

THE Melha NEWS Online

Member of the Northeast Shrine Editors Association

**FIRST PLACE
AWARD WINNER**



MELHA NEWS

APRIL-MAY 2011

MELHA SHRINERS, Springfield, Massachusetts 01108



Ill. Gardner Whitney's Potentate's Reception took place in Holyoke at the Log Cabin. Other photos on Page 12.



Many Past Potentates were in attendance including Ill. David and Pam Gates.



The Melha Riders presented the Potentate with a special leather jacket from the unit. The Potentate models his new prize surrounded by the officers of the Melha Rider, including President Ray Dumas, second from left.

-BERT KRASNER PHOTO

MELHA CALENDAR

INDEX

Sunday, April 3
Pioneer Valley Shrine Club. Dinner at Tokyo Hibachi Steak House, menu choice of Hibachi Steak, Chicken or Salmon.

Saturday, April 9
Highland Fling. One of the Rites of Spring from the Highlanders. See ad inside. if you are interested in attending, it promises to be a good time.

Sunday, April 10
Spring Fashion Show.

Includes a social hour at noon and brunch at 1 p.m. Benefit for Melha's General Fund. Ad on Page 10.

Wednesday, April 27
Stated Meeting. Unit and Club heads required to attend, all Nobles invited.

Thursday, April 28
Through Sunday, May 1
Melha Shrine Circus. Circus has eight performances. No parade on Thursday and the show starts at 6:30 p.m.

That is a new time for that show. Friday night's show begins at 7:30 p.m., on Saturday there is the 10 a.m. performance, one at 2:30 p.m. and the evening performance at 7:30 p.m. The circus ends on Sunday with two shows, one at 12:30 p.m. and the final performance at 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 7
Country Western Night. This event features the Cottonwood band. No information available on this event

at presstime.

Wednesday, May 25
Stated Meeting. Bring your Fez and dues card and be a part of it all. Find out what is going on at Melha.

Saturday, May 28
Movie/comedy night. No information available.

Monday, May 30
Auburn Memorial Day parade. Details for this parade were not available at presstime.

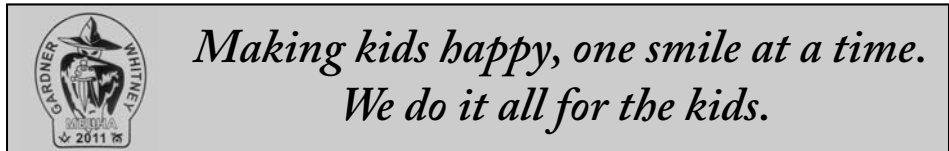
Berkshire Shrine Club...9
Burns Brigade7
Central Mass Shr.Club .9
Clowns7
Daughters of the Nile..10
Directors8
Drum Corps6
Flyers.....7
Forget-Me-Nots.....10
Franklin Shrine Club.....8
Golf League.....7
Hadji.....10
Helma Court.....10

Highlanders8
Hospital News5
Legion of Honor.....6
MAP8
Mariners8
Melha Riders9
Military Band9
Old Timers6
Oriental Band8
Past Masters9
Pioneer Valley Club8
Potbellies6
Ramblin' Campers.....6
Sportsman Club.....8
Team Circus10

Potentate's Message

Melha has been a very busy place lately. I hope you were able to participate in many of our activities.

I must first say what a wonderful weekend the Potentate's Reception was. It truly was incredible. Lady Robin and I were so proud to be honored by Melha's Nobility. We were also so proud to be able to "show off" Melha, the greatest Temple in Shrinedom. The weekend kicked off with the Potentates and Chief Rabbans being invited to our Springfield Hospital for tours and informative presentations. We all learned a great deal that day. The dinner and program Friday night was perfect. Dan Kane brought a very talented group of singers who performed a wide range of music. They ended with a surprise "special request" duet. It was great. We had a terrific turnout from all over the Northeast for Saturday's festivities. We wanted to try a new venue this year and it was a homerun. The Log Cabin Banquet Facility did a superb job. The meal, the facility and all the staff were all top rate. There are so many people I would like to publicly thank. At the risk of leaving someone out, I will not list everyone here. However, I do want to thank our Chief Rabban Russ Mitchell and his Lady Anna for organizing, arranging and in general running this event. Our Assistant Rabban Ed Griffin and his Lady Louise were right there every step of the way. They jumped in and did whatever was needed to assure a successful event. Our High Priest and Prophet Bill Faust and his Lady Debbie were also an instrumental part of the team. No event of this magnitude is ever successful without "many hands". All our Stewards and their Ladies led by Chief Leo Plourde and his Lady Trish were there at every turn. From the planning stages through the end on Sunday, they made it look easy with an



amazing "can do" attitude. No challenge was too much. No last minute change was too much. To all of you, thank you for making Melha look so good. There are so many more I want to thank but space prohibits me from listing everyone here. This was really a great example of team work. Please know that Lady Robin and I were and are so very proud of Melha. We will cherish the memories of this weekend forever.

As I write this, the Northeast Spring meeting is going on. It has been interesting, informative and I believe productive.

Before we know it, our Melha Shrine Circus will be upon us. I know many of you are out there contacting sponsors and selling ads for the ad book. These ads are critical to the financial success of the circus. Thank you for all your efforts. There are many jobs to be done at the eight performances of the circus. If you are a new Noble or simply do not yet have a job, we will find one for you. Have fun working hard while enjoying the show. Remember that during the Circus, we are all representing not only Melha, but also Shriners everywhere.

I want to thank all the Units and Clubs, as well as the individual Nobles and friends, who have stepped up and made donations to the Butterfield Hall renovation project. We are well on our way to seeing this to fruition.

A Masonic/Shrine awareness night is planned. Membership and retention of the members we currently have is crucial to the future of both Melha and the Shrine fraternity. Ask a friend if he is a Mason and a Shriner. If he is not, ask him why and let him know you would love to help him become one or both. He too can become a part of the Greatest Philanthropy in the World, Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Gardner Whitney, Potentate

Melha Shriners • 133 Longhill Street • Springfield, Massachusetts 01108
(413) 736-3647 — FAX (413) 731-9572 — e-mail: recorder1@melhashriners.com
Debra Collins, Secretary

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday
Melha Web Site: www.melhashriners.com

ELECTED DIVAN 2011

- Potentate Gardner A. Whitney, Jr. 572-9091
- Chief Rabban Russell D. Mitchell 596-3122
- Assistant Rabban Edward F. Griffin 536-8691
- High Priest & Prophet William J. Faust 786-1272
- Oriental Guide David F. Butterfield 519-5498
- Treasurer Ronald Gagnon, P.P. 568-4402
- Recorder Philip E. Thomas, P.P. 860-749-9735

REPRESENTATIVES TO IMPERIAL COUNCIL

Imp. Sir Ralph W. Semb, P.I.P., Emeritus
Gardner Whitney, Russell D. Mitchell, Edward F. Griffin, William J. Faust

The Official Publication of
Melha Shriners, Shriners International

THE Melha NEWS

Available on the Web at
www.melhashriners.com

EDITOR

Edgar W. Gelinis, P.P.

Email: themelhanews@comcast.net
413-568-6120, FAX: 413-568-6120

James Blevins, P.P.

Advertising Asst.—413-782-2769

SPECIAL NOTICE

All copy submitted for publication must be submitted by e-mail to themelhanews@comcast.net and received before the 12th of the month preceding publication. All Ads must be submitted by the 1st of the month.
The Editor reserves the right to edit all copy.

POSTMASTER: Please send change of address notices to 133 Longhill St., Springfield, MA 01108.

SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN

516 Carew Street
Springfield, MA 01104
413-787-2000

- Mark Niederpruem . . . Administrator 413-787-2011
- David Drvaric, M.D. . . Chief of Staff 413-787-2057
- Patient Referrals 413-735-1234
- Bernadette White . . . Public Relations 413-735-1291
- Kathy Tracy Volunteers 413-735-1292

On the Board of Governors from Melha

- David H. Burstein Vice Chairman
- Kirk Burkins, P.P., James Spear, Jr., Joseph Surprenant, Dan Smith

- Allen G. Zippin, P.P. Chairman Emeritus
- Charles Weaver, P.P. Chairman Emeritus
- Philip E. Thomas, P.P. Chairman Emeritus
- Emeritus: Ernest Byron, Raymond Kalita, John Bethel, P.P., Robert W. Clarke, Edward B. Briggs, Edward W. Shore, Jr., P.P.,

SHRINERS BURNS HOSPITAL-BOSTON

51 Blossom Street
Boston, MA 02114-2699
617-722-3000

On the Board of Governors from Melha

- Robert G. Spaulding, Jr., P.P.
- Emeritus: Saul Michaelson

APPOINTED DIVAN

- Assistant Recorder Robert Woodruff 786-5455
- Assistant Treasurer Edward B. Briggs 413-458-5151
- First Ceremonial Master Brian Connor 636-4270
- Second Ceremonial Master Raymond Turrini 785-5407
- Chief Director Dean Whalen 413-896-7297
- Marshal Gary Block 567-1950
- Captain of the Guard Robert Waltermire 413-663-5472

TRUSTEES

Raymond Perkins, Dan Smith, Mike Santos.
Joseph Surprenant, Jack Greaves, John Langevin

ADMINISTRATORS

Myron Swain, Saul Michaelson, Ronald Gagnon, P.P., Stanley Rubinstein, Nicholas Creanza

PAST POTENTATES

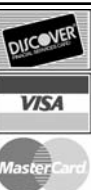
- *Charles H. Miller 1897-1902
- *William H. Titus 1903-04
- *H. Leroy Woodward 1905
- *Charles L. Young 1906-07
- *Robert P. Cunningham 1908-09
- *Fred R. Brown 1910
- *Frank E. Ladd 1911-12
- *Albert E. Taylor 1913
- *Hugh J. Buckley 1914
- *Fred A. Eldred 1915
- *Albert E. Lerche 1916-17
- *Franklin A. Latimer 1918-19
- *Walter H. Damon 1920-21
- *Fred C. Smith 1922
- *Harry H. Caswell 1923
- *Charles F. Watson 1924
- *Charles A. Frazer 1925
- *John A. Webster 1926-27
- *Walter S. Pease 1928
- *George M. Hendee 1929
- *Harry A. Spaight 1930
- *Carl P. Reilly 1931
- *Edward S. Chase 1932
- *Arlan M. Spencer 1933
- *Otto H. Hosmer 1934
- *Henry K. Fryeh 1935
- *Walter E. Perry 1936-37
- *John G. Rose 1938
- *Norman P. Dempsey 1939
- *Alfred J. Bird 1940
- *George W. Streeter 1941
- *William L. McCleary 1942
- *George G. Carr 1943
- *William E. Grobe 1944
- *Earl C. Daniels 1945
- *Dr. George W. Gray 1946
- *Donald H. Mudd 1947
- *Wesley G. Stephens 1948
- *Otto C. Kuhrt 1949
- *Theodore A. Wiel 1950
- *Donald A. Bartlett 1951
- *James Matthew 1952
- *Chester W. Haynes 1953
- *V. Frank Greis 1954
- *Fred S. Conkey 1955
- *Ralph F. Beaudry 1956
- *Wayne H. Latham 1957
- *Bennett W. Benson 1958
- *Norman R. Vester 1959
- *Jule Kaufman 1960
- *Robert E. Samble 1961

