

# SALADIN NEWS

Issue 2, 2013

July - Aug - Sept Edition

Saladin Shriners - Grand Rapids, MI

## Aug. 17 - Save the Date!

Saladin Shrine Stated Meeting and Cookout @ Saladin Shrine Center

**WHO:** You (and your lady)

**WHAT:** Business first - then a party!

**WHEN:** Stated Meeting @ Noon, Cookout will follow

**WHERE:** Saladin Shrine Center in Grand Rapids

**WHY:** Get an update on Temple business and enjoy Shriner fellowship.

## Saladin Asks - Why are you a Shriner?

Nobles of Saladin,

What more can we say than we have had a great year so far. The Grand Rapids Circus experienced sellout crowds. Our Valentine's Dinner in Grand Rapids and Henderson Castle Murder Mystery in Kalamazoo were both

amazing events for Shriners and ladies. Finally, we initiated 15 new Shriners at our Spring Ceremonial. You might say things are looking up for Saladin.

Our Treasurer tells us the books are looking good for 2013. The Recorder has reported on several new initiatives

See WHY A SHRINER Page 9



The Recorder and the Oriental Guide having some fun with our newest Shriners

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Advertise now  
in the Saladin  
News!

## From the Potentate...

The Imperial session is over and there is some news. The representatives voted to permit the state of Arkansas, AND ONLY THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, to admit non-Masons into the Shrine. This action was taken out of necessity as the Grand Master of that state refused to consider any resolution of the issue short of the Shrine becoming a subservient body of his Grand lodge. Only time will tell what will become of this issue on a national scale.

Parade season is here and lady Carla and I try to attend as many as possible. There are pedometers that Noble John Carpenter picked up from Kellogg's and any unit or club that would like to pass them out please contact the Temple. The men's and ladies shirts, as well as children's shirts are also available at the Temple. Men's shirts are \$45.00 and the Ladies shirts are \$35.00. Children's shirts are \$6.00 each and say, "Proud my dad is a Shriner" and "Proud my Grampa is a Shriner."

Next up is the paper sale in August. The Battle Creek Shrine Club has run this event for a number of years and it was my hope that other clubs would participate in this project so that we could have a jurisdiction-wide event. That has not happened as we have received no contact from the clubs or units concerning this event. It is my intention to send copies of their papers to all of the clubs and units to let them see what this is all about so that we can give this project another go next year.

There will be a stated meeting on August 17th beginning at noon and we will have a cookout following the meeting. Please invite friends and potential candidates to the cookout. We will supply the meat, buns and condiments as well as the drinks. If you can, please bring a dish to pass. If anyone has a croquet set, please bring it. I have been looking for one and can't seem to find one. Depending on the turnout, we may also play a friendly game of "family feud" between the men



*Scott Sanford - Potentate 2013  
with his Lady Carla*

and the women, or club vs. club!

We are still looking for a theme for our next party. All of your suggestions are appreciated. Remember, we are here to serve you and want to put on events that interest our members. Halloween costume party anyone? Please let lady Carla know if you have any ideas! We are looking at October for this event.

In closing, I would like to thank all of those who traveled to Indianapolis for the Imperial Session. Carla and I were so happy to see you all there. A special thank you to Chief Aide Greg Kiander and his Lady Nicole for all of their hard work and sacrifice. It would not have been the same without you! Enjoy the rest of the summer and please get out to the parades! Even if you are not in a unit, it is important that you come out and show your support for Saladin by wearing your fez and cheering us on. Ladies, there is always room on a unit's float, so come out and get involved!!

See you soon!

## Saladin Ladies Shirts

Just in time for Parade Season!

These beautiful Cutter & Buck shirts are made from DryTec™ moisture wicking fabric.

The perfect thing to keep you cool and dry at those parades this summer.

Order yours from the Office:  
Price \$35 - Sizes M, L, XL, XXL  
(616) 942-1570 ext 100



Editorial Without Words  
"Shrine Ladies Care for Kids"



# Fifteen Nobles Created at the Saladin Spring Ceremonial

Fifteen brother Master Masons crossed the sands of the dessert and became our newest Shriners on April 20th. The day began as all our meetings do with the meeting of old friends and the making of new ones.

Lunch was served to all Shriners, candidates and ladies. We received a presentation on the Shriners Hospitals for Children with a moving speech given by Saladin Noble Gary Brandt, whose child has received care through the Chicago Hospital. The talk was concluded with the presentation of a \$100,000 gift from the Nobles of Saladin Shrine to the Cincinnati Shriners Hospital.

The candidates were excused for our Stated Meeting and later returned where they completed the 1st Section of our Ceremonial. We are pleased to say the fun did not end there as the candidates returned to the Ballroom where our Directors Staff conducted the first 'Second Section' that has been performed in some years at Saladin. There was a great deal of laughter and good times had by all.

