible as a Charitable Contribution.	



HAPPY BIRTHDAYS!

Robert L. Brown, 101 Mariette Dr., White Oak, PA 15131-1221

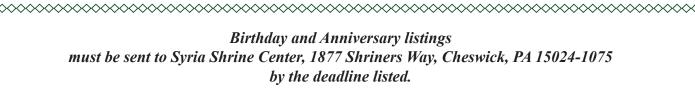
Paul McCommons, 148 Kurela Rd., Latrobe, PA 15650

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES!

92 years of age

69 years Robert L. and Ruth Brown, 101 Mariette Dr., White Oak, PA 15131-1221

John and Ruth Habel, 128 Homewood Ave., Belle Vernon, PA 15012 Michael F. and Marilyn J. Hink, 1220 Miller Rd., New Castle, PA 16101



To have your address included with your Birthday and Anniversary listing, you must provide it. The editor cannot take this information by telephone and please DO NOT CALL Syria Shrine with this information. Please include all required information when sending the coupon for your Birthday or Anniversary listing. Please print all information or use your own address labels for your name and address. The preferred way to relay this information is by E-mail to: voice@syriashriners.org



August 3, 1927

February 18, 1942

November 11, 1950

March 26, 1970 December 21, 1969



UNCORK THE FUN! "First Choice" Wine Festival A Decadent Afternoon Featuring Wine, Beer, Chocolate & Food Live Music! Saturday, May 16, 2020 Shrine Center Pavilion 1877 Shriners Way Cheswick, PA 15024 Time: 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM Cost: \$20.00

For More Info Contact: Jerry Sciullo 412-849-3431

This event does NOT benefit Shriners Hospitals for Children. The event is for the benefit of Syria Shrine and is NOT Tax Deductible as a Charitable Contribution.

"First Choice" Wine Festival Reservations \$20.00.

For tickets and information, please visit www.syriashriners.org/winefestival

<u>OR</u> Make Check Payable to Syria Shriners. Mail to: John Koedel PO Box 376 Glenshaw, PA 15116

Name		1
Street		H.
City, State, Zip	and the second second	11.
Telephone	ALC: NO	1
E- Mail		1.
Total No. Reservations		10
Total Amount Enclosed		

Proceeds are for the benefit of the Shriners and are not tax deductible as a charitable donation.

A DELL

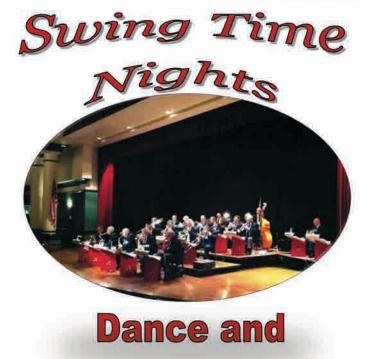


Birthday & Anniversary Listing Form <u>Mail to</u> : Syria Shriners, 1877 Shriners Way, Cheswick, PA 15024	
Please list my 2019 Birthday in The Vo	ice of Syria Publication
Name	Age
Address	Birthday
City, State, Zip	Birth Year
Please list my 2019 Wedding Annivers	ary
Name	Wife's Name
Address	# Years Married
City, State, Zip	Wedding Date

SHRINERS STAGE BAND

FEATURING MUSIC FROM THE 1930'S, 40'S, 50'S & 60's

PRESENTS



Concert

MARCH 20, 2020 APRIL 24, 2020 MAY 15, 2020 JUNE 19, 2020 JULY 17, 2020 AUGUST 21, 2020 SEPTEMBER 18, 2020 OCTOBER 16, 2020 NOVEMBER 20, 2020

COME DANCE OR JUST LISTEN TO A 20-PIECE DANCE BAND AT THE BEAUTIFUL SHRINERS BALLROOM.

> 1877 SHRINERS WAY, CHESWICK, PA 15024 (Harmar Township)

> > 7:30PM TO 9:30PM \$5.00 ADMISSION Doors Open at 7:00 PM

for more information

check us out on facebook

This concert is for the Benefit of Syria Shriners and is not tax deductible as a contribution



POTENTATE'S STAG TESTIMONIAL BANQUET HONORING ILLUSTRIOUS SIR DONALD J. TAYLOR III. Sir Robert T. Addleman, Jr., P.P., Chair



HOSPITALITY ROOMS OPEN AT NOON BANQUET AT 6:30PM

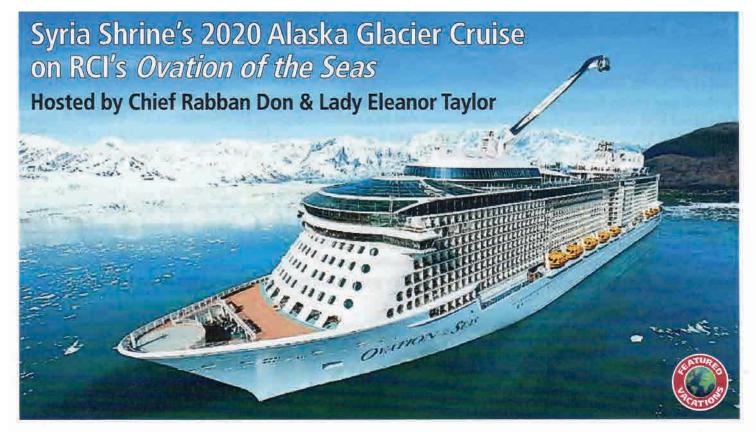
MENU SELECTIONS

ROASTED SLICED MEDALLIONS OF BEEF TENDERLOIN CHICKEN MARSALA PARMESAN CRUSTED COD APPLE PECAN STUFFED PORK CHOP

All dinners include tossed salad, chef's selection of starch & vegetable, rolls, butter, beverage & dessert SPECIAL SOUVENIR GIFT FOR ALL ATTENDEES

ALL THIS FOR ONLY \$30

POTENTATE'S STAG TE		
ADDRESS		
EMAIL		
TICKETS @ \$30 EACH = \$	{ Beef Fish	Chicken Pork
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO SYRI SELF-ADDRESSED S TO : SYRIA SHRINERS 1877 SHRIN or call 724-274-7000 to pay with a credit card. PayPal: tres(TAMPED ENVELO	DPE , PA 15024



From north to south, all paths lead to new experiences on Ovation of the Seas®. Gaze at glaciers in Alaska's rugged Inside Passage and get up close to majestic mountains and towering waterfalls at Endicott Arm.

THE VIEW HAS NEVER BEEN WILDER ...

Get a bold, new perspective on Alaska's wilderness aboard one of the world's most groundbreaking ships, as you sail between unforgettable shores from Skagway to Juneau. Along the way, you'll get to soak up the North's natural splendor as you cruise along Alaska's Inside Passage and get an up-close look at Dawe's Glacier and Endicott's Arm.

No other cruise ship lets you see Alaska like this!

PACKAGE INCLUSIONS

- \$100 shipboard credit per stateroom
- 7-night cruise accommodations
- Meals and entertainment aboard Ovation of the Seas
- Lunch for 2 at an onboard specialty restaurant
- 1-hour private cocktail party hosted by Chief Rabban Don & Lady Eleanor Taylor
- Services of a AAA host (with a minimum of 32 guests)
- Taxes and government fees

7-NIGHT ITINERARY: AUG 14-21, 2020

Date	Port Location	Arrive	Depart
Aug 14	Seattle WA		4pm
Aug 15	Cruising at sea		
Aug 16	Alaska Inside Passage (cruising)		
Aug 16	Juneau AK	12pm	9pm
Aug 17	Skagway AK		8:30pm
Aug 18	Endicott Arm & Dawes Glacier	7am	12pm
Aug 19	Cruising at sea		
Aug 20	Victoria BC	8am	6pm
Aug 21	Seattle WA	6am	

EXCLUSIVE AAA RATES

Oceanview: \$1,509 Category 2N Balcony: \$1,999 Category 8D Balcony: \$2,019 Category 6D PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

CALL TOLL-FREE 1-800-848-1238

Payments

A deposit of \$250.00 per person is required at time of booking with final payment due May 1, 2020.

Notes

Proof of citizenship is required.

For closed loop cruises departing and returning to a US port, proof of citizenship is: A valid US Passport Card or an original state-issued birth certificate with a raised seal accompanied by a state-issued photo identification such as a driver's license. However, AAA STRONGLY recommends all passengers obtain a passport to avoid financial repercussions due to missed connections or to expedite emergency situations requiring you to return to the US by air from the Caribbean, Mexico, Canada or Bermuda. (Note: A notification of birth IS NOT acceptable.)

If you are unable to produce proper documentation, you will be denied boarding, and all penalties or other fees that may apply will be your responsibility. Please contact your travel agent if you have any questions on documentation. Fare is subject to availability at time of booking. All schedules, itineraries, hours of arrival and departure and special

programs are subject to change without prior notice. AAA Travel shall not be required to refund any portion of fares or other charges nor make any other compensation under these circumstances.

Rates are per person based on double occupancy and include government taxes and fees of \$436.58 per person.

