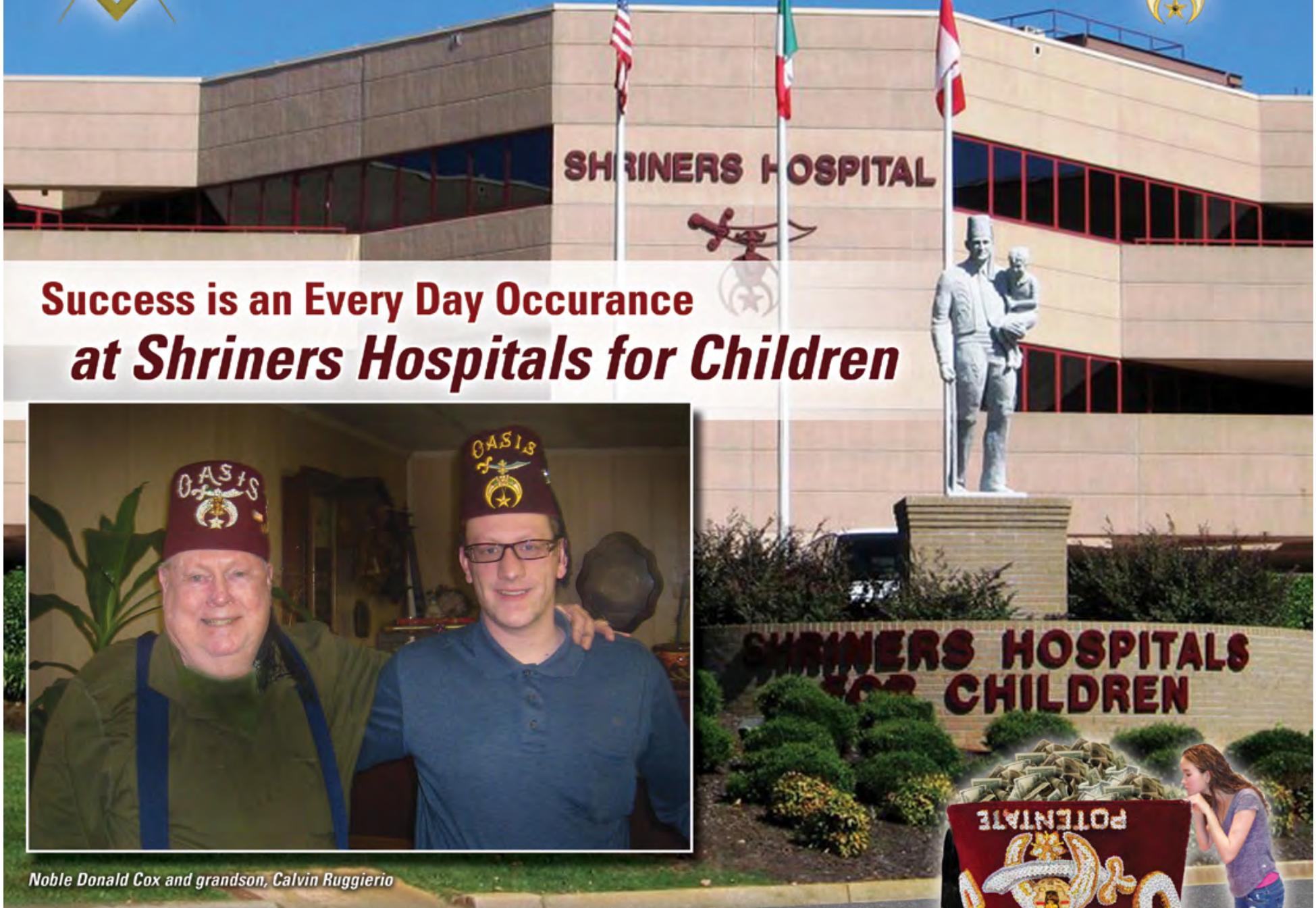


APRIL 2013

DESERT DUST

VOL 78, NO 4



SHRINERS HOSPITAL

**Success is an Every Day Occurance
at Shriners Hospitals for Children**



Noble Donald Cox and grandson, Calvin Ruggiero

SHRINERS HOSPITALS
FOR CHILDREN



Holland's Hope

total continues to rise!

Holland's Hope \$18,147

Nonprofit Organization
US Postage Paid
Charlotte, NC
Permit No. 186

The Potentate's message



Just when I thought it could not get any better, it got better. I am excited to see what the rest of the year brings. Thus far, it has been superb.

I have received lots of feedback about my message for March. Seems that a number of our members have similar feelings. Hopefully, the message touched some who can merit by going back to our Masonic roots. I implore of all to keep our important tenants in your mind, and in your heart. Friendship, morality, and most of all, brotherly love. Our Fraternity is unique above all others. We need to keep it that way.

During our first three months of 2013, I have visited a number of Clubs and Units. I had the good fortune to be invited to the Dune Cats Social. A while back, this

unit was on the verge of folding, but through the hard work of the few remaining members, they have now bounced back, and are once more a thriving, and exciting Unit. Way to go, Dune Cats.

My visits with the Past Captains, the Hillbilly Day at Oasis, and all of the other great Clubs I have gone to has shown me how great our region is, and how many dedicated members we have. It makes me feel very privileged to be Potentate of such a wonderful Shrine Center.

Our big fundraiser is coming up the first weekend in May. The Paper Sale is one of the largest combined fundraisers throughout all of Shrine. The funds raised during this one weekend make up a very important part of the money needed to operate our Hospitals. It is also a fundraiser that has been around for a great many years. I remember very clearly as a young boy working

with my father on the Paper Sale. It was my responsibility to make certain the Shriners had plenty of papers to hand out, and I was the designated paper runner. At the end, I helped to separate the change, and count the money. In later years, I was one of those Fez wearing guys standing on Highway 321 in Hickory collecting money and distributing our newspaper. It was so rewarding to hear from Shriner patients, parents, or someone who knows what our hospitals have done for a relative or loved one. Our Paper Sale is a tribute to our 2013 message of "Putting Kids First". I ask that each one of travel to the very end of your cable tow to help with this most important fundraiser.

Oasis Shrine would like to invite all members to the Stated Meeting of Oasis on April 18th at the Headquarters. As always, any member is invited to attend these meetings, and we appreciate the

positive input from everyone.

We, at Oasis, are getting prepared for our exciting Ceremonial in the beautiful mountains of North Carolina. We will be at Blowing Rock for the Spring Ceremonial on May 31 – June 1. The host Hotel will be Chetola Resort, which most of you are familiar with. The Ceremonial will be held on Resort grounds. The parade will travel along the same route as in the past, and we have a magnificent banquet planned for Saturday evening that I know everyone will enjoy. It is not too late to approach those in your Blue Lodge who are not Shriners, give them a petition, and bring them to Blowing Rock for the time of their lives.

It is with deep regret that I must inform the Nobility that, by a vote of the Executive Board, the Oasis All-Star Game has been cancelled going forward. Due to a number of roadblocks, the game never

really reached it's potential. Due to the proximity of the games to the Thanksgiving Holiday, we had extreme difficulty getting necessary volunteer support from our members, creating an insurmountable problem for those Nobles who contributed a great many hours in their attempt to make the game a success. It was a very difficult decision, but one that, in the interest of Oasis, was necessary. I want to thank all of the dedicated Nobles who

have worked extremely hard for years to make the game as successful as it was. You are to be commended for your dedication.

In closing, Rhonda, Holland, Warner and I would like to wish each of you a Happy Easter, and hope that you will remember the true meaning of this celebration.

Until next month.

Yours in the Faith
Fred



Official publication of, for and by

Oasis Shriners

Illustrious Sir Fred Laxton, Potentate

604 Doug Mayes Place
Charlotte, NC 28262-8410
Phone: 704-549-9600

ELECTED DIVAN & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chief Rabban	David Sumpter
Assistant Rabban	Todd Ham
High Priest and Prophet	Johnny King
Oriental Guide	Mike Neaves
Treasurer	William M. Harward, PP
Recorder	Gary Taylor, PP

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1st Ceremonial Master	Johnny Burgess
2nd Ceremonial Master	Ken Jarrett
Director	Tommy Helms
Marshall	Tim Daniels
Captain of the Guard	Rodney Morgan
Outer Guard	Ken Bowen

EDITOR: Noble Terry J. Cox

coxterj@hotmail.com

<http://www.OasisShriners.org>



The Recorder's message

Hello Nobles, Ladies, and Friends of the Shrine. Recently I have been caused to review the age and condition of the vans we use to transport the most precious cargo in the world-our Shriners Hospitals kids. As I worked with members of the Oasis front office staff, I was involved in several conversations with members of the Oasis Tripsters. Please understand that in my monthly messages I am not trying to single out any person or group within Oasis or the Shrine in general, but as I deal with members

and friends of our outstanding fraternity, I hope that you will allow me to share those experiences with you. As I was saying, as I dealt with members of the Tripsters, I was reminded how hard they and all our members work in the support of our fraternity and philanthropy. Practically all this work is behind the scenes where they seek no recognition or compensation for their untiring efforts. Periodically I would like to use this column to express my sincere appreciation for the work our Shrine family does, and this month my "victim" (smile) is

the Tripsters. Thank you folks and like those that have gone before you, please remain ever vigilant to your cause.....it is greatly appreciated!!!

Well, I've rambled long enough. Things are going well here at Oasis, and we're glad to have recently completed our annual financial audit. Any clubs/units that have any outstanding reports needed by Oasis will be receiving a nice love letter or personal telephone call, so please respond promptly. Take care until next month, and remember, the

work you do for our fraternity and philanthropy is sincerely appreciated and is essential to our hospital kids.

P.S...We have some new pictures of Shriner kids in the front office of Oasis which are absolutely breathtaking so be sure to cruise by and look at them when you have an opportunity. Thanks to Illus. Sir Paul Hagerty, a member of the Cincinnati Shriners Hospital Board of Directors, for making these possible.

Gary

Success is an Every Day Occurance at Shriners Hospitals for Children

Calvin Ruggiero is 25 years old. He is like a great many 25 year old men. He enjoys playing video games, he loves scary movies, he drives a sporty car, and he walks.

These things might seem entirely normal to anyone reading this. To Calvin, the ability to walk could very well have been one of the luxuries in life that he would have to miss out on.

Calvin was born with a disability. One that was not diagnosed for more than a year after his birth. As an infant, his mom and dad, Lynda and Richard, felt that he was not progressing as quickly as other babies they were familiar with. His legs were not as rigid as they felt they should be, however, their pediatrician continued to inform them that it was perfectly normal. Some babies advance more quickly than others. Be patient. He will come around. At one point, their insistence was so severe that the physician even told them that the disability was actually all in their mind.

At around 13 months old, growing more and more concerned, Lynda took Calvin to another pediatrician. That Doctors Nurse Practitioner performed several simple tests on Calvin, and recognized that there was a problem, and referred the Ruggiero's to a neurologist.

After a number of tests, including an MRI, Calvin was diagnosed with the dreaded Cerebral Palsy. Just the thought of such a debilitating disability devastated Calvin's parents. The doctor explained that cerebral palsy created a multitude of problems. The bones, muscles and ligaments were present, but a malfunction in the brain created a situation where the brain didn't talk to the limbs, so the limbs didn't know what to do. The only bright light was that Calvin's condition was on the lower end of the scale, but that was little relief since he was not expected to ever be able to walk on his own.

Calvin's grandfather, Don Cox in Randolph County, is a Shriner. After discussions, it was decided that they would take Calvin to Shrine Children's Hospital in Greenville for an examination.

At two years old, Calvin paid his first visit to Shriner's Hospital. He

and his mom and grandmother Sylvia remember it as being a happy place – not like a hospital at all. They distinctly remember the huge animals in the foyer, and the play area on the second floor. They were astonished at the waterfall, but were stunned by the friendly atmosphere the entire aura of the hospital projected.

Orthopedic physicians at Greenville examined Calvin and immediately determined that they could, in fact, perform procedures which would enable him to walk.

An ankle/foot orthotics was fitted which was supposed to stabilize his legs, enabling him to walk. He was measured for the orthotics, and six weeks later he returned for them to be fitted. Unfortunately, after a period of therapy, he was still not able to walk. Another disappointment.

When he was 5 years old, the doctors decided to operate to perform a bilateral heel cord and hamstring release. The ligaments and muscles in his legs and ankles were literally shrinking, which would eventually create a deformity that would even further prevent him from walking. The operation called for him to have two casts above his knees on both legs, with a bar between the casts supporting the legs. Once healed, Calvin was finally able to walk while holding on to surfaces, or with a walker.

At age 16, it was found that the bones in his right foot were severely misaligned. His final operation at Shriners corrected this and stabilized his ankle.

