



ACHBAR



FEBRUARY 2012

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE IMPORTANT ALZAFAR EVENTS



POTENTATE'S BALL

FEBRUARY 11

**Make your Reser-
vations NOW**



WASHINGTON DAY

PARADE

LAREDO

FEBRUARY 18



PANCAKE

FUNDRAISER

FEBRUARY 28



MASONIC YOUTH

BRUNCH

MARCH 3

The Alzafar ACHBAR

Official publication of Alzafar Shriners
Published monthly by Neighborhood News
Stated Sessions Second Thursday
Chartered July 12, 1916

PHONE 496-1625

901 N. Loop 1604 W.

San Antonio, Texas 78232

Alzafar Shriners E-mail Address:

(Recorder's Office) alzafar@flash.net

Internet Address: www.alzafar.org

2012 ELECTIVE DIVAN

Potentate.....Bob Jones
Chief Rabban..... Tom Young
Asst. Rabban..... Mario Vargas
High Priest & Prophet.....J.D. Thomas
Oriental Guide John Dunn
Treasurer P.P. Stuart Simms
Recorder..... George Garza, Jr.

2012 APPOINTIVE DIVAN

1st Ceremonial Master ... Douglas Anderson
2nd Ceremonial Master...Danny Garcia
Director..... Ronald G. Trine
Marshal..... Steven Aikens
Captain of the Guard Thomas A. Kinsey
Outer Guard..... Jason Triggs
Chaplain Ron Amos

2012 Imperial Representatives

Potentate.....Bob Jones
Chief Rabban..... Tom Young
Marty Hutchison, Emeritus Representative
P.P. Reese L. Harrison, Jr. Emeritus Rep.
P.P. Robert Jett, P.P. Robert W. Hunt

2012 Finance Committee

PotentateBob Jones
Chief Rabban..... Tom Young
Asst. Rabban..... Mario Vargas
Charles Davenport (4 yr.)
Louis Rocha (3yr.)
Tom Leverett (2yr.)
Gary Bausell (1yr.)

STATED MEETING

A Stated business Meeting of Alzafar Shriners, A.A.O.N.M.S., will be held Thursday, February 9, 2012 at 7:30 p.m., in the Alzafar Shrine Auditorium, 901 N. Loop 1604 W. San Antonio, Texas 78232 Dinner is at 6:00 p.m., first come first served. The purpose of this meeting is to receive and ballot on petitions and act on such other business as might come before it.

YOUR 2012 DUES CARD WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ADMITTANCE AT ALL STATED MEETINGS. BE SURE TO BRING THESE THREE THINGS:

- Your Fez on your head
- Your Card in your pocket
- The spirit of fun and good fellowship in your heart.

WEAR YOUR FEZ

Recorder *George Garza, Jr.*

Potentate *Bob Jones*

Stated Meeting Menu

February 9, 2012

Brisket, Potato Salad, Beans, Cole Slaw,
Bread and Tea

Stated Meeting Menu

March 8, 2012

Ham Steaks, Baked Potato w/Sour Cream,
Mixed Vegetables, Salad, Rolls
and Tea

Potentate Robert E. Jones
And Lady Cheryl
Invite You to

LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL

WITH

Johnny D's Rocket 88s

Join us for the Presentation of Officers
at the

2012 Alzafar Potentate's Gala

Saturday, February 11, 2012

6:00 PM Cocktails

6:30 PM Presentation of Officers

7:15 PM Dinner

Alzafar Shrine Center

901 N. Loop 1604 West

San Antonio, Texas 78232

Attire: Men-White Dinner
Jacket/Tux/Suit

Women: Formal/Cocktail

All tables Reserved

Tickets \$30 Each

RSVP by February 4, 2012

Temple Office (210) 496-1625





POTENTATE

Bob Jones

Dale Carnegie said that if you "Act Enthusiastic you will be Enthusiastic". That's what we should be doing this year. I will try my best. We have a lot going for us in 2012 and we have a great Divan to propel us thru the year. First up will be the Potentates Ball on February 11th. I remember when I was a teenager my Mother was acting so giddy and excited all week.

I said Mom what is going on and she said that she and Dad were going to the Potentates Ball in Sioux Falls that Saturday night. They had a great time as I hope you all will have on February 11th starting at 6:00 in the evening. Please make your reservations at the front office.

On February 17 we will venture to Laredo for the Washington's Birthday Parade. This is as BIG as the Flambeau Parade except it is in the day time. They always have a huge crowd. The Staybridge Suites will be the Host/Hospitality Hotel.

Then on February 28th, we will have an all day fund raiser at the IHOP's. This generates a lot of money for our Hospitals plus

it gives us a lot of GREAT PUBLICITY with the news media and the PUBLIC in general. Just show up at your local IHOP for a free SHORT STACK of pancakes and make a donation. Wear your FEZ guys.

March the 3rd is our annual YOUTH BRUNCH that raises money for the Rainbow Girls and the DeMolay. It starts around 11:00 at the Shrine Auditorium and will have a lot of Texas Masonic dignitaries. This is great for the youth as it raises money for their field trips and parties.

On March 10th we will have a bus leaving the Shrine at 7:00 am for Galveston. This will be a full sized 56 passenger Regent Coach Line bus that will take us in style to the Burn Hospital arriving at approximately 11:00 am for lunch and a tour of our Hospital. After leaving the Hospital we will have a site seeing or shopping tour for a brief time then back to San Antonio arriving at approximately 6:30. The only thing you will be out of is your time. We are planning for coffee, juice and breakfast tacos or donuts in the morning and a short stop on the way back. This should be a fun trip and I encourage all of the new Nobles and their wives to sign up. First come/ First serve.

Thank you all for your confidence in allowing me to be your 2012 Potentate. With the support of all of you and the help of my faithful companion, Cheryl, we will have a great year.

Chief Rabban

Tom Young

I would like to congratulate all of the elected and appointed officers that were installed at the January meeting. I look forward to working with everyone in what should be a very busy year.

