

Al Koran Shriners News





The Al Koran

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BUSINESS OFFICE

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ELECTED DIVAN

Potentate	Roger Neff
Chief Rabban	
Assistant Rabban	Thomas Klecan P.P.
High Priest & Prophet.	Terry Hamilton P.P.
Oriental Guide	Ronn Murphy
Treasurer	Jay Flack
Recorder	Robert Berteau

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Roger Edgington, Thomas Sabados, Richard Horacek P.P., Edwin Strauss jr., Chairman

AL KORAN EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Roger E. Neff

SUBMISSIONS

All articles, advertising and suggestions should be sent to the address listed below and marked ATTN: Al Koran Magazine or email to: rneff@rencomm-ad.com

MEMBER INFORMATION

For information on Dues, Assessments, Regulations or to report Illness or Death of a Noble please call the Business Office as listed above.

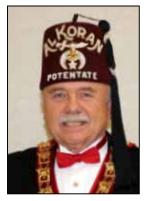
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AL KORAN HEADQUARTERS

Recorder's Office 1000 East Edgerton Road Broadview Hts., Ohio 44147

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From the Potentate



Let me begin the New Year and my time serving you as your Potentate by Thanking You for your support and confidence that I can do the job before us. I am humbled to be the Potentate of the 4th oldest Shrine Center in the World, chartered in 1877. My Great Grandfather, Walter H. Watts, living in Elyria at the time, was ennobled at Al Koran March 25, 1909. Both sides of my Family have all been Masons, but none members of Al Koran since, until I became a Noble. I promise you I will do my best

to keep Al Koran moving forward in support of our Shrine Center and the all important Philanthropy – supporting our Shriners Hospitals for Children. I hope to continue to build on the membership growth inspired by Membership Chairman, Il Sir Terry Hamilton and Il Sir Wayne Angstrom. I need your help ...if we are to be successful.

We do have a Shrine Center ... we do have a Home. Through the construction changes to the building which we once occupied completely, we have a "corner" carved out for Al Koran. The surroundings may look different and the growing pains of our landlord evident, but we still have a home that contains some very recognizable rooms. Please be sure to join us as we meet monthly, continue events in the Oasis and Ballroom, and hold meetings in the Atrium.

During the upcoming year the leadership of Al Koran will be making real efforts to join ranks with our Brothers in other Masonic Bodies. These Bodies have suffered too the drop off in membership and we will join them in creating an atmosphere that openly welcomes the Masonic experience. A healthy and growing Blue Lodge is the path we all must follow for measurable growth. Know a good man? ... he can be even better as a Shriner.

I again Thank You for your support and hope that you can join us for Monthly meetings of Al Koran, a Club or Unit of your choice and all the events that we will have planned during the year, I hope to see as many of you as possible at the Installation of Officers dinner on January 16th.

Yours in Faith, Roger Neff

Official Call of the Potentate Notice is given that Al Koran Temple A.A.O.N.M.S. will hold its monthly

Notice is given that Al Koran Temple A.A.O.N.M.S. will hold its monthly Business Meeting at the Al Koran Shrine Center on **Monday, January 18th at 7:00pm.** There will be a dinner at 5:30pm with reservations due by **Noon** on Friday before the event.

Es Selamu Aleikum

Robert Berteau Recorder

Roger Neff Illustrious Potentate

Calendar of Events

January 18th Meeting Menu:

Chicken and dumplings w/gravy Pork Loin

Mashed Potatoes, biscuits with butter and honey Corn/green beans, mixed salad Dessert

Al Koran Officer Installation Dinner - January 16th - 6pm (See reservation form on page 8)

Al Koran Sweetheart Social - February 13th - 6pm

Shriner of the Month Elmer Rogers



Elmer Rogers is January's Shriner of the Month ... and well deserved. Through his many years of service to Al Koran he has led many of our



Elmer and Judy Rogers

clubs and Units. This includes Chief of the Hunters and Rabban of the Clan for our Hillbilly Clan. The has logged thousands of miles driving our children to their various Hospital appointments and he can be found participating in any event Al Koran has.

Thank you Elmer ... and Judy... and Congratulations.

Divan Directory

Illustrious Potentate

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Email: klecantom@hotmail.com

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Oriental Guide

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Recorder

Robert Berteau Res: 216 642-3911

E-mail: rdb379@sbcglobal.net or: recorder@alkoranshriners.com



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William R. Weber, Chairman of the Board



Paper Deadline!

All submissions must be in to Al Koran by the 7th day of the month preceding publication. Email files & photos to: rneff@rencomm-ad.com

Hunters

Our next Hunter's meeting will be January 12th in the Fez Room at the center at 7:30PM. We need all Hunters members in attendance so we can discuss events and plans for 2016. Please help Al Koran grow and ask a brother Mason to become a Noble. Help your Hunters Unit and ask a fellow Shriner to join our unit. Please plan to attend the Al Koran Officers installation on Saturday, January 16 at 6PM and the Business Meeting on Monday, January 18. Call Mike Davison to make your reservations.

