DESSERT DUST

WINSTON-SALEM SHRINE CLUB OYSTER ROAST

Photo by Marty Wilson

John D. Burgess, Sr & Lady Charlotte

Team 2018
Get the Message

Your Potentate

Hello Nobles and Ladies, Lady Charlotte and I have been very busy traveling as many places as we can possibly attend. What a pleasure it is for us to come out and enjoy the fellowship among our most dedicated members and there families. It is a true blessing for Lady Charlotte and me to see our members’ passion for caring for our children and all that you do to raise money and awareness for our great organization and hospitals.

Lady Charlotte and I went to our first planning meeting for our upcoming Spring Ceremonial in beautiful Blowing Rock. First Ceremonial Master Doug Garland along with Assistant Rabban Bill Carter and Director Clay McLean met with the people at Chetola along with the Town people that will be assisting us when we go in June. They are very excited and appreciative that Oasis is coming back and staying in Blowing Rock. They are definitely rolling out the red carpet for us. Once we get all of the information together, we will email blast it out and get info in the Desert Dust as soon as we can.

Next we went with several of our members to the Shrine Bowl meeting in Greenville SC where we attended the annual meeting of the Shrine Bowl Board. The meeting was all day Saturday with a banquet that night for the awards for 2017. Several Oasis members along with some Clubs and Units were recognized for their participation.

The next week we attended the Sand Hills Shrine Club meeting and had a wonderful meal; I was honored to install their Officers for 2018. Noble Outer Guard Joe Burris accompanied us to the meeting and presented Noble Sam Ballard with the Al Madsen Standing Tall Award of Excellence for his dedicated service to Oasis in all that he does to promote membership and our hospitals. It was truly an honor to be there to see Noble Sam get this award that he so richly deserves.

The following Friday night had us at the monthly meeting at the Red Fez Shrine Club. President Alan Marfin has great plans for the club this year and he is making sure that everyone is enjoying themselves when visiting the club. He also reminded everyone of the upcoming Lake Wylie Golf Classic being held on April 12 and 13. Details on the tournament are in the Desert Dust. This is a very dedicated group of Nobles who really do a fantastic job of supporting and raising money for our Greenville Hospital.

On March 9 and 10 we attended Annual Shriner Days at Shriner Hospitals for Children—Greenville. What a great facility that we can all be proud of. We had a large group of Oasis members in attendance on Saturday for the tour. When you get to see what our dedicated staff and doctors do for our children, it makes everything we do worthwhile. Thank you to everyone for all that you do that makes it possible for us to care for the children the way we do.

On our way back to Charlotte, we went to the Riverside Lodge Ham Day in Catawba NC. Along for the ride with us was Chief Rabban Ken Jarrett and Lady Vickie, Second Ceremonial Master Shea Fadel, Noble Allen Leatherman and Lady Doris. What a great meal we got to enjoy and some great fellowship with all that were present. Hey Kenny, how many biscuits do you have left? HAHA

The next Tuesday Lady Charlotte and I along with First Ceremonial Master Doug Garland, Lady Leah, and there son Jackson and daughter Lauren, along with PP John Elder attended the Lexington Shrine Club monthly meeting in Lexington. That night, Doug, John and I were honored to handout five 50 year certificates to some very dedicated Nobles. Look for the picture on page 10. It is always a special time when we can say thank you to such dedicated Nobles that have helped make Oasis what it is today. Thanks for all you do and continue to do for our organization and children.

Until next time, thanks for all you do to continue to make Oasis number one in membership and fundraising. It is because of YOU that we stay number one. Remember YOUR TEAM 2018 is here to help you in way that we can. May God continue to bless us in all that we do.

Yours in the Faith
John and Charlotte

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Your Recorder

Ah, spring is in the air. It’s the transitional buffer from a cold winter to a hot summer. A great time of the year, a great time for not just one, but two Oasis Ceremonials. Get your candidates’ petitions turned in to the Oasis office for the April 14 One Day Cold Sands at Ashe County and our full-fledged Spring Ceremonial the first weekend of June in Blowing Rock.

Oasis has such a great and vast heritage going back over 120 years, and we’re creating our own legacies right now for our future generations of Oasis Shriners. You’ve heard the term ‘We’re Standing on the Shoulders of Giants’? I was speaking with a relatively mature Oasis Past Potentate recently, and I reminded him that I was standing on his shoulders, though metaphorically, and I hope I don’t squash him.

Sometimes I get pretty wound up on where we’ve been and where we’re going, mostly short-term. Over the past several weeks I have spent more time in the Oasis office, taking care of loose ends and putting out some hot-spots before they become fires, again metaphorically speaking. Most of the time I think and ponder of what can be done better to continue to keep Oasis great for our members, our Patients ‘The Kids’ and our Hospitals.

One of the things I’d like to get Oasis back to is a regularly scheduled email blast from the Oasis Headquarters office with news of importance, club and unit events, etc. Perhaps once a month about midway between receiving the Desert Dust the first week of the month. Here is the rub, we don’t have good contact information for many of our members. Please look to the WebFez ad in this issue and help us out by going on-line to check your contact information and making modifications if necessary.

Another thing we’d like to have completed by 2019 is amended Club and Unit bylaws conforming to the Model Temple Club and Unit Bylaw Template. I brought this up at the Officers’ Orientation in late January citing this as an effort to align the bylaws to reflect those of Oasis and Shriners International. Also, the new or amended bylaws will be scanned to digital files for easy reference and future access.

Club and Unit leaders, our Oasis Treasurer and accounting office is sitting on ready to receive the remaining 2017 Financial Reports that have yet to be submitted. We are well past the cut-off deadline and must compile all Club and Unit information to complete our Oasis return to the accounting folks in Tampa, FL. Please render your 2017 Reports to Oasis as soon as you can by email (Lori) accounting@oasisshriners.org, fax to 704-549-9692 or mail or drop off at 604 Doug Mayes Place, Charlotte, NC 28262.

For now, I am handling the Oasis Fez orders and banner text modifications. There is a simple Excel form that D. Turin Co. and I are using to facilitate this process. Club and Unit leaders should submit their member’s plain fez to have banner line text added or to request a new Oasis fez. The process may take up to 8 weeks. Please let me know if you need any help with this.

