

THE *Oriental*

NEWS

ORIENTAL SHRINERS #7 - 1877 — TROY, NY

Season's Greetings
and a
Happy New Year!



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ORIENTAL SLATE 2015

THOMAS W. ABRAHAM (642-9404) Potentate
 PO Box 185, Hartford, NY 12838
 ROBERT E. HARRIS (441-5496) Chief Rabban
 JAMES D. VOOYS (374-8770) Assistant Rabban
 GAYLORD HAWLEY (744-0581) High Priest & Prophet
 PAUL S. KAHIAN (364-1037) Oriental Guide
 DANIEL RHODES (885-5494) Treasurer
 W. HARRY PROUT, PP (273-6199) Treasurer Emeritus
 WILLIAM B. FINK, JR., PP (c 423-1745, h 664-3143) Recorder
 DANIEL E. MURRAY, PP (885-4358) Recorder Emeritus

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 Barry Trasacco (480-3982) 2nd Ceremonial Master
 Merrel Allen (753-4589) Marshal
 David Stanley (237-6909) Captain of the Guard
 Gary Burch (632-5436) Outer Guard
 James Flatt (648-6248) Director
 Byron D. Moak, PP (235-5868) Chaplain
 Byron D. Moak, PP (235-5868) Historian
 Thomas K. Nicholson, PP (899-6407) Hospital Fund Chairman
 Charles D. Wilson (854-3590) \$100 Million Club Chairman
 L. John Garhartt, PP (753-7821) NYOSA Representative
 Byron D. Moak, PP (235-5868) and
 Gaylord Hawley (744-0581) Membership Chairmen
 John R. Patterson (692-7920) Attorney
 DeChants, Fuglein & Johnson, LLP (785-1211) Auditor
 W. Harry Prout, PP (273-6199) Oriental News Editor
 William H. Prout, Jr. (283-1042) Oriental News Business Mgr.
 J. Ronald Williams (792-1903) Protocol Officer
 Thomas K. Nicholson, PP (899-6407) Imperial Housing Chairman
 Byron D. Moak, PP (235-5868) Public Relations Chairman
 Truman Cox (798-8829) Transportation Chairman
 Barry Trasacco (480-3982) Circus Chairman
 Barry Trasacco (480-3982) Daddy Program Chairman
 Gaylord Hawley (744-0581) Parade Marshal
 Paul Garhartt (583-7943) Webmaster
 Frederick Sauer (235-2076) Potentate's Ball Chairman
 Barry Trasacco (480-3982) Fall Ceremonial Chairman
 Raymond Kappes Vidalia Onion Chairman

AMBASSADORS AT LARGE

Edward Pavlic

POTENTATE'S AIDES

Walter Cunniff Personal Aide
 William H. Prout, Jr. Communications Aide
 Harold Goodsell, Frank Root, Daniel Rhodes Chief Aides
 Henry Allen, Merrel Allen, Charles Wilson,
 James Ellsworth Aides

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J. Ronald Williams Keystone Kops
 David Stanley Oriental Patrol
 Truman Cox Transportation Chairman

Saratoga County Shrine Club

HAROLD GOODSSELL, Secretary

The November meeting of Saratoga Shrine Club was held at the Saratoga Holiday Inn on Monday, November 9th, 2015. P.P. Byron Moak gave the Invocation, followed by the Shriners Pledge to the Flag. The meeting came to order with President Russ Lehr presiding. He introduced his Lady Annalore, the club officers and their ladies.

Sickness and Distress and Happiness: none reported

Secretary's report: was received by all, a motion was made by Chief Rabban Robert Harris to accept the report, seconded by P.P. Howard Waller, all were in favor.

Treasurer's report: was given by P.P. Dan Murray, which found a balance of \$1,190.77, after expenses. A motion was made P.P. John Garhartt and seconded by P.P. Howard Waller to accept, all were in favor. Both reports will be placed on file.

Old Business: a thank you note was read from the Potentate, thanking the club for the \$500 presentation to Oriental Shriners and the \$500 to the Hospital Fund donations made at the Fall Ceremonial.

New Business: with Veterans Day approaching, the president asked all veterans to stand to thank them for all of their services. With that in mind the guest speaker was introduced: Courtney Burns, Director of Military History of the NYS Military Museum in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

The nightly raffle was drawn, the winners were: Ladies Shelly Grogan, Andrea Garhartt, Annalore Lehr, Linda Trasacco, Jacque Harris, Leslie Abraham and Julie Vooy's as well as Noble Gaylord Hawley. P.P. Tom Nicholson reported on the Annual Pie Sales. He also mentioned that the 2016 Dues notices will be coming directly from Tampa this year. The Holiday Inn wait staff was presented to thank them for another lovely dinner prepared for us.