I know that it seems like a long way off but everyone needs to be thinking about the Circus. This year's dates are Sept. 6, 7, 8 and 9. At the request of the Circus producer we are returning to the 11 show schedule two Thursday, three each on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. If you or your unit have been donating bicycles please let me know if you are still planning to do so and how many. We will not need them for some time but if I can get pledges now we can be working on other items.

Over the last few months a number of the units have been asking that the Divan include funds in the Temple Budget for needs that they have. This is something that is very hard for the Divan to do. I am sure that all the Units could use help with financial matters but if we help one Unit we would have to help all and that is not possible. With that being said there is a very simple way for the Units to raise funds. SELL CIRCUS PROGRAM ADS.

I know that not everyone is a salesman but we all have businesses that we regularly frequent. Start talking to them now if you don't have sales materials left over from last year let me know or see Carol in the office. This is a very easy way for your Unit to raise funds. If you have any ideas or if you would like to help in any phase of the Circus please let me know.

More news later.

High Priest and Prophet

J.D. Thomas

We've got a new exciting event coming this summer and we need your help! Checkout www.pulling4kids.org

However, a little sooner on the calendar - The Masonic Youth Brunch will be Saturday, March 3rd at 12:00PM. Ladies and youth are invited and encouraged to attend. The Grand Master of Texas will hold a conference immediately after brunch and all Master Masons are welcome. Buster Williams and numerous volunteers will lead the charge in preparing and serving Brunch; however, this is a fund raiser for San Antonio Masonic Youth and they could sure benefit from your attendance - please get the word out. Tickets will be \$8 each or a table of ten for \$75. As always donations will be accepted if you can not attend.

It would be extra special to have a large contingent of Alzafar's own at the Alamo early that morning, then again for the Brunch and later at the Grand Master's conference. The speaker will be one of our own - Former Texas Ranger Joe Davis. Joe plans to educate us on the history of the Texas Rangers, Masonic influence, and the Texas Ranger Heritage Center. I've listened to Joe discuss these issues and it is a truly interesting and educational

topic as told by one that lived the legend. Remember, this is the fund raiser for the DeMolay and Rainbow Girls. The money is used to support them and their activities. Make your reservations now with the office staff by calling (210) 496-1625.

ORIENTAL GUIDE

By: John Dunn

My first order of business is to send out a very large and sincere "Thank You" to all those Nobles who expressed their confidence in me through my election as Oriental Guide. You are too numerous to individually mention here, but thank you all.

The Oriental Guide is tasked each year to put together three children's events. This year is no different. Please keep these dates in the back of your mind. Sunday, April 1st will be the Easter Egg Hunt; Wednesday, October 31st will be the Halloween Party and Sunday, December 9th will be the Children's Christmas Party. Nobles and Ladies, I do not believe in reinventing the wheel and humbly ask that all those who have helped in the past, come out and again do your magic to continue building on the success these parties have become.

Financially, our times are challenging. The money people donate is down, the money we have to run the San Antonio Shrine Auditorium is down and with the next hiccup in the stock market, investments will be down. Going forward, we need to clarify our purpose and direction when considering requests for funds or other resources. I believe a good practice when considering requests and projects, is to pass them through three simple questions. First, does it assist us in keeping our finances in the black, second, does it raise the exposure of Shriners or the San Antonio Shrine Auditorium within the community and third, does it serve and advance our philanthropy. I hope at least one, if not all three of these questions will be answered in the affirmative before we go forward.

In closing, I personally invite each and every one of you to come along with Margaret and myself on our continuing adventure which is the Shrine.



The Recorder

By: George Garza, Jr.

February will be a very busy month. First we travel to Tyler, Texas for the annual Divan Mid Winter Session on the 1st thru the 4th of February. Then we have the Finance/Divan Meeting on the 6th, followed by the monthly Alzafar Stated Meeting on the 9th. Be sure to come out for this event and see the 2012 Divan. After that we travel to Laredo, Texas for the annual Washington Birthday Parade on the 18th & then I am off to the annual Recorder's Conference on the 27th and 28th in San Diego, California.

I have been looking around at the condition of the Temple and I would like to get some volunteers together to fix up the temple. I am looking for volunteers to do some painting, carpenter work, plumbing work and general clean up of this building. If you would like to volunteer to help out please contact me at (210) 496-1625 or e-mail me at alzafar@flash.net.

On behalf of my mother, my sister and myself, we would like to thank all the Nobles and their Ladies for all the flowers, prayers, cards and contributions made to the Shrine Hospital and telephone calls we received during our most difficult time, the passing of my father George R. Garza. Again, the Garza family thanks all of you for the condolences we received during this period and thanks to all of you who accompanied us during the viewing, the rosary and the funeral services.

Provost Guard

The Provost Guard is busy preparing for the Mid-Winter Shoot scheduled for March 24, 2012 and hosted by Khiva Temple and assisted by Hella Provost Guard at the Dallas Pistol Club in Carrollton, Texas. It should be a lot of fun and fellowship with our Brethren from around the state. Anyone interested in bulls-eye shooting is welcome to visit with us. We always have a few extra pistols available for those who might want to give it a try.

We meet in the Directors Staff/Provost Guard/Shotgun Units room that is located in the building just behind the Shrine the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm for HH and meal. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Let's all keep our pistol boxes open and ready for practice. Remember, no man is too tall to bend a knee for a child.

Noble Michael Raymond
1st Assistant Marshal

TREASURER'S TWO-CENTS-WORTH



By Stu Simms

Temple: (210) 496-1625

Office: (210) 659-1956

As we begin the New Year, I thought I might address one or two points that sometimes tend to get lost in all of changes in offices and duties. Each Divan and appointed officer took an Oath. If you attended the recent state meeting, you saw that happen. Taking that Oath is each of us giving you our word that we will abide by the rules of our organization and public law and that we will act in Alzafar's best interest, rather than our own. The same Oath is taken by unit and club officers. The problem is, of course, that before we can know what the rules require us to do; we must know what the rules say. Accordingly, I think that all officers should review our Bylaws and Imperial guidance to be sure what our obligations are. In fact, we have a duty to do that. Treasurers bring up matters like this because many of our rules relate to how we obtain, control and spend both fraternal and charitable money, and financial matters are one of the areas in which we can be held individually liable.