If you missed this Stated and Ceremonial, do not miss the Fall where we plan to take things up another notch and really show everyone a great time. We welcome our newest Nobles and hope they are proud to wear the Fez. Nobles that are interested in assisting in the first or second section of the ceremonial should contact a Divan member or call the Saladin Recorder's Office.



## Saladin's Newest Nobles

### Noble's Name - Profession

- 1) Jon Duley - Teacher
- 2) Jason Fongers - Barista
- 3) Roger Hekstra - Contractor
- 4) Craig Cloud - Retired Coast Guard
- 5) Rich Wolf - Consultant
- 6) Dennis Padla M.D. - Physician
- 7) John Sandmann - Barber
- 8) Andrew McNay - Telephone Repair
- 9) Steve Zimmerman - Insurance
- 10) Ryan Powers - Chief Financial Officer
- 11) Ron Linstrom - Fire Fighter
- 12) Bernard Idziak - Maintenance Tech
- 13) Matthew Miller - Industrial Chemist
- 14) Timothy Berndt - Psychologist
- \*15) Eric Eishen - Bank President

\*not pictured

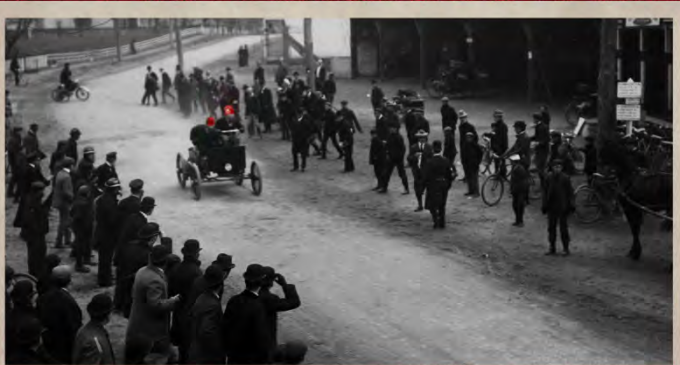
### Top Line Signer

- Rick Williams  
Rick Williams  
Rick Williams  
Roger Gregory  
Rick Williams  
Scott Sanford  
Scott Sanford  
Rick Williams  
Rick Williams  
Rick Williams  
Thomas Frederick  
Rick Williams  
Rick Williams  
Douglas Berndt  
Larry Rosenberg

### 2nd Line Signer

- Jonathan Clifford  
Jonathan Clifford  
Jonathan Clifford  
Ronald Wilson  
Jonathan Clifford  
Ron Ravitch  
Ron Ravitch  
Jonathan Clifford  
Jonathan Clifford  
Jonathan Clifford  
Gary Doig  
Jonathan Clifford  
Jonathan Clifford  
Thomas Frederick  
James McNeil

## GREAT MOMENTS IN FEZ HISTORY



In the fall of 1898 the Fez inadvertently sets a new land speed record atop Shriners Glenet Wilson and Reuben Simmons. It was later reported that Simmons had over slept and the two were "trying to make up time on the road" en route to the Shriners meeting.

All historical accounts have been fabricated. This is just for fun.



Saladin Shriners

## Saladin Premiers 'Great Moments'

Every Shriner enjoys a good laugh. We have had our thinking caps on and have dreamed up some new public relations items you will start seeing in print and social media circles. One of those items includes our recently premiered 'Great Moments in Fez History.'

The humor will mainly address fabricated famous moments where the Saladin Fez might have been captured in photo or film. We're hoping the deadpan nature of the humor will make you laugh a little and maybe draw attention to a lighter side of Saladin as they make their way across Shrinedom. We are hoping a few of them might be funny enough to go viral on Facebook or Twitter.

# Oriental Guide asks - Why did you join the Shrine?

Why did you join the Shrine?

In early March, Shriners International held the Oriental Guide School in Tampa, Florida. Oriental Guides from across the country were in attendance to learn leadership skills and the responsibilities expected of Divan members. There were presentations and discussions ranging from legal concerns to membership tools. One simple tip for new membership development that was presented was to talk with potential candidates about why you joined the Shrine rather than what the Shrine does. By sharing your story, candidates will inevitably hear about what the Shrine does but will also be able to better see

themselves as Shriners with the opportunity to have similar experiences.

In order to develop some local membership material for new candidates, I would like to ask all of the Nobility for your stories about the Shrine. Why did you join the Shrine? What is your best memory or experience of the Shrine? Please feel free to email me at:

[jonathan.d.clifford@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.d.clifford@gmail.com)

write to me at the Temple or simply talk to me when our paths cross. Your assistance will help to develop new membership and preserve the history and legacy of Saladin.