The dinner menu for our next dinner/meeting on December 14th will be: chicken parmesan with pasta, St. Louis-style pork spare ribs with french fries or an open face hot roast beef sandwich with french fries and gravy (if desired). Each meal includes, salad, vegetable, rolls and butter, along with a desert and a beverage. Reservations are due to Dan Murray by December 9th, at 885-4358 or dmurraay13@nycap.rr.com. The cost is \$23.00 per person. Raffle items are needed. There will be a Christmas tree and envelopes for Hospital Fund donations. Ill. Tom Abraham was then presented, who introduced Lady Leslie.

He then asked Lady Julie Vooy's to speak of the shoe collecting project for the less fortunate. The project is from Lady Melissa Hicks of Tigris Shrine who is doing the Drive for her project as First Lady next year. Ill. Tom thanked our speaker for a great presentation this evening. Ill. Tom presented the members of the Divan that were present; Chief Rabban Robert Harris/Lady Jacque, Assistant Rabban James Vooy's/Lady Julie, High Priest and Prophet Gaylord Hawley/Lady Patty, Circus Chairman Noble Barry Trasacco/Lady Linda, Chief Aide Noble Harold Goodsell/Lady Gerry. Past Potentates present were John Garhartt/Lady Andrea, Bill Fink/Lady Kathy, Howard Waller/Lady Madeline, Bryon Moak, Dan Murray, Jim Flatt/Lady Doris, Bob

Cambridge Area Shrine Club

L. JOHN GARHARTT, Secretary

The President, Tim Grogan, opened the November 13th meeting and welcomed everyone. The invocation was given by Frank Root and was followed by the Shrine Pledge to the Flag. Everyone then enjoyed the chicken and biscuit dinner prepared by the American Legion. Janet Laverty and her helpers there thanked for the fine dinner.

President Tim then introduced Lady Shelley. Club officers present were Treasurer Frank Root and Lady MJ and Secretary John Garhartt and Lady Andrea. The nightly raffle was held and the winners were: Gerry Goodsell, Linda Trasacco, Audrey Rabe and MJ.

The treasurer reposted a balance of \$1066.86 and the reported was accepted.

Under Sickness and Distress it was reported the Ill. Paul Marinello was in the hospital along with Donna Burch. Ill. Tom Abraham, Ill. Tim Grogan & Barry Trasacco met with the Glens Falls Civic Center about holding a circus there next year. The cost would be \$8000 and the seating capacity is 5100.

Our next meeting will be our yearly prime rib dinner on December 11th at the American Legion in Cambridge. Attitude adjustment begins at 6 with dinner at 7. Reservations will be required by December 8th to allow the legion to ensure enough food.

Ill. Tom Abraham, Potentate, was introduced and immediately introduced Lady Leslie. He then introduced: Chief Rabban Robert Harris & Lady Jacque, Assistant Rabban Jim Vooy's and Lady Julie, 2nd Ceremonial Master Barry Trasacco & Lady Linda, Chief Aide Frank Root & Lady MJ. Past Potentates: Ill. Robert Rabe & Lady Audrey, Ill. Tim Grogan & Lady Shelley, and Ill. John Garhartt & Lady Andrea. Ill. Tom reported that at the Fall Ceremonial donations of \$5683 to the Hospital Fund and \$1475 to the Temple. Ill. Tom reported that Ill. John Garhartt was awarded the Roy Sandberg Memorial Humor Award by the Uncle Sam Clowns.

On December 12th a Stated Meeting/Election of Officers and Cold Sands will be held at the Oriental Shrine Center. It will be a pot luck dinner and everyone is requested to bring a dish to share. It will also be the drawing for the Tiffany necklace. The Uncle Sam Clowns is sponsoring a Toy-For-Tots toy drive and everyone was asked to bring a new toy unwrapped to the meeting.

The meeting was closed by Frank Root giving the benediction.

Rabe/Lady Audrey, Tom Nicholson/Lady SueAnn and Dick Gibbons/Lady Margaret. Also present were Ladies Shelly Grogan, Carole Stocum and Sally Lebowich.

