

YAARAB SHRINE

ATLANTA, GA

# BASHARAT

February/March 2017

Volume 84 No.1



**BE A PART OF TEAM - 17**



# Basharat

Feb/Mar 2017—Volume 84 Number 1

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# POTENTATE'S MESSAGE

*"Building a Better Tomorrow for Children Today"*

Dear Nobles and Ladies:

The Yaarab Shrine Circus, the Greatest Shrine Circus, will have it's 75th Anniversary this year. What a wonderful year to participate and work towards a successful Circus. Help us celebrate this milestone by bringing your family and friends out to see the 75<sup>th</sup> Shrine Circus. And by helping us work to make it the most successful Circus to date. I know I will do everything I can. Now would be a good time to jump on board the "TEAM SEVENTEEN" train.

We have some new events, like the Fourth of July Homecoming and are bringing back some old events, like the nobles' birthday parties. So be sure to check out the Basharat frequently to make sure you don't miss out.

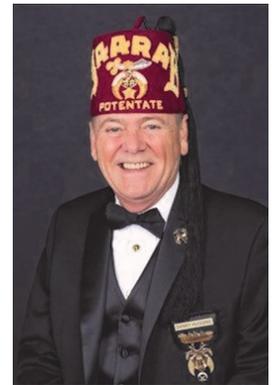
The first nobles' Birthday Party is February 6. You will receive your invitation in the mail. Be sure to return your invitation to the Shrine office to reserve your seat. Come and enjoy dinner with your fellow nobles, receive your gift and have your picture made with me. I loved the Birthday Parties, so I brought them back. I hope you will enjoy them too.

We also have in February, the Valentine Party, the First Lady's Tea, and the Daytona Race Party. March is exciting too; with a Stated Business Meeting, Ladies Social, Dance Party Park Style, and the very important First Lady's Golf Tournament, March 20th at Bentwater Golf Club in Acworth. We have always heard that if you aren't having fun you are doing it wrong and we agree! Participate and you will have fun, guaranteed!

I am so humbled, honored, and excited about being elected as your Potentate for 2017. I will do everything in my power to make you proud of me and Yaarab Shrine. I have an excellent group of men and women behind me on the Divan and I have you, the nobles of our precious Yaarab Shrine. Dona and I are working hard and will provide opportunities for Fun, Fellowship, and Successful fundraising.

Thank you nobles and ladies for this privilege.

Danny Huggins  
Potentate 2017



## OFFICIAL CALL OF THE POTENTATE

Notice is hereby given of a stated meeting of Yaarab Temple,  
A.A.O.N.M.S.,

400 Ponce de Leon Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia

For transaction of such business and ceremonial as may be regularly presented

On:

Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.

Social at 5:30 P.M.; Dinner at 6:00 P.M.

Attest:

Jeff Ferguson, Recorder

Danny Huggins, Potentate

# *Valentine Party*

## *Dinner and Dance*

*Saturday February 11th, 2017*

*Yaarah Shrine Ballroom*

*Social - 6pm Dinner - 7pm*

*Wine and Beer Served BYOB - Setups Provided*

*Tickets - \$25 per couple*

*For Reservations call 404-872-5818 ext. 222*

*~ tickets are limited ~*

*R.S.V.P. by February 2nd, 2017*

# Chaplain's Corner

By Dennis Bellamy

## Who and What Do You Love?

Greetings nobles and ladies. I hope all is well. We sure had a great year for Yaarab Shrine in 2016 and Past Potentate Illustrious Sir Brent and Lady Pam thank you for all you have done and will continue to do for Shrinedom. What a successful year with the Circus and Carnival, as well as, the Shriners Hospitals for Children crusade. Peace and harmony was displayed through the year. Congratulations to our new Potentate Illustrious Sir Danny Huggins and Lady Dona, as well as all of the advancement to our other Divan members. Special congratulations to our new Divan member Recorder Jeff Ferguson and Lady Joni. I'm so looking forward to an exciting year for Yaarab Shrine. I also want to thank Illustrious Sir Danny for the appointment of Chaplain for another year. I am so humbled and honored to serve in this position. I have been so blessed to serve under several Potentates and have grown to love all of them and their ladies as well as all of our nobility. Out of these great relationships our church (Peoples Baptist Church of Dallas) is honored to have Illustrious Sirs Ray Skiles and Lady Jackie, Larry Cline and Lady Jeri, Brent Bivens and Lady Pam attend our church, as well as, our new Recorder Jeff Ferguson and Lady Joni and many other nobles and their ladies.



February is a month known for displaying love (actually this should be every month) we often send and receive cards of love and affection and gifts such as chocolates. There are many ways to show love; verbally, compassionately, and giving of your time. A great love for others comes from the love of God. God proved His love for us in John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life and in First John 4: 10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Verse 11 informs us of a great act of obedience, Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. When we have the love of God in our lives it is our obligation to love. On December 31, 2016, New Years Eve at the Shrine Center, I had the honor and privilege to officiate the wedding of Gary and Shelley Lewis and we witnessed the pledge of love in marriage, and love should continue always Ephesians 5:25 gives guys a commandment of love, Husbands, love your wives even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it. Verse 28 shares another commandment So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

First John 2:10 tells us that he that loveth his brother abideth in the light. Many have difficulties in expressing love and even telling someone that you love them, at one time I too was the same way but once I allowed my Lord to lead and direct my life it has been easy to express my feelings for others. I have learned that love is patient and kind, not envious or proud. Love is consistent, not selfish or suspicious, love hurts when others hurt and is pleased when one succeeds. Love sees the best in others not their faults. God's Word tells us that we are not to love the world, this does not refer to the people or to creation this is the things of the world. First John 2:15 -17 gives the explanation Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man loves the world the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the father but is of the world. And the world passeth away and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever. Things of the world rust, corrode, rot and fade away but the love of God is eternal and so should ours be also. So in closing be quick to say I love you to your spouse, your family, the ones that are so near and dear to you, and to your Creator. Everyone wants to feel loved and to feel love we need to love. I love each and everyone of you with the love of the Lord. My prayers are with you all.

May God's Blessings Be Upon You!

Rev. Dennis E. Bellamy



*The Divan Ladies of Yaarab Shrine  
Cordially invite all ladies  
to attend a Tea  
Honoring*

*First Lady Dona Huggins*

*Sunday February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 ~ 2 pm till 4 pm  
Yaarab Shrine Ball Room*

*Entertainment by Tom Crawford  
Bagpiper of Occasional Music*

*R.S.V.P. to Mary O'Grady by February 21st  
404-872-5818 ext.226*

**While the Ladies are having tea,  
Come join the guys for some racing action.**

**Live flag to flag  
coverage.**

**Event begins  
at 1:00 pm**



**Free food and  
beverages.**

**Don't miss it,  
be there!**



**PARK STYLE / DANCE PARTY**  
*featuring*

LIVE **X** BAND LIVE



**Saturday March 18th - 6pm until 11pm**

**A night of fun, music and dancing**

**Bring your own Picnic Baskets and wine or beverage of choice**

**\$100 for a Table of 8**

**Prizes for best Table Decorations**

**Call or E-Mail Yaarab Business Office for reservations**

**404 - 872 - 5818 or [krobbins@yaarabshrine.org](mailto:krobbins@yaarabshrine.org)**

**SEATING IS LIMITED - DON'T DELAY, CALL TODAY**

# FIRST LADY'S GOLF TOURNAMENT

March 20, 2017

## Bent Water Golf Club



**Location:**  
Bent Water Golf Club  
100 Golf Links Drive  
Acworth, GA 30101

Shotgun start at 10:00 a.m.

**Entry Fee/s:**

- \$400 per team
  - Four Playing Spots
  - Lunch Provided
  - Green Fee, Carts & Range Balls
- \$500 Team with Hole Sponsor
- Hole Sponsorship \$125
- Mulligans will be available at the course

**Registration:**

Please return registration with checks payable to Yaarab Shrine Attention Tournament Director, Chuck Rager  
400 Ponce de Leon Av  
Atlanta, GA 30308  
404-357-2956

**Sponsorships:**

Yaarab 2016 Golf tournaments are seeking Corporate Sponsorships. If you know of any persons or organization wishing to support the beautification fund of Yaarab Shrine please call Chuck Rager 404-357-2956



First Lady of Yaarab Shrine, Dona Huggins, invites you to join her for the annual First Lady's Golf Tournament to benefit the beautification fund of Yaarab Shrine. Prizes will be awarded and lunch is provided. Space is limited so sign your team up today and support Dona's effort to continue the legacy of having the best Shrine Center.

**PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION BELOW**

Foursome: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLAYER LIST**

Player: \_\_\_\_\_

Player: \_\_\_\_\_

Player: \_\_\_\_\_

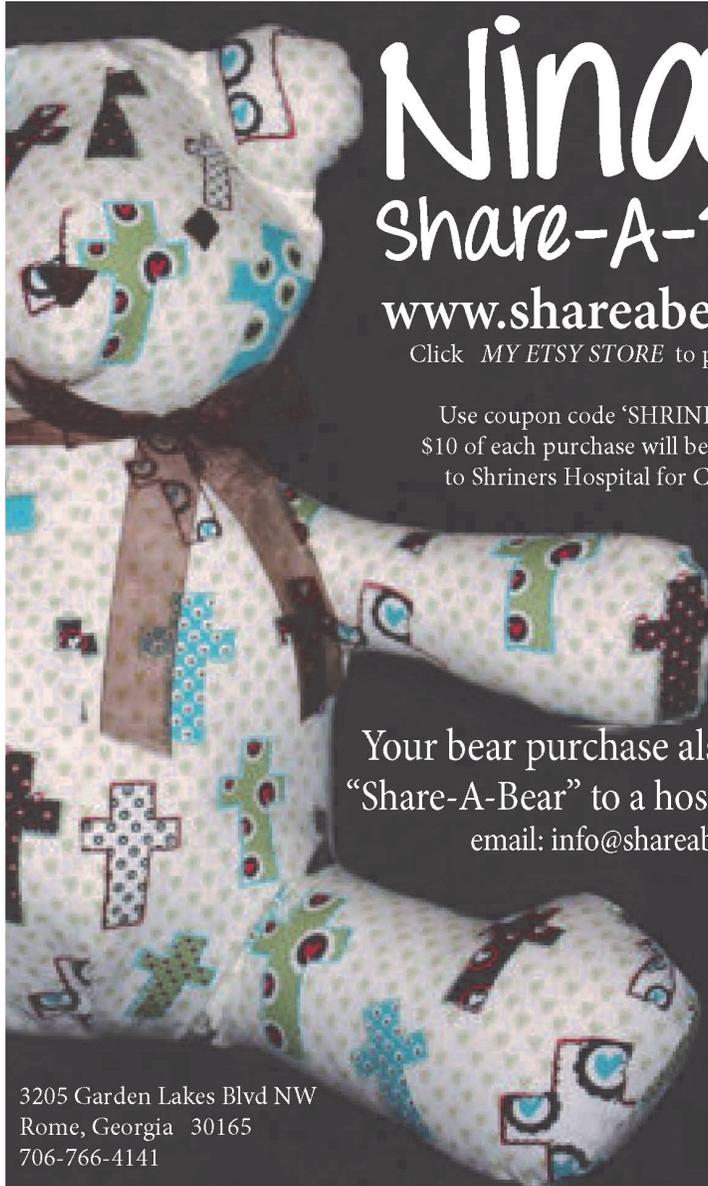
Player: \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT**

Team Payment (\$400): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Team with Hole Sponsor (\$500): \_\_\_\_\_

Hole Sponsorship (\$125 per hole): \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# Nina's Share-A-Bear

[www.shareabear.me](http://www.shareabear.me)  
Click *MY ETSY STORE* to place order

Use coupon code 'SHRINER' and  
\$10 of each purchase will be donated  
to Shriners Hospital for Children

Your bear purchase also provides a  
"Share-A-Bear" to a hospitalized child  
email: [info@shareabear.me](mailto:info@shareabear.me)

**\$ 30**

3205 Garden Lakes Blvd NW  
Rome, Georgia 30165  
706-766-4141

My name is Nina Manuel and I am a junior at Unity Christian School in Rome, GA that believes in giving. I started my first fundraising project in September, 2011. My mom told me about a co-worker's mom who was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer, and was not covered by private insurance or Medicare. She needed money to pay for radiation treatments and surgery.

My brother Alan, is my other inspiration. He is a very caring and compassionate person. He is currently completing his Pediatric residency at a children's hospital in Florida. He has completed three medical mission trips where he has been able to provide care for children in places like Ethiopia and Bangladesh. I took great pride in being able to raise money for his trip to Bangladesh.

Nina's Share-A-Bear started as an idea to raise money to purchase stuffed bears to share with sick kids so they would have something to hug while going through their illness. This evolved into making homemade bears. With the support and help of my parents and other family friends I started "Nina's Share-A-Bear".

For every bear that I make and sell, I make and donate a second bear to be used by the roadrunners when they are transporting children to one of the Shriners Hospitals for Children. I also donate \$10 for every bear purchased using the coupon code SHRINER to Shriners Hospitals.

I have sold over 450 bears since April, 2013. This is giving me the opportunity to provide 450 smiles to children and their families. My goal is to bring a smile to the faces and hearts of everyone that is touched by my bears. It also makes me smile knowing that my bears are making people happy. It is fun to watch people talk about the bears when they see them. They often remind them of a childhood memory or a memory of a loved one.

I want my bears to make a difference. You can follow my bears at [www.shareabear.me](http://www.shareabear.me)

# YAARAB SHRINE BRICK PROGRAM

## ORDERING FORM

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Temple #:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Telephone #:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Unit/Club:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Information to appear on brick:

3 lines, up to 20 characters per line, spaces count as a character as do periods, commas, etc.

**Bricks are \$100 each**

**Line 1:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Line 2:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Line 3:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Emblem:**                      **Shrine** \_\_\_\_\_  
                                       **Masonic** \_\_\_\_\_  
                                       **None** \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Information:

**Cash:**                                       **Check:**

**Credit Card:**  
**AMEX:**                                       **VISA:**                                       **M/C:**

**Credit Card #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Exp Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name on card:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Samples already in place:



## Meet Yaarab's New Potentate – 2017 W. Danny Huggins

By Sam Black

Danny Huggins is a person not afraid of rolling up his sleeves and getting the job done, whatever the size might be. He is well known around Yaarab Shrine because of his hard work and dedication. At the Annual Business Meeting and Election on January 7, 2017, Danny was unanimously elected the 94<sup>th</sup> Potentate of Yaarab Shrine.

