Melha’s First Annual Clambake was held in early September and was a favorite with the crowd. Here III. Ed and First Lady Louise admire two very appealing crustaceans. See story, photos on Page 4.

MELHA CALENDAR

Friday, October 4
Melha’s 3rd Annual Smoker. Tickets are $100 and a full course steak dinner and a lot of other goodies are being offered. Call the Melha Office for reservations.

Friday, October 18
Drum Corps Benefit Dinner. Help to support this award-winning unit.

Saturday, October 19
The Cher and Friends Show. Lisa Carter is back. See ad on Page 7 for ticket information and other details.

Wednesday, October 23
Stated Meeting. All Nobles are invited to attend to find out what is going on at Melha and events planned for the immediate future. Bring your dues card and Fez.

Saturday, October 26
Oriental Band Halloween Dance. We haven’t had one of these since last year. It’s always a blast and a really fun evening. We didn’t receive any information on this event at presstime, check with the Melha Office for available details.

Saturday, November 2
Directors Ladies Night. No information on this annual event was made available at presstime.

Sunday, November 10
The Melha Memorial Service. See ad inside for details.

Saturday, November 23
Ceremonial for 2013. This year’s honoree is III. Kirk Burkins, P.P. III. Kirk was Potentate in 2007 when he appointed Ill. Sir Ed Griffin to the line, and this class is named in his honor. See all the details on the Back Page.

MELHA SHRINERS, Springfield, Massachusetts 01108

Hospital Patients Become 2013 Hospital Ambassadors

A girl from South Carolina and a boy from Tulsa, both Shriners Hospitals patients, were honored by having the next Ceremonial Class named after them. They will be representing the thousands of children who receive care at the health care system every year. They share their stories to inspire others and help raise awareness of Shriners Hospitals for Children.

—Story on Page 5

Advance in Scar Treatment Uses Lasers at Boston Unit

Scar treatment is an integral part of patient care and healing at Shriners-Boston. Dr. Matthias Donelan, Chief of Plastic Surgery at Shriners-Boston, has worked for over 30 years on the latest innovations in scar treatment for his young patients. He and the team of plastic surgeons at the hospital are renowned for using state-of-the-art technologies to minimize scars—whether the scars were caused by new or old burns or injuries, or stem from congenital issues, such as port-wine birthmarks.

—Story on Page 5

The Ceremonial for 2013 Will Honor Kirk Burkins, P.P.

Melha’s Potentate for 2007 will be honored by having the next Ceremonial Class named after him. The Ceremonial will be open to ladies and guests this year and will feature the Arch Degree introduced to Melha for the first time last year.

—Details on Page 12

First Annual Clambake Gets High Ratings From Attendees

We’re not sure how many people attended Melha’s First Annual Clambake in September but you can catch a glimpse of the crowd in the photos in the spread on Page 4. If they all look busy socializing and chomping on clam chowder, sportsman club along with Dan Smith and a lot of others were responsible for the success of the event. We don’t know if they raised any funds but they pleased a lot of people under a big white tent.

Many said they hope there’s a second annual clambake next year.

—Story, photos on Page 4
Potentate’s Message

To all Shriners, Family & Friends
The summer is over and the fall run is just beginning. First up the Hanover Weekend. Bob & Nancy did a wonderful job; a great time was had by all. Dave & Bob did a bang up job as usual on the Saturday night dinner. Thank you for all your support. The Riders Run for the hospital was a very successful operation again this year with over 500 bikes and 800 people for dinner after. Mike Santos & friends did a wonderful job. I want to thank all the sponsors & friends who helped out. Another home run for Melha.

Next up the Tuned by Tuna Car Show. I want to thank Bill Frost for filling in for me. I was on an unplanned vacation in the Berkshires. Again the Riders stepped up to make this a real success. Thank you (Spanky) Scott Lavelle great job.

The Pioneer Valley Shrine Club put on a great dinner at CJ’s Restaurant in Monson. The food was great and the company was wonderful. Thank you Bob Frechette and Lady Joyce.

The Berkshire Shrine Club Pot’s Reception at the Bounti-Fare Restaurant was a great affair. Always a pleasure to be with the Nobles & Ladies of the Berkshires. A great time was had by all. Welcome new Noble Kurt Haswell.

The parade at the Sunset View Campground was a small thank you for all the support. The campground has donated a lot of money to the hospital over the years. Thanks Ill. Tony Koss and Lady Holly for a job well done.

The weekend of the 7th & 8th of Sept. was a very busy one. Sat. the 7th was the start of the sale at two Raymore & Flanagan stores, West Springfield and Boston Road. Springfield. Thanks to Deb Piskor and Mr. Dwyer from the West Springfield store. The hospital setup displays at both stores. Thank you Lee, Karen & Bernadette from the hospital. Thank you Pappy and the Riders for all your help. Without your help I could not have done the job. Thank you Leo from the clowns.

The Pioneer Valley Shrine Club held its Annual Car Show at the Moose Club. It was fabulous as usual. The Pot’s Pick was a 1999 Zimmer, one of only two made. A beautiful piece of machinery. Thank you John and all the vintage autos for a great job.