A special thanks was extended to all that came to the Fall Ceremonial, and to Noble Barry Trasacco and Lady Linda as well as all those that prepared food, etc. for the lovely hospitality room. He was also grateful for the total of \$7,758 made in presentations. The upcoming Christmas/Holiday Party was discussed which will be on December 12th, at the Shrine Center. The party will feature the drawing for the last fund raiser, the Tiffany Jewelry at \$20.00 a ticket.

With no other business on hand, the meeting was closed with the Benediction given by P.P. Byron Moak.

**Shriners Hospitals
 Helping Over
 1 Million
 Children!**

THE POTENTATE'S MESSAGE



You Did Believe!

As we move through the holiday season toward the new year of 2016, first let me say that Lady Leslie and I wish all the Nobles and Ladies of Oriental Shrine a joyous holiday season and a very happy and healthy new year.

This will be my last official Oriental News post as your Potentate. I want to take this time to discuss some of the events that have occurred this past year and do a bit of reflecting as well.

At the Installation of Officers last January, you were asked to "Believe in the Cause," to step up and support your Temple, the Hospitals and the children, and one another. You were given many challenges to allow you to proudly and eagerly demonstrate your belief that being involved with the Shrine is a worthy cause indeed. Those challenges included basic but highly important activities: Fundraising, support for the hospitals, and membership. And rise to the challenge you did!

I am very pleased to tell you that the 2015 fundraising efforts were successful. The year had bookend jewelry raffles and a basket party which the Ladies oversaw; the sportsmen's raffle and the custom designed knife was the result of many of you buying and selling tickets to anyone who would purchase them; and, of course, there is the circus, which was very successful. We participated in activities in past years and learned from those efforts, and even though these activities are considered successful in the past and this year, the challenge still remains that in successive years it is done even better!

As I have reported at various Club meetings, Oriental Shrine was recipient of several donations that go directly to the Hospital or the Transportation Funds. This did not happen on its own. Individual Clubs and Units met the challenge given to them to support the hospitals and children and they did their own raising of funds to make these outstanding contributions. This is proof of their unwavering belief that activities to benefit the children continue to be a most worthwhile cause.

Membership is an important challenge as well. I am pleased to say that you strived to increase our membership, and as a result Oriental Shrine now has eight new Nobles and we have been fortunate to be able to bring back some who joined a few years ago. I am confident that every Noble and Lady will welcome these members and show them what a great organization Oriental is!

Carl Mays is one of my favorite motivational authors. While looking up something else recently, I came upon this phrase within a piece entitled, "The Winner." I would like to share with you: "...the winner hangs tough when the going is rough. The winner works and says, "I BELIEVE." This year has proven you are all winners.

Each and every Noble and Lady of Oriental Shrine made this a year of memories for Lady Leslie and me. I feel fortunate and honored to have been your Potentate, and we both are proud to be involved with the good people of Oriental Shrine. This year has been such an extraordinary and meaningful year; it was work, it was busy, and it was fun and it was extremely rewarding. We give our thanks to you for the privilege to serve in this capacity. We sincerely wish continued success in the 2016 year as Noble Robert Harris and Lady Jacqueline step into this respected and important role.

Lastly, I would like to share this with you: As we traveled across the state and into Texas and Canada, we met with hundreds of other Shriners with whom we admire and for whom we have a great deal of respect. We made new lifetime friends. We also received many compliments on Oriental Shrine, its members, and the wonderful hospitality they received while here at the Potentate's Ball. It was said that "Oriental set the standard and raised the bar." While this makes me proud, I am even more proud of all of those who made it happen. Any event can happen; but to make it happen requires commitment, attention to detail, and pride in your organization. Oriental Shriners make it happen. My last challenge to you is to continue to make it happen and uphold your belief in the cause.

Yours in the Faith,
THOMAS W. ABRAHAM
Illustrious Potentate 2015

Do You Know?

BYRON MOAK, PP, Historian

— Answers to November Questions —

1a.) The Shriners Dromedary Awards recognize excellence in temple communications.

b.) The Dromedary Awards are presented at the Imperial Session. Thus the most recent awards were given at the Imperial Session in Houston in July, 2015.

c.) Temple communications categories that are currently recognized by Dromedary Awards are: Print Magazines, Websites, Print Newsletters/Newspapers, Facebook Page and Mail communications. More information about the Dromedary Awards can be obtained by visiting shrinersvillage.com.

2.) Our National Patient Ambassadors – Katharine Koonce and Clint Cain – will spend the year 2015-16 sharing their stories about the injuries they received: Katharine – severe burns in a fire; Clint – amputation of a leg in a boating accident, and the importance of the Shriners Hospitals for Children.

