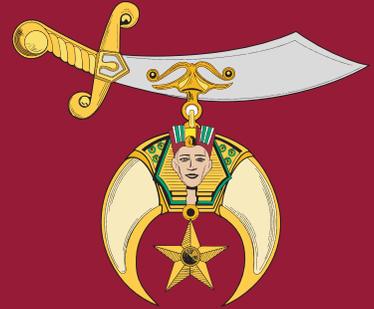


The Arabian



The Official Publication of Arabia Temple

Houston, Texas | November 2021

POTENTATE'S MESSAGE

by Illustrious Sir Rick Peña



Illustrious Sir Rick Peña and First Lady Naomi at the First Lady's Luncheon

of our Membership Team and our Nobles for continuing to work on membership. Keep up the Great Work - Now and into the Future. And I hope you all embrace the New Membership Incentive that our OG presented to your Divan and to each of you via email. We should always work and continue to work on membership. We have another parade in Tomball on November 20th. Please plan to come out and visit and participate in it.

Dear Nobles and Ladies,

I hope that this article finds each of you, your lady, your family and friends all doing well. It's hard to believe that we're in November already. Where did this year run off too? As a young man growing up, I would often hear this said, "wait until you get older, time goes by so much faster". Well, I'm here so say that I now believe that to be true. I've had a wonderful and busy year this year so far and have met some additional wonderful Nobles and their Ladies and Families. I'm proud

Continued inside

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STATED MEETING REMINDER

The December Stated Meeting and Election of Officers will be held on the 2nd Monday, December 13, 2021.



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Ralph "Corky" Bynum (Ruthann) Chief Rabban
Eddie O. Reed (Marty) Assistant Rabban
Bobby Hyde (Jamie) High Priest and Prophet
Ben LaBlanc Alyssa) Oriental Guide
Dennie Jackson (Elaine) Treasurer
Dale Dickman (Teresa) Recorder

IMPERIAL REPRESENTATIVES

Jerry Gantt, P. P. Past Imperial Potentate
Rick Peña Potentate
Ralph "Corky" Bynum Chief Rabban
Eddie O. Reed Assistant Rabban
Bobby Hyde High Priest & Prophet

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Travis Aldridge 2019-2021
Albert (Bubba) Hyde 2019-2021
Stephen Aganan 2020-2022
John "JJ" Johnson 2020-2022
Joe Mancuso 2021-2023
David Hankins..... 2021-2023

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The Arabian Newsletter 2021

SHRINE CLUBS

BAYTOWN Robert "Bobby" Wilson 713 539 8584	HOBBY Jeffrey Lewis 713 857 5927	SAN JACINTO David Hankins 713 898 7016
BRAZOS VALLEY Charles Lee 281 636 4193	LAKE HOUSTON Jack Morrison 281 798 3289	SOUTHEAST James Gorden 281 216 8053
BRENHAM Keith Killgore 979 777 8606	MONTGOMERY Jonathan Ramirez 936 232 4551	TOMBALL James Leigh 281 546 6273
COLORADO VALLEY Glenn Leist 361 594 3643	NEW CANEY Joe Melton 281 689 6377	WALLER John McGaughy 281 770 5499
FORT BEND Henry Gonzales 281 799 2045	SAM HOUSTON Michael Dowden 936 662 0327	WESTSIDE David Frishman 281 391 2589

SHRINE UNITS

ALCHEMIST James Fristoe 512 525 9044	DIRECTOR'S STAFF Albert Hyde 832 266 8650	ORIENTAL BAND Camdon Lipe 832 435 0138
ARABIAN KNIGHTS Rene Quinones 713 552 5544	GOLFERS Tony Macias, PP 281 685 5929	PATROL Art Valdez 832 606 0589
BOWLERS Rick Gallier 713 829 1957	GREETERS Willie Rodriguez 832 278 5484	PROVOST GUARD David Ashley, PP 281 650 7455
CIRCUS ROUSTABOUTS Dale Dickman 936 581 3347	HOT RODS Paul Weber 713 899 7035	SHENANIGANS Russell Mayfield 281 426 7432
CLOWN JEWELS Marvin Lutz 713 417 5783	LEGION OF HONOR Alvaro Alvarado 832 701 9989	SPORTSMEN John Calhoun 210 669 8246
	MOTOR CORPS Larris Nolan, PP 281 830 4611	

POTENTATE'S MESSAGE contd. by Illustrious Sir Rick Peña

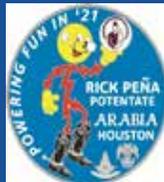
Our next stated meeting will be on Monday, December 13. The meal will be served at 6:00 p.m. with the Stated Meeting to follow at 7:00 p.m. We hope to have a large attendance, and we hope that we can bring some more new Nobles in as we have in previous meetings.

