



# SALADIN NEWS

Issue 4, 2018 - Kick-Off Edition - Saladin Shriners - Grand Rapids, MI

## Join us January 5th for Installation

*Ill. Sir Harry Jones and his officers to be installed January 5th, 2019 at the Grand Rapids Masonic Temple*

January 5th, 2019 will be a wonderful day for Saladin Shriners. Ill. Sir Harry Jones will be installed as our 118th Potentate. Ill. Sir Harry's enthronement will be preceded by a social hour beginning at 2:00 pm followed by the Annual Meeting of Saladin Shriners at 3:00 pm. Shriners and their ladies will enjoy another social hour at 3:30 pm culminating in the public installation at 4:30 pm. The installation will be followed with more social time and a dinner served at 6:00 pm. Please RSVP your attendance to the Saladin Offices by calling 616-942-1570 or emailing [skopec@saladinshrine.com](mailto:skopec@saladinshrine.com)

### 2019 Officers Elect

- Ill. Sir Harry Jones - Potentate
- Dale Kramer - Chief Rabban
- Jeff Gooder - Assistant Rabban
- Pat Rajewski - High Priest and Prophet
- Ryan Hardy - Oriental Guide
- Ill. Sir Jon Duley - Treasurer
- Rick Williams - Recorder

*Please note dress for the installation is semi-formal*

Saladin Shrine invites you to the  
118th Saladin Shrine  
*Open Installation of Officers*  
Saturday, January 5th, 2019  
Grand Rapids Masonic Temple  
233 East Fulton St., Grand Rapids, MI 49503

2:00 to 2:45	Hors d'Oeuvres and Social Hour
3:00 to 3:30	Annual Meeting (Shriners only)
3:30 to 4:15	Social Hour
4:30 to 5:15	Installation (Open to Public)
5:15 to 6:00	Social Hour
6:00	Dinner

RSVP to Sara in the Saladin Office by calling 616-942-1570

Dress Tuxedo for Saladin Officers  
All others Semi Formal

*Harry H. Jones, Potentate Elect*



**2019 VALENTINE DINNER & PARTY  
FEBRUARY 9, 2019 - TICKETS \$50**

**THIS EVENT IS SOLD OUT!**

**GET ON THE WAITING LIST BY CALLING  
(616) 942-1570 OR EMAIL [SKOPEC@SALADINSHRINE.COM](mailto:SKOPEC@SALADINSHRINE.COM)**

# From the Potentate-Elect

Fellow Nobles,

I AM COMMITTED NOW, RU?

Thank you for your vote of confidence as Saladin's 178th Potentate. It has been an incredible four years for me as I served on the Divan, traveled to the Imperial conferences, GLSA conferences, visited our hospitals and represented Saladin at the many parades and other events. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our members and renewing old friendships.

The growth of our Saladin Shrine is one of our most important goals for 2019. As your Potentate elect, I am challenging you to join Imperial in making 2019 a year of commitment to Recruiting new members, Retention of our current members and Restoration of members who have left Saladin.

This starts with each of us bringing in a prospective new mason.....our lodges must grow so that we can invite our Masonic brothers to become Shriners. We all remember the adage, "in order to be one you have to ask one." Now if you feel someone would be a good Mason, you should ask them! Commit to bringing in a new Mason to your lodge and to introducing them to Saladin. One of the most effective ways to share Saladin's mission of supporting our Children's Hospitals while having fun is to invite your prospective member and his family to join our Friday social where they can meet your Divan and their ladies and many of the active nobles and their ladies. We will also be continuing the "mini ceremonials" during our Friday socials. I am also recommitting the Divan to "taking the socials on the road". Call me and we will put your club on the schedule.

What a year it has been!! We have had great activities under the leadership of our Illustrious Sir Jonathan Duley, many of which I will continue in 2019. Plans are already underway for our Valentine Day dinner, the Lake Michigan cruise on the Holland Princess, the pig roast and the Potentate's Ball.

