SEPTEMBER 2011

MELHA SHRINERS, Springfield, Massachusetts 01108

**MELHA CALENDAR**

Sunday, September 4

WWare 250th Anniversary Parade. See Parade information inside.

Saturday, September 10

Franklin Shrine Club Potentate’s Reception. At the Butterfly Museum, Greenfield.

Friday, September 16

Diva Night. Special event just for the ladies has a number of fun and adventurous things lined up. See the ad on Page 10 for all the details.

Saturday, September 17

1st Annual Melha Golf Tournament. It takes place at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course, cost is $90 per golfer and dinner runs $30. See all the details in the ad inside.

Saturday, September 24

Belchertown 250th Anniversary Parade. See Parade Information on Page 3.

Monday, September 26

Big E Parade. Fez lets you in. See Parade information.

Wednesday, September 28

Stated Meeting. Bring your Fez and your dines card and learn the details on everything that is happening at Melha this fall.

Saturday, October 2

North Adams Fall Foliage Parade. See Parade schedule.

Saturday, October 8

First annual Melha Smoker. Like cigars? Then this just is the ticket. Price includes variety of handmade cigars, full-course steak dinner, tasting booth. Tickets are $100, tickets not available at the door. See ad on Page 12.

Saturday, October 29

Oriental Band’s Annual Halloween Party. This is a real fun tradition at Melha. You can attend in costume or as yourself—or both! It’s always a fun time and everybody who wants to have a good time will be there. Make your reservations and don’t miss it.

Denver Imperial Session Brings Annual Changes

Michael G. Severe of Erie, Colorado, was installed as Imperial Potentate of Shriners International at the Imperial Session held in Denver in July.

James Smith of Georgetown, Texas was elected Imperial Outer Guard as he begins his journey through the Imperial line.

Eimrat Shriners of Heidelberg, Germany, became the 194th temple in the Shrine fraternity. In addition, legislation was passed allowing dispensation—one of the first steps toward forming a new temple—in Mindanao, The Philippines. Imperial Sir Ralph W. Semb, Melha’s Potentate in 1987, became President of Cabiri International, the organization of Past Potentates.

These stories and more news from the Imperial Session appear inside.

—Story on Page 12

First Lady Announces Her Program for 2011-12

Shrine First Lady Patty Severe’s 2011-2012 fundraising program, “Stepping Forward Toward a Brighter Future,” is focused on increasing awareness and fundraising for pediatric burn care education and training.

Burn awareness is a subject that is extremely personal for First Lady Patty after losing her brother to burn injuries in a tragic accident. From experience, she knows that children who sustain burn injuries need the best care from trained and well-versed physicians, nurses and supporting clinical staff.

—Story on Page 12

Shriners Hospital Nurses Recognized by Foundation

The nurses at Shriners Hospital for Children in Springfield were presented with The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses at a ceremony held in the hospital auditorium during Nurses Week. The award is part of The DAISY Foundation’s program to recognize the super human efforts nurses perform everyday.

The award was presented to all the nurses who work at Shriners Hospital. “Each of our nurses provides compassionate, skilled nursing care in the various departments they work in throughout the hospital,” stated, Patricia King, Director of Patient Care Services.

—Story on Page 5

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Potentate’s Message

This summer has been a busy one and we still have a lot on tap. The Imperial Session in Denver proved to be a busy session. It was also a great time, in a great city. Dave and Carla organized the pilgrimage and assured everyone of fun. We were approved. We are truly an “International” organization now. Changes were adopted that will allow us to continue to process when it is available. The newly-elected Imperial Potentate has new ideas and plans for the “World’s Greatest Philanthropy” including allowing the local hospitals to become more involved in promoting themselves locally. Our Springfield Hospital is already well underway exploring options. There is a renewed interest in partnering with a local healthcare system. This will benefit both parties. Most importantly, we will continue to be able to help the children by providing the highest quality medical care “Shriners’ Style.” Our Hospital Board, Phil Thomas and all those who have worked so hard, and continued to work for the kids deserve all our thanks. The Chowder Bowl banquet was a success as always. Thank you to everyone who came to help and made the evening memorable. Mother Nature was good to us the whole weekend. The game was another hard fought game. To all who helped, selling raffle tickets, burgers or shirts, providing security, moving the chain markers or doing a myriad of other tasks... thank you. The Berkshire Shrine Club held their Potentate’s Reception and it was a great affair. Thank you Les and all our Berkshire nobility. Our “Hanover” weekend was fantastic. It was a very fun and relaxing getaway weekend, full of good fellowship. Thank you Ray and Denise, you did a superb job in putting it all together. Congratulations to the Oriental Board for organizing a very successful golf tournament. I had a blast, despite my score. The Past Masters ran two events I would like to mention. They held their Railroad Degree and there was a great turn out. The Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, M.W. Robert J. Stewart, was present. He had previously taken the degree so he helped put the rest of us uninitiated through our paces. It was a fun evening. The Past Masters also held their annual BBQ picnic. Again, we were honored to have the Grand Master in attendance. The weather was a bit soggy, but we moved inside and had a great meal. After dinner, a very short business meeting was held during which it was my honor to present the Grand Master with an honorary membership to Melha Temple. Melha has a number of events coming up in the near future. The Northeast Field Days will be here soon. This year it is in our backyard so I know Melha will be well represented. If you are not able to join us for the weekend, but are only able to come to Hyannis for the parade, please try to stop by our hospitalroom. There are many events announced elsewhere in the News. Please mark these events down in your calendars and make every effort to support the units and clubs running them. The Family picnic and parade at Six Flags, the Riders’ Hospital run, the Melha Golf Tournament and the First Annual Melha Smoker are only a few. Melha’s Raffle is ongoing and needs everyone’s support. Offer the tickets to friends and coworkers. It is a great opportunity and is an important fund raising effort that directly supports your Melha facilities, programs and activities. Nobles, we need to redouble our efforts in the area of membership. It is not the job of one person, or one committee to promote membership. It is every Noble’s responsibility. Next time you are in Lodge, look around. Do you see someone who is not a member of Melha? Invite them to attend an upcoming event with you. Do you work with good men who are not Masons or Shriners? Ask them if they have heard of the Shriners, and if not, tell them. Invite them on a tour of our Hospital. Show them a copy of the Melha News! If every Noble reading this will bring in one new member, Melha will prosper for years to come. Also, if you know, or become aware of any Noble who is having a difficult time paying his dues; please help them call me or Lil Phil Thomas. The Jan Garvey Fund has been established specifically for the purpose of aiding any Noble who, for whatever reason, finds himself in need of temporary assistance. Let all work together to develop new members and assure we retain those who are currently members. Thank you Nobles for all you do each and every day.