Chief, John Deliman, Assistant Chief, Roger Neff, Secretary, Wayne Angstrom, Treasurer, Russ Arndt,

Southwest Shrine

Shriners, Want to go out for a nice dinner? The Southwest Shrine dinner group is meeting at Tres Potrillos on Rt. 18 in Medina across from Buehler's on Friday, January 15, 2016 ar 6pm. We are a social group (including spouses and guests) that meet once a month at a different restaurant each month. Please call Jane Edgington at 330-606-4479 or Mark Bollinger at 440-429-7094 with your reservation prior to January 8. *Mark J. Bollinger*

Lorain County Shrine Club

The Lorain County Shrine Club will meet at their new meeting place which is the Wood and Wine Restaurant 38790 Chester Road at the corner of Colorado Avenue and Chester Road in Avon Ohio. We meet at 11:00 AM and all nobles and their ladies are welcome to come. This will be the permanent meeting place for this group on the third Friday of the month at 11:00 Am. The Lorain County Shrine Luncheon club will meet there every Friday. *John Deliman, Secretary*

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Randy Pritchard, President

Drivers' Corner

The following volunteers have driven children to and from the Shriners Hospitals during the month of October.

Gordon Moxley
Dan Smith
Jim Joseph
Ben Peterson
B. Miller
Jim Burnham
Jerry Carden
Fred Dezee
Ted Lyda
Bob Metzger
Bob Seeger
Joe Humansky
Tom Halden
John Deliman

David Wilkinson
Jim Parkenson
Stan Updike
Ray Wilson
Paul Peddie
Ralph McClintock
Al Hopkins
Travis Hutchinson
Al Strodtbeck
Ginger Sorg
Roger Calkins
Mike Brookins
Jack Watson
Mike Davison

Merit Jewel Awards Program By Jack Conner PP

Merit Jewels will be awarded at the Jan. 18, 2016 Business Meeting. Please try to attend and receive your award. If you cannot attend the meeting, please ask someone to pick up your award or make arrangements with the office to have your Jewel mailed to you for a small donation to cover the mailing cost. Some Nobles have been on the list for over 2 years. If you have no desire to receive your award, please inform the office so your name can be removed from the list.

Published in this issue is the list of Nobles due awards as of Dec.7,2015. We will continue to accumulate points up to Jan. 17,2016. Even if you do not see your name on the list in the Dec. Magazine, you could be due an award at the Business Meeting, Jan. 18, 2016.

Richard A. Miller
John S. Anderson
Gordon J. Schutt
Eugene A. Smith
Rino GB Costa
Ronald H. Mills
John T. Trotter
William G, Tracey

Ronald Murphy
1 2
James R. Dettmer
Joe Humansky
John J. Vargo
John J. Watson
Robert B. Campbell
Stuart R. Shoaf
Richard Deutsch Sr.

Robert I. Adaiar
Aldo W. Balestra
Richard N. Hoffman
Elmer F. White
Michael Spisak
Ronald S. Croxford
Frank A. Bercheck
Ronald L. Runion
John Deliman

Dan Smith Roger L. Edgington Kirk W. Hopkins Ralph D. McClintock Richard A. Metzler Terry A. Hamilton Ronald Keim John R. Larson

Potentate's



Transportation Unit

The Transportation Unit will not meet in January. We would appreciate continued donations of aluminum cans and copper to help fund our cost required to transport the children. We also need help finding additional locations to place our containers to collect aluminum cans. We remain very grateful for the nobles and others who bring aluminum cans and copper to the center. We are especially grateful for the continued support of Bakers Union #19, Ironwood and Pine Hills Golf Courses and Russ from Berea Heating and cooling for their collection of copper and cans.

President/ Secretary Thom Sabados, Treasurer John Tascar.

Al Koran Candidates Fees Reductions For 2016.

Total fees to accompany petitions for 2015 are reduced to \$137. This covers a Standard Fez and 2016 dues. If a candidate wants a jeweled fez the additional cost is \$60 for total of \$197. Nobles this is your opportunity to share Shriner membership. Please help us grow Al Koran membership.

Al Koran Boosters "Al Koran Boosters" help to defray the cost of publishing and mailing our magazine. To be a "Booster" please send a check, payable to Al Koran, for \$10 **per person listed** to Al Koran Head-quarters. Names are listed for one year, after which it is time to renew. Renewal dates are shown after your name.

1 1	BOOSTERS exp. date	BOOSTERS exp. date
Barbara J. Fyfe1/16	Jim & Gladys Baldwin 5/16	Wendell & Ruth Cole 9/16
Charles Huffman1/16	5 Ken & Peg Dezman5/16	Ray Wohl 9/16
Dick Kleine1/16	5 Carl Pfeifer 5/16	Rose Hixenbaugh 9/16
Janelle A. Fyfe1/16	Gordon Hastler 5/16	Jack Ahlstrom9/16
Janet Hann1/16	Neil Kuhn5/16	Earle Cyphert
John Deliman & Shirley Tipton1/16	Chuck and Bonnie Erickson 5/16	Wayne & Sandy Angstrom 9/16
Kirk & Marcia Hopkins 1/16	6 Arthur Moore7/16	Loli Hanna9/16
Ronald & Barbara Werner 1/16	Leo Smith7/16	Elsie Lowery 9/16
Alice Wilds2/16	Dale & Lee Finley7/16	Davis Scott10/16
Bill Miller2/16		
Deborah Saiter2/16	5 Evie Probert	Annamay Hershey10/16
Diane Barber2/16	Ed & Dorothy Dietz8/16	John & Rose Boyd 10/16
Michael & Carla Davison 2/16	5 Dan Edgar 8/16	Ken & Beth Weidig 10/16
Ray & Elsie Day	Jim & Lois Parkenson 8/16	Elaine Fishleigh 10/16
Terry & Angie Hamilton2/16	John & Margie Haught8/16	Jerry & Martha Gundrum 10/16
Carl R Munn3/16	Walt & Marilyn Ibele8/16	Richard & Linda Saxby 11/16
Donald Schmitt3/16	Tom & Cindy Senko8/16	Dale Kandle11/16
Emil Arvidson3/16	Dan Frenz9/16	Donald & Merle Milmine 11/16
Ralph & Eda Thadeus3/16	Fig. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1.	Gary Brookins 11/16
Bob Powell4/16	Jack & Marge Conner9/16	Ronn Murphy 11/16
Stan Leff	Ray & Kay Wilson9/16	Dotty Lockmiller11/16
Phil & Rita Welce 4/16	Roger & Jane Edgington9/16	Paul & Bonnie Peddie 11/16
Wilbert Winold4/16	Jim Lloyd 9/16	Lee & Betty Pilous11/16
Elaine Mitsch4/16	Don & Pauline Wills 9/16	Roger & Mary Lou Neff 11/16