Your Divan is looking forward to representing you in 2019. Join us in our goal to have fun as a temple, increase our attendance at functions, have more Shriners showing off their Fez at other club activities including parades, gun raffles, turkey shoots, attending clubs and unit meetings. Please make attending our Stated Meetings and Ceremonials a priority. Bring your lady! We



*Our 2019 Potentate-Elect, Ill. Sir Harry Jones, and his lady Lyn will be installed on January 5, 2019 in Grand Rapids.*

are including the ladies in lunch before our meetings and the Divan Ladies have scheduled activities for the ladies while we are in our meetings. Join us for the first Friday social on February 4th and the Installation and Stated Meeting on January 5th. Together, let's Honor the Past and Embrace the Future of Saladin.

Yours in brotherhood,  
Harry H, Jones, Potentate Elect

## Some Important Dates for 2019

- January 5 - Annual Meeting and Installation
- February 9 - Valentine's Dinner and Party
- March 16 - Stated Meeting
- May 11 - Stated Meeting and Pig Roast
- June 15 - Holland Princess Cruise
- Sept 18-21 - Great Lakes Shrine Association
- Sept 28 - Stated Meeting
- Oct 12 - Annual Ceremonial
- Oct 26 - Potentate's Ball
- Nov 7-10 - Grand Rapids Circus
- Dec 7 - Stated Meeting and Elections

# Chief Rabban-Elect Is Planning For a Great Year in 2019

Greetings Nobles,

What a great Shrine year it has been! If you can't name at least three events that were first rate and a lot of fun then maybe you weren't involved. Your Divan has been and will continue to be dedicated to providing first class social events big and small. If you have been participating and have had a great time, **DON'T KEEP IT A SECRET!** Bring a fellow Shriner, Mason, or someone who might make a good Mason along with his lady to our next public event. I have it on good authority that our newly elected Potentate has an action packed calendar laid out for 2019

Did you have fun at the GLSA annual communication? If this was your first multi temple event and you enjoyed it there will be two great opportunities, the first will be the 2019

Imperial Session in Nashville, TN  
<https://imperial2019.com>  
 And GLSA in OH  
<http://www.greatlakesshrineassociation.org/>  
 Are you involved in the clubs and units that are active in your local area? Do you have fun supporting our philanthropy? Well I invite you to share that and I can think of no better way than at a Friday social and at our stated meetings. Mark your calendars and make the drive to our next temple event.

Speaking of sharing, send us your stories and pictures I am sure we can find room on our social media sites to share your story.

Lady Carol and I are looking forward to the 2019 Shrine year. I consider it a privilege to serve on the Divan and a Great Honor as your Chief Rabban.



*Our Chief Rabban-Elect, Noble Dale Kramer, and his lady Carol*

Fraternally,  
 Dale Kramer  
 Chief Rabban (Elect)

# High Priest-Elect to Visit More Clubs and Units in 2019

Greetings Nobles,

My year as Oriental Guide went way quicker than I thought. I am very happy that you elected me into that position and I hope to do as well or better this year serving you as High Priest and Prophet. Again, this year I hope to get to more clubs than I did last year. I will start with some that I missed and then visit some that I was at last year again. Looking forward to later this year being at the circus since last year I was at OG training when the circus was happening. Participation in activities for the temple, clubs and units is essential to us having another great year. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at various activities going on this year. Lady Kathy and I hope you have a Merry Christmas, Chanukah and Happy New Year.



*Our High Priest and Prophet-Elect Pat Rajewski and his lady Kathy look forward to visiting several clubs and units in 2019.*

## SALADIN NEWS

Grand Rapids, MI

**4 ISSUES A YEAR PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF SALADIN SHRINERS**

233 East Fulton St, Suite 102  
 Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
 PH:(616) 942-1570 FAX:(616) 942-6374  
 Hours: 9:30 am to 4:00 pm, Mon-Friday  
[www.saladinshrine.com](http://www.saladinshrine.com)

For Information concerning Shriners Hospitals for Children, call

**1-800-237-5055**

or

**(616) 942-1570 (ask for Judy)**

All articles or comments should be directed to the Editor - [Recorder@saladinshrine.com](mailto:Recorder@saladinshrine.com)

If you would like to provide a photo for our "Around the Temple" section, please contact the Editor for desired photo specifications.