**Jonathan Clifford - Oriental Guide 2013**

*(Jonathan married his Lady Anna on July 6th. Make sure to congratulate him when you see him.)*

## Treasurer reports on finances and building sale

We are well on our way to a most successful year. The circuses are done and the Grand Rapids event came in way over expectations- net income was 40% above budget. The Kalamazoo, Battle Creek and Muskegon shows were also successful. Congratulations to all our Nobles who worked so hard to bring about this success.

Onion sales were strong, and appears to have produced income in excess of budget projections, but as of this writing, we have not received the final bill from Georgia.

Parade season has begun, and the units and clubs are in full swing, with a very active schedule for the next couple of months. First lady Carla has a supply of parade shirts for the ladies and kids to wear in the parades, so if you haven't had a chance to get your lady hers yet, please contact your club/unit secretary or Robyn at the Temple.

In addition the \$210,000 given to the hospitals by the Saladin Shrine

Foundation for Children, the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Clubs donated yet another \$10,000.00 to Chicago in May. I don't think you're going to find another Temple who can report such generosity, and we should all be proud of our Temple and each other.

We continue to keep in our budget, expense wise, and we are comfortably ahead of income projections thus far this year. We were aided by the initiation of 15 new Nobles in April, and are anticipating at least that many more come October.

Let's all work on bringing in some new blood, the addition of new members not only revitalizes the activities of the Temple, but also brings in new revenue.

At the July 2 Kentwood city commission meeting, the proposed zoning change for our property was voted down 3-2. That decision effectively kills our sale. It is not clear why the proposal failed, as the zoning board voted unanimously to approve the change. The buyer had altered the

proposed site plan over twenty times to accommodate the City's requests

So we are back to square one. The good news is that the real estate market here has really picked up and we have had some inquiries recently from other real estate agents. Stay Tuned!

**-Dave Neff**  
*Treasurer*  
[neffam@aol.com](mailto:neffam@aol.com)

### Dues Update from the Recorder and the Treasurer

**Dues paid as of 6/30/2013**

**904 members Paid**  
**(86% of 1053)**

**\$50,761.00**  
**(86% of \$63,000 budgeted)**



# Rabban talks about Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth

Nobles,  
Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth...how many times have we heard these words? What do they mean to all of us?

Brotherly Love is that notion that transcends over personal feelings toward one another and looks past the thoughts, words, and actions of each of us. This allows all Shrine-Masons to coexist at any point in time during any gathering and say, as you would your own blood relative, "but he's my brother and I will always love and support him even though he has said or done..."

Relief is that inclination to help that little old lady across the street. It's that compulsion to help a child who has fallen. It's also that drive to offer assistance to anyone, especially your brother.

Truth is not only the beauty in everything, but the honesty freely given to all brothers from all brothers as guidance, council, and continuous growth of personal understanding.

Why do I speak of things we Shrine-Masons already know? Because during my travels, with my lady Tabitha, I believe we have been straying from the understanding of these words.

I continue to hear about events 2, 10, 20 years ago and how forgiveness can never be had...why? Everyday we are not the same person we were the day before; life experi-

ence dictates this. If you are a different person, so are they. Forgive them and move on before the Black Camel makes it impossible and you carry the guilt for lack of closure.

Diminishing Relief has been growing yearly. Yes, we are a volunteer organization and depend on a person's willingness to give this time for free. I have experienced Shrine-Masons who have said (mind you, these are excerpts from real conversations), "I've always volunteered for..." but if "..." is there; I will not be there or encourage anyone else to be there." Then there is my new favorite, "If any of the members of my club help or join..." unit/club, then they will no longer be allowed to participate in



**Dan Soullier - Chief Rabban 2013  
with his Lady Tabitha**

**See RABBAN Page 10**

## Temple introduces sympathy and birthday cards

The Recorder's office has recently introduced birthday and sympathy cards for the Nobles of Saladin and their families. In the very untimely situation of a Noble's passing, his family immediately received a card from the Temple along with instructions on how to call on Saladin if the Temple can ever be of assistance during their time of grief.

We have also introduced a birthday card that we began to mail to Nobles starting in April. The birthday card has a depiction of a jolly Shriner riding a camel and reads, "What the heck are those crazy Shriners

celebrating now?" When the card is opened the Noble receives warm birthday greeting from a group of camel riders no doubt having a good time.

We have almost exhausted our supply of old 'get-well' cards and will be designing a new card along the lines of the sympathy and birthday card.

It is fairly easy to track the birthday of Nobles, but the office asks that you please let us know of any Shriner death or illness you may learn about. If you get one of these cards it might feel like the Temple is thinking about you. Because we are!



*With Our  
Deepest Sympathy*



*Gone from our sight, but  
never from your heart.  
With deepest sympathy,*

*Saladin  
Shriners*

*Wishing you much Zem-Zem, Camel's Milk and  
Mirth for your birthday!*



As you can see, we brought out  
our A-Team to celebrate...