I hope youz-guys don’t get tired of me bragging about Oasis Shriners being the largest in total membership and the most generous of the 199 Shrine Centers in the world. Thank You!

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob Saye
Recorder,
Oasis Shriners
Dedication, Devotion, and Duty

“Therefore, shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” Genesis 2:24

Dedication, devotion and duty. What a life Harry Bryant, P.P. of Gastonia has enjoyed! Dedication: Married to Ruby for 75 years. Devotion: a 70-year member of the Educational Foundation of UNC-Chapel Hill (The Rams Club). The elder statesman of Oasis Shriners, being senior Past Potentate. Duty: Illustrious Sir Harry founded and was President of Bryant Electric Supply, one of the largest privately-owned companies in North Carolina. Oh, and March 15, 2018 he is to celebrate his 97th birthday.

As a young man attending church in Gastonia, Illustrious Sir Harry Bryant may well have heeded the words of a sermon one Sunday, when the minister urged the men in the congregation to follow Adam’s lead after the creation of Eve to “Cleave unto his wife.” Harry may have even heard the minister say that the word “Cleave” literally means “glued together.”

Dedication as in ‘Glued together.’ Married January 14, 1943, Harry and Ruby Bryant have been glued together for over 75 years. Glued? Yep. Seldom have you seen one without the other. After serving in the Second World War, Harry returned home and the Bryants made a life together raising four children, a daughter, Suzanne, of Davidson; and four sons: Tom, Dick and Harry! (Actually, Harry, Jr., Charlotte; Richard, Raleigh and Tommy, Gastonia).

Devotion. Illustrious Sir Harry was elected Potentate of Oasis Shriners 53 years ago, January 1965, at the age of 43 years: one of Oasis’ younger Potentates. As such he holds the distinction of being the senior Past Potentate. He holds the record on years of service; whereas, Illustrious Sir Walter (“Sticky”) Burch of Greensboro beats-out Illustrious Sir Harry on age!

While observing the ceremonies surrounding Rev. Billy Graham’s funeral recently, Illustrious Sir Harry remembered as Potentate attending an Asheville Shrine Club’s fund-raising project at an Asheville Tourists Baseball Game. That night, Rev. Billy Graham had been invited to present the invocation and to throw-out the first baseball. The two enjoyed the game together; but, this would not be the last time the two would visit. There was the time that Harry and Illustrious Sir Dave Smith, PP were playing golf in Charlotte, when they spent time with Rev. Graham on the golf course.

What is his fondest memory of being Potentate? He says, “The relationships and long-lasting friendships, of course.” But, he fondly remembers having six ceremonials and creating over 600 new Shriners, while raising money for Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Duty: Serving God. Illustrious Sir Harry continues to serve God through his church, First ARP, Gastonia. Harry says, “God has blessed me with much, and it is my duty to be a blessing to others.” That is Illustrious Sir Harry Bryant: Dedication, Devotion, Duty.

John Stanley, P.M., P.P. is Assistant Chaplain, Shriners International, Chaplain of Oasis Shriners and Minister of Visitation of First Presbyterian, Gastonia. He can be reached at jstanley1@carolina.rr.com.
Tribute to a Tripster

We lost our “Tripster of the Year” on February 18, 2018. Gene Spain really was one of a kind.

A friend to all, especially our Shrine patients, he came to Oasis almost daily. He would have driven kids to the hospitals every day if he could have; he loved being a Hospital Tripster that much. If he wasn’t going on a trip, he was here taking the hospital vans to be serviced or washed. On days that wasn’t needed, he was bringing the girls in the office breakfast, which consisted of donuts or McDonald’s apple pies. My life was made better by knowing Gene. I’m sure all of you who knew him can say that. He will be missed by many, many people and especially by me.

Rest in Peace sweet man. The kids in Heaven are going to love you as much as our kids here on this earth do.

Your friend,
Linda Wallace,
Oasis Hospital Coordinator

Notable Shriner and Politician Passes

Irwin “Ike” Belk was born in Charlotte, NC on April 4, 1922, to the late William Henry and Mary Irwin Belk.

Ike had a rewarding life as a businessman, philanthropist, civic leader, elected official and public servant. He was a Scottish Rite Mason and an Oasis Shriner.

“My father always taught us that those who were fortunate enough to possess or earn wealth had a special responsibility… to use it wisely and to share it with those less fortunate. If you don’t take care of this generation, the next one won’t be worth shooting. My advice is to throw the roses where you can smell them. Don’t wait until you’re dead and gone. Do it now.”

Irwin Belk

Reminder

All ads & articles for the May edition of the Desert Dust must be submitted to Edie Wilson - Ediewilson7@gmail.com by April 10.

Contact the Temple Office for more information or call Joe Burris, Membership Chairman at 704-322-8941.

Are You Ready for a Cold Sands???

April 14, 2018
Ashe County Shrine Club
117 Morpeth Lane, Jefferson, NC 28640
Lunch served at 11am and to be followed by Ceremonial!!!
Laugh Out Loud

High Point Presents Hypnosis Comedy Show

By Edie Wilson

We saw an active-duty Marine who couldn’t remember how to do a push-up or sit in a chair. We watched a man give birth to a monkey. And we were entertained by Shania Twain, Taylor Swift, Michael Jackson and Elvis.

How, you might ask, can one experience all these wonders AND raise funds for Shriners Hospitals for Children? When six hypnotized individuals come out into the audience and dance for dollars people start handing over dollar bills. All that money goes for a great cause.

On Saturday night, March 3 it was easy. The High Point Shrine Club and High Point Elks came together to present a Hypnosis Comedy Show featuring Herb McCandless, Jr., Hypnotist. The first ten minutes of the show was a combination of stand up comedy and explaining the science behind what is about happen. After the volunteers have taken the stage the magic happens as the hypnotic induction takes place.

Needless to say the laughs were loud and long. Herb’s main focus is keeping the volunteers safe and seeing that everyone has a good time and leaves happy. You can see Herb’s show at Myrtle Beach this summer.

