SEPTEMBER 2010

MELHA SHRINERS, Springfield, Massachusetts 01108

III. Jeffrey Goodless, Melha Potentate, is introduced by Team Circus President Nick Creanza at the Circus Appreciation event in July.

Melha News Awarded a First Place in Competition

The annual Dromedary Awards were presented at the Imperial Session in Toronto in July. Two First Place awards were made this year: The First Place for Temples with membership under 2,000 was presented to the Melha Shrines once again for The Melha News. A First Place was awarded to a Temple with membership over 2,000 and that distinction went to the Aleppo Shriner. The only two newspaper awards in the Shrine of North America went to the two Massachusetts Temples.

—Story on Page 3

New Canadian Hospital Is Set for Montreal

A progress report was delivered on construction plans for a new hospital facility in Montreal. The plans call for construction of a new hospital on the Glen Campus adjacent to the Montreal Children’s Hospital of McGill University. Shriners Hospitals for Children will address three hospital structures this year: Los Angeles, St. Louis and Montreal.

—Story on Page 5

Mexican President Honors Shriners Hospitals’ Help

Peter Armstrong, M.D., vice president of medical affairs for Shriners Hospitals for Children, recently accepted an award on behalf of the organization from President Felipe Calderón of Mexico. During the ceremony in Sonora, Mexico, Dr. Armstrong received a plaque in recognition of the gratitude of the people of Mexico and their government for the assistance provided by Shriners Hospitals for Children in helping children and families affected by the June 2009 day care fire in Hermosillo, Mexico.

—Story on Page 5

George Mitchell Elected As Imperial Potentate

During the 2010 Imperial Council Session, held in Toronto July 4-8, George A. Mitchell of Jordan Station, Ontario, Canada, was elected the Imperial Potentate of Shriners International, making him the highest-ranking Shriner in the world. In this role, he serves as President of the Board of Directors for Shriners International and Chairman of the Board of Directors for Shriners Hospitals for Children.

—Story on Page 3

MELHA CALENDAR

Friday, September 17
Olde Timers Dinner Meeting. Dinner begins at 6 p.m.

September 17 - 19
Northeast Field Days. This year the Northeast takes place in Halifax, Nova Scotia. It promises to be a wonderful trip. See back page for full information, some space may still be available.

Sunday, September 19
Quaboag Plantation

350th Anniversary Parade
See details in the Parade schedule inside.

Wednesday, September 22
Stated Meeting. If you haven’t attended a Stated Meeting for a while, it would be a good activity to spend a pleasant evening finding out just what is going on at Melha.

Saturday, September 25
Belchertown Parade. An annual parade for Melha. See parade information inside for times and other details.

Franklin Shrine Club Potentate’s Reception

Monday, September 27
Big E Parade. One of the most welcoming crowds for Melha paraders is in North Adams for this very special parade. See parade information.

Sunday, October 3
Fall Foliage Parade. One of the real highlights of the parade season when you can show off Melha and see the Big E all on the same day. Check out the parade information inside for all the details.

Sunday, October 10
Orange Bicentennial Parade, Orange, Mass. see inside for all the information.

Berkshire Shrine Club 10
BURNS BRIGADE 8
Central Mass Shr.Club 11
Clowns 8
Daughters of the Nile 10
Directors 11
Drum Corps 6
Flyers 12
Forget-Me-Nots 10
Franklin Shrine Club 8
Hadji 7
Helma Court 10
Highlanders 6
Hospital News 5
Legion of Honor 8
MAP 6
Mariners 10
Melha Riders 9
Military Band 7
Oriental Band 10
Past Masters 10
Pioneer Valley Club 9
Potbellys 9
Ramblin’ Campers 10
Sunshine Report 3
Team Circus 7
Unseen Temple 7
Vintage Autos 7

INDEX
Potentate’s Message

WOW!!!

It is so hard to believe that eight years and seven months in the Divan has gone by because time sure flies when you’re having fun. With four months left as Potentate we still have a lot to accomplish but with your help, in our great fraternity, I am very optimistic we will have an exceptional 2010.

Reflecting back in time to 2002, when I was new to the Divan, the message to the Imperial Session in Vancouver, Canada was CHANGE! We will no longer be a temple. From this day forward we will be a Shrine Center. It is time to try new things and share ideas with one another. As I realize this is exactly what we did. The majority of ideas worked great and some not so great but without trying we can’t become educated on how to grow our fraternity in the future.

It was nice bringing the majority of the Northeast Shrine Association together in one hotel this year for financial savings and good times. I would like to thank Bill and Debbie Fisk for chairing this event, along with the assistance of Gary and Ellen Block, in arranging one of the best sessions I have ever attended. Every venue went well beyond my expectations from the hospitality and food to the field trips, What a Team!!! There are so many people to thank for all their hard work it would take most of this article and again I would have to hear it from so many people to thank for all their hard work it would take the entire Nobility as members to keep the Shriner’s Hospital going.

Without you, Nobles, there is no fraternity to accomplish what must be done for the children that we have obligated ourselves to. You are being asked to serve with pride as we usher in changes while protecting what has always been, as we pay homage to the needs of the children.

“Children” is such a magic and wonderful word.

Let’s do it again this 2010 and let’s have fun doing it for our Shrine Center, for the hospital and for the kids we help.

