January 2021

The Moslemite

Magazine



2021 Moslem Officers and Staff



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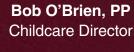
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Moslemite Magazine 2021 Schedule *Mailed & online issues below may change

Please visit our

DetroitShriners.com website.

There is an easy to use download section for you to upload articles, photos and event flyers.

February online only

March printed and mailed

April online only

May printed and mailed

June online only

due to possible event date changes

July printed and mailed

August online only

September printed and mailed

October / November online only

December printed and mailed

MESSAGE FROM OUR POTENTATE

Happy New Year! I repeat, Happy New Year! I can't believe it's 2021 already but for most of us, it couldn't get here fast enough. With COVID-19 dominating 2020, we were lucky to at least get the Winter Sportsman's Raffle in before the bottom fell out of the year. This isn't the way I hoped to start the year as Potentate but, we need to play the hand we are dealt and do the best we can with what we have. 2021 is starting slow but, it looks like there is a light at the end of the tunnel and social events will start to pick-up as our state opens up.

2021 will be a year of big changes for our Temple. As difficult as it is, we are currently in the process of selling our Shrine Center due to the enormous cost to operate it along with looming future repairs that have put a strain on our financial situation for the last several years. The concept to sell the building



Mike Zelmanski **Potentate**

actually started several years ago and took many twists and turns along the way under several Potentates before arriving at its current fate. We've had many good years and a lot of fun in our current building but, it can't sustain itself as planned due to declining membership and the cost of ownership. At the time this article was written, final plans for an alternative place for us to live hasn't yet been decided by the Nobility. We need a newer, smaller building without the huge price tag to maintain. Soon TBD.

I would like to congratulate the 2021 elected Divan members Tim Lancaster, Chief Rabban; Frank Dougherty, Asst Rabban; Larry Seyuin, High Priest & Prophet; new kid on the block, Marty Opeth, Oriental Guide; Casey Jones, Treasurer and Bob Pate PP, Recorder. I would also like to welcome my all rookie appointed staff, Gary Lewandowski, Chaplain; Sean Nagoda, General Chairman and Joe Merem, Chief of Staff. Although rookies, I have high expectations as each is motivated and will also be mentored by experienced Nobles Bob Scott, Tommy Thompson and Wayne Mueller respectively. Other key appointments include Craig Stigleman PP, Circus Chairman; Bob O'Brien PP, Childcare Director, Jeff Geske PP, Convention Chairman and Rick Gaines, Membership Chairman.

In closing, I'd like to first thank my Lady Diane for always being at my side, encouraging me and helping to keep me grounded and on track. Thank you to you, the Nobility, for always supporting me over the years and allowing me to continue to serve Moslem, now as your 2021 Potentate. I can assure you that I will do my best to employ a vision and work hard towards doing what is best for our Temple not only for 2021 but, helping to build our future.



MESSAGE FROM OUR POTENTATE CONTINUED...

2021 EVENTS

Due to the CORONA virus restrictions, the 2021 Winter Sportsman's Raffle has been rescheduled for June 5th at the Suburban Collection Showplace. The Spring Circus will also be rescheduled, date TBD. We are hoping for the ability to host these events at full attendance but, we must be prepared for restrictions with limited attendance or even virtual events. These two large fundraisers are important and by moving them back later in the year, other smaller events we planned will move dates or will be dropped.

I know we are all looking forward to getting together again. Lady Di and all her Ladies have planned a fun filled year of events when we open up. We will be bringing back some old favorites and adding a couple new and different events everyone should enjoy including a family Breakfast for Dinner event featuring Hot Wheels drag races for all age groups.

C.R. Tim and myself have been working with the 2020 Potentates and C.R.'s from Elf Khurafeh and Saladin Temples for the last couple months and are planning an Annual Michigan Shriners Golf outing in the late spring. The plan will be for our temples to take turns as the "host" temple and select the course. This will hopefully make for a larger event in time, increasing Shrine awareness and creating a tighter bond with our sister temples and Blue Lodges. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

Also on the schedule for this year, the Gold Cup Unlimited Hydroplane Races are returning to Detroit in July. Moslem will have an opportunity to make this another important annual fundraiser by providing volunteers to work the event similar to the Michigan State Fair model.