Cancellation Penalties

In days, prior to departure: Cancel 89 – 75 days prior to departure: penalty of 25% Cancel 74 – 61 days prior to departure: 50% penalty Cancel 60 – 31 days prior to departure: 75% penalty Cancel 30 days or less: no refund

Travel Insurance

Please advise if you would like to protect your investment with Travel Insurance when you make your deposit.

Required Reservation Information

First, Middle and Last Name exactly how they appear on your valid US passport Date of Birth Street Address City, State and Zip Code Circle Category Requested 2N – Oceanview Stateroom: \$1,509 8D – Balcony Stateroom: \$1,999 6D – Balcony Stateroom: \$2,019 Dining with Group on Main Seating



Syria Shrine's 2020 Alaska Glacier Cruise RCI's Ovation of the Seas August 14-21, 2020 Passenger Reservation Form

GENERAL INFORMATION	Please complete or	e form per person.	GCRCI08140
First, Middle & Last Name "Your middle name or initial may or may not appear on your travel documents.			
Street Address For documents to be mailed			
City/State/Zip			
Phone Contact			
Email Address			
Date of Birth			
Gender (M-Male/F-Female)			
AAA Membership Number			
Special Request/Needs LIST HEALTH ISSUES SUCH AS BUT NOT LIMITED TO MOBILITY LIMITATIONS, DISABILITES, ALLERGIES, DIETARY REQUESTS			
Rooming with List name(s)			
Cruise Category Circle selection	Oceanview-2N	Balcony-8D	Balcony-6D
Emergency Contact Name and phone number Someone not traveling			
Flights and Transfers	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	on to add airline reservati nade available after Octol	
Insurance Insurance is available	Please indicate if inter	ested in the cost of travel ins	surance: YesNo
Payment Deposit of \$250 per person due with reservation form. Include check or credit card # with expiration date			

Signature:

Date:

AAA Group Travel – 5900 Baum Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Noble Joseph L. Betz Noble Frank M. Brown Noble David G. Churchill Noble Thomas W. Davis Noble Milford H. Graham Noble Gary W. Gresh



Noble William P. Kistler III Noble Thomas R. McCartney, Jr. Noble Howard R. McFarland, Jr. Noble George M. Shirey, Sr. Noble William R. Werling Noble David G. Westwater

HOLD THE DATES!

2020 POTENTATE EVENTS

EVENT	DATE
Valentine Dance	February 8
Night At The Races	March 14
Potentate's Stag	March 21
Bunny Bash	April 4
Onion Sale Flyer	April 4
Potentate's Ball	April 18
Wine Festival	May 16
Ladies Luncheon	May 30
Gun Bash	June 20
Night At The Races	September 19
Oktoberfest	September 27
Youth Dance	December 27
New Year's Eve	December 31

MEMORIALS AND GIFTS TO SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN[®]

Erie Hospital



Given by:

Glen Jones & Elaine Ed Little Luanne & Bill Russell Mr & Mrs Paul Sproull/Jankowski & Family Herb & Carol Brant Syria Shriners Camel Wheels Fred & Judy Sheridan Helen R. Betz Richard K. Anderson

Donald & Debra Green Mrs. Rose Willy Robert J. Taylor Wife, E. Dorothy McWilliams

Hospital Donations

Cynthia Hrapia Ronald Lawrence Syria Temple Caravan 9 Phyllis R. Hacke American Legion Post 175 Syria Temple Chanters Cynthia B. Krauth David Schumacher Robert & Martha Goetz Hypnosis Society of Pennsylvania

Transportation Fund Donations

Harlan B. "Chip" Jervis Range Resources Washington Greene Caravan 2 Syria Temple Chanters John H. Williams 80th Birthday Donation Given by: Billie Lee Miller

Gary W. Gresh

In Memory of:

Margaret Polnar

John Robert Clark Ralph Wesolek Wilbert L., Arthur W., Robert S., & Lynn M. Anderson John M.F. MacDonald James E. Willy James M. Depp Orville R. McWilliams

The Shriner's Center Presents **"A Night at the Races"** Saturday, March 14, 2020 Doors Open at 5:30 PM First Race at 7:00 PM

Open to the Public - Walk-Ins welcome

Admission—\$20.00 (Prepaid or at Door) Purchase a Horse—Addtl. \$10.00 Winning Horse Owners Win \$50.00 Sponsor a Race—\$100.00



Food * Soft Drinks * Coffee * Beer * Cash Bar 10 Races * Trifecta * Auction Race * 50/50's * Chinese Auction and Other Small Games of Chance

Or Contact: John Handshue (412) 461-3186 for more information

Owners/Jockeys Admission	/ Registration	/ Horse Purchase Form:
		S

Name:	Phone No.:	
Admission:	@ \$20.00 per person = \$	
Horse(s) Purchase:	@ \$10.00 per horse = \$	0-10-2-216-10-10-0-
	Total Amount = \$	
Name of Horse(s):		
		M. X. M. W. M. M. M. M.
2		nes ne ne ne ne ne ne
		0-((
Please send registration a	nd horse purchase(s) form with your check (<i>Payable</i>)	to: Syria Shrine)
to:		
	John Handshue	
	c/o Shriner's Center	
	1877 Shriner Way; Cheswick, PA 15024	
	1077 Similer Way, Cheswick, PA 15024	

SYRIA SHRINE HIGHLANDERS







Official Philanthropy of Shviners International

PIPES AND DRUMS

Happy New Year! Christmas is in the box, the New Year is now 2020 and some of us are still automatically writing 2019 then saying words from the Olde Country, the military or the really, really bad ones we learned in grade school. What a year we did have though! We didn't freeze our kilts off at the St. Patrick's Day Parade. It was 'brisk" but the wind wasn't blowing the music away. The Annual Bar Hop was a tremendous success, thanks to Matt Perry's able management. No casualties, no bad peaches, no bad drinks and no howling accompanists. Parades were spaced out fairly well so we weren't marching every weekend. Hurricanes blew us away and gave us a free day and a greater appreciation of what Law Enforcement, Firefighters and First Responders deal with. Sometimes rain moved parade times or cancelled them all together. We marched the shortest parade anyone can remember. For some of us it was the most gratifying experience and pleasure, at our Highlander's Ball, presenting our Illustrious Potentate a check for over \$7,000 to be used in our efforts as Shriners to provide a location and the means as a base of support to our most noteworthy program, Shriners Hospitals For Children. Richie Diehl was Highlander of The Year and Matt Perry received special recognition for his work on the Bar Hop. Our pre-Holiday Concert went well, especially the added drum set and talent of Alex Higley accompanying his grandad, Charlie Gledich,

piping "Little Drummer Boy." It was a late St. Andrew's Day this year so we didn't have to rush from the church to the Shrine Center to play another event as we have had to do in the past. A recent addition to our schedule has been the Veteran's Recognition Day at Roscoe Sportsmen. This year there was a really yummy steak dinner for us and our ladies. Our 2 Sailors, Frank Sims and Clayton Grabb; our Airman, Paul Robison and me, the resident Doggie, got thanked AND free chow! The elections were not able to be fixed and over great protest, a Clan Chief and Assistant Clan Chief were duly elected. Drew Keele became Assistant Clan and Pappy Patchin, Clan Chief. We purchased new jackets and T-shirts because Frank Sims got us a good deal. Well done, Frank. If things work out for us, we will have 3 new members in the band for 2020! And if you are reading this and believe you would like to join us as a piper or drummer contact a band member. A couple of less than wonderful things for us: Tony Corcoran's dad has been under the weather longer than usual and Chris Covert got a much better job and will be commuting between Syria Shrine and Baltimore, MD for events.

Personally, my most sincere "THANK YOU" to my Lady, Susan who supports me as a Highlander and did a fantastic job keeping me out of mischief by being the ramrod for the hospitality room at MASA.

The Syria Shrine Pipes and Drums now look forward to another productive year marching

"So, children can walk"

Pappy Patchin Drum Major / Clan Chief

> **If you move**, or have more than one address (a seasonal home?) notify the Recorder's office of the change and dates when you are at your temporary address.

Send changes to:

Syria Shrine Center 1877 Shriners Way Cheswick, PA 15024 or Email to: syriarecorder@ gmail.com.

TUESDAY, JUNE 16 7:05PM
ARRITHEM PNC PARK
1960 WORLD SERIES CHAMPS CELEBRATION BILL MAZEROSKI GOLD GLOVE BOBBLEHEAD TO THE FIRST 20,000 FANS THROUGH THE GATES
LOWER LEVEL BOX SEATS IN SECTION 128 OR 129 \$10 ADDED VALUE FOR CONCESSIONS
PNC PARK GATE PRICE \$50-\$55 SYRIA SHRINERS PRICE \$30
ONLY 250 TICKETS AVAILABLE. TICKETS ARE SELLING FAST.GET 'EM WHILE THEY LAST!
YOUR CHECK & SASE RESERVE YOUR TICKETS.
NO PHONE OR EMAIL ORDERS. NO CREDIT CARD SALES.
SEND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO SYRIA SHRINERS
AND A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE TO:
SYRIA SHRINERS 1877 SHRINERS WAY CHESWICK, PA 15024
NAME
PHONE # TICKETS x \$30 = \$
LIMIT OF 8 TICKETS PER MEMBER

CARAVAN 14

Shriners Hospitals for Children®

Official Philanthropy of Shviners International

A Big Thank you to Butler Caravan #14 who on December 8, 2019

had their annual Christmas Party. Ron Spangler chairman had asked

Nobles to bring a gift for the Shriners Hospital.