Jeffrey A. Goodlette, Past Potentate
George Mitchell Is Elected Imperial Potentate for 2010-11

During the 2010 Imperial Council Session, held in Toronto July 4-8, George A. Mitchell of Jordan Station, Ontario, Canada, was elected the Imperial Potentate of Shriners International, making him the highest-ranking Shriner in the world. In this role, he serves as President of the Board of Directors for Shriners International and Chairman of the Board of Directors for Shriners Hospitals for Children. Mitchell is the president and owner of Mitchell’s Buns and Bakery and Deli and Maple Leaf Investments, involved in the motel business and real estate development for several years. He attended St. Catharine Collegiate and Vocational School and majored in business at Niagara College. He is a member of St. Catharine’s Business Club and a Kentucky Colonel of Niagara.

Mitchell served as Imperial Potentate of Rameses Shrine in 1997 and is a life-member to several Shrine clubs. He is an emeritus member of the board of governors of Shriners Hospitals for Children — and is a former Chairman of the Membership, Budget, Investment, and Protocol, Insurance and Ritual committees.

He has also served on the Special Purpose Funds/Fundraising Evaluation Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee.

Mitchell and his wife, Deanna, have two sons, a daughter, and four grandchildren.

MELHA NEWS

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From the Editor’s Desk

Midyear as of the end of June, Melha membership was reported at 1,714 members which is +1 for the year thus far. . . .

Shriners International grew from 191 Temples to 193 Temples on July 6th when charters were presented to Mabuhay Shriners in Manila, Philippines, and Al Rai’e Shriners in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Both have been under dispensation for the last year. It was also a great day for the Emirat Shriners of Germany, who received dispensation for a new temple and hope to become the 194th temple next year. International expansion could be the key to the fraternity’s future success. . . .

Finally, a reminder to all those who submit materials for publication in this newspaper. Our schedule calls for the next issue to be the October-November issue. The deadline is September 12th. That means you need to keep in mind that everything you need to publicize for October and November needs to be in the next issue. That also means it will likely be a little crowded. Get your materials in as early as possible. Once the issue is filled that will be it until December.

The Recorder informs us—

We are working on a new flash information system to communicate better with the Nobility. If you wish to receive this communication in the near future, and for the you submit your address to melha98@aol.com. If you receive e-mails from melha98@aol.com now you do not need to send your address in. We do have a quite a few bad addresses in our existing e-mail system as Nobles have not kept us up to date with their changes. So take a moment and send it in to correct these problems.

The third mailing of the 2010 dues bills have been sent out. If you do know of any Noble in financial distress and could use help from our Fraternal Fund please let me know. Speaking of the Fraternal Fund, donations of any amount would be greatly accepted to help those that have met some hard times this year. Checks should be made out to the Melha James Garvey Fraternal Fund. To those Nobles who have not signed up to a Unit or Club, please consider this as an opportunity as the groups start to meet again in September. Unit/Club Presidents’ phones numbers are on Page 2 of this edition. If you have any question please contact the Recorder in the office 413-736-3647. This is your Shrine organization our future starts with you.

A reminder. Please support your advertisers, they support us. And when you do, please be sure to tell them you saw their ad in The Melha News. Ads help support this publication. You can tell your friends they can advertise in these pages. See Page 11 for information.

STATED MEETING

A Stated Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 22, for the purpose of conducting the business of the Melha Shriners, as well as ballotin on individuals for initiation, obligating candidates, and for the dissemination of information to the membership on matters relating to current Shrine events.

All Nobles are invited to attend, all Unit and Club leaders are required to attend. Please wear your Fez. Jeffrey Goodless

President
Attest: Philip E. Thomas, P.P.

PARADE INFORMATION

Bicentennial Parade.

More on this parade at the September stated meeting.

Sunday, September 19, Quabog Plantations 350th Anniversary Parade.

Bus leaves Melha at 10:00 AM, forms at 11:00, step off 12:00 noon. West Brookfield Elementary School, 89 N. Main St.

Saturday, September 25, the Belchertown Parade, Belchertown.

No bus. Parade forms at 8:30 AM at Cold Spring School – 57 State St., Belchertown. After the parade lunch will be available at Dave Smith’s house.

Monday, September 27, Big E Parade – West Springfield, MA

Forms at 4:00 p.m. behind State House buildings. Starts at 5:00 p.m. sharp.

Sunday, October 3, North Adams, MA

Bus leaves Melha at 9:45 am, forms at 12 noon at the Wal-Mart, 830 Cumm Highway, North Adams. Lunch at staging area.

Sunday, October 10, Orange
MVPs for the 10th annual Shrine Chowder Bowl All-Star Classic. Central Mass.: Nick Mastrogiacomo, Westboro, Offensive MVP, Adrian deJesus, Marlboro, Defensive MVP; Ill. Jeff Goodless, Melha Potentate; Western Mass.: Matt Toczek, Chicopee Comp, Defensive MVP and Raheem Kelly-Reid, Chicopee, Offensive MVP. Central Mass. wins the 2010 All-Star Classic by a score of 35-19. It is the seventh consecutive victory for Central Mass. Western Mass. last won the classic in 2003.