Shrine Temples that are growing across the country are doing so by concentrating on the family. Among the core values of a Shrine Mason is dedication to family so, it only makes sense that we do the same. I see a great need for us to change-up some of the events we have at our Temple. The average age of the nearly 100 new Nobles joining Moslem over the last two years is under 40. Many of these Nobles have families and don't want to leave them at home or hire a babysitter just so they can attend Shrine events. We need to fold-in a way to welcome families at our facility by adding affordable family friendly events and/or kid events during adult events. Please remember that we will be having a very dynamic, fluid year due to both COVID and physical building issues. Events may change from where they are listed on the calendar. Please watch for more info and ongoing updates regarding these events.



MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF RABBAN

OBJECTS IN THE MIRROR ARE CLOSER THAN THEY APPEAR!"

This disclaimer for some strange reason has always intrigued me. Some caveats are almost inane due to their nature, i.e. "Harmful if swallowed!" duh! OK. So, if we are looking in reverse, the year 2020 is a year, we as Shriners would very much like to say goodbye to! Adios ... Forget about it!

Moving forward is the key however, the planning never ceases.

We continually plan for traditions and events our membership has come to rely on over the last 140 years. The Circus being one of the most iconic of events to name one. The By -Annual Sportsman's raffle is another.

Our Child Care effort continues despite having its challenges. We press on and plan for the important and necessary events, as well as take care of the day-to-day business of Moslem Temple. Duty, Honor and Shrinedom!

While I despise the acronym COVID it has given all Shriners pause to reflect on how vital we are as a group. We are a dedicated group of fortunate adults who meet as a body, one routed in Masonic principles, doing things for the right reasons. In life, we will have challenges. Our philanthropy, Shriners Hospital for Children, continues to have challenges. Here comes the best part, our bonds keep us together and our unity will carry us through this malaise. The Divan continues to press on and plan for 2021. We pray for a better year and we're humble enough to know things can change quickly, but one thing is for sure, we appreciate the trust and take very seriously that responsibility. We'll give it our best to do you proud! The planning never stops;"IT IS ALWAYS CLOSER THAN IT MAY APPEAR!"





Tim Lancaster Chief Rabban

SAVE THESE DATES!

Event dates are subject to change with the uncertain Covid-19 regulations at this time. We will have further updates for these events in our March magazine and will be mailed to you. Our team is working deligently day and night to save these events for 2021.

Please follow us online at DetroitShriners.com for additional updates.

Saturday June 5th







S MARCH S

Saturday 6th • Who Wants To Get Lucky

Sunday 7th • LOS Play

Saturday 20th • Meat Raffle

Wednesday 24th • Dayton Hospital Ribbon Cutting

Saturday 27th • Adult Easter Egg Hunt

S APRIL S

Thursday 8th - Sunday 11th • GLSCUA

Sunday 11th • LOS Installation

Monday 19th • Stated Business Meeting

S MAY G

Thursday 13th - Sunday 16th • ROJ Book

Saturday 15th • Ladies Luncheon Paint & Sip

Sunday 16th • Lincoln Park Parade

Saturday 22nd - Thursday 27th • Grand Council

Monday 31st • Sterling Heights Memorial Parade

7TH ANNUAL

Annual Shriner's

SPORTSMAN'S

RAFFLE

Sportsman's Raffle Saturday June 5th

JUNE

Saturday 5th • Sportsman's Raffle

Sunday 6th • Hospital Day - Chicago

Saturday 19th • Belleville Parade

Monday 21st • Fireworks - Detroit

Saturday 26th • Ladies Day Trip

Sunday 27th • Bay-a-Rama Parade



ATTENTION MOSLEM SHRINERS

ILL. SIR MICHAEL ZELMANSKI OF MOSLEM SHRINE

HAS CALLED FOR A SPECIAL MEETING

TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021 AT 7:00 PM

AT THE SHRINE CENTER IN SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN

⚠ The Shrine office will send out a notice using constant contact if this meeting is changed from being held at our Shrine Center to an online only zoom meeting.
Please feel free to contact the Shrine Office for an update if you do not receive constant contact emails.

Entry to the meeting will require possession of a 2021 Moslem Shriners Dues Card.

So Ordered: Illustrious Sir Michael Zelmanski, Potentate

Attested to: Robert Pate, PP, Recorder

NOTE ADDED BY THE POTENTATE:

ITEMS TO DISCUSS INCLUDE 2021 BUDGET, SALE OF TEMPLE BUILDING, PURCHASE OF A NEW TEMPLE BUILDING AND BUILDING FUND.

