SUN CITY CENTER SHRINE CLUB



# Communicator

**VOLUME 58, ISSUE 9** 

SEPTEMBER 3, 2020

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#### Words from the President

#### By Noble Jim Porrett

Welcome to September and the beginning of the fourth quarter of what has turned out to be one of the more interesting years in our history. Lady Jean and I are sitting here overlooking the lake with a fire in the fireplace to ward off the chill in the air and I have been wondering what I am going to write for the September Communicator.

As noted above, it has been an interesting year for us all. Sadly, several of our Nobles and Ladies have joined the Great Architect as well as during the lockdown, several have evaluated what is most important to them and are leaving the area to be closer to their families. We will miss them all and

cherish the friendships and good times when we gathered with them for fun & fellowship. A few Nobles and Ladies have been and/or are currently dealing with serious illnesses and mobility issues. As Chaplain Dobbs is doing, please keep your fellow Nobles, Brothers and Ladies in your thoughts and prayers as we can all use any help available.

Hopefully, some of you made it up to Egypt
Shriners' "Drive by Nobles' Birthday Celebration" and had a chance to see the new building and grounds from the outside, as well as fellow Nobles and enjoy a piece of cake. Continuing to adhere to the current
State and Hillsborough
County advisories and

guidelines, Egypt Shriners and the SCC Shrine Club will not be holding in person meetings or gathering for the immediate future. Updates to this will be provided and in the interim electronic meetings are being encouraged.

On August 10<sup>th</sup>, six members of the board of directors participated in an informal Zoom meeting to "test the waters of electronic meetings" and talk about going forward. It was a successful meeting resulting in a Zoom Board of Directors meeting scheduled for 1PM, Tuesday September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Information on how to join the meeting is enclosed and I hope to see you on Tuesday. The Board is also investigating

Welfare

In Loving

**Memory** 

**Our Club** 

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15

#### **Words from the President (Continued)**

holding a picnic gathering in an outdoor environment with more to be discussed on Tuesday. Again, the safety of our Nobles and Ladies will be strongly considered.

Lady Jean and I have had the opportunity recently to observe twelve Merganser ducklings growing towards maturity; observed a Muskrat family swim by; and the resident Eagle fish successfully. This morning we were fortunate to see a fuzzy, young, Great Blue Heron on the beach in front of us. These creatures

are going about their daily life sustaining activities totally unaware of the Covid-19 threat, the hysteria of it and other recent social activities the media is pounding us with non-stop. Yes, the Covid-19 threat is real and there are real social issues, but we need to continuing living our lives in the "new norm" until the pandemic is under control and sensible heads prevail with the unrest. Look at what positives you have and where/when possible help someone out or let the Club know of anyone in need.



The Board of Directors will be meeting virtually using Zoom. You are welcome to attend the meeting. Information to attend the meeting is listed below.

Date: September 8th, 2020

Time: 1 pm Eastern

Simply click on the link and follow the instructions.

Join Zoom Meeting: Click Here

Meeting ID: 794 8264 6261

Passcode: 2VrS4E

If you are planning to attend, it is best to sign in at least 5 minutes prior to the start of the meeting!



**COMMUNICATOR** 

#### **Latin American Shrine Association**



The Latin American Shrine Association (LASA) received its charter during the virtual Imperial Session in July, becoming the first new Shrine Association in the last 50 years. Member temples include: Abou Saad (Panama), Al Rai'e Saleh (Puerto Rico), Amal (Brazil), Anezeh (Mexico), Bolivia (Bolivia) and Hikmat (Brazil). Noble Ricky Arrocha of Abou Saad Shriners was elected first president of LASA. Congratulations!

"Latin America has become one of the fastest growing regions for Shriners International and we're looking forward to expanding our membership, as we work together to help more children, in more places, closer to home," Arrocha said. "The sheer magnitude of the region presents its own challenges, but the implementation of video conferencing, clear objectives, our cultural similarities and yes, some good old-fashioned work, will allow us to get the job done."

#### EGYPT SHRINERS



750 W Lumsden Road Ste. A Brandon FL 33511 (813) 884-8381 Fax (813) 884 7412 egyptshrine@aol.com

Frank M. Dyer P.P.
Recorder

Fellow Nobles,

Dean DiLeo

Potentate

Greetings! During this time of continued uncertainty, changes, and disruption to the way we have done things in the past, I wanted to take a few minutes to highlight some of the key guidelines that should be observed regarding meetings and social gatherings.