Gardner Whitney, Potentate
1. The Melha metal recycling drive is still going strong. Bring your scrap metal, your neighbors’ or a relative’s to the scrap metal container in our lower parking lot. Income helps the hall renovation project.

2. Membership continues to be our main priority. We need to focus on this. We need members short and simple. Spread the word about www.beashrinernow.com. All the information anyone needs to be a Mason or Shriner is on this site, check it out and be familiar with it.

3. For all the new members for 2010/2011 we hope you have been able to join one of our units or clubs. Any questions you may have please call the Recorder at 413-736-3647.

4. Our computer system has been replaced due to storm damage. What this means is that all door key cards need to be reprogrammed as they will not open the doors. If you haven’t brought your key card into the Recorder’s office for reprogramming you need to do this if you plan to enter any of the temple doors. Or you may mail it into the Recorder’s office.

5. Unit and Club dates are needed for the 2012 calendar book. Reservation forms need to be made.

### PARADE INFORMATION

**Sunday, September 4, Ware 250th Anniversary Parade.**
- Bus leaves Melha at 10:30 a.m. Line up at 11:30 a.m., stop off at 1:00 p.m. Stage on South St., next to Mary Lane Hospital.

**Saturday, September 24, Belchertown Parade.**
- Forms at 8:30 a.m. at Cold Spring School, 57 South Main St., Belchertown. After party at Dan Smith’s house in Belchertown.
- **Monday, September 26, Big E Parade, West Springfield.**

**Forms at 4 p.m. behind the Avenue of States. Steps off at 5 p.m. sharp from behind the Avenue of States. Your Fez allows entrance to the Big E. Use Gate 1. A shuttle from Agawam Middle School at 4:45 for those who need to park; a shuttle back at 8:15.**

**Sunday, October 2, Fall Foliage Parade.**
- Bus leaves Melha at 8:30-9, lineup at 11:30, steps off at 1 p.m.

**Sunday, October 9, Orange Parade.**
- Bus leaves Melha at 9:30, line up at 11:30, steps off at 1 p.m.
An Explanation of Why Our Fraternity Is Now Known as Shriners International

Back in 1872, when the Shriner’s fraternity was established, it made perfect sense to emphasize the middle-Eastern motif of the organization by naming it the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

While the fraternity is still based on fun, fellowship that tongue-twisting formal name, nor the more commonly used name of Shriner of North America, fit the organization of today.

Now there are active members of the fraternity located around the world and an increasing effort to reach and recruit new members on an international scale.

Consequently, at the Imperial Session last year in Toronto a resolution was passed to officially replace the corporate name, “The Imperial Council of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine for North America.” The resolution also stated that Shriners International should replace the name and any abbreviated versions of it (such as Shriner of North America).

Nobles are encouraged to use Shriners International when referring to the fraternity, both in speech and in any temple publications they produce.

Also, just as a reminder, at the 2002 Imperial Session, a proposal to replace the word “temple” with the word “Shriner,” when the term is used as a proper name for a group of Nobles was passed. For example, Mecca Temple became Mecca Shriners.

The word “temple” can still be used to designate general groups of Shriner’s, or the building where Shriner’s gather. For example, there are now 193 temples located in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, the Republic of Panama and the Philippines, with another temple in Germany currently under dispensation. There are also affiliated clubs located around the world.

Whether we are attracting interest and members globally or locally, we want to be sure we make it as easy as possible for potential Shriner’s to understand who we are and what we do.