Sunday the 8th was the First Annual Clam & Lobster Fest. Shonn Monday & Lady Debra, Randy Wescott & Lady Carla, Dan Smith & Lady Denise, the Rainbow Girls, Ray & Denise Turri and my go to person Gary Block did a great job the first time out, and I almost forgot Doug the seafood delivery man. Also I want to thank all the volunteers who helped to put on this event and everyone who took part in the clam bake. There was plenty of food and the surprise dessert by Denise was the finishing touch.

I want to thank all the people who worked on this project, my Lady Louise for the clowder, and Ill. Phil for giving me a push to keep going. Thank you all. Don’t forget Arnold’s Meats and Schermherohn’s Seafood for their help and the many sponsors who gave donations.

Next the Big E parade and please push the Lisa Carter Show Oct. 19th. It should be a great show.
From the Editor's Desk

This month the Melha Drum Corps is sponsoring a fundraiser which will feature ham and beans and mac and cheese, this all-American fare will help the Drum Corps acquire much-needed musical instruments. The Drum Corps has been successful these past few years in competitions and brought much honor to Melha. Help them to look and sound better as they represent Melha throughout the Northeast. See the ad elsewhere on this page and make the call. . . . The Melha Drum Corps is raising funds for some much-needed new instruments. The Drum Corps has been busy participating in Drum Corps competitions and needs some new instruments to perform even better and to make Melha look good before the public. Help to support this award-winning unit in their efforts.

54. Melha Mini Choppers

You can make a contribution to the Renovation Project by sending a check to the Melha Office made out to the Renovation Fund. To date the total amount contributed to the Renovation Fund is $40,965.48.

STATED MEETINGS

Stated Meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, October 23 and November 20, for the purpose of conducting the business of the Melha Shriners, as well as balloting 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.

Edward Griffin Potentate

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

Jack Butterfield Auditorium

RENOVATION PROJECT

GIFT LIST

54. Melha Mini Choppers

You can make a contribution to the Renovation Project by sending a check to the Melha Office made out to the Renovation Fund.

When the ball drops at midnight, where will you be? Be with Melha! See story on Page 6.

At the end of August most of the Divan and many Past Potentates gathered to celebrate the Potentate’s birthday. Here Ill. Ed Griffin receives a collective gift from the guests of a beautiful clock presented to him by Chief Rabban Bill Faust. Bill and Debbie Faust were responsible for putting the event together, and cooking was done by David and Carla Butterfield.

Attest: Philip E. Thomas, P.P.

DRUM CORPS BENEFIT DINNER

Friday, October 18

at Melha.

The Melha Drum Corps is raising funds for some much-needed new instruments. The Drum Corps has been busy participating in Drum Corps competitions and needs some new instruments to perform even better and to make Melha look good before the public. Help to support this award-winning unit in their efforts.

At the end of August most of the Divan and many Past Potentates gathered to celebrate the Potentate’s birthday. Here Ill. Ed Griffin receives a collective gift from the guests of a beautiful clock presented to him by Chief Rabban Bill Faust. Bill and Debbie Faust were responsible for putting the event together, and cooking was done by David and Carla Butterfield.

Make checks payable to Melha Drum Corps.

Deadline is October 13.

Tickets will be available at the door, but please call Jim Marceau with your reservation at 583-5192.

BUTTERFIELD AUDITORIUM

Events taking place in the Butterfield Auditorium in October-November:

Thurs., Oct. 3: Daughters of the Nile
Full Session

Fri., Oct. 4: 3rd annual Smoker

Sat., Oct. 5: Recycle Day

Sun., Oct. 6: 1st Ladies Fashion Show

Sat., Oct. 12: Hall Rental

Mon., Oct. 14: Columbus Day — office closed

Fri., Oct. 18: Drum Corps benefit dinner

Sat., Oct. 19: Cher & Friends Show

Wed., Oct. 23: Stated Meeting

Thurs., Oct. 24: Potentate’s Birthday Banquet

Fri., Oct. 25: Melha Golf League Banquet

Sat., Oct. 26: Oriental Ball

Fri., Nov. 1: Hall Rental

Sat., Nov. 2: Directors’ Ladies Night

Thurs., Nov. 7: Daughters of the Nile
Full Session

Fri., Nov. 8: Diva Night

Sun., Nov. 10: Melha Memorial Service

Mon., Nov. 11: Veterans Day — office closed

Fri., Nov. 15: LOSNA/Nile Night

Sun., Nov. 17: Lowman’s Party

Wed., Nov. 20: Stated Meeting

Thurs., Nov. 21: Daughters of the Nile
Patrol Rehearsal

Sat., Nov. 23: Ceremonial Dinner

Nov. 29-Dec. 7: Festival of Trees

Every Monday: The Highlanders

Every Tuesday: The Military Band

Every Thursday: Dinner at BNI Group

Any errors should be reported to Debra in the Melha Office at 413-736-3647.

Melha Memorial Service

Sunday, November 10, 2013, 3:00 p.m.