4 SEPTEMBER 2010

The Chowder Bowl banquet took place a few days before the big game in June. There was a full house at Melha as coaches, players, their families, the hospital Ambassadors, Potentate, Divan and others gathered for a dinner provided by the Outback Steakhouse.

Because of favorable weather, a larger than usual crowd begins to arrive at Stagg Field at Springfield College for the Shrine’s annual Chowder Bowl Classic.

Morgan, a 14-year old student from West Springfield High School, one of the patient ambassadors for Shriners Hospital in Springfield, sings the National Anthem before the beginning of the game.

Players from Western Mass. are introduced individually and go through the line of Shrine dignitaries and shake hands with the hospital Ambassadors. In the forefront a player meets the boy ambassador, Brandon, who is from Indian Orchard.

The game begins. It would conclude with a score of Central 35, West 19.

Program Books sold out at this year’s game.
Construction Plans for New Shriners Hospitals Building in Canada Revealed on July 15th

On July 15, Shriners Hospitals for Children — Canada revealed plans to construct a new hospital on the Glen Campus adjacent to the Montreal Children’s Hospital (MCH) of the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC). Preliminary renderings of the new hospital were revealed to media and attendees at a meeting of Shriners Hospitals for Children – Canada. Several government officials, including Health Minister Yves Bolduc, Normand Rinfret, Associate Director General of the MUHC, and Richard Deschamps, Member of the Executive Committee, Responsible for Economic Development, Infrastructure and Roads - City of Montreal, were also present.

Three Hospitals to Be Addressed

Following his report to Shriners during the recent International Convention held in Toronto, Maxwell said Shriners Hospitals for Children will address three hospital structures this year: Los Angeles, Cincinnati, and Montreal. Maxwell further explained that in the past few months, since the MUHC has announced plans to develop the Glen Campus, the beginning planning, the process and collaborative effort between Shriners Hospitals and the MUHC had moved rapidly. “The Canadian Hospital has been given the green light to go ahead with planning, fundraising and construction,” said Maxwell.

Robert Drummond, M.D., Chairman of the Board of Governors at Shriners Hospitals for Children – Canada said, “the new hospital will have 22 single patient rooms, four operating rooms as well as 25,000 square feet dedicated to research and teaching.”

Enhancing Family Focused Care

The new space will allow the hospital to continue to improve care for patients by providing a new environment that will allow for close contact with specialists and orthopedic surgeons, researchers and allied health care professionals so that every child receiving care here will continue to receive the best care possible. "This will provide the best care to children from Quebec, Canada and around the world," said Drummond.

Arthur T. Porter, MUHC Director General and CEO, also spoke at the press conference, adding, “This announcement is not only about a new hospital but also the enrichment of educational programs and orthopedic research and, the strengthening of our longstanding ties with this fine institution’s professionals and patients. For us, personally, as a MUHC for 35 years and a Shriners for more than 20 – most recently as a proud member of the Board of Governors – this outcome emphasizes the spirit of fraternity upon which freemasonry was developed more than three hundred years ago.”

'New Hospital Was Needed'

Former chairman of the Board of Shriners Hospitals for Children Canada, Gary Morrison was also present, and added, “We have known for some time that a new hospital was needed and we have focused our efforts on making this become a reality for our patients. Even with the expansion of the hospital in the mid-1980s services have simply outgrown the current facilities. Our outpatient and day surgery areas simply no longer adequately meet the demand and our research unit has also outgrown its space.”

And finally, “The presence of a Shriners Hospital for Children in our city has always been a great source of pride. This is not just another hospital; the Hospital is a great ambassador for Montreal and for Quebec,” said Richard Deschamps, Member of the Executive Committee, Responsible, for Economic Development, Infrastructure and Roads of the City of Montreal. “The development of the new Shriners Hospital confirms the leadership of our city in the areas of health and biomedical science. We are pleased to see this project move forward and be the collective effort of all partners.”

Shriners Hospitals for Children Honored by President Felipe Calderón of Mexico

Peter Armstrong, M.D., vice president of medical affairs for Shriners Hospitals for Children, recently accepted an honor from President Felipe Calderón of Mexico. During the ceremony in Sonora, Mexico, Dr. Armstrong received a plaque in recognition of the gratitude of the people of Mexico and their government for the care Shriners Hospitals for Children in helping children and families affected by the June 2010 earthquake in Huaraz, Mexico.

In his remarks, President Calderón noted that Shriners Hospitals for Children looked after the children injured in the fire as if they were their own. Dr. Armstrong spoke about the history of Shriners Hospitals for Children and the value of the increasing collaboration that is being developed between the Mexican Ministry of Health, Mexico’s Social Security and Shriners Hospitals for Children. Part of the increasing collaboration includes recently established medical education fellowship in burn care for physicians from Mexico at the Shriners Hospitals for Children.

"This is a very proud day for Shriners Hospitals for Children," said Dr. Armstrong. "It is not often that you have a president of a country so publicly praise our organization for what we do for children.”

Long-Term Treatment Holds Key to Cleft Lip and Palate Care at Shriners Hospitals

Until a few years ago, finding quality, long-term treatment for kids born with cleft lip and palate, one of the most common birth defects in the U.S. – was difficult. Then Shriners Hospitals for Children stepped in.