Danny was born January 23, 1955 in Austell, Georgia. In 1974, Danny graduated from Douglas County High School. His first job was at age 12, washing dishes at a Waffle House. He hopped curb service at Martin's Drive-Thru, and at age 15, began swinging a hammer in construction work of framing houses. He completed a major appliance course, then worked for General Electric at the age of 19. He worked various jobs until 1975, when he became a fireman for the City of Marietta. Construction being Danny's true calling, he began working as a foreman with a large commercial general contracting company. He worked his way up through the ranks to superintendent, project manager, and then advanced to the rank of Vice President. In April 1989, he finally opened his own general contracting company, Diversified Commercial Builders, Inc., specializing in building fast food restaurants. He built his company on loyalty from his customers because of his reputation of being fair, honest, and by standing behind his word. During his years of service on the Yaarab Divan, Danny has become well known to everyone by being fair, honest, and a man of his word, therefore, also making him well liked by the nobility of Yaarab Shrine.

Danny and Dona have been married for 33 years. They have two daughters, Katie and Jennifer. They have four granddaughters, Madison, Danielle, Haley, Hannah, and one grandson, William. Danny has his family's support in his dedication to the Shrine. Both Danny and Dona feel this is an opportunity to partner in a common goal of success for the Shrine.

Danny was raised a Master Mason in Atlanta Peachtree Lodge # 59 in 1981. While Danny's work had previously taken him out of state (he is a licensed contractor in 14 states), he now has the time to devote to the Shrine, thanks to some wonderful people employed at DCB, Inc.

He comes from a long line of Masons including his grandfathers, father, uncles, and brother. However, his Uncle Rudolph Harper (Sweetwater Shrine Club) and Danny were the first of them to join Shrinedom. Being a Shriner was a goal Danny always wished to accomplish, and he proudly became a noble in September 2006, and as usual, he hit the ground working. In 2007, Danny joined the Motor Corp Unit, the Potentate's Escort Unit and achieved Gold Executive Aide status. In 2008, he joined the Royal Order of Jesters, and the Yaarab Golf Association. In 2009, Danny joined the Order of Quetzalcoatl. In 2010, he became a Scottish Rite Mason, served as assistant Building and Grounds, and served on the P.R. Committee. In 2011, Danny again served as assistant Building and Grounds Chairman, P.R. Committee, Treasurer of the Potentate's Escort, appointed Captain of the Guard, Assistant Editor of the Basharat, Chairman of Yaarab Housing Association, and served as second vice president of the Golf Association. Also in 2011, Danny was appointed Assistant Outer Guard, and served as Captain of the Potentate's Escort Unit. Also in 2011, Danny was presented Merit Award #374. In 2013, Danny was awarded the coveted Potentate's Gold Merit Award. He has also made the Yaarab "Wall of Fame" by earning over 356,000 Crown of Honor points. He achieved the Platinum Executive Aide status every year from 2008 through present.

Danny also worked many years during the Shrine Circus, either frying chicken wings or working in the parking lots. Even with the added work, while serving on the Yaarab Divan, Danny has not stopped working for our main objective – fundraising for the Shriners Hospitals for Children.

At the July 2011 Imperial Session, Danny met David Swift of El Jebel Shrine, Denver, Colorado, and discussed the possibility of a gun raffle fundraiser at Yaarab Shrine. Upon his return, Danny contacted a local retailer, Bass Pro Shop, to assist with such a raffle. Upon approval of the incoming 2012 Potentate to be, Chuck Rager and Yaarab Divan, Yaarab held the first annual Bass Pro Shop Sportsmen's Raffle on Saturday, July 28, 2012. On July 30, 2016, Yaarab completed the successful fifth annual Bass Pro Shop Sportsmen's Raffle with Don Malcom serving as its' yearly Chairman. Since 2012, this has been a continued successful yearly raffle reaching totals in excess of \$2.5 million dollars.

Danny loves working for our noble's cause; Yaarab Shrine, and the Shriners Hospitals for Children fundraisers. He acknowledges the fact that the children in our Shriners Hospitals for Children need us. He is ready to take on the responsibilities of leading Yaarab Shrine as Potentate in 2017. He not only operates in the "wide open" aggressive speed mode, but also has an enthusiastic, compassionate, and considerate character that makes him a true leader. His confidence and being an organizer fulfills the requirements of Yaarab Shrine's highest position of Illustrious Potentate.

Please join Danny in working for the success of our beloved Yaarab Shrine and our Shriners Hospitals for Children. We all wish newly elected Illustrious Sir Danny and First Lady, Dona much success in 2017 as he serves Yaarab Shrine as Illustrious Potentate. Danny has set his slogan for 2017 as; "Building a Better Tomorrow, for Children Today". The Nobility of Yaarab Shrine is proud to have Danny Huggins serve as Potentate for 2017 and we pledge our support.



## First Lady's Beautification Project for 2017

I am looking forward to another wonderful year at Yaarab Shrine Center. We have a legacy of women serving as First Ladies along side of their husbands and I hope I can continue that legacy of leaving behind some improvement to our Shrine home on Ponce de Leon.

Keeping that in mind, I have chosen as my project to replace the wall units displaying our historical items with a custom made built-in wall cabinet in one continuous piece down the wall where it now stands. Our archives and historical collections certainly deserve to be displayed at their very best.

In order to raise these funds we will have the Annual First Lady's Golf Tournament on March 20<sup>th</sup>. I will sell the traditional "charm" symbolizing my First Lady's pin for your Yaarab charm bracelet. I will also donate a collection of "teddy bears" to be raffled occasionally at various events during the year. We will also sell raffle tickets for the "Vera Bradley Basket" generously donated by Past First Lady Bonna Lange.

My pin is a combination of "Fezzy" the mascot to our Shriners Hospitals for Children and the "Love to the Rescue" logo. I hope when you wear my pin it will help us all stay focused on our mission to help our children, their families and our Shriners Hospitals for Children.

My gratitude and love always,

*Dona G. Huggins*

First Lady 2017



## **2017 Yaarab Shrine Annual Meeting & Election – Danny Huggins, Elected Potentate; Jeff Ferguson, Recorder**

By Sam Black, Basharat Editor

A surprise ice, sleet, and snow storm caused the cancellation of the 127<sup>th</sup> Yaarab's Annual Business Meeting and Election scheduled for Saturday, January 7, 2017. It was rescheduled for Saturday, January 14, 2017. Believe it or not, morning temperatures reaching to the mid 50's and 60's greeted a crowd of 324 nobles as they convened in the Gene Bracewell Shrine Auditorium at Yaarab Shrine Center. The annual event resulted in the unanimous election of Danny Huggins as the 94<sup>th</sup> Potentate of Yaarab Shrine. It took only one ballot for Noble Jeff Ferguson to win the position on the bottom rung of Yaarab's Divan as Recorder.

### **Meeting Call to Order Introductions, Welcomes, Reports**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M. by Illustrious Potentate Brent Bivens calling all Officers to man their stations. He requested Chief Aide, Illustrious Sir Mike Hulsey, P.P., to start the meeting by introducing special guests and Past Potentates. Illustrious Sir Hulsey, P.P. started the introductions with 2015-2016 Grand Master of Masons in Georgia, Drew Lane, who afterwards was invited to join Illustrious Sir Bivens and Yaarab's Divan on the stage. Then he introduced Illustrious Sir Chuck Pittman, P.P., Board of Trustee, Shriners Hospitals for Children and Yaarab 2013 Potentate, who was also asked to the stage. Illustrious Sir Hulsey next proceeded to introduce all Past Potentates in attendance. Having been invited by Illustrious Sir Bivens to also join him and Yaarab's Divan on the stage, a grand parade of ten (10) Past Potentates of Yaarab Shrine followed. Past Potentates present included Illustrious Sirs: Larry Cline (2015), Chuck Pittman (2013), Chuck Rager, Sr. (2012), Ray Skiles (2011), Mike Autry (2010), Gary Petty (2009), Jack Hardin (2004), Mike Hulsey (2002), J.J. Moore (2001), and Dennis Lester (1998). Also in attendance were Associate Past Potentates, Garry Smith (2008 – MARZUQ SHRINE), and George Thurlow (2001 – AMARA SHRINE). To show appreciation for these noted dignitaries, Illustrious Sir Bivens asked for a standing ovation from the nobles present.

Illustrious Sir Bivens requested Yaarab's Chaplain, Dennis Bellamy to give the invocation. This was followed by the presentation of colors by Yaarab's Legion of Honor Unit. Once the flags were in place, noble J.D. Henson of the Legion of Honor asked all nobles to join him with the Pledge of Allegiance to our country's flag. This was followed by the Brass Band playing the National Anthem. Illustrious Sir Bivens asked all nobles present to give a round of applause to the Legion of Honor for their superb job of presenting the colors, and nobles in the Brass Band for playing the National Anthem, as well as, other tunes.

Illustrious Sir Bivens, asked Recorder Tom Holt to call the roll, checking attendance for Yaarab's Clubs and Units present. Upon completion, Recorder Holt reported that there was fifty-one (51) clubs and units in attendance.

Illustrious Sir Bivens then called on Recorder Tom Holt to read the minutes of the last business meeting held December 7, 2016. A motion was made by Noble Don Malcom to dispense of the reading of the minutes, in the essence of time, and proceed with the meeting. Upon a motion duly seconded, voted on and passed, the reading of the minutes was dispensed. It was noted that if any noble wanted to read these minutes, they could go to the Yaarab Shrine office at any time. Recorder Tom Holt reported that our membership as of January 1, 2017 was 3,328 members.

### **Budgets, 2016 Recap, Contracts**

Illustrious Sir Bivens introduced Treasurer Dennis Davidson to read the final 2016 finance report for Yaarab Shrine, in the absence of Tommy Hildebrand. He reported that we ended the year 2016 with a positive financial position of \$304,544. Members of the 2016 Divan applauded all nobles for their hard work in making 2016 a great and successful year. Illustrious Sir Bivens stated that the distribution of the dollar increase in funds would be as follows: \$50,000.00 – dedicated for audio/video instruments, \$8,000.00 – for furniture in the Yaarab's business office and Divan Room, \$50,000.00 – dedicated for future Circuses, \$50,000.00 – replacement of Shrine Center elevator, \$20,000.00 – dedicated to updating the Director's Staff rolling stock cars for parades, \$20,000.00 – to be put in Yaarab's membership budget, \$50,000.00 – designated for technology improvements at the Yaarab Shrine Center, and the balance of \$56,544.00 – to go into a savings account for the total of \$304,544.00. A motion was made that the 2016 finance report be approved as read. The motion was duly seconded, voted on, and passed.

Illustrious Sir Bivens introduced Hospital Transportation Chairman, Matt "Tiny" Greer and Assistant Chairman Bob Anderson. He requested them to come to the stage for a Yaarab "Roadrunners" Report. Noble Greer reported that the Yaarab "Roadrunners" made 130 trips during 2016 (84 to the Greenville Unit and 38 to the Cincinnati Unit of the Shriners Hospitals for Children). Noble Greer also noted that Rome Shrine Club has a new transport van that made eight (8) trips to the Greenville Unit. He also noted that there were 149 children transported in 2016 to the Shriners Hospitals for Children (103 to the Greenville Unit and 46 to the Cincinnati Unit). Assistant Chairman Bob Anderson reported that Yaarab had transported twenty-seven (27) children patients to Shriners Hospitals for Children in 2016 (12 – Philadelphia Unit, 10 – Cincinnati Unit, 1 - Houston Unit, 1 – Sacramento Unit, and 3 - Tampa Unit) via Air Flights at a cost of \$30,000.00. Illustrious Sir Bivens announced that Yaarab bought a new 2016 Ford Flex van for patient transport in 2016. He also reported that Yaarab also purchased a 2017 Ford Transport high top van.

Illustrious Sir Bivens next introduced Illustrious Sir Chuck Pittman, P.P. Board of Trustee, Shriners Hospitals for Children, for a report on the status of our hospitals. Illustrious Sir Pittman reported that our Shriners Hospitals for Children

were in good shape.

Illustrious Sir Bivens next called on Chief Rabban Danny Huggins to present Circus contracts for approval. He announced that he was presenting three (3) year contracts, the first being for the 2017 Circus and the 2017 Carnival that needed approval. These included: The Tarzan Zerbini Circus (\$90,000 per year), for the actual Circus, Wade Shows (\$150,000.00) for the Carnival, and Jim R. Miller Park for the facility. The Circus for 2017 will be held May 19 – May 29, 2017, at Jim Miller Park. A motion was made to accept the contracts, duly seconded, voted on and passed.

Illustrious Sir Bivens thanked all nobles present for a job “well done” in a successful year – 2016.

### **Past Potentate Chuck Pittman Presides**

Illustrious Sir Bivens next introduced, Illustrious Sir Chuck Pittman, P.P. to conduct the annual Yaarab Election. J.D. Mitchell, P.P. usually presides, however, due to illness, was unable to attend. Illustrious Sir Pittman proceeded to congratulate Illustrious Sir Bivens, the Divan, and all nobles present for a very successful 2016. Illustrious Sir Pittman recognized Past Grand Master Drew Lane for any comments before his departure. He told everyone present that he appreciated the support to the Grand Lodge of Georgia from all Masons and especially those in attendance. Illustrious Sir Pittman next commented on his appreciation of all nobles present. He commented that all nobles present should solicit Shrine membership to our friends, neighbors, and any other means to improve our membership. Illustrious Sir Pittman challenged all nobles present to get new members and again fill the auditorium once again, as we did, many years ago. With this being said, he asked all current 2016 Divan members to remove their jewels and vacate their stations proceeding to start the regular election format in a most dignified manner.

### **Election**

Illustrious Sir Pittman next recognized, Illustrious Sir Mike Autry, P.P., who placed Danny Huggins in nomination for Potentate. Without any other nominations, Danny Huggins was unanimously elected Potentate of Yaarab Shrine for 2017. Instead of breaking for a unit or club demonstration, it was announced that this event would be delayed until the afternoon session so that the Shrine ladies and families could witness the celebration.