On 21 July, 2020 Imperial Sir Jim Smith published an extension of the existing General Order 2 which permits additional flexibility for temples to conduct necessary business during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. These flexible approaches include:

- Temples are granted special dispensation that, with the approval of a majority of the Divan, any
  Officer or member Noble of the temple can participate in an annual, stated or special meeting
  electronically.
- No less than one-weeks' notice must be given stating the time, date, and business to be considered at the meeting, along with all necessary details for electronic participation in the meeting.
- At the discretion of the Chair or meeting host, a procedure must be taken at the beginning of a
  meeting to confirm that only Officers and member Nobles of the temple are participating in the
  meeting electronically.
- Participants must state their name and request to be recognized before speaking at any meeting
  conducted under this special dispensation, and that, at the discretion of the Chair, discussion
  shall take place on a rotating basis, and that votes shall be taken by roll call or general consent.
- The officers of any temple conducting a meeting under this special dispensation are to take all necessary precautions to protect the rights of absentee member Nobles.

The bottom line is that we are allowed to meet and conduct business electronically without having to ask permission from Imperial. However, for official meetings, we must give at least a week's notice and be able to ensure that everyone present is a noble of our temple. To date, we have been unable to meet this last requirement which is why our meetings will continue to be "untiled."

Clubs and units are strongly encouraged to meet electronically and utilize the same guidelines issued by Imperial Sir Smith. In addition, the latest State of Florida Public Health Advisory issued 21 July 2020 encourages the wearing of face mask both indoors and outdoors when social distancing is not feasible. Gatherings of 10 or more individuals are strongly discouraged and individuals over the age of 65 and all individuals of any age with high-risk health conditions should limit personal interactions outside of the home.

meetings does not mean that we can't call upon our fellow Nobles to check on how they are doing, or encourage a Mason to become a Shriner, or speak to a relative about carrying on the family legacy of service to the Shrine.

On behalf of the entire Divan, I encourage each and every one of you to take the appropriate health measures presented by local and state officials while at the same time remembering our obligations to our families and each other.

Please continue to check your email as well as our web site www.egyptshriners.com and our award-winning Facebook page at https://www. facebook.com/EgyptShriners/ for updates.

Fraternally,

Dean DiLeo

Potentate 2020

Dear Fellow Nobles,

The world has become a much smaller place. Shriners Hospitals for Children® has a global reputation for compassion and excellence, and continues to expand its efforts to reach as many children who may need the services of our unique health care system, regardless of where they live.

We have implemented an international strategic plan that will help us serve the children of the world more effectively and efficiently, and closer to their homes. Under the direction of Marjorie McEttrick-Maloney,

RN, BSN, MPA/H, our chief nursing officer, and with guidance from a consultant, this plan streamlines our international services, and includes initiatives for many parts of the world, including Brazil, the Philippines, Canada and Mexico. Today, I would like to share some exciting developments in our strategy for the children of Mexico.

Shriners Hospitals has had a presence in Tijuana, Mexico, for many years. From 1998 to 2012, we held outreach clinics at Hospital Infantil de las California (HIC). In 2012, we opened an ambulatory clinic adjacent to HIC. We recently moved our clinic to within Hospital Angeles in Tijuana in order to provide additional services, including inpatient and more complex surgical treatments. Today, that clinic, which is under the direction of our Pasadena, California, location, serves more than 10,000 children annually, providing orthopaedic surgical care and outpatient clinic visits, including orthotics and prosthetics services.

Based on our desire to increase our presence in Mexico, and the success of our clinic in Tijuana, we are pursuing discussions with Hospital Angeles officials to establish similar clinics at their locations in Guadalajara, Monterrey and Juarez, Mexico. If these clinics also are successful and meet our goals of reaching and caring for the children who need our expertise, we will have additional conversations with a goal of further expanding these efforts. Hospital Angeles has approximately 30 locations throughout

Mexico, which could provide an opportunity for Shriners Hospitals to establish a network of affiliated clinics.

Obviously, there will be many details to work out, from staffing to space allotments, but the possibilities are tremendous – and fit well with the mission and goals of Shriners Hospitals for Children, especially as we seek to increase our affiliations and access points in order to reach and treat more children effectively, efficiently and closer to their homes.

An important part of our international strategic plan is including educational programs for local medical professionals in our outreach efforts. Ultimately, this will allow more children to receive care in their home countries, rather than needing to travel to the U.S. for care. Of course, we will always refer children to our facilities if that is the best course of action for them.

These are especially challenging times, as we work within the restrictions caused by the pandemic, but they are also exciting times with great promise for the future of our unique, compassionate health care system.

I look forward to sharing information about our strategic plans for other international locations in the future.

Thank you for all you do to support Shriners International and Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Yours in the faith,

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

## The Chaplain's Corner

## By Noble William Dobbs

I have been thinking about you and praying for you this summer without knowing very much about you. I do have a copy of the membership roster, so I can pray for you by name, but that is not like sitting before you and listening to your individual needs.

