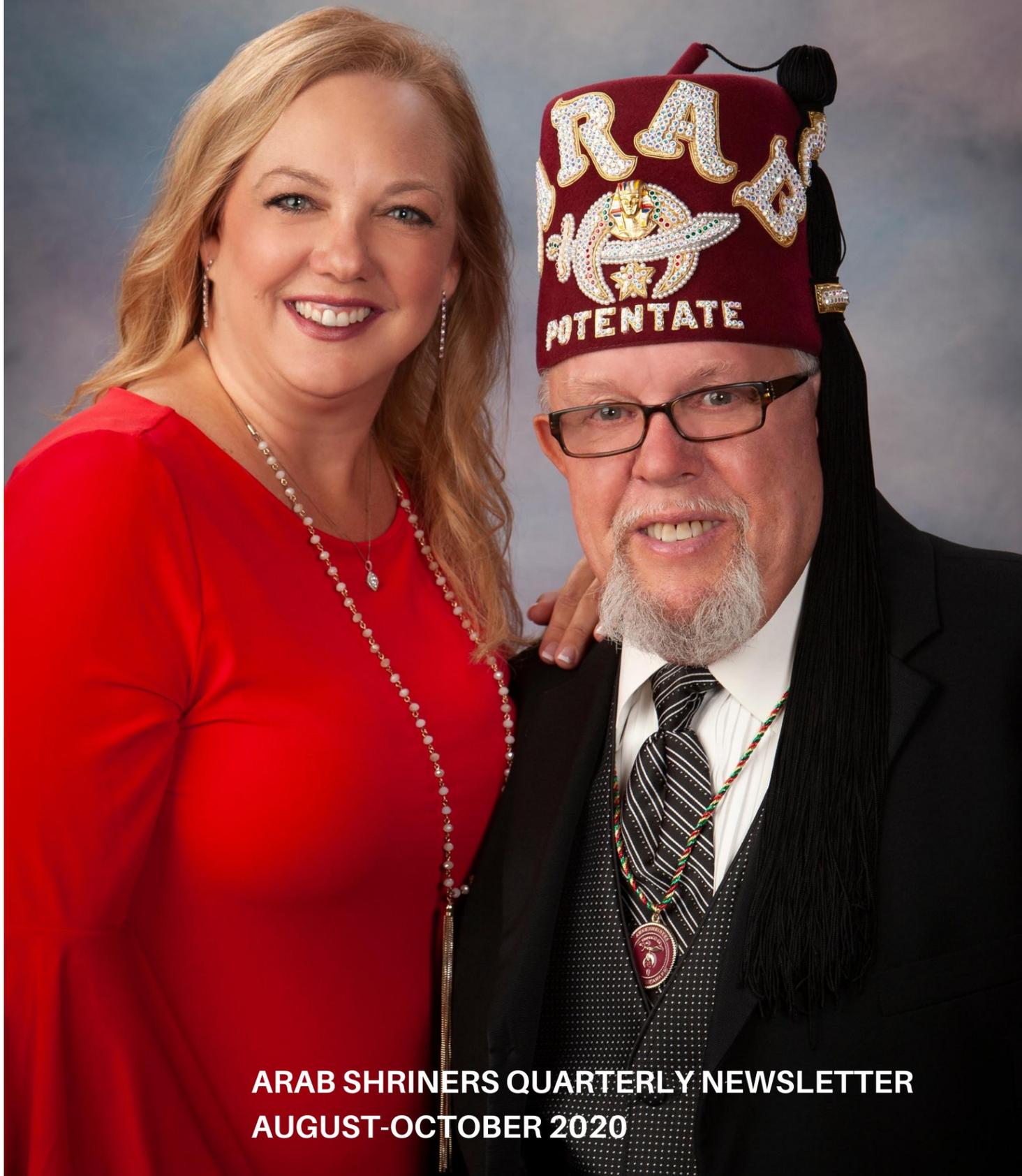


# ARAB ANTICS



ARAB SHRINERS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER  
AUGUST-OCTOBER 2020

# The Shriners'

"I pledge allegiance to my flag  
and the country for which it  
stands, one nation under God,  
indivisible, with liberty and justice  
for all."

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Last year, we made a lot of plans for 2020. Since then, things have changed. Before we hold any events listed below, we'll evaluate the COVID-19 situation for each date to determine if it is safe for the event to take place. Updates will be posted on Facebook and sent out by e-blast. If in doubt, please call

### SEPTEMBER

- 12 Membership Rush Night
- 14 Stated Meeting
- 19 Fall Festival
- 26 Fall Ceremonial & Ladies Luncheon

### OCTOBER

- 3 Clowns Wine Tasting
- 10 Antiques Car Show
- 12 Stated Meeting with Ladies Game Night
- 16-18 Mystery Trip
- 20 Ladies Coffee/Tea  
"Tea & Coffee Service Please"

## Elective Divan

Potentate	Larry Dain
Chief Rabban	Kurt Lawson
Assistant Rabban	Jeff Neal
High Priest & Prophet	Doug Hodge
Oriental Guide	David Johnson
Treasurer	Kim Komarek
Recorder	Ralph Wild

## Appointive Divan

First Ceremonial Master	Keith Bricker
Second Ceremonial Master	Russ Hardy
Marshal	Todd Starin
Membership Director	Andrew Piper
Public Relations Director	Rick Smith
Captain of the Guard	Gary Ashton
Outer Guard	Leo Perry
Chaplain	Mark Varble

## Imperial Council Representatives

Larry Dain, Potentate  
Kurt Lawson, Chief Rabban  
Jeff Neal, Assistant Rabban  
Brad Koehn, P.P. Imperial Sir  
Paul Honaker, PP, Imperial Audit & Finance Rep  
Alt: Doug Hodge, High Priest & Prophet  
Alt: David Johnson, Oriental Guide

## Central States Shrine Association Representatives

Larry Dain, Potentate  
Kurt Lawson, Chief Rabban  
Jeff Neal, Assistant Rabban  
Don Horttor, P.P. Past President CSSA  
Alt: Doug Hodge, High Priest & Prophet

## Arab Shriner Building Trustees

Steve Lavin	Terry Harbert
Steve Haslett	Alan Just
Howard Marlow	

The Arab Antics is published quarterly by the Arab Shriners.

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For information about advertising in the Arab Antics, call 785.234.5656 or 800.481.2722 or email [info@arabshriners.org](mailto:info@arabshriners.org)

# A COVID 19 Update from Your Potentate



**Larry Dain**

**2020 Potentate**

Covid-19 hit our US shores at the end of February. Thankfully, the hard work by Circus Chairman Illustrious Sir Paul Honaker, Assistant Chairman Andrew Piper, Toy Chairman Jared White, and you, the 100+ Arab Nobles, paid off. Our Circus was a success and we got it in before everything shut down. By mid-March, many

aspects of life just stopped. Schools were closed, sporting events cancelled, travel and vacations were cancelled. Five months later, the entire world is still dealing with this pandemic.

We've all had good days and bad days when it comes to dealing with the lack of contact with others. If you are like me, sometimes you just feel stuck, angry, and want to ignore it. However, this pesky virus is something we cannot ignore. As we plan, here are some things to keep in mind.

Your safety is of primary concern. We do not want to have any event or activity that would put you at risk. We are fortunate to have Dave Sterbenz as one of our Nobles. For many years he was the head of Emergency Management for Shawnee County and is recognized nationally for his

skill in Emergency Management. He is in regular contact with Shawnee County Health officials and continues to give us guidance. Some of these include temperature checks, recording attendees, social distancing, capacity limitations, and wearing of mask. These will be necessary when Bingo is reopened. Again, we are fortunate to have Dave pointing the way.

The annual Sportsman's Party (gun raffle) is another important revenue stream to Arab Temple. Most likely we will not be able to have a party. However, raffle chairs, Tony Frye and Mark Varble, have come up with a plan during this pandemic. For the month of November, we will raffle off A-Gun-A-Week. The entry point for purchasing a ticket is low and the firearms are outstanding!

## **Official Call of the Potentate**

Notice is hereby given of a Stated meeting of Arab Shriners at 1305 South Kansas Avenue, Topeka, KS for the transaction of such business as may be regularly presented on:

**September 14, 2020**

**October 12, 2020**

**November 9, 2020**

# Potentate's message continued...

## A COVID 19 Update

Too, we will have special drawings for Banner sponsors.

As we look forward to the second half of 2020, Linda and I, want to thank you for your continued support of our fraternity. We are appreciative of each one of you. We also want to thank those of you who are keeping the world turning while so many are in lockdown. Plumbers, electricians, mechanics, nurses, doctors, police, corrections specialist,

carpenters, meat cutters, manufacturing workers, school teachers, food service, truck drivers, and countless others are on the front lines of keeping America moving. Thank you! You are not forgotten. Your resiliency speaks volumes about your character.

“Ad astra per aspera” is the state motto of Kansas. It is translated as “To the Stars through Difficulties”. This sentiment feels more real today than it ever has before. We keep our eyes on

the North Star of what is right. As we continue to move forward in these difficult times, we keep our eye on the North Star, *Shriners Having Fun, Helping Kids.*

**Sincerely,**

**Larry Dain**

**2020 Potentate**



**Be smart. Stay 6 feet apart.**

# A Message From Your Potentate



**Larry Dain**

**2020 Potentate**

Dear Nobles and Ladies,

I would first like to say that we really miss seeing everyone and we look forward to when we can all gather, together again.