Alan W. “Al” Madsen, Past Imperial Potentate of Shriners International, and Lady Jan Madsen Are Proud to Support Toleah Poplin as their personal REALTOR®

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Notes From The Band

Spring is on the way and we want to really generate some excitement for 2018! And - speaking of excitement - we recently learned that our Director, Patrick Watkins, and his wife Tamara are expecting their first child this summer! We already have a Band uniform reserved for the future Oasis Shriner!

We have an ambitious schedule to accomplish this year in support of our Potentate, Illustrious Sir Johnny and our Divan.

Our goal is to increase our visibility, both to our fellow Shriners, but also to our communities in the promotion of Oasis and Shriners Hospitals for Children.

We are in the process of restructuring our rehearsal schedule and adding tools to help us better prepare for a demanding performance schedule. We have procured a music program for our members called Smart Music which will enable us to improve our skills.

We are actively seeking new members to grow our Band! Our plans for the year include developing breakout groups to allow us to take part in different venues. This would include ideas such as a brass quintet or a jazz quartet.

If you have a serious interest in music, we welcome you to join us. We encourage anyone who has played an instrument at an advanced level (high school, college, beyond) to come and sit in with us!

Even if it’s been a few years since you have actively played, our experience tells us that you can become proficient again in short order.

Fraternally,
Chuck Reed

Red Fez Shrine Club Hosts Fundraisers

On Saturday, February 24, the Lake Wylie Classic Golf Tournament Committee in partnership with The Red Fez Shrine Club, hosted The First Annual Shriners’ “ALL-U-CAN-EAT” Oyster Roast and Chili Cook-off. We were blessed with gorgeous weather for the event, good food, excellent entertainment and spectacular views of Lake Wylie.

The event was an overwhelming success, raising over $3,500. These proceeds along with proceeds from the Lake Wylie Classic Golf Tournament (April 13), and proceeds from the Silent Auction (scheduled for April 12 at The Red Fez Shrine Club) will all benefit Shriners Hospitals for Children—Greenville.

As a wonderful addition, pictured right, Noah Robbins (Shriners Patient) with his mother Lori Robbins visited the event.

We are honored to announce that Noah, his mother and dad Brenda and Keith Moynihan, along with his grandparents will be participating in the tournament and attend Thursday’s Silent Auction. Please watch The Desert Dust for more details.
Catching up with the Drum & Bugle Corps

Hello Nobles, Ladies and friends of Oasis Shriners…and hello springtime!

As it has been a few months since our last article in The Desert Dust, it was believed that a bit of catching up was due.

January found our unit saying “congratulations” and “thank you” any number of times. We said thank you to our now Past Potentate, Ill. Sir Mike Neaves for his service and for presenting the Drum & Bugle Corps with a 1st place award for hospital fundraising by a parade unit in the Gold Group. We shared our hardiest congratulations with our new Potentate, Ill. Sir Johnny Burgess and Lady Charlotte. We have been happy to welcome Ill. Sir Burgess at our functions and fundraisers and hospitality rooms in the past and look forward to seeing him often this year.

Some may have wondered if spring had come early this year as we eased through a pleasant February. But alas, the old timers knew that if the month of March was not over, neither was winter. The Drum & Bugle Corps family is always excited to see March arrive though. In recent years, the first of our many family fun times is our bowling night which usually comes around St. Patrick’s Day. This continues to be a favorite for all that participate. We rent a few lanes and enjoy several hours of fun and fellowship. These family events are also used as a form of outreach to those that may not be a Shriner. Corps members are encouraged to invite their friends from Lodge as well as friends and neighbors who may not even be a Mason yet. Being in the Drum & Bugle Corps is still a “Family Thing.”

As you are now reading your April issue of The Dust, which means the day is near for our big Hospital fundraiser. That’s right, time for our 8th Annual Car & Truck Show! The date is Saturday, May 5th, as a part of the Mt. Holly Spring Fest, in Mt. Holly, NC. This show has continued to grow each year. We are happy to welcome back some familiar faces each year and excited to greet new entrants and share with them about how their participation helps raise money for our 22 hospitals. The previous seven shows have taught us many things, one of which is we never know exactly what type of cars and trucks will show up to show off. Customs, street rods, rat rods…heck one of the more popular entries last year was a big ol’ late 50’s Ford station wagon that had not been restored! Do you have or know someone that has a car or truck that should be seen? If so, we hope to see that vehicle. There’s a flyer on this page of The Desert Dust with all the information. You can also contact us through our facebook page.

This is our first article of the year, so we’d like to share a couple more “thank you” and “good luck” thoughts. I’d like send a sincere thank you to Terry Cox. I’m an old truck driver, not a journalist, so you might imagine that I didn’t have much or any confidence when I first started trying to write these “Beat of the Street” stories. Noble Brother Cox was supportive and encouraging, and it was appreciated. We welcome back Lady Edie Wilson as our Editor and send our best wishes for good luck and success as we begin to work with her once again.

continued on page 9
In closing, I notice as I get older, time really does fly. Maybe a New Years’ resolution you had was to join a club or unit. Well, three months of 2018 have past. If you are not in a club or parade unit yet, we invite you to come visit us at one of our meetings. You may not think you can play or march, but our invitation is sincere. We think with a bit of practice you can do a lot. And if not our Drum and Bugle Corps, we would encourage you to really look at the various clubs and parade units within Oasis. Visit with one or more until you find one that feels right for you. Any of the clubs or units will be glad to welcome you.

After all, it really isn’t about us as individual Shriners, it’s about the children that are helped in our 22 hospitals, because...“When the Hospitals win, we all win!”

Ned Yates, Drum & Bugle Corps

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If you have not signed up for Shriners Village, do so today.

Shriners Village is a website designed to keep members of Shrine International up to date on all aspects of Shrinedom.

Simply google Shriners Village and follow the instructions. So easy, even a Shriner can do it.

www.shrinershq.org
www.twitter.com/shriners
www.facebook.com/shrinersinternational

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Shrine Trailer Travels for You

Many of you have seen the Shrine Hospital Trailer at our Ceremonials, Circuses, and at many other locations, but did you know it is available for your public fund raising or awareness events? Noble Jim is ready and willing to bring the trailer to your location, with advance notice. He can be reached at 704-534-2906, or by email at jrorie@bellsouth.net.
Potentate Recognizes Fifty-Year Honorees

Fifty year award pins and certificates were presented to three Nobles at Lexington Shrine Club’s monthly meeting in March.

