Happy New Year! It’s an exciting time of renewal and getting a fresh start moving forward. It’s a time of optimism for most of us, individually and collectively to have another chance to act upon new resolutions and new commitments. For me, I truly feel honored to be Syrian Shrine’s 103rd Potentate in our 140th year, which also brings a profound sense of responsibility, and a deep sense of humility toward so many fine and upstanding Nobles of our Order who have supported me these past several years. I would also like to thank each noble for believing in the fine men of the Divan and Trustees by electing them to serve this great fraternity, and who I can proudly say are a joy to work with.

Our simple “Leadership Plan”: 1) Communication; 2) Membership; and 3) Fun.

COMMUNICATION: an open culture of transparency keeps everyone informed and results in happier people and stronger morale. Your Divan and Trustees will make every effort to keep all our nobles informed, and we need and welcome feedback from you too!

MEMBERSHIP: with nearly 20 Clubs and Units, a vast array of activities and especially, our 22 Shriners Hospitals, there is something for every prospective member. “ONE.” Will each one of you make an effort to bring in at least ONE new noble this year? Every noble is on the membership team.

FUN: not long ago, “Having Fun and Helping Kids” was an official tagline used by Shriners International. Having fun increases all those things you’d like to grow: membership, engagement and attendance. So, let’s dedicate ourselves, together, to creating, sustaining and providing more fun in everything we do. You’ll be surprised how much you can accomplish when you’re laughing too hard to notice. This year will be exciting for a number of reasons. I hope you and your family will be engaged and involved in the “Shriner Experience.” Be active, show your Shriner pride, help grow membership and together we can make Cincinnati Syrian Shrine the best it can be!! Our 96th circus will be Feb 3, 4 & 5 at the BB&T Arena on the campus of Northern Kentucky University in Highland Heights, Kentucky. The Circus Committee has worked very hard this past year in securing corporate and individual ads and sponsorships, and we are providing hundreds of tickets for many needy children in the region. Come to the show and remember our Friday show is All Masons Night. The Potentate’s Ball will be May 5-6 and will be themed on the Five Orders of Architecture that we all learned about in our Second Masonic Degree. We’ll be at the Airport Marriott – details to follow. The 2017 Imperial Session will be in Daytona Beach during the second week of July; and we reserved a large block of rooms in one of the top-rated resorts (by TripAdvisor): Perry’s Ocean Edge. Check out: perrysoceanedge.com The Pote’s Parrot Head Road Trip, will be an “all-inclusive” (think Club Med) Jimmy Buffet themed tour of Lake Erie Island Hopping and is set for August 4-6. Of course, we will have continuous and ongoing dinners, dances, bingo, fish fry’s, grill outs, picnics, kids parties, fundraisers, and hospital events. Stay tuned in to the Weekly Blast to your email, or let the office know if you’re not receiving your updates. In closing, I would like to thank my wonderful and beautiful bride, First Lady Vicki, for the time, dedication and support she has provided me, which allows me to serve you, our nobility.

Yours in the faith,
Rob
Robert H. Smith
Potentate 2017
ADULTS HAVING FUN ALSO
With their 2016 donation of $50,000, the Fastiques have donated over $1,000,000.00 to our Hospital
Despite being one of the smallest units in Syrian Shrine, the Escort Unit continues to support our Paper Crusade campaigns, with dedication and determination. Tony Bowling, Tabloid Chairman, wants to thank the Escort Unit for their support and participation in the 2016 Paper crusade activities.