On Monday, December 9, 2019 High Priest & Prophet Terry Steinheiser and

his Lady Kathy took an SUV full of gifts <u>and also</u> a \$100 donation to Erie Hospital. <u>Noble Vince</u> and Queen Betty <u>Bachar</u>, on behalf of the Daughters of the Nile received 10 blankets who frequently receive them from the Knights of Columbus were also taken to Erie that day."

Terry & Kathy were able to interact with a couple Shriners Patients.

Brody was particularly excited to wear Noble Terry's singing hat.

Attached is the Thank you received from Shriners Hospital.





Shriners Hospitals for Children^e 1645 West 8th St. Erie, PA 16505

December 10, 2019

Syria Caravan No. 14 c/o Terry and Kathy Steinheiser 1877 Shriners Way Cheswick, PA 15024-1076

Dear Nobles,

Thank you so much for your generous gift of toys, clothing, and gemes given to Shriners Hospitals for Children®, for its Erie Location. This gift will help touch the lives of countless children with orthopaedic conditions and other special health care needs.

Shriners Hospitals for Children provides specialized care to children with orthopaedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate, regardless of the families' ability to pay. Generally, care is provided until age 16, although, in some cases, it may be extended to age 21. All care and services are provided in a compassionate, family-centered environment. For more information, please visit **shrinershospitalsforchildren.org**.

We extend our sincere gratitude for your consideration of the Erie Shriners Medical Center and best wishes from the Board of Governors, children and staff.

Vail R. Sel

David R. Schumacher, CF Development Officer

In accordance with IRS regulations we confirm that no goods or services were provided by Shriners Hospitals for Children® in return for this contribution





The Voice of Syria February 2020

Syria Shrine					
Bunny Bash					
Saturday, April 4					
11am – 3pm					
Fun For The Whole Family					
Games-Face Painting-Prizes					
Pictures with the Easter Bunny					
0-2yr (Free) – 3Yr and up \$7					
Adults \$7					
Last Name	Boy/Age	Girl/Age	Total\$		
	/	_/_			
Return Forms To:	/ / Vince Bachar, 1866 St	/ / ate Route 356, Leecl			

THE WHISPERING STORM by Windy Yarn and Fred Shridan

I have recorded the following true and factual account of the actual events as they occurred at the O L Christmas Party on December 2. This documentation will allow posterity to recreate that night. Once upon a time in a far, far Galaxy there was a universe known as Hal's Bar and Grill on Babcock Boulevard where President Jim Wehrheim had moved the O L Christmas Party from the confines of the Teutonia Mannerchor Rathskellar. This caused consternation and confusion amongst some members who defined the venue perfidy as total joint replacement. President Wehrheim diagnosed them as afflicted with undifferentiated stem cell delusions and prescribed liquid medication as well as solid pills disguised as limburger only there was no limburger adding greatly to the unrest and fear of insurrection as murmurs of discontent flowed through the room. The Christmas Spirit prevailed, however, or maybe it was the twofers or two free drinks or the grand buffet. In any event good cheer prevailed as we settled in for a night of camaraderie. The Christmas dinner was actually off to a good start with parking near the door and free drinks before the bombshell of no limburger, but the stuffed roast beef helped assuage the anguish and was the best meal we had since the stuffed spaghetti, excepting of course all the German delicacies at Teutonia.

This being the annual Christmas party there is not a business meeting and good fellowship is the order of the evening and all decorum is cast aside as we settled in for an evening of good cheer. Rip Miller was at a table on the right side of the room with Herb Brant Ed Monroe and Larry Palmer saying "I told my wife, Susan I wanted to be cremated when I die and she called and made an appointment for me for next week. The cocktail

waitress almost dropped her tray of drinks listening to Bob Petty tell Larry Anlauf and Ron Gongaware, "When I was younger I picked up a hitchhiker who after we drove for awhile asked aren't you afraid I could be a serial killer. I told him not at all. Chances that one serial killer might pick up another are astronomical." Mac McIlrath one of the last to arrive was telling Jack Bock and Bob Barkus how his invisible friend married an invisible woman and their kids were nothing to look at. Norm Arthurs arrived without his usual chauffer Bob Eckbreth who walked in a little bit later. Norm is still in the process of moving all his possessions into the Masonic Homes in Sewickley and came by cab tonight, Cab Whitaker that is. Dom Pascucci is back from searching through Italy for stinkier cheese to complement the limburger. Dom sez he had a happy time in Rome with a gladiator. Al Douglas has recovered from his hunting camp accident where the tree he was cutting down jumped on him. Al was showing off an Albino deer he shot, shot with his camera phone that is. Max Smith said not to read his article on the Arab Patrol as they will not let him resign as reporter for the Patrol if everyone keeps reading his reports. Terry Steinheiser paid his first visit to the O L's. He started the day with a breakfast in Butler with the Butler Boys. Don't know about lunch, but it sounds like his feast day. Bob Johnson walked in wearing a tux. Either he left the wedding to come here or was jovially misinformed as to the dress code for the evening by one of our deluded comrades. Bob Sabilla was overheard telling Larry Burton and Erich Gumto, "Don't walk a mile in my shoes, spend 30 seconds in my head, that'll freak you out."

As if the maestro had just tapped his podium a hush fell over the room when President Wehrheim rose to address the members. President Wehrheim then introduced the officers for 2020,

Dave Beery-President, Ron Gongaware-VP, Ed O'Brien-Treasurer, and Bob Addleman-Secretary, and then followed with the guests. Guests and sponsors were Billy Johnson invited by Dave Beery, Ray Hess by Bob Eckbreth, Mike Taylor by Bob Sabilla, Larry Anlauf by Ron Gongaware, Tom Edwards by Lawton Stokes, Bill Magnotti by Ed Monroe, Bill Johnson by Dave Beery, and Bob Reddinger by Larry Burton. Lastly President Wehrheim as a signature act to his presidency introduced his officers and presented each a handcrafted plaque as a memento for being a part of his administration and an expression of gratitude for their efforts. First to be introduced was Dave Beery, president Wehrheim's right hand man who assisted admirably in the programs during the previous two years. Next was Secretary Bob Addleman who failed to record any minutes, but was very creative with his humorous dinner invitations that far exceeded anything ever seen by any other organization. and then Grant McLaughlin who maintained books so impeccably no one has ever discovered a flaw or where the money actually went. Last was Windy Yarn for keeping an accurate record of events in the Voice of Syria. Possibly there might be a snapshot of this group in the Voice.

In closing we want you to know Windy recently had a physical and maybe because at his age it is so hard to lose weight the doctor said, "Don't eat anything fatty." Windy asked, "Like bacon and burgers"? The doctor said, "No fatty, don't eat anything."

HAPPY VALENTI NES DAY

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ANNUAL SYRIA YOUTH DANCE – 2019 by George W. Polnar, Past Potentate

Here it is, January 2020, and another Syria Shrine Youth Dance is in the books. While our turnout was a little lower than expected, I think everyone in attendance had a great time. The weather was warm but a little wet and a bit foggy this night, but our D.J.'s made the music happen nevertheless. They kept the music and the volume within due bounds, and got the dance floor filled for most of the night.



As we did last year, we had a drawing for various denominations of Amazon Gift Cards. We like to change things up a bit each year.

Here are the winners of the gift cards: AMAZON \$25 gift cards:

AMAZON \$50 gift cards				
Kaitlyn Petronio	Pitcairn # 90			
Sydney Capezzuto	Irwin # 42			
Mason Derosky	Steel City DeMolay			
Sarah Jesionowski	Hope # 186			
,	05			

AMAZON \$50 gift cardsDanni PetronioPitcairn # 90Mitchell HolmesSteel City DeMolay

We had the honor of hosting Calista Cavanaugh, Grand Worthy Advisor of Pennsylvania Rainbow, Andrew Santilli, State Master Counselor for PA DeMolay, and Lisa Dingel, Bethel Guardian, Job's Daughters, and Helen Snedden, Supreme Nature and Supreme Inspector in Pennsylvania.

These, and all the kids that came to the dance ARE the future of Freemasonry, and our society. The Syria Shrine is proud to be a part of giving back to them with this annual dance. When you watch the news, and see so many kids involved in crimes, it makes you wonder where this world is heading, but just come visit one of our dances. You'll instantly see that there are still a lot of good kids around. They ARE our future.