Scott Sanford, President  
Dan Soullier, Vice-President  
Dave Neff, Treasurer  
Rick Williams, Secretary

# Saladin Childcare Report

From the Saladin Shrine Foundation For Children, Inc.

Archie Ghareeb, PP, Trustee  
Bill Martindale, Trustee  
Jonathan Clifford, Trustee  
Gene Burns, PP, Hospital Rep

## \$210,000 in gifts to Chicago, Cincinnati, and Erie

So far this year Saladin Shriners have made in excess of \$210,000 in gifts to benefit our world class philanthropy: Shriners Hospitals for Children. The two lead gifts made by the Saladin Shrine Foundation for Children, Inc. included a gift of \$100,000 to our Chicago hospital. Most Saladin nobles know this hospital as our primary site for transporting patients seeking orthopaedic, neuromusculoskeletal, and cleft lip / palette care.

Our second large gift was a \$100,000 gift to our Cincinnati hospital where Saladin transports patients for burn care.

The Trustees of the Foundation have recently authorized a gift of \$10,000 to be made to our Erie, PA hospital in support of their innovative baseball-based sports therapy program.



Above: The check presentation to Shriners Hospitals for Children - Cincinnati was made at our April Stated meeting. Pictured here in the presenting group are from left to right: Augie Meyer (PP - 2000), Dan Soullier (Chief Rabban), John Sandmann (new Shriner from Berrien Country Shrine Club), Dave Neff (Treasurer), Craig Cloud (new Shriner from Battle Creek Shrine Club), and Archie Ghareeb (PP - 2007, Assistant Rabban).

## Saladin drivers are working hard for the children

### 1st Quarter 2013 - Driver's Trip Summary

Driver	No. of Trips	Mileage	Hours	Club
Bob Boughner	2	559	18.25	Kalamazoo
Bill Bruinsma	4	1,642	48.25	Caravan
William Bushouse	2	675	19.50	Kalamazoo
Jonathan Clifford	1	403	13.50	Caravan
Jim Cobianco	1	213	8.00	Berrien
Michael Dawson	2	711	20.25	Battle Creek
Robert DeHaan	1	331	7.50	Kalamazoo
Gary Doig	1	405	17.50	Caravan
Roger Dorn	1	344	10.50	Allegan/Ottawa
Arnold Fenrich	2	711	20.25	Battle Creek
Joe Ferguson	1	254	8.50	Niles
Robert Flynn	1	612	12.75	Lakeland/Cadillac
Mert Frost	4	1,225	38.75	Kalamazoo
Tom George	1	880	16.75	Muskegon
Dick Hartmann	2	686	20.00	Allegan/Ottawa
Janet Hartmann	2	686	20.00	Allegan/Ottawa
Stan Hively	2	540	17.75	Niles
Tom Howell	1	612	12.75	Lakeland/Cadillac
Walter Hunt	1	1,325	57.00	Lakeland/Cadillac
Harry Jones	7	2,911	84.00	Caravan

Driver	No. of Trips	Mileage	Hours	Club
John Keyser	1	216	8.00	Berrien
Bob Light	1	569	12.25	Lakeland/Cadillac
Doug Murr	1	344	10.50	Allegan/Ottawa
Ray Nelson	4	2,085	43.25	Caravan
Gary Nostrant	3	2,580	83.25	Lakeland/Cadillac
Tom Parker	3	755	25.00	Niles
Gordon Poe	2	532	17.25	Niles
Robert Reahm	2	675	17.25	Kalamazoo
George Reed	1	223	7.75	Niles
George Reith	1	286	9.25	Niles
Larry Roose	1	686	14.00	Lakeland/Cadillac
Mike Rooze	3	1,226	32.75	Caravan
Tom Schultz	3	2,272	42.75	Muskegon
Richard Sovereign	1	397	10.25	Caravan
Eric Springer	2	931	21.00	Caravan
Leo Thielman	1	353	9.25	Kalamazoo
Mark Ward	1	399	13.75	Caravan
Richard Ward	2	822	21.75	Caravan
Rick Williams	1	403	13.50	Caravan

Drivers - Thank you for your dedication!

### Quarterly Totals

# of Trips: 73  
Total Miles: 31,479  
Total Hours: 885

### Driver Supported Trips

Fuel & Tolls: \$3,546.83  
Lodging: \$337.73  
Food: \$1,778.14  
Total: \$3,225.68

### Self Drive Trips

Fuel & Tolls: \$1,525.51  
Lodging: \$465.44  
Food: \$2,461.00  
Total: \$4,451.95



### Shriners Hospitals send Love to the Rescue!

Shriners Hospitals for Children recently launched an impressive advertising campaign featuring current and former patients describing how their lives have been changed by the work of our hospitals. The most recent spots features Carrie, a former burn and orthopaedic patient, who describes the power of love combined with the work of Shriners Hospitals. This powerful two minute video can be viewed on the YouTube video service using your smartphone or tablet. Just scan the QR code on the right to be taken to the video and learn how Love is coming the Rescue!