Honoring our departed fraternal brethren

FAMILIES OF DECEASED NOBLES, ALL NOBLES AND THEIR LADIES, AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

Light refreshments served following the service.
Melha’s First Annual Clambake Was September Gem

A number of Melha Nobles and Ladies worked extra hard to produce Melha’s First Annual Clambake. It took place in the Melha parking lot under a large white tent that shaded guests but allowed the cool breezes of a sunny September day to waft through. The meal was unhurriedly paced and consisted of homemade Clam Chowder, some of the largest steamers we’ve seen, and topped off with a lobster and a dessert to boot. There was a large crew of helpers on hand cooking and serving including Rainbow Girls. From the comments we heard, everyone enjoyed this family gathering. We give you an overview with the photos.

Potentate Ed Griffin thanks everyone for attending.
Two Shriners Hospitals Patients Were Chosen To Be Hospital Ambassadors for Year 2013-14

Olivia Stamps of Batesburg, S.C., and Brendon Wisely of Tulsa, Okla., were selected as the health care system’s national patient ambassadors for 2013-2014. Every year, Shriners Hospitals for Children chooses two national patient ambassadors to represent the thousands of children who receive care at the health care system every year. The ambassadors share their stories to inspire others and raise awareness of Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Olivia has cerebral palsy, which affects her mobility. She was diagnosed at Shriners Hospitals for Children—Chicago, but since moving to South Carolina, she has been cared for by the Shriners Hospital in Greenville, S.C.

Olivia has benefited from Shriners Hospitals’ expertise in treating the orthopedic effects of cerebral palsy and in movement analysis. In the movement analysis laboratories, high-speed cameras, reflective markers, force platforms and muscle sensors combine to record and measure how a child with a mobility impairment is moving. A team of professionals can then determine the best treatment plan to help the child improve.

After reviewing the data from Olivia’s analysis, her team recommended surgery to lengthen her heel cords and hamstrings. After surgery at age 6 and rehabilitative therapy, Olivia, now 10, has a perfect walking gait and can run, dance, jump on a trampoline, ride a bicycle and keep up with her peers.

Brendon loves to race. In fact, he was on the track in a micro junior car when he was 5, and is a track favorite in his hometown of Tulsa, Okla.

His ability to participate in the sport he loves nearly came to a quick end when he was 7 years old, and was injured in an accident involving a lawn mower. Although he lost a leg, the expertise of the prosthetics staff at Shriners Hospitals for Children—Shreveport and the health care system’s commitment to personalized attention and care combined to get Brendon back on track. Brendon is able to race again—the only difference—now he passes his helmet to collect donations for Shriners Hospitals.

An Advance in Scar Treatment at Boston Hospital Is With Use of Laser Treatments

Scar treatment is an integral part of patient care and healing at Shriners-Boston. Dr. Matthias Donelan, Chief of Plastic Surgery at Shriners-Boston, has worked for over 30 years on the latest innovations in scar treatment for his young patients. He and the team of plastic surgeons at the hospital are renowned for using state-of-the-art technologies to minimize scars—whether the scars were caused by new or old burns or injuries, or stem from congenital issues, such as port-wine birthmarks.

A recent advancement in the treatment of scars is the use of laser treatments, an innovation that Shriners-Boston was one of the first to adopt. Dr. Donelan first used lasers to treat birthmarks, but has since found laser therapy to be extremely effective for burn scars.

The light energy of the pulsed dye laser (PDL) shrinks the abnormal excess of blood vessels that form red scars or birthmarks (particularly port wine stains) under the surface of the skin—resulting in a decreased appearance of redness.

This method of treatment was not widely considered for burn scars at first, since lasers harness thermal energy to treat skin—in some ways similar to the thermal energy that creates burn injuries to begin with. The trick, says Dr. Donelan, is in the energy setting of the lasers. If set correctly, they will aid in the healing process and reduce the red colorization as was first used to reduce the redness of congenital birthmarks.

A newer innovation, the fractional ablative laser (also known as the carbon dioxide or CO2 laser), allows plastic surgeons to target the thick, fibrous, collagen of hypertrophic and contracted scars. This is achieved through the creation of thousands of tiny holes in the scar’s surface and substance while leaving adjacent areas untouched.

The fractional ablative laser can be used in two ways, both of them helping different characteristics of hypertrophic scars. Tiny, deep cores can be drilled into the scar which stimulate collagen remodeling. This softens, thins, and creates elasticity in the scar tissue. At different settings, tiny focal injuries to the epidermis and dermis of the scar can smooth the surface and correct abnormalities in pigmentation. Early results have demonstrated profound improvement in the quality and appearance of skin grafts and scars following burn injury.

Perhaps one of the best patient benefits of the innovative laser treatments is the ease with which they are completed. Patients receive laser treatment for scarring on an outpatient basis—allowing treatment to be continuous without interfering with a child’s schoolwork or social life.

To learn more about how scar treatment can change the life of a child, please contact Shriners-Boston directly at 617-726-3575.
Need can tabs. We use them to raise funds for the Shriners Hospital. Please help. Turn them in to—Florence Brittain 413-733-7307, Maxine Mercure 413-625-9775, or Pamela Bryant 413-531-7079.