And now, today, at age 25, Calvin walks. He has a somewhat wobbly gait, but he walks, and drives a car, and works at a good job, and goes to college. But most of all, Calvin is independent.

His parents, rightfully, when they heard the first diagnosis, could only imagine a life for Calvin of being confined to a wheelchair. Never being independent. Not having the free life that most of us take for granted. Thanks to Shriners Children's Hospital, Calvin lives a virtually independen-



dent life. He still needs his wheelchair when he has to be upright for an extended period of time. His legs get tired more quickly than most. His brain still does not tell his legs what to do, but through his own tenacity, he has overcome that.

While talking with his mom, I asked her to describe Calvin in her view. Her response was quick, and simple. She merely said "Calvin is awesome".

And he is.

Calvin could have been that young man in the wheelchair that we all stare at out of the corner of our eyes, taking pity. But thanks to his grandparents, his parents, Shriners Children's Hospital, and above all, Calvin's ability to overcome his disability, Calvin is just one more success story that we as Shriner's have grown to recognize, time and again.

Noble Donald Cox and grandson, Calvin Ruggiero. Calvin is wearing the fez that belonged to his great-grandfather, Noble W. Alton Cox, a member of Oasis Shrine.

Noble Donald Cox and grandson, Calvin Ruggiero. Calvin is wearing the fez that belonged to his great-grandfather, Noble W. Alton Cox, a member of Oasis Shrine.

2013 OASIS SHRINE CALENDAR

May 3 & 4	Paper Crusade
May 16 - 20	Potentates Punta Cuna Trip
May 31 - June 1	Spring Ceremonial-Blowing Rock - Parade
June 8	Celebrity Golf Classic
June 15	Family Fun Day - Red Fez Shrine Club
June 30 - July 4	Imperial Session - Indianapolis
August 13	Gaston Shrine 100 Race
September 19 - 22	SASA - Myrtle Beach
October 3 - 6	Potentates Las Vegas Trip
November 1 - 2	Fall Ceremonial - Hickory
December 7	Annual Meeting - Elections
January 3, 2014	Club & Unit Appreciation

ATTENTION CLUBS & UNITS

It is the goal of the Desert Dust staff to provide space for as many articles and ads for Clubs and Units as space will allow. We appreciate the response from Oasis Clubs and Units who have sent information of interest to the entire membership. We originally established the 15th of each month as the deadline for information to be sent to us for publication, however, it seems that an unusually high number of you have been waiting until the 14th or 15th to get the information to us, which causes a logjam for our layout team. Due to this problem, **we find that it is necessary that we move the deadline back to the 10th of each month.** This will enable the layout team to prepare the newspaper for the printer so that it can be delivered to your mailbox by the 1st of each month. As in the past, we will publish as many of the articles as space will allow. We work strictly on a first-come, first-served basis. If we are unable to post your article in the current month, it will be guaranteed a space in the following months publication. We appreciate your patience and understanding. If you miss the deadline, send the article or ad to us anyway. It may well be that we will have space, and if so, it will be published.

INTRODUCING YOUR DIVAN

Noble Todd Ham

The Divan for Oasis Shriners compose the Board of Directors for one of the largest Shrine centers in the world. It is necessary that all members of the Oasis family know these dedicated men, who make the decisions which have caused our great Oasis Shrine to be one that is envied throughout Shrinedom.

Our Assistant Rabban, and second in the Oasis line to the Potentate in 2015, is **Noble Todd Ham**.

Noble Todd was born in Charlotte, NC, and attended North Mecklenburg High School. After graduation, he attended Central Piedmont College, and is President of Ham Brothers, Inc. in Mount Holly, NC.

He and Lady Mary are the proud parents of Jeffrey, 23, and Joey, 25 who is married to Lady Lindsey. They are also the proud grandparents of Finley, who recently was listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as being the most beautiful grandchild in the World.

Noble Todd comes from a deep Masonic heritage. His great Grandfather was a 33rd degree Mason, and his father, brother and both of his sons are Masons and Shriners. He was raised a Master Mason in November, 1982, and in 2008 was awarded his twenty-five year veteran certificate. He was Master of his

Lodge, Mt. Holly 544, in 1992. He cites sitting in the East in his Lodge to confer all three degrees on both of his sons as his most Memorable Masonic experience.

Todd was made a Shriner in November 1984 in Asheville, and began a long and active association with Oasis Shrine.

He became a member of the Oasis Drum and Bugle Corps in 1983, following in his father's footsteps. In addition, Noble Todd's sons, both members of Oasis Shrine, complete three generations of active Drum and Bugle Corps members. You may remember seeing an article in the Desert Dust, with a picture of Todd, his father, brother and sons as they marched together in Blowing Rock at the Ceremonial Parade there. Todd has also served as Captain of his beloved Corps, and has played the snare drum for the past 29 years. Despite his duties on the Divan, you will see Noble Todd marching in nearly every Oasis parade. We sort of expect our Divan members to take a break from their unit duties when they assume the duties of the Divan. Noble Todd prides himself in accomplishing both.



Noble Todd was appointed by Imperial Sir Al Madsen as Chairman of the Motor Corps division for competition at the Imperial Session in Charlotte for 2012. His attendance to detail reflected in the accolades that resulted from the successful competitions for the many Motor Corps participants from throughout the world.

It is obvious that Todd not only feels a deep dedication to the organization that is a lifeline to so many children, but he indeed displays that dedication. Join me in welcoming him to his preparatory duties which will lead him to the grand office of Potentate in 2015.

OASIS HIGHLANDERS

Can ye play the pipes?

Can ye play the drum?

Would you like to?

The Oasis Highlanders are recruiting new members and would like to hear from you. Experience is a plus, and so is the willingness to learn a rare skill. We also would like to have a drum major...Interested?



Contact Captain Tom Barnhardt

Home: 704-932-0727

Cell: 704-796-5762

ATTENTION CLUBS AND UNITS

If you are having a special event and would like photographs, please contact **Steve Jordan, Chairman of the Photography Committee** at stevejordan707@gmail.com.

He will be happy to come to your event and take photos. These photos will be displayed on the Oasis Shrine web site, and in the Desert Dust. Please give as much notice as possible.

Hendersonville Shrine Club 2013 Drawing

*Help Us Support Our 22 Hospitals
For Burned & Crippled Children*



Prizes As Follows

First Place \$1,000

Second Place \$500

Third Place \$250

*Gift certificates redeemable at
any Sam's Club, Sam's Club
gas station or Walmart store
in the USA*

*Tickets are \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20
Drawing at auction July 20, 2013
You DO NOT have to be present to win*

Oasis Donor Development Committee

- A.J. MORTON, CHAIRMAN -

This is a report to Oasis Nobles on Imperial Donor Development conference held January 11-13, 2013 Tampa, Florida.

Conference theme was "Moving On Up". This theme may have been selected to confirm Shriners' positive response to challenges with which our fraternity and Shriners' Hospital for Children cope...membership, publicity awareness, fund raising, budget and hospital expense. Imperial Sir Gene Braswell, affirmatively stated, "Failure is NO option". Of course, we all know it is a fact of life that an organization cannot stand still. Forward or backward momentum is inevitable. Shriners choose to "Move On Up".

The conference was led by Chairman Imperial Sir Gene Bracewell, Imperial Sir Jeffrey Sowder and members of the Executive Advisory Committee of Donor Relations. More than 110 par-

ticipants enjoyed presentations throughout two day event. The program included excellent presentations by Imperial Sir Alan W. Madsen and Chairman of the Board of SHC, Imperial Sir Douglas Maxwell. Advancement Resources, LLC presented and interactive workshop for participants on "Volunteers Contributing to Successful Fundraising".

Daughters of the Nile Supreme Queen Suzie Schumake and other ladies present were given special recognition on conference opening day. Imperial Sir Gene Bracewell thanked them for being a major financial supporter of SHC. Contribution amount for year 2012 was \$1.5 million.

Imperial Sir Alan Madsen was the first conference presenter. His informative remarks:

Fraternal Shrine Membership
As of 2013, there are 296,000 members internationally rep-

resenting 195 temples. Focus needs to be to recruit and mentor.

Name Change Proposal to change name of SHC to Shriners Research Hospital for Children or Shriners Hospitals for Children and Research. Voting will be on-line or email. People love to give to research.

Health Insurance Company Revenue In 2009, vote to approve 3rd party billing was passed at Shriners Imperial session. This was a historical change by accepting money from health insurance companies, Medicare, Medicaid. The billing is now implemented in 20 hospitals (all but Canada and Mexico). Income from this source increased to \$95,110,553 in year 2012 and revenue cycle goal for 2013 is \$110,000,000. SHC will continue to provide medical services to children, without charge, regardless of the family's ability to pay.



Online Giving This method of giving increased 25% in 2012 to \$3.5 million.

Advertising Campaign This is a significant change in the history of SHC. Board of Directors voted in June 2012 to launch a national advertising and public relations campaign to increase awareness of hospitals network, to tell its compelling story and drive donations. This is a 3 year plan. Cost is \$19 million/year 2012, \$21 million/year 2013, and \$23 million in 2014. Ad venues are television, online, search engines and direct mail.

Imperial Sir Jeffrey L Sowder's presentation highlighted:

- Budget for SHC in 2013 is \$842 million
- \$7.8 million is spent every 2 weeks
- Anticipated operating revenue for year 2013 is \$612 million
- Cash shortfall for year 2013 is \$230 million

Noble Sowder stated that we are spending \$25 million a month from our endowment. Over the past five years, we have withdrawn \$1 billion.

Noble Sowder outlined plan for "Moving On Up:

- More patients, more exposure, more 3rd party pay
- Right size of hospitals
- Great donor relations
- More donor properties, more communication, more ask, more results

Imperial Sir Douglas Maxwell, CEO of SHC stated: "While it is expected that we will maintain 22 hospital locations across North America from Montréal to Mexico City, we are looking at current business models and how to make our hospitals more efficient as we move forward".

OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST SHARED:

Southwest Airlines gave SHC 600-700 round trip tickets in 2012. Each year they continue to give us more.

West Jet/Air Canada have been transporting patients from Montreal to hospitals

Amtrak gave us passes

Rose Bowl Parade was great exposure. Imperial Sir Al Madsen was on a float with four Patient Ambassadors January 1, 2013. There were 60 people deep over 5.5 mile parade route.

88th East-West Shrine Game took place at Tropicana Field, St. Petersburg, FL.

SHC Open took place October 2012 in Las Vegas, NV... Champion Ryan Moore

2013 FedEx Cup to be held October 14-20 in Las Vegas, NV...post Justin Timberlake

May God bless our Shrine fraternity and Shrine Hospitals for Children as we "Move On Up" in year 2013.

2013 METROLINA SHRINE CLUB Oasis Roadrunners & Shiners On Bikes Golf Tournament

Sponsored by SPORTS PAGE RESTAURANTS

*Dedicated to the Memories of Nobles Eddie Wright and Gary Mull
Founders of the Tournament - Missed but not forgotten*

This year's tournament will be held:

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2013 - WESTPORT GOLF CLUB DENVER NC

Shot Gun Start at 8:30am and 1:30pm

Four Man Captain's Choice - Players \$60.00 Teams \$240.00

Mulligans will be sold for \$10.00 (limit two per player)



We would like to ask for your support of this year's tournament by either sponsoring a hole through a tee advertisement or donating a prize(s).

- By purchasing a tee advertisement, you will have a sign placed at a tee on the golf course recognizing you as a contributor to the tournament.
- By donating a prize(s), you will have your name and prize(s) place on a prize list recognizing you as a contributor to the tournament.

1) Standard Sponsorship	No players	\$ 100.00
2) Bronze Sponsorship	1 player	\$ 140.00
3) Sliver Sponsorship	2 players	\$ 180.00
4) Gold Sponsorship	3 players	\$ 230.00
5) Platinum Sponsorship	4 players	\$ 275.00



If you have any questions or need additional information about the tournament, please contact any member of the tournament committee listed here:

Joe Tarleton	704-634-5402	joetarleton@bellsouth.net
Pat Glover	704-634-3025	brick1rock@aol.com
Randy Tamson	704-763-3658	randytamson@msn.com
Gary Cooke	704-201-2593	Pawcreekcooke10@bellsouth.net

PLAYER 1 _____
Phone: _____
E-Mail Address: _____

PLAYER 2 _____
Phone: _____
E-Mail Address: _____

PLAYER 3 _____
Phone: _____
E-Mail Address: _____

PLAYER 4 _____
Phone: _____
E-Mail Address: _____

*Please indicate your 1'st choice: Start 8:00AM _____ Start 1:30PM _____

Make checks payable to: Metrolina Shrine Club

Mail to: Golf Tournament c/o Metrolina Shrine Club, PO Box 781, Paw Creek NC 28130

LET US ALL COME TOGETHER FOR THE BENEFIT OF CHILDREN.