Lorain County Fire Brigade

Another parade season has come to an end. Thank you to everyone that came out and supported the unit. Our firetruck, "Big Red", is currently at Ray's Auto & Truck Service for some much needed repairs. These updates should keep the truck on the road for many years to come.

We would like to thank the Knorr-Bremse (KB) Global Care team for providing funding so we can continue with our philanthropy. KB is the parent company of Bendix Commercial Vehicles located in Elyria. Their grant will help our unit raise awareness and provide a contact point for children in need. I would like to also personally thank Joe Dugan. He has led the effort meeting with Ray Gilles and determining where repairs are most needed.

Our next meeting will be January 4th at the Willson estate. We generally have about 12-15 members at each meeting, so the discus-



sions are never dull. We would love to have any Shriner come out and spend time getting to know the unit. *Chief Randy Radcliffe*

Even good men can be better...

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Jay Flack

Financial Advisor Midwest Region

Two Summit Park Dri Independence, OH 44 216.217.2370 Cellular 216.643.6340 Local 216.520.2038 Fax jay.flack@valic.com





The Divan, Trustees, and Officers for the following Units and Clubs: The Hunters, Camel Herders, and Shooters Club will be installed.

> Al Koran Shrine Headquarters 1000 E. Edgerton Rd., Broadview Heights

> > Social Time 6:00

Dinner 6:45

Installation of Officers 8:00
Fellowship Following the installation

Cost \$40.00 per person

Dress: Formal-Semi Formal

Nobles wear Fez

Reservations Must be in by January 8, 2016 Call Mike at the business office 440 546-9866 If you have any questions contact the

Al Koran Business Office at 440-546-9866

2016 Installation of Officers Name_____ Seating Preferences Reservations for _____ dinners at \$40.00 per person.

Make checks payable to Al Koran Shrine Mail to: Al Koran Shrine,1000 E. Edgerton Rd., Broadview Heights, OH 44147

Lakewood Shrine Club

Lakewood Shrine Club invites all Nobles their ladies and guest to Join us for our January meeting at the Cleveland Yachting Club, Wednesday, January 13th. Our speaker will be Mr. Jim Simek, the Building Specialist in the Facilities and Test Directorate and a 38 year employee of NASA. We meet on the second Wednesday each month beginning with Oasis at 5:30PM and dinner at 6:15PM. Cash bar and the food is superb, two choices are offered along with vegetarian selections. Join us, call George and Peggy Everden and make a reservation 440-777-3118. All nobles, their ladies and guests are welcome to attend all of our club activities. New members no dues for the first year and the first dinner is on the club.

2016 Officers: President: Ralph Thadeus, First VP, Chuck Erickson, Second VP and Secretary Steve Traina, Treasurer, John Rumbarger.

Bay Shrine Club - J,R. Larson

The Bay Shrine Club meets on the fourth (4th) Wednesday of every month. We alternate between several restaurants. We start at 11:30 A.M. hoping Shriners, Friends, and neighbors will join us for good food and fellowship. Please call John Larson (440-871-3026) for information on the next meeting

In Memoriam

November 2015

William R. Howard Robert Karban Sr. John M. Pyles

November 2015 Membership

November 1st	1,210 Regular	4 Associates	
Creations	0	0	
Affiliation	0	0	
Restorations	1	0	
Demits	1	0	
Deaths	3	0	
Suspensions	0	0	
November 30th	1,207 Regular	4 Associates	

Total Membership as of November 30th, 2015... 1,211 Nobles

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November Volunteers
Roger Calkins
Sheila Flack
Grodon Hastler
Tom Munro
Thom Sabados
Diane Sabados
Help out Al Koran and earn Merit Jewel points
too. Come out and volunteer your time;
you'll be glad you did.

Mariner's Log – Bob Stanley, M.S.A.

In January with the darkness of winter upon us, the brightest week is always the week of the Cleveland Boat Show. If you need to find a Mariner, this is the first place to look for him while the boat show is open.

Sunshine Chairman, Emil Arvidson has informed me that as of December 6, sick bay is empty and all is healthy. Keep taking our vitamins and avoid all falls during the Father Winter months of snow. To our Florida Birds, don't forget your sun screen!