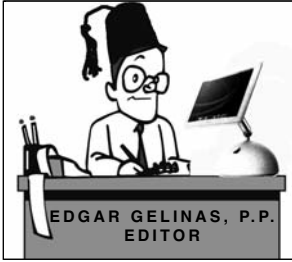
- *Richard C. Zoller 1962
- *Elliott Anderson 1963
- *John Baird 1964
- *Carl B. Martin, Jr. 1965
- *H. Edward Baker 1966
- *Harold E. Kjoller 1967
- *George Aronson 1968
- *Maurice M. Chaffin 1969
- *Dr. Kenneth E. Nicholson 1970
- *Robert W. Nothacker 1971
- Jean R. LaCroix, Esq. 1972
- Philip E. Taylor 1973
- *John M. Samson 1974
- *Maurice H. Baither 1975
- *William G. Kavaney 1976
- *Edward W. Bock 1977
- *John R. Lundgren 1978
- *Robert D. Davis 1979
- *Kenneth E. Emery 1980
- *Robert A. Melfen 1981
- *Jack A. Butterfield 1982
- *Allen G. Zippin 1983
- *Donald J. Lohnes 1984
- *Joseph A. Harrison 1985
- *Donald J. Lohnes 1986
- Ralph W. Semb 1987
- Gordon J. Smith, Jr. 1988
- *Clyde O. Hooper, Jr. 1989
- *David Skolnick 1990
- *W. Douglas Spingler 1991
- Richard C. Bewsee 1992
- Norman T. Maagero 1993
- Arthur E. Hastings 1994
- Edward W. Shore, Jr. 1995
- Sheldon M. Titcomb 1996
- Charles H. Weaver 1997
- Philip E. Thomas 1998
- Robert G. Spaulding, Jr. 1999
- David J. Gates 2000
- Edgar W. Gelinis 2001
- *Edwin A. Os 2002
- Robert H. Marshall 2003
- Anton E. Koss 2004
- James W. Marceau 2005
- Tom Fielding 2006
- Kirk Burkins 2007
- James Blevins 2008
- Ronald Gagnon 2009
- Jeffrey Goodless 2010
- *Deceased.

UNIT AND CLUB HEADS

- Clowns Richard Pirog 413-592-8454
- Directors Vincent Bradley, Sr. 413-277-0138
- Drum Corps Al Etre 508-476-9323
- Flyers Lance Whitcomb 413-369-4927
- Hadji William Ziobrowski 413-562-7064
- Highlanders Michael Sands 413-237-2183
- Legion of Honor Paul Frenier 413-739-6547
- Mariners John Provost 413-568-3628
- Military Band Bruce Rhodes 413-547-8283
- Oriental Band Frederick Anderson 413-733-3075
- Past Masters Robert Allard 413-783-5189
- Team Circus Harry Ishler 413-536-7742
- Vintage Autos Russell Streeter 413-566-8907
- Burns Brigade Howard Vincent 413-589-8715
- P.V. Pot Bellies William McKinnon 413-543-2295
- Melha Riders Raymond Dumas, Jr. 413-525-3006
- Sportsman Club Shonn Monday 413-544-8466
- K-9s for Kids Jim Russell 413-567-0700
- Ramblin' Campers George Brooks 413-527-1875
- Berkshire SC Leslie Rhinemiller 413-743-9615
- Central Mass. SC Thomas Andrea, Sr. 860-935-5263
- Franklin SC John Doughty 978-249-7657
- Pioneer Valley SC Richard Marceau 413-583-4487

Melha honors Visa, MasterCard and Discover cards. Minimum amount charged must be \$20.00. Use it for dues, Melha events, Fezzes, Melha trips, etc.





From the
Editor's Desk

• The **Potentate's Reception** weekend brought a lot of activity to Melha this year. On Friday night out-of-town visitors and many Melha Nobles and their ladies enjoyed dinner and the Dan Kane singers. The singers impressed a lot of people who were in attendance. Then on Saturday afternoon the Potentate hosted the guests from the Northeast to a special reception and presented each visiting Potentate with an honorary membership to Melha.



commonly known as the **Northeast Field Days**. Plans are already underway for that big event. Bill Faust, who is expected to be Potentate in 2014, has his thinking cap on and a small committee is already working on preliminary details for the big event. Many Melha Nobles and their ladies will undoubtedly be asked to play a role in the planning and execution of the Northeast in 2014. Your help and assistance with that event will make it one more of the popular and very successful Melha events. We'll relay information on the Northeast Field Days as they come down the pike....

On Saturday evening some 250 plus guests enjoyed the annual celebration of the Potentate's Reception which took place this year at the Log Cabin in Holyoke. It was a fresh atmosphere that seemed just right for a Potentate's Reception. We believe it may be held there again next year. See photos of the Reception on Page 12....

• Melha has always been a very active Shrine Center. We were involved in producing an Imperial Session in Boston, had an Imperial Potentate from our midst, a Supreme Queen of the Daughters of the Nile and a Supreme Session happened here just a couple of years ago and many other noteworthy activities. In 2014, Melha will be hosting a Northeast Convention

• **The Olde Timers**, a club which was organized in June 1938, and which met on the third Friday of every month for sociability has been disbanded and their assets turned over to the Butterfield Auditorium Renovation Fund. . . .

• This is a two-month edition, the next Melha News will be published in June — the deadline will be May 12th, with all ads due by the 5th of May. Because it follows a two-month period and because it will be the last issue before summer, it is expected to be crammed with a lot of information. Please keep that in mind when making submissions for that particular edition.

• Be sure to support all Melha events with your attendance.



- HOSPITAL/NURSING HOME/REHAB
(None reported this month)
- AT HOME**
- William Koss 203 West St., Ludlow, MA 01056
 - Carl Morin Keep him in your prayers
 - Russell Mitchell 87 Manchonis Rd., Wilbraham, MA 01095
 - Ray Turrini 119 Woodmont St., West Springfield, MA 01089
 - Mike Winn 74 Williamsburg Dr., Springfield, MA 01108
 - Jim Parolo 137 Princeton Ave., Feeding Hills, MA 01001

If you know of a Noble who is sick or hospitalized, please notify the Melha Office at 413-736-3647 or contact Chairman David Duncan at 413-330-6710, email artduncant@comcast.net, or Co-Chairman Brian Prefontaine at 413-237-1638 or email him at jb4mail@comcast.net.



- 15. The 2010 Trustees, Tony Leroux, chairman, from the metal drive.
- 16. The Mini Choppers
- 17. Nina Butterfield

You can make a contribution to the Renovation Project by sending a check to the Melha Office made out to the Renovation Fund.

To date the total amount contributed to the Renovation Fund is \$15,800.

BUTTERFIELD AUDITORIUM

Events taking place in the Butterfield Auditorium in April-May:

- Fri., April 1: Good Friday. Office closed
- Wed., April 6: BNI Group 5pm-10pm
- Thurs., April 7: BNI Group 7am-10am
- Thurs., April 7: Daughters of the Nile
- Sat., April 9: Highland Fling
- Sun., April 10: 1st Lady's Fashion Show
- Thurs., April 14: BNI Group 7am-10am
- Thurs., April 14: Hadji/Directors dinner
- Fri., April 15: Forget Me Nots
- Sat., April 16: K of C/Shrine dinner dance
- Wed., April 20: BSMC blood drive
- Thurs., April 21: BNI Group 7am-10am
- Thurs., April 21: BSMC blood drive
- Wed., April 27: Stated Meeting
- Thurs., April 28: BNI Group 7am-10am
- Thurs., April 28: Drama Studio setup
- Fri., April 29: Drama Studio
- Wed., May 4: BNI Group 5pm-10pm
- Thurs., May 5: BNI Group 7am-10am

- Thurs., May 5: Daughters of the Nile
- Thurs., May 12: BNI Group 7am-10am
- Thurs., May 12: Hadji/Directors dinner
- Sat., May 14: Country-Western Night
- Thurs., May 19: BNI Group 7am-10am
- Fri., May 20: Forget Me Nots
- Sat., May 21: Outside event
- Wed., May 25: Stated Meeting
- Thurs., May 26: BNI Group 7am-10am
- Thurs., May 26: Nile Patrol rehearsal
- Sat., May 28: Movie comedy night
- Mon., May 30: Memorial Day. Office closed.

Every Monday: the Highlanders
Every Tuesday: the Military Band
Every Wednesday: 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. living room/dining room rental
Every Thursday: 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. Hall rental

Any errors should be reported to Debra in the Melha Office at 413-736-3647.

Melha Shrine Circus Comes to Town

"The Melha Shrine Circus is in town!" Those words spell excitement for Nobles who want to see the show and/or are a vital part of its operation each year. The need for help at the circus is always present and you are invited to help — even if only selling tickets.

This year's circus runs from Thursday, April 28th through Sunday, May 1st with eight big performances at the Eastern States Coliseum in West Springfield. The Hamid Circus organization will be producing the circus for Melha again this year.

The Melha Shrine Circus is a true rite of spring when it comes to town as the weather warms and cool Spring showers bring dormant flowers to life. It's a time for parents and kids to share the magic that is circus.

The elephants, the clowns, the lions and tigers, the clowns, the popcorn and cotton candy, the smell of sawdust, and excitement is in the air until the Ringmaster blows his whistle and the show begins. Then the lights darken and the wonderment of the circus comes to life before your eyes.

You may remember the circus when you were a child and now you are sharing it with your own children or grandchildren and see their eyes aglow as they discover things they have never seen before — right there, right before their eyes, not in a movie or on television.