All proceeds from the tournament are used for the benefit of Metrolina Shrine Club to assist them in raising money for needy children. If you know of a child, up to the age of 18, in need of aid contact one of the committee members or any Shriner, we will be glad to help.

The "Beat on the Street" Marches On

As the calendar was changing from '12 to '13, the "Beat on the Street" was changing too. The Drum & Bugle Corps was busy celebrating success and installing new officers.

At SASA in Myrtle Beach, the Corps captured a 1st place trophy. Then, at the Club/Unit Appreciation Night, the Corps learned that their fundraising efforts (over \$22,400) had earned them 2nd place in "Hospital Monies Raised" by units.



As 2013 began, the officer installation was held at The Metrolina Shrine Club. Many thanks go out to everyone at Metrolina who prepared and served that great meal. A dining room filled with our Potentate, Past Potentates, members of the Divan, Nobles, their ladies and children watched as Illustrious Sir Fred Laxton installed these officers - Capt Dale Morton, 1st Lt Brian Wilson, 2nd Lt Dave Wallace, Secretary Paul Sprinkle, and Treasurer Graylyn Faulkenberry.

The responsibility of leading the 2nd oldest unit in Oasis was passed from now "Past Captain" Tommy Helms. After serving as Captain in 2011 and 2012, he isn't taking time to "rest and refresh" himself. Tommy has accepted an appointment to the Divan as Director.

The new Captain of the Corps for 2013 and 2014 is Dale Morton (AKA "Wino"). After becoming a Noble in the Oasis Shriners in 2000, he joined the Drum & Bugle Corps where he began playing and still plays one of the big bass drums. He is a member of Mt. Holly Lodge #544 where



he served as Master in 2007. Noble Captain Dale and his wife Lady Terri have one daughter, Jaclyn.

Next up for the Corps is our 3rd annual Car and Truck Show which will be held on May 11, as part of the Springfest celebration in Mt. Holly, NC. Come on out and see us. and the beautiful cars and trucks, of course!

- Ned Yates

SPRING BBQ

White Plains Shrine Club

209 York Road
Kings Mountain, NC

Saturday, April 6, 2013
Starts at 10:00 am

For more information, please contact:
Ricky Carroll, President
@ 704-300-7913

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Cedarbrook Country Club, Elkin, NC

Sponsored by Elkin Jonesville Shrine Club

FRIDAY, MAY 17TH, 2013

Format: 4 Player Captain's Choice

4 Flights Based off 48 Teams

Tee Time: 1:00 PM Shotgun Start Only

Entry Fee: \$220 per team (\$55 per player)

Flight Prizes: Closest to the pin, Long drive

OTHER GREAT PRIZES AWARDED!

Lunch for Players Served from 11:15 until 12:15

Seniors 70 & Over Yellow Marker, Mulligans available
Cedarbrook Members may deduct \$10.00 from entry fee
(Must be included with tournament application)

Entry Deadline: May 16th 2013 at 5:00pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Cedarbrook Pro Shop 336.835.2320
Allen Moody 336.874.7308 • John Foster 336.835.6232

Harmony Being the Strength and Support of All - (Especially.....)

by John Stanley, P.P.

"How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity." (Psalm 133). A good thought...togetherness...unity. And, when we attend a Shrine Unit or Shrine Club Meeting or our Masonic Lodge Meetings we are reminded that we are

not alone.

And, I hope that we do give thanks that God has seen to it that we are not alone. We are a part of a community.

Frequently, we hear of people "losing themselves" on Facebook, Twitter, or other social media, and communicating

more and more only through e-mails. And, we must wonder, where is our sense of community? When do we visit? In some segments of our fraternity, and in some jurisdictions, there seems to be break down in communications, a break down in brotherly love and fellowship. Is this breakdown caused by our electronic world?

Dr. David Leninger, a retired Presbyterian Minister and author, believes that unless we stop being overwhelmingly concerned with our own "private" lives, and are willing to once again begin thinking of those around us, we will lose our quality of life.

"How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity."

The Bible teaches us to love our neighbors as much as we love ourselves—whether that neighbor is next door, across the street, across town or across the ocean.

We might want to live like the Lone Ranger or Rambo or a secretive, one-man private eye but in the world that the Supreme Architect would have us to be involved with, individuals appear only to have place as we relate to one another.

In the creation story in the Book of Genesis, God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone." God never intended that we should be JUST individuals - we are made for togetherness.

"How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity."

And, how do we go back to living together, AND to living together... in Unity?

We will REMEMBER from whence we have come. We will remember our ministers from our youth. We will remember those with whom we grew up and those with whom we hung-out on Saturdays. We will remember our heroes, our coaches on the field as well as our coaches in the Lodge.

As we think back on our families, our communities we will begin to realize how "connected" we are to others.

Albert Einstein has been given credit for saying: "A hundred times a day I remind myself that

my inner and outer life depends on the labors of other men, living and dead..."

As Shriners, we have the wonderful opportunity of adopting others. We can start by visiting others. We have brothers in hospitals, in VA Hospitals, in retirement homes and rest homes. We can adopt others, especially children at Shriners Hospitals.

We can attend our Shrine Club and Shrine Unit Meetings and get connected with others. Not a member of a club or unit, you say??? Well, how about reading those who report monthly in the *Desert Dust*? Pick one or two, and visit. Then join in the fun and fellowship, and contribute to the common good.

"How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity."

Yes, you are right, we do not like shelling out and shelling out and shelling out to support others. But, it does take money to take care of those who are not physically able to support themselves. As Dr. Leninger says,

*"We have no choice if the common good is genuinely important. With the poet we will realize,
No man is an island;
No man stands alone;
Each man's joy is joy to me;
Each man's grief is my own."*

In our world today, just as yesterday, we are not alone—we have each other. How good and pleasant it is with brethren dwell together in unity. Psalm 133 says it all. Only when we dwell together in unity can we, as a great fraternity, live together in harmony. We remember harmony is the strength and support of all institutions, but more especially of ours.

If we are to live together in harmony, we must get our and be about, visiting and talking and seeing our brothers. Thank God, we are not alone. Amen!

John Stanley, P.P. is Chaplain of McLean Funeral Directors, Gastonia and he is Minister of Visitation of First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia. This year he is serving Imperial Potentate Al Madsen as Imperial Chaplain. He can be reached (704) 616-6000 or at jstanley1@carolina.rr.com.



**NEARLY \$8,000
IN PRIZES!!!!**

GASTON COUNTY SHRINE CLUB

3rd Annual CHRISTMAS IN OCTOBER GIVEAWAY

Drawing on October 5, 2013 • Doors Open at 6:30 – Kyle Fletcher's BBQ and Chicken with Trimmings at 7:00

WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

TICKET PRICE INCLUDES FREE BBQ/CHICKEN DINNER FOR TWO (2) WITH SLAW, HUSHPUPPIES, BAKED BEANS, SAUCES, DRINKS, DESSERT



GIFT CERTIFICATE GOOD
FOR SAM'S PAWN &
JEWELRY SHOP
VALUED AT \$500
Donated by Sam's Pawn
& Jewelry Shop



\$500 CASH PRIZE!



SMITH & WESSON
MODEL 442 AIRWEIGHT
38 SPECIAL +P
5 SHOT REVOLVER
VALUED AT \$459

Donated by Sheriff Alan Cloninger



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SWIVEL ROCKER
VALUED AT \$600.00

Courtesy of Biggerstaff Furniture



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VALUED AT \$1,100

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WEEKEND GETAWAY
WINNER'S CHOICE
MYRTLE BEACH OR GATLINBURG
2 NIGHT STAY; NOT VALID AT
HOLIDAYS OR SPECIAL EVENTS;
VALID ONE YEAR FROM EVENT
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CRAFTSMAN 255 PC.
MECHANICS TOOL SET
WITH LIFT TOP
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GRILL IN ONE

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STOEGER MODEL 3500
3 1/2 IN, 12 GAUGE, SEMI-
AUTOMATIC SHOTGUN
VALUED AT \$629

Courtesy of Hyatt Gun Shop



EZ BREATHE VENTILATION SYSTEM
VALUED AT \$1,800

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**TICKET PRICE:
\$100**

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: GASTON COUNTY SHRINE CLUB
MAIL TO: GCSC CHRISTMAS IN OCTOBER 2013
PO BOX 550475 GASTONIA, NC 28055
www.gastoncountyshrineclub.com

**ONLY 300 TICKETS
TO BE SOLD!!!!**

- ATTENTION ALL UNITS - *Imperial Session 2013*

25th ANNUAL MECKLENBURG SHRINE CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT

Larkhaven Golf Club
480 Camp Stewart Road
Charlotte, North Carolina • 704.545.4653

CAPTAINS CHOICE:
FORM YOUR OWN TEAM
FOR LADIES & MEN
\$55.00 PER PERSON



SATURDAY
April 20, 2013
SHOTGUN START 8am

BEER, SOFT DRINK & WATER
AVAILABLE ON THE COURSE
LUNCH 11:30 AM – 1 PM
CHECK IN 7AM

TROPHIES FOR
1ST 2ND 3RD
PLACE FINISH



LONGEST DRIVE
& CLOSEST TO PIN
FOR MEN & LADIES:

ALL FEES DUE WITH ENTRY
MUST BE RECEIVED BY:
April 8th, 2013

REGISTER EARLY – SPACE IS LIMITED

<p>1. NAME _____ 3. Name _____</p> <p>ADDRESS _____ ADDRESS _____</p> <p>CITY & ZIP _____ CITY & ZIP _____</p> <p>PHONE _____ PHONE _____</p>	<p>2. NAME _____ 4. NAME _____</p> <p>ADDRESS _____ ADDRESS _____</p> <p>CITY & ZIP _____ CITY & ZIP _____</p> <p>PHONE _____ PHONE _____</p>
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MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: MECKLENBURG SHRINE CLUB
MAIL ENTRY FORM w/PAYMENT TO: Gene Beaty 2321 Meffert Lane Charlotte NC 28214

CUT-OFF AFTER THE FIRST 33 TEAMS HAVE ENTERED.
FOR INFORMATION AND ENTRY FORMS CALL: GENE BEATY @ 704/394-0130

A Fund Raising Project by Mecklenburg Shrine Club

As the premier Shrine Headquarters in all of the Shrine, we are fortunate to have our very own **Imperial Sir Al Madsen** serve as **Imperial Potentate** for the 2012/2013 Session. We enjoyed a wonderful Installation for Sir Al in Charlotte last July.

The lead up to the Installation of the Imperial Potentate for 2013/2014 will be a wonderful opportunity for Oasis members to show Sir Al our appreciation, and display our pride in having the privilege of enjoying one of our own to serve in this prestigious capacity.

The Imperial Parade, which will be held on July 4th in Indianapolis, Indiana, will be Sir Al's parade. He has specifically requested that Oasis Units make a concerted effort to attend this session to show off our spectacular award winning units to the rest of the Shrine world. He has specifically asked that Clowns from Oasis and from all other Shrine Centers attend, with the Clowns leading the Units, hopefully setting a world record for the number of clowns in a parade.

Being aware that there is some significant cost involved in traveling to Indiana for this event, Units are requested to start now making plans to attend in order to show our support for Sir Al. He is the first Shriner from North Carolina, specifically from Oasis, to serve as Imperial Potentate, and we certainly want to make a huge show of respect and appreciation to him, knowing he will swell with pride to see a large number of Oasis Units performing in the parade. Keep in mind also that Shriners from all over the world will be there to observe.

Information about reasonably priced motels will be posted in the Desert Dust to accommodate those who would like to attend. Please discuss with your members, and let's show our pride and appreciation to Illustrious Sir Al.

Oasis Shriners Recognizes **50 YEARS** *Of Shrine Services*

- 2011 -

Carl L. Bowen, Jr. #16280	Thomas G. Davenport, Sr. #16291
Clyde C. Dickson, Jr. #16292	Marshall W. Hinson, Jr. #16307
Elbert Hold #16309	Robert S. Nanney #16340
Charlie G. Pritchard #16346	

- 2012 -

John W. Badger #16955



OASIS SHRINE BAND

BY JOHN ELDER PC PP

A BIG HELLO FOR OUR NEW OASIS SHRINE YEAR. The Band is proud and anxious to perform for our 2013 events. Any time we can serve Ill. Sir Fred Laxton and his Divan we are ready. We hope that in some way we can add to the enthusiasm of the event at hand, making it a more meaningful occasion.