**Paper Crusade Donation**

At our December Business Meeting, a check for $500 was presented to the 2016 Syrian Shrine Paper Crusade Initiative from “Hillbilly Clan #5”
Fairfax, Ohio Police Department

Fairfax Ohio’s Police Department collected toys out in front of Walmart Fairfax, Ohio, and donate a portion of the toys to Cincinnati Shriner Kids Party, and Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Thanks to the magical elves at Delta Airlines, many underprivileged kids in the tristate area were given the opportunity to fill an airplane for a once-in-a-lifetime “trip” to the North Pole. Kids are transported by bus to the airport, and “flown” to the North Pole where the kids enjoy live music, Shrine Clowns, treats and holiday cheer with local mascots, along with being greeted by Santa and Mrs. Claus and lots of holiday gifts from their “wish lists.”
Pote's Roast

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STRIKE AND SPARE FOR THE BENEVOLENT FUND

This pledge belongs to __________________. Be a part of Syrian Shrine’s bowling for "The Shriners Benevolent Fund" by sponsoring a bowler. Your sponsorship helps provide financial relief of a worthy and distressed Shrine!

Sponsor a Bowler with an amount-per-pin or a one time donation

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Thank you for your support. Bring this completed sponsor form along with collected pledges and turn in during event registration. Thank You!

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Cincinnati Average $4,464
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IN SUPPORT OF
Syrian Shrine and Syrian Shriek
Cliff and Caryl Fullman

Hamilton Shrine Club
Supporting Syrian Shrine
Tournament will be held at Western Bowl, on February 25th, 2017. From 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The cost will be $10.00 per bowler for three games (includes shoe rental).

This Fundraiser is designed to benefit the Cincinnati Shriners Benevolent Fund. The fund helps Shriners continue to support our Shrine Children's Hospitals. Sponsors may pledge per pin for three (3) games, or may contribute a fixed amount!

Fill out the attached sheet...

Reservation deadline February 22, 2017, call the office 513-751-3800.
“The Gloria Jim Foundation” presented a check for $2,000 for the Syrian Shrine Hospital Transportation Fund, prior to our December Business Meeting.

Logan Tuscany, a Firefighter/EMT in Mt Healthy, Ohio was the lucky winner of our Harley Davidson Motorcycle and trailer. Logan was so excited when I called him at 10pm, he and his wife came down to the Shrine Center, to pick it up. He purchased his ticket at WestFest!
### HAPPY BIRTHDAY - BLACK CAMEL

#### NOBLES JANUARY BIRTHDAY

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#### 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS – DECEMBER 2016 & JANUARY-2017

**JANUARY - 2017**

1. **NEW YEARS DAY**
2. **TEMPLE CLOSED**
   - IN OBSERVANCE OF NEW YEARS DAY
3. **DIVAN/TRUSTEES MEETING:** 6:00 UNIT DIRECTORS/CLUB PRESIDENTS - 7:00 - LADIES
4. **PAPER CRUSADE APPRECIATION DINNER & HONORING 2016 WIDOW’S**
5. **INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS & BUSINESS MEETING**
6. **BONA COURT # 8 MEETING – 7:00**
7. **F.M.D.O.A. – CALIBURN #785**
8. **PORTSMOUTH INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**
9. **CIRCUS KICK-OFF PARTY**

**FEBRUARY – 2017**

3. **SHRINE CIRCUS**
18. **BINGO AND DINNER**

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### THESE WE DO NOT FORGET IN MEMORIAM

Richard R. Worthing-33RD ..................11/15/2016
Thurman W. Smith ............................ 11/18/2016
Kenneth E. Keel .............................. 11/18/2016
John W. Scalf .................................. 11/30/2016
Charles A. Wermuth ......................... 12/03/2016

---

Imperial Sir Chris Smith and Syrian Shrine Illustrious Rob Smith
Antique Caravan
It's a new year, a fresh start, as we begin our 44th parade season, a time for reflecting and maybe it's a time to change some of our outdated maneuvers, our Director Chuck Ayres is prepared to teach us some new tricks in 2017, and for the first time in a long time, he mentioned “practice”, and I said “practice”! Since the Caravan started performing in parades in 1973, we have been one of Syrian Shrines undisputed parade highlights. Our nostalgic Model T replica cars, executing precision maneuvers, combined with our ever-so-stylish color coordinated uniforms, gives us a perfect combination of supreme goofiness and undeniable coolness. It’s impossible for parade spectators to see us drive our cars without wanting to drive one themselves. You could probably count the number of people in the spectators to see us drive our cars without wanting to drive one.