They'll delight in seeing clowns cavort, the awesomeness of the high wire acts, the thrill of jugglers and dog acts and awaiting whatever comes next.

It's a renewal, it's a tradition. There is just nothing like the circus!

Changes for 2011

And this year there are some changes. There are major changes in opening night procedures — there will not be a street parade, but there will be a grand entry and also the opening night performance will be at 6:30 p.m.

There is a new partnership with Six Flags thanks to Jason Freeman, a Melha Noble who is also president of Six Flags New England, with assistance from Brian Connor. Six Flags will sponsor the Community Service Show and for that sponsorship they are going to give us \$7,500 for that purpose.

They will subsidize the printing of circus tickets with a donation of \$2,000 and put a discount coupon for Six Flags on the back of each ticket.

They will bring Six Flags characters to any or all of our performances to help create even more excitement.

The following sponsors are back: Big Y, Hasbro, Hampden County Bar Association, The Reminder Publications and a variety of media sponsors as well.

Noble Bob Evans; we will be doing a promotion at his IHOP on Riverdale St. It is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, April 17th from 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. If you go, park in Manny's lot, not the IHOP lot. And there will be a promotional event with Big Y at the Wilbraham store on Saturday, April 23rd, from 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. Fezzes are always needed at these public events. Take part, promote tickets sales and join us for the big show.

STATED MEETINGS

Stated Meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, April 27 and Wednesday, May 25, for the purpose of conducting the business of the Melha Shriners, as well as balloting on individuals for initiation, obligating candidates, and for the dissemination of information to the membership on matters relating to current Shrine events.

All Nobles are invited to attend, all Unit and Club leaders are required to attend. Please wear your Fez.

Gardner A. Whitney, Jr.
Potentate

Attest: Philip E. Thomas, P.P.
Recorder

III. Edward W. Bock, Melha's Potentate in 1977, Passes Away

III. Edward W. Bock, Melha's 1977 Potentate, passed away on February 20th. III. Ed retired in 1989 as the vice-president of Mt. Tom Box Co. He was a member of the Melha Shriners and served as Melha Potentate in 1977. He was a former president of the Pioneer Valley Shrine Club and is survived by his wife of 69 years Eunice.



BOSTON

DATE:
MAY 21,
Leave Melha:
By Bus at 9:30 AM

\$88.00 P.P.

Reservations required
before April 22, 2011

RESERVATION FORM ON BACK

Contact: Recorder's Office
413-736-3647

Union Oyster House

- Clam Chowder
- Steamers
- Corn on the Cob
- 1-1/4-1-1/2 Lobster or N.Y. Sirloin
- Fresh Salad
- Coffee, Tea, or Soda

This exciting trip will take you to explore the USS Constitution. The oldest commissioned war ship afloat, it promotes the Navy and America's Naval heritage.

We will then travel to Quincy Market which remains one of Boston's most visited attractions. shoppers can enjoy more than 100 stores and other trinkets while others offer items by talented local artisans. You'll also find lots of apparel shops boasting recognizable names.

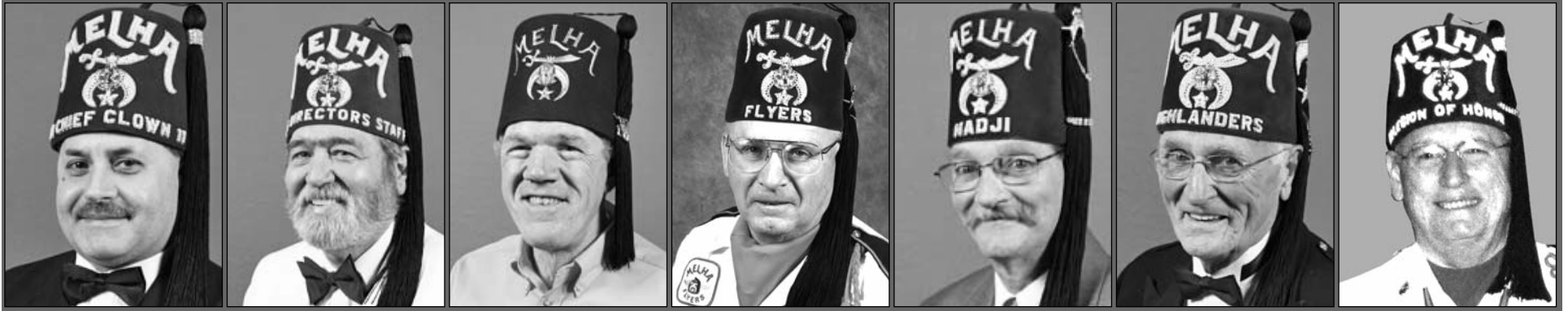
We will then head for the "Union Oyster House" which is the oldest restaurant in Boston and the oldest in continuous service in the US. Its been a land mark for more than 250 years.

AGENDA

- Leave Melha at 9:30 AM
 - Arrive At USS Constitution at 11:30 AM
 - Leave the USS Constitution at 1:00 PM
 - Arrive at Quincy Market at 1:30 PM
 - Leave Quincy Market at 4:00 PM
 - Leave Union Oyster House at 6:00 PM
 - Arrive at Melha 8:00 PM
- All times are tentative.



MELHA SHRINERS — UNIT & CLUB OFFICERS — 2011

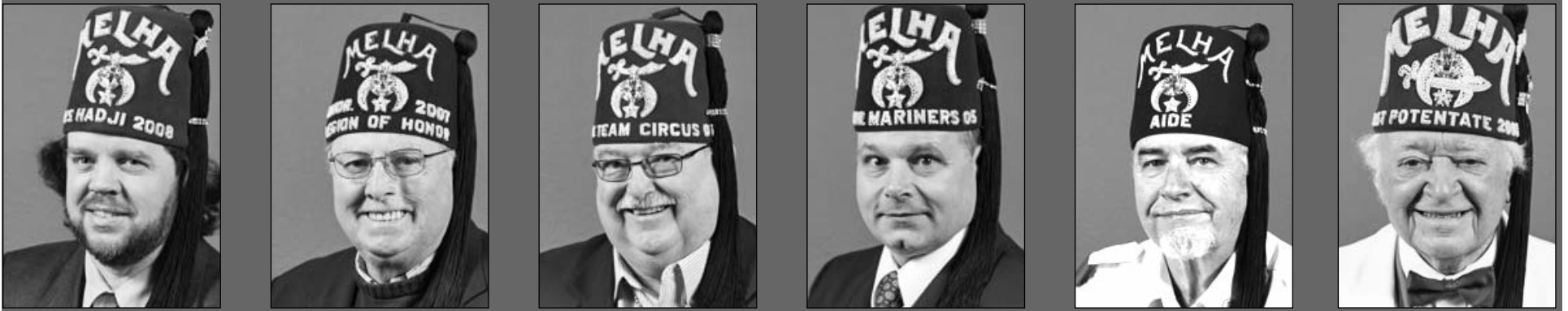


CLOWNS Richard Pirog DIRECTORS Vincent Bradley, Jr. DRUM CORPS Al Etre FLYERS Lance Whitcomb HADJI William Ziobrowski HIGHLANDERS Michael Sands LEGION OF HONOR Paul Frenier



ORIENTAL BAND Frederick Anderson PAST MASTERS Robert Allard VINTAGE AUTOS Russell Streeter BURNS BRIGADE William Judd MELHA RIDERS Raymond Dumas SPORTSMAN CLUB Shonn Monday MILITARY BAND Bruce Rhodes

—PHOTOS BY CHARLES BACON



POT BELLIES William McKinnon PIONEER VALLEY Richard Marceau TEAM CIRCUS Harry Ishler MARINERS John Provost BERKSHIRE CLUB Leslie Rhinemiller CENTRAL MA CLUB Thomas Andrea, Sr.

Highlanders' Spring Fling



Melha Shrine Center
Saturday, April 9, 2011

Social Hour: 5:45 p.m.—Dinner 7 p.m.—Dancing 8-12

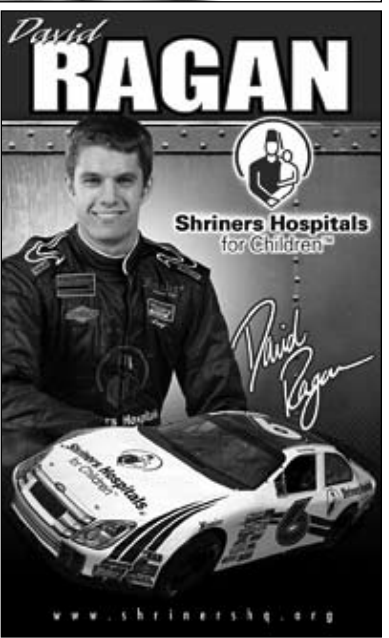
Tony & Penny's Catering
Choice of: Prime Rib, Chicken Francaise or Baked Scrod
\$50.00 per person

Entertainment by Brass Attack

Highland Dress or Jacket & Tie Required
For tickets, send check (payable to Melha Highlanders)
and choice of meal to:
William Crawford, 12 Pleasant St. Rear Apt., Westfield, MA 01085



Russ Mitchell with NASCAR driver David Ragan at the Daytona 500 in February. NASCAR driver David Ragan named Shriners Hospitals for Children his official charity of choice in 2008 and has used his position as a top NASCAR driver to increase awareness of the health care system and the Shriners fraternity, on and off the racetrack. He is bringing national attention to the organizations through public service announcements and other endorsements, such as wearing a Shriners Hospitals for Children helmet and driving a race car with a Shriners Hospitals for Children paint scheme and has the Shrine logo on his car. If you'd like to meet David and thank him for his support of Shriners International and Shriners Hospitals for Children, please consider attending one of his public appearances. To learn more about David Ragan, visit his Web site at www.davidragan.com.



Shriners: Changing the World Through Caring for Kids

Shriners Hospitals for Children is a health care system of 22 hospitals located in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. The hospitals provide expert pediatric specialty care for orthopaedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate, regardless of the patients' ability to pay for services.

The unique hospital system was founded by Shriners of North America (now known as Shriners International), a fraternity that began in 1872, and is based on fun, fellowship and the Masonic principles of brotherly love, relief and truth. There are Shriners temples (chapters) and clubs located around the world.

Hospital Idea Born in 1920

Shriners International has always supported charitable activities, but in the 1900s, desire grew for the fraternity to establish its own official philanthropy. At the 1920 Imperial Council Session, or annual convention, Shriners voted to establish a hospital to treat pediatric orthopaedic conditions which would be supported by an annual \$2 assessment from each Shriner.