3a.) The new executive Vice President of Shriners International is Noble John Piland of Ansar Shriners in Springfield, Illinois.

b.) The Executive Vice President of Shriners International for the last five years was Imperial Sir Jack Jones, who has also been Imperial Recorder for the last 35 years.

c.) The goal of the new Executive Vice President of Shriners International, Noble John Piland, is to encourage high quality men of character to become Shriners. In addition, he intends to ensure temple leadership has the resources to both retain and recruit members. He will help implement the plans and progress of the Imperial Divan and provide information on leadership throughout the organization.

December Questions

— Answers in next Issue —

1a.) Who is the current Imperial First Lady?

b.) What is the theme of the Imperial First Lady for 2015-16?

c.) What is Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI)?

2.) Where will the 142nd Imperial Session be held in 2016?

b.) How many past Imperial Sessions have been held in that city?

c.) Demographically, how large is this city?

d.) What is unique about this city to Shriners?

e.) What Shrine Center is located in this city?

3a.) Twenty-five years ago, on Saturday, December 8, 1990, who was elected Potentate of Oriental Shriners?

b.) Who became the First Lady of Oriental Shriners as a result of that election?

c.) Where was the Temple Holiday Party held later that day?

d.) Where was the Imperial Session held in July 1991?

e.) Where did Oriental Shriners and ladies stay from July 1-5, 1991, at the Imperial Session?

~ BE A FIRST LINE SIGNER ~

The Oriental News

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ANNUAL MEETING

AND Installation of Officers

Sat., January 9, 2016

1:00 pm at the

Oriental Shrine Center

You will need your 2016 Dues Card for admission.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of Oriental Shriners will be held at the Oriental Shrine Center, 75 Water Plant Rd., Lansingburgh (North Troy), on Saturday, January 9, 2016, at which time annual reports will be presented, installation of appointed and elected officers for the year and such other business transacted that may properly come before the meeting.

THOMAS W. ABRAHAM
Illustrious Potentate

Attested by:
WILLIAM B. FINK, JR., PP
Recorder

An Amazing Milestone Reached



Congratulations are in order for PP Allan Ryssylainen and his wife Sande who recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary with a family dinner at the Westin Resort on Jekyll Island, Georgia. They met at NAS Dayton Beach, Florida where they both served in the US Navy during World War II. They were married on December 22, 1945. Their daughter, Allison Smith of Savannah, Georgia and three grandchildren, Leslie, Devon and Alex from around the country were able to attend this very special event. Allan and Sande left the North ten years ago for warmer climes. Happy 2016 to all! With love, Sande and Allan

SPRINGFIELD HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION

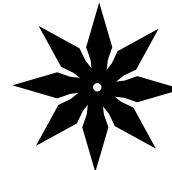
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Mr. Charles Walczak, Administrator	814-875-8700
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Ms. Rose Reyes, Applications	413-787-2070
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Ms. Kathy Tracy, Volunteers	413-735-1292

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Dr. Ronald Tompkins, Chief of Staff	617-371-4710
Ms. Monique King, Applications Secretary	617-371-4843
Ms. Cheryl Shackleton, RN, Admissions Operator	617-371-4729
Ms. Kathleen Golden, Marketing Manager	617-371-4784
Mr. Robert Tibbetts, Volunteers Director	617-371-4744



Season's Greetings

STATEMENT

Recorder's Office

◆ ORIENTAL SHRINE HOSPITAL FUND ◆

75 Water Plant Road, Troy, NY 12182

From: Noble _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Please add the enclosed contribution to this month's total in the Oriental Temple Hospital Fund.

If this is a memorial contribution, please give the proper information below.

In Memory of _____

Acknowledge to _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Make checks payable to Oriental Shrine Hospital Fund.

— THIS CONTRIBUTION IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE —

A Special Note of Thanks to Special People From Ill. Tom Abraham & Lady Leslie

To make any event successful, let alone a whole year's worth of several occasions, it takes many people, not just two. As is the practice of dedicated Shriners, many Nobles and Ladies contributed their time, ideas, food, money, brain, brawn, effort and so much more in order to make this year's events extraordinarily productive, enjoyable, and successful.

There is much that goes on behind the scenes for everyone else to come and enjoy the activities. We wish to justly recognize and express our sincere appreciation to the Nobles and Ladies who were active behind those scenes to make the end results run as smoothly and efficiently as possible.