Joining the festivities - Ill. Sir John Burgess and Lady Charlotte, 1st Ceremonial Master Douglas Garland and his Lady Leah and their son and daughter, along with PP John Elder. (Also earning awards were Thomas Ramsey and Bruce Hayes who were not in attendance.)

Congratulations to these dedicated Nobles.

The Oasis Shriners Patrol Unit
A DIFFERENT KIND OF MARCHING MADNESS

As a continuum from our previous March article, to further expound on The Patrol Unit Members’ accomplishments, there are many dedicated Patrolmen/Nobles serving on our Oasis Team 2018 Committees. Past Captain, Noble Graham Wilson is a SASA Representative, Emeritus. On the Oasis Membership Team, Noble Joe Burris is the Chairman, Noble Scotty Cox is the Vice Chairman; Noble Brian Clay is the Vice President of Masonic Relations and Noble Robby Saye, Jr. is the Representative for District Nine. Noble J. Ralph Linn, MD is on the Oasis Medical Staff and Noble Chris Cox and Chad Andrews head up Oasis’ Information Technology team.

The Oasis Patrol Unit continues to march forward while glancing in the rear-view mirror. There are several Oasis Patrolmen that have served Oasis’ highest office, that of Potentate. Now relegated to Past Potentates, many currently serve Oasis on Imperial and Hospital Boards. Preface with Illustrious Sir and Imperial Sir as it applies; Bill Harward (1998), Al Madsen (Oasis Pote 2000, Imperial Pote 2012-2013), Gary Taylor (2007), Mike Downs (2009), H. Mike Cook (2012). These are the “Shoulders of Giants” we are standing upon today.

How is this for a throwback? For you die-hard Oasis history buffs: a newsprint image touting the First Oasis Temple Patrol – 1910. This is Oasis’ very first formed unit and one of the first in all of Shrinedom. This image was obtained by this author during a back-alley deal during the cloak of darkness with our Patrol Unit’s historian Noble Graham Wilson. Oasis history dictates that this group of Noble groundbreakers made the pilgrimage by a special chartered ‘Oasis Train’ to Rochester, New York in July 1911 for the Session of the Imperial Council and marched in the parade. For that week, Rochester was colorfully branded as Feztown, Shrineburg and Nobleopolis within the local newspapers. Noble Jim Walker, Patrol Captain pictured center in the white fez, went on to become the Potentate of Oasis Temple in 1919.

There were several Oasis Patrolmen and Ladies who made the short trip down I-85 on Saturday March 10, 2018 to our Greenville, SC Shriners Hospital for Children for their Annual Shriner Days. This annual event garners attendance by Imperial dignitaries, the public, local media, sponsors, patients and families, and members of the 18 Shrine Centers in the Area 8 Catch-Man area in the southeastern United States. The morning was lined up with special presentations and tours of the magnificent facility - a Hospital that does not seem like a Hospital, with a lobby reminiscent of a Hyatt Regency hotel. It is indeed a special place for Shriners, but more especially for ‘The Kid.’ That is what it is all about!

Thank you, Noble Captain Brandon, by allowing this renewed opportunity to provide a special set of skills on your behalf, to be able to pursue a passion of conveying musings about what is considered by many-to-most to be one of the best and most highly revered Patrol Units in ALL of Shrinedom, just ask any Oasis Patrolman for their validation of that fact.

Interested in joining this coveted Shrine Unit? Contact the Noble Patrol Captain to express your interest directly by email oasispatrolunit@gmail.com or phone 704-707-5189.

“Tact is the ability to tell someone to go to hell in such a way that they look forward to the trip.” - Winston Churchill

On Behalf of the Noble Patrol Captain, Bob Saye

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- 39TH ANNUAL -
LAKE NORMAN SHRINE CLUB BASS FISHING TOURNAMENT

In Memory of Jack Williams

WHERE: Queen’s Landing
1459 River Hwy,
Mooresville, NC 28117

WHEN: April 7th, 2018

REGISTRATION FORMS:
www.lakenormanshrineclub.com

CONTACT: Chuck Dixon
Cell: 703-969-8030
Email: cedixon1973@yahoo.com
Oysters and Shrimp and Hotdogs, Oh My!

By Edie Wilson

How many Shriners, family members and friends does it take to eat 695 pounds of shrimp, 75 bushels of oysters and 100 hotdogs?

Probably around 500. But who’s counting?

Winston-Salem Shrine Club—that’s who! Those were the numbers that went into hosting the most successful Oyster Roast they’ve had in many years. On January 24 the club was hard at work to be sure everyone had all they could eat. Dozens of volunteers—children and adults—were busy serving up trays of shrimp and tins of steamed oysters. Plenty of Cole slaw, crackers, horseradish and melted butter were dished out as well. And, don’t forget the pinto beans—eight pounds of them. We can see from the pictures there was no shortage of food. Homemade baked goods were on sale for anyone with a sweet tooth.

The club has had lots of practice—they’ve done this for over 40 years.

The work doesn’t stop with the oyster roast. On May 19, 26 and 27 club members and other recruits will gather at Charlotte Motor Speedway to work the NASCAR All-Star Race and the Coca-Cola 600. This huge undertaking is a very profitable fundraiser for our hospitals, and additional help is always appreciated. Anyone wishing to volunteer should contact the club at wsshrineclub@outlook.com.
High Point Shrine Club Hosts New Parade Unit

They may be called *trikes* but you should definitely take these *Drifters* seriously. They’re powered by a 6.5Hp motor and will take to the streets in June for the Blowing Rock Ceremonial Parade.

Seven Nobles—three from Red Fez Shrine Club and four from High Point Shrine Club—meet monthly at the High Point Shrine Club. The unit was formed to go out and get the crowds excited and bring awareness to Shriners. The PVC on the rear tires allows them to slide around and do tricks.

The Carolina Drifters are actively seeking new members. Contact Duane Tinch at 336-215-1866 or duanetinch@gmail.com for information about membership.

“We look forward to growing this unit and being a real crowd pleaser.”