Next, Illustrious Sir Pittman recognized noble Jim Cox, who in turn, nominated Gary Lewis for the position of Chief Rabban. The floor was opened for any other nominations and there being none, Gary Lewis was unanimously elected to the position of Chief Rabban for 2017. Illustrious Sir Chuck Rager, P.P. was next introduced. He nominated Dennis Hewatt to the position of Assistant Rabban for 2017. The floor was opened for any other nominations and there being none, Dennis Hewatt was unanimously elected to the position of Assistant Rabban for 2017. 2017 Dalton Club President Jerry Leonard, was next introduced. He nominated Bruce Ridley for the position of High Priest & Prophet. The floor was opened for any other nominations, and there being none, Bruce Ridley was unanimously elected to the position of High Priest & Prophet for 2017. Noble Matt Greer was next recognized and he nominated Dennis Davidson for the position of Oriental Guide. The floor was opened for any other nominations and there being none, Dennis Davidson was unanimously elected to the position of Oriental Guide for 2017. Illustrious Sir Gary Petty, P.P. was next introduced. He nominated Tom Holt for the position of Treasurer. The floor was opened for any other nominations, and there being none, Tom Holt was unanimously elected to the position of Treasurer for 2017. This completed the normal election format of advancing to the next office open.

There were three (3) candidates seeking the office of Recorder. Illustrious Sir Jack Hardin, P.P. nominated Jeff Ferguson (Cartersville Shrine Club). Noble Charlie Long nominated Kevin Weinz (Yaarab's Motor Corps Unit and Loganville Shrine Club). Noble Ed Turner nominated Jim Ketchum (Yaarab Provost Guard Unit). Illustrious Sir Pittman introduced the Head Teller, Don Malcom to oversee the balloting. Noble Malcom announced that his assistants for the ballot counting were Jim Weaver, Tom Beam, and Jim Scott. Respective Tellers for each candidate were as follows: appointed for Jeff Ferguson (Eric Beavers, Lloyd Bowen, and alternate Lonnie Mahan); appointed for Kevin Weinz (Michael London, Jimmy Harris, and alternate Chad James); and appointed for Jim Ketchum (Rick Collins, Joe Ethridge, and alternate Jimmy Spurlin). Noble Malcom said that there were 324 possible votes and it would take 163 votes to win.

As the votes were being counted, Illustrious Sir Pittman called on the 2017 Finance Chairman Terry Bruckner to present the proposed budget for 2017. He gave a review of the budgeted expenses. A motion was made to accept the 2017 budget as read. The motion was duly seconded, voted on, and passed.

While ballots were being counted, Illustrious Sir Bivens wanted to give his many thanks for the 2017 job his Chief Aide, Illustrious Sir Mike Hulsey P.P., Assistant Chief Aides, Wayne Wilkins and Randy McCaslin did in 2017. He also thanked Noble Jim Atkinson for the job he did as Yaarab's Shrine Director for 2017. Illustrious Sir announced that the dollar amount for the 2016 Yaarab Hospital Crusade had reached a total of \$879,215.00 with hopefully more to come. Illustrious Sir Bivens again expressed his sincere thanks.

### **Appointments for Southeastern and YHA**

During the continued ballot count, Illustrious Sir Pittman called on High Priest & Prophet Guide elect, Bruce Ridley for nominations of Southeastern Shrine Association for the ensuing year of 2017. He placed in nomination, Potentate

elect Danny Huggins, Chief Rabban elect Gary Lewis, Assistant Rabban elect Dennis Hewatt, and the new Recorder elect for 2017. Hearing no objections, the above nobles were elected as Southeastern Shrine Association Representatives for 2017. Illustrious Sir Pittman next called on Oriental Guide elect, Dennis Davidson, for nominations to serve on Yaarab's Home Association (YHA), with each to serve a three (3) year term. He placed in nomination: Potentate elect, Danny Huggins; Noble Rudy Lumpkin; and Noble Joe Stokes. Hearing no objections, the above nobles were elected to Yaarab's Home Association to each serve a three year term.

Illustrious Sir Pittman introduced Noble Roger Wise, Yaarab Ambassador to the Georgia State Legislature at the Capitol. He gave a brief speech on how the Georgia Legislature knows about Yaarab and gave their appreciation for the work Yaarab nobles do.

### **Recorder Elected**

Head Teller Don Malcom next announced that the ballot counts were complete. He said we had 321 votes cast, and it would take 162 to elect. Noble Jeff Ferguson won the Recorder position for 2017 by a majority vote on the first ballot. Nobles Jim Ketchum and Kevin Weinz graciously withdrew their names and asked that the ballot be placed for Jeff Ferguson.

### **Imperial Council Representatives Elected, Membership and Hospital Awards**

Upon completion of the election for Recorder, Illustrious Sir Pittman asked Head Teller Don Malcom to come back up and explain the election process for nominations of Imperial Council Representatives for the Iowa Corporation for the ensuing year 2017. Each ballot had to contain (4) four names of the (6) six running for the office. Illustrious Sir Pittman opened the floor for nominations. High Priest & Prophet elect, Bruce Ridley, nominated the top four (4) Divan positions (Potentate, Chief Rabban, Assistant Rabban, and High Priest & Prophet) to the Imperial Council Representatives. Illustrious Sir Mike Autry nominated Potentate elect, Danny Huggins. Illustrious Sir Brent Bivens nominated himself. Chief Rabban elect Gary Lewis and Assistant Rabban Dennis Hewatt spoke to the nobility regarding them being elected to the Imperial Representative positions. Illustrious Sir Larry Cline spoke about the position and nominated himself for the spot. While these ballots were being counted, the agenda was changed so the 2017 Membership and Hospital Awards could be presented.

The gavel was passed back to Past Potentate Brent Bivens who called on Membership Chairman John Law. Chairman Law presented the award, for the Top Individual responsible for getting the most new members, three (3), to Michael Cole (Yaarab Motor Corps), and a tie for four (4) new members each went to Phillip Faulkner (Cumming Shrine Club) and William Hester (At-large Member). He next presented the award for the Top Unit in Yaarab Shrine getting the most new members, four (4) to the Yaarab Motor Corps, President Robert Ballew, Jr. The award for the Top Club in Yaarab Shrine getting the most new members, eight (8) was presented to Cumming Shrine Club, President Jonathan Gajdik.

Illustrious Sir Bivens next called on Assistant Hospital Crusade Chairman Phil Faulkner, in Hospital Crusade Chairman Ronnie Tibbitts absence, for presentation of the 2017 Hospital Awards. Noble Faulkner announced that the Third Place award for Clubs went to Henry County Shrine Club (President David Byrne), turning in \$52,090. Second Place award for Clubs went to Granite Center Shrine Club (President Rodney Johnson) turning in \$59,026. First Place award for Clubs went to Fayette Shrine Club (President Butch Peacock), turning in \$74,494. Third Place award for Units went to Parrot Head Steel Drum Unit (President Arch Wann), turning in \$7,672. Second Place award for Units went to Yaarab's Motor Corps (President Robert Ballew), turning in \$20,862. First Place award for Units went to Yaarab's Potentate Escort Unit (Captain Alan Hill), turning in \$21,570. Third Place award for Individuals in Clubs went to Walter Holcomb, Lanier Shrine Club, turning in \$20,180. Second Place for Individuals in Clubs went to Garland Burton, Granite Center Shrine Club, turning in \$50,355. First Place for Individuals in Clubs went to Paul Paulicelli, Fayette Shrine Club, turning in \$53,533. Third Place award for Individuals in Units went to Houston Miers, Yaarab's Parrot Head Steel Drum Unit, turning in \$5,705. Second Place award for Individuals in Units went to David Hicks, Yaarab's Motor Corps, turning in \$6,100. First Place in Units went to Kevin Weinz, Yaarab's Motor Corps, turning in \$6,708.

Illustrious Sir Bivens asked if there were any Hospital presentations to be made. He introduced members of the Chattooga Shrine Club who presented a check in the amount of \$50,000 for the Yaarab 2016 Hospital Crusade. Noble Kevin Weinz presented a check for \$15,000. Illustrious Sir Bivens then gave an update that as of today, January 14, 2017, the total for the Yaarab 2016 Hospital Crusade was \$944,215.00 with more monies being turned in. It is hoped that Yaarab will again meet the \$1,000,000 goal for 2016.

Noble Malcom announced to Illustrious Sir Pittman that there were 283 ballots cast for Imperial Council Representative. Illustrious Sir Pittman announced that the top four Yaarab Divan members, Potentate elect, Danny Huggins; Chief Rabban elect, Gary Lewis; Assistant Rabban elect Dennis Hewatt; and High Priest & Prophet elect Bruce Ridley received the majority of votes electing them as 2017 Yaarab Imperial Session Representatives.

The time being 12:30 P.M., Illustrious Sir Bivens announced that the meeting would be in recess for lunch and would reconvene not later than 1:30 P.M. Lunch would be served to the Nobility in "D" room of the Shrine Center.

### **Reconvene Meeting**

The start of the afternoon session of the meeting began at 1:15 P.M. Potentate elect Danny Huggins welcomed back the nobility and their wives to the second session of the day. Illustrious Sir elect Huggins next asked if there were any presentations to outgoing Potentate Brent Bivens at this time. Illustrious Sir Chuck Pittman presented a check from AT&T in the amount of \$2,000 in funds collected from the Hospital Charity Golf Tournament. This check, combined with the previous ones, now brought the total for the 2016 Yaarab Hospital Crusade to \$946,215.00.

### **Merit Awards**

Illustrious Sir Bivens next stated that Merit Award Chairman Grady Nichols was sick and unable to preside over the presentation of (7) seven awards for outstanding service to the community and the Shrine. Therefore, Illustrious Sir Bivens presented Merit Award # 410 to Wayne Wilkins (South Fulton Shrine Club). Newly elected Potentate Danny Huggins presented # 411 to Warren Shore (Yaarab's Motor Corps). Newly elected Chief Rabban Gary Lewis presented #412 to Harlyn Lund (Yaarab's Potentate's Escort Unit and Yaarab's Motor Corps Unit). Newly elected Assistant Rabban Dennis Hewatt presented # 413 to Johnny Adams (Yaarab's Patrol Unit), (Walter Nemeth accepted in Johnny's absence). Newly elected High Priest & Prophet Bruce Ridley presented # 414 to Jerry Brookshire (Yaarab's Oriental Band Unit and Widow and Widowers Club). Illustrious Sir Bivens presented #415 to Randy McCaslin (South Fulton Shrine Club).

Illustrious Sir Bivens next awarded the coveted Potentate's Gold Merit Award to Illustrious Sir Chuck Pittman, P.P. and Imperial Hospital Trustee.

### **Forest Adair Memorial Cup Award Debut**

Before presentation of the Forest Adair Memorial Cup, Illustrious Sir Bivens next introduced Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Georgia Larry Nichols. He spoke briefly on how the Grand Lodge of Georgia appreciated the support from the nobility of Yaarab Shrine. Illustrious Sir Bivens then presented the beautiful special Forest Adair Memorial Cup. This award is presented on a rotation basis for future years to recognize efforts of the Clubs and Units in Yaarab Shrine. Goals to be met to win the award include: 1) positive growth, 2) positive attitudes, 3) increase in raising funds, and 4) supporting the Shriners Hospitals for Children. The 2017 presentation of this award, went to Yaarab's Provost Guard Unit. Congratulations to the members of Yaarab's Provost Guard Unit.

### **Newly Elected Officials Swearing In Ceremonies**

Before the swearing in ceremonies, Illustrious Sir Bivens gave his final comments praising the fantastic nobility of Yaarab Shrine and sends both his and Pam's deepest thanks and gratitude to each noble present making their seven years on Yaarab's Divan a most memorable experience. He closed with the phrase "night ya'll". Illustrious Sir Bivens next presented Danny Huggins his plaque and gavel for 2017. Yaarab's Installing Marshall, Past Potentate Jack Hardin next presented to Past Potentate Chuck Pittman the newly elected Yaarab's official Divan Officers and Appointive Divan members for 2017. Illustrious Sir Pittman next proceeded with the swearing in of the newly elected Officials to their respective positions. Illustrious Sir Pittman next called on Phillip Faulkner to read the Shriner's Creed. He then asked each Officer to raise their right hand and take the oath of office. After this, he asked newly elected Potentate, Danny Huggins, to advance one step forward to take his oath of office as Potentate for 2017. Upon completion, Illustrious Sir Pittman recognized new First Lady Dona and asked her to present, newly elected Potentate Danny, his new Potentate's Fez and Potentate's jewel. Illustrious Sir Pittman next recognized past First Lady Pam and asked her to present Past Potentate Brent Bivens, with his Past Potentate's Fez. Having completed the duty of installing the new elected Officials of Yaarab Shrine for 2017, Installing Marshall, Past Potentate Jack Hardin, made the appropriate Proclamation of Installation, and presented the Potentate's Gavel to newly elected Potentate Danny Huggins. He then relinquished the program over to Illustrious Sir Pittman, who presented all the newly elected members of the Yaarab's Board of Directors for 2017 to all nobles present.

### **Demonstration for Newly Elected Potentate**

Illustrious Sir Pittman relinquished the program back to Past Potentate Brent Bivens, who, in turn, presented the newly elected Potentate Danny Huggins to everyone present. Illustrious Sir Danny told everyone present that it was a very proud day for him and he is proud and humbled to serve Yaarab Shrine and work for the Shriners Hospitals for Children. The demonstration followed with members of the Potentate's Escort leading the processional displaying their beautiful Harleys forming an honor guard for the ensuing parade. Newly elected Potentate Danny Huggins and First Lady Dona proceeded in the Yaarab Shrine train, driven by Warren Shore through the honor guard of Harleys. Illustrious Sir Elect Huggins was then honored by members of Clubs and Units escorted through the honor guard. Members participating in addition to the Potentate's Escort, were rolling stock from Yaarab's Mighty Motor Corps, and Yaarab's Arab Guard Unit.

Illustrious Sir Pittman next presented the Gavel to newly elected Potentate Danny Huggins for 2017. Illustrious Sir Danny announced that everyone present was invited to Yaarab's Shrine Ballroom for a delightful reception to start off 2017. Illustrious Sir Huggins announced that his motto for 2017 is: "BUILDING A BETTER TOMORROW, FOR CHILDREN TODAY".