Our Personal Aides, **Noble Walter Cunniff and Lady Claudia**, oversaw the organization of the hospitality rooms and ensured that the Temple and social areas were setup and ready to go ... and without hesitation, did anything else we asked of them! *Thank you!*

Chief Aides **Harold Goodsell and Frank Root** assisted with the introductions at the Potentate's Ball and the Fall Ceremonial by proudly escorting the Divan members and guests into the ball rooms. **Noble Ron Williams** flawlessly recited the Shriner's Creed at the Ceremonial and Christmas Holiday Party with such meaningfulness and pride. **Noble Gaylord Hawley** certainly does his part to see that the adult thirst quenchers are always ready to go! *Thank you all!*

Noble Walt Cunniff and Lady Claudia, along with the Housing Chair, **Illustrious Thomas Nicholson** and his **Lady SueAnn**, were instrumental in making the Imperial Session in Houston run as smoothly and comfortably as it did for the attending Shrine members of Oriental, Cyprus, Mt. Sinai, and Cairo – a large crowd, indeed. Lady SueAnn was asked to oversee the kitchen for this year's events and she accepted the role. She did successfully direct the hospitality room for the Potentate's Ball and took charge of the kitchen for the Installation and the Basket Party. This work is duly recognized. With the cooperation and assistance of many other hardworking and dedicated **Nobles and Ladies**, the results then and for the remaining year's activities were in keeping with the Oriental tradition of delicious and plentiful foodstuff! *Thank you Nobles and Ladies!*

The Ceremonial Masters of 2015 were **Noble Rick Sauer and Lady Beverly** and **Noble Barry Trasacco and Lady Linda**, respectively. They were responsible for managing the responding guests and their meal selections, as well as working the hospitality rooms. **Lady Linda** was also very involved in helping with so many more behind-the-scenes details from the Potentate's Ball, and the Basket Party, and the Fall Ceremonial to the final gathering – the Christmas Holiday Party, of which **Lady Andrea Garhartt and Lady Linda** did a fantastic job behind the scenes (aka: Kitchen Detail) organizing the many creative and delicious dishes brought in for the Christmas Party by many of you. And I wish to say that working with Lady Linda this year was equivalent to having several "right hands" when it was needed the most -- a bigger and more time consuming job than one might think and the results were always fantastic! *Thank you, everyone!*

Fundraising is one of those necessary tasks to keep organizations such as ours afloat and to cover costs for the year. In true Shriner fashion, so many of you stepped up and bought and/or sold the various tickets that were offered, canvassed merchants for donations, and sold CDs at the Kid Rock/Foreigner concert with the lead in this venture taken by **Noble Chuck Sommer**. The Sportsmen's Raffle had enough food to feed an army! That happened only because of the cooking talents and many hours kindly donated by **Illustrious Paul Marinello and Noble Barry Trasacco and Lady Linda**. The Tiffany Jewelry raffle was an absolute success and could not have raised the money it did for Oriental without the substantial donation from **Illustrious Steve Flatt and his Lady Julie**. For all of these charitable, enthusiastic, and committed labors, we are forever grateful. *Thanks to each of you!*

The circus is the chief fundraising mechanism for the Temple. **Noble Barry Trasacco and Lady Linda** both worked tirelessly at gaining advertising dollars for the ad book, and arranging dates, times, and locations for each circus. They also worked hard getting the legal contracts and handling all the related bureaucracy that goes with it. They continue to devote countless hours of time throughout the year to ensure a profitable result, as they are already working on next year's circus fundraiser. *Thank you both!*

For each event, many **Ladies and Nobles** did their share to make sure there was enough food and beverages for participants to enjoy. To each of you, please know that we whole-heartedly recognize and openly acknowledge your selfless generosity and honorable efforts as well and we certainly give our warmest appreciation to each and every one of you.

You all are special people who deserve special thanks!

Yours in the Faith,
Ill. Tom Abraham & Lady Leslie

Glens Falls Shrine Club

WALT CUNNIFF, Secretary

The last meeting of the Glens Falls Shrine Club was on December 3, 2015. Club President Gaylord opened the meeting at 7 pm with an invocation from Ill. Bob Rabe followed by the Shriner's Pledge.

Introductions were as follows: Lady Patty Harrison, V.P. Jeff Lindstrand and Lady Kate, Secretary Walt Cunniff and Lady Claudia, Treasurer Al West and Lady Cheryl. Gaylord welcomed all who were attending our meeting noting that we had two guests from the Lake George Chamber of Commerce: Mike Consuelo and Christine Curley were here as our guests to show them that the Glens Falls club and Oriental Shriners were thankful for their support with the Shrine circus promotions that they did for us.