I do need to revert back to December of last year. On the third our Captain, Noble Allen Jones, and his committee (Noble PC Doug Teague and Noble

PC Shea Fadel) did a really fine job of organizing our Christmas Party. Because of a request from the HQ we changed our night from the Tenth. This did affect the size of our group, but we still had a ball and appreciate Allen's diligence. The Captain did present some honors after our meal. They were: Noble Lt. (Director) Paul Blosser, The Busted Chops Award (he played three Christmas Parades as our lone trumpet player) – Noble Treasurer Brent Wilson (along with daughter Grace) the "Get it done" Award (at

every event our truck, trailer and equipment were on time, set up and ready to roll) – Noble PC PP John Elder received the Band's MVP/Appreciation Award – Noble PC LT Doug Teague received the ultimate award, Bandsman of the Year. Congratulations Doug. Thanks again for a great party Captain.

As you know, all our Shrine Clubs and Parade Units are in need of members. The Oasis Shrine (Concert style) Band is no different. Our roster has been in decline for

years. We have been able to put together a group almost every time that we needed to. Well, now we are entering another phase in our history. Now we may miss an event because of one member not being able to attend. I'll just say, if you play a Band instrument and feel you can help, please do. Let me give you an idea how our members spread out geographically across our Oasis jurisdiction of the state. You may find you have a member near you. Nobles: Shea Fadel – (South) Charlotte, Earl Beckham – Lake Wylie, Doug Teague - Taylorsville,

Gattis Bullard – Salisbury, Ben Reavis – Gastonia, Steve Southworth – Concord, Allen Jones – Thomsville and John Elder – High Point. The following is a list of the instruments that usually attend our rehearsals: 2 to 3 trumpets, 2 baritones, 1 saxophone, 2 tubas, 2 drummers. Just check with the Oasis Headquarters or refer to our Ad in this paper for contact information.

Some personal notes: Talked to Noble (V) Gene Anderson (trumpet) back in January. He's still living in Eden. Everything sounds fine with him and his sons. Gene was my main go-to-guy when I first joined the band. He and Lady Jo, his late wife, never missed a

function. We would like to thank Noble Past Band Director George Cannon and Lady Susan for their contribution in our name last year. Every dollar counts, thanks. Noble Gattis Bullard (french horn) is still on our Health & Happiness list. Get better Gattis. You need to give Lady JoAnn a break and come to rehearsal soon.

Two things about getting older: (1) Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it. (2) The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for. How true.

See ya at the next event!!

The World Loves A Clown

Come and join us and put a smile on the face of a child!

OASIS SHRINE CLOWNS

Accepting New Members

No Experience Necessary

Activities Include:

Stars Of The Oasis Shrine Circus

Shrine & Community Parades

Social Gatherings that Include Your Wife

Individualized Instructions on Makeup & Costumes

Contact

Captain French B. Harvey
"Patches" for information
704-840-8076



Oasis Oldies

If you have a classic car or are interested in the old classics come join us for some fun and fellowship

We meet the 1st Sunday of the Month - Nobles and Ladies
Logan's Roadhouse in Statesville at 3 pm

Contact one of the following for more info:

Captain: Ron Bailey - 336-769-9780 • Lieutenant: Charles Hale - 336-696-2652

Secretary/Treasurer: Pat Stanley - 336-240-5728



ONE MORE TIME: Shriners Hospitals for Children wins United Airlines Mileage Giveaway

For the second year in a row, Shriners Hospitals for Children were awarded 3.7 million air miles by United Airlines in their annual 10 Million Miles Charity Giveaway. Thanks to an amazing amount of support from nobles, employees and the general public, our health care system was in first place when the electronic voting ended on December 25 at midnight.

The miles generously donated by United will be used to help transport children and parents to medical appointments at our facilities when driving is not possible or is impractical.



Photo: Gary Johnson (upper left) and Bob Nichols (upper right), both of the Elf Khurafeh Shrine Center in Clio, Mich., with Shriners Hospitals patients Chris Salmon of Tiptonville, Tenn. (lower left), and Strother Norman of Fort Worth, Texas (lower right). Salmon and Norman have benefited from transportation services offered by their local Shriners Fraternity. The miles awarded through the United 10 Million Charity Miles Giveaway will greatly assist patients like Salmon and Norman, providing smooth travel to and from Shriners Hospitals.

Articles on this page from THE PUBLIC RELATIONS VOICE, February 2013 issue.



NASCARTS

Captain Jim Church 336-215-5656

Shriners and Freemasons Cooperate to Help a Child

BY JIM KNIGHTS, IMPERIAL PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Two-year-old Mikaela Starr Collins was born without a left hand. Doctors determined that Mikaela's umbilical cord had become entwined around her left arm during the pregnancy, preventing development of her hand.

Shiela Reidy, Mikaela's grandmother and guardian, had attempted to obtain social security disability assistance for her granddaughter, but had been denied because - incredibly - though missing her left hand, Mikaela was not considered "disabled."

Frustrated by the lack of assistance for her granddaughter - who is very independent, and even insisted on dressing herself with only one hand - Reidy turned to her stepfather, Robert M. Slosser, known as "Papa" to Mikaela and her sister, Laynie, for help.

Slosser is a Pennsylvania Freemason and member of Meridian Lodge No. 411, Free & Accepted Masons (F&AM) of Pennsylvania, located in Enon Valley, Pa. In January 2012, Slosser, knowing that Shriners Hospitals for Children provide all care and services regardless of the families' ability to pay, approached Robert L. Sedgwick, Master of Meridian Lodge, and asked him for the lodge's help in obtaining a prosthetic hand for Mikaela from Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Sedgwick happened to know Walter V. Grudowski, a Shriner, who is also a member and Past Master of Ellwood Lodge No. 599, F&AM of Pennsylvania, in Ellwood City.

Grudowski, a member of

Syria Shriners in Cheswick, Pa., immediately contacted the Shriners Hospitals for Children Ambulatory Surgery Center and Outpatient Specialty Care Center in Erie, Pa., and arranged for Reidy to begin the admission process for Mikaela.

According to "Papa" Slosser, things then began to move quickly. Mikaela's first evaluation at the Shriners Hospitals facility in Erie occurred in March 2012. She returned twice in September to be fitted for a prosthesis. In October, Mikaela received her new left hand.

Slosser had nothing but praise for the physicians, nurses and staff at Shriners Hospitals for Children. Slosser said doctors in Ohio and Pittsburgh had recommended a surgical implant for Mikaela. However, physicians at the Erie Shriners Hospitals facility were adamantly opposed to such an implant because it would have meant putting a 2-year-old child on anti-rejection drugs for the rest of her life. Instead, Slosser said, the physicians at the Shriners Hospitals facility carefully explained the advantages and procedure of fitting Mikaela with a slip-on prosthesis with a moveable thumb, which she has since nicknamed "lefty."

Mikaela's treatment includes wearing "lefty" for two to three hours at a time until she becomes accustomed to the device. Shriners Hospitals for Children also arranged for Mikaela to re-

ceive therapy near her home so her family could avoid the expense of traveling from their home in East Palestine, Ohio, to Erie. However, when Mikaela needed to travel to the Erie facility while being fitted with "lefty," Meridian Lodge No. 411 paid for their stay at a local hotel, and received a discounted rate because she was a Shriners Hospitals patient. In addition, some of their meals were provided by Shriners Hospitals for Children Ambulatory Surgery Center and Outpatient Specialty Care Center.

Slosser describes Mikaela as "caring, loving and independent." Mikaela is not yet very fond of "lefty," but this is a normal part of the process for a child adapting to a prosthesis, according to the physicians at our Erie facility.

Wayne D. Frankenstein, District Deputy Grand Master for the 26th Masonic District, said, "Thanks to the cooperative efforts of Pennsylvania Freemasons, Shriners of Syria Temple in Cheswick and Shriners Hospitals for Children, a 2-year-old girl and her family have received the assistance others had denied them."



Photo: Mikaela Starr Collins (front); Noble William L. Wiess, Syria Temple; Shiela Burson; Noble Karl P. Sieg, Syria Temple (middle L to R); Brother Robert L. Sedgwick, Sr, Worshipful Master, Meridian Lodge No. 411, Enon Valley, PA (back)

Regular meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of each Month
at Golden Corral restaurant in Boone, NC.
MEAL AT 6:30 P.M. AND MEETING AT 7:30 P.M.

UPCOMING EVENT:

The Appalachian Shrine Club will be having their
Spring Fish Fry on April 19, 2013
from 11:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. located at the
Snow Masonic Lodge on Temple Drive in Boone, North
Carolina near the Old Watauga High School.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 5-12.
Children under 5 eat free.

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO BENEFIT THE
SHRINER'S HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN.**

Menu includes Flounder, Slaw, Hush Puppies, Fries, as well
as an option for chicken or hotdogs for non-fish lovers.
Free Delivery is available to local businesses.

For more information or FOR TICKETS contact **Josh Teague** at 828-262-
9897 or at The Law Offices of Joshua J. Teague, P.A. 827 West King Street
Boone, NC 28607. Please make checks payable to Appalachian Shrine Club.

Holland's Hope DONATION



District Representative Noble Butch Stalker presents a check in the amount of \$1,500.00 for Holland's Hope to Illustrious Sir Fred Laxton. These funds were proceeds from the candy sale at Noble Jim Turners Car show in Greensboro.



OASIS DUNE CATS JUMPING HURDLES FOR CHILDREN

Come visit us and feel the rush of excitement.

Captain Donnie Wrenn

980-521-3523

OASIS PAST MASTERS UNIT

Are you a Past Master?

We are your unit. Join Us.

For more information:

Noble Terry K. Jones, PP, Captain: (336) 764-5502

Noble Gordy Peeler, Treasurer: (704) 223-1531

WHO KNOWS YOU ARE A MASON?

Freemasonry has existed under a veil of secrecy for decades. This attitude of secrecy has caused Masons to be their own worst enemy when it comes to spreading the word about the

oldest benevolent Fraternity in the world.

Where did this attitude of secrecy come from? We trace our roots back to the days of the building of tremendous

structures in Egypt, Ethiopia and the surrounding countries. Freemasons were the expert builders, stonemasons and architects of the day. They were privileged individuals who were allowed to roam

the county freely without the restrictions placed on the common man. New recruits, Apprentices, were required to pledge to keep secret the techniques of the building trade. If others outside the

“Trade” discovered these methods, Freemasons would not be in such demand, and would lose the freedom afforded them. Thus, the attitude of secrecy was born.

Freemasons were not allowed to mingle with the common man, so all of their teachings were held within the ranks of the builders. Their entire education was administered by fellow Masons, including the teachings from the Bible, which was a vital part of their lives. Due to these restrictions, those outside of the Trade imagined that everything about Freemasonry was secret, and rumors were rampant. Freemasonry was called a cult, and often was referred to as a religion. But truth be known, the educational process was no different than the common man experienced. The only difference was the segregation of the members of the Trade.

As time went by, Freemasons realized that their services were being called upon less and less. Since jobs were scarce, the need for new apprentices became less and less also. The elders, realizing something must be done in order for their teachings to continue, and for the craft to survive, agreed to invite non-builders to join their Fraternity. In order to know who was a member, certain passwords, tokens, and rituals were developed. When a new member was brought into the group, they were required to pledge that they would not divulge these secret words, tokens and rituals.

Through the years, a formal and consistent ritual was developed that is used by Masons worldwide. Within this ritual, the candidate is required to swear that he will not disclose any of the secrets of Masonry, under strict penalty. This is where we have a breakdown.

Nobody tells these new candidates what is, and what is NOT secret. Thus, at the risk of disclosing something that might be secret, these new Masons elect to simply never tell anything about Masonry. As stated before, we have become our own worst enemy.

Freemasonry is NOT secret. Our passwords, tokens and the format of our rituals is private. They are to be used only by Freemasons. Nothing else is secret.

Because of this attitude of secrecy, we miss out on the chance to discuss our wonderful Fraternity with those who know us best. I have had new Masons tell me that they have worked side by side with someone who is a Mason for years, and never knew they were a Mason until they were made a Master Mason. I would wager that any Mason can ask their coworkers if they know he is a Mason, and a vast majority of his coworkers would not be aware of it.

Although we are bound by a Code that restricts us from asking others to join our Fraternity, we are not restricted from talking about Masonry. There are those who would wish to become a Mason, but have no clue as to how to go about it. The door opens very easily. To Be One, Ask One. Once a person asks a Mason about our Fraternity, the Mason is free to discuss our Fraternity, and to hand that person a petition.

Look around. Who knows you are a Mason? Better yet, who does not know you are a Mason. Let people know, and results are guaranteed. Your neighbor, your coworker, members of your church. There are countless numbers of men who would make excellent Masons. All they need is for someone to open the door. Try it.