# Merit Awards and Forest Adair Memorial Cup

## THE MEANING OF EACH

By Sam Black

Merit Awards are awarded annually to outstanding nobles at the Yaarab Annual Business Meeting and Election. A rotating Merit Award Committee receives nominations and selects nobles for Yaarab Shrine's coveted award, according to the criterion set back in 1923. That criterion specifies "long service as members of Yaarab Shrine, or nobles who, by their great and specific unselfish actions toward humanity, their brother noble, or the Shrine, shall stand out preeminently as deserving and honored recognition". Since 1923, Merit Award Certificates and medals have gone to 409 deserving nobles.



### 2017 MERIT AWARD RECIPIENTS

Pictured (l/r) 2017 Merit Award Recipients: # 410 – Wayne Wilkins (South Fulton Shrine Club), #411 – Warren Shore (Yaarab's Motor Corp Unit), # 412 – Harlyn Lund (Yaarab's Potentate's Escort Unit and Motor Corp Unit), # 413 – Johnny Adams (Yaarab's Patrol Unit) not pictured, # 414 – Jerry Brookshire, (Yaarab's Oriental Band Unit and Widows and Widowers Club) and #415 - Randy McCaslin (South Fulton Shrine Club).

The coveted Gold Merit Award is Yaarab Shrine's highest award. It is also awarded at the Yaarab Annual Business Meeting and Election. The Gold Merit Award is given only at the discretion of the outgoing Potentate, and the recipient must already hold the Merit Award Certificate. There has been fifty-three (53) Gold Merit Awards given since its' beginning in 1970. There were five years, during that time that two Gold Merit Awards were given in the same year.



### 2017 POTENTATE'S GOLD MERIT AWARD RECIPIENT

2017 Potentate's Gold Merit Award was presented to Illustrious Sir Chuck Pittman, P.P.(2013), Board of Trustee, SHC.



The 2017 winner of the "FOREST ADAIR MEMORIAL CUP" GOES TO THE YAARAB'S PROVOST GUARD UNIT

**TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO**  
**By Jerry “Jug Haid” Rogers**

Six hundred fifty nobles attended the Annual Meeting of Yaarab Shrine on Wednesday, January 15, 1992. Bill Englett was elected Potentate and Dennis Lester was elected to the bottom rung of Yaarab’s Divan as Recorder. Other members of the Divan advanced to the next position on the progressive line: Marshall Stephens to Chief Rabban, John Harp to Assistant Rabban, Frank Beckworth to High Priest and Prophet, Stratton Zelack to Oriental Guide and Steve Padgett to Treasurer. Past Potentate Al Head read the proposed budget for 1992 which was approved by the nobility. He also mentioned that despite the terrible economic condition of 1991, the Temple ended the year in the “black” with money left and a \$100,000.00 savings bond had been purchased. Past Potentate Head stated that Potentate Emery, the Divan and all of Yaarab’s nobles should be commended. Recorder Steve Padgett reported that our membership had fallen to 9,902 as of December 31, 1991. Even though we remain the 9<sup>th</sup> largest temple, this is still an alarming number. Following this, an emotional Illustrious Sir Jack Emery announced that he was “proud to be a Shriner”. This resulted in a lengthy standing ovation from everyone present in recognition of a great year, despite the continuous negative factors that existed. As the meeting continued, Imperial Sir Gene Bracewell conducted the election. This was followed by a demonstration for new Potentate Bill Englett by members of the Motor Corp, Legion of Honor, Provost Guard, Brass Band and the Pipes and Drums unit. Illustrious Sir Englett announced his theme for the year would be “Pledge a new member and keep Yaarab growing” and his slogan “Yaarab Temple belongs to each of you in 1992”.

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**BIRTHDAY PARTIES ARE BACK AT YAARAB SHRINE**



**PARTIES WILL BE HELD IN YAARAB BALLROOM**  
**6:00 p.m. Social Hour – 6:30 p.m. Dinner**

**February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – February and March Birthdays**  
**April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 – April and May Birthdays**  
**June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – June and July Birthdays**  
**August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – August and September Birthdays**  
**October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 – October and November Birthdays**  
**December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – December and January Birthdays**

**Dress: Business Casual – Please wear your fez**  
**R.S.V.P. is REQUIRED – Please send in your reply card to Yaarab Office**

**Membership Corner**  
**By John Law**

I look forward to another great year at Yaarab! Congratulations to our incoming Potentate, Danny Huggins and his Lady Dona. Also, Congratulations to our Divan in their advancement, and to our incoming Recorder, Jeff Ferguson and Lady Joni.

Danny has made membership his number one priority and has set some aggressive objectives for membership in 2017. **Danny's goal is to bring in 100 new nobles and end the year at Plus 1.** To reach that goal we not only need new membership; we need to improve our retention and restoration strategy. To that end we will focus on increasing our communications through direct contact and through various medias. This is a simple formula; but requires a lot of hard work. You will hear more as we move into 2017. **Plus 1 in 2017.**

Membership team in 2017 include the following:

- Bryan Baldwin for Membership Retention & Restoration,
- Ethan Jones and Ralph Dennis for New Member Relations,
- Lee English, Robert Rhodes and Roger Bennett for Oasis,
- Leadership Team from our clubs and units to support all membership initiatives,
- Perry Gibbs will continue his work with technology and social media as Webmaster and administrator of Facebook,

In addition to membership, I will continue to work with Perry to enrich membership relations through PR communications efforts.

Membership rewards for 2016 are:

- Top Club - Cumming Shrine Club; Jonathan Gajdik President (8)
- Top Unit – Motor Corps; Robert Ballew President (4)
- Top Individual - Nobles bringing in 4 nobles; Phil Faulkner, Michael Cole, William Hester and Lee English.

The following individual rewards will be given in 2107 based on the number of new nobles a current noble brings into our fraternity.

- 500 points for each first line signer on individual petitions
- 4 nobles = shirt
- 6 nobles = shirt plus a jacket
- 8 nobles = shirt plus a jacket plus 2500 additional crown of honor points (in addition to the 500 points for each first line signer on individual petitions)
- 10 nobles = 2018 dues are paid

I look forward to 2017 and look to your support in Yaarab's Membership and Public Relations efforts.  
**Remember; every day is membership day!**

## **2017 Basharat Deadline Dates**

**MARCH 15, 2017**

**APRIL AND MAY ISSUE**

**MAY 15, 2017**

**JUNE AND JULY ISSUE**

**JULY 15, 2017**

**AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER ISSUE**

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2017**

**OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER ISSUE**

**NOVEMBER 15, 2017**

**DECEMBER AND JANUARY ISSUE**

**[basharat@yaarabshrine.org](mailto:basharat@yaarabshrine.org)**

# Yaarab Nobles Make Trip to Shriners Hospitals for Children – Greenville Unit

By Sam Black  
Photos by Thom Ledford

On Monday, December 19, 2016, a group of twenty-three (23) Yaarab Shrine nobles, ladies, and the Yaarab Divan loaded the new 2017 Ford Transport high top van and another van to make the pilgrimage to the Shriners Hospitals for Children – Greenville. Yaarab's Office Staff was amongst the travelers having been personally invited by Illustrious Sir Brent Bivens. The primary purpose of the trip was to tour the facility, as well as, deliver donations to the Hospital at the monthly Board of Director's meeting.

Once everyone arrived, group photos were made, and those interested in a tour of the facility, were led through one of our fine hospitals. Upon completion of the tour, everyone was led to the dining area for lunch. Afterwards, the group was escorted into the Board of Director's meeting by Yaarab's own Greenville Representatives, Illustrious Sir Mike Hulsey, P.P. Illustrious Sir Hulsey introduced Illustrious Sir Brent Bivens, 2016 Divan members and the above mentioned members of Yaarab nobles to the members of the Board of Directors of Shriners Hospitals for Children – Greenville.

First Lady Pam Bivens, Dona Huggins, and Alice Anderson of the South Fulton Shrinettes presented a \$1,000 check to Chairman of the Board, Illustrious Sir George Thompson, P.P. (Hejaz Shrine) and Vice Chairman of the Board, Illustrious Sir Mac Griffin, P.P. (Alee Shrine).

Next, Illustrious Sir Brent Bivens presented a check for \$50,000 to Chairman of the Board, Illustrious Sir George Thompson, P.P. (Hejaz Shrine), Vice Chairman of the Board, Illustrious Sir Mac Griffin, P.P. (Alee Shrine), and Greenville Chief of Staff, Michael Wattenbarger. This was designated to be used toward the new Research Center at the Greenville Hospital Unit.

Upon completion of the donations, the Yaarab travelers boarded the vans heading back to Atlanta after a very nice day, showing Yaarab's continued success in its' fundraising efforts for the Shriners Hospitals for Children.



Shriners Hospitals for Children – Greenville

# Yaarab's Annual Rainy Day "Cash" Giveaway April 29, 2017

\$12,500 in Cash with a \$10,000 Grand Prize  
Every 25th ticket drawn wins a cash prize:

1st ticket-\$100	200th ticket-\$100
25th ticket-\$100	225th ticket-\$200
50th ticket-\$100	250th ticket-\$200
75th ticket-\$100	275th ticket-\$200
100th ticket-\$100	300th ticket-\$200
125th ticket-\$100	325th ticket-\$200
150th ticket-\$100	350th ticket-\$300
175th ticket-\$100	375th ticket-\$300
400th ticket-	Grand Prize \$10,000

**Where: Yaarab Shrine, 400 Ponce de Leon Ave., Atlanta GA**

Ticket Price \$100

Each Ticket Includes;

- Prime Rib dinner for two
- Beverages included
- Dancing & Live music
- Chance to win Grand Prize of \$10,000

**CONTACT: Tom Holt (404) 229-4982 FOR TICKETS**

Proceeds from ticket sales are for the benefit of the Yaarab Shrine- Not Tax Deductible



# News from Cincinnati



## 2017 Burn Awareness Week

**Burn Awareness Week is February 5-11**, and the *American Burn Association* is focusing on scald prevention this year. Scald injuries are the most common injury in children under the age of two. This demonstrates that the need for burn education is still out there.

### The Facts:

- The average annual cost of scald injuries is \$44 million
- Children under five are 2.4 times as likely to suffer burn injuries.
- 1100 children die each year from fire and burns

### What to do if a burn occurs:

- Cool the burn with COOL (not cold) water to stop the burning process
- Remove all clothing and/or diaper from the injured area
- Cover the area with a clean dry sheet or bandage
- Seek medical attention

### Here are some tips to prevent burn injuries:

DO	DO NOT
Set the water heater temperature to 120°F	Leave a child unattended in the bathtub
Keep hot food and liquids away from the edges of counters and tables	Allow your children to adjust the water temperature or sit near faucet handles
Place pots and pans on back burners with handles turned away from stove edges	Set anything hot on tabletops within reach of young children who can pull them down

If you would like to be a part of burn prevention week and spread the word in your community, several Burn Awareness materials are available to order from Shriners Village to help you do just that. These materials feature the always kid-friendly Boots and Brewster characters, sharing their important safety messages.

### Shriners Play a Big Role in Referrals

When it comes to finding medical help for children, Shriners are now more important than ever. Members of the fraternity have always played a critical role in helping families in their communities get connected with Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Cincinnati.

With your kind help, let's get out there and teach our children to **BE BURN AWARE!**

Shriners Hospitals for Children®-Cincinnati is one of only four freestanding hospitals in the country dedicated to the treatment of pediatric burns and specializing in plastic and reconstructive surgery. Our physicians' experience and expertise in pediatric burn treatment, cleft lip and palate, complex wound and skin conditions, and plastic and reconstructive surgery makes Shriners Hospitals for Children - Cincinnati a first choice for care.

If you know a child we can help, go to [shrinershospitalcincinnati.org](http://shrinershospitalcincinnati.org) or call:

**Burn and Emergency Services**  
866-947-7840

**Plastic Surgery Services**  
855-206-2096

### Shriners Play a Big Role in Referrals

When it comes to finding medical help for children, Shriners are now more important than ever. Members of the fraternity have always played a critical role in helping families in their communities get connected with Shriners Hospitals for Children - Cincinnati, and now it has become even easier with a website and referral cards.

### Website

Shriners Hospitals for Children - Cincinnati continues to make referring a patient and obtaining an appointment for care easier than ever through the [www.shrinershospitalcincinnati.org](http://www.shrinershospitalcincinnati.org) website. Every page has a Schedule an Appointment and a Contact Us feature; both are easy forms that families can complete and submit online directly to the hospital.

### Referral Cards

Referral cards are also a great resource that Nobles can use. These cards allow families easy access to hospital information and services. The cards provide hospital contact information to assist in scheduling appointments. On the back of each card is space for the Shiner's name and Temple. Please stop by the Business Development office to pick cards up, or call 513-872-6391 to have them mailed to your Temple.

### Follow us on Facebook:

 <https://www.facebook.com/ShrinersHospitalCincinnati>

## Conditions Treated

Burns  
Cleft Lip & Palate  
Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery  
Complex Wounds & Skin Conditions

All Services Provided Regardless of a Family's Ability to Pay

SHC-CIN\_Media Resources Feb 2017

# Crown of Honor Awards



Basic Crown	500 Points
Red Bar	750
Yellow Bar	1,000
First Diamond	1,500
Second Diamond	2,500
Green Bar	3,500
Name Plate	5,000
Third Diamond	7,500
First Ruby	10,000
Second Ruby	15,000
Third Ruby	20,000
Fourth Ruby	25,000
First Emerald	31,500
Second Emerald	37,500
Third Emerald	43,750
Fourth Emerald	50,000
Sapphire Bar	60,000
First Sapphire	70,000
Second Sapphire	80,000
Third Sapphire	90,000
Fourth Sapphire	100,000
Fourth Diamond	125,000
Fifth Diamond	150,000
Sixth Diamond	175,000

A completed Crown of Honor level is: 175,000 total points

A Noble can earn points by the following:

Selling Circus Book tickets, Selling Circus Ads, Selling Circus Sponsors, Circus cash money (bucketing), Buying Circus Mama/Daddy Tickets, Selling Circus Ride Tickets, Selling Sportsmen's Raffle Tickets, Buying Rainy Day Tickets, 1st Line Signer of New Members, Signing Member Affiliations, Road-runner Trips to Shriners Hospitals for Children, Donations to "500 Club", plus more. Inquire through any Noble or Shrine Center Office.