We know that many of you have been hit hard by the COVID 19 Virus. Arab Shrine has lost a beautiful couple and we have also had some of our nobility and or family members test positive to this virus.

This year started out with a bang! We had a wonderful reception hosted by the Boaters and Sun Devil Units. For the first time we had the Arab Patrol Unit Cordon the Divan as they were each

introduced this was an awesome addition to this occasion!

The Sun Devil Unit sponsored the Cupid Cash Giveaway and dance in February, that was a huge success the funds that were raised were donated to the temple. I want to thank Kurt Hogan his Lady Carrie and the entire Sun Devil Unit along with the help from Jarred White and his Lady Beth for all the work they did to make this a successful event. A big shout out to the Arab Provost Guard Unit for keeping us all hydrated that evening!!

We were fortunate that we had our Circus this year! I want to thank Illustrious Sir Paul Honaker as Circus Chairman and Andrew Piper as Co-Chair. I would also like to thank all the nobles and ladies for your help with making the Circus a fun event for the public to attend. It took all of us to make this a successful fundraiser!

While on the topic of fundraising BINGO has been hit hard, we had to shut everything down mid-March. We did re-open on June 26<sup>th</sup> but shut down again due to

COVID 19. I would like to thank Bob Amyx as Chair, Dave Sterbenz as Co-Chair and all of the great people it takes to make Bingo run smoothly.

Everyone enjoyed the hors d'oeuvres night in February, the food table was loaded down with some amazing Mexican food brought in by the members of the Provost Guard Unit, to keep with the theme our bar had a margarita special that evening. We had a great crowd enjoying food, fellowship and music!

I would like to thank everyone involved in the planning for the Easter Egg Hunt, Kentucky Derby Party, Family Day at the Zoo and the many other activities that did not happen this year. It was a difficult and painful decision to cancel some events, but we did so with the health and safety in mind for our nobility and their families.

*Continued on next page*

# A Message From Your Potentate continued

The Fall Festival scheduled for September 19th will now be a “Barn Dance” to take the place of the ball that had been scheduled earlier this year. Please join First Lady Linda and I in your favorite cowboy boots!

Many of the things that we have had planned are being re-organized to comply with the current climate of the COVID 19 pandemic so please watch for email blasts from the office.

Great News!! Arab Shriners won the first prize of \$10,000.00 for being the top selling Shrine for ticket sales towards the David Ragan race car raffle. Raffled off in Kansas City as part of Imperial Session.

Although Imperial Session in Kansas City was cancelled, we still had a Special Session online. I would like to congratulate Brad Koehn PP for serving on the Imperial Divan as Imperial Treasurer again this year it is a great honor for us to have someone from Arab Shriners to serve in this capacity.

Congratulations Imperial Sir Jim Smith who was just installed as our new Imperial Potentate for 2020-2021. Imperial Sir Jim Smith wants to “Get Back to Where We Belong” through “FUN & FELLOWSHIP! Please log onto Shriners Village to get to know him and Imperial First Lady Alice Smith.

Thank you all for what you do for Arab Shrine!!

Yours in Faith,  
Larry Dain  
Potentate 2020

## “Shriners Having Fun So Kids Can Run”

### Official Call of the Potentate

Notice is hereby given of a Stated meeting of Arab Shriners at 1305 South Kansas Avenue, Topeka, KS for the transaction of such business as may be regularly presented on:

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October 12, 2020

November 9, 2020

# A Message From Your First Lady



I am sitting here typing this letter and thinking about the many different activities that could have been. It seems like “Cancelled” and “Postponed until further notice” has been a regular part of our language this year! I will admit, it has been hard!

COVID 19 has affected each of us in so many different ways, just here at

Arab Shrine we all watched as this virus took a very special couple from us, we all will hold special memories of Gary and Sandy in our hearts.

So now, we look forward. I watched online our new Imperial First Lady Alice Smith talk about her project this year, Rising Stars. A quote from Lady Alice “We Want our Children to be happy and successful” “I want to help our patients more from the Shriners Hospital system to lead successful independent lives”. To learn more about her program you can log on to Shriners Village or contact Cheryl Koehn to purchase her Rising Star goods.

Thank you, Andrew Piper

and Lady Laura for taking on the vacated Membership Director role. We are excited about the different ideas they might have to help in membership growth.

Lots of things have been rescheduled to adhere to the guidelines we now have to face with COVID 19 so please watch for email blasts about any upcoming events. Some fun events to still look forward to are the Barn Dance, Clown Wine Tasting, Antiques Car Show, Sun Devils Halloween Party, hopefully the Mystery Trip and many more.

**Sincerely,**  
**Linda Dain**  
**First Lady**



## THESE WE DO NOT FORGET

James T. Blackburn  
B. 2/16/1930, D. 6/23/2020

Charles H. Hoffmeister  
B. 6/9/1929, D. 1/26/2020

Ronald Persing  
B. 3/7/1930, D. 3/16/2020

Lawrence Heide  
B. 10/22/1921, D. 3/26/2020

Richard D. Donovan  
B. 1/9/1938, D. 7/11/2020

Ralph E. Rose  
B. 3/6/1922, D. 3/10/2020

Gary Shofner  
B. 10/31/1937, D. 6/30/2020

Kim Emmons  
B. 12/6/1953, D. 5/11/2020

Richard Logsdon  
B.4/3/1934, D. 3/5/2020

Jim Musick  
B. 7/24/1941, D. 4/3/2020

Edwin B. Aley  
B.4/21/1928, D. 4/20/2020

Clayton E. Shown  
12/1/1932, 3/11/2020

## ARAB SHRINE POTENTATES

1931-32	Dr. Norris Townsend*	1962	Warren Paramore*	1992	Ray French*
1933	Al Williams*	1963	Delmer Daly*	1993	Paul Gibbons*
1934	Stanley Shook*	1964	Roy Jaquith*	1995	El "Andy" Anderson*
9135	Clinton Wilcox*	1965	John Kroger*	1996	Jerry Teichgraeber*
1936	Charles Moore*	1966	Waldo Haflich*	1997	Frank Suefert
1937	Ralph Hinkson*	1967	Wayne Baker*	1998	Larry Pressman
1938	John Brandenburger*	1968	Rex Smith*	1999	George Kenworthy*
1939	Fernando LeDoux*	1969	Archie Swan**	2000	John Porter*
1940	Ray Ramsey*	1970	Frank Oppitz*	2001	Paul Meierhenry
1941	Sherman Bourassa*	1971	Dale Moorman*	2002	Royce Keyser
1942	Judge Paul Heinz*	1972	Ansel Searles*	2003	Larry Bryan*
1943	Dr. Juther Dodd*	1973	Martin Foltz*	2004	John Janes*
1944	Herbert Barrett*	1974	Jack Quinlan*	2005	Lynn Holt
1945	Charles R. SHrake*	1975	John C. Dicus	2006	Ron Scrinopskie
1946	Sidney Long*	1976	Donald Mahrle	2007	Paul Clarkson
1947	Martin Philips*	1977	E. Leslie Scrinopskie*	2008	Don McClaflin*
1948	Frederick Gades*	1978	Donald Horttor	2009	Pat Devlin
1949	John Lewis*	1979	James Parmiter*	2010	Larry Tice
1950	Paul Rogers*	1980	Ronald Mannoni*	2011	Alan Holt
1951	Jay Glen Davis*	1981	Frank Coffman, Jr.*	2012	Brian Hagmeier
1952	Ernest Thomas*	1982	Carol Lewis*	2013	Bob Whitehead
1953	Scott Kelsey*	1983	Harlan Whiteley*	2014	Rick Moody
1954	Henry Bubb*	1984	Richard Hamilton*	2015	Brad Koehn
1955	Robert Brown*	1985	William Ducksworth*	2016	Jim Whitehead
1956	Waldemar Metzenthin*	1986	Albert Jackson, Jr.	2017	Jeff Hurst
1957	Harold Jaspersen*	1987	Cap Grover*	2018	Paul Honaker
1958	Carliss Swain*	1988	Bill Koehn*	2019	Steve Kramer
1959	Lloyd Raish*	1989	Richard Magathan*	2020	Larry Dain
1960	Nels Nelson*	1990	Charles Hiebsch*		
1961	Joseph Schneider*	1991	Eldo Crider*		

# Arab Shriners Gold Medallion Club

**President:** Paul Clarkson, P.P. (Diana)  
**Vice President:** Brian Hagmeier, P.P. (Nadyne)

## **Gold Medallion with Ruby and 4 Diamonds (50 Petitions)**

Paul Clarkson, P.P.

## **Gold Medallion with Ruby and 3 Diamonds (25 Petitions)**

Larry Pressman, P.P.  
Frank Seufert, P.P.,  
John Taylor

## **Gold Medallion with Ruby and 2 Diamonds (20 Petitions)**

Robert Gifford  
Lynn Holt, P.P.

## **Gold Medallion with Ruby and Diamond (15 Petitions)**

Donald Horttor, P.P.  
Brad Koehn, P.P.  
George Martin

Paul Meierhenry, P.P.  
Ed Ramirez  
Harold Stevenson

Bob Swafford  
Terry Wilson

## **Gold Medallion with Ruby (10 Petitions)**

Merle Bradley  
Jim Curtis  
Leonard Dale  
Pat Devlin, P.P.  
Robert Griffin

Don Hoover  
Jeff Hurst, P.P.  
Albert Jackson, Jr., P.P.  
Robert Jones  
Larry Kampschroder

Royce Keyser, P.P.  
Smokie Siecgrist  
Larry Tice, P.P.  
Bob Whitehead, P.P.