# Chief Aide Begins the Divan Journey with O.G. Election

Hello Nobles,  
I am very grateful for your trust, support, and the opportunity to be Oriental Guide for 2019. We had a great year in 2018 and we have so much to look forward to in 2019. I have learned so much about the people and inner workings of Saladin this year and I will bring that knowledge with me to support the Divan in all efforts and events next year. I decided to run for the Divan this fall because I felt so much ownership as Chief Aide that I wanted to increase my involvement to continue to support a Temple that has done so much in the service of children. The responsibility of Oriental Guide is something that I am very much looking forward to, and I will make sure to use this year as a learning opportunity to soak up more information to make myself better prepared to serve the Nobility. Even though

I have not been a Shriner for very long, my dedication to fraternal organizations that work in the service of others runs deep in my life. I have been a Brother to Sigma Pi Fraternity International since 2006 and served as the Chapter Director after graduating college during the years of 2009-2014. I have been a part of many fundraising and educational efforts with Sigma Pi Fraternity, which I will bring with me to help increase the support that we provide to the Shriners Hospitals for Children. I look forward to meeting all of you as I begin this journey on the Divan and further increasing my service to what we all want, care for those who cannot care for themselves.

Respectfully,  
Ryan M. Hardy.  
Oriental Guide-Elect



*Oriental Guide-Elect Ryan Hardy with Imperial Sir Gary Bergenske (2017-2018 Imperial Potentate) at the 2018 East-West Shrine Game.*

## News from Around the Temple...

### *New Saladin Petition Includes Comprehensive Background Investigation*

As many of you learned at our September Stated Meeting, a routine background investigation completed as part of a Noble's request to become a volunteer hospital driver turned up a number of questionable items in the Noble's past including 4 Felony convictions, 2 for violent assaults and 2 for fraud, as well as other misdemeanor convictions. Further investigation suggested the matters were not adequately disclosed to his Blue Lodge or the Shrine during the petitioning process. As the Shrine had no existing power to enforce a standard that exists at the Blue Lodge level, the Potentate did provide the relevant in-

formation related to the brother to the Grand Master of Masons in Michigan and the Grand Master took no action that would allow Saladin to remove him from our rolls or otherwise address the matter. Therefore he is still a member of Saladin Shriners. As a result of this event, the Saladin Board of Directors voted to adopt a new Shrine petition (included in this issue of the News). It includes a portion providing for a comprehensive background investigation of each petitioner to Saladin Shriners. All future petitions for initiation, affiliation and restoration will require this portion to be completed by the candidate. Though this is a matter previously entrusted to the Blue Lodges in our jurisdiction, the aforementioned incident necessitates this action on Saladin's part. Please contact the Recorder with any questions you have. Any petitions turned in that do not include this portion will be incomplete until a signed release is received.

### *Potentate and Chief Rabban declare 2019 Minis*

Ill. Sir Jonathan Duley and Ill. Sir Harry Jones have called for the following mini-ceremonial dates in 2019 to occur concurrently with our Friday Fellowships: Feb 1, Mar 1, April 5, May 3, June 7, Aug 2, Sept 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6. The mini-ceremonials held on the preceding dates will occur at 7:00 pm in the 6th floor Shrine Club Room in the Grand Rapids Masonic Temple at 233 East Fulton St, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

### *Charitable Gaming to Increase in 2019*

Based on the success we had in 2018 with licensed charitable gaming events, The Board of Directors has plans for numerous licensed fundraisers to coincide with our events throughout 2019. Get ready to have some fun and support the Temple!