All of these changes are part of an effort to increase membership by using terms people everywhere can understand, accept and respond to in a positive way.

A gathering of Melha Nobles and Ladies joined regular patrons at The Still in Agawam which raised several hundred dollars for the Cleft Lip program at Shriners Hospital.

Many Nobles and Ladies had their photos taken this Spring for inclusion in the 2011 souvenir book produced by Melha. Here Bill Zabik sits before the camera for one of the poses for the photographer.

A donation of $1,000 was made by the Knights of Columbus – Fairview Council #4044 in Chicopee. Making the presentation from left, Norman Fleury, Fairview Council F.D.D., P.G.K., Ill. Gardner Whitney, Melha Potentate, Mark Niederpruem, hospital administrator, and Raymond E. LaMarche, Grand Knight of Council #4044.

Isabella, top left photo, was selected as a hospital ambassador for the Chowder Bowl All-Star Classic held in June. She is shown at the game banquet where she addressed the attendees and spoke about her experiences as a patient and thanked the Shriners for their help. Photo to the right is of John Hesslein, general manager of CBSSpringfield who was the main speaker at the event.

Ill. Pete Spaulding, P.P., chairman of the Chowder Bowl football classic, left, is shown with Ill. Gardner Whitney, Melha Potentate, and John Hesslein, general manager of CBSSpringfield with his daughter. Mr. Hesslein was the main speaker at the event and is shown receiving a Chowder Bowl golf shirt and other game-related memorabilia.

A fundraiser for First Lady Robin’s Cleft Lip and Palate program was held at The Still, a pub in Agawam. Shown, from left, First Lady Robin Whitney, Ill. Gardner Whitney, Potentate, and Becky Maslar who co-owns The Still with her father, Jack Maslar. Jack is a longtime member of the Melha Clowns.

An Honorary Membership in Melha was presented to Most Worshipful Richard J. Stewart, Grand Master of Massachusetts at the Past Masters’ steak roast at Melha in June. A short meeting of the unit was convened in the Golden Fez Room where the presentation was made.

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Nurses at Springfield Shriners Hospital Recognized by the Daisy Foundation

The nurses at Shriners Hospital for Children in Springfield were presented with The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses at a ceremony held in the hospital’s auditorium during Nurses Week. The award is part of The DAISY Foundation’s program to recognize the super human efforts nurses perform everyday. The award was presented to all the nurses who work at the hospital. “Each of our nurses provides compassionate, skilled nursing care in the various departments they work in throughout the hospital,” stated Patricia King, Director of Patient Care Services.

Presenting the award was Bonnie and Mark Barnes of the not-for-profit Daisy Foundation based in Glen Ellen, CA. The foundation was created in memory of their son I. Patrick Barnes. Patrick died at the age of 33 in 1999 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known and uncommon auto-immune disease. The care Patrick and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired the Barnes’ mission of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and patient families.

At the presentation the nurses received a certificate commending them for being “Extraordinary Nurses.” The certificate reads: “In deep appreciation of all you do, who you are, and the incredibly meaningful difference you make in the lives of so many people.”

For this first award in honor of all the nurses, the hospital received a beautiful and meaningful sculpture called “A Healer’s Touch” hand-carved by artists of the Shona Tribe in Africa. The statue is on display in the hospital’s lobby. Said, Bonnie Barnes, President and Co-Founder of The DAISY Foundation, “When Patrick was critically ill, our family experienced first-hand the remarkable skill and care nurses provide patients every day and night. Yet these unsung heroes are seldom recognized for the super-human work they do. The kind of work the nurses at Shriners Hospital for Children are called on to do every day epitomizes the purpose of The DAISY Award.”

We are proud to be among the hospitals participating in The DAISY Award program. Nurses are heroes everyday. It’s important that our nurses know their work is highly valued, and the DAISY Foundation provides a way for us to do that,” said Mark L. Niederpruem, Hospital Administrator.

Ronald McDonald House, Shriners Hospital Partner for Over 20 Years

For over 20 years, the Shriners Hospital for Children and the Ronald McDonald House in Springfield have forged a strong community partnership. Shriners H ines, nurses, therapists, orthotists, psychologists, support staff and members of the Shriners Fraternity.

The team works together to provide follow up care to existing patients and to examine prospective patients for future care. Existing patients are monitored for how their orthopaedic condition may or may not be progressing along with their normal growth and development. Patients who were recently operated on at the hospital and have returned home are also seen. Over 2,000 children are seen in outreach clinics each year.

Some of these clinics are held within 90 miles of the hospital while others are held halfway around the world. The facilities in these locations can mirror our own hospital or be a makeshift exam room in a room in an office building with or without electricity. Seeing children and their families in their own community provides the medical team an appreciation and understanding of the environment our patients live in.

Outreach clinics are an extension of our services that take into account the hardships families face with a sick child and the costs associated with travel expenses and time off from work. Additionally, the good will outreach clinics bring to the hospital, the fraternity and to the community at-large is positive and pays dividends many times what the actual clinical costs.