# Potentate announces awards night dinner Dec. 14

## *Evening to include awards for individuals, clubs and units.*

Illustrious Sir Scott Sanford has announced his plans for a Temple-wide awards night and recognition dinner on December 14th, 2013. Additional details will be available in the next issue of the Saladin News. He asks that everyone please plan to save that evening in anticipation of what will be a wonderful event to recognize all of the hardworking Nobles who have made Saladin Shriners a success in 2013.

A list of individual awards will be circulated to club and unit leadership

for purposes of nominating worthy nobles for consideration. The Divan is working to develop set of awards for the club and unit level. The Saladin Shrine Foundation for Children will be recognizing drivers for their achievements.

Of particular note will be a special award for sales and fundraising efforts named in honor of Noble Bob Forker. Many remember this Noble's tireless efforts at selling onions, cash calendars and anything else he could make available to benefit his club, the temple and the Shriners Hospitals. It will be a special night. Time and location to be announced later.



A new award will be created in honor of Noble Bob Forker in recognition of his untiring sales efforts on behalf Saladin Shriners. Bob passed in December of 2012 and his presence has been dearly missed in the club and temple.

# Saladin positioning for growth through activity

## *Plans are in the works for new clubs and units in Grand Rapids. Recorder is preparing a new suite of services to assist existing clubs.*

We learned during a recent call-in with Imperial membership consultants that the common denominator of every successful temple in the country has been growth of units and clubs. In our last issue we mentioned efforts underway for a new club / unit in the Grand Rapids area. We are happy to report plans are taking shape in the

Dear readers, we assure you Mike is merely deep in thought as he prepares to gong for our April Ceremonial



formation of this new Shrine Club. That area's membership numbers were recently bolstered by nine new candidates who joined Saladin in April.

Additionally, interest groups have been discussing the idea of forming a few interest-based clubs including a Saladin Shrine Fishing Club, a Homebrewers Club and a resurrected Grand Rapids Clown Unit. Any brother interested in any of these activities should contact the Recorder's office for informa-

tion on how to get involved.

In April we brought back our Director's Staff and they did a phenomenal job restoring the second section to our ceremonial.

In addition to the new concept clubs and the resurrected units, the Recorder has been looking very closely at how the Temple office operates and how its functions might be arranged to be more supportive of existing club and unit functions. His goal is to produce a set of operations that takes care of those tasks typically assigned to the temple yet also focusing on work, support materials and resources that benefit the delivery of the Shrine experience in the individual clubs.

We are particularly intrigued by how 'interest-based' clubs, such as a Saladin Fishing Club, may be able to increase membership and strengthen the existing geographical clubs (Kalamazoo, Berrien, Cass, etc. etc.). If you have an idea for interest-based Shrine Club, please contact a Divan member to discuss it. Moving forward we will have a better idea how we may be able to support it.



# The High Priest reminds us membership is important

Fellow Nobles,

Greetings from Your High Priest and Prophet. It has been a very busy time with the Circus and I apologize Lady Connie and I only made the Saturday showing in Grand Rapids but it made us feel really great with how we were treated by one and all for our first Circus and Lady Connie really enjoyed selling programs.

I also apologize for not getting out to more of the clubs. I will be trying to do more of that in the next month or two. I have 7 clubs that I will be getting to shortly. My business has been having ups and downs just like everyone else's but I am looking to

hire another warm body to help with a lot of the things I myself have been doing and thereby free me up some.