# February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Charity Daylight Lodge #754 10:30AM	3	4
5 Super Bowl Party 5-8PM Fayette Shrine Club	6 Nobles Birthday Party 6-7PM	7	8	9	10	11 Valentines Party 6PM
12	13	14 Valentines Day	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 First Lady's Tea / Daytona Race Party 2-5PM	27	28				

# March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Charity Daylight Lodge #754 10:30AM	3	4
5	6	7	8 Business Meeting 7PM Social 5:30PM Dinner 6PM	9	10	11
12 Daylight Savings Time	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Dance Party (Chastain Style) 5PM-11PM
19	20 First Lady's Golf Tournament 9AM	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

# April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Nobles Birthday Party 6—7PM	4	5	6 Charity Daylight Lodge #754 10:30AM	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Good Friday	15 Children's Easter Party 10 AM
16 Easter	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 100 Club Lunch- eon 11AM	27	28	29 Rainy Day Givea- way
30						

BE SURE TO JOIN US FOR AN EASTER

## EGGSTRAVAGANZA

SATURDAY APRIL 15TH ~ 10 AM

YAARAB SHRINE ACTIVITIES BUILDING

Games, Prizes, Pictures with the Easter Bunny

WORLDS LARGEST EASTER EGG HUNT



**Lunch and Refreshments  
will be served  
For information contact  
Howell Bradford at  
404-512-4849**



# 2017 Election Photos

Photos by Thom Ledford



Appointed Divan



Appointed Aides

Chief Aide and Deputies

Gold Executive Aides



Personal Aides

Platinum Executive Aides

## Widows and Widowers By Judy Campbell

Happy New Year to everyone! Our club is looking forward to a great year with Illustrious Sir Danny Huggins and First Lady Dona. They are special to us and we are most willing to assist in any way.

Our Christmas luncheon was a great success and I appreciate all those who attended. Our largest crowd, 47 attended. Thanks members, supporters, friends, Past Potentates, Chief Aide, Potentate, First Lady, and Divan members for attending.

The following officers were elected for 2017: President, Judy Campbell; Vice President, Jerry Brookshire; Secretary, Marilyn Simmerman; and Treasurer, Elizabeth Rogers. Thanks to all for your willingness to work.

Thanks, Danny, for my appointment as ladies Check-in Chairman. I will serve to the best of my ability.

Everyone is always welcome to come join us at our meetings. They are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. in our room at the Shrine Center.

Call me, Judy Campbell, if you have questions: 770-529-5866 or 404-558-6683.

## Election Reception Photos

Photos by Thom Ledford



# 2017 First Lady's Luncheon Photos

Photos by Thom Ledford



# JOIN US!



Join Us in Beautiful Daytona Beach Florida  
For the  
2017 Imperial Session  
of Shriners International, July 7 - 13

Yaarab will be housed in the Beautiful,  
Perry's Ocean Resort



[www.perrysoceanedge.com](http://www.perrysoceanedge.com)

Plenty to see and do in the  
Daytona Area

Beach Street Shopping & Dining  
Ponce de Leon Lighthouse  
Daytona International Speedway

Two Outdoor Oceanfront Pools  
Indoor Heated Pool & Hot Tub  
Charcoal Grills – Kiddie Pool  
Bocce Ball – Putt-Putt Golf  
Restaurant & Tiki Bar  
Family and Pet Friendly



Room types	Nightly Rate
S. Tower Oceanfront Efficiency	\$159
S. Tower Oceanfront Kitchenette	\$159
S. Tower Oceanfront King Kitchenette (ADA)	\$159
S. Tower Kid's Suite	\$159
Garden Oceanfront	\$159
Garden Deluxe Efficiency (no oceanview)	\$152

Rooms for this event are limited, and will  
book very quickly. It is NOT too soon to  
make your reservations to insure the  
room of your choice.

Make your reservations by calling:  
Perry's Resort ..... 800-447-0002

Ask for the Yaarab Shriner's rate as  
shown.

# 2017 Circus Kickoff Photos

Photos by Thom Ledford



# YAARAB TEMPLE HISTORY

By Sam Black

Yaarab Temple officially took its place in Shrinedom on June 24, 1890, becoming the 57th Temple to receive a dispensation from the Imperial Council of the Shrine of North America.

One day in the summer of 1889, Matthew B. Torbett passed the door of Atlanta insurance agent, Harry C. Stockdell's office in the old Gate City Bank Building at the corner of Alabama and Pryor Street. Stockdell called Torbett in his office and mentioned to him, plans to form a Shrine Temple in Atlanta.

This was pursued at the 15th Annual Imperial Council of the Shrine of North America held in Chicago on June 17, 1889. The nearest Shrine Temple in the South at that time was Jerusalem Temple in Louisiana. It received its' charter on June 25, 1888. It was through a petition of Illustrious Sir John S. Alfred, a member of Jerusalem Temple in New Orleans, and other Freemasons, that the Imperial Council should grant a dispensation to organize Yaarab Temple in Atlanta on November 21, 1889. Yaarab Temple was assigned jurisdiction, not only to Atlanta, but the whole state of Georgia. Temples in Macon, Savannah, and Albany would ultimately be established.

Another Shriner, Noble Charles Damour, a member of Mecca Temple in New York, had tried to obtain permission to start a Temple in Macon, Georgia, since this was his place of residence, but failed to get enough support. However, a dispensation was granted him to organize a Temple in Atlanta. Harry C. Stockdell, a Master Mason, and Master of Damour's lodge, advanced a personal check for \$150 to pay the dispensation fee.

The first meeting of Yaarab Temple officially took place, on Sunday, December 8, 1889. Seven of the thirty-two charter members met in Stockdell's office. The Imperial dispensation named Harry C. Stockdell, Potentate, and Stockdell in turn appointed George E. Hardeman, as acting Recorder. Stockdell, being a more successful businessman, served as administrative head for ten years. Recorder Hardeman served for three years and became Temple organist, which was an important position for initiation ceremonies. There was no formal initiation ceremony at that time. Each man simply took the oath and was assigned his Shrine card numbered in the order he signed the roll. Ten days later on December 18, the remaining prospective members, took their oath and signed under the original seven. This made up the original thirty-two charter members. The first Ceremonials were held at the Grant Building, located at the corner of Broad and Marietta Streets.

Yaarab's charter was officially approved on June 23, 1890, at the annual session in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. However, it did not reach Yaarab Temple until October 15. It should be noted that on the duplicate copy hanging in the business manager's office, the name of John S. Alfred, is not listed among the charter members, even though he received Shrine Card Number One at the organizational meeting.

After the first year, this new fraternal organization in Atlanta was starting to be noticed by individuals, especially Masons. On March 18, 1891, Atlantan Forrest Adair was initiated into Yaarab Temple. Destined to become the most influential member of Yaarab, the son of a pioneer Atlanta real estate broker, Adair became the second potentate of Yaarab Temple and served as such for thirteen years. He later became the first life member of the Imperial Council from Yaarab. It was through his persuasive power, delivering his famous "Bubbles Speech" in Portland, Oregon in 1920, that he made the Shrine Crippled Children's Hospitals possible.

The Shriners of North America came to Atlanta in 1914, during the administration of Potentate John A. Hynds, for their Imperial Session. At this time, Yaarab Temple had no Shrine facilities so the convention was held in the Lyric Theater. Shrine meetings were held on the top floor of the Masonic building, which had recently been renovated, for several years. The initiation ceremonials were held in Atlanta's Municipal Auditorium. Since 1914, Atlanta hosted the Imperial Council Session, only twice; once in 1973 and again in 1985. It should be noted that 1973 was the year that Gene Bracewell became Yaarab's Potentate and 1985 was when he was completing his year as Imperial Potentate. Shriners bought property on the corner of Peachtree and Ponce de Leon Ave. during the mid 1920s, and built a Shrine Mosque. With membership totaling approximately 10,000, it took bondholders money and loans from members to get the building started. A showplace was created with emphasis on the middle Eastern architectural style and decorative motifs. This later would become known as the Fox Theater. Formal dedication took place on January 1, 1930, the last official act of Potentate Thomas Law, who served four years. However, with the collapse of the stock market due to the Great Depression, the Fox Theater went bankrupt and closed, and the Yaarab Temple Building Company had to default on the bonds as they were due. By the middle of the Depression, Yaarab's membership dropped to 1,000 members.

The 50th anniversary of Yaarab Temple was observed on December 8, 1939. The meeting was held in the former grand mosque. Many members, including Past Potentate Thomas C. Law, who three years later was elected Imperial Potentate, were present. The Home Association was created five years later and authorized Yaarab to purchase property for another home. The Standard Club, former Jewish country club at 400 Ponce de Leon Avenue (present site), was purchased in 1949. On February 22, 1950, the first business meeting was held.

The building was destroyed by a devastating fire in January 1963 while Tom Perry was Potentate. A new facility was erected (the present structure) on the same property, and was dedicated on December 8, 1964 as a feature of Yaarab's 75th anniversary.

On December 8, 1989, Yaarab Shriners observed their centennial, the date marking one hundred years since Yaarab Temple was organized. Illustrious Potentate for 1989, Danny Drummond and Past Potentate Wilbur F. Glenn (1939), who earlier had participated in the 50th anniversary, participated in the observance of the centennial. Special events were scheduled at the Fox Theater and the Egyptian Room was rented for a dance. Yaarab membership in 1989 totaled about 10,000 members.

Yaarab's current leadership, of approximately 3,300 members, strives to continue their untiring efforts to raise one million dollars per year for the Shriners Hospitals. This goal has been accomplished for several straight years and continues to be that goal.



# News from Yaarab Units

## Yaarab Shrine Band By Kerry Gheesling

Greetings, nobles. As 2017 begins, your Shrine Band is hard at work. After the elections were over, we started working on new and different music for the Circus. With this year being the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Yaarab Shrine Circus, we want to help make this the best Circus ever by having the largest band possible.

We will also be back performing at more Shrine events this year. However, like most Units, we have been shrinking in size. In spite of this, we are working very hard to grow the size of the band. The band is looking for nobles who, either currently or in the past, have played a wind instrument. It doesn't matter about your ability level or whether or not you're currently playing. We have all levels playing with us now. If you need an instrument, we can help with that also. If you don't play, maybe you know a family member, male or female, or a Blue Lodge brother or Eastern Star sister that plays. The band not only plays for Shrine functions, but we also perform concerts for senior homes, nursing homes and hospitals, as well as, other outside events. We also enjoy a good parade from time to time. Non-Shriners can perform at all events that are not tiled Shrine events.

We invite everyone that plays to join us. We practice most Tuesday nights at 7:30 p.m. in the Bandroom downstairs in the Gene Bracewell Building. If you have any questions, please visit our website, [yaarabshrineband.org](http://yaarabshrineband.org) for contact information.

Also, if your Club, Unit, or Blue Lodge is in need of live music for entertainment, we can arrange that. We have smaller groups within the band that can provide most any type of music. Again, please visit our website, [yaarabshrineband.org](http://yaarabshrineband.org) for contact information.

## Golf Association By A. Gaines Wallen

Happy New Year for 2017! We extend to all best wishes for the new year. Congratulations to our newly elected potentate Danny Huggins, and all the Divan members who were elected to serve in their new positions for 2017. Let's show our support for our Divan and work hard to make this a successful year for Yaarab Shrine.

Let me thank all those members who turned out on January 4 for our meeting. It was great to see so many faces in attendance. This is going to be a busy year for the Golf Association. I want to thank the large number of members who have stepped up to chair and serve on numerous committees for this year. Some of those who are actively working on special events planned during the next three months are as follows: Past President Lee Williams has been busy scheduling golf courses for our monthly play. Illustrious Sir Chuck Rager, P.P. is very busy putting together the Golf Tournament for our new First Lady, Dona. Illustrious Sir J.D. Mitchell, P.P. is hard at work, locating and contacting our past presidents of the Golf Association for their special

occasion. A night is set aside to honor our Past Presidents. Past President Joe Carone is planning our out of town spring outing. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jim Rust is preparing us for a robust Circus season, collecting money, selling ads and sponsors and raffle tickets. We have 10 members standing by waiting on the Raffle Chairman, Don Malcom's call for us to work a weekend at Bass Pro shop selling Sportsmen's Raffle Tickets. Past President Eddie Black has formed a calling committee. They are working to improve our attendance at meetings and other functions.

The Golf Association was organized to play golf and have fun. At our next scheduled meeting on February 1, 2017, our golf play date chairman Lee Williams will share with us our golf schedule for 2017. We will begin playing the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Thursday in March and each month thereafter. If anyone wants to play or just needs information, please call Lee at 404-414-4985.

Our Golf Association has been asked to conduct the First Lady's Golf Tournament on March 20, 2017. The event will take place at Bent Water Golf Club in Acworth, Ga. This is a fundraiser for our First Lady Dona's beautification Project for Yaarab Shrine. We must support this event for her! Illustrious Sir Chuck Rager, P.P. has been working hard in preparation for this Golf Tournament. We encourage all Clubs and Units to sponsor a team and purchase a hole sponsor. For an application or any information please Call Illustrious Sir Chuck Rager, P.P. at 404-357-2956, Lee Williams 404-414-4985 or Walt Swafford at 770-891-2019.

The Golf Association will honor our Past Presidents. Illustrious Sir J.D. Mitchell, P.P. is planning an evening to honor our former leaders of the Golf Association. This will take place in the Red Fez room on April 5, 2017 at Yaarab Shrine. Social at 6:00 p.m., Dinner at 7:00 p.m., with the program to follow. We cordially invite all living Past Presidents and their ladies in addition to our current members and their ladies to join together for this special occasion. I urge all current members and their ladies to attend and show support as we honor those who led our Association over the last 47 years. Dress is casual for the event. For additional information, you may contact Illustrious Sir J.D. Mitchell, P.P. at phone # 404-379-7661. It is sometimes difficult to locate those who may have been away from the Shrine for a while. If you are a Past President, **please** help by calling Illustrious Sir J.D. He will make every effort to contact each past president prior to this occasion. We sure would like to have all of you together, just once. We will have a pleasant surprise to share with you for this evening.