PP John Elder, High Point Shrine Club, on a Drifter bike.

American Legion Post 234 Social Quarters Director Dorothy Webb and Tony Smith, Post Finance Officer, present a $1000 check to Noble Bill Chapman of the East Burke Shrine Club to benefit the Shriners Hospitals for Children—Greenville. Nobles present (L-R) Ben E. Roney, Jerry Brittan, Nolan Berry and Roger Heavner.

Travel with the Potentate
John Burgess & his First Lady

To San Francisco
The City by the Bay

August 2 to 6, 2018

Cable Cars, Fisherman’s Wharf, Golden Gate Bridge, Chinatown, Union Square, Lombard Street, Haight Ashbury and so much more to see and do. You don’t want to miss out.

The Parc 55 San Francisco – a Hilton Hotel is looking forward to hosting the group. Located in the heart of San Francisco the hotel is walking distance to Cable Cars & Union Square.

Room Rates, including taxes (based on Double Occupancy)
- Standard Room - $314 per night
- Deluxe Room - $334 per night
- Skyline/Bayview Rooms - $364 per night

Rates do not include mandatory $8 per bag (round trip) porterage fee

*Packages including airfare available upon request. Rates are based on availability. Additional night can be requested. Subject to availability.*

2 Possible Day trips
Napa Valley • Monterey / Carmel

Call Melanie at Creative Travel to reserve your spot. 704-825-1865

Space is limited
Keystone Kops Prepare for Upcoming Car Shows

Your Oasis Shriners Keystone Kops are in full swing for this year's 2018 Belmont Car Shows! Yes that is correct...SHOWS! The Keystone Kops have been hosting a weekly car show in downtown Belmont, NC for many years now. It will start the first Wednesday in April and run thru the end of September (weather permitting). This is a HUGE fundraiser for the Kops. We normally take in around $18,000 a year, just from our car shows.

If you have never been to a Keystone Kops car show, then you are missing out. There is always a huge crowd, never an entry fee for car owners and plenty of beach and classic oldies music playing from one of our DJ’s. We sell 50/50 tickets for $1 each and we also take donations and have monthly sponsors. Door prizes are usually given out at 7:30pm and around 8:15 is when we have the BIG 50/50 drawing. If you’ve ever been to our car shows then you know how BIG our pot can be!

Friends Restaurant has cold beverages for sale in the parking lot and they, along with Glenway Premium Pub, offer outdoor dining on both covered patios overlooking the car lots with great music playing in the background.

Our car shows get started around 6pm every Wednesday. So if you are looking to get the family out of the house or just looking for something fun to do, come on out to Belmont.

Location: Glenway Street (located directly off Main St in Downtown Belmont by the railroad tracks)
Time: 6-8:30pm every Wednesday from April – September.

All proceeds go to benefit Shriners Hospitals for Children

Check it Out

Rodney Morgan, Captain of the Guard and Honorary Keystone Kop issued the Oath of Office to our 2018 officers:
Don Deese, Captain; Bill Culp, 1st Lt.;
Brian Wilson, 2nd Lt./Secretary; Luther Williams, Treasurer
A Message from Your Public Relations Chairman

Dear Fellow Nobles,

Although Imperial Session isn’t until July, it’s not too early to be making plans to attend. This year, we return to Daytona Beach, Florida, where there is definitely something for everyone to enjoy – from a world-famous beach to a motorcycle run. Imperial Session is our annual “family reunion” – the time when our huge global family gathers, and we have the chance to catch up with old friends, to make new ones, and strengthen our individual commitments to the ideals of our fraternity – fun, fellowship and service to others.

Imperial Session is also the time when fraternity leaders from all levels meet to determine and discuss the best course of action to achieve the goals of Shriners International and Shriners Hospitals for Children.

These goals include increasing membership numbers while remaining aware of the needs and interests of our current nobles, and ensuring that our health care system functions as efficiently and effectively as possible.

Understanding the complex factors affecting these goals and making the best decisions for the future of our two great organizations requires listening, patience and discernment. Imperial Session is the place where you can learn more about these important issues, and resolve to do your part to strengthen and preserve your fraternity and philanthropy.

Jim L. Cain Sr.
Imperial Chief Rabban, Public Relations Chairman

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**AUCTION**

April 21, 2018 - 11AM
Parking lot of
Rural King store,
1227 Burkmont Avenue,
Morganton, NC.

East Burke Shrine Club will auction the above pictured UTV with all proceeds to go to the Shriners Hospitals for Children. Reserve bid of $5,000.

2017 Hisun RK Performance 550 UTV with approximately one hour on the clock. Never titled and still under warranty. New sells at $9,137.49 including tax.

**Standard features:**
- Hard top roof, two-piece windshield, side mirrors, headlights and turn signals, heavy-duty 3500 lb. winch, aluminum rims, 12 volt auxiliary outlet, digital display, receiver hitch, sports car like performance, long travel suspension, tuned progressive rate springs, nitrogen filled performance shocks and wider suspension for better stability, electronic fuel injection (EFI), 4WD with locking front differential, automatic CVT transmission and hi/low range gears and a tilting bed with 500 lbs capacity and dual ventilated hydraulic disc brakes front and rear.

**Questions:**
- Bill: 828-448-1641  Cliff: 828-584-6651
Introducing Our New Vice President of Research Programs

We are pleased to welcome our new vice president of research programs for Shriners Hospitals for Children, Marc Lalande, Ph.D. Dr. Lalande comes to us from the University of Connecticut, where he served as the HealthNet professor and chair, Department of Genetics and Genome Sciences, School of Medicine; director of the Stem Cell and Systems Genomics Institutes, and executive director of Genomics and Personalized Medicine programs. Previously, he was an associate professor of pediatrics at the Children’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School in Boston. While in Boston, he began researching molecular genetics of pediatric neurodevelopmental disorders.

Dr. Lalande earned both his doctoral and master’s degrees in medical biophysics from the University of Toronto in Canada, and his undergraduate degree at Laurentian University – Sudbury, also in Canada.