# Closing Message from 2018 Potentate Jon Duley

Dear Nobles,

5 years is a long time. It was about that long ago that I sat up in bed late one night trying to figure out what I would write for my first Saladin News article after having just been elected as OG and just getting back from my first trip to Florida for the East West Game. So much has happened during those 5 years, and I can't even begin to thank you all enough for your support both in being a member of the Divan and in my personal life. During these last 5 years, I've learned so much about patience, trust, treating people with kindness, recognizing the work of others who have been in this position, and the value of being humble (which is not always my strong suit!). For me, the fez has turned into a symbol of thanks. Being a Shriner and serving on the Divan has given me far more than I could ever give back, but I will endeavor to return the favor by continuing to reach out to kids and families who need our help.

So many memories from the last 5 years fill my mind as I reflect on my time as a Saladin officer, but the most impactful ones are the ones where I've reached out to a student who clearly was in need of our help. 3 of my students, one of my student's own child, and now a camper I met from the Mary Free Bed Wheelchair Sports Camp have all benefitted from our work, and it warms my heart to know that I had a very small part in that process. If you haven't had that opportunity to be the one who initiates that process, I highly encourage you to keep your eyes open because there is no greater feeling than helping a child in need.

The Black Camel has taken so many nobles in these 5 years. Our fraternity continues to shrink in numbers, but the reality is that we have some incredible momentum right now. Even though we've lost some really good men along the way, we still do our work with their memory in mind. The quality of Saladin Shrine is something that would make our predecessors very proud, and we will continue to thrive because of our commitment to the future. After all, without the fun side of the Shrine, the philanthropic side would greatly suffer. We are a great organization because of the people who are involved, and if we continue to bring in great people, we will continue down this path.

As I turn this final page of this chapter in my life, there are a few people I'd like to openly and personally thank. Rick Williams and Ill. Jonathan Clifford asked me to join the Shrine and then asked me to consider running for the Divan. If it weren't for them, I would not have met so many wonderful people and had all these incredible experiences. Sara Kopec in the Saladin office has been an enormous help in all of our events since she joined us. Without Sara's help, most of the major functions we've all enjoyed would not have been possible. Ryan Hardy, the 2018 Chief Aid, has been an incredible "right hand man" this year, and without his commitment to excellence, we would not have been able to enjoy our events so easily. His work behind the scenes was unbelievably valuable. Bart Levan has



*Jonathan Duley - Potentate 2018*

always been a rock of advice for me, and even though there were a couple times I didn't take his advice, the sentiments he expressed were always well thought out and respected. He always helped me look at both sides of a scenario. Jason Fongers, the 2018 Shriner of the Year, has always been there to help no matter what. There was never once a time when I reached out for help that he said no. Jason is the kind of Shriner and friend that is irreplaceable. The current Divan, plus Jonathan Clifford, Bill Martindale, and Dan Soullier, have been great teammates. We have all been through a lot together, but we never wavered. They stayed focused on what mattered and never let the inevitable politics of any fraternity cloud their judgement. John Keyser, Jim Cobianco, Norm Keller, Fred Leonard, Ron Redner, Jerry Kirbis, and Billy King were always cheering me on. Without these nobles' words of encouragement, the toughest times in the Divan would have been much harder to get through. When discouraging emails or phone calls would come in, I could always count on these guys to help lift my spirits and see the brighter side. Thank you all.

And now, as I finish my final article for the Saladin News, I'd like to simply say thank you to you all. I wish all of you the very best, and I look forward to seeing you all at our meetings, events, and functions.

With much love and respect,

Jon

**SALADIN LADIES CORNER...** OUR WEBSITE: [SaladinShrineLadies2019](http://SaladinShrineLadies2019)

**SALADIN SHRINERS**

*Invites you to the 118<sup>th</sup>*

*Saladin Shriners*

*Open Installation of Officers*

**Saturday, January 5, 2019**

*Grand Rapids Masonic Center*

*233 E. Fulton Street*

*Grand Rapids, Michigan*

*2:00 to 2:45: Finger Food and Attitude Adjustment*

*3:00 to 3:30: Meeting (Shriners only)*

*3:30 to 4:15: Attitude Adjustment*

**Installation (Open to the Public)**

**4:30 to 5:00**

*5:00 to 6:00: Happy Hour*

*6:00: Dinner*

**RSVP**

*Dress: Tuxedo for Saladin Officers -- All others Semi Formal*

\* \* \* \*

Thanks to the ladies who have attended our Saladin Shriner Ladies' social events this year and made 2018 fun and successful. How wonderful all the ladies looked in their Great Gatsby attire at Illustrious Sir Jon's Potentate's Ball. It was an incredible evening with a great band, dancing and super food and what atmosphere!!