Continued on page 34

# News from Yaarab Units (cont'd)

The Golf Association of the YAARAB Shrine was organized in 1969 with Idus O. Cooper serving as Chairman of the Committee to organize. After the committee organized, Noble Idus O. Cooper was elected to serve as the first President of the Golf Association in 1970. Since then we have had (47) forty-seven nobles serve as our President. No president has ever served more than one year during the forty-seven years of our existence. We currently have 28 living past presidents, we hope to honor each of you on April 5, 2017.

Past President Joe Carone has planned our spring outing for 9th, 10th & 11th April, 2017. We will go to Greenville, SC for our first out of town trip. We will play golf 10th & 11th April with our banquet to follow Tuesday evening. Our ladies are invited to join us to play golf or have fun with the other ladies. He will be reserving a block of rooms. Joe will have full details for our Association on Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, at our scheduled meeting. The golf is cheap and our rooms are very reasonably priced. We encourage anyone who wants to get away for a couple of days, have fun and fellowship to come with us. Membership in the golf association is not required to join us on this trip. For additional info you may contact Joe at 678-520-3245. Thanks Joe for all your hard work putting this together for our enjoyment.

On the left is Jesse Dooley, our current golf tournament champion for 2016. Jesse is accepting his trophy from President Ronny Duncan at our year end banquet. On the right is Dick Race the Golfer of the year recipient for 2016. Dick's goal is to shoot his age each time he plays. We congratulate both members for having a wonderful year of golf.

The Golf Association is open to all members of the Shrine who want to play golf or just have a good time and fellowship. We meet February 1<sup>st</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>, downstairs in the activity building. Social at 6:00 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m., and a business meeting will follow. Come hungry and thirsty, we can take care of those needs. For additional information call Gaines Wallen at 678-485-6210.

## Legion of Honor By Rick Conn, Adjutant

Welcome to all the new Officers of the Yaarab Legion of Honor for the Year 2017. The following were elected: Commander, Jimmy Flanigan; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander, John Caldwell; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander, Mark Richardson; 3<sup>rd</sup> Lt. Commander, John Graf; Finance Officer, Robin Mashburn; Adjutant, Rick Conn; and Chaplain, Jim Weaver. These Officers were installed by Yaarab's Treasurer Dennis Davidson

in proper form.

After the Election, all assembled upstairs for an Installation/Christmas Banquet. Everyone in attendance thoroughly enjoyed themselves. If you did not attend you missed a good time. Come and support our Officers for this year, and make it a great year for the Yaarab LOH.

Our own Jim House, Commander for the SESA LOH has planned the LOH Mid Winter for March 31/April 01, 2017. It will be held at the Sleep Inn in Augusta, Ga. on Classuen Road. A good time is planned for all, so come and join the fun and fellowship. Nobles, at the SESA LOH meeting held in Huntsville Alabama, a few years ago, the Bylaws were changed and approved by the President of the SESA and Commander of the SESA LOH that the Mid Winter is now a business meeting.

Illustrious Sir Keel Broome, P.P., President of the SESA has the SESA Mid Winter meeting planned for Warner Robins on the 23<sup>rd</sup> thru 24<sup>th</sup> of March, 2017. All information is on the SESA website, including the registration form. Illustrious Sir Keel is asking as many as possible to attend. Please attend and help with the planning of the SESA Convention in August.

Welcome to Illustrious Sir Danny Huggins on his being elected as Potentate of Yaarab Temple in 2017. Danny has a great year planned for us, so let's all come and support him, his programs, and our Yaarab Shrine.

Any of our members, who are sick or down, please know that we have you in our prayers at sick call every meeting. Prayers for a speedy recovery and hopes that you will return to our meetings and join us. Those not at the meetings are missed.

Remember all our Brothers and Sisters in arms that are deployed all over the globe, especially those in a combat area of operation. We send prayers for their families for a safe and speedy return home. The enemy is at hand and we may lose some of our Heroes in this fight. Let's keep all of them in our earnest prayers.

## Oriental Band By Dennis Brown

2016 was a banner year for the Oriental Band. The year began with three members and by the year's end the membership had risen to twelve (12) participants. Jeff Ferguson presented the club with a framed photograph of the year 1921 members of Yaarab Shrine's first Oriental Band. This historic item now hangs on the wall of the Oriental Band's meeting room.

During the year members participated in many parades and Yaarab Shrine events. The Club ended 2016 with a Christmas dinner for the members and their families. We are looking forward to a great 2017 by participating in the Shrine Circus and Carnival, and Shriners Hospitals for Children campaigns, along with parades and other Yaarab Shrine events.

The Oriental Band meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Oriental Band room. New members are welcome.

# News from Yaarab Units (cont'd)

## Potentate's Escort By Larry Smith



2017 started off a little cold, but the next week-end, election day warmed things up. Danny Huggins was elected Potentate for 2017. Billy Wages, Captain of the outlaws, oops I mean Escorts, led 12 white Harleys into the Gene Bracewell Activities Building and filled the room with gas fumes and the roar of engines. It was a great day for Yaarab Shrine. First Lady Dona Huggins rode in with Danny and the grand kids on the Motor Corps train.

The next day a reception was held in the ballroom given by Yaarab's Potentates Escort Unit and Yaarab Motor Corps Unit. Danny was given guns with no bullets, which will be given at a later date after we have a good year. Many dates will have already taken place by the time you receive this.

Some of the future events are collecting on the street for the Shrine Circus. Our Circus should be great this year because the other Circus in town will be closing their tiger

cages for good, of course they had already excluded using elephants for their show.

Birthday parties are being brought back and the first one is on February 6, the next week-end will be the party for your sweetheart and then we have the First Lady's tea with the men yelling for their favorite driver at the Daytona race.

The Captain has many events planned for the Escorts, but of course, we will have our Harley "Give-a-way" later this year. He also has a ride planned with our ladies up to Gatlinburg in June.

If you would like to join the Escorts, we can help you find a white bike, we meet on the first Tuesday of each month with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and meeting at 7:30 p.m. Plan to visit us and bring your lady.

When you are talking to the man upstairs, remember our troops who have served and are still serving to help make this a great United States of America.

# News from Yaarab Clubs

## Cedar Valley Shrine Club By David Johnson

Our club had a great year and we are planning on another great year.

Our club Officers did a very good job this past year, and we congratulate them for all they did. We have a new line of Officers for this year: President, David Jameson; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Tommy Oliver; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Brent Gaiser; Secretary, Ken Thomas; and Lee Williams, Treasurer. Assistant Rabban Gary Lewis is our Liaison Officer this year. He held the election and swore our new Officers in.

We had several that were going to the election but the weather had other ideas. We will try next week to go, and help with electing our new Divan. We thank the 2016 Divan for all the hard work they did.

We have several projects lined up to help with the Shrine Circus this year, which will be upon us before we know it. We have several that are planning to go to the Kickoff, and make our pledge.

Our children we are taking to the Shriners Hospitals for Children, are all doing better now, and we have several appointments for this year already set up. We thank our Road Runners and our Shriners Hospitals for Children for all they do.

The Rock Run parade in Alabama was great this year. We had a big group that went to it. Everyone enjoyed the fun and fellowship. We have been doing this for several years, and we look forward to it every year.

Thank God for all he has done for this country, and we pray this year will be one of the best years this country has had. May God bless the military, the police, our country, and the Shriners.

## Cherokee Shrine Club By Don Meyer

Nobles, we have started our New Year – 2017. At our first meeting held on January 5<sup>th</sup>, we had nineteen (19) members present. What a meeting, and if you weren't there, you missed a good one.

We held the election and installation of our "2017" Officers during our December 6, 2016 meeting. The election and installation was conducted and officiated by Yaarab Shrine Oriental Guide Bruce Ridley. The new Officers are: President, Bobbie Richards; First Vice President, Steve Ison; Second Vice President, Scotty Pack; Treasurer, Past President Earl Darby; and Secretary, Gordon Owens. The Cher-O-Kettes also held their election and were duly installed by Oriental Guide Bruce Ridley.

This next paragraph is a repeat writing, but it needs repeating as a lead into the next paragraph. Our Annual 5<sup>th</sup> Sonny Roper Memorial "Christmas Toy Ride", a joint function between Hickory Flat Masonic Lodge # 205 and Cherokee Shrine Club will be over when you receive this issue of the Basharat. The "Ride" was November 6<sup>th</sup>. We had forty-five (45) plus Masons and Shriners, in attendance, with their ladies from the various Masonic Lodges and Shrine Clubs in our area. The "RIDE" netted over 90 toys. What an awesome sight watching all those riders come into the Cherokee Shrine Club parking lot where the Cherokee High School AFROTC helped park the riders and put down blocks for their kickstands. Along with the "RIDE", we had fifty-one (51) sponsors donate \$5,100 to purchase more needed toys. For the people not in attendance, you all missed a GREAT Sunday afternoon.

Continued on page 36

# News from Yaarab Clubs (cont'd)

On December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m., six (6) brothers and three (3) ladies went shopping at Walmart in Holly Springs. They purchased hundreds of toys, and we also had twenty-five (25) bicycles donated by a Car Club in Cherokee County. The toys were then separated and tagged by gender and age for the individual schools. This also was a joint venture between the Cherokee Shrine Club and Hickory Flat Masonic Lodge #205 and their ladies.

On December 6<sup>th</sup>, twelve (12) brethren and nobles from Cherokee Shrine Club and Hickory Flat Masonic Lodge #205 delivered toys to four elementary schools in our area. We had enough toys for 205 children.

Nobles, we will have this same event in 2017. For it to be successful, we need your Help! With the new slate of Officers, we will be planning other events to continue the good work this Club strives to do every year. Events you can look for in 2017 are: BBQ fundraiser for the Club and Shriners Hospitals for Children, cooking for "Cruisers Car Show", which is a Hospital fundraiser and other surprising functions. Start by attending your Cherokee Shrine Club meetings. They are always on the first Thursday of every month. We eat at 7:00 p.m. with the meeting following. The men go to their room and the ladies go to theirs.

Come out nobles and bring your lady, because we need you! Did you ever think of inviting a Lodge brother and his lady? Bring them out and their dinner is on the Club.



## Lanier Shrine Club By Jerry Lothridge

Year 2016 was a great year for Lanier Club and we appreciate all the hard work by our nobles for the Shriners Hospitals for Children under the leadership of our President Jimmy Harris and his Officers: Vice President, John Sisk; Second Vice President, Gary Lawrence; Secretary, Phil Wofford; and Treasurer Keith Chandler.

We now look forward to 2017 with our newly elected Officers as follows: President, John Sisk; Vice President, Gary Lawrence; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Gene Kiser; Secretary, Rob Baisden; and Treasurer, Keith Chandler. All Officers were installed by our new Liaison Officer, Oriental Guide Dennis Davidson at our November Meeting.

The USA has a new President Donald Trump and we look forward to "Making America Great Again". Lanier challenges every club in Yaarab Shrine to take on the same as a New Year's Resolution, to "Make Yaarab Great as Always" !

As Lanier's Basharat Correspondent, I am honored to be your representative of our great Lanier Shrine Club of Gainesville and Yaarab Shrine. I look forward to telling the news of our members as we work hard to help put smiles on the faces of our Shriners Hospitals for Children patients.

We had a very successful Annual Fundraiser; the \$10,000 "Give-A-Way" featuring our Prime Rib Dinner is held every November. In 2016, we had over 325 in attendance.

Our annual Christmas Party and Awards Dinner was well attended by all our nobles and ladies, who had a wonderful time. We all enjoyed the photo shoot and appreciated the pictures as a gift from our President's wife, Janice Harris.

Our nobles would like to express our appreciation to our ladies, who prepare our dinners for our meetings and also for the \$1,000 donation to Shriners Hospitals for Children this past year.

Lanier Shrine Club meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month, with dinner at 6:30 p.m., and meeting at 7:30 p.m. at Gainesville Masonic Lodge #219, Hwy.53 in Gainesville. Come join us anytime. Let us all work to make this the greatest year ever for the Shriners Hospitals for Children and Yaarab Shrine.

Nobles let us all give our new Potentate, Danny Huggins, and our elected Divan our very best support. Also, a special congratulations to Jeff Ferguson, our newly elected Recorder.

While on bended knee, remember in your prayers, our Military Service men and women at home and abroad.

## Loganville Shrine Club By Rick Conn

Welcome to all the new Officers of the Loganville Shrine Club for the Year 2017. The following were elected: President, Chris Lockhart; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Rusty Rogers; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Rob Wing; Treasurer, Jack Wade; Secretary, Rick Conn; and Lamar Dalton, Chaplain. Officers were installed by Treasurer Dennis Davidson in proper form. Let's all come out and support our Officers and make this year a great one. Loganville is a small Club, but we have always been mighty in our support to Shrinedom and Yaarab Shrine.

Congratulations to Illustrious Sir Danny Huggins on his election to Potentate for Yaarab 2017. Illustrious Sir Danny has some great things in store for us, so let's all get behind him and make Yaarab the best Shrine Center in Shrinedom. Our Circus is coming up in a few months, so let's all get behind Danny and make another GREAT Circus, better than ever. I am sure that we will have the Coke booth again this year, and I know that Chris will need our help in manning this booth for all shifts. If you can work a shift, please contact either him or the Secretary, and get your name on the list.

To all nobles at large, if you live in the Loganville area, or any of the surrounding areas, and can come to Loganville for meetings, we invite you to come visit with us and check us out. We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at Loganville American Legion Post #233 at 6:30 p.m. for a good home cooked meal. The food is great and the fellowship is superb. Come and join in with us. We would love to have you join our Club.

Continued on page 37

# News from Yaarab Clubs (cont'd)

Chris has some good programs in the works this year and I encourage all members to come and support him in the programs. We held our annual Christmas party at Silver Hill Manor in Stone Mountain this year and all that attended had a great time. Presents were exchanged in a game, and everyone really enjoyed the activities. Come and be a part of this fun and happy occasion of Christ Birth this coming December.

Remember all our Brothers and Sisters in arms that are deployed all over the globe, especially those in a combat area of operation. Prayers for their families for a safe and speedy return home. The enemy is at hand and we may lose some of our Heroes in this fight. Let's keep all of them in our earnest prayers.