## **Gold Medallion (5 Petitions)**

Brandon Adams  
Josh Anderson  
Gary Ashton  
Clark Allemang  
Stan Bartley  
Donnie Bohannon  
Floyd Bradley  
Ron Buchanan  
Jack Call  
Robert Dark  
John Duncan  
Roger Elsbury  
Roger Farthing  
Brian Hagmeier, P.P.  
Steve Haslett

Keith Heumann  
Curt Hogan  
Alan Holt, P.P.  
Paul Honaker  
Bob Inman  
Mike Jenks  
Dale Jepson  
Steve Kramer  
Paul McAlister  
Harold McElfresh  
Rick Meador  
Rick Moody, P.P.  
Chris Munk  
Gary Pettijohn  
Kyle Purcell

Don Riffey  
Milo Riley  
Mike Riley  
Larry Rogers  
Dale Rohling  
George Sauer  
Lee Schwartz  
Ron Scrinopskie, P.P.  
Rich Siecgrist  
Rick Smith  
Mark Stephenson  
Roy Sullivan, P.G.M.  
Richard Temps  
Drew Torkelson  
Mike Turnbull

Eddie Van Horn  
Jarred White  
Todd White  
Jim Whitehead, P.P.  
Ralph Wild  
Royce Wilson

# The Chaplain's Corner



## ***Receiving and Giving Light***

Light is a major theme in Jewish, Christian, and Masonic teachings. The Masonic teachings of Blue Lodge, York Rite, and Scottish Rite all focus on receiving “light”. What is that light? Once we receive light, what are we to do with it?

We find the admonition in the sermon on the mount (Matthew 5), “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it

under a bowl. Instead they put it on a candlestick, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Now that we have received light, we are to be the dispenser of that light to others. We are to be the light that illuminates others.

We all experience periods of dark times in our lives. We might be like Job who experienced the dark days of disappointment. He prayed for relief but found none. We have all experienced the dark days of doubt and questioning. Dark days of depression and mourning happen to us when we lose a loved one.

During these times is it good to remember that God loves us, exactly as we are, right where we are, period. What do we do to deserve God's love? Nothing.

Can we earn or live good enough to find God's love? Nope. It is because of the character of God, not anything on our part, that He loves us. Once we receive His love, we are, likewise, commanded to love one another.

This is the light, his love for us and our love for one another. Oh, the beauty of light and the love of God for us. It takes only one particle of light to dispel darkness! But no amount of darkness, can quench light.

Genesis begins, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. God saw that the light was good.”

Built within each one of us is the desire to live a meaningful

## **Submission & Ad Information**

### **Articles:**

All articles should be submitted in a **Microsoft Word** file

### **Photos:**

Photos should be submitted as a high resolution graphics file. Screenshot submissions are not usually high enough resolution for publishing.

### **Advertising:**

For an ad about an upcoming event, please include: the event, date, issue to be included in, and if it should be sent to the office for e-blasts.

For rates and information, please contact: Arab Shrine office

### **Deadlines:**

The deadline for the upcoming issue is **September 15**

If you have any questions or would like to make a submission, please send all materials to: [secretary@arabshriners.org](mailto:secretary@arabshriners.org)

# The Chaplain's Corner *continued...*

life. Living a life of significance is not for the few or the elite. It is for each of us. We are not stuck living each day in a vicious cycle of mundane existence. The truth is, we have received the light from Almighty God. That light is his love for us. Likewise, we are to love one another.

Living the selfish and self-absorbed life is in vogue in our modern era. However, the light we have received dispels the darkness of a self-centered life. "The greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all

your heart, mind, and soul. Followed by the second greatest commandment to love your neighbor as yourself."

The first command from God was "let there be light." May we be like Samuel "You Lord, are my light; you dispel my darkness." As we are taught in Blue Lodge, "May we practice out of the Lodge those lessons that are inculcated in it." Namely, live a life of self-giving love.

"It is like the dew of

Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore."

*So Mote It Be*

**Mark Varble**

**Chaplain**

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## New membership director announced

We are pleased to announce that Andrew Piper has been selected to be the new Membership Director.

Andrew joined the Shrine in 2017 after working with another civic organization at the circus and witnessing the good work and the fun that the Nobility and their ladies were having at the circus. Joining the Shrine has been a rewarding Shrine experience for Andrew.

A little bit about Andrew. He married his Lady Laura 18 years ago, they have a daughter Haley, and a cat named Tank. At work, Andrew serves the Kansas Air National Guard as the Logistics Readiness Squadron Operations Superintendent. He's been with the Guard since 1999 and has been at Forbes Field in Topeka since 2002.

Andrew emphasizes that all Shriners are part of the Membership team, whether that is looking for new members, talking to current members that may not be involved and getting them to come out to Temple events, or engaging past members who may have dropped from our membership roles for some reason. Our Temple needs all Nobles to assist in recruiting, retention, and restoration for our brotherhood to be successful.

Andrew and Laura excited to begin this new opportunity to serve the Nobility and are looking forward to many exciting events in the future.

Please join me in welcoming Andrew and Laura. Andrew may show up at some of your unit or club meetings as he tries to settle into this new role for him.



**Andrew Piper and Lady Laura**

# A message from your Masonic Liaison

**Roger L. Farthing**

**ARAB Shriners Masonic**

All, By now you are all aware of the Grand Master's Edict concerning the opening of lodges following the COVID 19 Pandemic closings.

Just to remind all of you that your lodge can be opened , with

a notice to the Grand Lodge Office. The lodge must be opened on the first degree, and no degree work can be conferred until the Grand Master approves the changes, sometime after September 1st.

During these perilous times , we must be aware of the safety of the membership at all times. Please stay in contact with your lodge secretary and the Grand

Lodge of Kansas for additional information.

We still need to visit our lodge as often as possible.

Stay safe Brethren,  
Yours in the faith.

**Roger L. Farthing**



# Arab Shriners Public Relations

**"It is what you can do."**

The Coronavirus pandemic that has swept the world has put many of us on a holding pattern with stay at home orders, social distancing, 20 sec. handwashing and super sanitizing seems to be the new normal. Until a vaccine and sufficient testing is available the spread will continue.

**Let me share this with you:**

Dear Nobles,

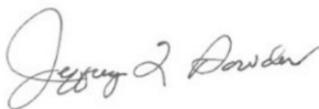
Nearly 100 years ago, Shriners who believed that, in addition to the fun and fellowship they enjoyed in their great Fraternity, there was also an opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the world, created Shriners Hospitals for Children. That commitment to making a difference in the world has never wavered. Today, we find ourselves during an international pandemic that has temporarily changed our way of life. The same desire to make a difference in the lives of others, exhibited by

Shriners at the foundation of our great health care system, is just as strong today as we respond to the needs all around us during this coronavirus pandemic.

As a healthcare provider, Shriners Hospitals for Children has a robust emergency pre-planning process enabling us to respond whenever the need arises. Having already set up a command and control center at all of our hospitals and our home office, we are now using that preparation to respond in all of the communities we serve, and beyond.

Working in collaboration and cooperation with various local, state, and federal government agencies, we have offered not only equipment, supplies, and bed space, but also our professional staff. We are extremely proud of the many ways Shriners Hospitals for Children has already been an active participant in the response to this health crisis throughout North America, and we stand ready to continue to assist in whatever way we can.

As a Shriner, you should be extremely proud of our international response to this



Jeffrey L. Sowder  
Imperial Potentate, Shriners International  
Chairman, Board of Directors, Shriners Hospitals for Children



Jerry G. Gantt  
Chairman, Board of Trustees  
Shriners Hospitals for Children

**"It's great to be a Shriner, it is what you can do."**

# From the desk of the Parade Marshal

**Roger Farthing**

## **Arab Shrine Parade Marshal**

The 2020 parade season is here, even though, due to a number of interruptions, we are presently in a holding mode.

Presently the re-opening plan for the state has parades as a part of the last stage. This has caused a number of annual parades and

community celebrations to be re-scheduled or cancelled altogether for 2020.

I am updating the parade schedule as I receive information, and will continue to do so as possible. We do know that the Imperial Session has been completely cancelled along with Strong City, Lecompton, and Oskaloosa with more certain to follow.

Please note that this year

the Parade Schedule is going to be a very dynamic document, with a compressed calendar. I expect changes and additions to continue on a weekly basis.

I appreciate any information and requests for information concerning any upcoming parade or car show.



**Arab Shriners Won \$10,000!**

**The Kansas Masonic Foundation  
awarded the Shrine that sold the  
most NASCAR raffle tickets nationwide, \$10,000.**

**Arab Shrine sold the most!**

# Another successful Hospitality Room

**Barb Whitehead**

**Circus Hospitality Room  
Coordinator**

Dear fellow Shriners  
and their Ladies,

I want to thank you  
again and again for helping  
make the 2020 Circus  
Hospitality Room a  
resounding success.  
Without all your help and  
generosity, it could not have  
been accomplished.

From the wonderful  
food that was donated to all  
the help and all the  
contributions that were

made, it could not have  
been better!

We are all family  
working for the same goal  
for the kids and I am very  
appreciative of everything  
you did to help out this year  
and will do in the future.

I had a wonderful and  
rewarding time helping  
provide food and beverages  
to all the Shriners and youth  
of our Temple.

Jim and I look forward  
to your continued support in  
the future with all your  
donations and help.

Thank you again.