We are planning a great 2019. Please join us for the Installation of Officers on January 5<sup>th</sup>. On February 9<sup>th</sup> Saladin is planning "*An Evening in Paris*" theme for our Valentine's Dinner. We also look forward to having you join us for our 2019 Saladin Ladies' activities. Happy Holidays and we'll see you in 2019.

Lady Lyn (Harry Jones, Potentate Elect)

[lynjoneshome@gmail.com](mailto:lynjoneshome@gmail.com)

Divan Ladies:

Lady Carol (Dale Kramer)

Lady Amy (Jeff Gooder)

Lady Kathy (Patrick Rajewski)





# PETITION FOR INITIATION AND MEMBERSHIP

## SALADIN SHRINERS

233 East Fulton St, Suite 102, Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
www.saladinshrine.com - (616) 942-1570

TO THE POTENTATE, OFFICERS AND NOBLES OF SALADIN SHRINERS, SITUATED  
IN THE CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS, STATE OF MICHIGAN.

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that I am a Master Mason in \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge  
No. \_\_\_\_\_ Located at \_\_\_\_\_ (city) \_\_\_\_\_ (state)  
which meets the recognition standards of the Conference of Grand Masters in North America, Interamerican Masonic Confederation or the  
World Conference of Grand Lodges. Furthermore, I have resided at my current address for not less than 6 months, as required by the Bylaws  
of Shriners International. I hereby make application to become a Noble of the Order and a member of your temple. If granted membership, I  
promise to conform to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of Shriners International and the Bylaws and Ceremonies of your temple.

Have you previously applied for admission to any temple of the Order?  Yes  No

If yes, what temple? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

Were you ever a DeMolay?  Yes  No

If yes, what Chapter? (name and location) \_\_\_\_\_

Profession / Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Residence \_\_\_\_\_  
*Number and Street County City State Zip*

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Business \_\_\_\_\_  
*Number and Street County City State Zip*

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address - Please use  Residence  Business

Name of Spouse / Lady \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

### RECOMMENDED BY:

NOBLE \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER NO. \_\_\_\_\_

NOBLE \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Fez Size \_\_\_\_\_ Method of payment \_\_\_\_\_

Creation Fee With Fez - \$290 / Creation Fee with Candidate or Club providing Fez - \$150

# Background Information

All petitioners must complete this portion of the application in full. The Nobility of Saladin Shriners will be made aware of any petitioner refusing to complete the entire petition prior to the time it is balloted on.

Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor?

Yes

No

Ever granted a diversion / deferred prosecution?

Yes

No

If you answered yes to either question list the year, charge, city & state as well as the result:

By signing this consent form, I acknowledge that I will be subject to a comprehensive criminal background check and I authorize Shriners International, its members, employees, agents and assigns, as well as the temple to which I submit this petition, its members, employees, agents and assigns to investigate my background. I understand that this investigation will be used to determine my suitability for membership in the Shrine fraternity, and in exchange for consideration of membership, I consent to this background investigation and agree to hold harmless Shriners International, its members, employees, agents and assigns, as well as the temple to which I submit this petition, its members, employees, agents and assigns, from any and all claims, damages, liabilities, costs, expenses, or any other action arising from searching for, retrieving, or reviewing any information obtained, and further that I hereby waive my right to bring any cause of action against the temple, its officers, members or Shriners International, its officers or members, for defamation, invasion of privacy, or any other cause of action arising from their investigation and/or decision.

Date \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_