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**ELECTRICAL II**

**TEAM CIRCUS**

By Al Zippin

It’s time to get moving now on the 2012 circus! We will be holding our first full Team Circus meeting for the 2012 circus on Monday, September 26th. As always we will have a Steering Committee meeting at 6:30 and the Team Circus meeting at 7:30. We are going to present some new ideas for promoting our circus in general and for promoting ad sales, which is an extremely crucial revenue flow that we desperately need each year. On that topic, we really need to do something to get people to send us in the ads that they sell much more promptly. We always have people who send us checks in March right at the drop dead date for submitting ads that were written in January or February for ads that they sold. This is why I send messages out about how far behind we are at times. For the 2011 circus we were $20,000 behind where we were at the same point in March of 2010 and then many ads came in at the last minute. We are always thankful for whatever ads we get and yet we need to find ways to get them in more quickly for several reasons. Some of us have been working on the 2012 circus since the end of May and there are feelings of optimism about the up-coming circus for good reasons.

No one can make this successful alone. To me Team Circus is the most important asset we have when it comes to making the circus operations go smoothly. You— all of you who are members of the Melha family— Nobiles, Ladies and family members—are the most important assets Melha has and we need you to become active in the single most important fund raising activity we currently have—the Circus, the proceeds from which benefit everyone in Melha!

Please consider joining Team Circus. We are always looking for more members to make the circus proceeds grow and we can do that! Our meetings are always on the 4th Monday of the month unless otherwise announced and we usually do not meet in July or August. Come to the meeting on the 26th. Your presence will be appreciated.

**MILITARY BAND**

By Dave Yeager

Hello fellow bandmates and all Nobles! Regrettably I have missed the fellowship of my bandmates for the last few weeks, but as they say, the band played on! I was informed we even got a new member recently.

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**2012 circus! We will be holding our first**

**send in the ads that they sell much more**

**promptly. We always have people who**

**already been enjoyed. On Tues. the 3rd we’re set to appear at**

**in the LS extra edition of Northampton. In September we go to**

**the 4th. The long-awaited band picnic is on the 6th. And then: the Bi**

**You will not be disappointed! So long until next time, bandmates and Nobles.**

**By Mike Greenberg**

I hope everyone had a good summer. Despite the heat and humidity the riders have been busy. The Riders and Mini Choppers had a great 4th of July parade showing and I hear there was quite the event at Tommy Miller’s. Afterwars were fluffed each Wednesday at September and Raffle tickets were sold each Thursday night in downtown Springfield. The Rider’s BBQ was a great time despite the lower than expected attendance. Bubs and Pete Silvano kept us well fed.

Spanky wussied out of competing in the hiker burnout challenge. He and his ratty bike must be getting old. I will report on the Hospital Run next month.

The Choppers had a great 4th of July parade with the glocks, and then there may be some Bylaw changes brought in your bottle or purchased a party at Tommy Miller’s afterwards. I hope everyone had a good summer.

**Military Bands**

**By Jim Marceau**

As I sit here writing this article in early August, the DCA (Drum Corps Associates) National Championships in Rochester, NY, have not yet taken place. Last year we attempted to compete, but we suffered an unfortunate vehicle breakdown on the way, and never made it. This year we need to get our act together. We have not played at a level higher than we have ever attempted before! But watching that is always great.

So, does everyone now have a new key to the unit room and a functioning key card to the Temple? If the office has not renewed your card, it will not work. Get in touch with me ASAP for another situation.

Another event which will already have taken place now by our Drum Corps Luncheon on August 21. This event was organized by VP Ron Mongeon, who, I’m sure, did an excellent job. We need to keep this a strong event to thanks to Ron for all the hard work. By the way, Ron may have a new snare drummer for us soon. I will not use a name, but will simply say, thanks the Hammer.

And I recently attended a DCI show in Lawrence. The very unpopular choice for winner was the Blue Devils. Almost everyone there, including Ron and this article writer, felt that the Cadets show was far more enjoyable and should have won. Santa Clara and the Crusaders came in 3rd and 4th respectively. I really liked Boston’s show, although it wasn’t as clean as the other corps were.

Gazing into the crystal ball, I see us performing at the Mass Boasts Tornado Relief Concert on Sunday, October 16, at 3:00 pm, at the Coliseum in West Springfield. The plan is to play a couple of numbers with the glocks, and then perform the ensemble. We have also been asked to join in at the finale with the massed bands playing Amazing Grace. Tickets will be a $10 donation for adults. All are invited.

We will also play at the 2012 Potentate’s Reception in April, as we have been requested to do so. Ron has some unusual and interesting ideas for the dress code for that evening. Come to rehearsals to find out what he is proposing.

**By Don George**

Summer is over and it is back to business as usual. We have had good attendance at the dance meetings and we are making good progress on the Rain out Plan to help Kids Walk.

The rain date is September 11, 2011, rain or shine. You have time to get additional sponsors and we have vendor spots available as well. We need your help to make this event a success and have proceeds available to donate to the hospitals.

We have mailed letters to past sponsors and Al and Bill have developed a list of potential sponsors that will also receive letters and sponsor forms.

We had a good turnout of members at the East Longmeadow parade and we received a list of potential sponsors that will also receive letters and sponsor forms.