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## Update from the Antiques Unit



Well, not a lot has  
been going on with the  
Antiques Unit due to the  
Corvid 19 outbreak. We are  
still making plans for the Oct  
10th, 2020 Car Show down  
at the temple. We have been  
handing out flyer at different  
car shows and automotive  
gatherings. We will be trying  
something new this year at  
the Car Show. We be hosting

vendors of all types to set up  
in the main event hall at the  
shrine temple during the car  
show. This will give the  
ladies and other attendants  
something to do while the  
guys sit outside by their cars  
and chit chat with other car  
enthusiast.

We are planning on  
attempting our first meeting  
in quite some time. The  
Antiques unit will be  
meeting at Skinney's Sports  
Bar and Grill for some good  
food.

Stay Safe, Social  
Distance, Wash your hands

often and be mindful of  
others during this  
pandemic. We want  
everyone to stay healthy so  
that we can all be together  
again in the future.

### **Upcoming Car Show**

Oct. 10 at the Temple

Vendors will be onsite during  
the show.

# Arab Swiners calendar is now open

**Roger Farthing &**

**Paul Clarkson**

*OINK!! OINK!!*

The Swiners have begun accepting dates for the 2020 calendar year.

Our ability to provide a delicious meal for about any size group at a reasonable price has made us the choice of many of the ARAB Shrine units and clubs.

We have added a few

members in the past year, which has really helped with our scheduling flexibility and menu capability. We look forward to helping many of you during the upcoming year.

Please contact Roger Farthing or Paul Clarkson, to schedule a date for your events.

We continue to look for new members who enjoy cooking and friendly conversation. Our dues are very reasonable.



## **Contact Information:**

Roger Farthing

Ph: 785 806-9898

Paul Clarkson

Ph: 620 343-0506

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## Quarterly notes from the Greeters

**Bill Latimer**

**Secretary**

The Greeter's Unit is privileged to welcome Nobles, Ladies, and guests to major Arab Shrine functions throughout the year. We serve at the discretion of the Illustrious Sir Paul Honaker and his Divan. Involvement of the Greeters is conveyed to Greeter's President George Sauer who coordinates the Unit's activities.

The Greeters opened the 2019 New Year's Day Breakfast welcoming Nobles and Ladies to a wonderful meal and a great selection of drinks. This tradition ushers in new beginnings for

the New Year. The Greeters were present at the Annual Meeting for the installation of the new Potentate and Divan Representatives welcoming Past Potentates and officers, Nobles, Ladies, and guests. Following the reception and introduction of the Potentate's family and members of the Divan a wonderful selection of food and drinks was available.

In February, Greeters were stationed at the doors to the Expocentre to welcome parents, children, and guests to the Arab Shrine Circus. The Expocentre is presently being remodeled with part of the funding to install new theater seats in the arena.

The Greeter's Unit recognized the passing of Anderson Chandler with a silent prayer of remembrance and donating to the Travel Fund. The Greeter's Unit also provided funds to purchase food for the parents of children receiving treatment at the St. Louis Shrine Hospital.

The Greeters also enjoy the fellowship of our Nobles and their Ladies with a monthly dining out at selected restaurants arranged by Lee Schwartz. If you enjoy welcoming people and eating out with your friends, the Greeter's Unit is for you.

# 2019 Arab Shriner of the Year

## ***Noble Rob Briman***

Every year Arab Shrine honors two Nobles. In the spring we have the Noble of the Year. This Noble is recognized for his unselfish contributions to his temple. Many times, it is more than just attending meetings. It could be helping with temple fundraisers, serving on committees, building maintenance, etc. Traditionally, the Shriner of the Year is honored at the Fall Ceremonial. However, the criteria for being selected for this recognition differs from that of Noble of the Year in that it's not how active he is in temple or unit functions, but what he has contributed to his community. This year's honoree certainly meets that criteria.

He was born in Topeka, the youngest of two siblings. He attended Topeka Public Schools and graduated from Topeka High School. After graduation, his vocational career took some unusual twists and turns as had no preset plans for college, vo-tech, or just pain flipping burgers! Our honoree went to work as an EMT and went on to work as a surgical tech at

Stormont Vail, graduating from their surgical tech program. Now for the surprise job! He and a friend packed their gear and headed to Wyoming to work on an oil rig. Well ultimately the warm winter weather did him in and he returned to Topeka in 1979. It was then that his father offered him a job in the family business, and it has been his career ever since for forty years!

Over the years our honoree has been involved in numerous civic and charitable organizations.

He was a volunteer for the school reading program. He is a 25 year member of South Topeka Rotary & past board member.

- Past Board Chair of DTI
- Brewster Place Foundation Past Board Member
- Capper Foundation- Past Advisory Council Board Member
- Small Business Council Member
- Co-Owner Briman's Leading Jewelers
- 2019 Junior Achievement

Business Hall of Fame Recipient

- Avid supporter of numerous community charitable events not withstanding Arab Shrine

He joined Orient Lodge #51 in 2005. After dogging him for a number of years to join, I was ending my term on the line and I wanted to bring him in that year. So I told him we're through messing around, you need to join the shrine. I gave him a petition and said sign it & give me a check. He did and became a noble in 2005. He has been a past member of the Boaters and a past Temple photographer.

His family includes his wife Carol, daughter, Mandy & Dillon Bishop, grandkids Jackson and Aubray. Son Russell & Shannon Metcalfe, grandkids Magen & Kennedy.

It is indeed my honor to present the 2019 Shriner of the Year: Noble Rob Briman.

**Sincerely,**

**Larry Pressman, P.P**

**"It's great to be a Shriner, it is what you can do."**

# Arab Shrine Circus was a success!

**Paul Honaker, P.P.**

## **Circus Chairman**

I started this article before the Arab Shrine Circus had even started, making sure I didn't miss the Antics deadlines. I was preparing for our Circus Celebration dinner; we had the food lined up and the agenda set. Little did I know the huge turn it would take! Sometimes it is true that timing is everything. If our scheduled annual Circus had been just two weeks later, we would not have even had a Circus for the first time in over 80 years!

My plan was to report to the Nobility the final results of the Circus at our next Stated Meeting. Of course we have not had one since.

I have a lot of you to thank for making this a successful Circus this year. It took the entire Arab membership and supporting staff to make the Circus come together. I can't name all of you individually there just isn't room in this article. I would like to thank several individual's that were instrumental in making this all work. First I would like to thank Becky for all of her

support. She suffered through this the first time I was Circus Chair and was willing to help me again. Most of you by now have gotten to know Andrew Piper. Andrew agreed to take on the responsibility of Circus Co-Chair. Andrew came to the table with a lot of new ideas and was not afraid to jump in and do what was necessary to help plan a successful Circus. We also bounced a lot of our new ideas, and took some of Jarred White's ideas to help give our biggest fund raiser some new life. I need to also thank both of their ladies, Beth and Laura, for sitting in on some of our planning meetings and giving us their feedback as well.

We received a lot of support, ideas, and help from the Arab Shrine office staff. This year we asked Kathy Crome and Chris Driggers to provide a lot of assistance with the entire planning process. Kathy attended meetings with us at the Stormont Vail Event Center and was instrumental in helping us to coordinate the ticket sales and distribution process. We have for years been trying to get a good process in place

for our ticket printing, ticket sales and accountability. I believe this year we may have finally resolved most of the prior issues.

I would also like to thank Jim and Shirley Hamid, their family and crew for again giving us a great show. Most of you don't know, but our Circus Producer, and Arab Shrine member, Jim Hamid broke his foot at the very last performance of our Circus this year. After they left Topeka they completed a show at Hamburg, PA. Unfortunately, for Jim and Shirley and their family, they were in the middle of setting up for a show in Buffalo, NY when the city was shut down.

There are just too many individuals to thank. I would like to thank all of the Units and members and their ladies that worked at the Circus selling advertising, selling toys, working the toy room, working in the Hospitality room, working the floor and security, ushering and anything else we asked of you.

I would also like to thank Tony Guy and Brad Pullman. Tony helped last

# 2020 Circus continued...

year with the ad sales and this year we dumped it all on him. Brad volunteered to take on the Outlet Ticket Sales without having a clue what would be involved. Thank you both.

I do not want to leave out Ron Shelton and his crew and Howard and Karen Marlow who are stuck in two small rooms for the entire Circus weekend. They are key to ensuring that all our funds are accounted for. Thank you for all of your work.

Again this year I would like to thank Barb and Jim Whitehead for planning, setting up and running probably the best Hospitality room of all Shrine Circus'. For many years, our Circus Hospitality room has been the showroom our Shrine Circus!

Last but certainly not least, I would like to thank all of you who participated in our Dad, Grand Dad, and Great Grand Dad program. I realize there was some confusion with the program. It was even tough to find anyone who knew the exact purpose of the program when it started! We have

said for many years that we will publish the names of all who have participated. I am not sure I have ever seen this happen. With this article is the list of all members who participated.

From an attendance standpoint we were only 300 over 2019, however, our toy sales increased \$14,000. Ticket sales were off some with the Nobility ticket sales and off considerably with our Outlet Ticket Sales (formally Corporate Ticket Sales.) However, our patrons flocked to the Event Center to purchase their tickets. Our Ticket sales increased \$8,175 over the prior year. Our net income from the 2020 Circus was \$71,081 up \$18,104 over the prior year. After all the numbers, except the Unit ad sales commissions, have been accounted for we were \$175 within our budget.

We had also planned to hand out ad sales commissions checks at a Stated Meeting. We will start working on those in the next couple of weeks. With the shut down of Bingo the last couple of months I would ask that the Units

consider donating those checks back to the Temple this year to help us with the low Bingo revenue.