Real world experience

Dr. Lalande has been interested in nature since childhood – wondering what’s in the sky and why animals behave as they do, and mulling over the infinite differences in people. This curiosity eventually led to the study of physics and biophysics. Interestingly, he never took an academic course in genetics – everything he learned was from a hands-on approach, especially in the laboratories. He has worked on separating chromosomes to learn more about genetic disorders, and his physics background made it possible for him to design an instrument that helped with this work.

“Understanding the genetics of a condition is the starting point – when you find one genetic answer, it is like a key that can lead to the discovery of new partner molecules, and then to a network of answers that can ultimately lead to new therapies,” said Dr. Lalande. “Genetics is complicated. For example, the cystic fibrosis gene was discovered in the 1980s, and we are just now seeing the development of therapies.”

Expanding research capabilities

As he begins to lead the research effort of Shriners Hospitals for Children, Dr. Lalande is “interested in enhancing the collaboration of continued on page 17
Dr. Lalande believes that while people are aware of the medical work of our health care system, they are much less cognizant of our contributions to medical knowledge via research.

“My goal is to raise our research profile and promote our efforts in a more Shriners Hospitals-centric manner,” he said. He also hopes to encourage more multisite research efforts that involve several hospitals in a single endeavor. “What I hope to see is Shriners Hospitals labeled research with a national impact that combines the efforts of researchers and clinicians.”

While Dr. Lalande is enjoying his new role at Shriners Hospitals’ corporate headquarters in Tampa, Florida, he is experiencing a little bit of culture shock. “There is a big difference – especially in the temperatures and the traffic volume – between Tampa and Farmington, Connecticut,” he said with a smile.

Dr. Lalande and his wife, Christine, have been married for 43 years and have two grown children, Frederick and Alexia, whom they hope to entice to join them in Florida someday, and two grandchildren.

We are pleased to have Dr. Lalande on our team and look forward to his impact on our research program, which funded 166 projects in 2017.
Stay Informed

Shriners Village is the Web-based community created exclusively for the Shriners family. Fraternity members and their ladies can visit shrinersvillage.com to find information about Shriners Hospitals for Children®, fraternal programs, membership, temples, Shrine-related events and more.

Some of the items created especially for ladies include:
• A video presentation, “Lady of a Shriner”
• First Lady’s section
• Camp information and photos
• One sheets and Ladies Toolkit (includes Ladies Handbook)
• Photo Gallery

The website contains useful fraternity documents that nobles and ladies can download, including the Fez Owner’s Manual, Membership Toolkit, Shriners Primer and Shrine Protocol.

Shriners Village also has an events section with information on temple fundraisers and other activities. Any registered user can post an event on the calendar.

We invite you to explore and become part of the Shriner family’s website. There is a lot to be discovered and there will always be something new to find – news, entertainment, history, education, multimedia features and more.

**Becoming part of Shriners Village is easy:**
Go to the Shriners Village login page at shrinersvillage.com
• Click register now
• Enter requested noble information
• Select lady and verify your name

And you’re all set!

If you have any questions, please use the online “get help” link on the Shriners Village log-in page.

**Social Media**
In addition to Shriners Village, we also encourage you to check out our social media networks:

**Facebook**
facebook.com/shrinersinternational
facebook.com/shrinershospitalsforchildren

**Twitter**
twitter.com/shriners
twitter.com/shrinershosp

**YouTube**
youtube.com/shrinershospitals
youtube.com/shrinerstv

**Instagram**
instagram.com/shrinershospitals
instagram.com/shrinersinternational

We hope you enjoy being part of the Shriners Web-based community – and are glad you are joining us there! If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please feel free to contact the public relations department at Shriners International Headquarters at 813-281-8162 or ShrinePR@shrinenet.org.
New SpineScreen App Helps Parents Detect Signs of Scoliosis in Kids

Parents can now check their child’s spine for possible signs of scoliosis with the new app SpineScreen developed by Shriners Hospitals for Children. Available for free on the App Store and Google Play, SpineScreen detects curves as the cell phone is moved along a child’s back, giving parents a quick, informal way to regularly monitor their child’s spine.

Scoliosis is an abnormal curvature of the spine that can restrict movement and in some cases lead to other serious medical conditions. It is most commonly diagnosed between 10 and 15 years of age, when children grow rapidly. Some cases, however, can go undetected. At this point in a child’s life, fewer vaccinations are required, so they may see a doctor less often. Since early detection is crucial, Shriners Hospitals physicians encourage parents to download the free SpineScreen app and check kids as part of their back-to-school routine each year.

“Because there is often no known cause, monitoring for scoliosis is an important part of a child’s ongoing health care,” says Amer Samdani, M.D., chief of surgery for Shriners Hospitals for Children – Philadelphia. He adds, “It is a progressive condition, so early detection is key. At Shriners Hospitals, our care ranges from routine monitoring to some of the most advanced treatments for scoliosis. The earlier we see a child, the more options we have available.”

Shriners Hospitals created the app as part of a broader initiative to highlight the importance of regular screenings and to educate parents on the signs of scoliosis and treatment options.

“With doctors and staff who are global leaders in the treatment of scoliosis care, parents turn to Shriners Hospitals for Children because they know their children will receive the best care possible,” Gary Bergenske, chairman of the Board of Directors for Shriners Hospitals for Children said. “Since scoliosis usually requires ongoing medical treatment throughout childhood, our commitment to provide care regardless of the families’ ability to pay is a huge relief to parents.”

If you have immediate concerns about your child’s spine or other possible medical conditions, please consult your health care provider.

Award-Winning Hospitals

Our health care system lives up to its promise to provide high-quality care. Press Ganey, an organization that works with health care providers to enhance and improve safety, quality and the health care experience, honored four of our hospitals with prestigious awards in 2017:

Shriners Hospitals for Children – Canada, Guardian of Excellence Award in Inpatient Pediatrics

Shriners Hospitals for Children – Greenville, Guardian of Excellence Award in Ambulatory Surgery

Shriners Hospitals for Children – Philadelphia, Guardian of Excellence Award in Inpatient Pediatrics

Shriners Hospitals for Children – Tampa, Pinnacle of Excellence Award in Inpatient Pediatrics

Congratulations and thank you for your constant and consistent efforts to improve the lives of children and families.