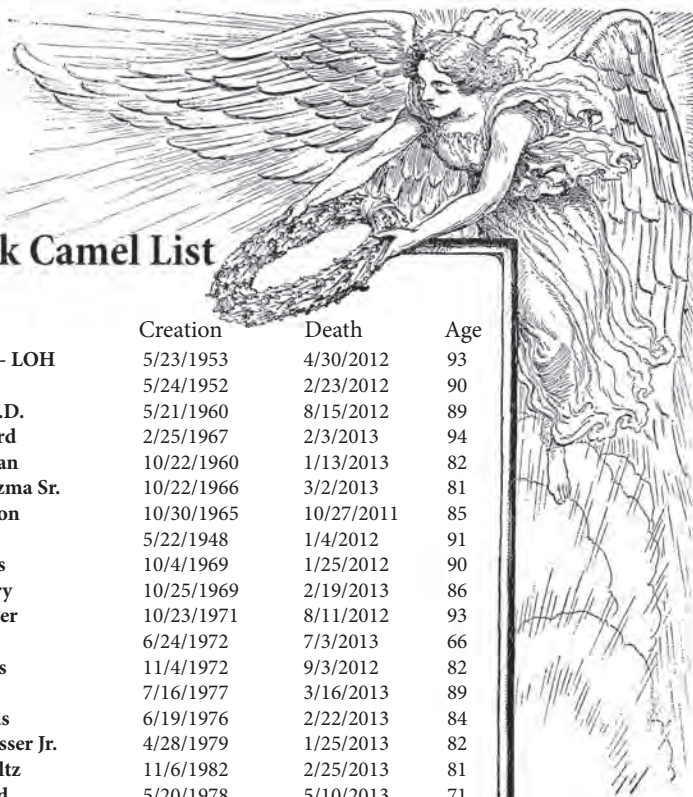
I made my first trip to Chicago Shriners hospital on the 26th of April and enjoyed seeing the Hospital and how the money is spent.

April and May were busy months with the ceremonial on April 20th and the new nobility joining our ranks. Just remember that the more members we are able to bring into the nobility the better off we become financially and stronger we become as a fraternity.

-Bill Martindale



**Bill Martindale**  
*High Priest & Prophet 2013*



## The Black Camel List

	Creation	Death	Age
Stuart Anderson - LOH	5/23/1953	4/30/2012	93
Doyle C. Brown	5/24/1952	2/23/2012	90
John R. Bruni M.D.	5/21/1960	8/15/2012	89
Donald H. Custard	2/25/1967	2/3/2013	94
William E. Dalman	10/22/1960	1/13/2013	82
Douglas E. Hoekzma Sr.	10/22/1966	3/2/2013	81
Chester L. Swanson	10/30/1965	10/27/2011	85
Jack R. Wallace	5/22/1948	1/4/2012	91
Clarence H. Hulst	10/4/1969	1/25/2012	90
Raymond E. Beery	10/25/1969	2/19/2013	86
Bernard L. Ellinger	10/23/1971	8/11/2012	93
Ronald E. Frame	6/24/1972	7/3/2013	66
Charles E. Collins	11/4/1972	9/3/2012	82
Robert F. Durant	7/16/1977	3/16/2013	89
Ernest B. Edwards	6/19/1976	2/22/2013	84
Raymond H. Dresser Jr.	4/28/1979	1/25/2013	82
Clarence A. Schultz	11/6/1982	2/25/2013	81
Philip M. Garland	5/20/1978	5/10/2013	71
Robert A. Freeman	5/16/1987	2/1/2012	82
Douglas R. Parkinson	10/15/1988	8/28/2012	65
Carl Lentz	5/11/1996	4/6/2013	78
Earl D. Laskie	11/11/1995	3/10/2011	72
Donard R. Knapko	12/6/1980	5/28/2012	81
Joseph P. Henley	8/25/2001	4/7/2013	86
Charles P. Neff Jr.	4/5/2003	3/29/2013	77
Douglas C. Berndt	3/2/1974	2/17/2013	80
Thomas L. Carey	6/22/1974	10/7/2012	90
George W. Hankey	6/10/2006	1/26/2013	89

Older Dates represent members who have been deceased for some time, but their passing was only recently discovered during a review of our Temple Records. This is their first appearance on the black camel list.

## Saladin Directory



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scottsanfordesq@gmail.com



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**Rick Williams**, Recorder  
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# Past Recorder and Potentate asks for your help with membership

I was looking at the similarities and differences in the photographs of Saladin Nobles in the last issues of the yearbooks of 1998 and 2013. There are some Nobles who no longer have their picture in the latest issue. We have no doubt lost members to the Black Camel, but some of those members have just faded away. I've been working recently with our Recorder, Rick Williams, to restore members that Saladin has lost.

The Shrine Club Membership Chairmen are an important link in the total picture of the membership program. Their attention to members that are in arrears is important. Also to them falls the difficult task of recruiting new members.

You could help that noble by being his eyes and ears in your lodge. Also, help him with the mentoring of new

Shriners and the retention of those already in your club.

The Recorder has made several options available to Nobles who are experiencing financial difficulties or have found themselves in arrears for two years of dues. However, it is up to the club or the individual to contact the Recorder about these options because they are applied on a case-by-case basis. He doesn't want to lose you and I don't want to lose you.

There is so much change afoot in our organization right now. The young guys are stepping up and taking control of things. It is great to see the torch passed and it has been a pleasure to work with the Recorder on membership issues. I enjoy talking to all of you and hope the rest of 2013 treats you well.

**-Dick Higgins, PP**

## WHY A SHRINER *from page 1*

in the works. Your Divan is excited about the upcoming parade season and making the second half of the year as successful as the first half.