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We have mailed letters to past sponsors and Al and Bill have developed a list of potential sponsors that will also receive letters and sponsor forms. We also have the paper drive coming up in September and can use help for this event also. We will be at Walmart in Westfield.

Let’s look forward to seeing you at the meetings on the first Tuesday and third Friday.
By Brian Prefontaine

Greetings all from the Melha Sportsman Club. Our membership continues to grow as interests spark in a couple of recent activities. Numerous members visited Smith & Wesson in Springfield for a tour of the firearms manufacturing facility, followed by time on their very impressive target range. Various pistols were provided, most impressive were their 357 Magnum and .45 acp semi-automatics. Many thanks go out from the club to Danielle Sanville, Jay Bathgate, and Bob Draper from Smith & Wesson, and to Noble Bob Wood for setting this up for the club.

On July 30th, the club engaged in a Paintball Tournament at Carmelot’s in Chicopee against a group from Honda Financing. It was a fun-packed day of adventure with a turnout of 28 people, and a win-for both teams. Another tournament is planned for this fall during cooler weather.

The Sportsman Club welcomes other clubs to get involved with us, maybe share interests and adventures. Contact us via e-mail at melhasportsman@aol.com to present ideas, areas of interest, and subject expertise you may have that is still a bit unclear to me, but many thanks to those who have sent comments to serve! It should be an exciting season for the Nomination Committee.

By Craig (Doc) Kazin

Well, after one tornado, one microburst, and a lot of heat, humid weather, the end of summer is in sight! I hope this column finds you safe and rested. Your Melha Clowns have been right in the thick of things, covering countless gigs over this period. The reporter conveys the thanks of the unit to all of you clowns that “greased up” under less than favorable clowning conditions. Your Shrine (and the kids in the hospital) are most grateful.

Over the summer, our First Assistant, Jim (Wingnut) Beauregard needed to resign his position in the line, and, as of this writing, Dave (So Lo) Merrick has been asked to step up and help the Secretary, Jonathan (Dimples) George and Second Assistant Mike (Alley-Doo) Mitchell to perform the tasks incumbent upon those listed officers. Who is doing what is still a bit unclear to me, but many thanks to those who have consented to serve! It should be an exciting season for the Nomination Committee.

Just so you know, the Nomination Committee is composed of the three most recentClown Chiefs. If you are keeping track at home, that would be yours truly, Gary (Where is Gilligan?) Spear, and Roy (Cuddle Who Must Be With Gilligan) Martin. This group is charged with presenting a slate of officers for the 2012 calendar year at the October 2011 Business meeting. At that meeting (and the subsequent Fun Night), current Chief Rick (Shorty) Pirog will open the floor to nominations from the floor. At the November meeting, we will vote for the 2012 officers.

Shorty and the rest of the Executive Board would like to encourage those who are so inclined (and qualified – read your bylaws!) to approach any member of Nominating Committee about serving in the line. It is important to realize that it does represent a commitment that should not be entered into lightly, and one that we hope will take you four years to complete. The rewards (and abuse) are very much worth it.

Alley-Doo wants to encourage you all to support our HUGE gig at the Three County Fair in Northampton on September 2-5. The Fair is showing us a tremendous amount of support, so it would be great for us to do the same for them! Why not get in touch with Booking Agent Mike Mitchell and let him know your plans!

Congratulations to Marty (Oddball) Myrick and Joel (Jews) Miller for demonstrating a huge commitment to supporting one unit by delivering huge numbers of gigs for us and being voted ‘Active’. Way to go, you guys! Happy (belated) Birthday to Mike (Deeper) Sklarski, who is stubbornly clinging to a check I gave him right after the Circus. (No interest accrues on that, Deeper?) Well, that’s it for now. Remember to make someone smile today!

By Lance Whitcomb

Well, summer is winding down and fall is just around the corner; seems like snow just disappeared from my yard! In the next few months: Belchertown, Mt. Washington, and a lot of hot, humid weather, the August 15th, if that date works for everyone. Bring a dish to share and everything. Bring a dish to share and everything. Bring a dish to share and everything.

Saturday, December 10, again tentative. Since we are not a large group, it is open to new ideas, and would like to expand across clubs and organizations within and outside of our nobility.

Members of the Melha Sportsman Club tour Smith & Wesson in Springfield.

PIONEER VALLEY POT BELLIES

By Jim Marceau

Greeting to all the “cuzzins” out there. Ben has the “flax,” as he calls it, and asked me to write this article for him. I said OK, so here we go. The last meeting of the group was small but a doughty band assemble at Ron and Sally Gagnon’s house for a cookout/pot-luck picnic. None of the 21 present decided to wade into Ron’s cee-ment pond out of fear of the mosquitoes! They sure grow them big out in the boonies of Westfield. Nobody wanted to get carried off! In spite of the winged danger all around us, a good time was had by all. Too bad you missed it.

Looking ahead, our next get together will be on Wednesday, September 21, at 6:30 pm, at Tony and Debbie Lenour’s. I know he now lives in Sixteen Acres (or is it on sixteen acres?), so you will have to call him or President MacKinnon (sounds political) for directions. At this cookout/pot-luck picnic, we will discuss plans for the Fall Festival, tentatively set for Saturday, October 15; if that date works for everyone and everything. Bring a dish to share and your ideas with you.