Planning for the 2021 Circus has barely started. Currently there are so many unknowns that it has been hard to estimate even the budget. All we can do at this point is hope and pray that this pandemic will pass before we can hold our annual Circus next February.

# Thanks to our Circus Dads and Granddads!

## Circus Dads

Donald	Blaylock
Larry	Boltz
Ralph	Brewer
Bill	Brown
Richard	Burns
Bud	Carney
Keith	Combes
Mike	Converse
Richard	Deiter
Ed	Delk
Ernie	Douglas
Pete	Euler
Warren	Farr
Dale	Jepson
David	Kinzie
Jerry	Kramer
Ron	Larison
Charles	Loeffler
James	McNabb
Duane	Neiswender
Walter	Owens
Lawrence	Polter
Roger	Potter
Larry	Pressman
Donald	Pritchard
Ronald	Pritchard
James	Raaf
John	Reilly
Layton	Rhudy
Dennis	Richter
Leland	Salts
Richard	Skinner
Ray	Wadkins
Richard	Watson
Kevin	Watt
Gilbert	Weidman
Larry	Woodson
Gene	Wunder

Bradley	About
Dan	Broxterman
Jim	Carroll
Robert	Core
Jack	Donovan
Ralph	Gourley
Terry	Harbert
Dan	Hartzell
Richard	Karn
George	Kearns
Gale	Kieffer
Leslie	Krull
Vince	LaRocca
Lonn	McClary
Bob	Provo
Dennis	Reed
Don	<u>Shavey</u>
Ross	Spencer
Robin	Spencer
Todd	Starin
Bob	Weibel
Jim	Whitehead
Robert	<u>Winterschied</u>
Larry	Woodward

## Circus Granddads

# Thanks to our Circus Great Grandads!

Art	Alcala
Larry	<u>Algott</u>
Bruce	Bachman
Earl	<u>Bahnmaier</u>
Alan	Barrett
Jim	Bean
Michael	<u>Biberstein</u>
John	<u>Bottenberg</u>
Floyd	Bradley
Richard	Brantingham
Keith	Bricker
Bill	Bunten
Don	Burns
Don	Campbell
Gregory	Clarkson
Joseph	Cox
Ira	Cox
Jim	Curtis
Larry	Dain
Troy	Dall
Robert	Dark
John	Dicus
Martin	Donaldson
Richard	Donovan
William	Dossett, Jr.
Jim	Driggers
Roger	Farthing
Glen	Feuerborn
Robert	Freeman
Tony	Frye
Edward	Garber, Jr
Edward	Garber, Sr
Wilmer	Gilkerson
Robert	Griffin
James	Hamid
Bill	Hamm
Ray	Hauke
Mike	<u>Hawkesworth</u>

Michae	Helbert
Delbert	Hill
Bill	<u>Hollwager</u>
Lynn	Holt, PP
Alan	Holt, PP
Paul	Honaker
Don	<u>Horttor</u>
Al	Jackson
David	Jolly
Billy	Jones
Larry	Kampschroeder
Allen	Kemble
Brad	Koehn
Joe	Lapping
William	Larson
Onis	Lemon
Edward	Leu
Don	<u>Mahrle</u>
Doug	<u>Mannoni</u>
Marv	Menke
Chris	Merillat
Gerald	Michael
James	Monhollon
Chip	Munk
Chris	Munk
Jim	Musick
	Neosho Valley Shrine Club
Alex	Parker
H. Kent	Pellegrino
Ron	Potter
Guy	Rinehart
Eldon	Roberson
Don	Rolly
Bill	Ross
Bruce	Shaw
Noble	Shell
Steven	Shelton
Dennis	Shepherd

David	Smith
John	Stauffer
Dave	Stotts
Steve	Suchsland
Warren	Sullivan
Roy	Sullivan
Swede	Swenson
Marc	Tennant
Raymond	Thurlow
Dean	Tice
Charles	Tryon
Rocky	Urton
Eddie	Van Horn
Mark	Varble
Gayle	Vernon
Gary	Watts
Jarred	White
Bob	Whitehead
Karol	Wilhite
Randolph	Williams
Glenn	Wilson
Dan	Wiltz
Gary	Wofford

# WEAR A MASK



*Stop The Spread*  
**PREVENT CORONAVIRUS**

# Golfers of the Arab Shrine

## ***Elections, results, and upcoming events***

Greetings in the New Year from the Golfers of Arab Shrine! Congratulations to Illustrious Larry Dain and the 2020 Divan on their elected and appointed positions.

On January 18th the elected officers from our annual meeting were installed by Potentate Larry Dain.

Our 1st event was working toy booths at the annual Arab Shrine Circus. We worked 3 different shifts and brought in some good income for our Temple. Again, thanks to all who helped.

Then the Covid-19 hit. We had to postpone the outing in Onaga, cancel the Top Golf in KC, moved our Seneca outing to June 15th and moved our Annual Benefit Tournament to September 11th.

We had our 1st golf outing in Seneca on June 15th at beautiful Spring Creek Golf Course. Thanks to Duane Crosier and Brock Corby for a great outing.

We had another great outing on June 29th at Staley Farms in KC. Thanks to Larry Rogers for setting us up for this challenging course.

As of July 1st, we are still planning on having the Shrine Bowl Golf Tournament on July 17th at Topeka C.C. and a 2nd venue added at Cypress Ridge. The Sabetha outing on August 17th has been changed to Onaga.

The Arab Golfers are 118 members strong. If you are interested in joining us, please contact anyone who is a golfer. We would love to have join us!

### **2020 Elected Officers**

#### **President:**

Jim Whitehead, P.P.

#### **Vice President:**

Dennis Phillips

#### **Secretary:**

Delbert Merrifield

#### **Treasurer:**

Leo Perry

#### **Director:**

Delbert Hill

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Monday, Aug. 17**

*Location: Onaga*

#### **Monday, Aug. 31**

5th Monday Event

*Location: Lake Wabaunsee  
Pines*

#### **Sunday, Sept. 20-22**

*Location: Kinderhook,  
Osage Beach, MO*

#### **Monday, Sept. 28**

Elections

*Location: Cypress Ridge*

#### **Friday, Nov. 20**

*Hors d'oeuvres by Golfers at  
the Temple*

#### **Seneca Outing Results**

##### **1st Flight -8**

Jim Davis, John Dickinson, Brock Corby, and Rory Sullivan

##### **2nd Flight -3**

Randall Lindstrom, Rick Smith, Rod Johnson, and Ron Shelton

#### **Stanley Farms Outing Results**

##### **1st Flight -9**

Larry Poulter, John Dickinson, Bob Bushman, and Mike McClanahan

##### **2nd Flight -3**

Larry Rogers, Vinnie Southiere, Bob Whitehead, and Mark Lowe

# Hospital Dads in need of drivers

I hope this moment fines everyone in good health, because of this corona virus our travels to St Louis Children's Hospital has been suspended until a safer time, we will get through this trying time together.

I want to remind everyone we still need volunteers to drive our patients to the Hospital it only cost you a one time fee of one hundred dollars, this is what being a Shiner means, helping Children to a better way of Life.

**Brian Hagmeier, P.P.**  
**President**

**Bob Weibel**  
**Vice President**

**Harlan McNinch**  
**Treasurer**

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# Oriental Band open to new members

**Adam L. Villalobos**

**Secretary**

The OB is pretty much on hold until we get through this pandemic. While it is most important that we stay safe and care for our families, we are hopeful that we will be able to regroup soon to build on our previous success as a unit and continue in our goal of helping children in need.

It was unfortunate that both Imperial and CSSA were cancelled. It was probably a good thing for all the other OBs who may have attended, as the Arab OB would surely have taken all the top prizes. Ha Ha Ha!

Perhaps this is a good time for Arab nobles to decide it's time to participate in a unit. The

award winning Arab Shrine Oriental Band is seeking new members to join our fabulous musical unit. Though we are a musical group, absolutely no musical experience is necessary to participate. Our band instruments consist of percussion (hand drums, cymbals, gong, etc.) and musette (horn). We are currently in need of horn players, but welcome any Noble who just wants to have fun playing any instrument or just being a member of our fun- loving group.

If you are in search of a new unit or second unit that is fun, easy going, and enjoys music, please consider the Oriental

Band. We meet at 7:00 p.m. the 2nd Thursday of every month at the Arab Shrine. Please feel free to join us at a meeting to meet the members and check out the Unit. If you have questions you can reach me at [avillalobos3@att.net](mailto:avillalobos3@att.net) or 785-806-0197. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me for an update on our meeting schedule. We look forward to the day that we are all back together enjoying each other's company and doing the important work of Shriners. Bless you all and stay safe.

*[NOTE: During this pandemic, the OB is not currently meeting.]*

# 2020 Shrine Imperial Session report

On 11 July 2020 we had the first ever (and hopefully last) on-line Imperial Session! Your Divan and several others attended this virtual session. Initially we were going to all meet at the Temple to attend this session, but with the Covid concerns we opted to attend from the comfort of our own homes.

With Imperial Sir Jeff Sowder conducting the session we were able to elect an Imperial Captain of the

Guard and Imperial Outer Guard. All other Imperial Officers ran for office unopposed and were all elected to their respective offices. Imperial Sir Jim Smith, along with Lady Alice, from Ben Hur Temple, in Austin Texas was elected as our Imperial Potentate for the 2020/2021 year.

We also elected three new Hospital Board Trustees. There was very little other business conducted as there

was virtually not legislation put forth to the Delegates.