Oasis Drum & Bugle Corps

Car & Truck Show

May 11th, 2013



100%
Of All Proceeds
Benefit
Shriners Hospitals





Mount Holly's
Downtown Springfest
www.mounthollyspringfest.com





Location: Main Street, Mount Holly, NC
 Registration 9:00am - 12:00 Noon
Award Bag for all Entries – Awards @ 3:00PM
 Early Registration \$15.00
 Registration after May 6th \$20.00

Kids Tent...DJ...Silent Auction...50/50 raffle...Corn Hole

Call: Tommy—704-621-9308
Or Email: tommy.helms@Airgas.com

I, the undersigned do assume all risk associated with my participation, and do release Oasis Drum & Bugle Corps and all sponsors from any claims, damages, and liabilities associated with this event.

Signature: _____ Print: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Make of Car/Truck: _____ Model: _____ Club: _____

Mail form & check to: Oasis Drum & Bugle Corps 703 Lowland Dairy Road Mount Holly, NC 28120



GREENSBORO SHRINE CLUB

PO BOX 7536
GREENSBORO, NC 27417

PHONE (336) 299-5901

5010 HIGH POINT ROAD
GREENSBORO, NC 27407

2013 GOLF TOURNAMENT

WHERE: GRANDOVER RESORT
1000 Club Rd. Greensboro, NC 27407

WHEN: MAY 6, 2013, 1PM Shotgun start

DINNER AND DRINKS AT SHRINE CLUB AFTER TOURNAMENT

There will be prizes for 1st,
2nd, and 3rd place teams

**NEW CHEVY FOR HOLE IN
ONE DESIGNATED PAR 3**

Please complete the following information and mail it, with
your check, made payable to the Greensboro Shrine Club to:

PO BOX 7536, GREENSBORO, NC 27417

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 29, 2013.

REGISTRATION FORM *Please Print Clearly!*

Your Name _____ Phone # _____

Mailing Address _____

E-mail Address _____ Your Handicap _____

Non-Golfer (Dinner Only) _____

Guest Name _____ Phone # _____

Mailing Address _____

E-mail Address _____ Your Handicap _____

Non-Golfer (Dinner Only) _____

Guest Name _____ Phone # _____

Mailing Address _____

E-mail Address _____ Your Handicap _____

Non-Golfer (Dinner Only) _____

Guest Name _____ Phone # _____

Mailing Address _____

E-mail Address _____ Your Handicap _____

Non-Golfer (Dinner Only) _____

Select One: _____ Sponsorship _____ Participant

If Participant: _____ Golfers @ \$75 each = _____ Subtotal

_____ Non-Golfers @ \$25 each = _____ Subtotal TOTAL \$ _____

If Sponsor: \$ _____ Sponsorship

_____ Beverage Cart \$500 (need 2)

Donations: _____ I would like to donate \$ _____

_____ I would like to donate a door prize(s), door prize is _____

Please feel free to contact Dan Swanson at (336) 317-4957, fantasticdan32@yahoo.com,
with any questions and/or to make arrangements for door prize donations.

"STRONG LEGS RUN - THAT WEAK LEGS MAY WALK"



ELKIN-JONESVILLE SHRINE CLUB INSTALLS OFFICERS

Nobles who will carry the torch for Elkin-Jonesville Shrine Club were Installed into their offices on January 26th. Installed were President David Johnson, 2nd Vice President Kevin Carter, and Secretary Doug Norris.

Illustrious Sir Fred Laxton served as Installing Officer, and was joined by Assistant Rabban Todd Ham, Recorder Illustrious Sir Gary Taylor,

PP, Director Tommy Helms, Illustrious Sir Terry Jones, PP, and Illustrious Sir John Elder, PP.

Prior to the Installation, more than 50 Nobles and Ladies enjoyed a catered meal. Present were several Blue Lodge members, including newly installed Master of Elkin Masonic Lodge Worshipful Brother Jason Swift and his fiancée, Cheryl.

Gaston County Shrine Club

505 Pinkney Road
Dallas, NC 28034



JOIN US!



What: Monthly Club Meeting

When: 2nd Wednesday of each month
6:00 pm – Social
7:15 pm – Dinner
8:00 pm – Meeting

Where: 505 Pinkney Road Dallas NC 28034

www.gastoncountyshrineclub.com

*"No man ever stood so tall as when he stooped
to help a burned or crippled child."*



Patient Creates Local Support Through "Curvy Girls"

Shriners Hospitals for Children® provides treatment for all types and levels of scoliosis, a musculoskeletal disorder that causes an abnormal curve of the spine. Our pediatric orthopaedic surgeons are especially skilled and able to provide care to children needing complex surgeries to correct their scoliosis. One patient receiving expert care from Shriners Hospitals for Children for this condition is Camille Tharpe from Shreveport, La.

When Camille was first diagnosed with scoliosis at age 10, the realities of how treatment might affect her seemed to be a distant issue. On the verge of entering the challenging social constructs of preteen life, she approached her condition with a cautious, yet optimistic, outlook.

Upon her first visit to Shriners Hospitals for Children - Shreveport, Camille's medical team began monitoring the development of her spine. While initial visits yielded positive results, later examinations indicated movement and changes consistent with additional curvature in her spine. Camille was informed she would require a back brace

running from her hips to her shoulders to prevent further curvature.

"My reaction was kind of what other preteen or teenagers' reactions would be – absolutely terrified," she said. According to Anthony Sin, M.D., a neurosurgeon providing spine care at Shriners Hospitals for Children - Shreveport, concerns about physical appearance are common among those undergoing care for scoliosis.

Looking for Support

Immediately after learning she would require a brace, Camille and her mother, Christine, searched for support outlets online. Their search led them to Curvy Girls, a national scoliosis support group founded by Long Island teenager and scoliosis patient Leah Stoltz. By that evening, Camille had spoken with Stoltz on the phone, and her focus had already begun to change toward the positive.

"That was a total turnaround moment and she was ready to embrace wearing her brace after that phone call," Christine said. "Girls

need to have someone they can talk to about wearing a back brace 23 hours a day, the clothes you wear with a brace and how to just get through the day."

With the support of the national organization, Camille set out this past summer to form the first Curvy Girls chapter in Louisiana. Through fliers, media appearances and promotion to local physicians' offices, Camille generated enough interest to host her first local Curvy Girls meeting.

Attended by local scoliosis patients and several parents, the inaugural meeting had an important impact on Camille.

"The major thing I took away from our first meeting is that I'm helping these girls, but they're helping me so much and they're encouraging me to be braver and more open," said Camille.

Shriners Hospitals for Children is pleased to be able to help children with scoliosis, and proud to see our patients giving back to others.



Camille Tharpe, a patient at Shriners Hospitals for Children - Shreveport, founded the first Curvy Girls support group in Louisiana.



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for Children®

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One-day pro-ams are a great way to entertain clients or spend a day on the course with friends. These events also serve as a way to support a good cause. When you purchase a team in one of the following one-day pro-ams half the purchase price can be donated to Shriners Hospitals for Children Greenville.

Monday, May 13 - BMW Performance Driving School Pro-Am: Contestants of this pro-am will enjoy a morning driving lesson at the BMW Performance Center followed by an afternoon of golf at Thornblade Club.

Tuesday, May 14 - Ultimate Driving Machine Pro-Am: Amateur contestants will be challenged by the tournament conditioned course at Greenville Country Club's Chanticleer course.

Wednesday, May 15 - The Reserve at Lake Keowee Pro-Am: This new one-day pro-am will be held at the tournament's newest course, which boasts stunning mountain and lake views.

Amateur contestants will receive the following:

- A Web.com Tour professional to play with each foursome, walking alongside the group with their caddie
- The chance to win a BMW
- Meals, snacks and beverages
- **NEW FOR 2013** Expanded gift package
- Two Clubhouse Credentials to the 2013 BMW Charity Pro-Ams presented by SYNEX Corporation

Foursome: \$7,000 **Twosome:** \$3,500

Shriners Hospitals for Children Greenville receives \$3,500 for each new foursome sold at \$7,000 and \$1,750 for each new twosome sold at \$3,500. For more information contact Mike Ivester at 864.630.9276 or at mivester@scharities.org.

Big Rigs of the Shrine Keep Putting Trailers on the Road



Pictured is the newest wrapped trailer moving across the highways. To date, Oasis Big Rigs has 5 members with wrapped trailers, and 20 Associate members. Across the nation, there are now 29 trailers bearing the Shrine Logo. If your club or unit would like to put another such trailer on the road, the cost of the wrap is only \$2,000.00. And, a trailer from your area can be wrapped so our local people can see it frequently. **If you are interested in purchasing a wrap, you may contact Oasis Shrine Headquarters, or Noble Terry McShane at 715-697-9080.**

**BMW
Charity Pro-Am**
presented by SYNEX CORPORATION



Buy tickets. Support the Shriners Hospitals for Children.

When you buy tickets to the 2013 BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by SYNEX Corporation, 100 percent of the purchase price of \$10, \$25, and \$50 tickets can be donated to the Shriners Hospitals for Children - Greenville.

Visit buybmwtickets.com to purchase your tickets today, and be sure to choose the Shriners Hospitals for Children - Greenville from the Charity Affiliation drop-down menu during the checkout process.

The tickets available for the 100 percent contribution include:

DAILY CREDENTIAL - \$10 - Grants access to the grounds at one of the tournament courses one day during tournament play.

PATRON CREDENTIAL - \$25 - Grants access to the grounds at Thornblade Club, Greenville Country Club's Chanticleer course and The Reserve at Lake Keowee Thursday, May 16 through Saturday, May 18 and Thornblade Club only on Sunday, May 19.

CLUBHOUSE CREDENTIAL - \$50 - Grants access to the grounds at all three courses and access to the clubhouse at Thornblade Club and The Reserve at Lake Keowee Thursday, May 16 through Saturday, May 18. This credential also grants access to the grounds and clubhouse at Thornblade Club on Sunday, May 19. Clubhouse Credential holders may purchase breakfast, lunch and beverages in the clubhouse at Thornblade Club and The Reserve at Lake Keowee. (Please note that there is no clubhouse access at Chanticleer.)

All tickets include complimentary parking and shuttle service. Parking location addresses are included on the back of each ticket. Tickets ordered at buybmwtickets.com will be shipped in April.

For additional tournament information visit bmwcharitygolf.com.



When you volunteer at the 2013 BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by SYNEX Corporation, you can earn up to \$60 for Shriners Hospitals for Children-Greenville.

Volunteer Registration is \$50; however, **Early Bird Registration (\$40) is available through March 29.** The volunteer registration fee covers your volunteer package, which includes one tournament polo shirt, one cap or visor, one Volunteer Credential, one Patron Credential, one 2013 volunteer pin, and food and beverages while volunteering.

Visit bmwcharitygolf.com to register online or to print a paper application. **During the registration process, be sure to select Shriners Hospitals for Children-Greenville as your charity, and when you do we'll earn \$20 for each of your volunteer workdays** (up to three days - or \$60).

We hope to have you as part of our volunteer team during the 2013 tournament!

For additional tournament information visit bmwcharitygolf.com.



May 16-19, 2013



THE *Madsen Family Legacy*

For more than 140 years, Shriners have carried the values and mission of the fraternity across generations of families. To recognize Legacy families, Shriners International has designated February as Legacy Month to honor those families who display a keen sense

of pride and commitment to the Shriners' fraternity within their own family lineage. Members of the program receive a gold Legacy pin and signed certificate from the Imperial Potentate and Imperial Recorder to commemorate their membership in the program.

For many men, being a Shriner is a family tradition. From one generation to the next, Shriners have enjoyed a unique brotherhood and shared in an important, more personal fraternal tradition and legacy.

One family that recently extended their Shrine lineage is the Madsen family. Paul Madsen, son of Imperial Potentate Al Madsen joined El Kalah Shriners of Salt Lake City in the summer of 2012. Paul, a pilot for Southwest Airlines, said, "Watching [his father's] passion for the fraternity and for Shriners Hospitals for Children® engendered a goal of becoming a noble someday." During his father's time as a member of the Imperial Divan, Paul has been able to interact with the children and patient ambassadors of Shriners Hospitals, which also motivated him to join the fraternity.