One coupon per table per visit.

chases. Not redeemable for cash.

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LEGION OF HONOR

By Richard Skowron

Well the summer has passed, and the business meetings are now on the sec-

day Tuesday of the Month.

I guess the older we get, the seasons pass quicker.

Our parades have been attended with our Legion members, but it always seems the same members that can, because of our age creeping up on all of us, are there for the parades. We are all getting up in age. Our Color Guard Captain Pat Moore is a hard worker for our unit, always there for our help, and always getting everything ready for the parade, trailer, and float. We are blessed to have him in our unit.

I won’t say who, but Captain Half Track our right guard, is always ready to

March his name is opposite of day)?

Again I along with the Legion members have to bring up that we need help, in our officers Line, and committees as we are not getting enough to fill our slots.

It seems it is always the same mem-

bers that help as much as they can.

If you want our unit to survive, we desperately need help, and I am sure it’s not just Our Legion, but also other units.

I know no one wants to hear this, but please think about our unit and do what-

ever you can to help, it’s important for our unit, the Shrine Center and chil-

dren’s Hospital, we support.

I remind you all again for those who have internet access, make sure P.R. Rec-

order Phil Thomas has your email address. With the help of P.P. Russ Mitchell the Recorder gets important Shrine activities and functions out to us.

Again, remember volunteering will strengthen our unit. Remembering our Shrine Fraternal fund, it’s there for members who need help from us.

By Craig (Doc) Kazin

It’s hard to believe the summer is over. It was a hot, sweaty one, huh? Most of our make-up has dripped off and has puddled in our clown shoes! The summer was full of clown gigs, and there were almost too many to mention. Lately, we have been a fixture out on the
treadmill, there were almost too many to mention.

and has puddled in our clown shoes! The

Most of our make-up has dripped off

of the clowns, where you can try on

of the leadership is always good to support our new

Friends, the Three County Fair, and the Franklin County Fair in quick succession at the end of August and beginning of September.

Unfortunately, our Comedy Night fell through, but kudos to Past Chief Gary (Gilligan) Spear for trying his darnedest! Nobody seemed to want to support the event, and it is truly ALL of our loss...Kohl and Company are stupefied.

At our October 4 business meeting, nominations for Unit Officers will be held. Please contact the Nominating Committee if you have a friend in good standing who would enjoy the chal-

geo want to support the event, and it is truly ALL of our loss...Kohl and Company are stupefied.

with elections. The Nominating Committee, the Board of Directors, and the past officers will be holding elections at our November business meeting, so make sure you attend!

Attention Nobles!!! Have you ever wondered what it would be like to join that most mysterious unit...arguably the most fun unit in Melha? Could you imagine yourself in a uniform, makeup, and having fun with other people? Well, isn’t that the reason you joined Melha? It’s your chance! On Wednesday, October 16 at 7:00 pm, come to an open meeting of the clowns, where you can try on makeup, perhaps find a mentor, and potentially start your NEXT Shrine career. The Clowns are a marching unit, and we also have vehicles these days too! If you would like to show up, do so! If you think about it, send an e-mail to chief@melhaclowns.com to let Dave (So Lo) Merrick know you will be attending.

Get well wishes go out to all of our injured brothers. I wish (Jimbo) Kokot, Mark (Shake N Bake) Hager, and any others whom I have for-

In 2013 My wife and I manned it and had a great time. The Stop & Shop on Boston Post Road in Chicopee, voted one of the top four venues last year by the Springfield Republican.

Beginning with cocktails and hors d’oeuvres at 6 pm, guests can try their luck in the Casino. Then a five course dinner will be served. At 10:30 pm, a silent auction will take place in the página de cima. The Melha Winter Picnic – a five course meal, live music, raffles, games, and the chance to win a trip to New York City. The event, and it is truly ALL of our loss...Kohl and Company are stupefied.

Please start thinking about the 2014 (5/1-5/4) circus now and if you have suggestions of any kind please send them directly to me.

Melha Flyers

By Lance Whitemb

Well, Labor Day has passed by us with flying colors. As the summer days draw to a close, school days are getting shorter, the leaves are starting to turn and our crazy hummingbirds have gone South for the winter...soon to be fol-

lowed by many of you Nobles! Don’t forget to send in your Winter Wishes – contact Malcolm Corne for details.

The Flyers held a paper drive Friday and Saturday of Labor Day weekend at the Stop & Shop on Boston Post Road. Lyle and I manned it and had a great time talking with people, many of whom shared stories of relatives or friends being treated at our Springfield Shriners hospital. Hearing those wonderful success stories remind us all of why we do the work we do.

The Parade season is winding down, with only a few more to go. I always enjoy the Big E parade, and hope to attend the Belchertown parade as well. Remember to visit your Blue Lodges – they are out of darkness and new candidates are moving up the chairs. It is always good to support our new members (as well as those reciting all of the rituals?). Friendly faces are always welcomed, whether new or familiar.
Greetings to all and hope the autumn months are treating you and your families well as you start to plan for the holiday season. Thank you to all who have been supporting the parades and events this year.