I do know that some of you spent these summer months at your home in Florida, doing your best to stay clear of the virus which has plagued so many. I have prayed for your continued well-being. Perhaps you have not been so lucky and have had to do battle with this powerful and sinister enemy. I have prayed that you might be strengthened in your struggles and comforted by the support of family as well as your fraternal brothers and sisters.

I also know that some of you, like Janice and myself, have spent the summer far from Florida's shores. perhaps traveling to see distant family, or maybe sojourning to visit new shores and places you've not seen before. I have prayed for you as well, that you might have safe journeys and wonderful new memories to bless your coming days. I have lifted these prayers with the absolute confidence that, even though you are only names on a page to me, our Almighty Creator, the Supreme Architect of the Universe, who knew you before you were formed in your mother's womb, knows your every need and will surely bless you.



## The Chaplain's Corner

(Continued)

And 40 years of pastoral experience has led me to believe that some of you have faced, or are facing, challenges far more daunting than the Coronavirus over these last few months - life and death challenges which I in no way wish to discount or minimize. I pray that you have found strength and comfort in this time, either from a family member or a spiritual support person.

If you would like me to pray a more specific, personal and private prayer for you, please send me an email request and I will faithfully pray for you. <a href="mailto:bjdobbs2863@gmail.com">bjdobbs2863@gmail.com</a>

Finally, perhaps you are like me and are getting discouraged by how long this disruption has lasted. Perhaps your soul is echoing the words of the Psalmist who cried (in Psalm 13), "O Lord, how long will you forget me? Forever? How

long will you look the other way? How long must I struggle with anguish in my soul, with sorrow in my heart every day? How long will my enemy have the upper hand?"

If that is even a faint echo of the way you have been feeling during these dog days of summer, then I would offer you David's own solution for dark thoughts and feelings of discouragement. Quoting from the same Psalm 13, David fights back against the darkness by affirming: "I trust in your(God's) unfailing love. I will rejoice because you have rescued me. I will sing to the LORD because he has been good to me."

My grandmother used to say, "Count your many blessings and it will surprise you what the Lord has done!" May you be surprised today!



## **Upcoming Events: September-October**

Tue Sep 1, 2020 6:30pm - 8:30pm DeSoto Lodge #105 10801 Desoto Rd, Riverview Wed Sep 2, 2020 7:30pm - 9pm Egypt Shrine Council (TBD) 1pm - 2:30pm **Board of Directors Meeting (ZOOM)** Mon Sep 8, 2020 Simply click on the link and follow the instructions: Join Zoom Meeting: Click Here Meeting ID: 794 8264 6261 Passcode: 2VrS4E Wed Sep 9, 2020 7:30pm - 9pm Egypt Shrine Stated Meeting (TBD) Mon Sep 14, 2020 7:30pm - 8:30pm OES Chapter #201 10801 Desoto Rd, Riverview Tue Sep 15, 2020 6:30pm - 8:30pm DeSoto Lodge #105 10801 Desoto Rd, Riverview Sun Sep 27, 2020 8:30am - 12pm DeSoto Lodge #105 Breakfast 10801 Desoto Rd, Riverview 11am - 7:30pm **Doug Cox Memorial Golf Tournament (TBD)** Temple Terrace Golf and Country Club 200 Inverness Avenue, Temple Terrace For additional details click on the following link: http://dougcoxmemorial.com/ Mon Oct 5, 2020 1pm - 2:30pm **Board of Directors Meeting (ZOOM)** Tue Oct 6, 2020 6:30pm - 8:30pm **DeSoto Lodge #105** 10801 Desoto Rd, Riverview Wed Oct 7, 2020 7:30pm - 9pm Egypt Shrine Council (TBD) Mon Oct 12, 2020 7:30pm - 8:30pm OES Chapter #201 10801 Desoto Rd, Riverview Wed Oct 14, 2020 7:30pm - 9pm **Egypt Shrine Stated Meeting (TBD)** Mon Oct 19, 2020 11:30am - 1pm Scottish Rite Meeting / Luncheon 1010 American Eagle Blvd Sun City Center Tue Oct 20, 2020 6:30pm - 8:30pm **DeSoto Lodge #105** 10801 Desoto Rd, Riverview Sun Oct 25, 2020 8:30am - 12pm DeSoto Lodge #105 Breakfast 10801 Desoto Rd, Riverview



2020

EGYPT SHRINE TEMPLE

September 27, 2020



If you are interested in playing in the tournament, please contact Noble Don Churchill at 813-642-0844 (home) or 813-480-8940 (mobile).