Shriners Hospitals
for Children®
Greenville

One Step Closer

"I can do it. I can do it one more time." Sweat beads up on Alex Parker's forehead as he struggles to pull himself up out of his wheelchair and stand for 10 seconds. Two physical therapists stand close by encouraging and cheering for him. "I want to be able to drive my car and live on my own someday," Alex says, his face a study in concentration. Alex keeps his goals at the forefront of his mind as he works his legs and arms during his physical therapy sessions at Shriners Hospitals for Children—Greenville. Alex was born with cerebral palsy and has been coming to the Greenville Shriners Hospital for treatment. He received a Baclofen pump which was implanted in his back to provide a continuous infusion of medicine to help relax his muscles and prevent spasms. Alex describes how his life has changed as a result of the pump. "I can feel my legs and feet for the first time in 8 years, and it's a lot easier to talk and have better speech control." Alex has also received a Botox injection in his right arm to allow for more exibility, and now he is able to operate his computer and PlayStation unassisted. Alex's mother, Shanna said of Shriners Hospital, "This is where he can get the best treatment, but the work is up to him." And that is exactly what Alex has been motivated to do. The 17-year-old said his physical therapist, Katie Rhodes, convinced him of the importance of working hard in physical therapy. "The atmosphere here at the hospital is so nice. They treat me with love, respect and dignity. And they know I need my independence." At the recommendation of medical staff at Shriners Hospital, Alex plans to have surgery in the near future to lengthen his hamstrings which will make standing easier for him. Then he will be one step closer to accomplishing his goals.



Conditions Treated:

Foot and Ankle Disorders

Clubfoot
Flat feet
Tarsal coalition
Congenital foot deformities

Hip, Knee, and Leg Disorders

Knock knees and bowlegs
In-toeing
Leg length discrepancy
Developmental dislocated hip
Legg-Perthes disease
Trauma to the hip, knee, or leg
Sports injuries

Limb, Hand, and Toe Disorders

Constricting bands
Duplicated or extra digits
Syndactyly of fingers
Absence of limb, partial or complete
Upper and lower extremity prosthetics

Spinal Deformities

Scoliosis
Post-traumatic spine disorders
Congenital spinal disorders

Other Orthopaedic Conditions

Cerebral Palsy
Spina Bifida
Metabolic bone disease
Osteogenesis Imperfecta
(brittle bone disease)

Referrals (toll free):
1-866-459-0013

Since becoming a Shriner, Paul's relationship with his father has taken on new depths as the two celebrate their fraternal bond. Paul and his father have spent a substantial amount of time together at Shrine events such as the Rose Bowl Parade and during hospital visits. Particularly important to Paul was his father's presentation of a philanthropic award to Southwest Airlines at the Houston hospital. "I hope to give the fraternity more than I get from it and someday earn the opportunity to lead," said Paul. "I will volunteer my time, passion, and charity to Shriners Hospitals for Children and the fraternity when I can, and will do so in an honorable manner."

Paul hopes to continue the Madsen Shrine legacy and has started mentoring his son in Masonry. Just as his father did, Paul awaits the day when his son will join the fraternity and be part of the Madsen fraternal bond.

OASIS STATED MEETING

DATE: April 18, 2013

TIME: 4:00 pm

LOCATION:

Oasis Shrine Center
Board Room

Join Potentate Fred Laxton and Lady Rhonda and Escape To The Unrivalled Tropical Luxury in **PUNTA CANA**

Part of the easternmost province of the Dominican Republic, Punta Cana is known for its fantastic tropical weather, lovely beaches and world-class golfing!

MAY 16 - MAY 20, 2013

Featured Hotel: The Hotel Riu Palace Macao, adult only (All Inclusive 24h) is an impressive 5 star complex located in the city of Punta Cana, Dominican Republic at the beach of Arena Gorda: A paradise of palm trees and turquoise water for some perfect vacations in this Caribbean destination.

Sunlight, heavenly beaches, coconut palms and a relaxing atmosphere are some aspects to describe this marvelous Caribbean destination. Here you can relax and enjoy a calm stay. You will find a swimming pool with fresh water, Jacuzzi, a solarium-terrace, a gym and the wellness center "Eternal Spa" with different kinds of treatments and massages.

The cuisine of the Dominican Republic offers a big variety, flavors and colors dominate on its plates and its cooking has received influences from the African and Spanish cooking. It has a

variety of fruits and vegetables that enrich each plate with a unique flavor. In the restaurant's buffet and the thematic restaurants you can taste the best recipes that our chefs have prepared for you to satisfy any palate.

The Hotel Riu Palace Macao is inside the Riu Resorts complex together with the Riu Palace Punta Cana, Club Hotel Riu Bambu, and Hotel Riu Naiboa and like its neighbors it provides of an entertainment program that you can enjoy during the whole day. The All Inclusive system gives you the opportunity to do several activities and sports like table tennis, gymnastics, water polo, volleyball, windsurf, sailing, kayak, body board and much more.

If you want to do some excursions or to visit the surroundings, you will have the opportunity to visit fabulous places like the marine park Marinarium, the beautiful sugar fields Higüey, Altos de Chavón, the Isla Saona, and the Caribbean Cachondeo.

PUNTA CANA – MAY 16 - 20, 2013

Package Price Includes Four Nights accommodations at Riu Palace Macao, Punta Cana (adult only all-inclusive resort)

For pricing, call **Tammy @ Granite Travel 828-396-1100**
or email **tammy@granitetravel.com**

First deposit of \$100.00 per person due upon reservation.
Final payment due March 1, 2013

PLEASE NOTE: Guest is responsible for all incidentals at hotel and will be required to provide a credit card upon check in.

I wish to purchase traveler's insurance at \$134.00 per person _____ Yes _____ No (Payment for insurance is due at time of first deposit.)

Name _____

Spouse's Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Cell phone _____

Email _____

Amount to charge to credit card: \$ _____ Credit Card Information (Circle One) VISA MASTERCARD

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____ Security Code _____

Name on Card _____

I agree to the terms and conditions specified above, and authorize you to charge this purchase to my credit card

Signature of Authorization _____ Today's Date _____

**PLEASE PRINT NAMES AS
THEY APPEAR ON PASSPORT**

\$10.00 tourist visa –
payable in cash at Punta
Cana airport

For cost on airfare call or email **Tammy @ Granite Travel 828-396-1100**. Questions email **tammy@granitetravel.com**.

To make you reservation – Please mail completed form to **Granite Travel, Attn: Punta Cana 2013, 28 Park Square, Granite Falls, NC 28630**

Disclaimer: Granite Travel has contracted third part vendors to make arrangements on behalf of your group. I agree to indemnify and hold harmless Granite Travel in the event of non-performance of third party.

**UNGER
UPFRONT:**

Shriners More Than Funny Little Cars, Men in Fezzes

There's a classic expression in the marketing industry, and possibly in some metaphysical circles, which states, "Perception is reality." Technically that statement often isn't true – for example, a drunk who's convinced he can fly – but the concept carries a lot of weight.

Consumers' perceptions about a product or company can determine its fate, whether the audience's perceived notions are correct or not. Sometimes those perceptions are valid and advantageous. On the other hand, they can be way off base.

That thought occurred to me recently when I became a huge fan of the Shriners.

Many people, including me, have definite perceptions about Shriners – they're the old guys in the funny red fezzes who drive around in little cars at various events. Is that what immediately came to your mind?

First, let's concede that image is true. The Shriners do wear red fezzes and frequently tool around on little motorcycles or go-carts. But who are they and what does their organization represent?

My youngest son fell and broke his arm on Christmas, and repairing it was going to require surgery. A good friend of ours is on the staff at the Shriners Hospital on Lindbergh Boulevard, and encouraged us to go there for treatment. It turned out to be a fantastic recommendation.

St. Louis has a lot of big and excellent hospitals, and to be honest, I really knew very little about the Shriners facility, which is almost inconspicuously nestled between Plaza Frontenac and St. Joseph's Academy. Now after having experienced what they do, I can't say enough good things about the place.

Shriners is a children's hospital, and the staff members are obvi-

ously accustomed to dealing with nervous kids. The environment is designed to make them feel comfortable, and everyone we met seemed calm, gentle and reassuring. Procedures were carefully explained in simple terms. Nothing felt hectic or disorganized. People appeared to genuinely care about each other.

Their commitment to compassion runs deep. The original Shriners Hospital for Children opened in 1922 with the stated goal of being a philanthropic medical mission. Their vision was to provide leading-edge healthcare for children regardless of a family's ability to pay.

That generous approach has dramatically expanded over the years. Shriners Hospitals – now with 22 facilities across North America – are recognized for providing much more than affordable basic treatments. Shriners is now ranked as a national leader in pediatric orthopedics, and its

doctors and surgeons are practically miracle workers.

While we were there, we met kids from several states who had come to the St. Louis Shriners Hospital for such advanced, delicate surgeries as leg lengthening or straightening, spinal fusions and much more. I talked to one remarkably mature young boy who told me that the Shriners were giving him a whole new life, because he had expected to grow up with incurable deformities. Now, although he'll have to endure years of corrective procedures, he's excited about becoming a normal kid.

Sadly, I bet most people have no idea what those Shriners in their funny red hats are doing to change the world. The perceptions need updating.

I sheepishly mentioned to a young nurse at the hospital how clueless I had been about the Shriners. She laughed knowingly; I must not have been the first person to make that comment.

She said that when she tells her friends where she works, they admit they've never heard of Shriners Hospital – or they'll come back with the typical response, "You mean the guys in the clown cars?"

Another somewhat common perception about the Shriners is that they sponsor a circus, and it's coming to town. Between March 21st and 24th, the 71st annual Moolah Shrine Circus will have seven performances at the Saint Charles Family Arena. The show features all the classic big-top laughs, thrills and dazzling entertainment that have made circuses a wonderful outing for families for generations.

Tickets are extremely affordable, and they're for a great cause. Underwriting children's healthcare is a huge financial responsibility, and the circus helps the Shriners in their important fund-raising efforts. You can also request free admission for children under 12 with the purchase of an adult ticket.



By Steve Unger

*Courtesy of St. Louis
Suburban Journals*

For more information about the circus and the Shriners, visit www.stlshrinecircus.com, or call (314) 878-6301.

The excitement actually begins at noon this Saturday, March 9, with a parade in downtown St. Charles. Why not come out and share in the fun, and support the Shriners in their admirable philanthropies? The parade route is shown on the website.

It should be a great time, and you'll get to see those famous little cars.

SOB - ARE YOU ONE?

SHRINERS ON BIKES

Got a
bike and
want to
ride for
Children,
Prizes,
and Fun?



COME JOIN US!

**Captain Pat Glover
704-634-3025**



**3RD MONDAY of the MONTH
6 PM @ BIG DADDY'S
HWY 150 MOOREVILLE
Noble Lee Maynard, PC, President
336-996-8712**

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Oasis Camping Club: A HISTORY

Ten years ago Illustrious Sir Robert (Bob) Burroughs, PP and Divan member John Sullivan began proceedings to form a new club in Oasis. Using By Laws from the Sudan Camping Club as a pattern, and with the approval of Illustrious Sir Bill Van Dresser, the fastest growing club in Oasis was born. Of course at that time it was far from fast growing. With the families of Burroughs and Sullivan, the total membership was two.

An ad in the Desert Dust ran and the phone started ringing. A year later under Illustrious Sir Paul Haggerty the first official outing was held.

Maggie Valley, holding festivities for their 100th birthday, welcomed the Shriners to the celebration. Eight families camped together and actually had a parade entry. Sunday morning breakfast was served to any who wanted to attend, in conjunction with a church service. Bob and Sandy Harwell led the service, Doris Burroughs played the electric piano, and cooking was shared by the club.

That was to be the start of several years of successful church services in Maggie Valley coinciding with Oasis Ceremonials. The breakfasts that were held with the services became a huge undertaking for a new club, but membership continued to grow to 30+ couples within a few years.

Divan member Todd Ham described one of the Sunday mornings as he looked at the 250 or so Oasis members in line for scrambled eggs, country ham, bacon, sausage, biscuits, gravy, grits, sweet rolls, coffee, and orange juice..."The birds are singing, the smell of breakfast is in the air, Illustrious Sir John Stanley is preaching and Shriners are enjoying the fellowship of a Sunday morning". I couldn't say it any better!

If you and your family are campers and would like to join us, call club President Mike Smalley at (704)482-5775 and become a part of the Oasis Camping Club.

We are celebrating ten years as a club in Maggie Valley August 16-18. You have time to get your dues paid and reservations made!
We'll see you down the road.

Annual Board Meeting

April 12 - 13, 2013

Come see how
Love comes to
the rescue
of children
every day.