Please remember that all line officers and sub-unit officers are expected to attend the meetings. Please make sure that all sub-units are represented by someone who will impart any and all information from the business meetings to their respective sub-units. It is important that the information from our meetings gets disseminated to all our members who can’t attend our meetings. Thank you for your help and cooperation.

It is time to think about next year’s slate of Hadji officers. A nominating committee will make their recommendations at the October meeting. The October and November meetings are the two meetings that nominations can come from the membership. Now is the time to speak up if you have someone that you would like to nominate.

The ceremonial will be here soon. Please get your new member applications in and make every effort to attend this important event. Our parade schedule for the rest of the year is as follows: On October 6th we will be in North Adams. We form at the Wal-Mart store at 11:00 with step-off at 1:00 and food will be served. November 11th we may have the Veterans Day Parade in Springfield. November 27th is the Balloon Parade in Agawam, Massachusetts. November 11th we may have the Wal-Mart store at 11:00 with step-off at 1:00 and food will be served.

If you have suggestions for the future of Melha please send them along to us or even better, come to a MAP meeting and share your thoughts with us.

The Melha Shrine Center PRESENTS THE CHER AND FRIENDS SHOW STARRING: LISA CARTER WITH SPECIAL GUESTS PATRICK TOBIN AND CHARLIE LASK

SATURDAY OCTOBER 19, 2013 AT THE MELHA SHRINE CENTER 131 LONGHILL ST. SPRINGFIELD MA $20.00 PER PERSON IN ADVANCE $25.00 AT THE DOOR

DOORS OPEN 6:30 P.M. SHOW 8 P.M. TO 10 P.M. LIGHT SNACKS WILL BE SOLD - CASH BAR TICKETS AVAILABLE AT MELHA SHRINE CENTER (413) 756-3647 OR www.melhashrines.com

NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR BEVERAGE

THE MelHA NEWS

MEMBERSHIP Ambassadors Public relations

By Al Zippin, P.P.

Your MAP Committee will continue to meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30. MAP (Membership/Ambassadors/Public Relations) provides us with a unique and potential very powerful grouping of resources to generate ideas and events that are designed to promote membership in Melha—recruitment and retention—which is the lifeblood of our Shrine and which is currently in desperate need of a major transformation. It amazes me that we still have Melha members who don’t seem to recognize the dire membership situation we are in. We are losing approximately 100 members per year and not taking in anywhere near enough new Nobles to even stem that tide of declining membership. That leaves us with a not-so-pretty picture, but a picture that really is in our hands to change. The MAP Committee and our Past Masters Unit are working together to try to address this very disconcerting picture of the future, but we need every single Noble to make an effort to just sponsor one person a year into Melha and just think how the picture would change if even 10% of the Nobility made a commitment to make that happen! We have also prepared a short survey for our Nobles which will be coming to you with your dues bills. Please take the time to fill it out and get it back to us. We need input from everyone to succeed.

If you have suggestions for the future of Melha please send them along to us or even better, come to a MAP meeting and share your thoughts with us.

Discover an Active Lifestyle...

Bluebird Estates is active, independent retirement living at its best! Our affordable monthly to month rent includes:

- Three meals a day served at your table, prepared by our professional chef
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- Paid utilities
- Beauty/Barber shop
- Transportation
- Studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments
- No buy-in fees or leases.

Call for a complimentary lunch and tour...
By Richard Poudrier

The Summer is nearly over and it’s been a rough one. Lots of rain, humidity and high temperatures. Now we are looking toward the Fall with its cooler weather and the beginning of the Holiday Season. Since I am writing for the October/November issue of the Melha News, I will have to cover many bases.

October has a couple of big events scheduled. One of which is the Comedy Show at the Huke Lau in Chicopee. This event was postponed to Thursday, October 17th. It is a fund raiser for us and it promises to be a great show.

A reminder that Melha’s ceremonial will be held on Saturday, November 23. Please make every effort to attend this event and support the candidates as they are inducted into the Shrine and our temple. Also, concluding November is Thanksgiving. On behalf of the officers and members of the Past Masters Unit, I extend best wishes to you and yours for a happy and healthy Thanksgiving Day.

Saturday, December 14th our unit will be celebrating the holiday season with its Holiday Gala. It is being held at the Wilburton Community Club. Social begins at 6:30 PM, dinner at 7:30 PM. Choice of center will be Filet Mignon or Backus Stuffed Shrimp. We will be entertained by Dave Colucci of Passport Entertainment. The cost is $34.00 per person. Paid reservations are a must and all reservations should be in by December 4th.

Check’s made payable to The Past Masters Unit. Contact Nick Creanza at 413-596-2577 or Les Lohnes at 413-596-4882 for further information and reservations.

Elsewhere in this issue is an ad and reservation form for this event.

By Mike Greenberg

Not a whole lot to report this month and this article is due in 1/2 an hour. We netted approximately $19,000.00 from the annual rum. Kudos to Jim Cantu and everyone else. Howie advises that we still need bottles and ticket sales for the wheel barrel of cheer which is our biggest Club fundraiser. Don’t be a grump. Bring in your bottle and buy some tickets. Help selling tickets is also always appreciated.