Make sure to mark your calendars for Saturday, January 16, which will be the installation of our Al Koran Shrine officers for 2016.

The January Al Koran Business Meeting will be held on Monday, January 18, at our Shrine Center. There will be a dinner prior to the meeting.

Please call ahead to make your dinner reservations.

For information regarding meetings, membership or activities of the Al Koran Mariners Yacht Club, please contact Commodore Bob

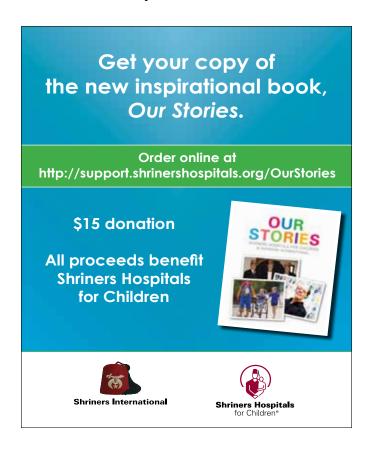
Schiebli at 440-257-5672. God's Speed

Eagle Shrine Club by John E. Haught

We had a nice turnout of members for our Christmas Party last month. Many of you commented on the food and service at Hellriegel's Inn and we have booked the same location for our January Meeting. This meeting will include our Ladies and any guest that you have invited.

We will have a short business meeting and an equally short Installation of Officers to serve the club for the next year. Please plan to be with us as we begin our 95th year as a Chartered Club serving Al Koran in Lake and Geauga County.

Our January Meeting is scheduled for January 21st with our doors opening at 6:15 and dinner will be served at 7:00 PM. Hellriegel's Inn is located at 1840 Mentor Avenue in Painesville Township just a short distance West of the Shopping Center. Watch for your monthly newsletter for details as to menu selections. Call Norm Melchreit at 440-951-7254 with your reservations and we will look for you there to make our meeting complete.





Announcing the 6th annual 2016 Hillbilly Family Cruise

We Will Sail From Port Canaveral Florida On January 24, 2016 For a 7 Day Wonderful Eastern Caribbean Cruise on The Fabulous Carnival Sunshine

This Cruise Is Open To The Public So Bring All Your Family
For Every Cabin We Book We Get A Donation Back
Call Today And Reserve Your Cabin With A Deposit Or Book Your Cabin
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Call 865-414-7233 for booking and information
Please come join us and help us raise money for the KIDS
Any questions contact Terry Christie at 865-414-7233 or
email Terry at aps-tn@att.net

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From The Recorder

Greetings Nobles,

Peg and I hope you had an enjoyable Holiday Season and wish you a happy and prosperous 2016. Things have been busy at Al Koran since the sale of our facility and move into another part of the building, if you have not seen our new home please stop in for a tour. Thanks to all you Nobles for the continuing support as Recorder of this great Masonic body it is a real pleasure to serve each one of you.

Nobles, the 2016 dues statements have been mailed from Tampa and if you have not received yours please give me a call in the office for a second copy, I will do my best to get them to you quickly, if you have not paid your 2016 dues please do it NOW, if you have been suspended and wish to re-affiliate please give me a call and we can start the process, it is fairly simple. Nobles there has been talk of lowering our dues but due to the Imperial reps at the last Imperial Session approving a per capita increase of \$15 dollars the Board of Directors of Al Koran felt that we could not lower dues but have maintained our dues at current levels while some Shrine Centers have in-fact raised dues to cover this extra funding. New plastic dues cards will also be mailed from Tampa and should have started around the middle of December. These cards will be in use for the next 5 years with stickers being issued for the next few years. I am not sure how fast these will be mailed or if they will mail by Temple order but hopefully you will receive yours in a timely fashion. The 2016 Divan will work with each of you during this year and pledge our continuing support of all clubs and units. To those drivers of our kids please fill out a new driver sheet again this year, please call the office to have one mailed or stop in or come to any business meeting and fill one out. We do this each year for re-newel of our Insurance and is required by the company, all information remains confidential, thank you in advance for complying. Please MAKE THE EFFORT to attend one meeting or event during 2016, you will be surprised of the changes, the officers have pledged to improve our meetings and events so come out and be part of the exciting 2016 Shrine year. I look forward to working with all of you and the continuing challenges of this office.

Robert D. Berteau, Recorder

Fraternally,

The Ladies Raise \$1,800 For Our Hospitals

\$500 was raised in 2015 by our ladies collecting their change in Mason Jar Banks. \$1,300 was raised selling Fezzy Bear chance tickets. Beth Weidig raised the greatest amount of change and Jane Edgington sold the greatest number of chances for the Fezzy Bear. Thank you Beth and Jane and everyone who participated. Noble Joe Dugan had the winning ticket for the Fezzy Bear.

Sandy Angstrom

Al Koran Legion Of Honor

All Al Koran Nobles who are veterans of military service are welcome to join the Al Koran Legion Of Honor. Membership requirements are good standing in Al Koran and honorable discharge from or current membership in a branch of the United States Armed Forces. No initiation fees and annual dues of \$10. Please consider the following:

SHRINERS INTERNATIONAL LEGIONS OF HONOR VETERANS AND/OR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION LEGIONS OF HONOR

Interested Nobles are encouraged to form a Legion of Honor within your Shrine Center. A Legion of Honor is a unit within the Shrine comprising Nobles from your Shrine who are also veterans/members of the various branches of a county's Armed Forces and its Allies.