Further on, we have a November 16 meeting date, probably not a cookout, at a site TBD, and the Holiday Party set for December 10, again tentative. Whatever we do not a large group, it is important that everyone who can plans to attend and give their input. So mark those calendars, and don’t forget to Honor that Corncob!
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EAST LONGMEADOW, MA 01028

By John H. Doughty IV

The Franklin Shrine Club meets the second Monday of each month at Harmony Lodge in Montague at 6:30PM. We welcome all Shriners to join us for a great time of fraternal fellowship and fun. Contact Malcolm Coris (314-369-4688) or Donald Scott (413-256-6980) for more information.

The Franklin Shrine Club will hold our Potentate's Reception on September 10, 2011 at 6:00PM at Magic Wings in South Deerfield. There will be a buffet meal following our presentation to the Potentate. The cost is $25 per person which includes a free hour-long visit to the Butterfly Tropical Conservatory. To make a reservation, contact John Doughty (508-843-3238) or Malcolm Coris (413-369-4688).

We are planning another paper drive for October 1. We have had great success with our paper drives donating over $1,000 in the past year to the Transportation fund for the Shriners Hospital.

Donald Scott is putting together an e-mail list so we can keep our members informed of the Franklin Shrine Club activities. Send Don your e-mail address to dondick890@gmail.com. If you haven’t paid your dues please send the $5 dues to Don Scott.

On September 8, 2011 the Franklin Shrine Club will be hosting a reception for the Potentate on September 10th. The Walkathon at the Shrine Hospital will be held at 9 a.m. on September 17th. The Melha Golf Tournament is also being held on the 17th. More information on these events will be in this newsletter.

The stated meeting for September will be held on Wednesday the 28th at 7:30 p.m. Casual dress with Fez and membership card is required.

The newly formed “New Members Club” is looking for your support. Mentors are needed. They meet the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Golden Fez room.

For those taking the degree the cost is $30. Reservations can be made by calling Bob Allard at 413-783-5189. All dues for 2012 will be $10. If you haven’t paid them ASAP.

One of the members of our unit, Mark Mueller, was made a 33rd Scottish Rite Mason in Chicago. Congratulations go out to Mark for receiving this well deserved honor. Don’t forget the Big E parade on September, 26th, 2011. Check the local newspapers for the temple events. Please support your Blue Lodge and get involved.

By John H. Doughty IV

Welcome Back out of the Dark. Hello all enjoy all your summer as much as my wife and I did. Can’t believe it’s coming to an end already. Believe it or not we have a very busy month. We have a few parades coming up this month. The first one is being held on September 4th. It is Ware’s 250th Anniversary Parade. The town of Belchertown is also celebrating its 250th Anniversary with a Parade on September 24th, and on the 29th of the month we have the Big E Parade. The attendance for parades has improved this year and we hope this trend will continue. We would like to commend our Directors who have stepped up to the challenge. Let’s keep up the momentum.

The Hadij/Directors Dinner meetings are back in swing. The first one will be held on Thursday, September 8th at 6:30 p.m. If you plan to attend any of the dinner meetings please call Vince Bradley at 413-277-0138 so he can get a head count for the meal. Hope to see you all there.

The Franklin Shrine Club will be hosting a reception for the Potentate on September 10th. The Walkathon at the Shrine Hospital will be held at 9 a.m. on September 17th. The Melha Golf Tournament is also being held on the 17th. More information on these events will be in this newsletter.

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By Richard Poudrier

Summer is over and the craft goes back to work. The Past Masters unit recessed during the summer as you know. At our June meeting our unit had its annual picnic. The Grand Master showed up alone despite the pouring rain. The rain didn’t dampen the spirits of those in attendance. At the meeting following the dinner, the new bylaws were approved and voted to be accepted. One of the changes was to raise our dues from the current $5 to $10. Therefore the dues for 2012 will be $10. If you haven’t paid your 2011 dues as yet, please pay them ASAP.

There is a tentative date for the next
By Paul Bryant
Attention! The Legion will hold its annual paper drive on September 9th and 10th. The locations are the Stop & Shop in the K-Mart plaza in Holyoke, the Stop & Shop on Boston Road in Springfield and the Shop Rite (formerly Shaw’s) in Enfield, CT. The times for each location will be 9000 to 1900 hours. Stop by the legion post in the Foshole to select your time and location. There are three parades listed in the calendar. The first is on September 4th for the Ware 250th Anniversary Parade. The second is on September 24th in Belchertown, also, according to the calendar, a 250th anniversary parade. The third is the Big E parade on Monday, September 26th. For information on these and any other parades I may have missed see the Parade Marshall’s article.

On Saturday, September 17th, Melha will be hosting the First Annual Melha Golf Tournament at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course in Feeding Hills. There is a shotgun start beginning at 8:00AM. Golf will be $90 per person and includes golf w/cart and dinner at the Melha Shrine Center. The cost for dinner only is $30.00. Contact Bill Faust @ (413) 246-9858.