Noble Ed Tanski, and his wife Barb supplied the popcorn and popcorn machine, and "popped" it to perfection. Thank you. Our thanks to the Rode Rigs and Caravan # 16, for allowing us to use the drinks from the Children's Christmas Party, which also included Schneider's Dairy orange drink and lemonade. Great additions to our usual fare.

Thanks also to Terri and Dana from TNT Dynamite Pizza, located on Pittsburgh Street in Springdale for the scrumptious pizza. They have been our "go to" place for the past 9 years. It's always hot, and fresh! You really need to stop by the restaurant when you're close. Their food is awesome.

Many thanks to our D.J.'s, for their outstanding musical selections for the group, and the volume was more than reasonable. I forgot my ear plugs this year, but I wouldn't have needed them anyway. Thank you Brother Alex, and Sister Kaitlin Rauschenberger! A special thanks to Dad Labagh, for assisting in getting us our D.J.s every year too.

At 10:30 pm, the DJ played the traditional "end" song by Billy Joel called "Piano Man." This is the close of the dance every year. As the kids, and adults left the dance, there were numerous positive comments and thanks given. In fact I didn't hear anything negative, from anyone.

We had 75 kids from our Masonic Youth Groups. I'd like to see 1,000 kids, but even though our numbers are not what we had hoped for, we are still hoping to grow. We have some ideas to assist in increasing our attendance for next year. Thanks to our Shrine Photographers, Tim McKiernan, and Tom Ruch for capturing those special moments to commemorate this year's dance. They even printed photos for the attendees on the spot.

"MTR MCKIERNANRUCH.COM" Photography

A special thanks to the Directors Staff for their unselfish assistance with some consumables. Once again we "gotcha" covered!

Our thanks to the Provost Guard, Past Colonel Ray Petronio, and Past Colonel Bob Graham, who kept "order" that night, in a group of "really good" kids. I don't know if they were necessary, but it's always better to be safe than sorry.

Thanks also to our Maintenance workers – Rich, Noah and Joe. They were accessible and provided any assistance needed.

My thanks to all the volunteers who make this dance both possible, and very successful each and every year. Illustrious Sir William L. Weiss and First Lady Phyllis Weiss, Peggy McKillop, Peg Ernst, Pete Simonoff, Jerry and Ida Sciullo, Dad John Colaianne, Warren and Kathy Park, Erin Polnar and Mara Molitor for assisting with the food and drink, and Stacey Chounet for the printings.



Illustrious Sir William L. Weiss addressing the Masonic Youth.

(Continued on page 30) 28

The Voice of Syria February 2020

Continued from page 25) OLV

SYRIA SHRINE BAND We Play So Kids Can

Band members, family, and friends came together for the annual Christmas banquet. The event began with a social hour. Everyone enjoyed a fine selection of finger foods along with an assortment of drink.



President Michael Panza welcomed everyone and thanked all present for their outstanding work at parades and concerts throughout the year. The members enjoy performing and have a sense of pride

Ray Langer gave the blessing for the meal and thanks for all the talent in the room. Everyone enjoyed a buffet of fine food along with wonderful conversation

Many fond memories were made and I am quite sure many thoughts were had about members who are no longer with us, but play in that band with the angels.

We always enjoy the white elephant gift exchange. There is much laughter in the room as everyone moves about looking for just that right present.

Plans are in the works for the upcoming 2020 season. They start with Hot Jazz on a Cool Summer's Night. This event is on March 6, 2020. The band sponsors this event, where local school jazz bands come in to play along with invited guest musicians. It is an evening of fine music and fun - and don't forget the refreshments after.

We start our rehearsals in February. They run from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the band room at the Shrine. If you play an instrument or

The Voice of Syria February 2020

may just have a desire to learn, why not take that special lady out to come and see what we are all about. You may just enjoy yourself.

From myself and my fellow band family we wish all the units of the Syria Shrine a safe, successful and enjoyable 2020.

Respectfully Submitted by Noble Thomas M.Kostelansky. For information contact Nobel Michael Panza at pmanz@centurylink.net or call 412-979-7645, or Noble Thomas M. Kostelansky...thomkost53@yahoo.com, or call 724-568-1302



Fred Sheridan, Grant McLaughlin, Bob Addleman, Jim Wehrheim, Dave Beery, Dom Pascucci make a spectacle of themselves as they display their plaques at the OL Christmas Party



Barry Hootman, MD, Member of the Board of Governors at Shriners Hospitals for Children — Erie, presented checks totaling \$30,828 to Bob Stevenson, Chairman of the Board of Governors, which included a \$10,000 check from the Getz Family and a \$17, 678 check from the Hypnosis Society of Pennsylvania.

ON THE ROAD WITH THE RODE RIGS by Dennis Conrad

Well 2019 has come and gone the Rigs had another tremendous year. We participated in 25 parades, chaired the two Shriners Nights at the Races events and Five Shriners Flea Market events. We helped out at the Bunny Bash, Kennywood Family picnic and the Children's Christmas party. The Rigs held three hoagie sales and participated in the Wine Festival with our food stand selling our fabulous Pulled Pork and Italian Beef sandwiches. Due to all our parade activities and fundraisers we had this year we were able to make donations to the Shriners Hospital for Children -Erie, the Shrine Center, Kennywood Picnic and Children's Christmas party totaling around \$9,300 for 2019 not too shabby for a unit with only eleven (11) members. Some might ask why are the Rigs so involved with so many of the activities at the Shrine Center. Well that's what being a Shriner is all about helping out where needed being active getting the word out of what we are all about. Also doing what's needed to be done to keep our doors open so that we can continue to keep our hospitals funded to continue with the World Class care that children so desperately need. That's what being a Shriner is all about.

Officers for the year 2020 are as follows

President - Joseph Micikas Larry Barr - First Vice President Tom Becker - Second Vice President Dennis Conrad - Security/Treasurer Don Wiles - Parade Captain Bob Plata - First Lieutenant William Beaver - Second Lieutenant John Handshue - Membership Chairman We are looking forward to taking some time off over the winter months to rest up and also do some much-needed maintenance on our parade vehicles, but at the sometime we are making plans and looking forward to a busy and great 2020

(Continued from page 28) Youth Dance

You guys MAKE it happen. All I have to do is show up – you take care of everything else, as you always have. Please know I really appreciate everything you all did, and always do, each and every year for us here at the Syria Shrine.

My thanks also to my wife Sue, for helping get the necessary supplies, and, well, putting up with me, and my attitude as the dance date approaches. I don't know what I would do without her!

We look forward to a larger turnout for the 2020 dance. The date is set for Sunday December 27. With the time from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM. We hope you can make it, and please bring a friend or two.

If you have any questions/suggestions/ ideas, please contact me at (412) 580-7523, or shoot me an email at gwp302@comcast.net. Thanks again to Illustrious Sir David M. Heldman, P.P., for allowing me the honor, opportunity and the responsibility to handle my first dance in 2009, Illustrious Sir William L. Weiss, P.P., for appointing me in 2019, and our Potentate, Illustrious Sir Donald J. Taylor for the honor of re-appointing me to handle this in 2020. Many thanks again to all who helped make this a very successful event that the Syria Shrine hosts for the kids.

2019 Syria ShrineYouth Dance



Helen Snedden, Supreme Nature and Supreme Deputy in Pennsylvania; Calista Cavanaugh, Grand Worthy Advisor; and usanne Cavanaugh, Mother of the Grand Worthy Advisor.



HARIGE UNIT NEWS

Well by the time you are reading this you are probably just coming inside from shoveling your driveway and sidewalk and pouring yourself a nice cup of coffee or some other well deserved adult beverage. Christmas has come and gone and the New Year of 2020 is here to stay! Maybe you still have your Christmas tree and decorations still up? Maybe the Steelers went to the Super Bowl with "Duck"?

Another year brings another slate of new officers to our Harige Unit. This year the group has many years as clowns represented. Now, I am not saying the officers are old but they are! We are privileged to have all Past Captains on our Executive Board!

Here is the 2020 list of Harige Unit Officers: Dennis "Radish" Schweinsburg, Captain Jack "Bubbles" Jones PP, LM, 1st Lieutenant Nick "Shamrock" Ridgeway, 2nd Lieutenant Rob "Splotchee" Brinkley, PM, LM Secretary Jeff "Kit Kat" Cox, Treasurer John "Bunkey" Koedel, PC, LM-Treasurer Emeritus

Executive Board Joe "Hobo Joe" Rusnak, PC, LM Joe "Grumpy" March, PC, LM Gary "Big G" Dunsey, PC LM Jeff "Putts" Brown, PC

A great tip of our cap goes to Noble George "lil georgie" Edwards for writing this article for this past year while facing some physical challenges with his health. George always wrote funny and interesting news and his wit and humor will be sorely missed. He is such a great part of our Unit and all of us love him and wish him only the best. He is truly a clown's clown.

Mid-January, Bubbles, Shamrock and Radish are traveling to the blustery and snowy coast of Plymouth, Massachusetts to attend the Northeast Clown Institute. Here 150 or more clowns from as far away

The Voice of Syria February 2020

as Alaska and Hawaii gather to learn the tricks of our craft. There will be juggling, make-up, balloon twisting, magic classes, competion and more! This is a 3-day event that has produced many Imperial Session winning Joeys over the years.