| Noble / Lady              | Sept |
|---------------------------|------|
| Rich & Toby Leger         | 3    |
| William & Ann Hammond     | 12   |
| Lloyd & Patricia Banfield | 13   |
| Frederick & Judy Buss     | 26   |



| Noble            | Sept | Lady             | Sept |
|------------------|------|------------------|------|
| Richard Shelley  | 7    | Jean Rubin       | 2    |
| William Dobbs    | 17   | Omy Kohler       | 7    |
| Kendall Schwindt | 26   | Mary Buckland    | 9    |
| James Porrett    | 27   | Jean Porrett     | 14   |
| Ronald Hoedebeck | 29   | Janice Churchill | 14   |
|                  |      | Sherill Shelley  | 17   |
|                  |      | Kathy Craft      | 20   |
|                  |      | Ann Hammond      | 20   |



**Nobles / Ladies** 

#### **Ann Kemmeling**

#### **Mae Everhart Porrett**

## **Larry Wing**

We need your help.

If you are aware of any of our Nobles or Ladies that are ill, hospitalized or have passed away, please let us know.

You can simply email the Sun City Center Shrine Club to inform us.

SCCShrineClub@gmail.com

Thank you.





Jim McGehee, age 89, of 2104 Acadia Greens, Sun City Center, Florida, passed away early Friday morning, August 28, 2020.

He was born March 6, 1931, in Mt. Vernon, Illinois, the son of William Oscar and Mildred (Flannigan) McGehee. He was united in marriage to Joyce Jacobs on November 27, 1950. He later married Carol Jean Haslett on June 5, 1971, and she preceded him in death May 6, 2003.

Jim served in the Air Force, stationed in Texas. He attended Southern Illinois University where he earned his bachelor's degree and studied Law Enforcement. He taught shop/electricity and woodworking classes at Flora Township High School. He was then hired as a police officer and went on to become the Flora Chief of Police for several years before

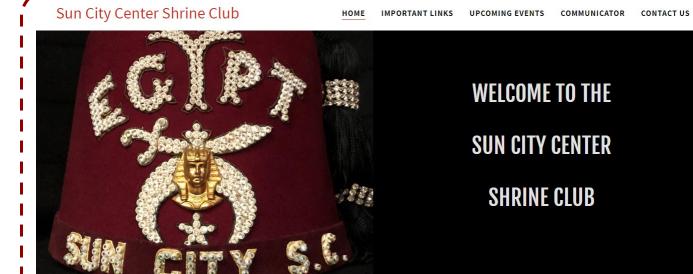
finally returning to his original love of teaching at the Junior High School. He was very active in the Shriners and always very patriotic. You could always count on him to volunteer where he was needed and could find him on any given weekend ringing the bell for the Salvation Army. He loved working with his hands and creating things. He enjoyed camping, fishing, and hunting and was often seen wearing one of his favorite Hawaiian print shirts.

He is survived by his children: Jamie M. Eggleston of Florida, Meridith Herdes (Dean Holmes) of Sun City Center, Florida, Andrew (DeeAnn) McGehee of Flora, Tammy (R.D.) White of Dwight, Terri (Brent) Briscoe of Benton, Kentucky, and Sherri Milner of Highland; grandchildren and great grandchildren. He will be missed by his very good friend, Evelyn Moore, and all of his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife: Carol Jean Haslett McGehee; and a grandson: Trent Briscoe.

A graveside ceremony will be held 11:30 a.m. Monday September 7, 2020, at Campground Cemetery with the presentation of military funeral honors. Arrangements are in the care of Frank & Bright Funeral Home in Flora. To share a memory or condolence visit: <a href="https://www.frankandbright.com">www.frankandbright.com</a>

Memorial donations are suggested to Clay County Cancer Crusaders or the Sun City Center Shrine Club. Donations for the Shrine Club can be sent to P.O. Box 5773, Sun City Center, FL 33573.



P. O. Box 5773
Sun City Center, FL 33573

Email: <a href="mailto:sccshrineclub@gmail.com">sccshrineclub@gmail.com</a> Website: <a href="mailto:www.sccshrineclub.com">www.sccshrineclub.com</a>

"... A fraternal organization of men

dedicated to brotherhood, compassion and service to others."

Shriners International, a fraternity based on fun, fellowship and the Masonic principles of brotherly love, relief and truth, founded Shriners Hospitals for Children as its official philanthropy in 1922. What began as one hospital is now a world-renowned health care system with locations in three countries. The fraternity which has nearly 200 temples in several countries and thousands of clubs around the world, continues to support this unique health care system.

**Other Clubs of Interest** 

**Tampa Scottish Rite** 

**Grand York Rite of Florida**