That liability can arise in various ways, but please remember the following. Unless you have been given the authority to do so, and then only within your budget, neither you nor anyone assisting you, Shriner or not, may spend Temple money or commit the Temple to spending money. When this happens, it is usually a well-intentioned act, but it is still improper. In addition, the financial management of the Temple is a matter for the Divan; accordingly, each Divan officer has a duty to be involved and is responsible for that aspect of Temple operations. We are also fortunate to have a dedicated group of Nobles on our Finance Committee whose duty it is to monitor Temple financial activities and provide advice when they deem it necessary. They, too, have a duty to the Temple in financial matters. Finally, I encourage each member to also monitor our financial operations, ask questions, and satisfy yourselves that your funds are well protected and expended.

On another matter, I have pointed out that we seem to have something of a cash flow problem. At the beginning of the year, we budget a certain amount of money for income and a certain amount for expenses. These amounts are supposed to, at least, balance. Unfortunately, recent history suggests that we may not receive the expected income, but we will still make the budgeted expenditures. I have suggested, and I continue to recommend, that we monitor our expenditures and try, when we can, to remain within the income for a given month or quarter. This is not, of course, always possible, but I think we should make the effort and perhaps have increasing our reserves and investments, as circumstances permit, as an objective.

As always, if anyone has any questions regarding our finances or anything else I can address, please contact me. In addition, remember, our Divan and Finance Committee meetings are generally open to our members. We look forward to seeing you there at 4:00 on the Monday before the Stated Meeting.

Yours Aye
Stu

FOR MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Enclosed is a contribution in the amount of \$ _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

On the Occasion of _____

Please send acknowledgement card to:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Contributed by:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Mail to: Alzafar Shrine Center
901 N. Loop 1604 West
San Antonio, TX 78232

DIRECTORS STAFF

By Charley "D"

I missed last month's article because I went on a cruise so now I have to get back with the program. A belated Happy New Year to all and let's hope it is a better year as we lost too many good members last year.

Our Director Ron Trine has great plans for this year but first we need to take care of the upcoming Shrine Directors International meeting to be held in San Antonio on March 28 thru 31. This is a meeting of all the Directors Staffs from our country plus other countries. We need all of you to pitch in and help as it is a big undertaking. Get with Ron Trine or Len Neeper Jr. if you can help even for a few hours. There are lots of different jobs to be done. It will all take place at the Hilton Airport on Loop 410.

Dues are now payable for 2012 and the new amount is \$25.00 and they need to be paid by March 1st if at all possible.

We are still growing with four new members in January and we welcome them aboard and ask them to be a participant and not just be a card carrier. Our attendance at the January meeting was great and we all had a super time with good food and fellowship, so if you are not attending come on out and enjoy yourself.

Let's keep all of our members and their spouses that have health problems in our prayers for a speedy recovery.

Upcoming events are: Laredo parade Feb. 18, Night in Old Alzafar May 5th, Ceremonial-- date to be announced, Circus Sept. 8-11.

Canyon Lake Shrine Club

The Canyon Lake Shrine Club met on January 9, 2012 for their first meeting of the new year. Tom Gilbert, President, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. Noble Al Wiggers gave the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and Honors to the Texas Flag. Current officers were introduced as follows: Tom Gilbert, President; Mike Akard, Vice President; Larry Remy, Treasurer; Lee Stroman, Secretary and Ron Roberts, Chaplain.

All dined on a delicious dinner of roast beef that was catered by The Front Porch, located in Sattler. Our guest speaker was Michelle Tschoepe who told us about when she was 3 years old she bit into a 220 electrical cord and burned her mouth and lips. Her local doctor did all he could for her, but she was eventually sent to the Shrine Hospital. While being treated for the severe burns to her mouth, it was noticed that she was extremely pigeon-toed. The doctors suggested that they could treat that at the same time. Michelle was extremely thankful and encouraged all the Nobles to keep on doing what they are doing.

Prayers were offered for those sick.

Our next meeting will be February 13, 2012 with social time at 6:30 pm and dinner at 7:00 pm. All Nobles and Ladies are invited. Next month's speaker will be Steve White with subject "Life with Flo".

For more information about our club, details and directions, please contact Lee Stroman, Secretary, at 830-237-7649.

Honor Guard

By: Al Aranda

Let me begin by thanking and wishing our Past Potentate, G.I. Flores and his lady Margie the very best for all they did guiding us in the right direction this past year. It was a super year filled with fun as you were second to none.

We would like to congratulate the new Divan for the year 2012. The Honor Guard will be in your corner to support you all the way.

Seems like everyone had a super time at our Christmas Party. This is what I heard from many attending. I want to thank all the Nobles and Ladies that supported my Lady Mary. She got a good initiation as the First Lady doing the Christmas party without me being there.

By the time everyone receives the Achbar, we should be shuffling south to Laredo. Let's all have a safe trip going over and returning home. I have a funny feeling that we are really going to have fun as always.

All the officers wish all the Nobles and Ladies the very best in 2012. May the Great Architect keep his arms around all of us to keep us well and safe. We need to let everyone know that the Black Camel came and took one of our dedicated Nobles, Tony Cantu, across the desert. Brother Noble, you will be highly missed but we know that you are in a special place. Also, keep Noble Roy Ovalle in your prayers.

T.S.M.P.A.

By President Elect Christopher Celis

Happy New Year. I know I'm about a month late but better late than never. First off I want to congratulate GI and Margie Flores for their five years as Divan Members. Now it's time to take it easy. I also want to congratulate all those who were elected to offices for the 2012 shrine year.

Mark your calendars for March 15th-17th for Midwinter in Tyler. This is where I will be stepping in as President of TSMPPA and putting Alzarfar back on the map. Did you know in the 50 plus years that TSMPPA has been around, Alzarfar has had only four Presidents sitting on the board. I am proud to say I will be number 5. This will be a great honor as my wife June places on my head and neck the fez and jewel of a state president. Of course it will be work. I will oversee thirteen shrine centers motor corps. Luckily there are some great officers that are following me and together we can all get the job done. I hope to one day see more of our own step up to the plate and run for this office.