Agenda	
Shriners Hospitals for Children* — Greenville	
Friday, April 12	
2:00 p.m.	Special Outing in Greenville, SC
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Appetizers and Tours of the Hospital
6:30 p.m.	Dinner at Hospital
Saturday, April 13	
8:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Annual Board Meeting
12:30 p.m.	Lunch at Hospital



Shriners Hospitals for Children®
Greenville
Love to the rescue.™

Registration required: cstahl@shrinenet.org or 864-255-7942

**KEYSTONE
KOPS**



The Oasis Keystone Kops
Jack Parrott Memorial Golf Tournament
Westport Golf Club
7494 Golf Course Road South
Denver, NC 28037
May 22, 2013



Check-in - 12:00 P.M. Shotgun Start - 1:00 P.M.
Beer & Soft drinks - Complimentary Lunch prior to start
2-man Captain's Choice Format

Sponsorships: (circle one)

\$ 1,000	8 Players, 8 Tee-ads
\$ 750	6 Players, 6 Tee-ads
\$ 500	4 Players, 2 Tee-ads
\$ 250	2 Players, 1 Tee-ad
\$ 150	1 Player, 1 Tee-ad

Trophies for
1st
2nd
3rd

*(Additional Players...\$60.00 each)

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Players Name: _____

Players Name: _____

Players Name: _____

Players Name: _____

Mail Entry To: make check payable to: Oasis Keystone Kops
C/O Don Deese
P.O. Box 1619
Cornelius, NC 28031

For information contact:
Don Deese
704-578-8991 (Cell)
Jerry Williams
704-597-0032

**Prices awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place, Longest Drive,
Closest to Pin and plenty of Door Prizes.**

Golf Attire Required/No Denim
ddeese@hubgroup.com



Reminder:
All ads & articles for the May
edition of the Desert Dust
must be submitted by **April 10**



**New addition
to the Oasis
Scooter
Patrol!**

Oasis Keystone Kops

Join us and have a fun time while raising money for the Shriners Hospitals!



Other Events Include:

- Meetings the second Thursday of the month
- Annual Keystone Kop Golf Tournament
- SASA and Oasis Installation Trips
- Antique Car Show Appearances
- **Bring your wife and kids!**

Contact Captain Cal Greene for Information:
704-578-9396 or cal.greene5@yahoo.com

DeMolay International

DeMolay is a character and leadership building organization for young men who are between the ages of 12 and 21, have a belief in a supreme being and are of good moral character.

The Order of DeMolay, which we now call DeMolay International, was founded in 1919 in Kansas City by Frank S. Land, a former Imperial Potentate of the Shrine (1954-55). Brother Land recognized the need for a club that could support young men and nurture them to become the future leaders of tomorrow. The ideals of DeMolay – love of God, love of parents and love of country – spread throughout the United States in the 20s and 30s. The first DeMolay chapter in North Carolina was started in 1921. There are currently 12 DeMolay chapters across our state, and more forming as we speak. Chapters also can be found in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and nine foreign countries.

If you, are interested in supporting a new DeMolay chapter, or know a young man who would be interested please feel free to contact us. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Matthew Hunt Deputy Executive Officer

hunt@ncdemolay.org

CHAPTERS IN OASIS

Asheboro	Matthew Hunt	olesparky34@gmail.com
Greensboro	Scott Spencer	jamesfamfin@gmail.com
Winston-Salem	Alan Williard	alansimpson@carolina.rr.com
Charlotte	Alan Simpson	alansimpson@carolina.rr.com
Cliffside	Matthew Waugh	matthewlwaugh@yahoo.com

CHAPTERS FORMING IN OASIS

Ashe County	John Brown	w42pfc@yahoo.com
Hickory	JJ Kuba	silkandmarmalade@aol.com

ANNUAL BARBECUE

WHITE PLAINS SHRINE CLUB

209 YORK ROAD
KINGS MOUNTAIN, NC



APRIL 6TH
Starts at 10:00 am

Chopped Barbecue Plate **\$8.00**

1/4 Barbecue Chicken Plate **\$8.00**

Whole Barbecue Boston Butt **\$35.00**

PATROL UNIT

PATROL NEWS FOR APRIL 2013 • WWW.OASISPATROL.COM

The Patrol Unit of Oasis Shriners has experienced slight busy-ness in March as we honored our esteemed Past Captains, all but a couple in attendance, with a steak dinner prepared by Chef Kevin aka Noble Bodie, a long-time Patrolman and most-time caterer with his able-bodied protégé Noble Pat Saulsbery and serving matron Lady Conner Daniels. A great evening was shared by all Nobles in attendance as a special welcome to our Oasis Leadership from The Patrol is extended. A BIG thank you to our good friends; the leadership, members and support staff of the Mecklenburg Shrine Club for allowing us the use of their facilities this year.

As the Patrol Nobles honored our Past Captains, Lady Sally Saulsbery

aligned our Patrol Ladies and converged on a local University area restaurant to share their own camaraderie. This is one of the few times throughout our Shrine-year that The Oasis Patrol has gender separation.

Speaking of Mecklenburg Shrine Club and Oasis Patrol synergy: just recently the small fountain in the entry-way was re-vamped and dedicated as a perpetual memorial to one of our recent fallen Patrol comrades; Carl B. "Junior" Moore. Members and visitors to The Club are encouraged to drop their spare change into the pool of water. Provisions are made for paper donations as well by way of a customized red bucket. All proceeds continue to be donated to Shriners Hospitals for Children in

Junior's name via The Club.

Looking to the future: The Patrol begins to swing the clubs in early April by virtue of hosting the 3rd Annual Patrol and Friends Golf Outing in Santee, SC. A big shout-out of thanks to our Gastonia contingent for the extra effort exuded for our three days of fun, golf lies and camaraderie. Shortly thereafter we will find ourselves assisting one of our long-time donor supporters; WFNZ AM Sports Radio with man-power support duties for their annual golf tournament. It is great exposure for our group to many non-Masons and Shriners as they allow us some on-the-air time to tout our mission. It is WFNZ that allows The Patrol to set up and take donations at their "Dog-House" prior to all Carolina



Panthers home games.

The first weekend of May we will be participating in the Oasis' Annual Paper Crusade / Sale. Exact location is yet to be determined – though most likely in the Matthews, NC area. Our soft-target date is Saturday May 11th for The Patrol and Mecklenburg Shrine Club to co-host another, our second, Masonic Unity Pancake Breakfast. It is an open forum aimed at any and all interested prospects for Blue Lodge Masonry, The Rites and Shrinedom. A good Noble's Shrine membership may well transcend into being able to fill the ranks of The Patrol. Later in May we will migrate to the NC hills of Blowing Rock as Oasis' Spring Ceremonial will be held May 31st and June 1st.

The Chetola Resort is Oasis' headquarters for lodging and hospitality.

Nobles, be sure to visit your Masonic Blue Lodges in April and May to talk it up with any non-Shriners in the group. So many good Masons are not as informed about The Shrine as we might think and others just need a little nudge. Let everyone know about our Masonic Unity Breakfast in May. Any good prospect is encouraged to visit both of these web-sites, www.beashrinernow.com which is put together by Shriners International and Oasis' own www.OasisShriners.org, for further information. Click the Membership link, scroll to Petition for Initiation and Membership link, print, fill out and render with payment information. It

almost could not be easier.

Please continue to keep our members and friends with health and sadness issues in your thoughts and prayers. Let Captain Peter or any Patrol Officer know as we like to keep our members abreast of all Health and Happiness concerns. Continue to let all of the good folks that are close and important to us know that we care about them.

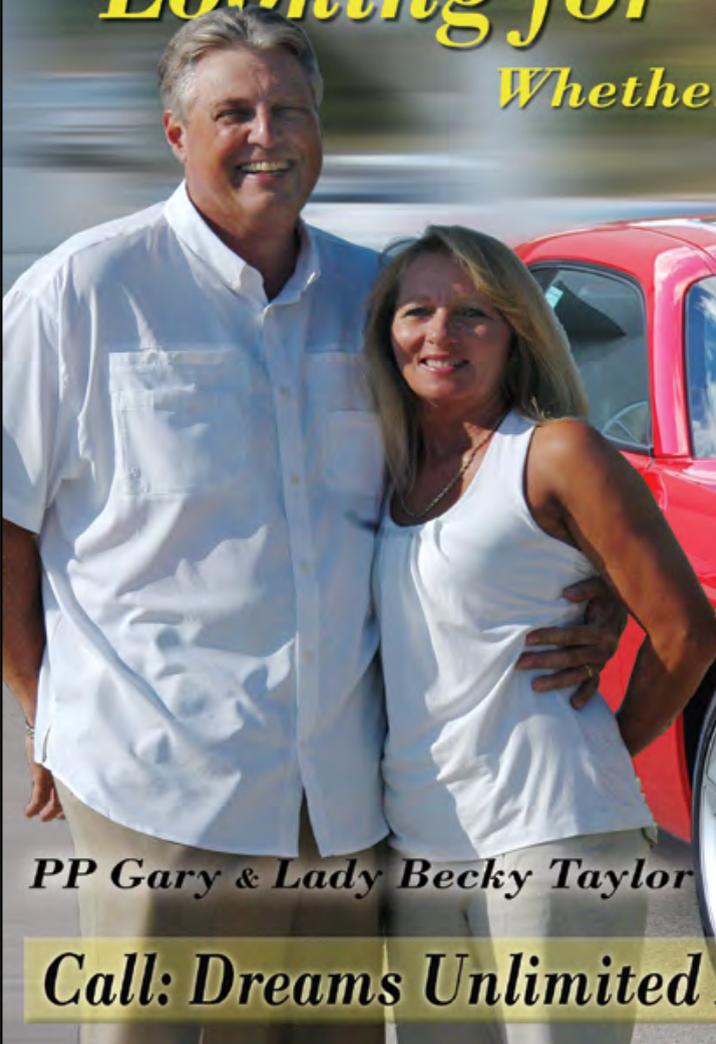
And now from the pop-culture vaults - a relatable quote: "If you are not willing to look stupid, nothing great is ever going to happen to you" - Dr. Gregory House

Respectfully Submitted;
Bob Saye, 1st Lieutenant

Looking for Your Dream Car?

Whether it's Power, Economy, or Luxury

We Are The Ones You Need to Call



PP Gary & Lady Becky Taylor

Call: Dreams Unlimited Auto Brokers 704-507-3693 or 704-451-0980

A message from Ken Bowen, Membership Chairman

CALLING ALL PAST MASTERS!

When I was in High School, there was an exercise the typing instructor used to help us learn to type. It goes something like this: "Now is the time for all good men, to come to the aid of their country." If you are a Past Master, then you are just the kind of man Oasis and the Past Masters Unit is looking for.

For the past several months, the Divan and I have been meeting with Clubs and Units throughout Oasis and talking about the Blue Lodge Ambassador program. We are looking for good men to come to the aid of Oasis. We are looking for Blue Lodge Ambassadors who are active Shrine Masons who are willing to stay informed of the happenings at Oasis and talk about them with their home Blue Lodges. At the same time, they should stay informed of the happenings of their Blue Lodges and share those events with Oasis and the Desert Dust.

A few weeks ago, I had the pleasure of meeting with Past Potentate Illustrious Sir Terry Jones. Illustrious Sir Jones is also the Captain of the Past Masters Unit. With over 120 current members, the Past Masters Unit is one of the most successful and most active units in all of Oasis. And the Past Masters Unit is wanting to grow! If you are a Past Master,

you should really consider joining this group of men in the work they do. They are active in their Lodges and they are active in the Shrine. And who better to be the conduit at the local level between the Blue Lodge and the Shrine than a Past Master.

The fact is that all of our Nobles come to us from a Blue Lodge. With 195 Blue Lodges in the Oasis jurisdiction, there is a lot of opportunity and work to do to get the word out about the good work that Oasis does for our 22 hospitals. But, unbelievably, somehow the word is not getting out. In North Carolina, only about 25% of all Masons are Shriners, whereas in North Dakota, for example, over 75% of all Masons are Shriners. So there is also a lot of room to grow and North Carolina's Most Worshipful Grand Master, Dewey Preslar, Jr., (also an Oasis Shriner), has given

his blessing to our efforts and this program. We are most thankful and excited about that endorsement.

If you are interested in becoming a Blue Lodge Ambassador, contact me at ken.bowen@att.net and if you wish to get involved in the Past Masters Unit of Oasis, please call **Captain Terry Jones at 336-764-5502**. With your help, all good men can come to the aid of Oasis! And we know you will!