A Legion of Honor unit is formed for the purposes of:

- 1. Promoting a closer fraternal and social relationship among its members.
- 2. Maintaining a Color Guard and a Uniformed Body for representation in ceremonials, parades and social functions deemed necessary by the Potentate of your Shrine.
- 3. Fostering a spirit of Patriotism and a Love of Country and Flag.
- 4. Perpetuating the memory of your Comrades in Arms who died in the service of their country and to unite more closely former Comrades in Arms in the continuing service of God and Country, Masonry and Shrinedom.
- 5. Devoting your efforts as individuals and Legion of Honor members.
- 6. Serving your Illustrious Potentate in every way possible and assisting in every way to contribute to the betterment of your Shrine.

Convene a meeting of a group of Nobles of your Shrine who are ex-servicemen or servicemen, each of whom has received an Honorable Discharge or a Satisfactory Certificate of Service for his last service from the Armed Forces of his government, or evidence that he is in the Armed Forces of his government at the time.

Discuss with them the advisability of organizing a Shrine Legion of Honor unit, a service unit for service to the Shrine and the Illustrious Potentate. Do not be concerned about being a uniformed unit of the Shrine at this time, for there are many ways of serving outside the uniformed Units. Be willing to serve your Shrine and your Illustrious Potentate in any way.

If sufficient interest is found, appoint a committee to seek an audience with your Illustrious Potentate in order to obtain authorization for the formation of a Legion of Honor unit within your Shrine. The foregoing six points of purpose would be a good starting place for reasons to organize such a unit.

As soon as authorization for the formation of a Legion of Honor is obtained, the committee should proceed to send out cards or letters and/or contact all known ex-servicemen and servicemen within the Shrine. You should consider inserting an ad in your Shrine magazine relative to the proposed organization of the unit. If the committee finds that they have ten (10) or more interested Nobles, they should call an organizational meeting. The meeting should appoint temporary officers and committees as deemed necessary. This being a military oriented unit, you may want to appoint a Commander, Lieutenant Commander(s), Drill Captain, Finance Officer, Quartermaster and Warrant Officer, as versus President, Vice President, etc. Suggestions for activities should be discussed at this meeting, such as (1) Uniformed Unit, (2) Non-Uniformed Unit, (3) Color Guard, (4) Degree Team, etc. Service to be performed should be something outside the field of the present uniformed units of the Shrine, or perhaps something that the Illustrious Potentate might like or need. (continued next page)

(continued)

A permanent organization meeting should be called by the temporary officers. At this meeting, all plans should be drafted to be submitted and adopted at the following regular unit meeting. Included should be your regular meeting night, time and location. You will want to secure a night from your Shrine Recorder if your Shrine is to be your meeting location. Permanent officers should be voted on at this meeting, which may or may not be the temporary officers. These officers should be sworn in by your Illustrious Potentate or his designate and should remain in office until your next annual election. Have your plans made and answers ready for any questions that may be brought up; then you will have a smooth running meeting.

The proposed list of members should be promptly notified of the date and place for the permanent unit meetings. Avoid any unnecessary delays between your meetings whereby interest may be lost or other units being formed are recruiting members.

At your initial regular Legion of Honor meeting, the proposed By-Laws should be presented and acted upon (example attached). These By-Laws should be those that satisfy your particular unit and Shrine. Input from your membership should be solicited through a total mailing. Subsequently, adoption of your By-Laws should be voted upon at an early unit meeting. After approval of the membership the officers should sign said By-Laws. Your Illustrious Potentate should be contacted for approval of your By-Laws and for the purpose of chartering the unit. If you plan to join the International Association Legions of Honor, you should contact your Division International Lieutenant Commander for the purpose of joining the International, Chartering your unit and for approval of your By-Laws.

The International Association Legions of Honor unites the 147 Legions of Honor throughout the 192 Shrines in North America. The International Association has a similar purpose as do the various Shrine Legions of Honor, and that is to:

- 1. Perpetuate the memory of those who have made the supreme sacrifice in the service of their country.
- 2. Foster a spirit of patriotism and love of country and its flag.
- 3. Instill in each unit an unswerving loyalty to its Illustrious Potentate and Shrine.
- 4. Cultivate a spirit of comradeship among all Shrine organizations.
- 5. Assist in upholding the principles of Shriners International.

The goal of the International Association is to become large, strong and permanent in the service of Shrinedom. In the 147 Legions of Honor in the 192 Shrines there are approximately 8400 Legion Nobles. All of these Legion of Honor units are working corps of their respective Shrines under the control and authority of the Illustrious Potentate. The Legion Nobles, the Legion of Honor units and the International Association are as one in purpose, namely to be Nobles of Shriners International, organized as service units for service to their Illustrious Potentates and Shrines and to assist in any way they can our twenty-two (22) Shrine Hospitals.

The International has divided up North America into eight (8) geographic areas, each represented by an International Lieutenant Commander who provides the liaison or tie with the Shrine units. These Lieutenant Commanders continue up the line of command much as your Divan does, eventually being elevated to the office of International Commander.

That pretty well spells out what a Legion of Honor is, what it does, and suggestions for what it can or might do. The Legions of Honor meld together the Armed Forces with the Nobles of Shriners International into a very proud unit of Legion Nobles. You should want to join the finest units in Shrinedom. If you need assistance or additional information, contact the nearest Shrine that has a Legion of Honor.