Closer to home our very own Imperial Sir Brad Koehn, PP was reelected to the position of Imperial Treasurer and Paul Honaker, PP was again appointed to the Shriners International Audit and Finance Committee for the 2020/2021 year.

Congratulations to all and hope we will be able to meet in person next year.

## CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

**You can help prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses with these actions:**

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose & mouth.
- Practice social distancing by putting space between yourself & others.
- Wash hands often with soap & water for at least 20 seconds.



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

316159-A March 25, 2020 8:00 AM

# Hospital News

## Branding Update

### Shriners Hospitals for Children is changing to Shriners Children's!

The video that went out via email system-wide from our organization's leadership has been well received, and has generated a lot of questions. Some additional information has been compiled by MarCom to help answer some common questions that have been received so far.

#### When do we start using the new name?

This will be a slow transition. We will not be making any immediate changes to our existing facilities. The announcement was a "soft launch" for our internal audiences including our coworkers in our SHC locations and our fraternal membership. We will not be announcing this change publicly until the fall of 2020 (estimated). Please keep the news internal until we are ready for our public

announcement. We are developing new brand standards and will be communicating much more about this change as we move forward.

What will we call the individual locations? We are working through naming conventions for each location. Our corporate leadership will present a thorough and well-vetted plan for naming conventions later this year. These will be voted upon by the Joint Boards.

#### Why are we changing our name?

As care models have changed, many states will not allow the use of the word "hospital" for a facility that is not one, even if it is the name of the parent corporation (the corporate name of Shriners Hospitals for Children® remains in place.) As a result, we currently have multiple brand names in the market place, leading to marketing expense and brand confusion. Five of our locations no longer use hospital in their name but now –

under a renewed master brand – they can once again share the same brand as all of our other facilities. Another advantage to the new brand is that we have become far more than a system of hospitals. We have become leaders in care, research and medical education. This new brand is expansive and is an umbrella large enough to house all that we do.

#### What now?

Be positive, embrace the change and encourage other team members to do the same. Change can be slow and difficult for a nearly 100-year-old health care organization. To keep pace with the ever-changing health care industry and consumer marketplace, our brand must adapt. Meanwhile, Staff/Shriners should continue using the existing name and logo until the formal roll-out and new design assets are ready.

## From St. Louis

The St. Louis Hospital is open and functioning! Things are really back in the swing in terms of "busy-ness" and volumes. Between our in-person and virtual visits, our patient census has risen drastically over this same time period last month. It's hard work, and everyone has really done a great job in helping it all run very smoothly!

We have not yet brought back in our volunteers or students. We are monitoring the situations

closely, and are currently working with Goldfarb School of Nursing for our CRNA students, which will likely be the first back on campus. We will SLOWLY increase the number of students back dependent on the requirements put forth by the local governments and our system offices.

## In the News

In June Shriners Hospitals were recognized for our achievements in the US News and World Reports rankings. Six of our locations have been recognized for their work in Pediatric Orthopedics this year. Of course, St. Louis is at the top.

### Shriners Hospital Rankings

St. Louis — #6

Erie — #18

Salt Lake City — #24

Northern California — #33

Lexington — #40

Portland — #44

# An update from the Claybusters

I recently had a fascinating conversation with a government trained sniper. Yep, the real deal. I will call him “George” (not his real name).

George was a Green Barret in Vietnam. As he was ending his military service he was recruited and trained, including sniper training, for clandestine operations. After a few years he left this quasi-government group (I think it was CIA related, but I did not push nor did he volunteer) and went to work for the “Bureau”, aka FBI. After 5 years with the Bureau he left and returned to his former quasi-government job.

I was shocked to hear George express great dissatisfaction with his peers at the Bureau. He said they were good moral people but lacked the ability to remain cool under pressure. He explained that in his prior quasi-government training, the washout rate was enormous, and pressure was a nightmare. All it would take is one bad morning to send the candidate packing. George explained that this same standard did not exist with the Bureau. “Guys would melt given enough pressure. I wasn’t used to that.”

George said the extreme training he received in the quasi-government job was designed to

ensure that those who graduated would remain calm under pressure. He said the average person loses up to 50% of their motor skills under extreme pressure. But those that learn how to channel their energy become more focused and their motor skills increase under pressure. As the pressure ratchets up, they become calmer.

George said very few people are capable of this. After graduation they would continue to practice remaining calm under extreme pressure. “Everything slows down, your senses are on edge, you process everything, your logical decision making improves, your motor skills improve.” George said continual practice was necessary to remain sharp, i.e. become calmer under pressure.

I found the entire conversation totally surreal. As I set down to write this Clay Buster article I’m reminded of George’s statements about practice and how practice imprints on our minds.

This winter the Clay Busters went to The Gun Garage in North Topeka to practice at the pistol range. Our practice is not as intense as the one George described but it did imprint on our minds the keys to successful

pistol shooting: Focus, Align the Sights, Touch the Trigger. Bang and repeat.

If you are a beginner or an experienced shooter, practice. Think about what you must do beforehand and develop a routine that you can repeat. Then practice it, repeatedly.

Tony Frye was asked what the most important part of successful pistol shooting is. He responded, “It is not the trigger, nor the caliber, nor the type, or brand of gun. The most important thing is the pink and gray mush between your ears. If you think you can, you can. You just need to practice.”

Despite CSSA Shotgun and Pistol competitions getting cancelled for this year, the Claybusters continue to go out monthly to Ravenwood and will return this fall to The Gun Garage.

Come join the Clay Busters the first Wednesday of each month at Ravenwood and join us afterward for some food and fellowship.

*Practice, Practice, Practice.*

2020  
**ARAB SHRINERS**



# Sportmans Raffle

## NOVEMBER GUN OF THE WEEK

Drawn in the order below

Kimber Micro 9 mm

Kimber 1911 45

Smith & Wesson 686 357

Colt Python 357

**Tickets: \$20 each or 6 for \$100**  
**Drawings each Wednesday in November**

*You must be 21 to purchase a raffle ticket. Each ticket is eligible to win the weekly drawing, even if you won the week before!*

Sponsorships: \$500; include 30 tickets, your name on flyer, a banner displayed during November at the Arab Shrine, & entry in a special sponsor drawing for a Smith & Wesson EZ Cock 9mm

### Sponsors

A1 Lock & Key, Big Time Bail Bonds  
Frye's Auto Repair, Picasso Painting

All Federal & State laws will be adhered to. All guns are handled through FFL dealer, Bill Senne, Senne's Guns, 15680 134th Rd. Hoyt, KS. All proceeds benefit the Arab Shrine and are not deductible as a charitable donation.

# A fall update from the SunDevils



**John Cahill**

During a normal spring and summer, the SunDevils are busy with parades, socials, and Arab Temple activities. But this is not a normal year. The year started like a piping hot fresh from the oven chocolate chip cookie, one bite, and BAMO it turned into oatmeal raisin.

We started the year with the Cupid Raffle and gave more than \$10K to the temple. Many thanks to all who helped. We have agreed to make this an annual event.

The SunDevils are good at taking lemons and making lemonade. When the Ball was cancelled, we held a surprise Virtual Ball for Lady Linda and her husband Potentate Larry. A great time was had by all.

The newest addition to the SunDevil clan is Tanner Hogan, Lady Heather, and baby boy Seamus Dean Hogan. It is such a joy to see the little ones at the SunDevil activities. Smiles abound when we look into their eyes and see the amazement on their faces.

This year a new vehicle has been added to the yellow parade cars. Keith Bricker, Tony Frye, and Ryan Hogan built a wrecker out of a scrap Model T found on Criagslist. This hot rod sports a 5 hp motor and in the unlikely event it is ever needed it even has a tow hook. Based on the few outings it has made, this one is a crowd pleaser.

The annual workday to insure our vehicles are ready to thunder and roll. It takes place at Tony and Tina's shop. The day is always a success with the homemade cinnamon rolls courtesy of the loveable and shy Becky Belveal.

Parades Parades Parades. Everyone loves a parade and the men, ladies, and children of the SunDevils are no exception. Parade season will one day return. In 2021 we will have parade outings to Lecompton, Scranton, Dover, Holton, Council Grove, Cottonwood Falls, Strong City, Emporia, Valley Falls, Lyndon, Carbondale, Overbrook, Harveyville, Osage City, Wamego, Burlingame, Shrine Bowl, Burlington, Rossville, Marysville, Onega, Topeka, and CSSA.

Like most things the famous SunDevil socials have felt the curse of Covid-19. But we are finishing the year strong with lake outings, wiener roast, pool

parties. This fall we will have a Halloween party, and an outing to the NASCAR go-kart track in Lee's Summit (and the obligatory trip to Don Chiloto's afterward).

Dave and Lisa's son Cody and daughter Kierstyn ..... what does it say about the apple not falling far from the tree? Cody continues to place in his Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby.

Daughter Kierstyn set the record for her group in selling girl scout cookies (YUM).

Tony and Tina Frye will host a wildgame feed sometime this winter, Covid willing. Linda's Husband will say what he always says at the feed, "that was some darn good chewin". Curt Hogan, Mark Varble, and Brian DeForest went fishing in November and will have some fish on hand for non-game eaters. Tony and Tina always provide a great venue for the party, games, and tall tales. The last time we had a fish party the theme of the event was "Hookers, Reelers, and the SunDevils". Stories were told of how the SunDevil men were hooked and reeled in by their ladies. Many good laughs were had.

As one can tell, parades and socials are an important part of the SunDevil DNA. It is great to be a SunDevil.