Every year approximately 5,000 children are born in the U.S. with cleft-assoctiated deformities. This makes it one of the most common birth defects in the U.S. – a fact that, even today, most people do not realize. But although it is a common and serious condition – associated with problems in speech, hearing and growth of the face – cleft lip and palate can be corrected so that kids born with this condition can go on to lead happy, healthy lives.

Condition Happens Before Birth

Cleft lip and palate happens before birth when the tissue that forms the upper lip and roof of the mouth fail to join together. Children born with facial clefts also have a number of interrelated problems with: Development of the brain, skull and facial bones; The structure of the ear and the ability to hear; The teeth and the ability to chew and eat; The mouth and nose and the ability to breathe and speak.

Long-term treatment is needed for the cleft lip and palate to heal properly. Proper care will allow kids to reach their full potential.

Patients Celebrated as Heroes Among Us

Shriners Hospitals for Children patients Taylor Lawrence, from Nova Scotia, stepped onto the stage at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on Wednesday, July 7, for a surprise appearance at the Shriners Hospitals for Children International Convention Session. Danny Happy, 13, of Cincinnati, Ohio, provided a video message to the crowd of sever al thousand Shriners.

Taylor and Danny are featured in the Shriners Hospitals for Children patient success video “Heroes Among Us,” which premiered at the Imperial Council Session. The program is an opportunity for the boys to thank Shriners for the care they received at Shriners Hospitals for Children – Canada.

Danny sustained second- and third-degree burns over 95 percent of his body when a plane crashed into his Sanford, Florida home. After the accident, he was airlifted from a local hospital to Shriners Hospitals for Children – Cincinnati. The burns on his body were so severe, he was not expected to survive. During the next seven months, Danny underwent multiple surgeries and radiation therapy before he was well enough to become an outpatient.

Since the family relocated to Ontario so he could continue his treatment, and he is back to being a full-time student. With the help of his teachers and fellow classmates, he started a petition asking the province’s Minister of Education to allow him to attend school, wearing his col lected aluminum to benefit the hospital that saved his life. Danny’s story and success video is always the highlight of our weeklong convention and reminds Shriners of the mission of Shriners Hospitals for Children: to help kids,” said George A. Mitchell, Imperial Potentate (CEO and president) of Shriners International.

The stories of Taylor and Danny, which are representative of the thousands of children at Shriners Hospitals for Children help every year, are shared in detail in “Heroes Among Us.”
Greetings from your newly-created Membership Ambassadors Public Relations Committee. This concept of combining these three vital components of the future of Melha is the brainchild of Ill. Jeff Goodless. Without a proactive approach to public relations nothing can succeed. Without a solid approach to creating awareness of our incredible fraternity/philanthropy through public relations, membership cannot function effectively. Without our Ambassadors actively bringing our story outside of our Melha building, the word simply won't get out. The point is that by combining these three essential activities in one committee, Ill. Jeff Goodless has brought together three groups of people whose interaction is crucial to our future and who can now share their combined thoughts in one forum to bring more life and more members to Melha.

As this is written, the MAP committee is engaged in the following things:

a. They are in the process of contacting all new Nobles who expressed an interest in joining a unit or club and they are going to make sure that the new Nobles and the leadership of the unit or club are in contact with each other.

b. They are putting together a list of events at which they will be represented, e. they are working on new approaches to funding events for Melhas, d. they are organizing a Walkathon and for the Shriners Hospital in Springfield, e. they are going to work with units and clubs to schedule tours at the hospital in conjunction with our Directors Staff.

Since this is the first article of our Melha News, it is a bit lengthy. Future articles will not be as lengthy, but this gives you a thumbnail sketch of what this vital committee is doing.

Every one of us is on the Membership Committee. We all have an obligation to share the story of Melha with one new member every year. Let's get busy. We have a great legacy to keep building on and sharing for the future.
By Al Zippin, P.P.

While the summer doesn’t require us to do much work on the circus for 2011, there is still work being done to finalize some figures. Annual reports are due at the end of the 2011 circus planning. Our critique meeting was very helpful and raised some issues that we will be reviewing in September. We tried a few new approaches to generating interest in the circus and we feel that we need to review all of them to determine whether to continue them, build on them or dispense of them try other approaches.

Having said that, I would point out that the club has an open position for a president who is not a member of Team Circus to join. Joining now will get you in on the “ground floor” of our planning and reviewing process for 2011. Team Circus is a vital part of Melha and clearly a most important piece of our ability to raise money for Melha. It takes a real team effort to bring the circus to fruition. When we talk about a team effort in Team Circus we include everyone and it really is nice to see so many of our nobles attending our meetings and providing much needed input and energy to the circus effort.

If you are not a member of Team Circus, you could join. Just come to our meetings. The 4th Monday of every month at Melha at 7:30 and you will become a member of this most unique team.

MELHA NEEDS YOU IN ORDER TO SUCCEED EACH YEAR!

Please don’t forget out fellow nobles who need our assistance. Every time you can do so please send $1.00 or more to Melha to be credited to the Jim Guney Fraternal Fund. We owe that to our Melha members who are facing challenges.

By Paul Bryant

We are moving in the last day of summer and also the first day of fall. Our September meeting will be held on Friday, September 17th at 6:00 PM. We will charge $12.00 per Noble. We will be enjoying stuffed pork chops with mashed potatoes and vegetable. We will have carrot cake for dessert. Please join us for fun and fellowship. Please make your reservations by Wednesday, September 15th.