We take the time to ask you a question in this issue Nobles - Why did you become a Shriner? For some of you, that answer might just roll off of your tongue. For others you might have to search for it. Take a minute

and think about it. Is your Shrine membership giving you what you want and need from the fraternity? Saladin wants to know.

Our newest batch of Nobles joined in April. They are young and excited about being Shriners. They have their reasons for joining. Just as you did. We are doing everything we can in Saladin to make this an organization people want to be in. Help us by asking yourself, why am I Shriner?

## SALADIN NEWS

Grand Rapids, MI

4 ISSUES A YEAR PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF SALADIN SHRINERS

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Hours: 8:00 am to 2:00 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 ext 104**

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



### From The Editor:

Nobles,

We hope you enjoy this issue of the Saladin News. We are already preparing the next issue and we have some good stuff in store for you. You can expect to see the publication grow as it expands to include Club information and special interest sections.

This issue we introduced a page devoted just to childcare. That section will expand to two pages in the next issue.

We welcome your comments about the publication. We also welcome news tips and photos. Please consider supporting our publication by purchasing some add-space. It is dirt cheap and reaches every member of the Temple. Enjoy the issue.

- The Editor

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# News From Around the Temple...

## ***Divan seeking candidates for Oriental Guide and Ceremonial Masters Positions***

In an effort to strengthen our temple leadership, the Divan is looking at incorporating the Ceremonial Masters positions into the line in a manner very similar to the Deacons chairs in Blue Lodge. The Divan is asking all brothers interested in running for the Oriental Guide position, or being appointed to the First and Second Ceremonial Masters positions, to contact a Divan member to make their interest known. The Ceremonial Masters positions would be given some Temple level responsibilities to prepare those individuals for possible future service in the elected line. A list of responsibilities and desired skills will be published in the next issue of the News.

## ***Bus trips being planned to the Chicago Hospital***

The Temple is putting together a trip to the Chicago Hospital for Nobles and their ladies to experience this impressive facility. If you

have never been to the hospital, you owe it to yourself to make this trip. It changes your life. Tentative plans include a Saturday trip near the time of our next ceremonial to allow our newest Shriners to participate.

## ***Potentate seeking items for silent auction at Awards Night***

Illustrious Sir Scott Sanford and his lady Carla plan to hold a silent auction to coincide with the Awards Night planned for December 14th. They are asking that any Noble or lady who may be able to provide an item for the auction to please contact them so it may be included. Items need not be physical objects. Services or similar items will also be accepted.

## ***Local relationship being pursued for Childcare visits***

Imperial Sir Douglass E. Maxwell, Chairman of the Shriners Hospitals for Children Board of Trustees, has authorized temples to begin identifying healthcare organizations local to the Temple that may be enlisted as partner organizations with Shriners Hospitals for the purposes of

fairly minor check-ups. Rather than transporting a child to Chicago for a 10 minute appointment, it may be possible to transport the child to a local physician who could then discuss the patient's progress with the treating Shriners physician. The Oriental Guide is currently heading up this process.

## ***Temple is looking for your old Shriners photos for history***

Take a look through your old photos and let us know if you have any pictures showing Saladin or Shriner activities. The older the better. We are looking for any photos that may depict Saladin Shriners at work or play. We would like to digitally scan your photos and add the scans to our historical collection and possibly include them in a history of the temple that will be produced in the next couple of years. The temple is also looking for Saladin photos from the 2013 year. There will be a special program produced for the Awards night dinner in December. We need your Saladin photos for that show!

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## ***RABBAN from page 5***

"..." parade/function." The first comment totally negates the Masonic Obligation of Brotherly Love and Relief. The second comment forces a brother to decide between his obligation to mankind or his allegiance to his club/unit... MANKIND vs. club/unit? Unfortunately and many times the wrong moral decision is made for fear of exclusion.

Truth...the Truth is that the average lifespan of a Michigan male is 78 years and the average Saladin male is 75 years old; 82% of Saladin membership is over 50 years old. It is important to set a good example for our nobility and allow them to set their own path and make their own decisions. The survival of your club/unit comes from growth. If you are a bunch of grumpy guys, you will draw in grumpy guys. If you are fun, charitable, community

oriented, and outgoing, you will bring in the same.

When we look within our Masonic obligations and principles we will always find the best in ourselves and others and a lifestyle leading toward perfection. Let's forgive and forget, aid and assist, defend and guide, and move Saladin to the front and the future.

Love One Another

Help One Another

Be True to One Another

Peace be with you all,  
Dan Soullier  
Chief Raban, Saladin Shrine  
dsoullier@charter.net  
231.547.6114



# ...From the Recorder

Greetings Nobles!