▲ Moslem Shrine meetings are subject to change with the uncertain Covid-19 restrictions at this time.
Please visit our DetroitShrine.com website for updated information regarding upcoming meeting dates, times and if the meeting is at our temple location or virtual online only.

MESSAGE FROM OUR ASSISTANT RABBAN

Hello Nobles,

It has been a long year for all of us and our family's. Covid has kept us mostly inside and not being able to go and do our normal routines.

Lady Jan and myself both were infected and were off work for 14 days. Lady Jan had a less case then I did. I can honestly say that you do not want to catch this virus. Some cases are not bad, but don't press your luck, wear your mask and try to avoid crowds.

Our Divan has been thinking about our Nobles visiting the Black Camel in 2020. Very few people were able to say goodbye to our fellow shriners and give condolences to the Nobles family.

SLE-STANT RABBAN

Frank Dougherty Assistant Rabban

It is our hope that when the Covid restrictions are gone, we will be able to put a memorial together for these Nobles and invite their family's to the Temple to say our goodbye to our friends.

It is our hope that with the vaccines coming soon, we will be able to get back to enjoying our

fun fellowship in 2021. Everyone cross your fingers and think good thoughts that we will see each other once again.

YITF Frank Dougherty



CONDITIONS TREATED:

- orthopedic conditions
 injuries, diseases of the
- injuries, diseases of the bone, joints, spine and muscles
- brachial plexus palsycerebral palsy
- clubfoot
- dislocated hips
- hand malformationslimb length deficiencies
- muscular dystrophy
- osteogenesis imperfecta
 spina bifida
- hidradenitis suppurativa
 cleft lip and palate
 hemangioma
- hemangiomacomplex wound & skin
- complex wound & ski
 conditions

deformities

specialized plastic surgery

nal cord injuries

congenital hairy nevus

congenital ear deformations congenital or acquired facial

There are many ways you can donate to Shriners Hospitals for Children: general donations, in memory donations, hospital campaigns, bequests and personal fundraising.

Learn how you can donate to Shriners Hospitals
Vist our website: shrinershospitals.org or Call 800-241-GIFT to donate

MESSAGE FROM OUR HIGH PRIEST & PROPHET

Happy New Year Nobles,

Here it is January 2021, hopefully this year will go a little smoother than 2020. By now the new members of the Divan have been installed and everyone is settling into their new positions. We have been meeting frequently strategizing fundraising and events for this coming year. Remember, we are always looking for good men to become new members and bring new ideas. With a little luck we will be able to get back to having our special events again, like the Sportsmen's Raffles, Circus and Parades. In closing, may this year bring you Health, Wealth and Happiness.

Fraternally, Lawrence Seyuin



MESSAGE FROM OUR ORIENTAL GUIDE

I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to all the Nobles for electing me to the Moslem Shrine Divan as your Oriental Guide for 2021. I look forward working with our Potentate Michael Zelmanski, the remaining members of the Divan and Nobles all. It's an honor and a privilege to serve such a great organization. As we continue to change and grow, I will listen to your concerns and suggestions. By working together, we can accomplish our goals; assure stability of our organization and to allow for continuing growth. This means I will continue to work to make Moslem bigger and better, to make it an organization that provides more of the services Nobles need and want. I'm proud to belong to Moslem and I'm thankful for the family and friends that supported you along the way.



Marty Opeth Oriental Guide

Martin Opeth

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

Nobles all,

I would like to start by wishing everyone a Happy New Year, and with that, congratulate Illustrious Sir Mike Zelmanski and our Divan on having been elected to preside over Moslem Shrine for the ensuing year. My appointment as your Chaplin is one that I would have never envisioned being considered for or receiving. I am deeply humbled by the fact that I was, and a little scared that I accepted.

When Ill. Sir Mike first contacted me and I slowly came to the realization that he was serious (I did question his sanity <grin>), my thoughts turned to our Chaplin Emeritus, Noble Bob Scott. Intimidated is an understatement because I know I will never fill his shoes. I was concerned about what his thoughts would be about this "change" but who better to ask advice from?

In the several conversations with Noble Bob, I know I have his support and that he is there to provide good counsel. So, Thank YOU, Chaplin Emeritus Bob! As I travel through these uncharted waters I feel secure in the fact that I have someone with your knowledge on my side.