To any of our new members who may be reading this article I would like to invite you to join us for dinner. The cost of the meal is $12.00 and you can call the office to make a reservation. Old Timers doesn’t mean OLD. Our membership is open to all Nobles who would like to break bread with us and visit with our fellow Nobles.

With fall upon us it is time to elect new officers to lead the club. Your current officers do not wish to continue as officers. I request that any Nobles who are willing to take over the leadership of the club to contact me and let me know. It is my wish to invite the ladies to join us again for dinner during December. I will accept any suggestions for the meal to be served that month. I will be working on a speaker to enlighten us more on the subject of “The key to a good manager is keeping the people who hate me away from those who are still undecided.”

—Casey Stengel

By Craig (Doc) Kazin

I hope this article finds brother clowns well after a long, hot summer. It certainly was not the best weather, but that did not stop many of your Melha Clowns from being out and about supporting the cause that we love so much.

Just to keep you up to speed, the unit has a huge gig at the Three County Fair on Labor Day weekend. We are signed on to appear on all four days. Won’t you call Rick (Shorty) Pirog or Roy (Caddie) Martin and tell them that you will give us your time on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or Monday? It is a pure walk-around, and you can get out there and show your stuff. Very receptive crowds are expected, and Chief Caddie promises hamburgers for those who cannot claim on empty bellies (Beepers). Because of the Three County Fair gig, our September business meeting will be Friday, September 10. Don’t forget to mark your calendar! Also, Chief Caddie has convened the Nominating Committee for the 2011 Clown Officer Line. Charley (Choo Choo) Burke, Gary (Gilligan) Spear, and me will be looking for a few good men to step into line. If you think you know a good candidate, get in touch with me.

Roy also has a small committee working on a brand new “Clown Degree.” He hopes to try it out on several of the new clowns who have not yet been regularly initiated into the unit. In clinical trials, most victims (er, candidates) were out of the hospital in one or two days!

Get well wishes go out to Jim (Wingnut) Beauregard (or Beau-guard) who had some shoulder surgery as a result of an accident. We all hope you are feeling better, Jim. Good wishes go out to another distressed and infirm brother who need our strength. Always know that you have our support as you go through your trying times.

Well, that’s it for now, and remember to make someone smile today!

By Art Duncan

I hope all Nobles have enjoyed the summer as fall is right around the corner. A special Thank You to all Melha members who participated in the various parades throughout the summer season. I would also like to give a special Thank You to our Hadji secretary Don Haskell who was instrumental in setting up the Hadji booth at the Southwest carnival this year. Even though the weather put a damper on things a good time was had by all and thankfully the weather cleared up for the parade in the evening. The month of September is a busy month for parades with the 1st parade being the Quaboag Plantations 350th Anniversary parade held in Springfield. The next parade is in Belcherton on Sept 25th followed by the Big E parade on Monday September 27th. Please see the parade information section for location and step off times.

Also, if anyone knows of any unused vehicles such as Trykes, Model T’s, Gavis etc... please contact either the Captain of that sub-unit or Scott Duncan at 348-1648. Thank you for all the help, and keep up the great MOTORING and hopefully we will see all of you at the upcoming parades.

By Dave Veager

Hello, fellow clowns and candidates! I mean, it’s been a real hot summer, I hope you all have been keeping cool. Our back-to-back parades in early July turned out pretty well, except when the driver of our flatbed got lost afterwards in Monson. We got one upcoming gig this month, and that’s at the Old Soldier’s Home Tuesday, Aug. 24th. Have a good time this summermonth, bandmates!

**Clowning Around**

**TEAM CIRCUS**

**Old Timers**

**MILITARY BAND**

**K-9s For Kids**

**Sporting goods**

**Get well wishes go out to Jim (Wingnut) Beauregard (or Beau-guard) who had some shoulder surgery as a result of an accident. We all hope you are feeling better, Jim. Good wishes go out to another distressed and infirm brother who need our strength. Always know that you have our support as you go through your trying times.**

**William Raveis**

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*Call for a complimentary lunch and tour*...
By Bill Judz
Fire Safety and Burns Awareness: that was the message out there in June and July. We were present with a booth at the New England Fire Chief Show the Big E June 25th to the 27th. This year’s theme was “Prepare for the Big E June 25th to the 27th. This was the message out there in June that was the message out there in June and July. We were present with a booth at the New England Fire Chief Show at the New England Fire Chief Show at the New England Fire Chief Show at the New England Fire Chief Show at the New England Fire Chief Show.

Three things I got from the show, first I got a pin from a fellow firefighter and Noble from Pennsylvania who was pleased to see a Burns unit was at the commitment to his burns unit and Shriners. Last but not least, I met young future firefighters and maybe future Masons and Burn unit members from New Hampshire Fire Explorer program. Thank you, for the way your program is training these young future firefighters, our first contact at the booth was “Good afternoon sir, how are you today?” This polite greeting was not from just one explorer but a few. This impressed and shocked me, that in this age, they are trained to respect others. So many others could and should learn from them. Great show, met and talked to many people.