After months of research and discussion, a committee established to determine the site and personnel for the hospital concluded there was a need for a system of pediatric orthopaedic hospi-



tals throughout North America, not just one. When the committee brought this proposal to the 1921 convention, it also passed.

The first Shriners Hospitals for Children opened in Shreveport, La., in

1922, and by the end of the decade, 13 more Shriners Hospitals for Children were in operation. Today, there are 19 Shriners Hospitals for Children providing care for children with all types of orthopaedic conditions.

During the 1950s, the health care system was able to provide additional services and fraternity leaders began looking for other ways to help children. They became aware of a lack of medical expertise in pediatric burn care.

In the mid-1960s, 40 years after opening the first Shriners Hospitals for Children, the fraternity opened three Shriners Hospitals for Children specializing in acute and rehabilitative burn care.

These hospitals continue to be pioneers in pediatric burn treatment and research and are recognized as leaders in the development of improved and innovative treatment techniques.

In the early 1980s, the fraternity found still another way to improve the lives of children and opened the nation's first pediatric spinal cord injury rehabilitation centers.

Today, this type of care is offered at the Shriners Hospitals for Children

located in Philadelphia, Chicago and Sacramento, Calif. There, patients find the complete range of services needed to recover to the fullest extent possible.

Cleft lip and palate was added to the hospital system's treatment disciplines in 2005. About 5,000 children are born each year with deformities of the upper lip and mouth, and a complete care program is often difficult to find. Shriners Hospitals for Children is committed to improving care for children with this condition through a comprehensive, coordinated program of clinical excellence.

Nearly One Million Patients

Since it was established in 1922, Shriners Hospitals for Children has cared for nearly one million children, helping them to live happy, productive and fulfilled lives.

Admission to a Shriners Hospitals for Children is based solely on medical need.

All children, under the age of 18, are eligible for care if there is a reasonable possibility they could benefit from the specialized services available at Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Taylor Born Without Calf Bones, Now Swims, Rides, Pursues Drama, Singing

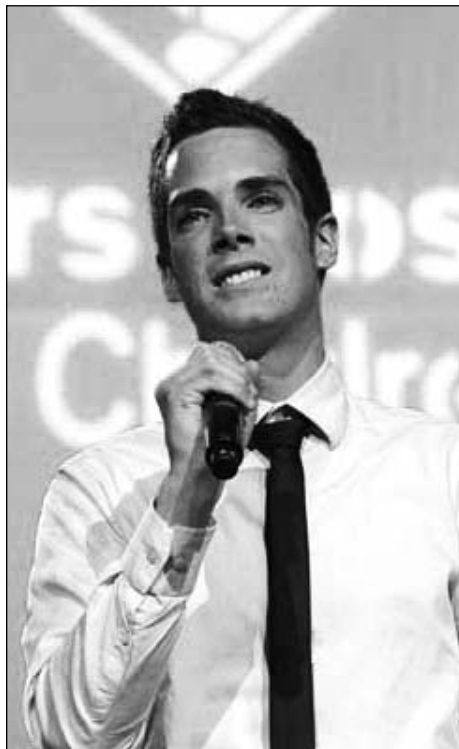
Taylor was born with bilateral fibular hemimelia, which means he is missing the calf bones in his legs.

Doctors initially told Taylor's mother, Karen, that he would probably never walk. Luckily, a friend of Taylor's grandfather, a Shriner named Bryce Gibson, recommended Shriners Hospitals for Children — Canada.

Taylor became a patient when he was just one month old; his family and doctors decided the best treatment was to amputate his feet and have him use prosthetics to walk. He was provided extensive physical therapy as a young child to help him learn to walk and balance.

Despite multiple surgeries to correct the growth of his legs, Taylor enjoyed an active childhood. The rehabilitation services department at Shriners Hospitals played a central role in supporting his interests, designing special prosthetics for each activity he pursued.

He learned to swim with the help of special swimming legs that drain water and help him walk on sand. When he began riding horses at age 9, they made him prosthetic legs especially for horseback riding. In 2007, Taylor competed with riders from around the world at the Lendon Gray International Dressage Festival.



The confidence Taylor gained from these experiences has helped him pursue his greatest passions, drama and singing. He is currently working toward a bachelor's degree in voice and drama at Dalhousie University in Halifax and is studying opera.

\$100 MILLION CLUB

The 100 Million Dollar Club is a way for Shriners and non-Shriners alike to provide a gift of hope for a child in need. The goal of the program is to add \$100 million to the endowment fund through gifts or bequests of \$100 or more.

There are three ways to become a member of the 100 Million Dollar Club:

- (1) Contribute \$100 or more to Shriners Hospitals for Children;
- (2) Include a bequest of \$100 or more to Shriners Hospitals for Children in a will;
- (3) Add a provision to an existing will leaving \$100 or more to Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Memberships can also be purchased in another person's name as a special anniversary, birthday or appreciation gift.

Just contact the Recorder's office — 413.736.3647.

The Pioneer Valley Shrine Club

presents a dinner at the

Tokyo Hibachi Steak House

1152 Riverdale St., West
Springfield, MA

(At the intersection of Route 91, Exit 13B & Route 5)

Sunday, April 3, at 1 p.m.

Choice of Dinner with fixings and dessert
(There will be a Cash bar)

Your choice of dinner is —

Hibachi Chicken # _____ Hibachi Steak # _____ Hibachi Salmon # _____

Name _____ Lady _____

Phone _____ Email _____
(Deadline for Reservations is March 25th)

Total number of persons _____ @ \$30 per person = \$ _____

Check payable to P.V.S.C. & mail with this form to
Dick Marceau, 275 Munsing St., Ludlow, MA 01056




Celery Stalk
 Thanks for your support!
 Homemade soup, salad and sandwiches
 (413) 737-6250
 140 Elm St., West Springfield, MA

COMMAND SECURITY CORPORATION
GSC
 AVIATION SAFEGUARDS
 John C. Reed
 Regional Vice President
 Northeast Region
 1601-1603 Main Street
 Springfield, MA 01103
 Phone: (413) 746-2349
 Fax: (413) 746-2587
 Cell: (860) 830-4953
 www.commandsecurity.com

Greater Springfield's Oldest Family-Owned Funeral Home
Dickinson-Streeter Funeral Service, Inc.
 305 State Street • Springfield, MA • 733-2129
 Alfred J. Gay • Valerie Gay Dulude • James C. Gay

Service Around the Clock
Goodless Electric Co., Inc.
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR
 No Job Too Large or Too Small
 100 MEMORIAL AVE.
 WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA
 739-3835
 Master Lic. #A-9969

Law Offices of
DAVID A. LADIZKI

 • Real Estate Closings & Title Examinations
 • Auto Accidents & Personal Injury
 • Bankruptcy-Business & Corporate
 • Estate Planning & Healthcare
 46 Suffield St., Agawam
 (413) 786-9000
 email: dladizki@mapinternet.com

DRUM CORPS



By Jim Marceau

Two parades down and God knows how many more to go. Speaking of parades, remember that we will be in Longmeadow on May 22 and in Enfield on May 29. I do not have the date for the other Enfield parade as yet, but will let you know when I get it. It will be some time near Veterans Day, though.

Work continues on Va-va-BOOM! for the Championship in Bridgeport on April 16. It appears that we will actually have some competition there this year. One can only hope. With luck, the equipment trailer will be ready for the Rochester trip in September. Now, how to fit that giant bass drum into it? As I am writing this, we haven't even been able to dig it out of the three feet of snow it is buried in behind my brother's house, leave alone adapt it to our needs! Thank the Lord for Ron and Frenchy. Those two have done lots of work on our Corps equipment and on improvements to the unit room. Let's face it, the rest of us are just helpers. They are the movers and shakers.

Larry Willette continues to amaze me, bringing in around \$1,000.00 in Circus ads again this year, as well as over 100 names for the jewel page! Keep it up, Larry. You are doing great!

Again this month, I will not mention Bobby Marois in my article. Instead, I send out well wishes to Oren, who is caring for his wife during rehab, and to Bill Vaughn, who has been going through a few rough spots of his own. You are not forgotten, guys.

Could a person who continually eats only junk food be said to have a "crap-petite?" Ciao.

PIONEER VALLEY POT BELLIES

By Jim Marceau

This article is due by March 12. The meeting to decide the future of the group is on March 16. Both dates have passed already, but I will have to wait until next month to give the results.

LEGION OF HONOR



By Paul Bryant

Listen up! This is an April/May combined issue. There will not be a separate issue for May again this year. Please remember this and hang on to this issue. There will be one parade over the course of these two months, the Auburn Memorial Day parade on May 30th. May 30th was the original Memorial Day before it was switched to a Monday holiday.

Circus Promotions: Sunday, April 17th at the IHOP on Riverdale Road in West Springfield from 11:00AM to 1:00PM. If you come to this promotion you are asked to park in the Manny's Appliance Store parking lot next door. Saturday, April 23rd at the Big Y on Boston Road in Wilbraham from 11:00AM to 1:00PM.

Melha's 57th Annual Circus begins on April 28th. There is no parade on Thursday this year. See the circus information elsewhere in this issue for all the changes.

The Legion needs the membership to help with various duties and the setup on the circus grounds. Please come down, help and be involved.

The Auburn Memorial Day parade will be held on Monday, May 30th this year. Details of this parade can be found in the Parade Marshall's article generally on page three. Our Commander will need to know who will utilize the bus to Auburn so please let him know early if you plan on parading on May 30th. If you plan on riding the Legion trailer in the parade please contact Pat Moore so that he may have the correct number of seats on the trailer. Please contact him at least two days before the parade at (413) 733-4093.

At our last meeting we were informed that our membership may be dropping below 300 members. As our membership ages we run the risk of not being able to carry the flags in parades. We need new members, preferably young members. Any veteran can join the Legion as long as he can produce his DD214. If you wish to join the Legion and you cannot locate your DD214 go to www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/. You can request a free copy of the DD214 through this website. I waited twenty years after joining Melha to become a member of the Legion. If you are a young Noble and would like to join, please don't wait as long as I did.

"When you have got an elephant by the hind legs and he is trying to run away, it is best to let him run."

—Abraham Lincoln

Old Timers

By Paul Bryant

At the meeting of the Old Timers held on February 18, 2011 the members present voted to disband the Old Timers. It was also voted to donate the balance in our bank accounts to the Jack Butterfield Auditorium Renovation Fund. This will occur at the March stated meeting. I am sorry that we have ended in this fashion but to try and keep the club running was proving difficult.