Officer elections will be held in November. If you are interested in running for office you should show up at the next meeting (October 7) or contact one of the officers. If you haven’t experienced a miquame in a while now is your chance to catch up.

We did manage to make it to Bubs BBQ last month. Our fearless leader Pappy had a nice ride all planned out for us. My new favorite food is deep fried twinkies on my candidet table will be so proud. A great time was had by all. On the subject of food, although it wasn’t a Riders event, many Riders attended the recent Melha Club fundraiser organized by Shonn Monday and his crew. One of the best meals I have ever had at Melha. Excellent job!!!

Well... that’s all I got for now. If you have something worthy you would like to add to a future article let me know. I will probably continue to write what I want but if it makes you feel better ask me to add it to a future article. Let me hear from you.

By Brian Judd

The Melha Burns Brigade is made up of a few dedicated Nobles who believe in Burn and Fire education and prevention. Burma education and protection is a core subject promoted by national in Tampa, and we believe so also. In this case we have a personal relationship with the Western MA Fire Safety Educators and the New England Fire Chiefs Association who donated two thousand dollars to both Springfield and Northampton Shriners Hospitals at their annual meeting during the Fire Chiefs Show. Speaking of the annual show, we manned a booth at the Stone 21-23 to show attendees our commitment to cause. During the show we had Chicopee Fire Lt. Katie Kalbaugh and her daughter, a patient of our Springfield Hospital, stop by and say “Thank You” — this made our day. Usually in October we have been at Eastfield Mall for Burns Awareness, due to commitments of some our partners in this event and the personnel needed, we decided to cancel it this October. Hopefully, in the future we can resume this event. Our group as many other groups are getting older and losing members to make events happen. Our partners, the Western MA Fire Safety Educators, will be at the Big E in the middle aisle of the Massachusetts Building. Speak up and let them know of the great job they’re doing in fire and burn education, pick up some info. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 PM in the daughter, a patient of our Springfield Office. We got the fire safety devices checked to keep our building safe. Until next month “be safe.”
Safety Begins at Home

Tips to Keep Your Children Safe at Home

Safety Throughout the Home:
• Use electrical outlet covers.
• Unplug electrical appliances when not in use.
• Install an appropriate number of smoke detectors – one near each bedroom, one at the top of each stairway and one near the planned escape route.
• Teach your children that matches are a tool, and not a toy. Keep matches out of reach of younger children, and allow older children to use them only when supervised.
• Store all flammable liquids properly.
• Store all chemicals and cleaners out of reach of children, or lock the cabinet.
• Have the chimney inspected annually and the fireplace checked regularly according to usage.
• Replace damaged electrical cords.
• Do not leave lighted candles unattended.
• Gasoline has only one purpose: to fuel an engine.

Planning in Case a Fire Occurs:
• Have an escape plan, including two exits from each room, in place.
• Practice using the plan.
• Have a designated meeting place at a safe distance from the home.

Safety in the Bathroom:
• Have a latch-bolt on the outside of the bathroom door so young children cannot enter without supervision.
• Always supervise children in the bath.
• The water in a child’s bath should not exceed 104°F. Set your water heater no higher than 120°F.
• Run cold water in the tub first, and then add warmer water.
• Before placing a child in the tub, test the water temperature by moving your hand through the water. If the water feels hot, it is too hot for a child.
• When placing a child in the bath tub, face them away from the faucets and as close to the other end of the tub as possible.
• If you let your children play with toys while in the bathtub, do not leave them unattended.
• Consider not permitting toys in the bathtub.

Safety in the Kitchen, Dining Area:
• Always supervise children in the kitchen and dining area.
• Keep children away from everything that is hot.
• If young children are in the home, use placemats rather than tablecloths.
• Keep all hot items and anything electrical out of the reach of children, and away from edges of tables and counters.
• Establish a kid-free zone, where young children can be watched but are safely out of the kitchen while cooking is being done.
• Do not use deep-fryers with children present.
• Keep pot handles turned inward; use oven mitts or pot holders. Keep clothing from coming into contact with flames or heating elements.
• Store all chemicals and cleaners out of reach of children, or lock the cabinet.
• Follow instructions and cautions for heating items in a microwave oven.
• Avoid area rugs in the kitchen.
• Do not handle hot items while holding young children.

Melha Shriners Center

Presents the 3rd Annual
Melha Smoker 2013

Save This Date
Friday - October 4th, 2013 at 6:00 PM
Melha Shriners Center
133 Longhill St.
Springfield, MA 01108

Come join us and enjoy the pleasure of a fine cigar.
Your ticket price includes a variety of handmade cigars from premium cigar producers. Enjoy a full course steak dinner, a variety of premium spirits at our tasting booths and great entertainment.

Tickets are $100.00 and are limited to the first 200 participants. Tickets must be purchased in advance – No tickets will be sold at the door.
To reserve your seat at this premium event, call Debbie at Melha Shriners Center Office at 413-736-3647 or Gary Block 413-789-2940.
Visit our website www.melhasmoker.com
VISA, Master Card and Discover accepted.
Proceeds from this event benefit Melha Shriners Center and are not tax deductible.