Are we making a difference?

It is said that over 70% of Shriners have never been to a Shriners Hospital for Children. I sure wish more of you and your families could find the time to see what a difference you are making. During the course of this next year I hope to be able to make that trip available for more of you. But, for now please take the time to read this letter from the family of a patient at Shriners Hospital for Children – Erie. It's a long letter – it takes time to mend the broken body of a child. When you are done reading the entire letter, see if the support YOU give our hospitals and the time YOU spend supporting the system

... is making a difference.

Roger Neff - Potentate and SHC-Erie Board of Governors

from a very grateful family:

Staff at Shriners Erie Facility,

Did you know every day you make a difference? My Son Lucas, and our Family started our Shriners Infantile Scoliosis journey in Philadelphia. When given the choice to continue in Philly or move to Erie, we made the decision to move. We didn't know what to expect on our first visit to Erie, but we knew it had to be better than driving on Broad Street! I will never forget the feeling of comfort that came over us as we had our first appointment, we knew we were home! There are a lot of things YOU see when you go to work every day, all year round. But there are many things you do that you think go unnoticed. I am here to tell you, they are not. Did you know that first time we were there and you guided us to EVERYWHERE we needed to go? I saw that! It instantly made me feel at home, and I know you had better things to do. When you checked me in patiently without once rolling your eyes because I gave you the wrong address? I noticed that! Thank you! Having a 3 year old that is going under anesthesia is big deal...and there is so much information to know! When you came to our clinic room to provide comfort while the nurses sawed off the old cast and you pulled everything out of your bag of tricks to distract him (including the funny dance!) and he completely ignored you and cried anyway? I saw that....and I felt it. I felt your hand on my shoulder as, even though this was his third cast removal, I struggled to see how someone doesn't slip one time and cut right through his stomach. (I wasn't getting a lot of sleep those days!) As you cleaned up our child's skin that hadn't seen daylight in 3 months you didn't gag, cough, or leave the room. You cleaned it like a Mother would. You made sure to get all the fiberglass off so he wouldn't get scratched. When we mentioned we would be taking the cast home to add to our display, you didn't look at us like we were crazy! You politely went and got a garbage sack to place the cast in for the journey home. Before we went to the hotel you kindly reminded us that our Son couldn't eat or drink anything after midnight, then you gave us a printed card because you knew I would forget how many ounces of clear liquid he could have and at what time. I saw that. Thank You. I can't remember anything if it's not written down. With the brace finally off you didn't kick us out of that exam room. Nope, not you. You gave us recommendations to the best food in Erie, places to get a 3 year olds fast growing hair cut, and you told us the best places to visit while we were there. You made us feel like we were on a vacation. We weren't just there to think about what was coming very early the next morning. That night after some therapy shopping (Thank you hotels across the street from Millcreek Mall!) definitely some swimming, (we never asked you this, but chlorine is good to kill the funk that lives under the cast right? Yeah, we thought so!) And ONE MORE reading of the book "Kendra's Story". You know that book you tried to read to my Son in the clinic and he wouldn't pay attention to? It's his favorite hotel book! The next morning we wake up, bright and early to eat some of that hotel breakfast without waking the monster. I told you he couldn't eat right? We get to Shriners at 7:00 because you know that we live so far away. That's right, we mentioned that we drive 6 & ½ hours to get here and you fixed the OR schedule so we could get in early so we would be able to make the trip the same day. I saw that. It was VERY thoughtful and saved us a lot of money. As we arrived our Son has a case of the nervous sillies. If you have never met them before they come out when you can't express how nervous you are so you act silly instead. When you checked us in for the OR and he wouldn't respond to your questions, and then started laying on your floor and kicking the wall? I saw how you didn't judge us. It would have been easy to do. We

(continued next page)

walked back to the Pre-anesthesia area and there you all are. You are like a swat team ready to pounce. "Hey 3 year old that doesn't want your blood pressure checked, come here! This is a muscle meter... just tells you how strong you are!" "Oh how darling you just want to lay down on the scale instead of standing up on it!" You got it all done! As you run through the gamut of usual tests you pull me aside as my husband gets our little boys gown on. Thank you, I can't remember anything when that little mouth is asking me for the 400th time when he can eat. You asked me every time about his allergy. "Is it lactose intolerance? No, I would say he is allergic to the protein in Dairy." You asked me the same old questions that you had asked probably for the 10th time that day. But you asked me. I saw that. No eye rolling or skipping questions. No faking blood pressures because you couldn't hear them as our Son was trying to run from your care. I saw that. That's what makes you good, caring, professionals! Next he went to the Holy Grail of toy closets and casually tried to spend half an hour searching for what would inevitably be a fire truck. You were patient, you tried to suggest things, but weren't offended when he gave you a look. Thank you for that. This is what my Son remembers about Shriners. He remembers that he got to pick out his own toy out of the huge toy closet. Not all the hard stuff! Next we get to see you, the guy that will be controlling my child's ability to breathe while he is under anesthesia. You come over every time and shake my hand. You check Lucas and tell us in your most confident way, "He is going to be just fine." I trust you and you did a great job. Every time. I may have told you this once. On our Son's last casting I woke up with a terrible feeling looming around me. Something bad was going to happen. I didn't tell anybody because I didn't want to freak people out, but I felt it. Then as we were in the waiting room I saw you walk through. Probably going to the cafeteria to replenish your coffee? I don't know where you were going, but I know that when I saw you every bad feeling I had went away. I knew he was in capable hands and that you would take care of him. I saw that. From across the room!