While these three will be shivering, Rob "Splotchee" Brinkley and John "Hissie" Hisiro will be in Florida basking in the sun and attending the Shrine East-West game. Watch for them on television. I am sure they will be camera ready!

When you see Mike "Mugsie" Aaron P.P. be sure to congratulate him on being coroneted a Honorary 33rd degree. Ill Sir Mike traveled to Milwaukee to become part of the 2019 class. We all are so proud of his accomplishments. He is a very humble man and doesn't seem to like to make a big deal out of awards, but we all know this is a HUGE DEAL.

In closing, please remember all the Nobles of Syria Shrine that may be struggling with health problems. Keep them in your prayers and extend a hand to help one of them. Sometimes just a phone call is needed to let them know you are thinking about them. Also, say a prayer for our men and women serving our great country and their families for all the sacrifices they make every day.

It's time to reload our makeup shrine our shoes, press our outfits and get ready for the upcoming parade season. Except for the hobos and tramps, the dirty ones. I only wash my clothes when it rains. Whitefaces are such fuss buttons.

Until next time, be safe and Bump a Nose!

Radish Just a bum from Hunker

SYRIA SHRINERS QUARTERLY MEETING & CEREMONIAL MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2020 @ 7:00 PM Donald J. Taylor Bet T. Allana Syria Recorder Illustrious Potentate

Widows or Widowers Singles Club meets monthly for luncheon at various Pittsburgh area locations with no meetings in January or February. All widows, widowers and single members of the Masonic fraternity, whether Blue Lodge or advanced Masons are invited to become members. The Club covers the Oasis of Syria for membership and makes annual contributions to Shriners Hospitals for Children. The first WOW Luncheon for 2020 will be held on March 19, 2020 at Houlihan's at the Mt. Lebanon Galleria, 1500 Washington Road, Space #1210, Pittsburgh, PA. The April 16, 2020 Luncheon will be at Edgewood Country Club, 100 Churchhill Road, Wilkins Twp., PA. MUST USE CREDIT CARD. We urge all who are eligible to come out and ion the WOW group for an enjoyable after

We urge all who are eligible to come out and join the W.O.W. group for an enjoyable after-noon. Please call: LaVerne McConnell, Secretary (412) 833-4243 for reservations or for further information. join the W.O.W. group for an enjoyable after-

noon. Ple

SHRINERS HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN - ERIE RECEIVES A LARGE DONATION! by Al Douglas

The Hypnosis Society of Pennsylvania was a non-profit organization and like many organizations lost membership and decided to shut its doors. They had funds left in their treasury and decided to donate it to the Shriners Hospital. You would think that would be easy, no, there are rules and procedures to shut down a non-profit organization and donate to another non-profit organization. A couple of years ago the process started, with Robert F. McCabe, Jr., Esq. starting to acquire the government forms needed to accomplish this task and just recently Solicitor & Shrine Center Attorney Alexander H. Lindsay, Esq. had his group complete all the requirements to allow the Hypnosis Society to shut down and donate to Shriners Hospital.

Stan Malak spearheaded the closure of his Hypnosis org. and wanted all types of media attention to cover the check presentation. Several media groups were notified, newspapers and television, but none were interested. The Erie Hospital had another function that same day and was not able to attend, but two members from the Erie Hospital Board of Governors were present. On December 11, 2019 the check was presented in the Syria Shrine Board room, Samuel Santini the Hypnosis President, presented a check to Dr. Barry Hootman, M.D., Erie B.O.G. member. They were flanked by six smiling faces. In the picture left to right are Terry Steinheiser, Syria Shrine High Priest & Prophet, Alvin Douglas, Jr. B.O.G. Emeritus, Roadrunner Chairman, Samuel Santini Hypnosis President, Dr. Barry Hootman, M.D., Erie B.O.G. member, Robert Addleman, Jr., P.P., Recorder, and David Gardy, P.P., Treasurer.



Stan Malak Hypnosis member was behind the camera and camera shy. December 19, 2019, at the Erie B.O.G. board meeting, Syria Shrine board members will present the check in the amount of \$17,677.68 to the Erie Shrine Hospital. A great donation to Shriners Hospital Erie.

To all Units, Clubs & Caravans If you maintain your own mailing list, you might want to use the Recorder's office to purge your membership mailing lists. This needs to be corrected at least annually, as the Shrine has the master list that is updated daily with suspensions, deaths and demits.



Shriners Hospitals for Children' Erie Love to the rescue:

See here on Syria's website:

Shriners Hospitals for Children – Erie Receives Large Donation from Hypnotism Society - Pittsburgh's Syria Shriners</br/>https:// www.syriashriners.org/shriners-hospital-forchildren-erie-receives-large-donation/>

The Hypnotism Society of Pennsylvania decided to shut its doors. They decided to donate funds left in their treasury to the Shriners Hospitals for Children - Erie. *www.syriashriners.org*



THE CONTINUING ADVENTURES OF THE AWARD-WINNING SYRIA SHRINE CLOWNS by Rob "Splotchee" Brinkley

The New Year is upon us, and this year we are delighted to be led by that bum from Hunker, Dennis "Radish" Schweinsburg. In the great hierarchy of the clown world, Radish is rated as a "Master Clown," meaning he has attended several years of Clown College (yes, that is a real thing!), and he is considered to be a clown of the highest standards. In addition, he has competed all over the U.S., and has numerous trophies and awards for his efforts. His passion for this craft is contagious, and the year to come promises to encourage all of us in the unit to work at being better clowns. It is a great time to consider joining us while we have such a terrific teacher as our Boss Clown.

Helping him out will be his faithful friends and clown companions Jack "Bubbles" Jones as First Lieutenant (who is keeping the chair warm for our former scribe and all around good guy, little georgie), and Nick "Shamrock" Ridgeway as Second Lieutenant.

As we wrap up the year-that-was, newly christened Past Captain Splotchee wanted to thank the guys for all the hard work in 2019. November and December were packed with great activities, including our Annual Potentate's dinner held at the Jerome Bettis Grille 36, and Syria Shrine's first ever Knickerbocker degree, which also featured the first public performance of the Shrine Clown initiation (see cast photo below).



The Voice of Syria February 2020

Radish, Bunkey, Big G, Grumpy and Shamrock joined the Past Captain on stage much to the amusement of the packed house.

In addition, we paraded all around the Oasis to welcome in the holiday season --Tarentum, Irwin, Homestead and of course, Pittsburgh. We shared Christmas cheer at light up nights in Kittanning, Chicora, Etna, and brought extra smiles to gatherings in Rostraver for the Steelworkers, and of course to the Shrine's own Children's Christmas party, wrapping up the year with our annual visit to the Sewickley Masonic Home. What a great time to be a clown!





In our next chronicle, we will list the clowns who had earned enough points to qualify for the prestigious ISCA Red Nose Award, and tell you more about Shrine Clowns. Be sure to scan these pages for the Continuing Adventures of the Award-Winning Syria Shrine Clowns. Until then, May God Bless You All Real Good!

WASHINGTON/ GREENE COUNTY CARAVAN 2

Caravan 2 had a very productive 2019. We started our season in June with our annual "Leo W. Martin Memorial" golf scramble where 144 golfers enjoyed the championship course at the Quick Silver Golf Club. Despite quite a few extra hazards that were strategically placed over the course (due to a tornado two days before) we all had wonderful day.

Next, was our Summer Stag where everyone that attends always has a great time. Then off to the Washington County Fair for a week of helping our Shrine sell Car Raffle tickets.

Wrapping up the year, Caravan 2, Santa and some of our Shrine Clowns had our annual visit to Canonsburg Hospital to spread some holiday cheer and spend some time with the patients.

Finally, our Potentate Party honoring Illustrious Sir William L. Weiss and Lady Phyllis. Where we were able to make a \$5,000 donation to the Syria Transportation Fund, a \$3,000 donation to the newly created Garage Building Fund and a \$1,000 donation to this years Potentate project.



CAMEL WHEELS by Vic Perry

Another year has come and gone for the Camel Wheels and it has really zipped by. We ended the season with the Shriner Potentate's party on November 16 at Kretzler's Tavern in Pittsburgh.

The Wheels honored our Illustrious Potentate, William L. Weiss and Lady Phyllis. Great food and drink were served and we celebrated William L. Weiss' service this past year.

At the party, Dennis Raible, President of Camel Wheels, presented the Potentate a gift for his support of the Camel Wheels unit, thank you.

The Camel Wheels unit would like to congratulate the members that organized and ran the Santa Christmas party on December 15! The kids were smiling from ear to ear as they ran to each game to earn prizes. The smiles on their faces confirmed what a good time was had by all. Food, games and gifts were plentiful and Santa even found time to join the Wheelers to listen to the children's wish lists. We would like to also thank the Clown Patrol for their diligent and untiring work making the hundreds of balloon creations the children requested. The kids were proud of their hats, swords and animals that were twisted before their eyes. Good job, guys!! It surely was a great way to end the year as a Camel Wheeler participating with the event.