*Vroom Vroom.*

# Update from the Boaters Unit

## Ted Ensley

The Christmas party was held at the Brownstone. A very enjoyable evening with lots of Boaters and their ladies present. Good food, good music and good times were enjoyed by all present. It was a nice winter evening.

The last Boater's meeting was held at the Temple in January when the officers were installed. The officers are: Bruce Wedel – Director, PP Brian Hagmeier – Captain, Ron Shelton – Lieutenant, PP Brad Koehn – Ensign and Ted Ensley – Antics. The meeting was held at the Temple. The main focus of the evening was discussion on the upcoming Circus. Volunteers were solicited, plans made and assignments given. A good number of Boaters did volunteer and they did attend

and worked the Circus. Thanks to everyone that participated.

The March, April, May and June meetings were all canceled because of the Covid-19 issue. A number of Boaters have volunteered at the Temple wherever and whenever they were needed over the spring and summer.

The Boaters look forward to getting together when it becomes possible. It's been a long summer. Hope this article finds everyone well.



# Knothead's Notes

Boy ! This has been a time like no other that I've ever experienced. There is just so much going on out there with Covid and cancellations and toilet paper hoarding and social distancing and face masks and working from home and demonstrations and protests. It's a little overwhelming.

Just when I think that the rules are loosening up a little bit, they get tightened up again.

One of the things that I have missed the most is the fellowship of all of you guys. The thing that I have always enjoyed

the most about every Shrine event that I attend is you guys and your ladies.

As Shriners, we always talk about Fun, Fellowship, and Philanthropy. Our philanthropy is considered to be the World's Greatest Philanthropy, and we always seem to have a lot of fun at all of the events we attend. The Fellowship is what I enjoy the most.

I've been a Shriner for about 20 years and have served in leadership positions in the Yoshi, the Clowns, and now on the Divan. Serving in those positions has allowed me to

meet good people in many units and clubs throughout the temple that I would not have otherwise had the opportunity to meet.

So, Thank You for being the good and welcoming folks that you are and allowing Beverly and I to attend your meetings and events. We enjoy your hospitality, but mostly, we just enjoy spending time with you. Hopefully we will be able to spend time together again very soon. Until then, take care and stay safe.



## Feeling Sick?

Stay home when you are sick!

If you feel unwell or have the following symptoms  
please leave the building and contact your health care provider.  
Then follow-up with your supervisor.

**DO NOT ENTER** if you have:



FEVER



COUGH



SHORTNESS  
OF BREATH



©1761284 - March 23, 2020 15:19M

[cdc.gov/CORONAVIRUS](https://cdc.gov/CORONAVIRUS)

# Mid-year update from Lil' Chops

Wow it is hard to believe that 2020 is half over! It has been a strange year so far regarding having little to no Shrine activities - not one single parade so far! We usually participate in the St. Patrick's Day parade, however it and just about everything were cancelled due to the Corona virus. We are hopeful that there will be a couple parades for Independence Day as the Lil' Chops love to parade!! And maybe the Shrine Bowl??

We did have the Lil'

Chops annual fundraiser - Vidalia Onions and accessories!! It was a smashing success and we were basically sold out before we even got our order! It appears that we will need to discuss how we are going to approach next year to make it even more successful. This is on the agenda for the next unit meeting.

Speaking of the next meeting, it should be noted that although there are Meeting dates listed in the Calendar, the Lil' Chops only meet when it is deemed necessary. All members

and appropriate personnel are notified by e-mail usually at least a week ahead of time.

We were sad to hear that CSSA has been cancelled along with the Shrine Bowl parade - we have enjoyed the parades and the comradery of our fellow Nobles and Ladies during this annual event.

Look at the attached pictures which show the "original" Lil Chops and the current group.

Hope we see you along a parade route soon! Life's short - enjoy the ride!



**Original members of Lil' Chops**



**Current members of Lil' Chops**

**Women's Event Schedule  
50-bird Sporting Clays  
Saturday—August 8**

Entry Fee: \$60.00—Includes targets, ammo, lunch, trophies, drawings and a goody bag.

Registration: 8:30 a.m.—9:45 a.m.

Shooting Begins: 10:00 a.m.

Lunch: 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

**Couples' Event Schedule  
100-bird Sporting Clays  
Sunday—August 9**

Entry Fee: \$70.00—Includes targets, lunch for both participants, trophies and drawings.

Registration: 8:30 a.m.—9:45 a.m.

Shooting Begins: 10:00 a.m.

Lunch: 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

**10:00 a.m.  
SHOTGUN  
START  
both days**

NO ALCOHOL ALLOWED BEFORE OR DURING THE EVENT.

EYE AND EAR PROTECTION IS REQUIRED.

**28th Annual Kansas  
Women's Charity  
Shoot  
and Couple's Fun  
Shoot  
August 8-9, 2020**

Come join us on Saturday, August 8th, at Ravenwood Lodge, for an exciting Ladies-only Recreational Shotgun Shoot to benefit Shriners Hospitals for Children! This event is designed to be fun for both beginning and experienced shooters. The Lewis Class scoring system is used so everyone has an equal chance to win prizes.

On Sunday, August 9th, we'll host a Couple's Fun Shoot and we'll let the guys have some fun, too.

In addition to the shoots, we will have lucky score draws, bucket prizes, and raffle items. We have some great items—and remember, it's for a great cause.

Hosted by:  
**Ravenwood**  
Lodge  
Topeka, Kansas  
[www.ravenwoodlodge.com](http://www.ravenwoodlodge.com)

**Registration Form**

Sign up for:	Date	Price
<input type="checkbox"/> Women's Entry Fee	Aug 8	\$60.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 18)	Aug 8	\$45.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Guest Lunch	Aug 8	\$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Couples' Entry Fee	Aug 9	\$70.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Guest Lunch	Aug 9	\$10.00

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Bring a shooter new to "Women's Charity Shoots" and you both receive \$5.00 off your entry fees.

Name/Names \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment

Check Enclosed

Visa

MasterCard

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to:

**Kansas Women's  
Charity Shoot**

Mail to:

Kansas Women's Charity Shoot  
10147 SW 61st

Phone: 785-256-6444  
Fax: 785-256-6888

For more information contact:  
Beverly Corbet — 785-256-6400

**Arab Shriners Bingo**

After careful evaluation of the current COVID 19 situation in Topeka and Kansas, we have decided to continue to PAUSE Arab Shrine Bingo.

We'll continue to assess the situation and restart ONLY when it is safe for our players and volunteers.

Thanks for being part of Arab Shrine Bingo. We miss you and look forward to the night we can all be together again!

# An annual update from the Ritualistic Cast

**Tom Johnson**

**Director**

Hello everyone,

I want to thank everyone who assisted us in doing the Bingo concessions on November 30th, as this was the 5th Friday. Our next gig on that will be on January 31st.

As of this writing we did a coat check for the provost guard and Antiques at their Christmas party. We want to thank the nobles attending for their generosity-we made \$109.00.

We have 2 more scheduled coat checks- the New Years Day Breakfast and the Potentate's Reception on January 26. It will be a

pleasure to see everyone and to check their coat. If any body else needs a coat check this winter we will certainly provide that for you.

We were privileged to obligate Noble Dylan Stovall on a short form obligation at the Stated Meeting on December 9th. We conferred the 3rd degree on Brother Dylan at Orient Lodge #51 a week earlier, which is also my lodge. Welcome Noble Dylan.

We had our Christmas party with the patrol on December 7th. It was very well attended and a very good time with great drinks and great food.

I want to wish all of our

Nobles and Ladies a very happy and prosperous New Year. We look forward to seeing you all at the various Shrine events.

**Till next time,**

**Tom**

## A message to all Nobles

When you get together with your fellow Shriners and Ladies (and others), please follow social distancing guidelines and wear your mask. If you are not feeling well, please stay home. There will always another get together. Keeping everyone health and safe is the most important thing you can do.

If you take a COVID 19 test, please stay home until you get the results. If you have been exposed to someone with COVID 19, follow the Shawnee County guidelines for quarantine.

**Stay safe & healthy!**

# Nomads

## **Two Seasons: Camping Season and Waiting for Camping Season**

The arrival of winter signals the annual shut down of campgrounds and winterizing the rig. For the Nomads there are only two seasons: Camping Season and WAITING for Camping Season.

The Nomads are a busy group in the summer of 2020 camping at area lakes.

### **Here are six things to do throughout the camping season:**

#### **Book reservations for the upcoming season.**

Some camping grounds book up 6 months in advance. Space often exist during the week but for the weekends. For the weekend warrior, booking well in advance is a necessity. Curt Hogan is a master at the reservation deal. See him for the best tips and tricks.

#### **Upgrade your camping gear.**

Visit Amazon and search “camping gear” and the winter chill will instantly disappear. Better yet, ask Steve Beveal or Mike Conley for their advice. They have decades of experience and will not steer you wrong.

#### **Scrapbook experiences and memories.**

Scrapbook all those experiences and memories from the prior year during the winter months. During the summer, take pictures and make memories.

#### **Tune-up gear.**

Tune-up the gear you already have. A good example is to test and replace your batteries. Refill those propane tanks and inspect the hoses. And always, ALWAYS, make sure you have extra batteries on hand for your flashlights and lanterns.

#### **Cleaning.**

Yes, cleanliness is next to godliness. Keep everything clean and inventoried for the upcoming season. Brian Haigmeier has a great inventory list if you are looking for one.

#### **Take a road trip.**

Take a road trip and explore the campsites before you show up to camp. If it is too ugly to get out, take the road trip on the world wide web via google earth.