Ramblin' Campers



Let's Trash Melha Again

Yes, it's time to talk trash at Melha again. Well, it's not trash, it's scrap metal. The scrap metal drive in 2010 raised over \$3,500 in the much-needed funds to renovate the Butterfield Auditorium. Anthony Leroux, in partnership with George Sachs of Acme Metals and Recycling, will be holding a scrap metal drive at Melha from May 9 until May 23. All metal will be accepted. Please do not place any TVs, computers or propane tanks in the container which will be placed in the lower parking lot. Thermal couplings must be removed from gas stoves and freon removed from air conditioners and refrigerators. It is hoped this drive will be as much of a success as last year's drive. If you have any questions you can contact Anthony Leroux at 413-783-0881, Drive Chairman, or Ed Griffin at 413-536-8691, Hall Renovation Chairman.

Vintage Autos



By Don George

We have had improved attendance at the meetings and it is great to have the members input on what is going on.

2011 Dues is past due. If you have not paid for 2010 or 2011 please bring your dues to one of the meetings or mail it to the unit.

2011 Parades - check the Melha News parade schedule information. Remember to have your insurance up to date with the office and in the unit room. Your parade sticker must be current to participate in the parades.

Unit by-laws have been amended to allow members to parade retro cars, Mustangs, Camaros, Dodge Chargers and similar models, with the approval of the committee appointed in accordance with the bylaw amendment.

Car Show - The car show is set for Saturday, June 11, 2011 with a rain date of Sunday, June 12 at the Moose Center in Chicopee. The format will be a cruise as it was last year. Please see your sponsors early and get the forms into the unit. Raffle prizes will be the same as last year. 1st - weekend getaway, 2nd - \$150.00 gas card and 3rd is \$100.00 cash.

Circus - We will be selling the t-shirts at the circus again this year. Check the circus dates and let one of the officers know when you are available. We can use your help.


Circus ads are due in this month and remember that we do receive a commission on the ads you sell for the benefit of the unit.

Meetings are the first Tuesday and third Friday. See you there.

Circus Phone Help Needed

Calling all ladies and Nobles who just love to answer the phone. OK, how about folks who want to see our 2011 Melha Circus be a success. Your assistance is needed to answer phones from April 25th through May 1st in 4-hour shifts (10 am - 2 pm & 2 - 6 pm). Once Circus starts (Thursday, April 29th) we operate longer hours and answer lots & lots of questions. We answer three times more questions than we take orders but it all goes to help our circus be a success.

If you can help please call Marilyn Ishler (after April 3rd) at 413-536-7742 or email her at mgiretired@comcast.net or Collette Parsons at mabuddy1@comcast.net and let them know your availability. One will get back to you with the date & time we need you.

Strength in Numbers

MEYERS BROTHERS KALICKA, P.C.
 BUSINESS STRATEGISTS • FINANCIAL ADVISORS • ACCOUNTANTS
 330 Whitney Avenue, Suite 800 ■ Holyoke, Massachusetts 01040
 413-536-8510 ■ www.mbkcpa.com

A GENUINE LONG-STEMMED ROSE THAT HAS BEEN CAREFULLY PRESERVED — THEN DIPPED IN 24KT GOLD.

GENUINE 24 KT. GOLD ROSE

B BLOCK JEWELERS

299 WALNUT ST.
 AGAWAM, MA 01001
 (413) 789-2940

ONLY \$49.99
 With a free vase for Masons & Shriners (\$10 value)

AVAILABLE IN A VARIETY OF COLORS

BURNS BRIGADE



By Bill Judd

Burn prevention is a key endeavor of Shriners Hospitals for Children, which is why the health care system began its Burn Awareness campaigns more than 20 years ago.

In an effort to support National Burn Awareness Week February 6-11, local firefighters from the Western MA S.A.F.E. (Safety and Fire Education) association visited our Shriners Hospital. This visit has been an annual event for 15 years with many firefighters teaching countless patients and families life saving burn awareness tips in a fun way.

On February 9th, fifteen firefighters, Tiller-a one year old Dalmatian, Smokey the Bear from MA DCR Department of Fire Control and Sparky the Fire Dog interacted with patients in the hospital's outpatient department. This is a great partnership the Burns Brigade has with these local and state fire prevention agencies that provide the same message for burns safety to all. Big thanks for all involved in this year's visit.

These are some facts and numbers about burn injuries. Every day, across the U.S., hundreds of children are taken to emergency rooms for treatment of scald burns caused by contact with hot liquids, steam or foods. Approximately 65 percent of children under age 4 hospitalized for burn injuries were scalded by hot liquids. Approximately 16,000 children under age 5 are treated for scald burns annually. Ninety-five percent of scalds occur in residences. Fire causes the death of more than 600 children ages 14 and under each year, and injures about 3,000 more. Nearly 50 percent of children injured in fires or fire-related incidents are under age 5. We can reduce these with education and getting the message to the public which is what the Burns Brigade mission is. Come and join us! We meet on the fourth Tuesday of September at 7:00 PM in the Station house just left of the Melha Office. We need you to be part of a unit that keeps people safe from Fire and Burns? Come and join us. Until next month, be safe.



Fifteen firefighters, Tiller, a one year old Dalmatian, Smokey the Bear from MA DCR Department of Fire Control and Sparky the Fire Dog interacted with patients at a recent visit to Shriners hospital. See story at left.

Melha Flyers



By Lance Whitcomb

Time again to write something for the paper. I am still down in Florida. Malcom Corse has stepped up to hold the Winter picnic next year in Florida. It will be held at the Citrus Shrine Club in Inverness some time in February 2012. So Snow Birds, mark your calendar.

We have been visiting Blue Lodges. We were able to witness a Second Degree at one of the lodges. It was a lot different than ours. I enjoyed seeing the differences in the ritual and floor work.

This Saturday, March 12, Malcolm and I will go to an outdoor Third Degree (a barbecue) with full costumes. We were invited to take part in the degree and it will be a fun time. The Florida 19th Masonic District will be putting the Degree on with the Grand Master of Florida doing some of the Degree work.

I am writing this just before going to the Brotherhood Lodge luncheon in Spring Hill. It meets the first Monday of every month. I meet many Brothers from the USA and Canada there.

Remember Brothers, when traveling, visit a lodge. They will be happy to see you. If you visit outside of the state, you will see different ritual and floor work.



By Neil D. McElwey

Our league plays at East Mountain Golf Course on Friday afternoons with the first group teeing-off at 3:15 P.M. We officially start on April 1 and welcome all Shriners who have a set of clubs and like to play to join with your fellow Shriners for an afternoon of fun and fellowship on the course. Hopefully at the end on the season your name can be added to the "cup." We look forward to seeing you on the course.

have once again been invited to attend the annual "all day" event at the Red Cliffe Canoe Club in South Hadley on Saturday, July 23; we're working on plans to tour West Point and take a cruise on the Hudson as our annual summer trip (open to ALL), and there's a rumor that we may be invited to the Middlesex Yacht Club this summer for an outing on the Connecticut River, too.

Watch your email (or snail mail for those still back in the 20th century) for your dues bill and more details about our plans. If you have any questions, call Commodore John at 413-568-3628.



By Craig (Doc) Kazin

I find myself writing at the beginning of March, and realizing that parade season is beginning again! While Worcester always tends to be a bit colder, both that parade and our signature appearance in Holyoke are signs that St. Patty's Day is here! I hope that our showing was as strong as I know it can be!

The other harbinger of spring is the beginning of circus skit practice which, incidentally, begins tonight. If history is any indication, we will pull it all together and look amazingly professional by the second performance on Sunday of the circus.

(If Stanley (Po Po) Rubinstein were writing, it is HERE that he would say "sell circus ads!")

We find ourselves welcoming a new clown apprentice, David (Orbit) Karolinski, son of famous Melha Rider Karl Karolinski. If the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, then we are ALREADY tired of Orbit talking and talking and talking! Good luck and wel-

come, David!

I would like to wish "get well" to any infirm or ill brothers, but most especially to Stu (Super Chef) Simonoff who was hospitalized early in March. All indications are that he will get better, so please join me in wishing him well.

Remember that the unit (and our Shrine) are only as good as what you care to make them. What will YOU do to aid the cause?

That's it for now, and remember to make someone smile today.

GIVE US A TRY!
COMPLIMENTARY APPETIZER WITH ENTREE PURCHASE
VALID AT WEST SPRINGFIELD LOCATION ONLY.
1105 Riverdale Street
West Springfield, MA 01089
LONGHORN STEAKHOUSE
No Cash value. Not valid with any other discount, or toward gift certificate or alcohol purchases. Not redeemable for cash. One coupon per table per visit.

Helma Court #64 LOSNA
Got Tabs?
Need can tabs. We use them to raise funds for the Shriners Hospital. Please help. Turn them in to—
Florence Brittain 413-733-7307,
Maxine Mercure 413-625-9775, or
Pamela Bryant 413-531-7079
Collection Points —
Shriners Hospital or Melha Shrine Center

MARIA ETHEL EVALES, MD, FAAP
SPRINGFIELD PEDIATRICS, LLC
Newborns through Age Twenty
(413) 747-5437
Fax: (413) 747-5433
299 Caren St., Suite 126
Springfield, MA 01104

Helen's Bra Clinic
40 YEARS OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE 1969-2009
Cynthia L. Lydiard
Certified Fitter Specialist
CUSTOM FITTED BRAS POST MASTECTOMY
62 SUFFIELD STREET AGAWAM, MA 01001
By Appointment (413) 786-3383



Spring is in the air . . .and it's time to re-commission our boats as well as ourselves for all the good times ahead.

We now meet on the second Thursday of each month so our April meeting will be on Thursday, April 14, instead of the last Thursday of the month, as published in Melha's Calendar. We hope to see you at the Two Eagles at 5:30 for dinner or in our room at 7 p.m. By the way, if you don't have one of this year's calendars yet, they're available at Melha.

The opening night of the circus needs sailors in uniform for the grand entrance parade. Let the Commodore or Vice-Commodore know if you can walk the plank on Thursday, April 28.

Remember, there will be no "Melha News" in May so you better mark your calendar now for the upcoming activities.

Ernie Brunault is our "Paper Drive" chairman and he needs volunteers to help out. Give him a call or see him at the April meeting.

Our regular meeting in May will be on the 12th. The dinner and meeting times and locations will remain the same.