## Northeast Dekalb Club By Sam Black

Happy New Year – 2017 – wishes extended to everyone. The newly elected Officers of the Northeast Dekalb Club for 2017 are as follows: President, Gordon Fox; First Vice President, Sam Draisen; Second Vice President, Jim Rust; Treasurer, Tom Hunt; and Secretary, Sam Black. We need the support of each member of the Northeast Dekalb Club to make 2017 another successful year. Congratulations are extended to 2017 Merit Award Recipients at the Annual Election and Business Meeting: Wayne Wilkins, Warren Shore, Harlyn Lund, Johnny Adams, Jerry Brookshire, and Randy McCaslin. Congratulations also goes to Illustrious Sir Chuck Pittman, P.P. for being the recipient of the Potentate's Gold Merit Award for 2017.

Happy February birthday greetings are extended to Sam Black (4) and Sam Draisen (8).

Congratulations to newly elected Potentate Danny Hugins, as well as, all other Divan members elected to the next higher office for 2017. Let's all get behind and support our Divan, so we can continue to have successful years for Yaarab Shrine.

The major focus for Yaarab Shrine, at this time, is the 2017 Yaarab Circus and Carnival, again to be held at Jim R. Miller Park, May 20 – May 29, 2017. The 2017 Yaarab Circus kickoff was held Saturday, January 21. The Northeast Dekalb Club pledged \$4,000, and with all member's help, we will meet and beat this goal. It would be appreciated if all Northeast Dekalb Club members would send in their Mama-Daddy monies. This will not only give you Crown of Honor points, but will help the club reach 100% participation in this program. Northeast Dekalb Club members, please make sure you mark your calendars for the Circus. We will work hard, but will enjoy some good fellowship.

The members of the Northeast Dekalb Club would like to extend a special invitation to all "At-Large" members in Yaarab Shrine, or other Yaarab members seeking a new club, to come visit us. We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> TUESDAY of each month on the lower level of the Gene Bracewell Activities Building. We have dinner in the club room at 6:30 p.m.

and the meetings start at 7:30 p.m. We extend an invitation to all qualified nobles to come and enjoy some good, peaceful fellowship. Hope to see you in the near future.

Let's remember our service men and women who are in harm's way to protect our freedom. We pray they will stay safe and return home soon.

## Paulding County Shrine Club By Guy Fisher

We held our elections and we want to recognize our new Officers for the 2017 year. They are: President, Mike Curtis; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Ken Ferguson; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Rusty Allison; Secretary, Walter Thomason; and Treasurer, Chris Duke. We would like to thank all of the current officers who are stepping down from their duties, and we appreciate all the hard work you have done.

We have had five (5) new members, two (2) returning members. We had eleven (11) new members to join Yaarab Shrine on January 16, 2017, and possibly three (3) more. We are so pleased to have new and old members so involved with all of our events and parades. Keep up the good work nobles and ladies.

Our very own Nobles Billy Rainey, Mikey Curtis, Rusty Allison and Chris Duke participated in the Children's Charity Classic on November 7th. They had a wonderful time participating and look forward to participating next year.

We are very proud of the great things happening at Paulding County Shrine Club. We look forward to a very exciting and entertaining year.

## Rome Shrine Club By Tony Warren

As we welcome the New Year, we welcome new line Officers to serve the Rome Shrine Club and it's members. The new Officers have promised to remember that being elected an Officer is actually a step down from being a regular member. The offices in which they were elected play a subservient role in our club. We answer to the membership and we are responsible for its welfare. We do not take our offices lightly and we promise to serve the members faithfully. Charlie tells me that our aim this year is to bring some fun back into the club. We want to involve the families more and make the club as good as it has ever been. You and I both know that even at its worse, this is still the best club in Yaarab.

The 2017 elected Officers are: President, Charles Carney; First Vice President, Robert Cash; Second Vice President, Bob Mount; Treasurer, Rick Collins; Secretary, Tony Warren; and Chaplin Cary Hall. The Executive Committeemen are: Mack Godfrey and Wayne Huffman. The Sunshine Committeemen are Bobby Sims and Donnie Bagley.

Continued on page 38

# News from Yaarab Clubs (cont'd)

The Christmas program was another success this year. We started late but we made up for it by working harder. During the four days before the giveaway, club members came together and worked on bicycles. We produced 20 good bicycles to give away to needy children for Christmas. I would like to give the names of the helpers, but my old memory might leave someone out, but you know what you did and I, and the Club, **thank you**. (Not to mention all the needy children to whom you were a blessing.)

Below is a picture of Jerry "Bubba" Hardin working on a bicycle for a needy child.



The Rome Shrine Club participated in several Christmas parades around the area. Below are a few pictures of our entries in the Christmas parade.



Tony Warren with The Hillbilly truck, and Shane "Skinny" Dover with his custom trike.

We are happy to report that the Past Presidents' Unit has purchased a new Hospital transportation van. It will be used on January 10<sup>th</sup> to take a patient to the Shriners Hospitals for Children - Greenville Unit. It is a 2017 Chrysler Pacifica and it has all the bells and whistles. Even though the van belongs to the Rome Shrine Club and its members, the van is a gift from the Past Presidents at no cost to the club.

It is bucketing time again. Last year we had four people to bring in over \$10,000 each. They were: Jerry "Bubba" Hardin; Bobby Sims; Rick Collins; and Tony Warren.

Bucketing is probably the easiest thing we do. All you do is get a bucket, wear decent clothes, grab your Fez and go stand on a corner somewhere. People will just hand you money. How easy can it be? If you need someone to show you the ropes, call me and I will show you and take you along as I bucket. Tony Warren – 706-252-5734 or call me at home 706-235-5900. Please remember that you are representing all the members of the Rome Shrine Club. You may be the only Shriner they ever know. Be courteous and thank those who donate. Remember that every donation you receive is a divine appointment; therefore, that person is God's representative and should be treated as such.

It is time to pay your dues so be prepared at the next meeting. If you do not pay your dues during the month of January you may be dropped from the role for NPD. If you can't make it to the meeting then mail your dues payments to: Rome Shrine Club, PO Box 1544, Rome, GA 30162. (Yes 62 is correct – it's a PO Box).

Our President, Charles Carney, has appointed Shane "Skinny" Dover as chairman of the recreation committee. If you have any ideas or suggestions about family get-togethers and socials please give Shane a call.

Please remember all those that have been mentioned on our prayer list. Those include: the families of those who have recently passed away, Linda Frick's; and several of our brothers having surgery.

Brothers, on a personal note, your elected and appointed Officers are trying hard to bring this club back to the brotherly love and affection and camaraderie that it once knew. The Officers are your representatives and they work for you. Without your input, your guidance, and making your feelings known at the Officers meetings on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m., we would have no idea what's on your mind. Please let us know how we can better our club and bring the fun back into the Rome Shrine Club along with our hard work taking care of God's children.

The next Basharat article deadline is March 15<sup>th</sup>. Please help me gather news and events that happen concerning our club. The Basharat magazine goes to other Shrine Centers around the country and traditionally has a great many readers. You can be a great help to me by reporting your unit's plans and events. Please help me write a decent article so I can uphold the integrity of the Rome Shrine Club.



# News from Yaarab Clubs (cont'd)

## Slate City Shrine Club By Randy Stone



Best wishes and Happy New Year to all the nobles of Yaarab Shrine and their families. Slate City Shrine Club had a good year in 2016, and we, as a club, are moving forward. The Circus Kickoff is behind us and now starts the activities for the nobles. Our membership in the club is growing. Noble James Dyer was created at the Winter Ceremonial and has joined with Slate City Shrine Club, as its newest member. We hope to have others join us throughout the year. We had a great year fundraising, thanks to the hard work of our nobles. We're hoping for an even better year in 2017. I would like to thank every member of Slate City Shrine Club for all your hard work. Let's as a club, keep moving forward, have fun, and raise money for our Shriners Hospitals for Children, our kids, and our philanthropy.

Our ladies are planning a great year also. They do such a great job in supporting our club and we could never succeed without them. The ladies are getting their agenda ready. Besides the wonderful meals they prepare for our meetings, they assist with the other functions and take a leading role in their annual yard sale and Divan lunch after the homespun parade.

Never forget our Blue Lodges, and support them with your attendance, as well as, their fundraising efforts. Let's keep moving forward together. Please keep our sick and infirmed members in your prayers, as well as, our Military and Leaders. Last, but definitely not least, we at Slate City would like to extend a warm and hearty welcome to any nobles, new nobles or any nobles At Large. We, as a club, would love to have you come out and meet with us. We have dinner at 6:30 p.m., and the meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday night of each month. Our address is 1204 Piedmont Ave. Rockmart Ga 30153.

## Sweetwater Shrine Club By Mike Scheib

Well, 2016 is done and in the books, but not without Sweetwater Shrine Club being as busy as ever. It all started with the Children's Christmas party at the Yaarab Shrine Center on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Yaarab culinary cooking crew was at it again cooking the hamburgers and hotdogs for all to enjoy.

At the December meeting the annual elections were held for the 2017 club Officers. The Officers elected were: President, Mike Scheib; First Vice President, Tim Adair; Second Vice President, Marshall Smith; Secretary, Roger Faulkner; and Treasurer, Jerry "Jug Haid" Rogers. The installation of Officers was held the same night and conducted by Noble Rogers. Good luck to all the Officers and continued success for the upcoming year.

Sweetwater Shrine Club held their annual New Year's Eve party at the club on Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup>. Everyone that attended the party brought their specialty dish for all to enjoy while the Entertainers provided the music to

help ring in the New Year. May it be a prosperous and productive year for all of Yaarab Shrine.

And here it is time to get ready for the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Yaarab Shrine Circus. Fundraising activities and the Sportsmen's Raffle are upon us already. Members of Sweetwater Shrine Club will be manning the doors at Bass Pro Shops the last weekend of January, selling raffle tickets, and some of our nobles are getting their buckets warmed up and ready to hit the streets.

On a final note, please keep Noble Roy Caviness in your prayers as he underwent open heart surgery last week at Wellstar Kennestone Hospital.

## Tri County Shrine Club By Richard Miller

The nobles of Tri-County wish to, first and foremost, congratulate Illustrious Sir Danny Huggins and his Lady Dona on his election as Potentate of Yaarab Shrine along with the promotions of all the other Divan members. We also would like to welcome Noble Jeff Ferguson and his Lady Joni to the Divan. Jeff was elected Recorder for the ensuing year of 2017. In addition to all of the newly Appointed Divan members, the newly elected Officers of our Club include President, Trey Morgan; First Vice President, Randall Wardlaw; Second Vice President, Ralph Sharle; Treasurer, Ernie Stovall; and Secretary, Richard Miller. Here is to a successful year for all Divan and Club Officers.

While the questionable Georgia weather may have postponed the Yaarab Shrine elections, as always, a day later we were in what seemed to be a completely different season. That all led into the annual Unit and Club Circus Kickoff for the 75<sup>th</sup> installment of the World's Largest Shrine Circus, Fair, and Flea Market. The Kickoff is always a great event that brings us the feeling of the Shrine Circus with the popcorn, cotton candy, and peanuts which helps inspire our drive, and this year's was no exception. So, as a Club, we are in full Circus mode out there selling ads, retaining and obtaining sponsorships, along with bucketing on the local street corners.

From one great event to another, members of Tri-County certainly enjoyed the Valentine Party held at the Yaarab Shrine Center on February 11. The facility was certainly decorated for the occasion and it was a great opportunity to share an evening with the one you love, as well as, the other fine nobles and ladies of Yaarab Shrine.

Unfortunately, along with the excitement of this time of year, we have had some nobles under the weather. We want to extend well wishes to Nobles Jack Rice, Arthur Adams, and Tommy Walker and any other nobles experiencing any illnesses, and hope all continue to improve.

# News from Yaarab Clubs (cont'd)

## Tucker Shrine Club By Bill Messer

Well, off we go into 2017, on our way to greater heights and new adventures.

This year, as in the past, our Divan leaders will strive to work as a Team to insure the future of Yaarab Shrine. Yaarab is but a spoke in the wheel of the Imperial Shrine, and we as Units and Clubs are the spokes in Yaarab's wheel. And as you have heard the old saying, a chain is only as strong as its weakest link. The same is true with our club team. We can't all be quarterbacks and team captains, but we as a team can help each other to not be the spoke that causes the wheel to wobble.

Nobles it is never too early to think about our Shrine Circus. And this year's event will bring new ways of doing things just as past Circuses have. We never know for sure until opening day, that's when we sometimes have to regroup, rethink and respond. So nobles and ladies get up

off that Lazy Boy and come on out to the Yaarab Circus and Carnival, where there is a job for everyone.

Friends we were blessed to gain two new Officers in the Tucker Shrine Club line for this year; a new Chaplain Beau (Bo) Davis, and a new Vice President John Graf (L.O.H.). Welcome aboard nobles. You are a light at the end of our tunnel.

The dreaded **Black Camel** has taken from our ranks this past year. Gone, but not forgotten, are Nobles Horace Beussee, Thomas Dotson, Dennis Moon, and Harry Thurman. Let us keep the families of these nobles in our thoughts and in our prayers. We pray that we can find nobles to replace them.

*"May He who sits as Judge Supreme Be the wind beneath your wings".*

## SPECIAL THANKS FROM 2016 KID'S CHRISTMAS PARTY CHAIRMAN

By Jerry & Doris Brookshire

I have so many people to "thank" for giving of their time for one of Yaarab's greatest Christmas Parties. Friday was the day of wrapping toys and setting everything up. Thanks to Yaarab Shrine for lunch. Saturday was "The Big Day": Santa and Mrs. Claus, toys, bicycles, games, food, ice cream, popcorn, cotton candy, train rides, and jumping bag.

If you missed the party, you missed a lot. Just a few of the cream of Yaarab nobles working together – Cumming Club, South Fulton Club, Director's Staff, Arab Guard Unit, Gwinnett Club, Smyrna Club, Tucker Club, Motor Corp Unit, Provost Guard, Red Devil Clown Unit, Paulding County Club, Oriental Band, and Daughters of the Nile. Thanks to other individuals include: Jerry "Jug Haid" Rogers, Johnny Cosby, and the crew cooking fresh hamburgers and hot dogs, the "Dune Buggy" crew, Santa and Mrs. Claus, plus so many others and you know who you are. The Joy of Giving! Again, thank-you all. To our Sponsors, for toys & bicycles, as well as, so many more – Thank-You.