It is with great sadness we report the passing of our brother, Gary Gresh, after a courageous struggle against pancreatic cancer. Gary served in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Spinax and the USS Sabalo as a diesel engine mechanic and scuba diver, completing two tours off the coast of Vietnam. He was honorably discharged on August 6, 1973, earning The National Defense Service Medal and Vietnam Service Medal with a Bronze Star for his service. He was a member of the United States Submarine Veterans Holland Club Requin Base recently inducted into the 50-year Holland club. Gary was an active member of The Presbyterian Church of Coraopolis where he and his wife were members of the church choir. Gary also served as a Deacon, Elder and Grounds Committee member for the church. Gary was a member and Past Master of the Doric Lodge No. 630 Masonic Lodge of Sewickley; he was also a Thirty-Second Degree Mason with the Scottish Rite. He was an active participant in the Syria Shrine, where he was Road Captain of the Camel Wheels. Gary was best known for his "wheelie" capabilities! He began carving as a hobby and turned it into a ministry; as he and Deb lovingly carved wooden comfort crosses and donated them for cancer patients. God Bless You, Gary. You will be missed!

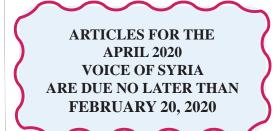
The Camel Wheels Patrol participates in parades mostly in Southwestern PA, but some have been as far north as Canada and south to Virginia. This group prides themselves as being professional paraders and perform from May through October, weather permitting.

Meetings are usually held the third Sunday in the Camel Wheels unit room at the Shrine Center. If this interests you, please contact Herb Brant, 412-889-6113, for additional details. We would love to meet you and introduce you to our group.

The Camel Wheels unit is currently looking for Nobles to join our unit and you won't find a better deal. The only cost you will have is the initiation fee that covers the cost of the uniforms. The trikes are available to ride for any new member.

Current officers of the Camel Wheels are, President Dennis Raible; Vice President Don Panzone and Secretary/ Treasurer Herb Brant. Captain is Randy Hobaugh. After a brief rest from all the activities, we need to start planning on what events we will be participating in for 2020. Reaching out to local communities to see if they would like our presence in their local parades could help fill out our schedule for the upcoming season. If anyone has any suggestions on how to approach other neighborhoods, please contact Herb Brant at 412-889-6113 in order that we can pursue any interested parties. Thank you!







The Golf Club won the Club competition for ticket sales for the 2019 Car raffle. Many thanks to everyone, Nobles and their Ladies, who helped by buying their tickets and by helping sell at the various locations.

Syria golfers are anxiously awaiting April and the start of our monthly games. We start at Pittsburgh National in Gibsonia on April 30. Tee time remains 9:00 AM and the cost is \$40 as previously.

Note from your Secretary:

Several of you reported that our logo did not print on the dues card emailed to you recently. A replacement will be provided at our first event.

If you have not pre-paid your 2020 dues, they will be collected at the first event.

A great big Shout Out to the American team for defeating a very tenacious International Team and winning the President's Cup this past weekend. We were down three points at one time but came back for a $1\frac{1}{2}$ point win. Welcome to George Williams, our newest member. We know there are many golfers among the Nobility of Syria Shrine who have not joined us, even for a game or two. We do not ask for a long term commitment and play for the love of the game. Come join us for a round or two.

See you on the tee. Larry Burton Secretary



Articles for the April 2020 VOICE OF SYRIA Are due no later than February 20, 2020.

Please Email to: voice@syriashriners.org Camera-ready in .jpg, .pdf or .doc Send photos as attachments! To all those that want to place an article in the Voice of Syria, the following criteria must be adhered to:

- 1. All pictures in .jpg or .pdf software. To create better quality pictures, submit as attachments; not in the file.
- 2. Written documents must be in Word; camera-ready documents.
- 3. Please proof your spelling and grammar.
- 4. Please limit document to half or one-page with pictures.
- 5. All documents sent electronically to: voice@syriashrinecenter.org

If you move, or have more than one address (a seasonal home?) notify the Recorder's Office of the change and dates when you are at your temporary address.

Send changes to: Syria Shrine Center 1877 Shriners Way, Cheswick, PA 15024 or Email: syriarecorder@gmail.com.

SHRINE MOTOR CORPS by Tim McKiernan

Syria Motor Corps is looking forward to a very busy and prosperous new year. With many events planned, we will be keeping our gas pedal down! Our January installation was held with Chief Rabban Donald I. Green installing our Officers. Debbie Harrell, Director of Professional Relations at Cincinnati Shriners Hospital gave a very interesting presentation.

Invited were Sponsors, Guests and Ladies.We were proud to donate a check for \$5,000 to the hospital. That brings our 2019 total donations to \$21,000.

We have some big shoes to fill in 2020, and are looking for new members and new ideas. We will be hosting a Car show again this year, and plans are already underway to make it one of our most successful in recent history. Of course our parade schedule will be busier than ever having added several new parades last year. Our



last parades of the year 2019 were very cold, but well attended. The crowds were not deterred by the weather.

A special thanks to all who support us, and our officers. Noble Jerry Robison just finished 3 consecutive years as President. He and his lady will be enjoying some welldeserved time off. Noble Ben Lutz served us as treasurer for several years and we thank him for his hard work. Captain Andy Talento and Secretary Harry Truax will continue their service in 2020.

As we go into the new year let us come together and continue to support all Nobles, Units, Clubs, and Caravans. Anyone with a vehicle looking for a new home please feel free to reach out. We are always looking for ways to get new people involved. We look forward to seeing all of you at the next events!



UNCORK THE FUN! "First Choice" Wine Festival A Decadent Afternoon Featuring Wine, Beer, Chocolate & Food Live Music! Saturday, May 16, 2020 Shrine Center Pavilion



To all those that want to place an article in the Voice of Syria, the following criteria must be adhered to:

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2. Written documents must be in Word; Camera-ready documents.

3. Please proof your spelling and grammar.

4. Please limit document to half or one-page with pictures.

5. All documents sent electronically to: voice@syriashrinecenter.org

ROADRUNNERS by Al Douglas

The last two months of the year were busy with eighteen hospital trips scheduled. Several were canceled and rescheduled for the next year. Weather and illness are reasons for most of the cancellations. One trip, the week before Christmas, because of predicted bad weather, there were no drivers willing to take a chance. The Erie Hospital was able to reschedule for January. Also, this year, six of the regular drivers have had health problems and not able to drive.

Here are some statistics for last year: Totals.

103 - Van trips for about 35,000 miles driven.

34 - Van #1 trips # of miles driven 11,465 (Race car van)

28 - Van # 2 trips # of miles driven 7,677 (wheelchair van)

41 - Van # 3 trips # of miles driven 15,393 (Steeler van)

206 - Drivers needed for those trips. 2,025 The # of Volunteer hours for the above trips.

\$8,000 estimated expense for the above trips.

Maintenance cost not included as of this writing.

26 total # of drivers with 1 or more trips. 18 total # of drivers with 5 or more trips

4 total # of drivers with 10-19 trips
2 total # of drivers with 20 + trips
2019 was a busy year losing about 12
drivers and gaining 6 new drivers.

The drivers are still trying to get a garage for our vans, we have made a lot of progress last year. The garage has been on the agenda for the Board of Directors most of the year. The transportation fund is not permitted to use funds for building a garage, only transportation expense. So, a special fund was set up for the garage building fund. Also, at the December Board Meeting a Garage building Committee has now been established. There is about \$15,000 now in the building fund. The committee will obtain the answers to the what, where, when and who questions for the possible building of a garage. This committee will be the Holding Corporation members.

So that is it folks, I hope this New Year will be just as successful as last year.

If you would like to join our Club of drivers, call the office 724-274-7000. Say, " how can I become a Roadrunner"? *We drive so kids can walk.*

NIGHT AT THE RACES

Our first Night At The Races fundraiser will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2020. Doors will open at 5:30 pm, with dinner served at 6:00 pm, and races starting at 7:00 pm. This fund raiser is open to the public so please bring your family and friends. Please see the flyer in this edition of The Voice to pre register and purchase a horse. Walk ins are welcomed and you can pay at the door. Admission is \$20.00 per person which includes food, soft drinks, coffee, and beer. You can purchase/own a horse for \$10, and if your horse wins in their race, the owner of that horse wins \$50. There will also be a Trifecta, an Auction Race, 50/50's, Chinese Auction, and other Small Games of Chance.

Once again this year there will not be a Shrine Circus, so we are hoping to make up some of the lost revenue by having this Fund Raiser. So please come out, bring your family and friends, have a good time, and help support your Shrine Center.

For more information, please contact: John Handshue 412-461-3186 412-877-4263 jjhpm@aol.com



SYRIA SHRINERS QUARTERLY MEETING & CEREMONIAL MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2020 @ 7:00 PM

Donald J. Taylor Illustrious Potentate Bat T. Allana Syria Recorder



We Play So Kids Can

YOOOHOO! CALLING ALL SYRIA SHRINE HILLBILLIES CLAN 53!