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Safety Begins at Home

Tips to Keep Your Children Safe at Home

Safety Throughout the Home:
• Use electrical outlet covers.
• Unplug electrical appliances when not in use.
• Install an appropriate number of smoke detectors – one near each bedroom, one at the top of each stairway and one near the planned escape route.
• Teach your children that matches are a tool, and not a toy. Keep matches out of reach of younger children, and allow older children to use them only when supervised.
• Store all flammable liquids properly.
• Store all chemicals and cleaners out of reach of children, or lock the cabinet.
• Have the chimney inspected annually and the fireplace checked regularly according to usage.
• Replace damaged electrical cords.
• Do not leave lighted candles unattended.
• Gasoline has only one purpose: to fuel an engine.

Planning in Case a Fire Occurs:
• Have an escape plan, including two exits from each room, in place.
• Practice using the plan.
• Have a designated meeting place at a safe distance from the home.

Safety in the Bathroom:
• Have a latch-bolt on the outside of the bathroom door so young children cannot enter without supervision.
• Always supervise children in the bath.
• The water in a child’s bath should not exceed 104°F. Set your water heater no higher than 120°F.
• Run cold water in the tub first, and then add warmer water.
• Before placing a child in the tub, test the water temperature by moving your hand through the water. If the water feels hot, it is too hot for a child.
• When placing a child in the bath tub, face them away from the faucets and as close to the other end of the tub as possible.
• If you let your children play with toys while in the bathtub, do not leave them unattended.
• Consider not permitting toys in the bathtub.

Safety in the Kitchen, Dining Area:
• Always supervise children in the kitchen and dining area.
• Keep children away from everything that is hot.
• If young children are in the home, use placemats rather than tablecloths.
• Keep all hot items and anything electrical out of the reach of children, and away from edges of tables and counters.
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By Olive Larson
Ahlem Temple’s September Session was preceded by a very tasty Soup and Salad Supper. Thanks to those who prepared this meal.

Melha’s First Lady Louise Griffin and Past Queen Robin Whitney are hoping for good attendance at the Fall Fashion Show on Sunday, October 6 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Contact these two ladies for tickets.

Ahlem Temple’s Pumpkin Fair will be on Saturday, October 12 at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church. Pr. Tirzah Tracy Sousa needs many hands to help with this major fund raiser. We hope for lots of support from members and the general public.

On Friday, November 15 Ahlem Temple jointly with the Ladies of the Oriental Shrine are hosting an evening of fun at Melha. More information will soon be available.

“Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything that is beautiful, for beauty is God’s handwriting — a wayside sacrament.”
—Emerson

By Anita L. Gay
Parade Chairperson, Lady Linda Birk, would like to remind everyone of the Fall Foliage Festival Parade in North Adams on October 6. She has also announced that the Balloon Parade is scheduled, as usual, for the day after Thanksgiving, which is Friday November 29. Lady Linda will have more information for those who have any questions.

Our Helma Court meeting for October will be held at Mount Moriah on Thursday the 10th at 7:30 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend in order to support the officers.

High Priestess, Lady Tricia Plourde, tells us that there’s a big group of ladies planning to attend the upcoming Mid Eastern Unit Meet (MEUM) in Virginia, and she invites any other interested ladies to join them.

A reminder regarding unpaid dues for the year 2013-2014 comes from Lady Collette Parsons, Recorder. Members who fall into this category would be Lady Collette and the Court in order to support the officers. We hope for lots of support from members and the general public.

On Friday, November 15 Ahlem Temple jointly with the Ladies of the Oriental Shrine are hosting an evening of fun at Melha. More information will soon be available.

“Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything that is beautiful, for beauty is God’s handwriting — a wayside sacrament.”
—Emerson
Two-year-old Reagan Harwood is a ball of happy energy. She loves to play with toys and has a smile for everyone she meets. Just like most toddlers she is fast moving and into everything!

Unfortunately, all that energy was at work on a January afternoon, ten days before her second birthday. It took only seconds for Reagan to pull a pan of searing-hot bacon grease off the stove-top, which caused second and third-degree burns to her face, chest and arms. Her mother, Rhiannon, who received some burn-care education during life-guard training in her youth, immediately removed Reagan’s footie pajamas and applied water to the burns. She then called for an ambulance, which took them to the local hospital in Manchester, New Hampshire.

“When we arrived at the hospital, their top pediatrician came to examine Reagan,” says Rhiannon. “He took one look and said her injuries were too severe to be properly treated at this hospital. Then he said, ‘I have a daughter, and if this had happened to her, I’d want her to be treated at Shriners-Boston.’ ”

Emergency Treatment

The hospital placed a phone call to Shriners Hospitals for Children-Boston and Reagan was on her way. Upon arriving at Shriners, nurses met Reagan and her mother at the ambulance and whisked them up to the 8th floor for emergency treatment. The bacon grease had caused a severe thermal burn, which melted Reagan’s pajamas into the skin on her arm and removed several layers of skin. The Shriners-Boston team quickly removed all of the remaining bacon grease from Reagan’s body and then began to treat her wounds.