Next came July, being with State Fire Marshal Steven Coan and fellow Fire Chiefs at Holyoke Community College to get the message out that Fireworks are illegal and leave displays to the professionals. Yes, fireworks do exist in our communities but, many burns, injuries and even deaths do result from some of these products improperly. Please be aware of the dangers and possible burns from fireworks in the future. Finally I hung up my helmet after 33 plus years in the fire service as Chief in South Hadley, preparing the meal.

LEGION OF HONOR
By Paul Bryant
Fall in! Dress right! Front! Labor Day is coming and the unofficial end of summer is upon us. We get back to our regular meetings on Tuesday, September 14th. There are three parades in September, the Quaboag Plantation’s 350th anniversary parade on Sunday the 19th, the Belchertown parade on Saturday the 25th and the Big E parade on Monday the 27th. The Fall Foliage parade in North Adams will be held on Sunday, October 3rd. Information for these parades can be found in the Marshall’s article usually located on page three. If you plan on riding the Legion trailer in any of these parades please contact Marcie Bither so that he may have the correct number of seats on the trailer.

LEGION OF HONOR
By John H. Doughty IV
The Franklin Shrine Club meets the second Monday of each month at the Mount K. Entertainment Center and Bowling Alley in Erving. Our next meeting is Monday, September 13th, at 6:30PM. We welcome all Shriners to get on a waiting list in the event anyone cancels please contact Dick Marceau for information at (413) 583-4847.

FRANKLIN SHRINE CLUB
By John H. Doughty IV
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FRANKLIN SHRINE CLUB
By John H. Doughty IV
The Franklin Shrine Club meets the second Monday of each month at the Mount K. Entertainment Center and Bowling Alley in Erving. Our next meeting is Monday, September 13th, at 6:30PM. We welcome all Shriners to get on a waiting list in the event anyone cancels please contact Dick Marceau for information at (413) 583-4847.
By Mike Greenberg

I hope you all enjoyed the summer. With all the warm weather we had there is no excuse for not riding. This exception to this belongs to the Melha contingent that travelled to Lacoma in June for bike week. James “legend” Stephenson had an electrical problem and then sold his bike. Spanky’s belt snapped as a result of poor maintenance and then exploded in the parking lot of Meredith Harley Davidson. The bike still isn’t fixed. What a shocker. It was a great day out but Spanky has bodily harmalized as a result of questionable turkey sandwich and still feels queasy from time to time. Pete continues to be sooo busy and sooo tired he’s not safe on two wheels. Then again he isn’t safe on four wheels. As usual, these varmints tailored home. Howie and I rode home like real Melha Riders including a stop at Curtis’s hot grill in Putney VT. For a rack of ribs (each) A Melha Rider will not be denied.

As husband of the year, I have been away a lot this month most of the summer so I haven’t attended many Rider functions. The rest of the Riders and main chopper guys have been busy with parties, dances (including the nites downtown) and paper drives. A bunch of the new guys have stepped up and guess what? We got a lot of new blood. The Riders picnic, which took place in July, was a great success and kudos to Pete Silvester for putting out a great meal. Yes Ray, I know I owe for the T shirt ad. Please see me if you need a T shirt. Please.

This is the best time of year to ride. The Riders will be gearing up their wheel of charcer raffle so donate your bottle and buy some tickets. I will report on the event shortly. The Hillibilly Picnic, which took place in Adams, MA. The Berkshire Shrine Club and all the local Masons help out big time at this event. They had over 2,000 bikes last year. This continues to be one amazing event. A huge Riders showing is warranted. For all the details go to custom-cycle.com. That is all.

Melha was recognized at the Imperial Session in Toronto for its achievements in membership. III. Jeff Goodless presents the certificate for the Silver Award to Lee Ryel, membership chairman.

By Brian Connor

First off I hope everyone is having a great summer. We are sorry that we had to cancel our picnic in July. But we have something else planned at the end of the month.

Our “End of Summer” Seafood Feast will be on Sunday, August 29, 2010 at C.J.’s Restaurant in Monson. We will start with a social hour at 2:00 p.m., followed by a deluxe seafood buffet dinner with shrimp, scallops, fish and chicken and all the trimmings. Cash bar and the cost is $25.00 per person. Attire: Shriner casual. For reservations call Jim 413-782-2769 by August 23rd.

Remember, membership to Pioneer Valley Shrine Club is only 5 $10.00 a year, you and your lady can enjoy the fellowship of others and have a great meal to boot! Bring your friends and adult family members to our events.

In closing, our President Tom would like all of the past members and of course, new Nobles, to take an active role in our Pioneer Valley Shrine Club activities and join in on the fun.

By Ben Dover

Howdy tu all the Cuzzins out there! Hot one for ya! Yesterday, one of my cadmium stilts dun exploded from the heat. It scared Juggs so bad, he dun run and hid under the front porch, and hasn’t come out all day. What a waste o’ good com sprogs.

Well, our last meetin’ in July was the Hillibilly Picnic and was a big success. We couldn’t find a place for our picnic in July. But we have something else planned at the end of the month.