It seems to go by so quick, as it felt like just yesterday I was a newbie on the line and now with some good mentoring from Bob and Linda Holt and a few other past presidents, I have become the officer I am today. Midwinter will be our annual business meeting and drawing for slots at TSA as well as getting unit dues paid. This is the time for my fellow motorized nobles to air your grievances and to bring your gripes to the table. Once this meeting is over our hands are tied, and what I mean to say is, I know a lot of guys have gripes about different go carts, tire size, motor size and obstacle ruling. Midwinter is where we can lay it out on the table and discuss these items, not five minutes before you hit the pad or after awards have been handed out. Numerous times I have been in the middle of discussions where we have to "make it right" or move someone because they're using a TSA classification at Obstacle or vice versa! Motorized unit officers, please attend Midwinter and have your voice heard. Also this is the time to familiarize you with other shrine centers and the fellow nobles while this is a small event it still can be a great time.

Looking forward to August, Obstacle Course will be in our own backyard. In a few days I will be holding a meeting with all the motorized units to go over what needs to be done to make our event a success. We not only need to host a hospitality room, but decorations and goodie bags need to be done as well. I would like to hold a silent auction and again I would hope to get some participation and help from the units. This will be a big undertaking for us so I am hoping to form a few committees to see that all the jobs get done in a timely manner.

I know I ran a bit long as usual but I don't have a monthly article and it's a lot of info to give out to you guys. Hope you have a great month.

Chief of Staff Scribbles

By: Marty Bartlett

Your Potentate has some great events planned for you throughout the year and I will be helping to make sure they are a success. We will be having a lot of fun raising awareness of who the Shriners are and raising some funds for our hospitals. The first event will be a grand Potentate's Installation Ball on Feb 11. I have seen the plans for the event and this will be a night you don't want to miss.

The next event will be our big Laredo parade on Feb 17. Contact the Staybridge Suites at 956-722-0444 and reserve your room in the Alzarfar block. You can reserve at the nearby La Quinta at 956-724-7222 if the Staybridge is sold out. We have a fun filled hospitality suite planned at the Staybridge that you don't want to miss. Take a quick breath now because soon the parade season will be upon us in full swing.



Serving 'The Worst Bar-B-Q in Texas'
for over 22 years

3 San Antonio Area Locations

Dine in or Pick up orders to go in our Takeaway

We Cater And Deliver

(210) 653-RUDY (7839)



RV Club

by Bud

The Christmas party in December at Top of the Hill RV Resort was attended by 13 rigs, 31 members and 4 guests. The new rec hall is larger than before and was beautifully decorated by Lou Skinner and helpers. In addition to the decorations, the ‘Christmassy’ atmosphere was enhanced by the music system provided by Paul Lozano. The rest rooms had not yet been rebuilt but this was not a problem as the members’ RV’s were nearby. Management advised they plan to have a new two-story rec hall completed later this year.

The Friday breakfast was pancakes, sausage and Spam prepared by Jim Miller, Bob Drake, Jim Keele and Ken Skinner with “juice” dispensed by Mort Jacobs and Bill Barker. All was very good as usual.

Saturday evening we were blessed with rain that started just as members began to make their way to the rec hall for the party and dinner. This made for some interesting arrivals. The catered dinner featured Filet Mignon and was enjoyed by all. Following dinner, our new officers Wagonmaster, Secretary/Treasurer Addy Addington and Assistant Wagonmaster David Browne were installed by Past Potentate Bobby Hunt. Then it was time for the Chinese gift exchange. Some gifts were exchanged and re-exchanged to the delight of some and the consternation of others. Later there was dancing to the music of Paul’s music system. It was a fun evening.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of long time member, Past Wagonmaster and friend O. D. Bartlett. Dee was truly one of a kind. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

The February rally will be 23-26 at Skyline Ranch RV Park in Bandera. Come join us for a weekend of fun in the Cowboy Capital of Texas. For more information contact Addy Addington at 830-931-9707 or David Browne at 210-679-7356.



Illustrious Sir Bobby Hunt delivers Oath of Office to Nobles David Browne & Willard Addington



GOLF SHOTS

Bogeybuck

Christmas is a wonderful time of year and believing that it is more blessed to give than receive, we used our annual toy collection to prove the maxim. The two huge bags of toys we collected were donated to the Marines Toys-4-Tots program here in San Antonio. We need to thank Nobles Studdard and Farmer for running the program and delivering the toys. Thanks to all the Nobles who participated and contributed to the drive. Makes you feel good inside.

Congratulations to Noble Norm Eastman for winning the golf contributor of the year for 2011. Takes a heap of meetings and dedication to win that one. Congratulations also to Noble Walt Atencio for winning 2011 Golfer of the Year. It was a close race between the two "Walts" and had to go to a play-off, but Noble Atencio pulled it out in the end. Again, congratulations to our two winners.

We had our golf cart in the Canyon Lake Christmas parade. It is now a veteran parade vehicle and scheduled to go to Laredo later this month. Heard two guys say lately they didn't know Alzafar had a golf unit!!! Well, when less than 10% of the membership attends the stated meetings, there are a lot of things they probably don't know about.

Lots in the news lately about using cell phones while driving. Maxine says she can't use the cell phone in the car, 'cause she needs to keep her hands free for making gestures to other drivers. FORE!



BOERNE SHRINE CLUB

By: Bob Easterling, President

The new officers have been installed and the new board of directors held their first meeting. As we start the New Year, the members of the Boerne Shrine Club are excited about activities for our club in 2012.

Our goal to work and earn money for the hospitals includes Noble David Bruton's coordination for two Gospel Blue Grass Music shows and a magic show this year. We feel sure these shows will earn a substantial amount of money for us to donate to the hospitals. Vice President Rich Etheridge is busy planning our community Hospital Collection Day and Rich's goal is to collect more this year than any previous year. Anyone who knows Rich can tell you that he will maximize his efforts to attain that goal. We are all excited about his plans for collection day and we hope to have a substantial number of nobles out on the streets of Boerne for our collection day. Secretary/Treasurer Noble Ed Mueller is heading up a committee to earn money for the club with a booth at Berges Fest this year and we are confident his efforts will be a great success.