Under Sickness and Distress: Barry Trasacco told us that Ill. Paul Marinello was out of the hospital and in the Schuyler Ridge Rehabilitation Center in Clifton Park where he is gaining strength back in his legs. Also, Noble Harold Goodsell has had a procedure done on a carotid artery and is doing well. Gaylord mentioned that Chuck Sommer's mom was moving to hospice care and that pneumonia was adding to her issues. Our thoughts and prayers go out to them, especially around the Holiday season.

The good news is that Robert and Jackie Harris just celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. Some in the room called them "newbies"!!!

The Secretary's report was approved as sent out. Al West gave the Treasurer's report which indicated that the club had a balance of \$3393.45 in the treasury and a motion was made by Ron Williams and seconded by Dan Lambert to accept. Al also mentioned that the 2016 annual dues of \$7.00 were due.

Claudia and Patty sold the raffle tickets and the winners were: Truman Cox, Claudia Cunniff, Al West, Jackie Harris, Jeff Lindstrand, Ginnie Lambert, and Mike Consuelo. The Club netted \$90.00.

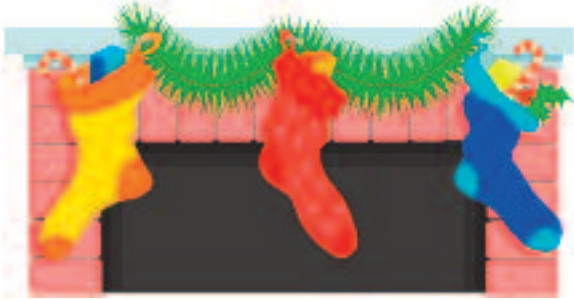
Old Business: Lady Julie Vooy's made a necklace and is donating it to the Glens Falls Shrine Club. The club will begin selling tickets in Jan. 2016 to be drawn sometime near summer. Lady Leslie Abraham will be making the raffle tickets for us. Thanks to Julie and Leslie.

New Business: The nominating committee presented their recommended slate of nominees for 2016-2017 officers as follows: President – Jeff Lindstrand, V.P. – Dan Lambert, Secretary – Walt Cunniff, Treasurer – Al West.

There were no nominations from the floor during the three times asked and no one volunteered to step into any of these positions so the nominations were closed and Gaylord asked that the Secretary be allowed to cast one unanimous ballot to elect the recommended slate to their respected positions for 2016-2017. Illustrious Tom Abraham was asked to install the elected officers which he did in the usual proper manner. The officers of the Keystone Kops were also installed into their positions.

At this time, Ron Williams wanted to note that Gaylord had done a good job the last two years as Club President. The meeting was then turned over to Illustrious Tom Abraham

(Continued on page 8)



Holiday Greetings and Best Wishes for a Prosperous New Year!



Illustrious Thomas Abraham
and Lady Leslie



III. William B Fink, Jr. and Lady Kathy
Noble Roger W. Minch, Jr
Raymond Krogh
Edward E. Stewart and Marion
Noble Arnold W. Proskin and Lady Martha
Noble William F. Wheelock
Noble David Stanley and Lady Elaine
in Memory of Raymond Stanley
III. Joseph Mack and Lady Kitty
Noble Bill Tschumi and Lady Shirley
Noble John C. Carville, Lady Ann, and Kelly,
John and Nancy
III. Dick Gibbons and Lady Margaret
Noble Kenneth R. Williams and Lady Ernestine
Noble Philip Goff and Lady Carolyn
Lady Joan MacMartin in Memory of
III. Robert H. MacMartin
III. Thomas Nicholson and Lady SueAnn
Noble Elwood "Woodie Hacker and
Lady Betsy Hollander
In Memory of Donald Seyboth by Lady Rose Seyboth
III. Thomas W. Abraham and Lady Leslie along
with family members Tom and Candy
Abraham and Mike and Mary Abraham
III. Robert A. Rabe, PP and Lady Audrey
III. Lewis and Lady Carol Slocum

Lady Sally Lebowich
Noble Robert and Lady Jacque Harris
III. Tim and Lady Shelly Grogan
III. Howard and Lady Madeline Waller
III. Harry and Lady Lissa Prout
Noble Bill and Lady Robin Prout
Sue Casey
Noble Ricardo D. Rizzo and Lady Seneca
Gregory A. Cothron
Lady Eleanor Stannard
III. Bill Reed and Lady Joann
Noble Phil Arony and Lady Linda
By Roger W. Minch, Jr., in Memory of:
Roger W. Minch, Sr. and Lady Rowena
III. Eli Robinson and Lady Chris
III. Herbert D. Elliot
III. Frederick G. Geiger and Lady Marion
III. Charles S. Petersen and Lady Betty
III. Orville C. Gowie
Frederick C. Anderson
III. Garner Tripp
Robert Turo
Robert Preston and Lady Hilda
Christopher Kilmer
Sandra Krogh



2015





Christmas Holiday Party

This year's winter party was fully attended with almost 80 folks.