Down the line we have another great steak roast coming up at John Eisenbeiser's on Friday, June 24; we

WILLIAM RAVEIS
REAL ESTATE & HOME SERVICES
New England's Largest Family-Owned Real Estate Company
BUY NOW/SELL NOW
36 CENTER SQUARE
EAST LONGMEADOW, MA 01028
Office: (413) 565-2111
Cell: (413) 374-6461
Email: Gelinasa@raveisre.com
Anne L. Gelinasa REALTOR®
Social Media & Real Estate Consultant

Discover an Active Lifestyle...
Bluebird Estates
Independent Retirement Living
Bluebird Estates is active, independent retirement living at its best! Our affordable month to month rent includes:
• Three meals a day served at your table, prepared by our professional chef
• Housekeeping, linens
• Paid utilities
• Beauty/Barber shop
• Transportation
• Studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments
• No buy-in fees or leases.
Call for a complimentary lunch and tour...
Bluebird Estates
1 Apple Blossom Lane
East Longmeadow, MA 01028
413-525-8600

CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC WEST

DR. BRIAN S. DIXON
90 Berkshire Avenue
Springfield, MA 01109
413-739-7968

WELLNESS / PREVENTIVE CARE
SPORTS PERFORMANCE & INJURY
GERIATRIC SPINAL HEALTH

*SERVING THIS COMMUNITY FOR
OVER TWENTY YEARS WITH
COMPREHENSIVE CHIROPRACTIC CARE*

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS



By Brian Prefontaine

For the winter sportsman, I believe there was no shortage of snow this year, however, let's get the spring and summer gear prepared. Snow Birds, please come back and join us at our next Sportsman Club Meeting, Monday, 6:00 pm, March 14, in the Golden Fez Room. The officers look forward to pulling everyone together to discuss and develop plans for the upcoming warm months.

Several activities have occurred during the winter months: a turkey shoot competition, a Melha Sportsman placed, however, the actual turkey is alive and well, as Pardoned by the Club President, Shonn Monday. An ice fishing derby was presented, however, all the snow birds were south of the border. The Sportsman Club joined forces with the Melha Membership Committee at both the Big-E Camping and Sportsman shows. There were numerous individuals who expressed an interest in joining the Shriners now knowing that there is a new Sportsman Club. Thanks to all who attended, and a special thanks goes out to our new Noble Nick Cremonti, and to Chris Boulais for their generous support and set-up at both shows.

Proposed upcoming activities: Sea Fishing at the Cape, Cabin Fever or Lake Party, Target Range Shooting, Skeet/Trap Shooting, Fishing Derby, Paintball Tournament (June) with proceeds to benefit the Shriners Hospital, kayak racing, and last but not least, proposed Seafood Scampi Dinner October 2011. Note, Officers are seeking sub unit leaders for each of the sportsman club sub-categories of interests. Please let us know your intentions.



By Walter Danek

Yes, I know, you have missed the article. Things have gone real bad on the home front and Mother Nature decided to pile up the snow on the roof until it collapsed. We now have a temporary house on the lot and are doing well. No one hurt, not a lot of stuff lost, so all is well. The Supreme Being gives you as much as you can handle. Well, he must think a lot about us because this is a very trying ordeal.

On with April I say. We should have completed the two parades in March with Worcester & Holyoke St. Pat's days being a done deal. Next parade will be soon and we could use the practice for it. Don't forget we meet every Friday night with the intention of belting out a song or two, but we intend more than anything else.

We have a few unit functions coming up. Please check the announcement section of the Melha News for more information. Not just our unit, but all of them.

Anyone in the mood to golf? The weather lately is looking good enough to lose some golf balls.... I wonder if the thaw will remain slow.

Jeff Moores says that "Dues are due." If you have not paid, please call him or figure out why he does not know you paid.

Butterflies taste with their feet, every inch of rain is a foot of snow. Useless facts you didn't want to know.

That's about it for now. We did not have an official meeting for me to write about, but next month I promise more details. Hug those children, pet the fur-friends, kiss your spouse. But remember the brave men and women in uniform who protect our right to live as we do. I'm at waltd140@wmconnect.com if you want to say anything. God Bless America.



By Norm Peloquin

I'm looking outside my living room window where the trees are starting to bud. The days are getting a little longer and most of the record snow has been washed away by all the rains we've recently had. Unfortunately that's not all that got washed away. These are all signs that "Spring has Sprung." So now's the time for us to Spring into Action by giving our time and support to our biggest endeavor of the year our very own "Shrine Circus." The dates for the Circus are April 28th through May 1st. On Thursday, April 28th we will need several Directors for the Grand Entry beginning at 6 PM. We also need directors in orange jumpsuits to escort the handicapped in wheel chairs. There are many jobs available, such as ushers, to be handled by Nobles. Let's have a good showing of Nobles in Fezzes on all four days. Please help us support the following circus promotions: the first one being held at the IHOP restaurant on Riverdale Road on April 24th between 10 AM and Noon. The second promotion will be held on Saturday April 28th at 11 AM at the Big Y Century Plaza parking lot on Memorial Ave., West Springfield.

Other events needing your support this April are the 3rd Annual Mohegan Sun Bus trip on Friday night April 15th. The bus leaves the Melha Shrine Temple parking lot at 5 PM and returns at 1 a.m.

This is a fundraiser for our unit. If you have not signed up yet check with Dean Whalen at his email address: patriot442@aol.com to see if there are any spots available. Also on Sunday April 10th don't forget to attend First Lady Robin Whitney's Spring Fashion Show which benefits Melha's General Fund.

I would like to thank all the Nobles who helped man the Shrine booth at both the Springfield RV & Camping Show and the Sportsman's Show at the Big E in February. March marked the beginning of our parade season and hope we had a good turn out and that mother nature co-operated. If you didn't make either of these there will be more in the coming months that could use your participation.

Our next Directors-Hadji dinner meeting is on Thursday, April 14th at 6 PM. Call Vince Bradley at 413-277-0138 if you plan to attend the dinner. Hope to see you all there, Norm.

HOSPITAL ASSIGNMENTS

- April 2Michael Kennedy, Norman Smith
Thomas Knightly
- April 2James Spear, Jr., Dean Whalen
- April 9Vince Bradley, Monseratte Muniz, Jr.
- April 10Joseph Surprenant, Jr., AP Stevens
- April 16Howard Vincent, Brian Priest
- April 17Norman Peloquin., John Doughty, IV
- April 23Theodore Knee., Kenneth White
- April 24Easter Sunday, no tours
- April 30Robert Woodruff will be training:
Mark Hare, Michael Powell, William Roch
and Donald Thompson
- May 1Curtis Bosworth, Marcos Babilonia
- May 7Bryan Ward, James Rich, Jr.
- May 14Thomas Andrea, Norman Cloutier
- May 15James Kirst--Thomas Baum
- May 22James Smith, Sterling Watts
- May 28James Magagnoli, Peter Magagnoli
- May 29Christian Martin, Cory LaCrosse

WILLIAM RAVEIS
REAL ESTATE & HOME SERVICES
New England's Largest Family-Owned Real Estate Company

PAM SPEAR
REALTOR

36 CENTER SQUARE
EAST LONGMEADOW, MA 01028
Direct Line: (413) 726-9390
Cell: (413) 427-7029
Email: spear@raveisre.com

MILLION DOLLAR PRODUCER

Michael's Tree Service
& Landscaping
COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

For A Quality Look with Lowest Prices
CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATES 413-568-6556

- Tree Removal
- Trimming & Pruning
- Lot Clearing
- Bobcat Work
- Concrete Patios & Retaining Walls
- Loaming & Seeding for New Lawn Installation
- Loam, Mulch & Rock Delivery or Installation Available

24 HOUR STORM DAMAGE SERVICE
Emergency Phone Number 272-5826 • Fully Insured

COLLISION WORK USED CARS
FRAME STRAIGHTENING FREE ESTIMATES

LANGONET
AUTO BODY AND FRAME
61 RAMAH CIRCLE SOUTH
AGAWAM, MASS. 01001

TELEPHONE (413) 786-3574 Pete Langone
FAX 786-3430 peter@langonet.com

PIONEER VALLEY Shrine Club

ENTERING PIONEER VALLEY

SCANTIC VALLEY OIL

HOME HEATING OIL

ON AND OFF ROAD ULTRA LOW SULFUR DIESEL

Full Service at Discount Prices

1-413-783-1917

Discover an Active Lifestyle...

Quail Run Estates is active, independent retirement living at its best!

Our affordable month-to-month rent includes:

Three meals a day served at your table, prepared by our professional chef.

Housekeeping, linens, laundry • Paid utilities • Beauty/barber shop

Transportation • Studio, one & two bedroom apartments

Cottages and garden suites

• No buy-in fees or leases.

"Quail Run Estates provides the perfect place. Our own cottage, with a fireplace and assistance with the household chores that we could no longer handle, plus the amenities we can choose whenever we wish."
—Gordie and Doris Smith

Quail Run Estates.
Gracious Retirement Living

Call for a complimentary lunch and tour...

413-786-9688
50 Cardinal Drive
Agawam, MA 01001
www.quailrunestates.com



By Dick MacGregor

By the time you read this, both of the parades for St. Patty's day are over. This is a double issue for April-May. There will not be a separate issue for May. The Circus is coming up fast. There will not be a Thursday parade this year. There will only be a grand entry. Don't forget to see Deputy Chief Bill Crawford if you don't have your tickets for the Fling yet.

We will be marching in two parades on Memorial Day, May 30th. The first one is in Auburn and then the second one in Ware. We are performing a concert at the V. A. Hospital in Leeds on May 7th, a performance in Connecticut on May 14th (more info to follow) and the Longmeadow Days parade on May 22nd. Looks like a very busy schedule, but we still need to make rehearsals on Monday nights so we can look good at all these gigs. Garth Parker has set up a fishing trip on June 25th out of the Cape. This will be a good fundraiser for the Unit. That's all for now.



Remember to make a donation to the Butterfield Auditorium Renovation Fund.

Send a check to the Melha Office today.

Membership Ambassadors Public Relations

Berkshire Shrine Club

By John Fiske

Spring is coming just not soon enough. The Berkshires are slowly losing their snow banks. When our Appreciation Dinner is held in April they should be history. We'll have to wait and see. Our Appreciation Dinner will be held at the Berkshire Lodge in Adams on April 13. Social hour starts at 6pm. with dinner at 7pm. The cost is \$12pp. Reservations are a MUST. Please call Pres. Les at 413-743-9615 by April 10. This is the meeting where we say Thank you to all the people and organizations that have supported the Berkshire Shrine Club in 2010. Plan to attend and help the club let everyone know we appreciate their support. We are expecting a surprise speaker at the meeting.