Bona Court #8
Welcome from the Ladies of Bona Court. We hope everyone had a great, safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Have a safe winter. Until next month. Lady Wanoka Motz, PHP Bona Court #8

Clowns
In 2016 the Shrine Clown unit has taken part in nearly 20 parades, at least a dozen hospital visits, they have traveled to 4 different states, taking part in helping kids from the Children’s Hospital take a flight to see Santa Claus at the North Pole. They went to Middletown Ohio to make nearly a thousand balloon for the kids at the Middletown balloon glow! We’ve marched in parades everywhere from Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, Aurora Indiana, downtown Cincinnati, Montgomery, Amelia, and the list goes on and on! We’ve helped raise in this past year nearly $100,000 for our Hospitals and the speaker fund which goes to the research for the hospital, and their own clown in it we have grown to nearly 50 members and our clown unit and we are very proud to say that that number is going to keep going! We have started clown school to bring people who are interested learning how to clown, and for our new clowns bring them up to par, and to make them become fantastic clowns. We have taken part in a fantastic Camp Yshtiba, we have put on face for our veterans at the DAV Christmas party of Clermont County. We put nearly 45 clowns in makeup at the 2016 circus making it one of the most successful circuses we’ve had in 25 years. And now it is time to start all over this year we’re going to do a circus we’re going to do a fantastic clown Olympics at Eastgate Mall we’re inviting everyone to this to enjoy themselves to show what Cinncinati and Masonry must offer, along with the Shrine. As the director of our unit I am very proud in giving you this report for our new Potentate, Robert H. Smith and the members of the 2017 Divan. Also, we would be remiss if we did not acknowledge and thank the members of the Hospital Hosts, a working Syrian Shrine Unit, for the dedication and willingness to volunteer their time to our Shriners Hospital for Children. As our slogan states “No man stands higher than when he stoops to help a child,” and our Hosts exemplify that each working day. Any Noble interested in joining this proud Syrian Shrine Unit is invited to attend a meeting. We meet the second and fourth Tuesday each month, in the hospital auditorium, 9:30 A.M. Meetings last approximately one hour and in joining this proud Syrian Shrine Unit is invited to attend a meeting. We thank Jeff for another excellent dinner event. Then there's the food service of the hospital, supervised by manager, Jeff Keller. We were able to meet in the hospital auditorium. The auditorium was set up beautifully for us, and dinner was prepared by Morrison's, the food service of the hospital, supervised by manager, Jeff Keller. We thank Jeff for another excellent dinner event. Then there's the one about the Noble and his wife doing their Christmas shopping, when the wife noticed he was missing, and since they had a lot to do, she called him on his cell phone. She said “Where are you, you know we have a lot to do.” He said “You remember the jewelers we went to about 10 years ago, and you fell in love with that diamond necklace? That I couldn’t afford at that time, and you said that one day I would get it for you!” As the tears started to flow down her cheeks and she got all choked up... “Yes, I do remember that shop.” She replied. “Well I’m at the gun shop next door.” My friends, live life...love much...laugh often...and keep on smiling. Dick Manifold - Director

Flying Fez
Nobles, another year has flown by us with so many memories great and small but well worth remembering. Another Great Holiday Season behind us bringing us closer to a new Parade season right around the bend that brings changes to our lives especially to our Shrine Temple. Having new officers with their agendas are, in some cases, unforgettable that will normally strengthen our Masonic endeavors. Still early to speculate of what, how and when we as Shriners will start moving the world by our deeds and accomplishments with our hospital children. We need to go out and let the world know us as who we are by presenting ourselves as a fun-loving man whose goal is to build a stronger relationship with our communities thru our parades and let them know that our goal is to help any child who needs that physical help that we provide at our Hospitals. In closing I would like to tell you a story of the Taxi Driver. A passenger in a taxi leaned over to ask the driver a question, and tapped him on the shoulder. The driver screamed, lost control of the cab, nearly hit a bus, drove over the curb and stopped just inches from a large plate glass window. For a few moments, everything was silent in the cab and then, the still shaking driver said, “I am sorry, but you scared the daylights out of me.” The frightened passenger apologized to the driver and said “I didn’t realize a mere tap on the shoulder could frighten you so much.” After a short quite period the driver replied, “No, No, I am sorry, it’s entirely my fault. You see today is my first day driving a cab. You see I’ve been driving a Hearst for the last 25 years.” Essalamu Aleikum Sam Mattar