Our Oriental Guide is asking an important question this issue that all of us should spend a few minutes thinking about. Why did you join the Shrine? Take a minute and think about that question. Let him know the answer. We want to know why you are Shriner. If you are an active Shriner, we want to know what keeps you active.

I'm your Recorder because I love what the Shrine is and I love what it has the potential to become. Of any of the jobs I could have sought out in the Shrine, this is the one in which I saw myself doing the most good for our organization. The first six months of the year are now behind me and they haven't been without difficulty because there is a learning curve to things. We've also been trying to institute a number of new things to improve the way the office and the Temple run. I appreciate the patience everyone has shown as we've worked towards all of these things.

Any difficult moments are far outweighed by the pleasure of speaking with our membership in the course of my work and working with the officers who are putting a great deal of thought and effort into our future.

If I was to answer the Oriental Guide right now, I would say I joined the Shrine because I wanted to have a hand in the philanthropy and I loved the idea of an organization based on Masonic ideals that believed in having a good time at all occasions and making its mark in the community. That is us. We are on a course to do even more. It's my honor to do my part in the effort. Take Care.

**Rick Williams - Recorder 2013**

(616) 942-1570 ext. 101

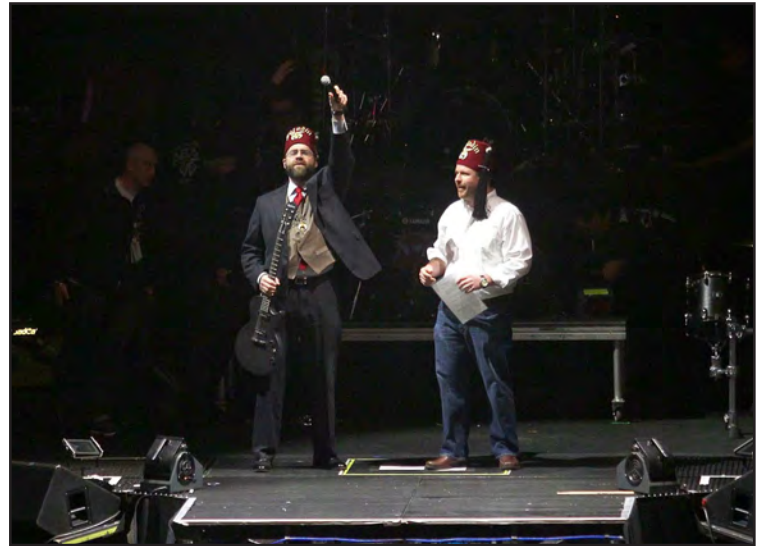
recorder@saladinshrine.com

-Rick



Above: The O.G. and I with Clarence the therapy dog in Chicago. We didn't check his membership card, but he had a fez. The kids absolutely loved him. One of the best Chicago Hospital trips I have ever taken.

Below: Warming up the crowd with Jon Duley, one of my best friends and one of our newest Shriners, before Kid Rock hit the stage in Grand Rapids. Saladin raised a nice chunk of money for the children that night.



## Closing Notes from the Recorder...

### Help me reclaim lost members

With the assistance of Dick Higgins, PP, I'm making a concerted effort to get Shriners back who have been dropped over the last five years. Please contact me if you know a brother in your blue lodge who you would like to get back into the Shrine. We want them back in the fold!

### Recorders Email list

I have an email list I maintain for electronic notices. It is strictly an opt-in list. I don't add everyone's email automatically because I've found some people don't like to receive too many emails about Temple business. Send me an email if you would like to be included. Also, if you are subscribed and not receiving anything, check your SPAM folder and see if the emails are ending up in there instead of your in-box.

### Deceased, sick, or shut-ins.

Keeping track of our members is one of my most important jobs. Please let the office know of any instances of death, sickness or shut-in status for a Noble. I send a card out to the Noble and his family for any situations I become aware of.

### Please call if there is an issue

Lastly, call me if you have a problem with something at the Temple level. I try to address concerns as promptly as I can, but only if I know about them!

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## 12 - The Saladin News

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Few people have been working harder this year than our Chief Aide: Greg Kiander. In addition to assisting the Potentate in several social duties, Greg has become very interested in resurrecting the Grand Rapids Clown unit. Contact Greg if you have an interest in being a clown. He comes by it so naturally he doesn't even need makeup!



## Important Dates For Summer and Fall 2013

### Saladin Paper Sale

*August 1-4, 10-11 - Various Clubs*

### Stated Meeting & Cookout

*August 17 - Saladin Shrine Center - 12:00 pm*

### Stated Meeting & Ceremonial

*October 5 - Time and Location TBD*

### Cass County Turkey Shoot

*October 26-27, November 2-3 - Cass County Shrine Club*

### Saladin Awards Night

*December 14 - Time and Location TBD*

### Annual Meeting

*January 4, 2014- Time and Location TBD*