Reprinted from The Public Relations Voice
Club and Unit Bulletin Board

**Oasis Young Shriners Club**

BRANDON PENLEY - PRESIDENT  
THOMAS SUMPTER - VICE PRESIDENT  
ROBBY SAYE - SECRETARY/TREASURER  
If you are under forty and interested in joining -  
Contact oasisyoungshriners@gmail.com

**PAST CAPTAINS CLUB**

Meeting 3rd Monday at 6pm  
Big Daddy’s in Mooresville  
Noble Peter Schuetz  
PC, President - 704-543-0695

**Oasis Past Masters Unit**

Are you a Past Master?  
We are your unit. Join Us.  
For more information:  
Noble Gary D. Handy, Captain: (336) 416-1323  
Noble Gordy Peeler, Secretary: (704) 223-1531

**Legion of Honor Club**

President Noble David Johnson  
dtcarolina@wilkes.net 336-467-0107  
Search Oasis Shriners Legion of Honor on Facebook!

**Cabarrus Shrine Club**

Address: 1460 Oakwood Ave, Kannapolis NC  
Nobles, Ladies and Guests Welcome!  
Phone: 704-933-2797  
Email: cabarrushrineclub@gmail.com  
Web: www.cabarrusshrineclub.org  
Like us on Facebook: Cabarrus Shrine Club

**Oasis Oldies**

If you have a classic car or are interested in the old classics, come join us for some fun and fellowship  
CAPTAIN  
Thomas M. Sumpter

**Shriners on Bikes**

CONTACT:  
STEPHEN TRITES  
STRTIES@ROCKETMAIL.COM  
803-610-7876

**Oasis Dune Cats**

JUMPING HURDLES FOR CHILDREN  
Jack Gordon, Captain - 704-737-8689  
jackgordon492@yahoo.com

**Oasis Shriners Clowns**

Accepting New Members  
No Experience Necessary  
Come and join us and put a smile on the face of a child!  
Contact The Oasis Shrine Clowns at 336-893-0391 or oasisclowns@gmail.com

**Mt. Mitchell Shrine Club**

Centrally located in McDowell County  
Contact:  
Noble Secretary  
Jack Wood  
828-925-9663

**Oasis Keystone Kops**

Join us and have a fun time while raising money for the Shriners Hospitals!  
Contact Captain Don Deese for Information:  
704-578-8991  
ddeese48@yahoo.com

**Oasis Highlanders**

PIPES & DRUMS  
“Learn to play the bagpipes”  
Meet 7:00 PM Wed. at H-Q  
Contact Rich Hartman  
cell (814) 746-0466  
rohartman48@gmail.com

**Oasis Shriner’s Club**

Address: 1460 Oakwood Ave, Kannapolis NC  
Nobles, Ladies and Guests Welcome!  
Phone: 704-933-2797  
Email: cabarrushrineclub@gmail.com  
Web: www.cabarrusshrineclub.org  
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ddeese48@yahoo.com

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704-578-8991  
ddeese48@yahoo.com
MOORE COUNTY SHRINE CLUB
& The Sand “T” Parade Unit
Contact President
Bill Loeser
910-759-0571
Be sure to “LIKE” our Moore County Facebook page to see many photos!

OASIS SHRINE WAGONEERS
For info, contact: Captain Darrell “Catfish” Hunt
704-661-9064 or at Jdhunt3429@gmail.com

OASIS ORIENTAL BAND
CONTACT BOB HATLEY AT 336-288-4007 FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Hillbillies are lookin’ for ya!

If interested in joining, please contact Jack Devine @ 828-464-9886, or Gary Patterson @ 704-938-3930 or Lee Moody @ 704-451-6151

SCOTTISH RITE MASONs
You are invited to attend our monthly meetings of the Scottish Rite
Where: Junaluskeek Lodge,
50 Church Street, Franklin, NC
When: 2nd Monday of each Month
Time: 6:00 PM Dinner, 7:00 PM Lodge
Current Dues Card required for admission

Latona Temple # 154 Daughters of the Nile
Working together to benefit the children of Shriners Hospitals
Contact Sally Saulsbery at (704) 996-5064 or Betty Parker, PQ at (704) 654-7108, latona154char@gmail.com

DID YOU PLAY IN A HIGH SCHOOL BAND OR COLLEGE BAND?
IF SO WE NEED YOU!
CAPTAIN - NOBLE HANS HAAS
704-562-7234

OASIS SHRINES CAMPING CLUB
Fun – Food – Fellowship
COME JOIN US!
Doc Phifer 803-675-7705 phifers@comporium.net

OASIS STEEL DRUM BAND
COME JOIN ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR PARADE & ENTERTAINMENT UNITS
CALL CAPTAIN CODY GUSTAFSON
704-498-5029

Carolina Drifters
Captain Duane Tinch
336-215-1866

Want to Add or Modify Your Club/Unit Ad in the Desert Dust?
Simple and uncluttered ads are best. Too much information will make your ad hard to read. We are happy to create an ad for you, or to modify your existing ad.

Send your text and images to Edie Wilson - Ediewilson7@gmail.com
If you would like to submit your own ad design, it must be a high-resolution file. Ad size is 1.8” high x 3.1” wide. All logos & images must be high-quality and the text easily readable. Text should be 9 pt size or larger.
## Donations

### CLUB & UNIT DONATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>DONOR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$4,100.00</td>
<td>Avery County Shrine Club (Plaque/Year Bars/Donations)</td>
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<td>$1,800.00</td>
<td>Blue Ridge Shrine Club (Year Bars)</td>
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<td>$980.00</td>
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<td>(Shriners Hot Rod Expo)</td>
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<td>$6,195.00</td>
<td>Greensboro Shrine Club (Shriners Hot Rod Expo)</td>
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<td>$8,978.00</td>
<td>Metrolina Shrine Club (2017 Christmas Tree Sales)</td>
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<td>$700.00</td>
<td>Oasis Patrol (Standing Tall Awards)</td>
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<td>$2,835.00</td>
<td>Robbinsville Shrine Club (Plaques/Year Bars/Donations)</td>
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<td>$775.00</td>
<td>Oasis Drum &amp; Bugle Corp (Year Bars)</td>
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<tr>
<td>$1,635.00</td>
<td>Oasis Hillbilly Parade Unit (Donations)</td>
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## Donors