There were many heartfelt exchanges of holiday cheer given & received by so many caring people. The "Potluck" was quite fruitful with an abundant variety of the most delicious foods~~ Great job everyone!

Lady Juli Vooy's gave us the opportunity to view and buy some of her own beautifully created jewelry, and the Tiffany Jewelry raffle came to a very successful end!

The songs of the season were courtesy of Raphael Peralta, daughter of the late Sal Cannavo. Sal always donated his voice, tunes, and time to the Shrine holiday party. He said it was his small way to give back to those who selflessly served children.

Raphael, who was just as amazing, was also accompanied by 5-year old Charlotte who was not shy about entertaining us! A star in the making!

May the blessings of this season be with you and we wish all of you a very happy and healthy 2016!

Lady Leslie and Ill. Tom



Past Potentate Robert Rabe, left, Louise Sorrell, from Plattsburgh, and Noble Barry Trasacco. Louise saves tabs every year for the Shriners.

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Recorder's Corner

III. WILLIAM B. FINK, JR., PP
Recorder, Oriental Shriners
wfinkjr@nycap.rr.com
518-423-1745 (c)

It is with regret that I have to report that our Recorder, Ill Thomas Nicholson, chose to resign his position as Recorder for the Shrine Center just before the start of our Stated Meeting where the election of officers occurred. As a result, I am now serving as your Recorder for the foreseeable future. It will take me a while to figure out what I am doing and learn the office systems (including communicating with Imperial), so please bear with me. If I can be of any assistance, or you know of something that has fallen between the chairs, please let me know. Please feel free to call me any time. My cell phone number is (518) 423-1745 and my e-mail is wfinkjr@nycap.rr.com.

In closing, I hope the Holiday Season was good to you and we can all look forward to a wonderful 2016 under the leadership of our Potentate-elect, Robert Harris and his Lady Jacque.

Uncle Sam's Clowns

PAUL "Fuddi-Duddy" KLEINBERGER

Want to clown around? Uncle Sam's Clowns are looking for a few good Shriners with big hearts and a desire to make people smile.

We will train you! Check 'em out at the next Troy Shrine Club meeting!

Uncle Sam's Clown Roll Out Clowning 101.5.

One of the reasons the Capital Region is "clown rich" is that introductory clown classes have been offered in one fashion or another at various colleges and other venues for many years. It's worthy of note that most of these introductory training programs require a commitment of at least 30+ hours of classroom time. There has been a continual demand for weekend clown training programs for people who are interested in the clown arts, but for a variety of reasons can not commit to 30+ hours of training. The challenge to local clown arts instructors has been to develop a program that does both the aspiring student and the art of clowning justice. As the Oriental Shriner's clown unit, Uncle Sam's Clowns, has organized and established itself, they have taken up the challenge. On December 4 they rolled out Clowning 101.5. Claiming that is was "...a little bit better and certainly shorter", participants were given hands on lessons in make-up application and condensed and concentrated workshops in single, as well as group performance over the course of the weekend. The results of the first effort were new clowns who not only looked good, but performed with self-confidence and can hold their own in public as they gain clown performance experience.

Admittedly a work in progress, Clowning 101.5 shows promise and Uncle Sam's Clowns hopes to offer it again in the near future. If you are interested, speak to Grumpie, Blueberry or Fuddi-Duddy.

Uncle Sam Clowns collecting toys at Christmas time for disadvantaged and/or less fortunate children has been a holiday tradition for quite some time. Probably the best known toy collection effort is "Toys For Tots." Toys For Tots traces its roots back to 1947 when a Marine Reserve officer was prompted by his wife to consider such an undertaking. After hearing a local news report that suggested the 2015 toy collection effort might fall short in the Capital Region of New York because the need was so much greater this year than in past years, the Uncle Sam Clowns reached out to the Oriental Shriners and their ladies. The request was simple - consider participation in the toy collecting effort. The Oriental Shriners responded in a manner that surpassed any and all expectations that clowns had. The Clowns and the Marine Corps Reserves issued a hearty "Thank you!" to all who donated!