Hamilton Shrine Club
HAPPY NEW YEAR Greetings Nobles and friends. We continue to keep open the possibility of bringing this Syrian Shrine Club back to life. A meeting of interested Nobles will be attempted again on Tuesday evening, January 3rd. Dinner at 6:00 P.M., meeting to follow. Location will be determined by number of R.S.V.P., please call by December 31st. Dick Manifold – 829-1584

Hospital Hosts
Greetings Nobles and friends. The Hospital Hosts Unit would like to wish one and all, a very HAPPY, HEALTHY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!! We would also like to congratulate and thank the 2016 Divan for all they were able to accomplish this past year. We look forward to 2017 and the Hospital Hosts Unit offers their full support for our new Potentate, Robert H. Smith and the members of the 2017 Divan. Also, we would be remiss if we did not acknowledge and thank the members of the Hospital Hosts, a working Syrian Shrine Unit, for their dedication and willingness to volunteer their time to our Shriners Hospital for Children. As our slogan states “No man stands higher than when he stoops to help a child,” and our Hosts exemplify that each working day. Any Noble interested in joining this proud Syrian Shrine Unit is invited to attend a meeting. We meet the second and fourth Tuesday each month, in the hospital auditorium, 9:30 A.M. Meetings last approximately one hour and convenient parking is available in the attached hospital parking garage. The Hosts Christmas party was held December 7th, and again we were able to meet in the hospital auditorium. The auditorium was set up beautifully for us, and dinner was prepared by Morrison’s, the food service of the hospital, supervised by manager, Jeff Keller. We thank Jeff for another excellent dinner event. Then there’s the one about the Noble and his wife doing their Christmas shopping, when the wife noticed he was missing, and since they had a lot to do, she called him on his cell phone. She said “Where are you, you know we have a lot to do.” He said “You remember the jewelers we went to about 10 years ago, and you fell in love with that diamond necklace? That I couldn’t afford at that time, and you said that one...
Greetings Nobles and golfing friends. Yes, I know this not the weather to be out there smacking that little white ball around. However, we can dream, can’t we? Just thought you needed to be reminded that all that new golf equipment you got for Christmas will be put to the test in a couple of short months. So, in the meantime a little story about two Nobles that have a history... They grew up together and eventually decided they would meet after every ten years, in Florida and play a round. At age 30 they finished their round and wanted to go to lunch. “Where you wanna go?” “Hooters.” “Why?” Well you know they got them chicks with big racks, tight shorts and the legs...” “OK.” Ten years later at 40 years old they play. “Where you wanna go?” “Hooters.” “Why?” “Well, you know, they got cold beer and big screen TV’s and everybody has a little action on the games.” “OK.” Ten years later at age 50 they play. “Where you wanna go?” “Hooters.” “Why?” “The food is pretty good and there is plenty of parking.” “OK.” At age 60 they play. “Where you wanna go?” “Hooters.” “Why?” “Wings are half price.” “OK.” At age 60 they play. “Where you wanna go?” “Hooters.” “Why?” “They have six handicapped parking spaces right at the door.” “OK.” At age 80 they play. “Where you wanna go?” “Hooters.” “Why?” “Wings are half price.” “OK.” At age 80 they play. “Where you wanna go?” “Hooters.” “Why?” ““We’ve never been there before.” Too cold to play be at least you can work on you putting.