Howdy Cuzzins! The news may have come to your hollers that we have started a new year of fun and good frolickin' for all of us Hillbillies! We hope that you and your kinfolk had a wonderful holiday season.

Back yonder in December the Hillbilly Clan gathered from all over the country in Murrysville for some good vittles and side splittin' good times. The Rabban of the Clan was in fine fettle and shared some of his plans for this year for us Cuzzins. Cuz Ron Edwards has stepped up to take an office and Cuz Bob Kording is guardin' the mailbox like a bluetick with a critter up a tree. He is anxious to see some applications from Flatlanders who wish to be brought to true Hillbilly light this year. We know you are out yonder! Sign on up with Cuz Bob and we can let you know when the Clan will be havin' a great day of good fun and fellowship at our annual hoop de doo reunion and ceremonial.

Speakin' of ceremonials, we want to thank Ms Canise for tyin' the knot with the Rabban in December. We look forward to welcomin' her official like to the clan at the ceremonial, but we know she has her work cut out for her! We are plum tickled pink to have a missus. now for the Rabban. I figure Pap Caldwell is happy about it all too!

After all the excitement settles down, we will be fixin' to welcome another group of fellers who love to chase those little white balls again all over the scrublands! The money they raise will help the young'uns at the hospitals. I hear tell they even have a good time, ifn you don't listen too closely when they are yellin' at the ball to tell it where to go! We always need help with the event, so be in touch with Cuz Bob Kording...

rbkpm@windstream.net to get details.

The Voice of Syria February 2020

Well, I see the deadline for this Voice is comin' round the bend, so I will say Happy New Year to one and all. I hope and pray each and every Cuzzin, their Missus and kin enjoy this new year with peace, good health, and no signs of those pesky revenoooers! *Preacher Dave*

AHOY MARINERS

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The Syria Shriners Mariners Yacht Club invites all who enjoy spending time aboard a ship, boat, kayak, raft, or sailboat! We have several informal dinner meetings each year and three or four special events: Change of Watch to install our new Commodore each January, the Sports Bash where we raffle off a boating related prize in June, a Divan Cruise whenever we can coordinate an outing, a First Mate's Picnic each August to thank our Mates for being patient with our interest in boating, and a holiday party in December.



If all this sounds like fun, we would love to have you come aboard! Contact David Eichelberger, Secretary at davideosl@yahoo.com to apply for membership. Dues are just \$15 per year. If you like boating, sailing or cruising, you know we appreciate having a good time with good friends. Each year we have a good time and make a nice donation to the Potentate's project and to the hospitals.

NOTES FROM THE SYRIA SHRINERS CHANTERS:

The Chanters hope that the Syria Shrine community have enjoyed the holiday season. We are about to launch our new year of parades and concerts. If your lodge, group, church, or organization would like a musical program and information about Syria Shriners, contact our Director Lee Pfeifer lpfeifer@zoominternet.net or David Eichelberger, our Secretary at davideosl@yahoo.com to make arrangements. We ask for a donation and are happy to provide a variety of programs using our recent concert numbers, patriotic songs or holiday delights.

In January the Chanters will begin rehearsing new material for competition at the Imperial Shrine Gathering in Kansas City in July and for M.A.S.A. Our Director is the President of S.C.A.I. and will help coordinate the competition in Kansas City. If you enjoy singing and raising money to benefit the Potentate's Charity and the Shriners Hospitals for Children, we are always looking to add singers to the Chanters. We practice on Tuesdays in the Music Room at the Shrine from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Why not come by and sit in on a practice? We have a lot of fun and enjoy lifting the spirits of those who see us in parades or at our concerts.

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Please Email to: voice@syriashriners.org Camera-ready in .jpg, Word or .pdf

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CARAVAN #20 by Randy Hobaugh

Well here it is, the first Voice of Syria for 2020. While we had a few disappointments during 2019, I do believe Caravan #20 had a successful year. Our outings were well attended and dare I say everyone had fun. As we move forward into 2020, Caravan 20 is scheduling several events throughout the year.

2020 Caravan 20 Officers

President -	Noble Randy Hobaugh		
	- 724-858-7158		
1st Vice President -	Noble Jerry Silverstein		
2nd Vice President -	Open		
Treasurer -	Noble Gregory Kobasa		
Secretary -	Noble George		
	Williams		
Anyone interested	in join Caravan 20		

please contact one of the officers above.

2020 Calendar of Events

Friday, February 28, 2020 – Join Provost Guard, Caravan 16 and Caravan 20 Potentate Dinner. *Friday, May 15, 2020* – Bocci Stag – Place to be named

Open to all members of the Syria Shrine, as well as their male family members and their male friends – it's a STAG remember.

Sunday, July 26, 2020 – Summer Theater and Picnic – Apple Hill Playhouse and Delmont Rec Center

Sunday, October 11 2020 – Family Steeler Picnic – Sarn Castle

Friday, November 20, 2020 – Installation of Officers and Bingo Party – Pugliano's Restaurant

Saturday, December 19, 2020 – Christmas Party – TBD

Monthly meeting will continue to be the 4th Wednesday of each month starting on January 22 at Pugliano's Restaurant in Penn Hills on Route 286.

Nobles, while we would love to have you a member of Caravan #20, you're still welcome to come join us for the fun and fellowship we offer even if you're not. Think about it, and give our affairs a try. In the meantime, Es Selamo Aleikum.

Syria Shrine Caravan 20 Presents 2nd Annual Dinner and Theater Show

When: Sunday, July 26, 2020 Where: Apple Hill Playhouse, Delmont, PA. Time: Wine and Cheese Social – 1:00 Show Time – 2:00 PM Dinner – 4:30 PM

Price: Matinee and Dinner – TBD Look for more information in the upcoming Voice

Contact for More Information: Randy Hobaugh 39 Rosanne Circle Irwin PA 15642 Email rhobaugh23@gmail.com





Get that Petition!





Syria Shriners Present

A Very Special Evening of Jazz

March 6, 2020 – 7:00 p.m. – Syria Shrine Center

Featuring three local High School Jazz Bands accompanied by soloists from Duquesne University and Slippery Rock University.

Butler High School Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Mr. Jeff Kroner





Deer Lakes High School Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Mr. Christopher Snyder

Butler Intermediate School Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Mr. Todd Karenbauer



Special Appearance by Syria Shrine's own Jazz Ensemble under the co-direction of Bob Hill and Ken Yarnot <u>Renowned Guest Soloists</u>



Dr. Jason Kush

Assistant Professor of Applied Saxophone and Improvisation

Slippery Rock University



Associate Professor of Percussion

Dr. David Glover

Slippery Rock University



Mr. Joseph Badaczewski

Adjunct Professor of Jazz Trumpet

Mary Pappert School of Music Duquesne University

Only \$10.00 for an amazing evening of Jazz

Tickets are available from the Syria Shrine Center office or at the door 1877 Shriners Way, Cheswick, PA 15024 724-274-7000

Proceeds are for the benefit of Syria Shriners and are not tax deductible

NEW YEAR'S EVE - 2019

















The Voice of Syria February 2020













2020 M.A.S.A FALL CONVENTION September 9-12, 2020

HOLIDAY INN & SUITES-VIRGINIA BEACH-NORTH BEACH

3900 Atlantic Avenue Virginia Beach, VA



SYRIA IS RETURNING TO THE HOLIDAY INN & SUITES

Plan to join Potentate Donald Taylor and Lady Eleanor at this beautiful location situated on an impressive stretch of oceanfront on the Virginia Beach Boardwalk. Holiday Inn & Suites North Beach is a stunning resort hotel designed for families as well as groups and individuals. This Virginia Beach hotel features oceanfront rooms and suites with flat-screen TVs, microwaves and refrigerators. Relax on the sands of the Atlantic Ocean, soak up rays by the gorgeous beachfront pool, and let the kids play at Splash Kamp. Savor fresh seafood and Italian fare at the resort's three restaurants.

Other amenities include:

- Potentate's Hospitality Room
- Poolside Bar
- Indoor Swimming Pool
- Free Wireless Internet
- Complimentary Guest Laundry Facilities
- Child Activity Center
- Movie Theatre
- Outdoor Swimming Pool
- Business Center
- Valet or Self Parking
- Fitness Center
- Express Check-In/Check-Out

Mid-Atlantic Shrine Association (M.A.S.A) HOLIDAY INN & SUITES VIRGINIA BEACH-NORTH BEACH ³⁹⁰⁰ Atlantic Avenue Virginia Beach, VA Registration Form (All rates are per room)									
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Sept. 9-12 4 Nights Sept. 10-12 3 Nights Sept. 11-12 2 Nights Additional Nights (Per Night) Base Pack Additional N ***Required MASA Reg Required MASA Reg Required MASA Reg TC Available at Additional Cost: Ladies Luncheon \$40 Pe President's Luncheon \$20 Pe Bus Transportation* \$100 Pe	\$390 \$195 \$195 \$165	/Queen King 60 \$660 95 \$495 80 \$330 55 \$165 \$ Dates (\$ 25 \$10 \$GE \$ \$ Dates (\$ 25 \$ 10 \$ \$ Dates (\$ 25 \$ 10 \$)						
*Available ONLY with 4 Night Pac Make Check payable to: Syria Shrine Mail Check and Completed form to: CHARLES GLEDICH 107 FRANKLIN AVE PITTSBURGH, PA 15209	Reservations and Total ma Final Pa All reservation Hotel cancellations an ***Required MAS	d Down Payment of \$200 Due by May 9, 20 nay be paid in Full with Reservation. ayment Deadline is August 1, 2020. ns are on a "First Come, First Serve" Basis. are by "Written Request" only by August 1, ASA Noble Registration is increased to \$35 f ations taken after August 1, 2020***	2020.						