#### **Here are some memorable conversations from around the campfire in 2019 and 2020:**

**Mark:** When did you start camping?

**Keith:** When the girls were growing up, we camped all the time. It’s a tradition.

**Mark:** Camping in the winter is a tradition?

**Curt:** Winter camping was a tradition in my family.

**Jim:** It was a tradition in my family too....until we found out we could build a house for winter.

**Mark:** What is the best

truck for pulling a trailer?

**Curt:** Not a Dodge.

Brian: Ford is good.

**Mike:** <coughs> Only a GM and only a diesel.

**Dave:** If you are not going to drive it, Toyota is the way to go. Jim: I call mine beauty (camper) and the beast (truck).

**Carrie:** Whenever I heard you say that I thought you were referring to Kris and you, beauty and beast.

**Bill:** Nimrods, get back on subject, the best truck? Just make sure it runs.

**Mark:** Why do the value of campers fall like a rock in water?

**Mike:** They don’t. Campers only sink if they can’t swim. Trailers and RVs are where campers sleep <eye rolls around the campfire>

**Mark:** Is it really the stressful on a marriage to park the camper?

**Mike:** I told you once before, Campers are people.

**Bill:** Geeze some people are thick in the head.

**Donna:** Isn’t that the truth. Maybe one day he will learn to park.

**Unnamed Nomad:** Sorry for what I said when trying to back the camper.

**Unnamed Lady of Unnamed Nomad:** Geometry is not your strong suit.

**Nomad:** Well Geometry is hard, doing it backward is harder.

**Nomad Lady:** Not the first and won’t be the last time you say that.

# Nomads continued...

## Two Seasons: Camping Season and Waiting for Camping Season

### More memorable conversations from around the campfire in 2019 and 2020:

**Mark:** Who is your favorite person?

**Brian:** Whoever brings the gorilla tape.

**Keith:** Patty is my favorite person. Patty, I've got to say Patty. I've learned on the divan that bad things happen when you don't mention your lady.

**Nadyne:** I don't know who my favorite is, but I do know who is my least favorite. That's whoever took the last of the roll of TP and didn't replace it. Brian!!!!!!  
<Donna falls out of chair laughing>

**Mark:** <defending Brian> Well if that is worse experience of your camping years, you're doing pretty good.

**Steve:** <looks around, laughs> He doesn't know about the 11' 3" camper encountering the 11'

2" underpass.

**Jim:** You can laugh at anything you can walk away from. **Curt:** Those roof mounted units will get you every time.

**Steve:** Spatial awareness is no problem for me.

**Becky:** That's right honey. And that's why God gave you shins. So you could find the trailer hitch in the dark.

### Want to know more about the Nomads?

We would love to have you join us!



# Arab Shriners Topeka, Kansas

Larry Dain, Potentate



Kurt Lawson, Chief Rabban



Jeff Neal Asst. Rabban



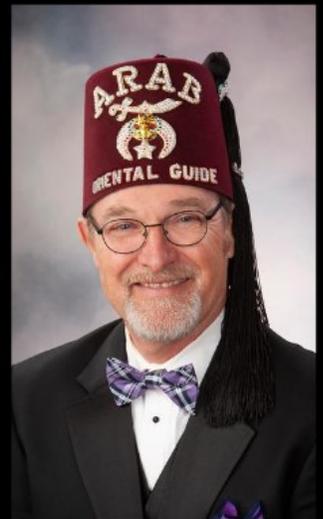
Ralph Wild  
Recorder



Kim Komarek  
Treasurer



Doug Hodge  
High Priest & Prophet



David Johnson  
Oriental Guide

# Steven E. Crane

## ***Masonry is Alive, Vibrant, Passionate and Growing, (just not here)***

I've had the great good fortune of being able to visit more than fifty Grand Lodge jurisdictions outside the United States. It is an eye-opening experience. It was also very positive and gives me great hope for the future of Freemasonry. I have had the fortune to sit in Lodges from Romania to Paraguay. I've been able to watch the induction of 28 new Shriners in Santa Cruz Bolivia.

The average age of the Lodge membership is at least a decade younger than the average age here in the US. Lodge Brothers are extremely passionate, vibrant, highly active, and GROWING! The members are often lawyers, doctors, engineers, policemen, pharmacists, business owners, university professors, elected officials, and other professionals. They are the "movers and shakers" in their respective communities, no matter how small, or how large the community. From a small Lodge housed in a 2,800 year old Greek shipping building on the Black Sea to ornate and huge edifices in gigantic cities like Sao Paulo Brazil. In the last five years my travels included much of Europe. I found the same thing taking place there. Younger members, passionate, vibrant, alive and growing.

So, what's going on? What are the differences. Just like I used to do when I was a salesrep covering various states, I looked

for the things I could use back in my own Lodge. I'll admit I am a thief. Every time I found some good idea in a Lodge I visited back in those days, I would take it home to Sandpoint Idaho and see what we could do with it. I haven't changed much. When I observe success, I look for the reasons. I look for differences that might be a clue.

I have found some significant differences between US Masonry and Masonry practiced in Europe and South and Central America. Are the differences the reason one part of Masonry is on fire and growing, and another part is struggling? That's impossible to prove one way or another, of course. Over the years I've heard the comment frequently. "Well it's the 'culture', those countries are where we were in the 50's and 60's". That sounded reasonable, but it was clearly not the case. Masonry in the USA grew rapidly in the 50's and 60's because service men came home from WWII and Korea in search of a replacement for the Brotherhood they had overseas. All these countries where Masonry is alive and well and growing, did not have the benefit of such an experience. Cell phones are everywhere, shopping malls are everywhere, and you've never experienced a truly rabid sports fan until you watch soccer fans in Brazil or Serbia.

I do think there is significant merit in some of these

differences that we ought to look at. Over the past 15 years I've had the good luck to visit other Grand Lodge jurisdictions. I've observed some very significant differences. In no particular order, here are the major things I've observed.

### **The Differences:**

#### **It's a family affair.**

At least once or twice a month the entire family goes to Lodge. Women and kids of all ages. The men run upstairs for no more than 20 minutes leaving the wives free to gossip and the children free to roam around and have a great time playing with other kids. Dinner is always catered, and it is a very fine meal. Wives don't cook, they don't clean up, they simply enjoy themselves on an evening out where they can dress up and enjoy a fun social evening. Beer and wine are always served with the meals. The kids grow up in Lodge, it's a comfortable familiar place to them. It's where they expect to go when they come of age. If you think the wives are going to let their husbands slack off at Lodge and miss a night out, you must be single.

#### **ZB1ASK1 is 180 degrees reversed.**

Visit In fact, in some jurisdictions if you ask you may be placed on a blacklist and never gain admission. The Lodge members guard the door with fervency and zeal, but they actively seek out

# Steven E. Crane continued...

## ***Masonry is Alive, Vibrant, Passionate and Growing, (just not here)***

new members. They look for professionals who can add something to the Lodge. Process varies significantly from Hungary to Paraguay, but they actively seek new members. In some jurisdictions the tradition is that all first-time applicants are blackballed on their first application. They are very selective who they admit, but they are constantly seeking new members that meet their standards.

### **GM's serve much longer terms.**

Usually 3-4 years and often are re-elected for another term. Being GM is a full-time job and they are well compensated. It is not unusual for a GM to serve 8-10 years.

### **Dues.**

The cheapest dues I have found are in a tiny town in Northwestern Paraguay. Dues are roughly the equivalent of \$70 US per month. Average dues around the world are in the \$150-\$200 range per month. Of course, this covers the twice a month Family Dinner events very easily. In Italy you must submit your federal tax forms each year and your dues are based on your annual income. The highest dues I have found is a small town in southern Brazil. Monthly dues there are roughly equivalent to \$450 US. With this money the Lodge operates a private school for kids who have the smarts, but don't have the finances, to

attend private schools. Most of the male teachers belong to the Lodge. There is a special dues rate for professors and teachers, who's profession brings "further light" to the community and to the Lodge.

### **Nobody memorizes the work.**

The WM, SW, and JW have an open book with the Lodge ritual for opening and closing Lodge. Only some select pieces of degrees are memorized where the Deacons are moving candidates around the Lodge and holding a 3-ring binder wouldn't work.

### **Candidates don't progress by memorization.**

Candidates don't progress to the next degree by memorizing the catechism of the preceding degree. Instead candidates are required to write one or more thesis about the lessons they learned in the preceding degree and how they will implement those lessons in their daily lives. The thesis is defended in open Lodge. Masonic education on steroids! A considerable debate and discussion about the lessons learned takes place during the defense of the thesis.

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Of course, there are lots of other minor differences. Subtle differences and ones not so subtle. The seven major

differences I've listed above are the dominant differences that are nearly universally found outside the United States.

Could we implement some or part of these differences? Would it make any difference to our members? Personally, I would consign 2B1ASK1 to the trash heap of failed ideas. I think the twice a month Family Night would make a huge difference in attendance and activity. Even doing this once a month would be significant. It would be a great time to bring a prospective member and allow their family to experience a small bit of Freemasonry.

Clearly what we're doing now is not working well. Membership continues to fall; activity levels continue to fall. We aren't truly teaching and bringing much "further light" to our members. Maybe it's time to think about our future and learn from our Brothers who are so successful.

### **Fraternally,**

**Steven E. Crane. PGM  
DeMolay International**

**Chairman, Fraternal  
Relations, MW Grand Lodge of  
Kansas**

**FACE MASKS  
REQUIRED**



**THANKS FOR KEEPING  
EVERYONE SAFE**