At the March meeting the club voted John Wood as Fund Raiser Chairman. If you have any ideas or are available to help work on fund raisers give John a call. 413-684-3384.

Circus is coming! Berkshire Shrine Club is usually well represented at the Circus. If you can help usher give Captain of the Guard's Lady Nancy Waltermire a call and let her know when you can help. The Circus is FUN. If you have never been you are missing a great time. Bring your family and friends and enjoy the Circus while you support your Shriners.

If you know of any Shriner who is under the weather contact Mike Bradley at 413 445 7293. This has been a very long winter and if you know of someone who is house bound and needs a moral boost let the club know.



By Bill Campbell

Welcome back snowbirds. This month CMSC has moved to March 24th with the 17th being a holiday for wearing of the green. CMSC will be meeting at Lic's Restaurant starting at 6PM social and 7:00 Dinner. It will be a buffet and the cost is \$15.00 pp.

Some of us got to see Tom Andrea receive his 50 yr service award at the Quinebaug Lodge, great showing and support of family and brothers.

April and May we will also be at Lic's Restaurant only back to the third Thursday April 21st and May 19th. Reservations and more info Call Ray Ronander 1-508-892-3753.

Volunteers Needed to Usher at The Melha Shrine Circus 2011

Volunteers are needed and can be Nobles, wives, sons, daughters, or friends. Young people under 14 years old are welcome, however, they must be supervised by an adult (parent or member of the organization they represent) at all times while they are ushering.

Any Noble who knows of an organization who might be willing to volunteer as a group, please send their names to us or have them get in touch with us directly as soon as possible.

Shows this year are:
Thursday, April 28, 7:00 P.M.
Friday, April 29, 4:00 P.M. (Special Benefit Show), Friday, April 29, 7:30 P.M., Saturday, April 30, 10:00 A.M., 2:30 P.M., 7:30 P.M.

Sunday May 1, 12:30 P.M., 4:00 P.M.
If you can help at any show, or for more information, email Bob & Nancy Waltermire @rndw@verizon.net or call 413-663-5472.

Melha RIDERS



By Mike Greenberg

Hopefully, by the time you read this, the March rains will have washed away all the snow and we can get back to riding. Even without the snow, please be cautious riding this time of year. Granny who can't see over the steering wheel and hasn't been to the eye doctor in a while, has not taken her Ginko and has forgotten all about motorcycles on the roads. Combine that with Springfield pot holes and sand and your undivided attention is needed. Please get your bike inspected early and do whatever maintenance is needed to be safe. If you're not sure, ask a fellow Rider like Johnny Ziemba for advice. Don't let this slide or you might find yourself sliding down Rte. 91 P.S. Don't forget to get your insurance coverage declaration sheets to the Melha office or to our secretary Tommy Miller if you want to parade with your bike this year.

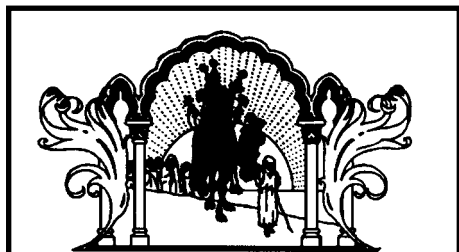
As this issue covers April and May I will talk about the Circus. Get your ads in ASAP. This is a big part of the Circus fundraiser. I hear our Riders room at the circus will be unavailable so other arrangements are being made. Be assured we will have a place to eat, drink and be merry. As usual, the Riders will be responsible to assist with the elephant and pony rides. Please sign up to take a shift or two. Remember if we all do a little no one needs to get stuck doing a lot.

Rider News - Chief Ray has appointed Mel Hook and Art Pappas as Road Captains. I look forward to some great rides and great eats this summer. Also Eric D'Agostino has been appointed Assist. Bar Manager. Congrats and thanks to these gentlemen for agreeing to help out. Keep a few cold ones saved for me will you Eric? Mini Choppers - The chopper guys have been very busy this winter selling raffle tickets. The drawing will take place at our summer BBQ on July 23rd. The lucky winner will receive a shiny new gold mini chopper. Howie, you would look perfect on that bike seriously... I end this month wishing you all a safe riding season.



By Dave Yeager

Greetings, fellow bandmates! Well, we waited and waited and finally the weather is warming up again. Just in time for the parades we have. Then we got the circus coming up before we know it. What a great time of year to be in the band and to be a Shriner. I really felt good seeing so many Nobles and their families out at the get-together to support Noble Carl Morin.



Passed thru the Unseen Portals

HARRY J. COURNIOTES

Cote Road

Monson, MA 01057

EDWARD W. BOCK, P.P.

20 Wileys Avenue

Chicopee, MA 01020

\$100 MILLION CLUB

3786 In honor of Pamela Bryant High Priestess of Helma Court #64, L.O.S.N.A.

PAST MASTERS



Our unit had its Jewel Page picture taken at our last meeting. What a turnout we had!! Nearly 20 members showed up. Even our Potentate was able to attend. Chuck Bacon announced that he would have prints of that picture available for those who would like one. A 8"x 10" print would cost \$20 and an 5"x 7" would be \$15. If you would be interested in obtaining one of these prints, send the corresponding amount to me at the following address: Past Masters Unit C/O 44 Church Street, Apt.#3, Easthampton, MA 01027-1743. I will place the order with Chuck and call you when the picture is ready. Please enclose a check Payable to: Franklyn C. Bacon and Sons-Photographers and also your telephone number.

Our unit has been given permission to take our "Railroad Degree" on the road. Plans are in the works but as of this writing, no date has been set.

At our March meeting, president Robert Allard, presented to our unit a new Past President Service Award Plaque. It is customary in our unit to have the president's name added to the plaque during his term of office. Our current plaque was filled up so he graciously made and donated a new one. The members thanked him for his generous gift.

During the meeting our Potentate, III, Gardner Whitney, mentioned that the Melha softball team was looking for donations to offset their expenses during the upcoming season. Our unit voted to make a donation to their team.

I attended the Saturday Potentate's reception at the Log Cabin and it was a great affair. Congratulations to the committee on a job well done.

Since the Melha Newspaper is combining the April and May editions, we wish all the mothers of our Nobles a very happy and healthy Mothers Day.

If yours dues card doesn't read 2011, please send in your dues. Don't forget to read the Melha News for upcoming events.

Brad Matthew Jewelers



Is there an angel in your life?
The Angel Wing Collection.

2225 Northampton St. (K-Mart Plaza)
Holyoke, MA 01040
413-536-5655 • 413-536-7337

Custom design, on site repairs and engraving. Large selection of Diamonds, gold and precious gems.

Discounts for all Masons

A percentage of the proceeds benefit Shriners Hospital



Franklyn C. Bacon Sons - Photography
Charles W. Bacon III - Photographer
Candid - Legal - Portraits
PR - Weddings
www.baconstudios.com
(413) 374-4417

Ascher • Zimmerman Funeral Home, Inc.

Funeral Directors: RYAN S. ASCHER, ROBERT P. ZIMMERMAN
PH: 413-734-5229, 888-827-2437
EMAIL: ascherzimmerman@aol.com
WEBSITE: ascherzimmerman.com

44 SUMNER AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, 01108

BETTS Plumbing & Heating Supply Co., Inc.

SERVING WESTFIELD FOR OVER 50 YEARS

14 Coleman Avenue
Westfield, MA 01085
413-568-3308
www.bettsplumbing.com

Open to the Public

Park Square Realty

The Best Way Home
Erin Morris, Realtor
parksquarerealty.com
345 North Westfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
PHONE: 413.789.9830
FAX: 413.789.1651
VOICE: 413.263.3692
EMAIL: erinmorris@parksquarerealty.com



BERLINER LAW FIRM L. Jed Berliner

The courage to ask for help™
Bankruptcy and alternatives.

95 State Street, Suite 1010
Springfield, MA 01103-2081
telephone: (413) 788-9877
facsimile: (413) 746-9877
email: jed@berlinerlaw.com

I am a federally designated debt relief agent. I am proud to help people obtain bankruptcy relief and protections.

Toll free: (877) 788-9877

ACME METALS & RECYCLING, INC.



Rear 64 Napier Street
Springfield, MA



BUYERS OF ALL GRADES OF SCRAP METAL
[SPECIALIZING IN ALUMINUM AND CAN TABS]

TEL: 413.737.3112 EMAIL: SCRAP@ACMERECLYCLING.COM
HOURS: MON THRU FRIDAY, 8:00 A.M. UNTIL 4:00 P.M.
SEE US ON THE WEB AT: WWW.ACMERECLYCLING.COM



Blow Away the Competition with

MARKET MENTORS

1680 Riverdale Street West Springfield, MA 01089
413-787-1133 marketmentors.com

AHLEM TEMPLE #84
Daughters of the Nile



By Olive Larson

Congratulations to Queen Karen Barry and her officers who were installed on March 19th; best wishes for a successful year.

Also "Well Done" to Jr. Past Queen Cindy Ferus for a great year in which she led us "With a Song in Her Heart"! The Retirement Party honoring her is April 1st at Tony and Penny's in Ludlow.

The first Eat Out for Nile Night at the Texas Roadhouse in Five Town Plaza, Cooley St., Springfield, was held on March 22nd. This activity will be continued on the second Tuesday of each month this year.

The month of April will be a busy one

Helma Court #64

Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America, Inc.



By Anita L. Gay

We have a new High Priestess, Lady Pamela Bryant, and a new line of Officers. We congratulate them all and wish them good luck in the coming year. Let's be sure to attend their first meeting on Thursday, April 14 at 7:30 pm to show our support.

Two of our sister courts in Vermont have Installations in April; Airoc Ct. of Arlington on the 2nd and Nile Court of Brattleboro on the 9th. We have ladies planning to attend and to substitute where they are needed.

April 21 at 7:00 pm there will be a meeting of the High Steppers at Mount Moriah along with a rehearsal of the dances the Steppers will do at Grand Council! And speaking of Grand Council, it takes place May 15-21 in Sarasota, Florida, and so far we have about ten ladies planning to attend and to enjoy themselves.

Please remember the fundraisers: Hebert Candy, 6-year calendars and Rada Knives. Let's try to sell as many of these items as we can.