Gary Lewandowski Chaplain

Nobles, in my first message as your Chaplin, I would like to ask that you please join me in looking ahead to this coming year and beyond. 2021 promises significant challenges and changes in each of our lives, our Country and Mighty Moslem. However, I am confident that by coming together with our leadership and some Divine help, we will be able to reshape our destination thus assuring Moslem Shrine enjoys a fantastic and Blessed future!

Let us dedicate 2021 to a renewal of positive energy and enthusiasm that Moslem Shriners have...an energy that may have taken a hit by the uncertainty of this past year. Let us lead by example and strive to make each other better, remembering that we should all act by the square of virtue and on the level, defending a Brother's character to his face as well as behind his back.

I will leave you with a final thought – if you have not visited your Blue Lodge in a while, PLEASE consider doing so. This is one place that you WILL always be welcome and maybe it will help fan the flames of fraternal brotherhood that reside in each of us.

S&F

Additional information for the flyers with TBD dates, times and costs will be provided as soon as they become available on our website and in our upcoming Moslemite magazine issues.

Who Wants To Get Lucky?

Saturday, March 6, 2021

Shriners Silver Gardens Events Center 24350 Southfield Road, Southfield, MI 48075

Doors Open at 11:00am
Fun from Noon—3:00pm

Over 100 Valuable Prizes Up For Grabs 25¢ Opportunities!

Share the Wealth Opportunities!

Tickets may be purchased from Dawn Reeves 248-736-7149 (dawn.reeves@att.net)

or

Moslem Shrine Office 248-569-2900 x3
When purchased before February 26th - \$10.00
At the door - \$15.00

Children under 10 - \$5.00

(includes all the fun, lunch and soda - other beverages may be purchased)

Public is invited so bring your friends!!!!



















ALL UNITS

Holiday Party

Saturday, December 4th Penna's of Sterling



On behalf of the officers and Nobles of Moslem Shriners, we express our sincere sympathy to the families and friends who have lost loved ones during this difficult social distancing time.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

ROCHESTER SHRINE CLUB

In the past years, Rochester Shrine Club has sponsored many fun events for the members and their families. We are hoping that things will return to normal soon so we can re-start popular events. Over the years we had many family events including Bowling for Fun, Bocce Ball, Night at the Races at Hazel Park and one of my favorites, Octoberfest. Over the last few years, wives have been invited to our club meetings. The wives and the guys have separate tables, keeping far enough away so the laughter doesn't "interrupt our meetings". In other words, everyone has a good time. Club meetings are held at various locations in the Rochester area, mostly at bar/restaurants that members enjoy. Want a great burger, seafood or some Mexican food, we can go there for a meeting or two. Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:00PM, although special gatherings are always possible. Presently, no in-person meeting is scheduled until April. Thinking about joining? Call the Shrine Center and get on RSC email list today!

Marty Opeth, Pres RSC

MEMBERSHIP

Happy New Year!

Hello Mighty Moslemites!

I am hoping each and every one of you enjoyed your holidays and welcome you to 2021. Against our wills and wishes, we all have taken a pause in our lives. Although there are several inconveniences this "pause" has caused, I ask that you may look at this in a positive view. We have been given the rare opportunity to self reflect on our needs rather than our wants. An opportunity to connect with our families, close friends and those we have lost in our physical lives. Some have used this time to learn some new skills in cooking, some have caught up on long overdue home improvements, and others may have used their time on some long neglected hobbies. It is a gift of time to reconnect with ourselves.

In this year of 2021, we can only hope the veil of uncertainty will be lifted. As valued Noble Brothers, we genuinely wish to reconnect and reassert ourselves to our Shriners Hospitals for Children. I know that our Divan has been working in our absence to ensure we can resume to our events as soon as our situation allows. We are very much looking for new Nobles, so keep on the look out for good men who you believe to one day be great Shriners.

On this day of December 7th, 2020 we currently have 1,760 members of the 1,833 we began with this year. Unfortunately, we have lost 88 of our Nobles to travel with the Black Camel. 10 new Nobles have been created, 12 restorations and 1 affiliation have been added to keep on pace. We currently have 4 unfulfilled petitions to join the Shrine. For those Nobles who have created this success, please accept our humble thanks for helping to improve our temple one Brother at a time.