Dick Manifold

Oriental Band

Dan Depenbrock Director, the O.B. and our Ladies hope that our fellow Nobles and Ladies had a very enjoyable Holiday Season. Keeping in step with the Holidays, the Oriental Band held our annual Christmas/Holiday Party at the Airport Holiday Inn Hotel on Saturday, December 17th for Band Members, our Ladies, and Guests. The day/evening was filled with Presentations, Entertainment, a Gift Exchange, and a visit from Santa made this evening a special one. The O.B. has announced our 2017 Officers and they are: Director Dan Depenbrock, President Tony Bowling, Vice President Joe Harper, Secretary Paul Brown, Treasurer; Travis Proctor, Conductor Randall Proctor. Starting this month, the O.B. will be meeting on Wednesday nights at our Temple on a weekly basis. John Longsworth Oriental Band, Scribe

Roadsters

Hope everyone had a “Merry Christmas” and got more than they wanted, also we wish you a “Happy and Prosperous New Year”. We had our elections at our last meeting and it goes like this - by a slim margin, Don Meinzen is Director, Lou McQaud, Assistant Director, Dave Toler, Treasurer. All of the other committees were filled, thank you. Bill Burwinkel attended our meeting, and was voted in as a new member and a new car owner. We look forward having Bill and his lady, Lynn, in the Roadsters. With 3 new members in the last year, cars are going fast, so if you want to join a fun, family oriented unit, we only have 2 cars left for the 2017 Parade Season and more. Look up any Roadster member at any Shrine functions or call me, Don at 218-2380 to get your car reserved today. Check your “Shriek” for upcoming events in January and February and please represent your unit and support your Shrine. We all are looking forward to the Shrine Circus on February 3rd, 4th, and 5th - the Roadsters will be there to parade in and help where needed. Happy Birthday to Cindy Smith (1/2), Norman Bell (1/15). On a sad note, one of the original members of the Roadsters, Charlie Wermuth, passed away on December 3rd. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his wife, Mary, and their family. Don Meinzen, Director

West Side

As we enter January the West Side Shrine Club are starting with out with a new President, Don Brockman, and a new Treasurer, Bill Spatz. We will also be moving to the first floor at Nathaniel Greene Lodge in Green Township on the second Tuesday of each month. Again another year passed by with nothing but a very close fraternal brotherly relationships. Friends and family enjoying life as it should be. We leave politics out, most of the time, but contrite on life around us and our families bringing us that much closer to what it means to be a fraternal brothers or sisters in this great Masonic atmosphere. Our Holiday season takes many of us to fly to get to our families to celebrate the birth of our Christ. That in mind brings me to this not so well known an incident that took place at our Airport.. Instructions given from the Tower: “Eastern 702’ you are cleared for takeoff, contact departure on frequency 124.7” Eastern 702: “Tower, Eastern 702 switching to Departure. By the way, after we lifted off there was some kind of dead animal on the far end of the runway.” Tower: “Cleared for takeoff behind Eastern 702, contact Departure on frequency 124.7.” Continental635: “Continental 635, cleared for takeoff. Did you hear that report from Eastern 702?” Tower: “Roger, 635 and yes we copied Eastern. We have already notified our caterers!” Your Scribe SamIam
UPCOMING EVENT

Shrine Circus
96th Annual

Tickets start at just $10

BB&T Arena
500 Louie B. Nunn Drive
Highland Heights, KY 41099

February 3-4-5, 2017

Featuring "Flip" The Clown

Shrine Circus Office:
513-751-4717
OR 513-748-9327

BB&T Arena
859-442-2652

Ticketmaster:
800-745-3000
WWW.TICKETMASTER.COM

Proceeds are for the benefits of Syrian Shriners. Payments are not deductible as charitable contributions.
News from Cincinnati

We are excited to announce our new Text-to-Give for Mobile Giving!