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\$100 MILLION CLUB

3773 In honor of Complete Disposal Company for your support from the Trustees and Melha Shriners
3774 In honor of Acme Metals & Recycling Inc. for your support from the Trustees and Melha Shriners
3775 In memory of Richard L. Shumway from the Royal Order of Jesters
3776 In memory of Phyllis R. Christensen from the Philip Christiansen Family
3777 In honor of Robert & Nancy Marshall on your Golden Anniversary from Tony & Holly Koss, Pete & Midge Spaulding, Phil & Ann Thomas, Charles & Nettie
3778 In memory of Noble Ira S. Lewis from the Royal Order of Jesters
3779 In memory of Noble Ralph F. McEwan from the Melha Shrine Club
3780 In memory of Noble Ira S. Lewis from the Royal Order of Jesters
3781 In memory of Noble Ira S. Lewis from Noble Harold E. Sawl
3782 In memory of Noble Ira S. Lewis from Noble Harold E. Sawl
3783 In memory of Alfred Sfreddo and Mr. & Mrs. Alexander W. Todd by the Trustees and T. Sfreddo
3784 In memory of Maxwell Hunt from the Melha Military Band
3785 In memory of Peter Rokosz from Rosemary Bradley/Shirley & Frank Fasano

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MARKET MENTORS
Daughters of the Nile Supreme Queen Sue Layman, right, made her official visitation to Ahlem Temple in Springfield on August 1. She visited Shriner's Hospital in Springfield the following day. Here she is shown at the banquet held in her honor at the Clarion in West Springfield with Ahlem’s Queen Cyndi Ferus.

Many of us are preparing for the September 2nd Session. This will be preceded by a potluck supper at 5 p.m., chaired by Pr. Tirzah Joy Pearson. Have you made your reservation?

The award-winning Melha Drum Corps performed at a recent Stated Meeting.

East Longmeadow Selectman. This was the salon’s Grand Opening and all the proceeds were made by Noble Angelo Puppolo, State Representative, and Jack Villamaino, Riders, Clowns and supporters helped raise funds for the Shrine. Presentations were made by Noble Angelo Puppolo, State Representative, and Jack Villamaino, East Longmeadow Selectman. This was the salon’s Grand Opening and all the proceeds were designated for the Shrine. Owner Tina Manzi, a former Shrine Hospital patient, made this fundraiser possible in gratitude for her treatment and recovery.

At the ribbon cutting for Salon Fierce in E. Longmeadow in mid-May, lots of Riders, Clowns and supporters helped raise funds for the Shrine. Presentations were made by Noble Angelo Puppolo, State Representative, and Jack Villamaino, East Longmeadow Selectman. This was the salon’s Grand Opening and all the proceeds were designated for the Shrine. Owner Tina Manzi, a former Shrine Hospital patient, made this fundraiser possible in gratitude for her treatment and recovery.

The end of summer . . . and what a summer it’s been — the hottest summer ever recorded. It’s also been pretty lousy for me because I just got my boat to the shore and it’s almost time to de-commision her. However, we’re hoping to have a few good times ahead.

Many thanks to all those working hard on our Tag Sale September 4th at the home of Jr. Past Queen Terry Brothers in Monson.

By Olive Larson
Welcome back from summer to all our members for the September 2nd Session. This will be preceded by a potluck supper at 5 p.m., chaired by Pr. Tirzah Joy Pearson. Have you made your reservation?

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The Office Crew has already begun the new assignments and remain “on call.”

Blow the Trumpets! Grandparents Day is here on the 12th! It’s our special day, Ladies — Enjoy!

And to all our Jewish members and friends, we wish you a Happy New Year on Rosh Hashana, and a Peaceful Yom Kippur.

By Agnes Kenyon
We begin our new season on Sept. 17th. Mark your calendar!

This past July was a “record breaker.” How did we ever survive without air conditioning?

Ira Lewis’ pride in his “Tree” was renewed when it produced the many buds and then beautiful roses. We sincerely appreciated his friendship and support.

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By Ray Huber
The Melha Mariners
By Ray Huber
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Since last we met we had a great steak roast, an annual event with our Ladies, thanks to John Eisenbeiser and his Lady, Helen. It was also a great day when we went to the Steak Roast at the Red Cliffs Canoe Club in South Hadley in July, and you recently received the invitation to go to the their upcoming event. It’s a real good time, the food is always great and the price is reasonable, so why not take part? Call Rich Longpre, 413-536-6970, for tickets or to get more information.

It’s really too bad that our annual summer trip didn’t materialize, but the location was great and we’ll work on getting there next summer. Some of our usual attendees called to see about our plans and hopefully they’ll be anxious to join us next time.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, September 30, the last Thursday of the month, just as published in Melha’s Calendar. We hope to see you at the Two Eagles at 5:30 for dinner or in our room at 7 p.m.

We still have members that have not paid their 2010 dues . . . please check to be sure you have a current dues card. If not, send a check to Rich Longpre, 74 Judd Ave., So. Hadley, or, better yet, bring it to the next meeting.

We are sad to have lost one of our loyal, longtime members, Noble Milton J. Kuras. “Uncle Milit” was a great guy, a super cook and enjoyed a good card game. Several Mariners attended his wake and funeral to bid him a fond farewell and extend our sympathies to his family.

New members are always welcome. If you’d like to join us or have any questions, call Commodore John at 413-368-3628.
By Bill Campbell
Well, it has been a good summer albeit a bit HOT, we all should have a lot to look back on. Those that could traveled to Toronto for a great Imperial Session which included a tour of Ontario's wine country (the lake air is perfect for growing grapes) and a stop at Niagara Falls.