While the medical staff worked, the child life staff provided Reagan with toys to play with to keep her mind occupied. “The staff came in with a huge pillowcase filled with a homemade quilt, toys, books, and CDs with lullabies,” Rhiannon remembers. “And a nurse came in with an iPad full of fun apps to keep her to play and bubbles that she could pop as they floated across the screen.

Hospital Staff Supports Parents

The hospital staff also supported Reagan’s parents—helping them fill out paperwork, explaining Reagan’s wounds and treatment in layman’s terms, and providing every bit of comfort possible to Rhiannon, who never left Reagan’s side during her three-day stay. “The nurses arranged for a cot to be placed beside her hospital bed for us to sleep on, and let me shower in the locker room. They even let us do a load of laundry and prepared a bottle for Reagan when she woke up crying at 3 a.m.”

While at Shriners, Reagan formed a particular attachment to an administrative assistant on the eighth floor where Reagan received most of her treatment. He is also a burn survivor. It’s not uncommon for the patients to form special bonds with the staff during their time at the hospital. When Reagan returned for outpatient treatment some weeks later, the assistant made it a point to drop in and check on his new friend.

Reagan sustained the most severe burns to her arm and the area around her eye. Before discharging her, Shriners-Boston staff showed Reagan’s parents how to properly care for her wounds—how to dress them and what to look for to ensure they were healing properly. The burn specialists taught Reagan’s parents how best to care for her skin during healing and afterward. They also informed them about the medical options she may have when she gets older, such as skin grafts to stretch the skin on her burned arm to increase mobility as Reagan continues to grow.

Still Bright and Happy

Almost a year after the incident, Reagan is flourishing, and is still the same bright and happy child she was before the burn occurred. The scar on her face is a mere trace of what it once was, a testament to her mother’s fast-acting actions in the moments before the ambulance arrived.

Rhiannon credits the doctors and nurses at Shriners-Boston for Reagan’s comprehensive treatment and the assistance and education that she and Reagan’s father received during the process. She hopes that Reagan’s story will help increase burn awareness and education.

“People don’t ever think this will happen to them,” she says. “I watch my child like a hawk—I never thought this could happen to her. Reagan’s experience proved how necessary it is to know about immediate burn treatment. Reagan had such a severe burn, we were totally in the dark about how to care for it, but the doctors and nurses took us all under their wing. We are so grateful.”
## ORDER OF THE DAY FOR CEREMONIAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Nobles, Candidates and Candidates Guide report to Melha</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Candidates board bus and depart for Shriners Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Tour of hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Depart for Melha</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Golden Fez Room for registration, signing of bylaws, Fez sizing, Request Unit/Club Representative from each unit to speak to Candidates</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ladies arrive and meet in the living room</td>
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<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>All seated for First Section. Begin First Section</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Introduction of Cast, Potentate presenting to Nobles for 25 and 50 year pin. Old red Fez and The Lord’s Prayer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Directors clear hall. Open to ladies and guests at this time.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Second Section Begins — Arch degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Directors clear hall.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Guest Speakers/film</td>
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<td>4:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Band Concert/Grand Entry</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Special Presentations, Fezzing of new Nobles, Potentate’s remarks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Dinner is open to Nobles at the Melha Shrine Center.</td>
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## SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to the powers vested in me as Potentate, I do hereby call a Special Meeting of Melha Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., for Friday, November 22, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. at the Melha Shrine Center, 133 Longhill St., Springfield, Massachusetts, to receive and ballot on petitions and such other business that may properly come before this meeting, including the withdrawal of funds from the Capital Fund.

Attest:
Edward Griffin
Potentate

## DINNER RESERVATION FOR MELHA CEREMONIAL

Dinner is open to Nobles, ladies and guests and is available at $16.00 per person. Menu is a Buffet catered by Pete Silvano assisted by the Rainbow Girls. Menu includes salad, pasta w/sauce, roasted chicken, pork loin roast with Marsalis sauce, mixed veggies and dessert.

Enclosed is $____ for (circle one) Ticket or Donation

## HIGHLANDER DEGREE

**Dear Melha Nobles,**

We bid you greetings from Clan 9 of the highlander Degree! For years throughout the Shrine there have been "Social Degrees," these degrees were put on by various Units in the Shrine Center to promote interest in their Unit and as a fund raising event.

The Melha highlanders are proud to announce that they are a duly accepted and duly constituted Clan from the Grand Council of the highlander Degree and are offering their degree to all Nobles at the Melha Shrine Center.

On Saturday night, November 23, at 8:00 p.m., the clansman of Clan 9 will initiate into our order all who have the fortitude to become a true Highlander.

Don’t miss out on the fun blended with a sense of Scottish history, lore and legend. Fill out the application for Membership below and send your check for $25.00 to Worthy Chief Richard MacGregor at 29 Claire St., Chicopee, MA 01020 by November 15, 2013.

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**Nobles Only for this Event**

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