As he lays in his bed in the pre anesthesia area an OR nurse interrupts you and says, "This case is going to take an extra hour!" But you don't fear. You called Child life and they brought play dough. Let me tell you,



I think play dough is a mess. We get it out very rarely and cleaning up after it takes days. You brought it to the bed and he was playing with it on the sheets. For an hour, we made circles, squares, pizza's, rolled over it and made tracks in the play dough with our newly acquired fire truck. Do you know what I didn't hear? I'm hungry, when is it going to be my turn? Not one time. You successfully kept a 3 year olds mind off the bad stuff for me. You even came over a couple of times and played too. I saw that, and I am very thankful. When he said he was making poop and you acted like you didn't hear? An extra thanks for that! As he takes his Versed and you all

gather around the bed asking if we have any questions and repeatedly telling us you'll take good care of him. I heard that. I heard it many times. As I'm trying to control my emotions in front of my Son, I feel with every fiber in my being that you will do what you said. Everything would be fine. We walked back to the red line on the floor that everybody knows. Time to hand over our Son to you. I watched them wheel the cot and I watched you carry him back there and give him a hug and distract him from what was happening. I saw that. It was the single most caring thing I have ever seen. You didn't lie him down on the bed and wheel him away, making him nervous. Nope, not you. You care, and I could tell. Every time. I never had any worries you weren't doing your absolute best back there. As we waited for our Son, every one of you that we saw commented on how cute our Son was, you asked if we knew where we were going, and you told us not to worry. I have to tell you we worried anyway, it's what parents do. But those other things made me feel welcome. Thank you. When you called the waiting area on the phone and told me it was fine to come back, a freight train couldn't have stopped me. When you stopped by the waiting room that one time and instead of telling me that it will just be a few minutes, you told me they were having a hard time waking him up and they were suctioning his tube a bit, I knew you would never lie to me. Thank you for that. There is no way I could ever know what goes on in



the OR, but I trust that if I needed to know you would have told me. Thank you for not leaving me in the dark. You know our Son, the one who NEVER wants to wake up out of anesthesia? Thank you for being nice when we are the last ones here. Thanks for bringing us pillows so we don't get shredded with fiberglass. Getting me a drink while I'm robed with a 3 year old under intermittent anesthesia? Saintly. After the first couple of times we got casts you remembered that he wouldn't get sick and taking that IV out of his hand that he is crying at the top of his lungs will cure the problem. You did it. You trusted us as parents and didn't act like we were trying to outdo you. We were definitely trying to make it better on our Son and you. Thanks for believing in us. Thanks for bringing in those bags of cotton candy purchased from your own pocket to make my Son happy. Thanks for bringing us the DVD player, and the IPad with Trash Truck videos on You Tube. You know who you are. Thanks for not treating us like weirdo's when we told you that's what would help. As our Son woke up he moved in the trimming and duct tape room. You know what you did in there? You were the most patient,

methodical, safe, caring person in there. You trimmed that cast like a piece of artwork. You weren't going to let our Son get scratched or cut. You made sure he could sit in the car seat and that his armpits wouldn't get chafed. I saw that and you were amazing. Now you, you took that roll of duct tape that we went shopping for and you transformed an otherwise ordinary cast into a masterpiece! One time around Thanksgiving when we had hounds tooth duct tape. You carefully lined up the seams so it would look like a sweater. Then, you carefully crafted a bow tie. This boring cast that was saving his life...you made it look cool. Thanks for that. Thanks for taking your time and not acting like it was out of your duties. When it came time for bracing the first time we decided that it would be better if we didn't have to undergo anesthesia. Boy was that a tough decision. We asked every Scoliosis family we knew whether or not they had done it. Nobody had. It was either going to work....or miserably fail. You know what you did? You brought that IPad back in and loaded it with videos of trash collectors at work and held it out over his head, exactly where he thought it should be positioned, for an hour. Seriously. The rest of you told us exactly what to do to help. Where to stand. What to hold on to. It worked perfect and you saved us and our Son Anesthesia. Twice. You are an amazing team. You work together well and always know what do when something needs done. You roll with the punches. You are flexible. If you were mad because you had to stay late, you never took it out on us. When we had questions, even the weird ones we would email you with you would email us back with an answer. Even if the answer was that the Dr. is at another hospital and would get back with us. You faxed us SO many school excuses when I would forget and you never acted mad about it. When you called you asked how my family was doing and how the weather was. And you always gave me the snow report in Erie! Thank you for that. Thanks for including us in his care and always making us feel welcome. From the Janitor to the Development officer everyone said, "Hi" to us and pointed out the way for us. When you came to take a picture of our family for the newsletter and our anesthesia grumpy Son wouldn't have it. You didn't go crazy. You snapped a nice shot. You did the best that you could instead of making us feel bad for not being able to control more. Thanks for that. It's the little things I will always remember. The way people treated us. The fact that our most recent visit we didn't have insurance. We didn't come to Shriners because we didn't have insurance but boy were we lucky you didn't treat us any differently when we lost ours. The truth is there is no way, even with insurance we could afford the quality of your care. It's the best I've ever seen. As we check-in with you for our next 6 month visit, then as the remaining check-ups become yearly I will remember leaving your facility. I will remember the smile on our faces as we leave, the snacks you sent us home with us every time, and the fact that our child is cured. Each one of you did it. All in your own way. Thank you for all the things you do every day. Even if you think nobody will see it.