We plan on having many activities for the membership this year for fun and fellowship within the club. In addition to our annual picnic, we are looking for new ideas for membership

gatherings. Some of the ideas we are currently considering are a club game night, attending a community play and a club trip to one of the casinos. I will be asking the membership for more ideas immediately and the board of directors will start putting things on our schedule as we decide on the activities the membership would like to participate in.

We are currently conducting our monthly meetings at the Hungry Horse Cafe in Boerne, but we plan on trying a few other dining establishments throughout the year. We want to offer our membership a variety of dining experiences with a change of venue periodically.

Our club is actively seeking new membership with Vice President Rich Etheridge leading the way as the chair for our committee. We are positive new members to our club will enjoy the fellowship and club activities as we go forward.

I want to thank Past President Al (Freckles) Gray and his officers for the great job they did in 2011. Our club had a great year, earned and donated a substantial amount of money to the hospitals and had a lot of fun through their efforts.

HOSPITAL CORPS

By: Charlie E.

The Hospital Corps was started 46 years ago and we have been incident and accident free for almost 5 million miles! We have our predecessors to thank for such a great record. Our Commander this year, Past Potentate Steve Molnar, wants to publicize this remarkable achievement by establishing a corpsman of the year award. This award will not diminish the efforts of the many contributors in our unit, but will hopefully direct attention to our enviable record. Recognition and awards are important in what we do as corpsmen. However, there are more intangible and internal rewards that our drivers more directly enjoy. Imagine sitting on the fifth floor of the Houston Hospital or the fourth floor of the Galveston Hospital. Watch a child with a prosthetic leg running around the floor while laughing and playing with other kids. Picture a four year old burn victim at the Galveston Hospital laughing and smiling even though it is probably painful to do so. That is the real reward for the corpsmen knowing that we have played a small part in that healing process. Plaques are well received, but they pale in comparison to the smile or hug from that child.

Don't forget the stated meeting on February 9th, our unit meeting February 21st and IHOP collection February 28th.

Alzafar Seniors

Our January meeting was called to order by President Robert Cox at 12:00 noon. The Invocation was given by Brother Robert Cox and the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flags led by Brother Donald P. Garrido.

The installation of new officers was done by Potentate G.I. Flores and the following officers were installed: President-Roger N. Hopkins; Vice President-Ernest A. Sessums, Jr.; Secretary-Donald P. Garrido and Treasurer-Robert L. Cox.

A delicious lunch was then served by Grady's Catering. Following the lunch, our President presented our guest speaker, Dr. Clayton Hansen, Chiropractor of the Oak Hills Maximized Living Health Center. Dr. Hansen gave us an interesting presentation and answered many questions. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Dr. Hansen.

President Hopkins then appointed the following committees: By Laws-Donald Starnes, Carl Blum and Ken Tucke; Membership-Charles Whetstone; Audit-Robert L. Cox, Max Harvey and Ernest A. Sessums, Jr.; Circus-Donald Starnes; Desserts-David and Mary Wolfe.

Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to: Helen Kelly, Donald Starnes, Nick & Nancy Herrera and Nelson & Zola Dunn.

The Treasurer reported that all members were up to date with their dues and that the club was solvent.

The departing prayer was given by Brother Cox and the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Donald P. Garrido, PP
Secretary

INDY HOT WHEELS

Pete Granato

The Holiday Season and the Super Bowl is behind us now and we are looking forward for another good year. By the way, hope your team won. We plan on making the trip to Laredo for the George Washington's Birthday Parade. It has always been one of the most enjoyable parades.

The unit has one birthday to celebrate this month. Jerry Granato will be celebrating his birthday on February 12. We wish him a Happy Birthday and many more.

Indy Hot Wheels meetings are scheduled on the first Wednesday of the month 7:00 pm in room #4 at the Shrine Center. If anyone plans to visit or talk to the unit please call Pete Granato at (210) 316-6706 or (210) 673-0312.

At The **Shrine Auditorium** 901 N. Loop West 1604 West Between Stone Oak & Blanco Road

Sadie Hawkins Dance & Crazies **Cowboy Country Western Hillbilly Fun!**

HAVE A BLAST FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24TH AT 7:00 PM AND DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY!

SILENT AUCTION BYOB SET-UPS AVAILABLE FUN ENTRY PRIZES ALL FOR \$15.00 A COUPLE

THE NET PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT BENEFIT SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN

Sponsored By: Alzafar Shriners' **Hillbillies** WE'LL DANCE WITH YOU **ALZAFAR CLAN 152**

Call 496-1625 For Tickets

HAVE A DOG GONE GOOD OLD TIME A DANCING

Shriners Hospitals for Children

The Galveston Hospital

Report

PP Philip Knight-Sheen

As you know we lost a dedicated and much respected Shriner recently by the name of Tony Cantu. His wife, Lodi, requested that any memorials in his name should be given to the Galveston Hospital Transportation Fund. It was my pleasure to present checks in the amount of \$425.00 to the Hospital Trustees at the meeting held on the 16 of January in his name. I know that Tony would be pleased. The Kerr Klowns sent a check for \$250.00 and the Guadalupe Valley Shrine club sent two checks, \$250.00 and \$6,342.39. On behalf of your children at the Galveston Burn Hospital, a heartfelt "Thank You".

December was not a quite month! We admitted 32 children, 4 of them with 3% burns. One 16 year old sustained 60% burns caused by fire from a torch. We had 20 from the US and 12 from Mexico. We love Volunteers! Last year (2011) they donated 2,870 hours in a variety of departments. A number of the Trustees bring their wife's with them once a month and they often spend the day working as a volunteer during our meetings. Please keep up your good work and come visit your Hospital.

ROADSTER RUMBLINGS

By Bud Martin

It seems as if the time is moving slow; however, January is moving on a fast pace. We are preparing for the George Washington Birthday Parade Festival in Laredo, TX. The unit is working on their cars polishing them to shine like new from bumper to bumper. We hope to see you there.