The boat cruise and dinner was very nice, with a breeze coming in thru the boat windows.

Now it is time to get back to business with Fall coming on.

We are planning a P TG Drive in Sturbridge for Labor Day weekend. Please contact Ray Ronander for details and possible assignments of hours to man the table. We need 3 volunteers for 2-3 shifts. Your help would be greatly appreciated here.

Our meeting in September will be at “Ellers on-the-Hill” located at 509 Stafford Street in Leicester. This is just off Route 9. The date is 9/16, the 3rd Thursday. The menu is varied from chicken to eggplant parmigiana (5-6 choices) for $20/person. Again, call Ray Ronander at 508-892-3755 for reservations.

As it stands now, we shall again be going to Lich’s in Webster for our October meeting. Social hour is 6-7 PM, dinner at 7:15.

See you all there!

By Vincent Bradley
The summer has gone so quickly. I hope everyone enjoyed the warm weather. Welcome back from the vacation away from the meeting nights.

The unfortunate task of informing the Nobles who have not heard that we have lost two of our longtime members. Ira Lewis July 10th, and Peter Rokosz, July 31st. Both will be greatly missed. The Unit wishes to extend to the Families of both these Nobles or sincere condolences and sympathy.

Our September meeting will be on Thursday the 9th. A vote will be taken at this meeting to see if we permanently change the meeting date from the second Tuesday of each month to the second Thursday of each month. Your attendance is very important. Please call 277-0138 or e-mail vbradleyster@gmail.com your intention about attending the meeting.

This year our Unit has done a great job in attending the parades. Let’s keep up the good work. The September parades are as follows: Sept.18, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Sept. 19 West Brookfield MA. (A little closer to home) Sept. 25 Belchertown and the last for September is the Big E, W. Springfield. Information for all these parades should be found in this month’s Melha News.

“Our” candy fund raiser will start in October. This went well last year so we will try it again. It definitely put extra money into our treasury.

Our Ladies Night is pretty much set for November 6th. Look for the ad in this issue of the Melha News. Now what is needed is your support to make this a successful event. I will have tickets at our September meeting. December has a very important event for the Directors Staff. The Fall Ceremonial on Dec. 4th. This is mandatory for all Directors. Put this date aside for this very special day. There will be more information to follow. Hope to see you all at the meeting and on the street.

HOSPITAL ASSIGNMENTS
Sept. 4 . . . . . .Lawrence Lucas, Homer Brooks
Sept. 5 . James Spear, Jr., Joseph Surprenant, Jr.
Sept. 11 . . . . . . . .Frank Watson, Donald Facey
Sept. 18 . . . . . . . . .Leon Pelletier, Henry Skarani
Sept. 19 . . . . . . . .Thomas Andrea, Eric Stevens
Sept. 25 . . . . . . . . .Paul Schafer, John Cochran
Sept. 26 . . . . . .Dave Wenning, John Donaldson

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1/2 page $260 per issue
Full Page $560 per issue
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For additional information on how to advertise in The Melha News, call Ed Gelinas at 413-568-6120, or the Office at 736-3647.

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By Vincent Bradley
Ill. Jeffrey Goodless, Melha’s Potentate, led the Melha contingent in the Imperial Session Parade in Toronto on a warm July day. He is followed by the Divan and the rest of the marching Melha Nobility.

A strong contingent from the Highlanders attended the Imperial Session in Toronto. Here they march proudly in the Imperial Parade.

Dromedary Award winners were on display at the Imperial Council Session in Toronto in July. The Melha News and the Aleppo News were the First Place winners this year in the annual competition.

Ill. Jeffrey Goodless, Melha Potentate, led the Melha contingent in the Imperial Session Parade in Toronto on a warm July day. He is followed by the Divan and the rest of the marching Melha Nobility.

The cost of the Melha Package is $445.00 per person (based on double occupancy) and includes: Room at the Marriott Harbourfront Halifax for three nights, famous Melha hospitality for three nights, banquet dinner. (Banquet will take place on Friday, September 17 at Citadel Hill with a choice of Lobster or Prime Rib.)

Payment is due by no later than August 31, 2010. No transportation to Halifax from Melha is available.

A schedule of events and other information will be available. Any questions or for additional information, contact Ed Griffin at 536-8691.

The Melha Northeast, 133 Longhill St., Springfield, MA 01108

Make my reservations as follows for the 2010 Northeast Field Days in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

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A strong contingent from the Highlanders attended the Imperial Session in Toronto. Here they march proudly in the Imperial Parade.

Melha will be staying at the beautiful Marriott Harbourfront Halifax. Discover this beautiful, waterfront hotel connected to the excitement of Casino Nova Scotia. Situated in the heart of downtown, this extraordinary casino hotel is steps away from the city’s top attractions. Amenities include: swimming pool, non-smoking restaurant, high-speed internet, pets allowed, hot tub, fitness facility, dry cleaning/laundry, business center, wheelchair accessible.

TO 2010 NORTH EAST

Fall Field Days
Halifax, Nova Scotia
September 16–18

Melha Northeast, 133 Longhill St., Springfield, MA 01108

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