HELP BUILD #SYRIASHRINERS BRAND THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA ADVOCACY by James Elmer Jr.

Pew Research Center reports that as of May 2019, 69% of US adults use Facebook. Many of you have Facebook accounts. It is now time to activate you, our biggest Facebook-user fans. Every time someone shares, likes, or comments on Facebook posts, or mentions @SyriaShriners Facebook page, our brand is made visible to that individual's own Facebook friends. That means potentially hundreds, even thousands, of users see our content.

Promoting our organization, engaging with the Nobility, sharing our experiences through fun, original content, and encouraging fundraising are all goals shared by the membership of Syria Shrine.

So, make it a habit to post Syria Shrine-related content, share Syria's posts, like Syria's posts, and comment on Syria's posts.

It's an easy task with huge rewards, and we need your help, Nobles. We need you to regularly cheerlead for Syria at our events, our fraternal activities, our fundraisers now and into the future. *WHY DO IT*?

Social media advocacy is much more effective than traditional advertising methods. In the digital age, peer-to-peer recommendations are the most powerful advertising tools available.

The primary benefits social media delivers to membership organizations:

1. Increases awareness. By engaging with Facebook users and sharing relevant content, photos, and events, we can reach a greater number of people on behalf of our organization.

2. Attracts new members. Prospective members are intrigued by social media pages that feature member interactions, event photos, and interesting and relevant content. This type of dynamic social media presence demonstrates an exciting community that people want to join.

3. Builds relationships with members. Social media fosters relationships by engaging in real-time conversations, answering questions, and sharing helpful and relevant content. We can build meaningful member connections and encourage long-term loyalty.

4. Inspires action. An active and exciting social media presence inspires people to take action and get involved. This allows our organization to more efficiently raise support and elicit new member applications.

HOW DO I HELP?

Easy! Post Syria Shriners-relevant content on Facebook and tag Syria Shriners when you do.

What's a tag? Meet # hashtags and @ symbols, your new friends. A hashtag is a hash sign (#) in front of a word or phrase without spacing, as in #SyriaShriners. It creates a link which can be searched and tracked.

When an @ symbol is used in front of an organization's Facebook user name without spacing, for example, "@SyriaShriners" it notifies that organization that you've mentioned them in your post.

So, it couldn't be easier: tag us in your Facebook posts about Syria Shrine using #SyriaShriners and @SyriaShriners. Remember to make sure these posts are "public," not private to only your page, so that we can share them.

WHAT DO I SHARE?

Pictures and videos. It allows those who were unable to attend to feel connected and still be a part of things. Then, interact with the Nobility. "Liking," "commenting" or "replying" to relevant posts keeps you engaged. Share what goes on behind-the-scenes, it makes members feel connected.

We'll also want to share high quality posts. But what exactly is high quality?

1. Is this timely and relevant content?

2. Is this content from a source you would trust? (You? No problem!)

3. Would you share it with friends or recommend it to others?

4. Is the content genuinely interesting to you or is it trying to game News Feed distribution? (e.g., asking for people to like the content)

5. Would you call this a low-quality post or meme? (No memes)

6. Would you complain about seeing this content in your Facebook news feed?

7. Is it personal? These posts perform well because our audience immediately feels an emotional connection and may feel compelled to take action themselves.

So, every time you're at one of the Syria Shrine events or Fraternal activities – a comprehensive list can always be found here: syriashriners.org/events – snap a pic with your fellow Nobles, friends and family, post it to Facebook, and be sure to tag Syria Shriners! Thank you!

PATROL NEWS

Another two months gone by. I wonder if anybody else is getting older, just like me. Trying to remember where I left off last time. I think it had something to do where you left your teeth. I hate it when that happens.

Back to Al Douglas. Remember we left off with him last time. I don't know whether to run the other way when I see him or take him with me to buy a lottery ticket. As you know, Al broke his arm up in the big woods last year. He had just cut a tree down (by the way, this is the

46

ALLEGHENY VALLEY CARAVAN 16 NEWS by Dennis Conrad

Caravan 16 had another tremendous year under the leadership of President John Colaianne and his officers. Caravan 16 hosted a combined Potentates Banquet in March with the Provost Guard and Caravan 20. In June Caravan 16 had a table at the Gun Bash and also hosted Shriners Night at Lernerville Speedway which was well attended and everyone had a good time. After our trip to Lernerville in August we traveled down to Tarentum to the Praha Hotel for our annual Sam's Beach wing night. The joint was jumping to say the lest and the Wings and Fries were Great and so was the Fellowship if you went home hungry and didn't have a good time it was your own fault. December is the biggest and best month for Caravan 16 it's the annual Election of Officer and Pasted Presidents Lunch which was held in the meeting room at the Shriner Center. The food was excellent as always catered by Stratwood.

Allegheny Valley Caravan 16 officers for 2020 are as follows

President Jerry Sciullo; First Vice President- Warren Park; Second Vice President - William Gurtner; Secretary/ Treasurer - John Colaianne

The last big event and is also the Biggest of the year is the annual Children's Christmas Party at the Shrine Center. This year the ballroom was bursting at the seams again with 546 people in attendance.

Everyone feasted on Hot Dogs, Chips, Eaten Park Smiley Cookies, Drinks from Schneider's Dairy, Fresh Popped Pop Corn and Cotton Candy by Butch. The children had a Great time each child received a Christmas Stocking full of goodies plus a toy. There were games with prizes, face painted, entertainment by the Shrine Clowns and also a Magic Show. The Going Home Grey Hounds were in attendance for the children of all sizes big and little to pet. Last but not least we had a visitor from the North Pole Santa Claus took time out of his busy schedule to come down to visit with each of the children and have their pictures taken with him. The highlight of the day was the Bicycle Raffle this year we had 36 bicycles to raffle off due to the generosity of individual nobles and the units, clubs and caravans of Syria Shrine.

First, I would like to say Thank You to all the Nobles and their Ladies from Syria Shrine that came out on Saturday and Sunday and worked tirelessly to make this party the huge success that it was. Next, I'd like to Thank all the Businesses, Individuals' Units, Clubs and Caravans that made donations for the party.

Businesses Eaten Park Smiley Cookies Gumto Greenhouse Butler PA Poinsettias Sam's Club Pittsburgh Mills Food Schneider's Dairy Drinks Walmart Pittsburgh Mills Discounted Toys & Bicycles

Individuals that Donated Bikes Jack & Margaret Tallis Paul & Carole Smith Al & Joyce Ertman Jerry & Ida Sciullo Erich & Raylene Gumto Joe Micikas Don & Gloria Wiles Robin Bates George & Sue Polnar Units, Clubs and Caravans that Donated Bikes

Rode Rigs Directors Staff Clowns

(Continued from page 46) Patrol News

real story. I don't know what you heard, but this is the fact). As he was walking through the woods all of a sudden this tree out of nowhere came crashing down on top of Al. Now keep in mind one man in a big forest gets hit by one of ten million trees. I wonder if Al's wife Gwen should let him out to play. Al is doing great now. Maybe he should stay out of the woods.

The Ceremonial this past fall was great and different than other years, actually very interesting. Charlie, Al and myself were there from the Patrol.

Patrol had its Christmas Party and installation dinner last week. As usual it was a great time, good food, great friends. Captain John Barron and Lady Erin did a fantastic job. Many thanks to them. The new officers are: Sean Jackson, Captain; Charlie Zurcher, First Lieutenant; Lee Sampey, PC, Secretary; Mark Frazier, Treasurer.

We are still working on the Lone Stranger. Can't figure out who this guy is. See you next time. *Max Smith*



Patrol Officers



Christmas Party



2020 DIVAN



Center Seat: Illustrious Sir Donald J. Taylor

Left to Right:

Robert T. Addleman, Jr., P.P., Recorder; Randy L. Hobaugh, 2nd Ceremonial Master Thomas E. Prager, 1st Ceremonial Master; David J. Gardy, P.P., Treasurer; Terry N. Steinheiser, Assistant Rabban; Alan R. Tedeschi, Oriental Guide; Jerry A. Sciullo, High Priest & Prophet; Donald I. Green, Chief Rabban;