Fellow Shriners, please know that those members in arrears on their dues are not permitted to participate in Shrine events until they are current. This includes the upcoming business meeting and elections. NPD's are one of the leading sources of losses within Shrine membership and is one of the easiest to avoid. Simply look at your card to see if it is current and call our Shrine Office to make arrangements for payment if necessary.

Fraternally Yours,

Noble Rick Gaines

Moslem Temple

Membership Committee Chairman

GLSCUA President

shrinergaines@yahoo.com

It's A GREAT Day To Be A Shriner!



SHRINE LANCERS

Season's Greetings!

Wow! Who would have thought that we would end up in the Christmas Season with still so much uncertainty? Luckily, our Lancer family has been hanging in there strong and we are all doing well. We send our thoughts and prayers to all victims of this pandemic and are saying prayers for all friends and family that you may know that have suffered during these times.

We have not had any parades or functions to speak of, so, there isn't much new news about what we have been doing on the street. We do have news that members of the unit have been having their cars updated and fixed during the past many months and when we do hit the pavement, we will have a strong and healthy fleet of cars ready to parade. Thank you to Gary in the garage and all the other members that have stepped up and helped to work on cars.

We would like to congratulate Kent Gardner on becoming the new Worshipful Master of the Royal Oak Lodge #464. He will lead them strongly into 2021 and we are very proud of him. Way to go Kent!

We would like to welcome two new members to the unit. Welcome Doug Powell and Don Becker Jr. to the best unit in the Shrine. We are all looking forward to getting to know you guys and parading with you next summer on the street.

Sick Report- Dave Burnette is doing much better since his accident at work months ago. I believe all other Lancers are doing well also.

We have had online zoom business meetings during this COVID time each month. Contact Matt if you would like to join any of the meetings. They are on the first Monday of each month at 7pm.

FACE MASKS! The Lancers are selling facemasks. They are 100 % cotton and are made in the USA. They are black and have the Shrine emblem on them. Please contact Matt or any other Lancer to get yours today. They are \$10 each. Matt's email is mattpoth@gmail.com. Get your awesome facemasks today!!!!!

Exciting news! If you haven't heard, there is a new unit in the Shrine that you can be a part of. Some of us in the Lancers have started a new unit in the Shrine. It is called "Fez on Wheels Camping Club". If you like to travel, own a camper/RV, or just like to camp, then come and join our new unit. We have trips planned for next summer and spaces are filling up fast. Cabins and tents are allowed at most of these places, so all are welcome to join. More to come on this later, but rest assured, it will be fun!

To all NEW and experienced Shriners, here is your chance. If you have been looking for that one unit that you would like to belong to, look no further. Come to the Lancer room on the first Monday of each month and meet the guys. You will have the time of your life driving a Lancer car in the parades. Contact Matt P. for more information and make a decision that I know you won't regret. Come join one of the fastest growing units in Moslem and become a Lancer today!

Todd Wyber (Piper T)



RECEPTION UNIT

Greetings to all the members of the Reception Unit and a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Hope all of you are well and enjoying the stay at home, with all the restrictions of wearing your mask and keeping your distant when you have to go outside. Like I said before one day this Virus problem will be over and we can get back to normal.

As you should know, the Shrine Sportsman Raffle is scheduled for April 24th 2021 so we will have a Wheel Barrow of Cheer the same day. Also, as you should know, this is the way we make money to support our Shrine Hospitals and other functions in the Shrine and our own activities. One day we will put on a Charity Poker again to make additional money but it is hard to get back in with them.

You will be notified when we have a meeting and have functions in the shrine again.

We should start collecting our bottles of booze anytime, so get your donation to George at 6766 Vernmoor in Troy or take it down to the Shrine Temple and I will pick it up. Call me at 248-828-4151 and let me know. Just to remind you when we get back to having parades again, we are in charge of carrying the shrine Banner and we will need at least (2) members to do that. So plan on being there and help your Unit. We haven't been doing a very good job of it.

We were supposed to have our Shrine Election Of Officers by Zoom in December. Congratulations to whoever was elected as Oriental Guide. One of our members, Marty Opeth was running.

We were going to have a Christmas Party and a outing at Uncle Ray's Chrystal Lounge and a few months later a trip to the Casino. Because of the Virus we have had to put all of them on hold.