And, please, let's keep on saving those tabs and aluminum items.

for us. On Sunday, April 10th, Melha's First Lady, P.Q. Robin Whitney, invites us to a Whiff of Fresh Spring Fashion Show at the Melha Center to benefit Melha's General Fund. On Sunday, April 17th Ahlem Temple is hosting a Spring Fling Dinner Dance honoring First Lady Robin for the benefit of her project for Shriners Hospital's Cleft Lip and Palate program.

Nile Night at the Shrine Circus will be on Friday, April 29th, preceded by dinner at Pazzo's Restaurant at 5 p.m. Call Queen Karen for details (413-477-8749).

At our March Session P.Q. June Johnson spoke of the need for more ladies in the Sewing Club at Shriners Hospital the fourth Monday of each month.

Keep collecting the UPC code from "Campbell's" products, "Box Tops for Education" and aluminum can tabs. You can bring these to Session or contact P.Q. Pam Gates.

*"No winter last forever;
no Spring skips its turn.*

April is a promise that May is bound to keep and we know it."

—Borland

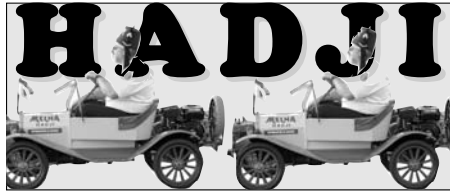
Best wishes for a happy Mother's Day.

Forget Me Not



By Agnes Kenyon

The busy season has begun with the Parades and the Circus. Many thanks to our ladies who are always pleased to assist. In April our luncheon is scheduled for the 15th. The "Callers" will notify you should there be any change. And to everyone, we wish you a Happy Easter and Happy Passover. Spring is beautiful, with green lawns, yellow daffodils, and — yes! — Mother's Day, May 8th. It's our day — enjoy! And from the sublime to — Memorial Day, May 30th. A very special time for each of us to reflect in his/her own way. We meet next on May 20th. See you then.



By Scott Duncan

Spring is almost here finally, and you know what that means, parade season will be ramping up quickly. Our President Billy Z. has asked that we get out and support our local blue lodges. The greater the presence of the nobility at lodge meetings the better chance we have of recruiting new members for Melha. As a reminder, all sub unit captains will be responsible for unit head counts prior to each parade where sand-

wiches will be served. Also please ensure that all active parade members have their vehicles registered with our insurance chairman Ron Graves. Our circus is right around the corner as well. A great way to support our unit and Melha is to attend the various grand entries prior to the start of each show. Also remember that there will not be a circus parade this year. Please see the calendar for all grand entries times. Let's get out and have some fun and put a smile on a child's face...It's worth a million.



TEAM CIRCUS

Whiff of Fresh Spring
FASHION SHOW
Melha Shrine Center
Sunday, April 10



Step into Spring

Modeling by Rainbow Girls & Divan Ladies

Fashions by dressbarn, Deb's Shop, CiCi Boutique

12:00 p.m. Social — 1:00 p.m. Brunch — Show starts at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$20.00 each

Door prizes and opportunities available

Tickets are available from any Divan Lady or call Robin Whitney at 413-977-2140

Proceeds go to Melha's General Fund

Make shopping for Mother's Day easy!



with a mall gift card

to all her favorite stores

Gift-ology
"Perfecting gift giving"



FLAGSHIP STORE & DESIGN CENTER



For instant updates on the latest and greatest store sales & promotions
www.facebook.com/eastfieldmall.fans

1655 Boston Rd. | Springfield, Ma | 543-8000

Fashion Show, 133 Longhill St., Springfield, MA 01108

Make my reservations for ___ at \$20 p.p. for the Spring Fashion Show. My check is enclosed in the amount of \$___ payable to **Melha Shriners**.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone No. _____

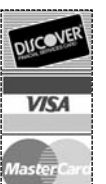
Charge my ___ VISA, ___ MasterCard, ___ Discover

Card Number: _____

Expiration date: Month _____ Year _____

Print name as it appears on card _____

Signature _____



Ahlem Temple presents a
SPRING FLING DINNER DANCE

The Daughters of the Nile are honoring the First Lady of Melha, Robin Whitney, and her project for Shriners Hospital's Cleft Lip and Palate Program. All proceeds from this event will go to the cleft lip and palate program.



ROBIN'S PROJECT

Guests of Honor will be

III. Gardner Whitney, Potentate, and First Lady Robin.

Sunday, April 17

Tony and Penny's Restaurant
 18 Canterbury Street
 Ludlow, MA

Social hour: 6:30 p.m.
 Dinner: 7:30 p.m.



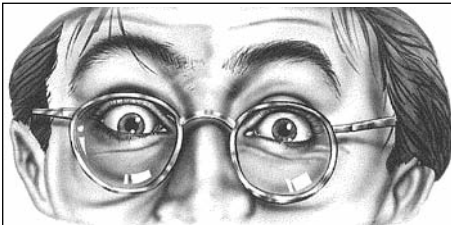
Dinner will be served family style and will include chicken soup, salad, Filet of Haddock on Rice, Roast Beef and Pork, oven-roasted potatoes and glazed carrots. Dessert will be strawberry cheesecake

\$35.00 per person

Dancing to oldies with DJ Ray Saccoccio
Baffles and opportunities

For tickets, contact Estelle Seder, 94 Mallowhill Road, Springfield, MA, at 413-783-9971 — or her cell at 413-204-6251, or by email to nonni13@comcast.net

Make checks payable to Ahlem Temple No. 84, D.O.N.



"I saw it in The Melha News!"

Advertising in The Melha News is easy and affordable

No matter what you're advertising, it will be seen by every Shrine family—in print and on the Internet.

Advertising rates are as follows

1 col. by 1 inch	\$ 95.00
1 col. by 2 inches	\$ 180.00
1 col. by 3 inches	\$ 270.00
1 col. by 4 inches	\$ 360.00
2 cols by 2 inches	\$ 360.00
2 cols. by 4 inches	\$ 720.00
2 cols. by 6 inches	\$1,080.00
1/2 page	\$280 per issue
Full Page	\$560 per issue

One column width is 2.375"
 Two columns: width is 4.916"

For additional information on how to advertise in **The Melha News** call

Ed Gelinias at 413-568-6120
 or the Melha Office at
 413-736-3647

NAELA
 National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, Inc.
MEMBER

The Law Office of
Holly L. Lewis, P.C.
Elder Law, Estate & Asset Protection Planning
 117 Park Avenue, Suite 300, West Springfield, MA 01089
 413-736-8737 Fax: 413-739-8727
 E-mail: hlewisesq@verizon.net

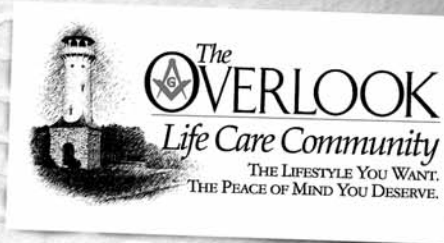
Saturday

ANOTHER GREAT DAY!



The day could not have been more perfect. Phil and Jenna came to visit with Sarah and we walked the campus (I still can't get over how beautiful it is!). We stopped and had ice cream and played a game of croquet – Sarah's idea! She has SO much energy, and there is so much here to keep *US ALL* occupied! She wants to come up next weekend for the watercolor class! Maybe I'll take Sarah to the neighborhood gardens in the morning. We could cut some flowers for her to bring into class. Roses happen to be her favorite. *MINE, TOO!* I love having them visit! This is *BETTER* than I ever imagined!

Everyone has a story to tell. Start your next chapter at The Overlook.
Contact us today to schedule your tour of central Massachusetts' most desirable community for those 62 and better.



www.overlookcommunities.org 866.753.5429

88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton, MA 01507
 Sponsored by Masonic Health System of Massachusetts



Would you like to know more about The Overlook?

- Please send me more information.
- Please keep me informed of news & upcoming events.
- Please contact me to schedule a tour.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____ Aleppo 7/07



Please fill out this form and mail to: The Overlook,
 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton, MA 01507



Memories of the Potentate's Reception Weekend



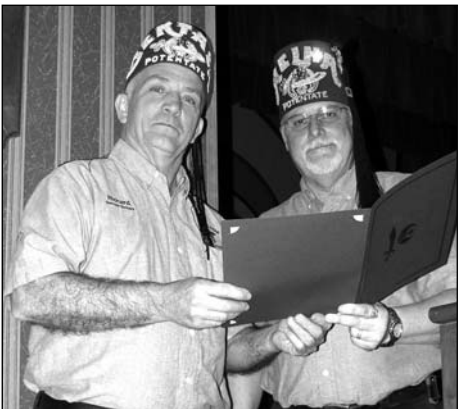
Potentate Gardner Whitney greets his out-of-town and special guests at a Saturday afternoon reception.



Once all guests have been introduced at the Potentate's Reception, in keeping with tradition the Potentate drinks a toast to his piper. In this case Ill. Gardner Whitney toasts, from left, David Gates, P.P., John Burns and Ed Hastings.



Ill. Tony Koss, Melha's Potentate in 2004, appointed Ill. Whitney to line and makes a presentation of a name tag for his desk.



Ill. Rick Perry from Bektash and other Potentates from the throughout the Northeast, were presented with honorary memberships to Melha.



The First Family of Melha: Ill. Gardner Whitney, Melha's Potentate, is joined by First Lady Robin and their two children, Samantha and Rene.



First Lady Robin was the recipient of many gifts toward her Cleft Lip and Palate fund.



Chief Rabban and his lady Anna were presented with CRAP caps. CRAP, of course, is an acronym for Chief Rabban Almost Potentate.



Chief Clown Rick Pirog presents the Potentate with a Keystone Kop figurine by Ron Lee.



First Lady Robin was presented with a check of \$1,500 for her special project — cleft lip and palate — by Maureen McKinnon, High Priestess of Helma Court, LOSNA.



Chief Rabban's Lady, Anna Mitchell, makes a special presentation.



Cynthia Ferus, Queen of Ahlem Temple, Daughters of the Nile, presented a 21st Century Club certificate to the Potentate.



The Divan poses for their official portrait in front of the fireplace at the Log Cabin in Holyoke which was taken by photographer Bert Krasner. The large clock in the background should have kept the Divan on schedule but no one seemed to notice it.



In attendance was the Mayor of Westfield, Daniel M. Knapic seen here with Anne Gelinas, First Lady of 2001.