Past Commander Dick Marceau has the following information available for the Washington, DC trip. The bus will depart from Melha at 0730 on Thursday, November 3rd, returning at approximately 1930 hours on Sunday, November 6th. We will be staying at the Holiday Inn in Arlinton, VA.

A sightseeing tour of the George Washington Masonic Memorial and the Spy Museum will be included. We will also catch a performance by the Capital Steps. The trip is currently fully booked but there is a waiting list for any openings that may occur. Contact Dick Marceau for information at (413) 583-4487. As you were.

“The problem is not that people are taxed too little, the problem is that government spends too much.” —Ronald Reagan

Membership Ambassadors
Public Relations

By Al Zippin
As anticipated there has been very lit- tle activity with this committee over the summer. The membership issue is still the most daunting item that needs to be addressed and will be the next step in coming about a membership strategy for recruiting new Nobles, retaining those who have and working to regain those that have demised and/or have been suspended for dues issues. Although this committee was formed to address Membership (M), Ambassadors activi- ties (A) and Public Relations (P), the membership task will be the absolute priority for the committee, but in reality for every Noble who has an interest in keeping Melha alive for the future. We all need to replace ourselves by bringing in at least one new Noble each year and that is not a very difficult goal to achieve. We now have access to more than 300 names of Masons who live in the Melha jurisdiction and are not yet Nobles. That list will be the basis of our strategy for membership gains, but it cannot be successful without the use of public relations efforts and the proactive support of the Ambassadors and in fact, the same support from every Noble. Stay tuned for further information and be ready to respond!! Remember our fellow Nobles who may need our assistance with their dues. Send a donation in to the Jim Garvey Fraternal Fund in any amount whenever you get the chance to do so.

By Evy Schoolcraft
Country Aire brought fun to those close, hope you had a good one. Many thanks go out to those who participated in the many gigs we attended since the last issue. There are sign-up sheets in the Highlanders room for upcoming events, please sign up. The Monday night break- fast club has met several times over the last few months thanks to our hosts, Bob, Dick, Bob and Saul. Please save Oct. 16th in your calendar for the Maria Bando’s Tomado Relict Concert, which our band is the host band. Come on down to the Shrine Center on Monday nights for rehearsal. We are looking to recruit new drummers and bring back some of the older ones. That’s all for now, hope to see you soon.

James J. Garvey Memorial Gala
To benefit the Melha Shriners Auditorium Renovation Project Saturday, September 24 Social at 6 p.m. (Dinner or Steak and Barbecue) (33 Longhill St., Springfield, MA DJ — Dancing — Raffle $20.00)

The family of the late Jim Garvey has a fund-raising event for the benefit of the Shrine Center in Jim’s name. Funds will be for the renovations of our auditorium. The goal is to generate funds through: Ticket sales, donations of prizes/gifts to be raffled off at the event and monetary donations made in lieu of or in addition to items mentioned above. Your support will be appreciated by the Garvey family. For further information and please contact:

Dene Garvey — 413-262-4322 or Joanne Garvey — 413-525-7998

The Best Way Home
Erin Morris
The courage to ask for help
Bankruptcy and alternatives.

Melha News
THE
SEPTEMBER 2011
9
LEAGUE OF
HONOR

By Evy Schoolcraft
Country Aire brought fun to those who participated. Now we’re looking forward to a great time at Jim and Joanne Maynard’s the 26th of August. Those who’ve been there at other cam- pouts know the Mayrands reach out to each camper, making the entire event one no one wants to miss. Friends, enter- tainment, great food, and a wonderful host and hostess make this outstanding time a must on everyone’s list. September brings our annual campout in Salisbury, MA, where we enjoy sand, swimming, the seafood festival, and watching the boats skim along the canal. Lobster tops the Saturday night menu, along with fresh-picked corn, shrimp cocktail and, maybe, steamed clams. Don’t forget the cocktail and, maybe, steamed clams. Hope to see many of you there.
The September meeting of the BSC will be held at the Pittsfield Masonic Lodge, 16 South St. in Pittsfield, on Sept. 14. Social is at 6pm with dinner at 7pm. The cost is $12 pp and reservations are due made to Pres. Les Rhinemiller at 413-743-9615.

Pres. Les is starting a new drive to get new members. If you know a Master Mason who is not a Shriner, invite him and his Lady to the next meeting so they can see what fun we have at the meetings and learn just what we do. The club will pick up the cost of their dinners. Be sure to make reservations for them.

Mark your calendars: August 28, North Adams Car Show, Main St. No. Adams from 9 am to 3 pm. Bring your cars! If you don’t have a car bring yourself and your Pez.

September 8, Franklin Co. Fair Parade Line up at 5pm. Step off at 6pm. Bring your cars and Pez. No car come with your Pez; any questions call Mark Fedor at 413-663-9825.

October 8, Safety Day, Pittsfield Walmart 11am to 2pm. Bring your car and Pez. No car bring yourself and your Pez. October 15, Paper Drives, Pittsfield and No. Adams - Wal-Marts at 9 am, Bring yourself and your Pez.