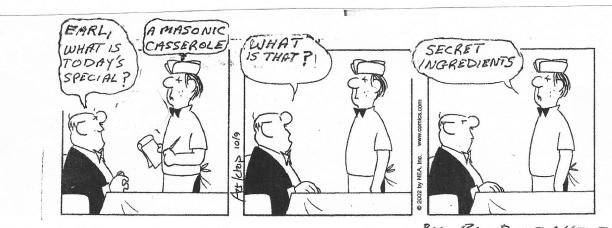
Your Unit has been doing there share by donating to the Shrine Hospital and other things in the Shrine. A few months ago we purchased another case of Calendars from the Shrine to help their sales. At this date we have received \$1405.00 back in Calendar winners and the \$5.00 for each Calendar we purchased from the Shrine. We spent a lot of money for the Calendars but we have gotten a lot back.

If anybody wants "Reception Unit" on their fez, take it to the Shrine Temple and the Unit will cover the cost. Also, if you don't have a Reception Unit Name Tag, let George know and again the Unit will cover the cost. We still have a lot of gold and silver fez pins, so sell them if you can.

Brothers in the last few months we have had Albert Tedd, Stan Miller, Bufford Gibson, Buck Lowry and Uncle Ray's (2) sons have passed away. One of the sons was his grandson, Ray's father. Your Unit has made a donation to the Shrine as a memorial to each them. Keep their families in your prayers.

Quotables: My father gave me the greatest gift anyone could give to another person; He believed in me.

Jim Valvano



BY RAY DOYSCHER

CHILDCARE

Nobles All - Greetings

People always say you can't really explain why you feel a certain way about someone. Why you click with some people more than others or why you suddenly feel connected to a stranger. I feel like God brings us closer to certain people because these are the people we need in our lives right now. These are the people who will either teach us important lessons about life or about ourselves.

There's a reason why God moves your heart toward a specific person and a reason why you get attached to certain people more than others. When I look back, there's not one person I got really attached to who didn't have something valuable to teach me or didn't play a major role in my life. And the irony is, most of these people were temporary because their duty was to show me a different way and then set me free.

Sometimes the stage of your life determines what kind of people you attract and I think that's the beauty of faith, God sends you the people you need at exactly the right time. He gives you the answers you were looking for through these people. He enlightens you by bringing you closer to people who bring out the best in you. He helps you when you're struggling by pulling you closer to those who are capable of digging you out of your darkness.

I have been fortunate enough to have that person in my life at four (4) different occasions, each time I posted my gratitude and appreciation on FaceBook.

Aug 3, 2018

Dec 2, 2018

A special ANGEL was with us tonight at the All Units Party. That person presented the Child Care program with a gift that left me speechless. You know who you are and I will never forget it. As I look for words to show my appreciation, I'm at a loss. I cannot thank you enough, you will forever be in my heart.

December 2019 and August 6, 2020

Again, this very special person presented checks to Moslem Shriners - Child Care Special Events.



Nobles and Ladies, at this time I would like to introduce to you that very special person, Natalie Simon. Natalie and I first met in July of 2018 as she transferred into the Department I was in at Ford. There was an immediate connection as Natalie and I began to know each other. Natalie was immediately connected to Shriners and the work that Shriners do for kids. Natalie represents a Foundation called Giving Hearts that is governed by Natalie, her Mother and Father. To date, Giving Hearts has presented Moslem Shriners – Child Care Special Events a total of \$7000.00

"God puts people in our lives on purpose so we can help them succeed and help them become all He created them to be. Most people will not reach their full potential without somebody else believing in them". Joel Osteen

To expand upon that, God puts people in our lives on purpose so THEY can help US succeed and help US become all He created US to be. Most people will not reach their full potential without somebody else believing in them. On behalf of Moslem Shriners, I would like to thank Giving Hearts and Natalie Simon for their gracious giving to something that I so deeply believe in - Moslem

Shriners Child Care Program and all of the Shrine Kids that we represent.

Until we meet again..........
Bob O'Brien, Past Potentate
Director of Child Care





GRAND LODGE OF MICHIGAN

Brethren, Nobles, we are in the midst of a terrible pandemic which is causing world-wide financial disaster, rampant unemployment and tragically, death and suffering to thousands of humans. My thoughts and prayers go to all those afflicted by this terrible disease.

Since formal Freemasonry began in the Goose and Gridiron pub in London in 1715 there have been several pandemics that we have had to endure. In 1817 there was the 1st Cholera Pandemic; in 1855 the Bubonic Plague; in 1889 the Russian Flu; in 1918 the Spanish Flu; in 1957 the Asian flu; 1981 Aids /HIV; 2003 SARS.