### DONORS

- Albert J. Morton
- Alfred Keller
- American Legion Post #234
- Baker Construction Co.
- Blue Ridge Masonic Lodge 435
- Clint Myers
- Cooksville Grill
- Dennis Bowman
- Donald & Judy Tucker
- Donald G. Weir
- Doug R. Owens
- Douglas Hefner
- Edward R Nitzsche
- Flowers By Patty
- Fran Flowers
- Frank Melton
- Gary D. Richardson
- Gene Bowman
- H. David Reese
- Home Town Tax Service
- J. David Whitener
- Jeanette Deveau
- Jerold Johnson
- Jesse, Sarah, & Elizabeth Horton
- Joe Abernethy
- John P. Mayo
- Kevin Martin & Miranda Sigmon
- Mountain Fried Chicken
- Mountain Creek Baptist Church
- My Tribute Gift Foundation, Inc.
- Roy R. Willis
- Sam McCall
- Sams Stereo Jewelry & Pawn
- Scott Winfield Paint Shop Inc
- Shrinettes of Cabarrus Co.
- T & W Group LLC
- Thomas A. Jenkins
- Tommy Whitesell

## Honors

### DONOR

- Wanda C. Brooms
- Billy & Sue Clark
- David & Linda Brown
- Louis Bryson Sunday School Class

### IN HONOR OF

- Bruce Garland
- Claude Crisp, Jr.
- Everett Little
- Flint Groves Baptist Church Sunday School Class

---

**PAYMENT PROCESSING FOR A CAUSE**

Join NASCAR driver, David Ragan in raising funds for the Shriners kids. Processing with CashBack will lower your rates and will donate to the kids with every credit card transaction.

Call **888-442-3939**

www.cashbackcorp.com/shriners

get more information and a free quote

---

**PayPal is available to pay the following:**

- Annual Dues • Initiation Fees • Mom & Dad Program • Ladies Tickets

Just go to the Oasis Shriners website, (http://www.oasisshriners.org/MEMBERSHIP.htm) click on Membership and you will see the PayPal link pictured to the right. You don't need a PayPal account to use this new payment method.
Memorials

DONOR
Catawba County Shrine Club
Dunlap Construction Inc
Norma L Irvin
Rhoda A Suesz
Sandra J Jeffery
Shrine Ladies Auxiliary
Oliver Emmert/Alpha Mailing Service, Inc.
Oasis Mountain Buggies
Howard & Shirley Keyes
Tanga M McDaniel Mohr
Deforest Maness
Sticky Burch
Oasis Mountain Buggies
Cresit High School,
Class of 1976 Reunion Committee
Al & Joyce Clegg
Terry & Janice Cox
Barry & Evonne Hyde
Doyle & Grace Hyde
Gail Duckett
Katherine Adams
Loretta & Howie Willmore
Mary Ann Christianson
Billy & Sue Clark
Sarah Coley & Family
Oasis Mountain Buggies
Ben F Rhoney
Leroy & Diann Treadway
Annie Sue Rhoney
Gary & Patty Shull

IN MEMORY OF
(Richard) Allen Waters
Clarence M. Blythe
Christine Greene
Christine Greene
Christine Greene
Christine Greene
Claude Foster Cable

Oasis Mountain Buggies
Donna Greene

Howard & Shirley Keyes
Everett Little
Irene G. Berckman
Irene G. Berckman
Janet Wilson
Jerry Patterson

Tanga M McDaniel Mohr
Jim Self ("T Bear")

Deforest Maness
John Hill
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick

Sticky Burch
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick

Oasis Mountain Buggies
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick

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Mary Ann Christianson
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Lenox Hedrick
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Billy & Sue Clark
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Lenox Hedrick
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Sarah Coley & Family
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick

Oasis Mountain Buggies
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Lenox Hedrick
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Lenox Hedrick

Ben F Rhoney
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick

Leroy & Diann Treadway
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick

Annie Sue Rhoney
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick
Lenox Hedrick

Gary & Patty Shull

Correction to March’s DD:
Judy W. Valentine did not make a donation in memory of Simon & Lynn Ritchy. Hospital donation was made by Simon & Lynn Ritchy submitted by Judy W. Valentine.

Passed Within the Unseen Temple

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>CITY, STATE</th>
<th>CREATED</th>
<th>DIED</th>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Hill, Jr</td>
<td>Ridgefield, CT</td>
<td>10/8/1966</td>
<td>2/21/2018</td>
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<td>Grady Gulledge</td>
<td>Kannapolis, N.C.</td>
<td>1/26/1974</td>
<td>2/14/2018</td>
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<td>James Self</td>
<td>Pisgah Forest, N.C.</td>
<td>4/2/1990</td>
<td>2/24/2018</td>
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<td>Lester “Gene” Spain</td>
<td>Concord, N.C.</td>
<td>12/1/1978</td>
<td>2/18/2018</td>
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<td>Neville Wilson</td>
<td>Highlands, N.C.</td>
<td>11/5/2005</td>
<td>1/21/2018</td>
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<td>Ray Apple</td>
<td>Greensboro, N.C.</td>
<td>10/30/1989</td>
<td>1/17/2018</td>
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<td>Thurman Reep</td>
<td>Rutherford, N.C.</td>
<td>10/31/2017</td>
<td>1/12/2018</td>
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</table>

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Rowan Shrine Club Spring 2018
Fish Fry Saturday
April 28, 2018
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Hot Dogs Also Available

$12 Advanced Adult
$13 at the door
Children 5-10 yrs. - $6

Take Exit 81 Off of I-85 which is Long Ferry Road
Go East to the End of the Road Which is High Rock Lake...We are on the Left

Proceeds Go To The Building Fund - Not Tax Deductible

For more information, contact Don Lyerly - 704-213-6775 • donlyer@aol.com
THE KING OF PRICE!
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(704) 253-4169

RANDY MARION
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RANDY MARION
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1011 FOLGER DRIVE
STATESVILLE, NC 28625
(704) 235-6218

RANDY MARION
SAV-A-LOT
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HICKORY, NC 28602
(828) 267-5700

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