You call it a donation. We call it Love to the rescue.®

Text LOVE to 80100
to donate $25

Shriners Hospitals for Children®
Love to the rescue!

Text-to-Give is a fundraising technique that allows donors to give directly to Shriners Hospitals for Children® — Cincinnati with their cell phones. Supporters can text LOVE to 80100 to donate $25 today!

Text-to-Give utilizes a form of technology that most donors use on a daily basis. Since texting has now become a preferred mode of communication among donors of ALL ages, it makes perfect sense to incorporate text-to-give into our fundraising strategy to benefit Shriners Hospitals for Children — Cincinnati!

Please promote mobile giving at meetings, special events, and through your passionate work for Shriners Hospitals for Children — Cincinnati!

Contact Donor Development at 513-872-6118 if you have any questions!

Shriners Hospitals for Children® — Cincinnati is one of only four freestanding hospitals in the country dedicated to the treatment of pediatric burns and specializing in plastic and reconstructive surgery. Our physicians’ experience and expertise in pediatric burn treatment, cleft lip and palate, complex wound and skin conditions, and plastic and reconstructive surgery makes Shriners Hospitals for Children — Cincinnati a first choice for care.

Conditions Treated

Burns
Cleft Lip & Palate
Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
Complex Wounds & Skin Conditions

All Services Provided Regardless of a Family’s Ability to Pay

Shriners Play a Big Role in Referrals

When it comes to finding medical help for children, Shriners are now more important than ever. Members of the fraternity have always played a critical role in helping families in their communities get connected with Shriners Hospitals for Children—Cincinnati, and now it has become even easier with a website and referral cards.

Website
Shriners Hospitals for Children — Cincinnati continues to make referring a patient and obtaining an appointment for care easier than ever through the www.shrinershospitalscincinnati.org website. Every page has a Schedule an Appointment and a Contact Us feature; both are easy forms that families can complete and submit online directly to the hospital.

Follow us on Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/ShrinersHospitalCincinnati

If you know a child we can help, go to shrinershospitalcincinnati.org or call:

Burn and Emergency Services
866-947-7840

Plastic Surgery Services
855-206-2096
UPCOMING EVENT

BREKFAST & BINGO

$8.00

Saturday January 21, 2017
10:00am Breakfast
Bingo 11:30am

Breakfast Includes
Pancakes
Sausage
Refreshments
UPCOMING EVENT

Family Kick-off Party
Saturday January 28th
12 - 4pm

Chick-fil-A locations, Voice of America and Mason Montgomery will cater our Kick-off party with 300 chicken sandwiches. We will also have hot-dogs, chips/pretzels and drinks.

Ticket office will be open....

Shrine Center

Food* Games*Prizes

I'll see you there!
UPCOMING EVENT

It's Back... World Famous Syrian Shrine...

Fish Fry Friday

March 10, 17, 24, 31
April 7, 14

Fish Fry... Get it?

$8.50
5-7:30pm

Bring your Friends and Family!

Fish or Chicken
Coleslaw
Fries
Dessert
Drink

Catch of the Day
Syrian Temple A.A.O.N.M.S
Syrian Shrine Center
9730 Reading Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45215
P:1-513-751-3800 • F:1-513-672-2018
www.syrianshrine.org
Email: office@syrianshrine.org
Office Hours: M-F 9 AM-3PM
Syrian Shrine Shriek
published monthly

New Syrian Shrine Officers for 2017

Tony Bowling
Oriental Guide

Carl Idler
Trustees

Chuck Jeffers
Trustees

Don Brockman
Trustees

Potentate:
Robert H. Smith

Chief Rabban:
Greg Pelfrey

Assistant Rabban:
Tim Redrow

High Priest and Prophet:
Jerry A. Ulm

Oriental Guide:
Tony Bowling

Treasurer:
Clifford E. Fullman

Recorder:
Gary Caudill

Trustees:
Dave Sparks, Joseph P. Hancock, Carl Idler

Office Staff:
Sue Martini, Debbie Idler

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