But though all of these catastrophes Freemasonry has still survived. Even 2 world wars, the Morgan Affair of 1826 or in 1832, the formation of an Anti-Masonic political Party could not halt the progress of Freemasonry. If anything, it made the bonds of brotherhood stronger.

Why?, because Masonry is built on a solid ethical and moral foundation. Through all the dark, trying times, the tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth shine brightly.

Through Masonry and the Shrine, we make connections, establish bonds, create ties and these connections never go away. Sometimes the ties are taut and at others, they become very loose but they never go away. I know that very one of us knows a Brother or a Noble that we haven't contacted in a long time. I encourage you to call him and do it today.

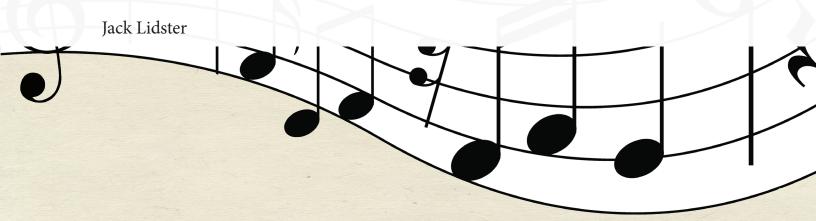
Since March 2020, Masonic lodges have been open then closed several times but they will open again. I ask all of you to attend a lodge meeting and renew old acquaintances, make new friends and promote the Shrine . The Shrine is great and wonderful organization with a unique situation. It has a single source of new Memberships. The Blue lodge! So by attending lodge you can enjoy the Fellowship of Masonry and be an ambassador for the Shrine. If we work together, we can make this a great year for Michigan Masonry and for Moslem Shrine.

Stay Safe and Healthy MW William R. Finkel PGM Grand Secretary Grand Lodge of Michigan

THE BRASS BAND

The Brass Band is awaiting the opportunity to get back to some degree of normalcy. Even though we would like to meet, we enjoy ourselves to a great degree by being able to play our instruments, that really can't happen until we can dispense with our masks. The mask removal can't happen until we get a proven vaccine to fight this corona virus. So, for now, we will bide our time until circumstances improve.

I hope this message finds you and your family in good health.



PAST MASTERS UNIT

Article II of the By-Laws of the Past Masters Unit:

"The object of this Unit shall be to exemplify and/or confer the second section of the Master Mason Degree, in conformity to the current Michigan Masonic Ritual, in Regular Lodges, duly Chartered and recognized by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Michigan; to promote good fellowship among its members, to assist the Officers of Moslem Temple Shrine, Shriners International, as they may direct, or as the members hereof my determine."

The second section of the Master Mason Degree is arguably the most enjoyable and fulfilling work in Masonic ritual. The lessons taught during the degree, and the fellowship that inevitably follows its conferral, is something that a candidate never forgets and lasts a lifetime. We need to continue this work for the benefit of the candidate and well as the fraternity.

We are looking for Past Masters interested in helping Lodges in SW Michigan with the second section of the Master Mason degree. Enjoy the fellowship and camaraderie that comes with being a Past Master.

We're laying low during the COVID pandemic but are anxious to get restarted when Grand Lodge allows us to start meeting again.

For more information contact Michael Blackmer at (734) 678-0456 or MPBlackmer@gmail.com







George R. Brown Convention Center 1001 Avenida De Las Americas, Houston, TX 77010

Activities

Imperial Corn Hole Tournament Other Activities TBD

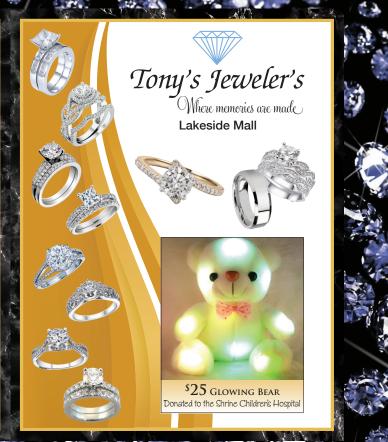
Join our Potentate and First Lady Mike & Diane Zelmanski at the 2021 Imperial Session in Houston!

Costs / Travel / Activity information will be provided as soon as they become available

www.imperialsession.com







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