Donations

Lamar & Carolyn Seagraves (Tri County Shrine Club)

Larry D Corl

Marcus B Carpenter

Mary Jane Voeltner

Mountain Creek Baptist Church (Robbinsville Shrine Club)

Neil Wilson (Union County Shrine Club)

Orin Baucom (Union County Shrine Club)

Pat Kirkley (Union County Shrine Club)

Pro Motion Rehab, Inc (Western NC Shrine Club)

Ralph L Crisp Realty Co, Inc (Western NC Shrine Club)

Rolla & Mary Rogers

Ronald J Kepley (Rowan Shrine Club)

Russell E Vannatta (Mt Mitchell Shrine Club)

Ryan C Eaton

Steven Joy (Union County Shrine Club)

Thomas A Jenkins

United Methodist Women (Chair City Shrine Club)

Valleytown Ins Tax Service (Western NC Shrine Club)

West Davidson SNAP Fitness (Rowan Shrine Club)

William T Cope

Holland's Hope

2013 Oasis Hospitality Committee

21 Motors, Inc

Al & Joyce Clegg *from candy sales - Shriners Car Show, Greensboro*

Anthony Laxton

Butch & Hilda Stalker *from candy sales - Shriners Car Show, Greensboro*

Col Walter A Burch *in memory of Walter Cockerham*

Connie & Greg Carroll *in honor of Holland "our niece"*

Don A Ray

Doyle Simmons *in honor of Kathy Simmons on her birthday*

Foothills Shrine Club *in memory of Bill Rainey*

Gaston County Shrine Club

Harold & Susan Davis *from candy sales - Shriners Car Show, Greensboro*

Harold Davis *from blanket sales*

Harold Tolbert *in honor of Sue Laxton*

Howard Prevette *from blanket sales*

James C Bengie

John & Monie Bean *in memory of Ben & Clara House*

Judy W Valentine *in honor of Mrs Don (Ann) Richardson on her birthday*

Kenneth Jarrett

*Joyce, Vickie, Angie/Marley, Reva Jarrett,
On the Occasion of Valentine's Day*

Lowell Poole *from candy sales - Shriners Car Show, Greensboro*

Max Garrison G L Storage

Norburn & Martha Hyatt

Oasis Past Captains

Robert Stevens *in honor of Hollyn Gambill*

Robet (Hood) Dulin *in honor of Mary Ham on her birthday*

Roland Lawrimore *from candy sales - Shriners Car Show, Greensboro*

Sam McCall *from candy sales - Shriners Car Show, Greensboro*

Terry Cox *in memory of Todd Clegg*

Vera Jordan

WINSTON-SALEM SHRINE CLUB



\$10,000 REVERSE DRAWING

APRIL 20, 2013

DINNER FROM 4:00 TO 5:30 P. M.
DRAWING STARTS AT 6:00 P. M.

TICKETS \$100 EACH

(1 STEAK DINNER INCLUDED WITH TICKET)

WINNER MUST BE PRESENT OR REPRESENTED

AT CLUBHOUSE

4906 HAMPTON ROAD
CLEMMONS, NC

FOR TICKETS

CALL NEAL AT 336-766-3054

Proceeds benefit the Winston-Salem Shrine Club

Memorials

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF:	DONOR	IN MEMORY OF:
Donald A McAllister	Bill Greene	Howard & Shirley Keyes	Jester Thomas C Kiser (Tommy)
Frank & Betty Troidl	Bill Greene	Pease Engineering & Architecture	Jimmy E Page
Jean & Malcolm Stone	Bill Greene	Clear Creek Elementary School	John A Ford, Jr
Michael & Sandra Jeffery	Bill Greene	Hendersonville Elementary School	John A Ford, Jr
Judy C Miller	Bill Miller	Tom & Hazel Hawkins	John A Ford, Jr
Gene Walsler	Bobby Charles Moses	Lloyd & Cathy Golding	Logan Burke
James & Betty King	Bobby Osborne	Superior Tile & Marble Corporation	Mel Lethco
Oasis Clown Unit	Bobby Osborne	Lloyd & Cathy Golding	Michael G McKinney
Dallas Senior Citizen Club	Burl Robinson, Sr	Lloyd & Cathy Golding	Nancy Perry Morgan
Disabled American Veterans,		Howard & Shirley Keyes	Noble Bill Greene
Chapter #60 Mt Holly-Belmont	Burl Robinson, Sr	Gaston County Shrine Club	Noble Fred R Lovelace, Jr
Gary & Sylvia Holbrook	Burl Robinson, Sr	John & Barbara Finney	Noble Fred Robert Lovelace, Jr
Oasis Mountain Buggies	Charles F Bailey	Anne Adkins	Noble Graham Greene
Thermal Belt Shrine Club	D G Godfrey	Barton Bridges	Noble Graham Greene
Wayne, Lisa & Maria Hilliard	Donald Frank	Bobbie L Elmore	Noble Graham Greene
James E Flow	Dorothy F Linder	C R & Helen Jeffords	Noble Graham Greene
John S Miller, Jr	Dorothy F Linder	Dr Terry & Jane Seaks	Noble Graham Greene
Thomas Street Tavern	Dorothy F Linder	First National Bank, Shelby NC	Noble Graham Greene
Floyd M Burton	Dot Burton	Linda Ritchie	Noble Graham Greene
George & Betsy Wilcox	Edmond Barringer Foil	Michael & Amanda Phillips	Noble Graham Greene
Ann Johnson White	Fred Lovelace	Michael & Sheila Woods	Noble Graham Greene
Barbara A & Stan Price	Fred Lovelace	Mr & Mrs Donald H Couch	Noble Graham Greene
David & Barbara Jenkins	Fred Lovelace	Robert & Charlotte Jackson	Noble Graham Greene
Freida A Ramseur	Fred Lovelace	Thomas & Carol Wood	Noble Graham Greene
Matt Adcock, Jr	Fred Lovelace	Oasis Patrol Noble	Tommy Kiser
Tim & Linda Bess	Fred Lovelace	Sally A Herr	Reginald Young
Tim Farris	Fred Lovelace	Oasis Patrol	Ruth Rogers
Buddy & Patricia Stephenson	Hardy Sullivan	Oasis Clown Unit	Todd Clegg
Harold & Margaret Klutz, Jr	Harold L Klutz, Jr	Terry Cox	Todd Clegg
Charlie & Colene Russell	Harvey Bodi	Royal Order of Jesters,	Tommy C Kiser
Chris Greene	Harvey Bodi	Charlotte Court #109	Tommy Kiser
Howard & Mary Greene	Harvey Bodi	Al & Jan Madsen	Velma Jean Dixon
Jean & Malcolm Stone	Harvey Bodi	Ken, Sandy, Stephen,	William A Greene
Norm & Helene Brower	Harvey Bodi	Melia & Cayden Austin	William A Greene, Sr
Thomas O Eller	HT Smith	Beverly & Jacquelyn Toth	William A Greene, Sr
Ray Willis	J C Sossoman	Deborah & Michael Wood & Family	William A Greene, Sr
Surry Shrine Club	James Grayson Hall	Fletcher Elementary PTO	William Greene
Howard & Shirley Keyes	Jester Harvey Bodi	Mr & Mrs Francis Wilder & Family	
		Fletcher Elementary School	

Honors

Barry & Charlene Winecoff *in honor of Chris A Combis*
 Oasis Mountain Buggies *in honor of Gene Candler, Get Well Soon*
 Barry & Charlene Winecoff *in honor of George Combis*

PASSED WITHIN THE UNSEEN TEMPLE

APRIL 2013

MEMBER #	NAME	CITY, STATE	CREATED	DIED
14249	Henry H Dunlap, Jr.	Siler City, NC	5/21/55	6/2/11
30884	Joseph W Westbrook, Jr.	Greensboro, NC	11/6/82	6/12/12
15360	Robert L Simpson	San Augustine, FL	10/22/55	12/13/12
30322	Robert M Ledford	Rogersville, TN	11/14/81	2/8/13
21542	John T Beam	Kings Mountain, NC	9/19/70	2/11/13
29384	Dovie G Godfrey	Forest City, NC	8/16/80	2/11/13
13602	Lewis A Canter	Greensboro, NC	10/31/53	2/14/13
21574	Clyde N Clapp, Jr.	Madison Heights, VA	9/19/70	2/14/13
14315	James T Rusher	Salisbury, NC	5/21/55	2/15/13
21469	Koyt A Shields	Winston-Salem, NC	5/2/70	2/19/13
32799	Allen W Scott	Harrisburg, NC	3/22/86	2/20/13
33450	Francis E Shields	Charleston, SC	8/29/87	3/1/13
34007	James G Hall	Dobson, NC	3/7/91	3/2/13
26136	Ken M Randleman	Winston-Salem, NC	11/1/75	3/3/13
36790	William T Niven	Seven Lakes, NC	5/22/76	3/3/13
25699	Burl C Robinson, Sr.	Dallas, NC	5/24/75	3/6/13
25333	Forbus L Russell, Sr.	Salisbury, NC	11/7/56	3/9/13
32191	Edd A Beaver	Rockwell, NC	6/1/85	3/9/13
30332	Thomas M Elmore	Bessemer City, NC	11/14/81	3/12/13
15994	Glenn Connell	Indian Trail, NC	1/23/60	3/13/13

Holland's Hope

UPDATE ~ APRIL 2013

\$14,016
previous balance

\$4,131 – April

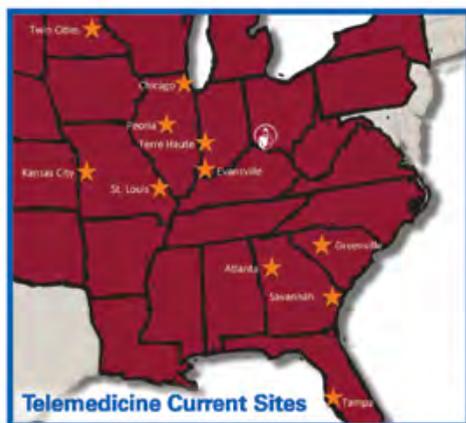
\$18,147 YTD





Cincinnati Hospital Connects with Patients Across the Nation

Have you ever spoken with a physician about your health condition by telephone? Have you used the internet to gather information for a medical condition? If so, you have used a form of telemedicine. Use of this technology to exchange medical information from one site to another is called telemedicine or telehealth.



Once considered a specialty niche, telemedicine is quickly becoming a new standard of care for hospitals and healthcare providers across America and Shriners Hospitals for Children - Cincinnati is on board. The Cincinnati hospital is committed to providing patients, families, staff and communities with access to our services through the use of this technology.

Cincinnati offers telemedicine sites in Twin Cities, MN - Chicago, IL - Peoria, IN - Terre Haute, IN - Evansville, IN - Kansas City, MO - St. Louis, MO - Greenville, SC - Atlanta, GA - Savannah, GA and Tampa, FL. Staff at the telemedicine site has equipment that is also in place in Cincinnati. This allows both teams to send video (pictures) and audio (sound) back and forth. It is a live two-way interactive video-conferencing, which means the patient is able to see and talk to the doctor through TV. Information is sent directly across the phone lines, making it more secure and more dependable than the internet. Physicians, nurses and therapists from Cincinnati can easily see how a patient is progressing using this technology without the travel



and time away from home, school and work.

Telemedicine has been a great solution to these challenges. “We treat patients with burn injuries, cleft lip and palate, hairy nevus, gynecomastia, portwine stains, and a number of other diagnoses” says Katrina Brunsman, RN and Telemedicine Coordinator at Shriners Hospitals for Children - Cincinnati. “Typical patients that may take part in a telemedicine clinic visit are post-operative patients or patients that we only evaluate yearly.”

As a specialized center of excellence, Shriners Hospitals for Children – Cincinnati sees the great potential of telemedicine in the future of burn care and other medical conditions treated here. Telemedicine enables our hospital to extend medical expertise to the communities where we serve. In addition, time will be saved, costs will be streamlined, and patients and families will experience improved healthcare quality and accessibility. We are able to provide needed services to our patients,” shares Katrina. “This results in increased patient satisfaction.”

Conditions Treated at the Cincinnati Hospital

BURN CARE

- Burn injuries
- Inhalation injuries
- Burn reconstruction & rehabilitation

PLASTICS & RECONSTRUCTIVE CONDITIONS

- Congenital ear deformities
- Congenital hairy nevus (large birthmarks)
- Cleft lip and palate
- Brachial plexus injuries (nerve damage affecting upper extremities)
- Congenital hand malformations
- Gynecomastia (abnormal breast development in teenage boys)
- Congenital breast deformities
- Hidradenitis (chronic sweat gland disorder)
- Post trauma deformities (treadmill injuries, dog bites, lawnmower accidents)

COMPLEX WOUND & SKIN CONDITIONS

- Purpura Fulminans
- Necrotizing skin infections & Necrotizing Fasciitis
- Stevens-Johnson Syndrome
- Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis
- Port wine stains

All Services Provided Regardless of the Families' Ability to Pay

If you know a child we can help, please call:

Burn Services

(a burn injury, possibly requiring admission to hospital)

866-947-7840

Non-burn Services

(non-emergency burns and non-burn conditions)

855-206-2096 or helpachild@shrinenet.org