Noble Capt. Jim Lacarde and his Lady, Margo; Noble Bob Eades and his Lady, Betty; Noble Bill Armstrong and his Lady Janet; Noble Baldy Tamayo and his Lady Irma along with his family; Noble Buck Bourne and his Lady, Shirlee; Past Potentate, Illustrious Sir Paul McCombs and his Lady Norma attended our Christmas dinner at the Longhorn Steakhouse. The dinner was delicious and afterwards Illustrious Sir Paul McCombs swore in the new officers of our unit for the coming year 2012. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed the evening which was full of Christmas spirit.

I want to thank Noble Buck Bourne who has been so gracious as to keep me up dated on the activities and events of our unit while my wife, Lady Eileen, has been very ill. Buck, thanks ever so much for a job well done above and beyond the call of duty. I am in your debt.

Remember, "A man never stands so tall as when he stoops to help a child." God Bless

Masonic Youth Brunch & Grand Master's Conference March 3, 2012, 12:00PM - San Antonio Shrine Auditorium

*Please join M*W* James F. Brumit, Grand Master of Texas Masons, for Brunch at the San Antonio Shrine Auditorium. Brunch is the centerpiece of the day following the Grand Master's traditional observance of Texas Liberty at the Alamo and precedes his annual conference and communication.*

Fitting our observance of Texas History and Texas Masonry, we've invited Former Texas Ranger Joe Davis to be the guest speaker at Brunch. Ranger Davis will briefly chronicle the history of the Texas Rangers, influences of Masonry, and the future development of the Texas Ranger Heritage Center. Ranger Davis' presentation is certain to be well received by all Texas Masons and anyone interested in the history of the development of Our Great State.

Cost is \$8.00 each or \$75.00 for a table for 10. Donations to our Masonic Youth programs are welcomed. Ladies and youth are invited to attend the Alamo observance and the Brunch. Business attire or Ladies Sunday Dress is appropriate. Please call (210) 496-1625 at least seven days in advance to RSVP.

** Proceeds benefit Masonic Youth Programs and do not benefit the Shriners Hospitals for Children*



***Altrui Court No. 89, Ladies’
Oriental Shrine of NA
Lady Karen Tilghman, Past High Priestess***

Altrui Court No. 89 showed Lady Sandy Newby, Grand High Priestess, a wonderful time during her official visit on Monday and Tuesday, Jan 16 & 17. The luncheon at Milano Restaurant was delicious and satisfying. The Official Visit and our January meeting went well. Thanks to all who made her visit a success.

Many thanks go out to Lady Doris Roeder, PHP, for organizing our Shrine Hospital Trip on Sunday, Feb 19, 2012 (at the Galveston Hospital) and Monday, Feb 20, 2012 (at the Houston Hospital). If you’re interested in going, please contact Lady Peggy Koepke, High Priestess at 210-422-7519 or Lady Doris Roeder, PHP at 210-215-3368.

By the time you get this issue of the Achbar, we will have elected our Officers for 2012-2013. Congratulations to all who moved up closer to the East. We will have a new Second Ceremonial Lady who will remain a “mushroom” until she comes out of the dark at Grand Council.

Congratulations to Lady Beverly Farr, PHP, who won the Spurs Extravaganza Package. She’ll enjoy seeing the Spurs up close at the AT&T Center. We appreciate all who participated in this Opportunity to Own package.

The New Orleans Get-Away Opportunity to Own package was awarded on Thursday, February 2, 2012. Thanks to all who supported our fundraisers this year. Next month, I’ll report to you who won the package!

Our March meeting will be Thursday, Mar 1, 2012 at 7:00 PM with light refreshments prior to our meeting starting about 6:15 PM in the Parlors.

If you know of a lady who is interested in becoming a “Lady Shriner” with Altrui Court No. 89, please contact any member for details.

Hope to see each of you at our next meeting. If you need to contact Lady Peggy Koepke, High Priestess, her number is 210-422-7519.

Mini-Wheels

Alberto Escalante, Secretary

It is the beginning of a new year and the Mini-Wheels are excited for another year full of parades and brotherhood. We had our first unit meeting and had the opportunity to begin marking our calendar with all sorts of fun activities.

One of the most exciting dates this year is the Mini-Wheels 40th anniversary. All of the brothers are excited to be a part of such an amazing milestone and cannot wait to celebrate. We are in the midst of planning a spectacular event and will inform every one of our plans once they are solidified. Be on the lookout for more details in upcoming Achbar articles.

Last, but certainly not least, we want to take the time to welcome our newest member, Brother Johnny De La Rosa. We are always happy to welcome any brother interested in joining our unit.

FOR THE SHRINE HOSPITALS
100% Return Guaranteed!
100 MILLION DOLLAR CLUB

As Potentate, I would like all our units and clubs to support the Hospital Endowment Fund by making an annual contribution of \$100.00. You may wish to enroll your special lady in the Shrine Order of the Rose to commemorate some special day in your lives. This is also a great way to honor some member of your unit deserving of such recognition.

____ Please find enclosed check payable to Alzafar Hospital Fund.

____ Please charge my donation to my MasterCard, VISA
____ (number) _____ (exp. date)

The Certificate to read: _____

Name of Donor: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

100% of your contribution will go into the Hospital Endowment.
Mail to: Alzafar Shriners, 901 N. Loop 1604 W., San Antonio, TX 78232



Highlanders

Lee Raspberry - Scribe

Awrite! If you missed our first annual “Burns Supper”, you missed a good time. The Haggis and Scotch aside, we had a wonderful time reciting poetry from Scotland’s most recognized poet, Robert Burns and spending time with family and friends. This event will continue to grow as a yearly event to look forward to. Thank you also to the members of the Divan and their Ladies who attended.

February will be a busy month for our Lads. First is the Installation of Officers at the Scottish Rite, then the Potentate’s Ball followed by the Black Bexar Piping and Drumming Clinic over President’s Day Weekend.

2012 brought with it our new Officers, who are: Ken Mahnke – Chief, Gordon McKinnie – Pipe Major, Lee Raspberry – Scribe/Drum Major, along with some very distinguished Lads as Committee Members, et al. Meal do naidheachd!

Remember, we meet every Monday in Room 9 for practice, a pint and usually a game of darts, so come by and visit.