We hope that the Yaarab's Children Christmas Party will be larger and even better in 2017. If a club or unit wants to help donate toys, it would be appreciated and helpful. The agenda will be: Friday, Dec. 1, 2017 wrapping toys day, and Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017 will be the big day for the party. We will have more bicycles and more toys in 2017, so please put it on your calendar to attend. What a great day it was to see the look on those kids faces and we look forward to that again.

Thanks again, for everyone's help and I hope I didn't leave anyone out. We love ya'll.

Jerry & Doris Brookshire

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# News from Yaarab's Ladies Auxiliaries

## Cedar Valley Shrinettes By Glenda Johnson

We hope all had a very Merry Christmas, and will have a very prosperous New Year.

Our Club is excited about our new Officers and know under the leadership of President Nancy Hamrick, our Club will have a great year.

Several nobles and ladies went to Rock Run, Alabama for a parade, and enjoyed it. We handed out candy and goodie bags for all the children.

Our Club helped two young men for Christmas. This was rewarding for each member to help a child for Christmas.

The New Year is here, and we all need to work and make this another great year for children.

The 75<sup>th</sup> Hospital Kickoff was held January 21, 2017. Several of our nobles and ladies went to Yaarab Shrine Center, and had a joyous time as usual. This is what it is all about, pledges to help Shriners Hospitals for Children.

We wish the Elective Divan and Potentate Danny Huggins a great year.

Our first money project will be an annual Easter bake sale.

Our first snow and ice has come and gone. Oh my, how beautiful it was. I did not like the ice, but fun to change nature for a few days. I enjoyed it for a few days, maybe we will see some more snow soon, I love it!

We hope to add new Shrinettes ladies this year. Cedar Valley has several new nobles. We hope Clubs will visit us this year, we love visitors. Our Club meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Come join us for food and fellowship.

We have sad news in our Club, a noble and lady passed away. We will miss them, and need to keep their families in our prayers. Please keep any noble and ladies who are sick in your prayers, as well.

We need to pray for our new President and his Cabinet, Military, and their families and the good old USA.

## Cher-O-Kettes By Sheri Crowe

The 2017 Officers were elected at the November 2016 meeting. They are as follows: President, Melodie Richards; Vice President, Barbara Hicks; Secretary, Jan Blalock; and Treasurer, Sheri Crowe. Melodie, Barbara, and Jan were installed at the December meeting by Oriental Guide Bruce Ridley since he was there overseeing the election for the Cherokee Officers. Sheri was installed at the January meeting. Barbara, Jan and Sheri are returning Officers and Melodie stepped-up to take the lead since her noble Robbie is serving as the president for Cherokee Club.

Past President Pam Sims was presented a gift from the Cher-O-Kettes by Vice President Barbara Hicks during the January meeting. Members signed a card that was given to Pam, and Barbara expressed on behalf of all the members the appreciation to her for having served in 2016 as the president and what a wonderful job she had done.

Melodie made some appointments during the January

meeting. Sarah Crowe is serving as the chaplain again for 2017; Judy Warren is going to once again head up the sunshine committee by sending out get well cards to members that need uplifted and also continue to send birthday and anniversary cards. Jane Lear, Julie Isom, and Melodie will organize the meals for the meetings. If members have a suggestion for a meal, let one of these ladies know. Sheri was appointed, after volunteering, to be the Cher-O-Kettes Basharat correspondent for the next year.

Due to Yaarab's election and the other events scheduled that day being postponed from January 7 to January 14, because of the weather (that actually did happen in most places in North Georgia), the Cher-O-Kettes luncheon and secret pal reveal scheduled for January 14 was postponed, and will be decided at a later date for rescheduling. Sheri Crowe and Jan Blalock attended Yaarab's election day luncheon, installation, and congratulated the 2017 Divan and their ladies.

Members at the January meeting are looking forward to the upcoming 2017 year with events and activities for the club and Yaarab Shrine. One in the near future is assisting the Cherokee nobles with what is becoming an annual bar-b-que plate fundraising event. The Cher-O-Kettes can be on the lookout for details by email or phone calls for upcoming meetings and events.

## Lanier Shrinettes By Shirley Lothridge

Farewell to 2016 and hello to 2017. The Shrinettes had a great year in 2016 under the tireless leadership of our wonderful President Fay Lindsey and her Officers as follows: Vice President, Virginia Benefield; Secretary, Anne Shubert; Treasurer, Nancy Whitmire; Hospitality, Vivian Conner; and Sunshine, Gennell Kiser. Our ladies were honored with a beautiful "Busy Bee" pen, for their hard work by our President Fay during the Awards Presentation at our Christmas Party. Our Treasurer Nancy presented our President Fay with a lovey gift of silver for her outstanding leadership.

We supported our nobles during their loyal participation in the Yaarab Shrine Parades. We prepared meals for the Shriner membership on meeting nights and decorated the tables for the Nobility Dinner and supported the Shriner Hospitals for Children, community needs, and enjoyed the caring fellowship of each other.

The elected Officers for 2017 are as follows: President, Shirley Lothridge; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Virginia Benefield; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Gennell Kiser; Secretary, Anne Shubert; Treasurer, Nancy Whitmire; Hospitality, Vivian Conner; and Parliamentarian, Fay Lindsey.

We thank Past Potentate Brent Bivens and the First Lady Pam and the Divan for all their hard work for the Shriners Hospitals for Children. We welcome our new Potentate Danny Huggins and his First Lady Dona as we move along in 2017. Let us all work toward a great year for the Yaarab Shrine.

Continued on page 42

# News from Yaarab's Ladies Auxiliaries (cont'd)

We pray God's blessings upon each and every Shriner, active and inactive, and especially for all ladies of the Yaarab Shrine Clubs.

We hope you have a happy, healthy and prosperous 2017.

## Paulding County Shrine Ladies By Amber Guy

We held our elections and want to recognize our new Officers for the 2017 year. They are as follows: President, Joyce Roberts; Vice President, Doris Lance; Treasurer, Betty Clark; and Secretary, Amber Guy. We would like to extend a very huge thank you to all of the ladies who have been supporting the club all these years. We look forward to growing it with the new members to come.

Paulding County "Shrine Lady of the Year 2016" goes to Sherry Stuart. We are so proud and thankful for all of her hard work. Thank you for all you have done, and what you will continue to do for our club.

We met at Yaarab Shrine and participated in the Ladies Luncheon, held at the Georgian Terrace. It was a wonderful time, with great company and fellowship. We look forward to going again next year.

## Rome Shrine Ladies By Peggy Sims

Congratulations to our new Potentate Danny Huggins and First Lady Dona. We are excited to work with you this year.

We held our annual election and the following are the new Officers for 2017: President, Peggy Sims; Vice-President, Lawonia Bagley; Secretary, Rhonda Bailiff; and Treasurer, Margaret Stewart.

The Officers look forward to working with each member to accomplish many good things this year. It is always the goal of the ladies to support the nobles in their endeavor to raise money for the Shriners Hospitals for Children to help burned and disabled children.

Our main fundraiser is the Belks Charity Sale held in May and November. It will be great if each member participates in this sale to make it even more successful than the past years.

Our first meeting in 2017, will be held March 2, at 7:00 p.m. at the clubhouse. All wives, widows and dependent daughters 18 years or older are invited to join our organization. We look forward to seeing you on this date.

Happy Birthday wishes to: Mary Rosson February 2, Mary Helen McGregor February 10, Freddie Anderson February 23, Nadine Headrick February 28, and Sue Guice March 26.

Our prayers go out to Martha Kemp and her family in the recent passing of Noble Joe Kemp. He was a very dedicated Shriner and worked hard for burned and disabled children. We will

truly miss Joe.

Please keep Larry Rickard's family in your prayers. Larry passed away this week. He was also a very hard working Shriner. We will also miss Larry.

Carol Godfrey had emergency surgery to remove her appendix and is recovering very well. Glenda Voyles had a blood vessel to rupture behind her ear that has caused temporary loss of hearing in her right ear. She is now being treated for this problem. Beth Trimble had back surgery and recovering at home. Nancy Mount had pneumonia and broke a rib when she coughed. She is getting better. Linda Fricks began chemo treatment recently. Betty Stewart, Mary Helen McGregor and Nadine Headrick have been battling the flu. Lawonia Bagley is having back problems. Please continue to keep these members in your prayers.



pictured right to left: Peggy Sims - President, Lawonia Bagley - Vice-President, Rhonda Bailiff - Secretary, Margaret Stewart - Treasurer

## Sweetwater Swirls By Debi Harris

We held our election for 2017 Officers at our December meeting. Our new Officers for 2017 are: President, Pam Scheib; Vice President, Michelle Eads; Treasurer and Correspondence Secretary, Linda Mitchell; and Recording Secretary, Debi Harris. Past Potentate J.D. Mitchell was on hand to swear us in. We had a great year. We were able to write a check for \$15,500.00 to the Rehabilitation Center at Shriners Hospitals for Children - Cincinnati. Our goal for 2017 is to top that amount.

We had our first meeting of the year at the Logan's Roadhouse in Douglasville. We are already discussing fundraisers and at the time of this writing, it looks like we'll be raffling one of the large Big Green Eggs!

I would like to remind all the wives of the Sweetwater nobles that we meet the first Thursday of every month, usually at a local restaurant or at the clubhouse. Please feel free to contact Pam Scheib or myself to find out where we are meeting, if you would like to attend. We'd love to see you there!

**G.W. ROBINSON  
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# FROM THE SHRINE OFFICE

## Recently Known Deaths

32271	Frank Junior Collett Cumming, Georgia June 26, 1940 – Nov. 1, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine June 23, 1984	25467	June 21, 1945 – June 5, 2015 Created at Yaarab Shrine Dec. 13, 1980
36377	Russell Franklin Dickey Dallas, Georgia March 4, 1942 – September 14, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine Dec. 10, 1994	15552	Jack Cecil Wade Conyers, Georgia August 20, 1937 – October 23, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine Dec. 8, 1971
17925	Edgar Sewell Gann Carrollton, Georgia June 15, 1929 – October 25, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine June 15, 1960	39385	Raymond Edsel Walden Stockbridge, Georgia October 31, 1929 – May 20, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine Dec. 16, 1953
36100	Jerry Lee Huffman Conyers, Georgia September 20, 1946 – Nov. 14, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine Dec. 10, 1994	29784	Ollie Lee Barnett Stone Mountain, Georgia July 30, 1925 – December 2, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine Mar. 1, 2005
40770	Dennis Eugene Lane Duluth, Georgia March 26, 1947 – January 30, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine Nov. 14, 2015	12662	Thomas Douglas Dotson Cumming, Georgia July 25, 1940 – December 12, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine Dec. 14, 1977
23740	William Thomas McElwee Cedartown, Georgia November 2, 1937 – June 2, 2015 Created at Yaarab Shrine Dec. 10, 1969	20814	Jackson V. Edmonson Pinellas Park, Florida June 19, 1918 – December 9, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine June 15, 1948
38793	Joe D. Moon Stone Mountain, Georgia July 30, 1934 – November 16, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine Jun. 15, 2002	26796	Eugene Lewis Frady Mount Airy, Georgia March 2, 1929 – January 7, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine Dec. 8, 1965
35787	Charles Kenneth Morris Crescent City, Florida February 17, 1938 – June 5, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine June 11, 1994	40603	Joe Neil Kemp Rome, Georgia July 31, 1932 – December 29, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine June 30, 1973
30113	Douglas Melvin Nix Meansville, Georgia February 22, 1935 – January 28, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine Jan 1, 1990	34393	Wilfred Louis Sommer Gainesville, Georgia July 26, 1936 – December 20, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine April 1, 2014
22562	Samuel Frederick Schlesinger Buford, Georgia April 2, 1931 – November 9, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine June 12, 1968		Joel Wilks White LaGrange, Georgia February 26, 1938 – December 19, 2016 Created at Yaarab Shrine June 17, 1989
31152	Charles Dennis Vinson Tignall, Georgia		

# FROM THE SHRINE OFFICE

## Recorders Report for November 2016

	Regular Membership	Associate Membership	Total
Membership, November 1, 2016	3479	29	3508
Created/Added	12	-	12
Affiliated	-	-	-
Restored	2	-	2
Demitted/Dropped	(3)	-	(4)
Suspended	-	-	-
Deaths	(13)	-	(13)
Net change	(2)	-	(2)
Membership, November 30, 2016	3477	29	3506

## Recorders Report for December 2016

	Regular Membership	Associate Membership	Total
Membership, December 1, 2016	3477	29	3506
Created/Added	7	-	7
Affiliated	3	-	3
Restored	3	-	3
Demitted/Dropped	(5)	-	(5)
Suspended	(179)	-	(179)
Deaths	(7)	-	(7)
Net change	(178)	-	(178)
Membership, December 31, 2016	3299	29	3328

# FROM THE SHRINE OFFICE

## November/December Hospital Trip Report

Driver	Temple #	Greenville, SC	Cincinnati, OH	St. Louis, MO
Wendell Boss	30838	1	1	
Seth Carter	40425	1		
Ron Avery	33910		1	
Junior Carter	40254	2		
Michael Ramey	40504		1	
Eric Beavers	40299	1		
Tom Oliver	39663	1		
Ben Baker	39439	1		
Billy Deal	37511		1	
Marty Bruce	40261	1		
Bob Dean	35068	1		
Wayne Shelnut	36234	3	2	
Bill Underdown	30167	2		
Bob Anderson	39740	2		
Chuck Clark	30165	1		
Junior Carter	40254	1		
Larry Gore	39651	1		
Bobby Savage	35108	2		
Matt Greer	39439	1		
Randy McCaslin	38949	1		
Bill Morgan	37357	1		
Jim Marshall	40492		1	
Bob Smith	38678	1		
Jimmie Spurlin	34050	1		
Mike Young	35828	1		
Emmett Orr	27695	1		
Keith Parker	40430	1		
Harold Atkinson	35849	1		
Warren Shore	25052	1		
Gordon Tatum	30023	2		
Bill Wise	28143	1	1	
Total Patients		20	4	

**24 Trips. 34 Drivers.**

**Thank You Nobles, We Appreciate You!**



Yaarab Shrine Center  
400 Ponce de Leon Ave., NE  
Atlanta, GA 30308



**GMC**



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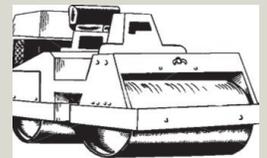
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