December 11, Christmas Party, Bass Water Grill in Cheshire at 2 pm. There are a lot of events going on. Come to all if you can, if not come to those you can. Looking forward to seeing you.

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**SOMETHING SURPRISINGLY SPECIAL**

If you think the national pastime is baseball, you would be wrong. We all know it’s eating, and eating well.

The ladies of the Melha Shriner’s have gathered their best recipes in a new cookbook. If you like to cook, what could be better than over 200 tried-and-true favorites that will get you more compliments than botox and put more smiles on faces than macaroni and cheese (that’s in there, too).

The book contains recipes for appetizers and beverages, soups & salads, vegetables & side dishes, main dishes, desserts and more. The hardcover book will stay open on the page you select and the methods are short and easy to follow.

What’s the best part? Well, the book only costs $15, and the really best part is that proceeds go to the Butterfield Auditorium renovation project. Now that’s a Home Run!

What a treasure to own and, with all the important holidays just ahead of us, you’ll find that “something special” inside, and what a wonderful gift this would be for your fussy Aunt Tillie.

To get your copy, give a call to Robin Whitney at 413-568-6048 or Louise Griffin at 413-536-8691.

These books are in limited supply, order one today before they’re gone!

Copies of the cookbook are for sale in the Melha Office. Stop in during regular business hours.

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**Advertising in The Melha News is easy and affordable**

No matter what you’re advertising, it will be seen by every Shrine family—in print and on the Internet.

Advertising rates are as follows:

- 1 col. by 1 inch: $95.00
- 1 col. by 2 inches: $180.00
- 1 col. by 3 inches: $270.00
- 1 col. by 4 inches: $360.00
- 2 cols by 2 inches: $360.00
- 2 cols by 3 inches: $540.00
- 2 cols by 4 inches: $720.00
- 2 cols by 6 inches: $1,080.00
- 1/2 page: $280 per issue
- Full Page: $560 per issue

One column width is 2.375”

Two columns: width is 4.916”

For additional information on how to advertise in The Melha News call Ed Gelinas at 413-568-6120 or the Melha Office at 413-736-3647.

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The day could not have been more perfect. Phil and Jenna came to visit with Sarah and we walked the campus (I still can’t get over how beautiful it is!). We stopped and had ice cream and played a game of croquet – Sarah’s idea! She has SO much energy, and there is so much here to keep US ALL occupied! She wants to come up next weekend for the watercolor class! Maybe I’ll take Sarah to the neighborhood gardens in the morning. We could cut some flowers for her to bring into class. Roses happen to be her favorite. MINE, TOO! I love having them visit! This is BETTER than I ever imagined!

Everyone has a story to tell. Start your next chapter at The Overlook. Contact us today to schedule your tour of central Massachusetts’ most desirable community for those 62 and better.

www.overlookcommunities.org 866.753.5429

Sponsored by Masonic Health System of Massachusetts

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- Please send me more information.
- Please keep me informed of news & upcoming events.
- Please contact me to schedule a tour.

Please fill out this form and mail to: The Overlook, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton, MA 01507

Name: 
Address: 
City: State: Zip:
Phone: E-mail: Aleppo 7/07
**Article submitted by Shriners Hospitals for Children-Boston.**

**First Lady Patty’s Program**

It is traditional for the First Lady of the Shriners International to host a fundraising program to benefit Shriners Hospitals for Children.

First Lady Severe’s 2011-2012 fundraising program, “Stepping Forward to a New Future,” is focused on increasing awareness and encouraging for all medical burn care education and training.

Burn awareness is a subject that is extremely personal for First Lady Patty after losing her brother to burn injuries in a tragic accident. From experience, she knows that children who sustain burn injuries need the best care from trained and well-versed physicians, nurses and supporting clinical staff.

As noted in the Journal of Burn Care & Research and the Journal of Burn Care Rehabilitation, there are concerns in the medical community about the future availability of a sufficient number of surgeons and nurses specializing in burn treatment.

In addition, burn specialty care is not available in a formalized program, as nurses are taught on the job.

For these reasons, First Lady Patty’s goal is to raise funds to help a national educational fellowship for all medical professionals entering the burn reconstruction field. This fellowship will allow each medical professional to spend time at one of the four Shriners Hospitals for Children that specialize in burn care, and learn the necessary treatment protocols and models of practice from peers.

The First Lady’s program will help provide future pediatric burn patients the same level of expert, compassionate care from burn specialists. In addition, it will promote the medical education programs offered and ensure that Shriners Hospitals for Children continue to be the leader in pediatric burn care.

With each $25 donation, you will receive your choice of a lady’s beautiful pin or a gentleman’s handsome tie. An optional golden 18” chain, for those who wish to convert the pin to a necklace, is available for an additional $10 donation.

Multiple donations can be ordered.

Nobles or their ladies may wish to further support the First Lady’s program by ordering the pin or tie easily by downloading special promo cards to promote the sale and spreading the word in their temples or in their local communities.

Completed order forms can be sent with donations to Shriners International Headquarters, First Lady’s Program, Donor Relations Department, P.O. Box 31356, Tampa, FL 33631.