Bliain úr faoi shéan is faoi mhaise duit!
Drummy

Nekodah Temple No. 44

Daughters of the Nile

Supreme Queen Laura Richardson’s Official Visit was Friday, January 13, 2012. We had a ceremonial and brought into our Temple seven new Princesses. The social that followed was outstanding. The banquet was wonderful and the food was great. The speech given by our new Potentate was enlightening. Supreme Queen Laura had really nice stories to tell. The entertainment by all of our units was absolutely the best ever.

We would like to welcome our new Princesses: Pr. Amanda Brown, Pr. Julie Davenport, Pr. Gladys Gonzalez,

Pr. Mary Ann Lopez, Pr. Teri Meyer, Pr. Patricia Plouch and Pr. Allison Skipper. Nekodah Temple welcomes each of you.

Our next Games Day will be held January 31, 2012. Bring a friend and come enjoy the games and lunch for only a \$5.00 donation.

On February 4, 2012, you will really want to be in the Terrace Room for Pr. Tirzah Barbara Wells will host her “A Style Show of a Different Color and Shop along the Imaginary River Nile”. This event is a brunch for only a \$10.00 donation and it all begins at 11:00 am. Be sure to come early to shop. Bring your Nobles, family and friends. Hope to see everyone there.

Loads of Sea Treasure Hugs and Love,
Queen Lynda Kay Wilkinson



ALL ABOARD THE BUS TO GALVESTON !!!!!!!

Your potentate is hosting a tour to the Shriners Burns Hospital in Galveston. The bus will depart from the Shrine Center on

Saturday, March 10th 7:00 AM

Arrive around noon for lunch, hospital presentation and tour of the hospital. On our return, there will be a brief sight seeing stop, then return home by 7:00 PM

This trip is especially intended for new Nobles and their ladies to see first hand what our Shrine mission is all about, but any Noble and their Lady who has not had the chance to visit our Hospitals is welcome. We have room for 52 passengers.

Cost for the bus trip, lunch and a life changing experience...only your time.

Call the Shrine Office—210 496-1625 to sign up.

UNIT MEETING SCHEDULE

ANTIQUÉ CARRIAGE	3rd Tuesday	7:00P.M.	Room 9
BAND	Each Thursday	6:30P.M.	Room 7
BURNING SUN	2nd Wednesday	7:00P.M.	Room 5
CAMP ALZAFAR	Memorial Day July 4th & Labor Day	12:00N	Camp Pavilion
CHAPARRAL	1st Monday	7:30P.M.	Room 4
DeMOLAY	2nd Thursday	6:00 P.M.	As Designated
DIRECTORS STAFF	2nd Tuesday	7:30P.M.	Directors Staff Room
DRUM CORPS	Each Tuesday	7:30P.M.	Room 8
GOLF UNIT	2nd Tuesday	7:30P.M.	Room 7
HIGHLANDERS BAND	Each Monday	7:00P.M.	Room 9
HILLBILLY CLAN	2nd Sunday in Feb., Apr., June, Aug., Oct., Dec.	5:00P.M.	Roustabout/ Directors Staff Room
HONOR GUARD	1st Monday	7:30P.M.	Room 12
HOSPITAL CORPS	3rd Tuesday	7:00P.M.	Room 6
INDY HOT WHEELS	1st Wednesday	7:00 P.M.	Room 4
KERR KLOWNS	4th Monday	7:00P.M.	Room 11
MINI-WHEELS	2nd Tuesday	7:30P.M.	Room 10
MOTOR PATROL	3rd Monday	7:00P.M.	Room 5
NEMNUF	2nd Monday	7:30P.M.	Room 11
ORIENTAL BAND	Each Monday	7:30P.M.	Room 8
PATROL	4th Monday	7:00P.M.	Room 6
PROVOST GUARD	1st Wednesday	7:00P.M.	Provost Guard Room
RED ROADSTERS	1st Tuesday	7:00P.M.	Room 10
ROD & GUN CLUB	1st Sunday	11:00A.M.	Dining Room
ROUSTABOUTS	Each Wednesday	7:00P.M.	Roustabout Shop
RV CLUB	4th Weekend		As Designated
SENIORS	1st Thursday	12:00N	Parlors
SHOTGUN	2nd Monday	7:00P.M.	Directors Staff Room
SONS OF HIRAM	1st Monday	7:00P.M.	Parlors
YOSHI	1st Wednesday	7:00P.M.	Room 12
CLUB MEETINGS			
BOERNE	3rd Wednesday	6:30P.M.	As Designated
BORDER	3rd Thursday	7:00P.M.	Town House Restaurant, Uvalde
CANYON LAKE	2nd Monday	6:30P.M.	Canyon Lake Little Club
FT. CLARK SPRINGS	4th Saturday	6:30P.M.	Ramada Inn, Del Rio
GUADALUPE VALLEY	3rd Monday	6:00P.M.	As Designated
HILL COUNTRY	1st Monday	11:00A.M.	Inn of the Hills, Kerrville
LAREDO	1st Wednesday	7:00P.M.	As Designated
MEDINA LAKE	3rd Friday	7:00P.M.	American Legion, Medina Lake
FORGET-ME-NOTS	1st Thursday	10:00A.M.	Room 4
NILE	2nd Thursday	7:30P.M.	Parlors
LOS	1st Thursday	7:00P.M.	Parlors
BLUE LODGES			
CIBOLO LODGE	4th Monday	7:00P.M.	Alzafar Shrine
KELLY LODGE	1st Tuesday	7:30P.M.	Alzafar Shrine
VICTORY LODGE	2nd Tuesday	7:00P.M.	Alzafar Shrine