\$20 per couple - \$10 single finger food munchies (could feature some interesting beverage recipes... ah NUTS!) at Al Koran – in the "Oasis" Doors open at 6:00 PM

Valentines Day, Saturday Feb. 13th "Forget thee NOT!"

Please call in your plans to attend to Mike in the business office by Wednesday, 2/10

Donations

Processed as of November 30th 31, 2015

DONATIONS TO THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Chuck & Bonnie Erickson
Hunters Unit
Massillon Shrine Club
Transportation Unit
Korvettes
Lorain County Shrine Fire
Brigade
Bay Shrine Club

DONATIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND

In Memory of John J. Frenz, PP Lady Doris and daughters-in-law Joan & Linda Dan Frenz

DONATIONS TO THE TRANSPORTATION FUND

James Mover **Bon Russell Donald Borthwick Henry James** Michael See **Robert Campbell Richard Mehnert Ronald Keim Paul Apostelos Louie Carter Daniel Bukovsky** Jay Kaufman **Stanley Reese Bruce Johnson Charles Rees Kevin Dickey** Ronald Kirkcaldv **Thomas Millward Roger Stiller Donald Toth Stanley Leff**

Eugene Renner James Baldwin William Rush Edward Ort Michael Marsh AngelFax West Park Chapter #427 OES

In Memory of Dale Finley
Lois Wolfenden
John & Robin Wolfenden
Jim Lloyd
Richard Piskura
Michael & Erma Kalinich
Raymond Wohl
Dr Jeffery & Connie Weil

In Memory of Lyle Reichert Donald & Denise Piwinski

In Memory of Jeff Warnicke Richard Piskura

In memory of Chuck Wither Jill & John Marynowski

Borys & Leslie Pakush Neil Kuhn Rose Hixenbaugh Don & Barb Berkey Joan Wiborg **Elmer & Judy Rogers** Don Walker & Annamay **Jack & Marge Conner** John & Louise Stafancin **Shirley Rieker** Dan & Louise Walunis Pat & Chuck Sasena Mary Jona Don & Fran Ascaldach Karl & Michelle Kuhlman Mike & Polly Lucas Albert & Carol Reiker Lisa Bartos Richard & Sinndy Roser James & Kim LaRosa **Stanton Barclay** Karen & Craig Schultz

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Donations Continued

DONATIONS TO THE MILLION DOLLAR CLUB

Jack Alhstrom

In Memory/Honor of Chuck & Jean Wither Al Koran Hunters Unit

DONATIONS TO THE RETENTION FUND

Ralph Lindeman Dale Kandle Robert Campbell Richard Meinert Ronald Keim Daniel Bukovsky Dale Hawkins Stanley Reese Boris Stuchlak Lester Handwork Donald Anderson Eric Butler Stanley Leff James Baldwin **Edward Ort Jack Conner Knut Lahrs Wayne Angstrom Cross Roads Ventures, LLC**



SHC- Erie Board Member, Roger Neff presents Memorial contributions to Board Vice Chairman Bob Anderson.

January 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	n of Officers 1. 16th				1 Happy New Year!	2
3	4 Lorain Fire Brigade Youngstown Clowns	5	6 Band	7 Paper Deadline	8 Mansfield SC	9
10	11 Trumbull SC	12 Divan & Board of Directors	13 Lakewood SC Band	14 Korvettes Mariners LOSNA – Kheedawee Ct	15 Lorain SC (11:00 AM) Southwest SC	16 Installation of Officers
17	18 Al Koran Business Meeting Al Koran Trustees Meeting	19	Ashland SC Camel Herders Fairview SC Massillon SC Shooters	Eagle SC Youngstown SC	22	23
24	25 Past Masters Cleveland Clowns Krazy Kops	26	27 Band	28	29	30

February 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Lorain Fire Brigade Youngstown Clowns	2	3 Band	4	5 Mansfield SC	6
7	8 Trumbull SC	9 Divan & Board of Directors Hunters	Lakewood SC Band	11 Korvettes Mariners LOSNA – Kheedawee Ct	12	13 Al Koran Sweetheart Social 6pm

Jim Hazlett presents a check in the amount of \$1,000, on behalf of the Youngstown Shrine Club to Bob Lee, P P, Chairman of the Board of Governors at Shriners Hospitals for Children – Erie to be applied to the purchase of a new mobile C-Arm.

Neil Kuhn (December) and Elmer Rogers (January) receive their recognition as "Shriner of the Month" from Illustrious Sir Wayne Angstrom.

Special Thanks!

Quilts were donated for some very lucky children at Shriners Hospital for Children – Erie by the Common Threads Quilt Guild of Parma Ohio. President Jo Ann Worsencraft presented 17 lovely hand made quilts for some of our Shriner Kids who may "need something warm and cuddly" for the cold days to come. Thank You Ladies!



Virginia Briggs and Quilts Being Donated to ERIE Hospital For The Children



Jack Philips acknowledges his Emeritus status upon his retirement as Chief Ambassador.



Children's Christmas Party



Joe Dugan Winner of Fezzy The Bear