Mark your calendar!

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- Full announcement to come in January News -

Jewelry from Tiffany and Co.



The drawing for this beautiful necklace and earring set took place at our Christmas Holiday Party on December 12.

All 100 available tickets were sold netting a grand profit of \$2000 for Oriental Temple.

**This was made possible because of those who supported the fundraiser and through the considerate donation of the jewelry by
Ill. Steve Flatt and Lady Julie**

Noble Jim Flatt and Lady Doris honored us by drawing the winning ticket.

And the grateful winner is:

Susan W. Lask, First Lady of Ismailia.

She gladly supported this and other fundraisers of Oriental Shrine throughout 2015.

**She was absolutely thrilled to win it and nearly in tears said,
"Thank you, Oriental Shrine!"**

Glens Falls Shrine Club

(Continued from page 5)

who introduced his Lady Leslie. Next he introduced his other officers present as follows: Chief Rabban Robert Harris and Lady Jackie, Assistant Rabban Jim Vooyoys and Lady Julie, High Priest and Prophet Gaylord Hawley and Lady Patty, Circus chairman, 2nd Ceremonial Master, and Interim Transportation Chairman Barry Trasacco and Lady Linda, Personal Aide Walt Cunniff and Lady Claudia. We had only one Past Potentate present – Ill. Bob Rabe and Lady Audrey. Tom also introduced Oriental's Protocol Officer, Ron Williams and Lady Kaye.

Tom went on to note that his term was about up and that it had been a good year for he and Leslie. He wanted to express his thanks to the GFSC and KOPS for their support and to all the clubs and units for their support. The clubs and units added almost \$7000.00 in donations over the year.

Tom asked Julie Vooyoys to explain a "shoe" program that Tigris Shriners was doing. You can donate your "lightly used" shoes and these will be dispersed to underprivileged people. If you want to make room in your closet, Julie will make her last collection at our Dec. 12th Holiday Party at the Shrine Center. These shoes will be sent over to Tigris Shriners who will send them off again and they will receive a check that will go to the Shriners Hospital Fund.

Tom made several announcements, all pertaining to Saturday, Dec. 12, 2015. This will be our annual Cold Sands, election of 2016 officers, and our annual Christmas/Holiday Party. They are not having a caterer so if everyone would bring their favorite dish to share it would be appreciated. Please coordinate this with Lady Leslie to avoid too much repetition. He also announced that the Clown Unit is supporting the "Toys For Tots" program and that gifts would be accepted to help with that

cause. If anyone is interested in the Tiffany & Co. diamond necklace and earrings – the winner will be drawn at this party. Last chance for a ticket will be Dec. 12th at the party.

We all remember Sal Cannavo who always opened his heart and soul for us by providing his talents and music for us at our Christmas Parties at no cost. He has passed away and he will be greatly missed. Through a personal friendship with his daughter Raphael, it has been arranged for her to provide music for us.

She said that she wanted to do as much as she was able to work into her schedule that her dad had done before. She said that Sal was "in awe" at what the Shriners did for the kids and that he loved helping us out when he could.

Once again, Illustrious Tom thanks you for all your support over the last year.

The meeting was closed with a benediction by Bob Rabe.

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ORIENTAL SHRINE DATES

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Submissions due by the 10th of the publication month
ORIENTAL SHRINERS WEBSITE – www.orientalshriners.org

Jan. 9 (Sat.) ANNUAL MEETING & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS – Shrine Center, 1:00
Jan. 11 (Mon.) Saratoga County Shrine Club – Holiday Inn, 6:00
Jan. 25 (Mon.) Troy Area Shrine Club – Shrine Center, 6:00
Jan. 28 (Thu.) Glens Falls Shrine Club – Holiday Inn, Lake George
Feb. 7 (Sat.) SUPER BOWL PARTY – Shrine Center, 4:00
Feb. 13 (Sat.) SARANAC LAKE WINTER CARNIVAL PARADE – Details to come
Feb. 25 (Thu.) Glens Falls Shrine Club – Holiday Inn, Lake George
Apr. 9 (Sat.) POTENTATE’S BALL – Saratoga Holiday Inn

All Unit Fund Raising Activities MUST Receive Written Permission from the Potentate – Disclaimers, etc. – Don’t Forget!

Annual Meeting & Installation of Officers
Saturday, January 9, 2016 at 1:00 pm
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You will need your 2016 dues card for admission.