IN MEMORY OF DONOR

Antonio "Tony" Cantu	Bob & Barbara Elmendorf
Antonio "Tony" Cantu	Ron & Jan Kayser
Antonio "Tony" Cantu	Don & Patsy Starnes
Antonio "Tony" Cantu	Bruce & Pat Thomson
Antonio "Tony" Cantu	Bob & Becky Ashley
Antonio "Tony" Cantu	Dennis & Shauna Abbuhl
Antonio "Tony" Cantu	Donna & Dion Reece
Antonio "Tony" Cantu	Sylvia Smith
Antonio "Tony" Cantu	Javier & Cynthia Bustamante
Antonio "Tony" Cantu	Joe & Veronica Villarreal
Antonio "Tony" Cantu	Else & Pete Briseno
Antonio "Tony" Cantu	Eloisa Bustamante
Col. James Mangum	Linda & Tony Blome
Dorothy Jones	Joe & Lou Hope
Elizabeth G. Peters	George Hambley
George R. Garza	Ron & Jan Kayser
George R. Garza	Bruce & Pat Thomson
George R. Garza	Don & Patsy Starnes
John David Martin	Charlene McGuire
Lavonne Rose	Herman Howry & Breen
Lavonne Rose	Betty Currie
Lillian Goggan Keller	Bill & Betsy Moon
Mary Lou Johnson	Ron & Jan Kayser
Peggy Cullins	Frankie Hall
Peggy Cullins	E.D. Tuma
Peggy Cullins	Bob & Becky Ashley
Robert G. Luna	Ron & Jan Kayser
Staci S. Peak	Don & Patsy Starnes
Stanly Coughran	Jay Crist

BLACK CAMEL - DEATHS

Antonio "Tony" Cantu
Titus J. Titus
J.D. Dowling
Donald Moberg



Antique Carriage Club UNIT

As I write this newsletter I'm thinking of all the fun and pleasures that we Shriners look forward to for another great year. The philanthropy that I look forward to is the support for hospitals for the kids. Having been a burn patient myself, it still chokes me up to see these children with their injuries and bandages. It also makes me proud that I can still bring a smile to their faces and some hope in their hearts. The other thing that makes me proud is the brotherhood that also supports this mission. The Antique Carriage unit is proud to support the parades and events that spread the word of our services to the public and I'm effervescent in its mission.

Our variety of Classic and Antique Autos is one of the aspects of the club that makes it so much fun to share during the parades. Ahhh... Can you remember nickel gas and being able to recognize what's under the hood? We invite you to reminisce with us at our monthly Unit meetings.

We will have to wait for next edition for visions of the Laredo parade as the deadline for these articles is well before then. Our Shriner Hospitality Unit does a fantastic job of making sure that everyone is 'hospitalitized' during their stay. If you haven't participated in one of these longer-distance parades, this might be the year to consider sharing with us.

Mark the date of Saturday, April 28th, 2012 as the official date for the 5th Annual Alzafar Antique Carriage Club's Antique and Classic Car Show!

We welcome any Shriners to join us with your antique or classic car. The Antique Carriage Unit meets on the 3rd Tuesday each month in Room 9 in the main Shrine Building. Stop-by about 6:30 for refreshments and stimulating conversation and you'll be in the drivers seat by 7:00 [Mechanical ability also helps.]

That's about it for the Old Car Barn
No one stands so tall as when they stoop to help a child.
God bless everyone.

Gene Wager, 2011 President, Antique Carriage Club (Retired)



CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: At Camp Alzafar, #17 Sharon. 4 bedroom, 2 ½ bath in the trailer area. Completely furnished with TV, DVD/VCR combo, all kitchen appliances. Futon couch & day bed w/trendal in the living area. Also has 2 twin beds, 2 full beds and 1 queen size bed. Large covered deck w/patio furniture, storage shed and much more. *\$24,500.00***. Call Paul Anderson @ 817-706-7004.**

FOR SALE: #4 Moslah at Camp Alzafar. Large split level cottage. Upstairs has living room, master bedroom and bath. Equipped with 2 window units, whole house water filtration kit and blinds. Huge 330 + sq. ft. covered deck. Too many extras too mention. Asking \$22,000.00. Call Victor Ochoa at 210-387-9843 or email victor@swtx-environmental.com.

FOR SALE: Men's rare Masonic ring. Asking price is \$900.00. If interested, please call: 210-679-6164.

FOR SALE: Rascal Scooter 600T w/stow-able lift. \$1,000.00. Call 210-491-3845. Money from the sale of this scooter will be donated to the Galveston Burn Family Transportation Fund.

ALZAFAR TEMPLE, A.A.O.N.M.S
901 N. Loop 1604 West
San Antonio, Texas 78232

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage PAID
 San Antonio, Texas
 Permit No. 480

FEBRUARY 2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2nd	Forget-Me-Nots/Room 4 Seniors Meeting & Luncheon/Parlors LOS Stated Meeting/Parlors	10:00 am 12:00 noon 7:30 pm
6th	Finance & Divan Meetings/Conference Room	4:00 pm
9th	Alzafar Shrine Stated Meeting/Ballroom NILE Stated Session/Parlors	7:30 pm 7:30 pm
11th	Potentate's Presentation & Ball Ballroom	6:00pm
18th	Washington's Birthday Parade/Laredo	9:00 am
20th	PRESIDENT'S DAY - SHRINE CENTER CLOSED	
24th	Sadie Hawkins Dance/Ballroom	7:00 pm

MARCH 2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1st	Forget-Me-Nots/Room 4 Seniors Luncheon & Meeting/Parlors LOS Stated Meeting/Parlors	10:00 am 12:00 noon 7:30 pm
3rd	Masonic Youth Brunch & Conference	12:00 pm
5th	Finance Divan Meetings/Conference Room	4:00 pm
8th	Alzafar Stated Meeting/Ballroom NILE Stated Session/Parlors	7:30 pm 7:30 pm
24th	LOS Installation	2:00 pm
31st	NILE Installation	2:00 pm

Articles that appear in the Achbar newsletter do not necessarily reflect the official position of Neighborhood News, Inc. and their publication does not constitute an endorsement therein. The appearance of any advertisement in the Achbar newsletter does not constitute an endorsement by Neighborhood News, Inc. of the goods or services advertised. Neighborhood News, Inc. is not responsible for errors beyond the cost of the actual ad space. Any publication of Neighborhood News, Inc., whether draft or final is the sole property of Neighborhood News, Inc. and cannot be reproduced or distributed in any way, whether in print or electronically, without the express written consent of Neighborhood News, Inc. ©Neighborhood News, Inc.