We hope to continue to have a Year of Fun and Fellowship with our Nobles and their Ladies, as well as with all our Families and Friends. We still have several things planned this year, while keeping safety in the forefront.

Naomi and I are committed to the Temple, the Nobles and their Ladies, our Hospitals, and our Children. We, as your DIVAN are here to work for you, so please get with us with any ideas and or concerns you may have.

I'm only a phone call or email away, so call me at 713-545-9204 or email me at (rpena1pasa@aol.com) with any questions that I may be able to help you with. If you call and I can't answer the phone, please leave me a message with your name and a call back number, and I will call you back as soon as I can.

Yours in Faith,
Rick Peña
Potentate
Arabia Shrine



LOOKING ON AS THE ASSISTANT RABBAN by Noble Eddie O. Reed

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL. It's getting to be that time of year for us to gather with our families and friends to celebrate the Harvest Festival, celebrated by the Pilgrims in 1621. But then again, it signifies that deer season is open in Texas. Hooray and good luck to those who can still afford to hunt. I still miss those campfires and early mornings.

Everything seems to be going well with Clubs and Units. They are meeting at their regular times and preparing for the new Election of Officers for the ensuing year. Good luck to all the candidates. Remember to forward your 2022 Slate of Officers

to the Recorder for posting. He in turn must report this information to Imperial Shrine. December Stated Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 13, 2021, meal at 6:PM, meeting at 7: pm. Circus planning and the turn-ins are going well. If you or your Unit or Club is interested in providing a lunch or dinner for the circus workers, let me know. It's still early yet, but never too soon for planning. The next Circus turn-in is January 12, 2022. Safe travels for everyone on these Thanksgiving Holidays!

"Let's Run Away to The Circus"

Eddie O. Reed

Assistant Rabban- 2022 Circus Chairman

713-542-3231

Eoreed48@aol.com



ORIENTAL GUIDE'S OUTLOOK by Noble Ben LaBlanc

Happy November Nobles! So far in 2021, the Divan and Membership Team have been hitting the recruiting trail hard. At the beginning of the year, we set a goal of creating 100 new Shriners, and although we have a little way to go to reach that number before the end of the year, we are close, and we feel that we can hit that goal before the New Year. So far this year we have created 65 new nobles and restored 20 more members that were not current in their memberships.

In an effort to create a strong membership development push before the end of the year, your Divan has come up with a little incentive for the Nobility to help us reach that membership goal. For the incentive, we have decided to raffle off a \$500 Visa Gift Card!

There are two ways to get your name into the drawing for the \$500 Gift Card.

Be a top-line signer for a new noble between November 1st, 2021 and December 31st, 2021. Be a restoration signer for a noble who is currently suspended from Arabia Shriners between November 1st, 2021 and December 31st, 2021.

Current Nobles will get one entry into the raffle for each creation or restoration they bring to Arabia between November 1st, 2021, and December 31st, 2021. Members MUST be current in their own dues. The raffle drawing will be held on January 10th, 2022 before the Public Installation Ceremony at the Arabia Shrine Center. Members need not be present to win.

The great thing about this program is that any Noble can qualify for this raffle with a little effort. We all know there are many Master Masons out there that are not currently Shriners, but if you for some reason don't know one of those guys, you can still qualify for the raffle by bringing back a noble who is not current in their dues. If you would like a list of these nobles to contact, please reach out to your Oriental Guide, Ben LaBlanc, and he will get you a list that you can call on.

Let's work hard on the membership drive for the last two months of 2021, and have some fun while doing it! If we hit the goal of 100 new nobles before the end of the year, the Oriental Guide will throw in an extra \$100 of his own money to make it a \$600 gift card! Let's reach that 2021 goal!

Continuing with recent tradition, this month's random fact is about yours truly. Being that it is now November, it feels fitting that I tell you that autumn is my favorite time of year. I love feeling the weather change from the warm days into the cool crisp nights. Growing up in the Midwest, this temperature change brought with it the changing of the leaves into the beautiful colors that fall is known for. Two other things also go with cooler weather: football season and hunting season. If you know anything about me (or even if you don't, now you do), I love football and hunting. This time of year is when both sports really start heating up and the games start to matter more and the rut is on. I spend most of the rest of the year anxiously waiting for the cool air that is ushered in by the changing of the seasons from summer to autumn!

Fraternally,
Ben LaBlanc
Oriental Guide 2021
lablanclegacyshrinker@gmail.com

FROM THE RECORDER

by Noble Dale Dickman

As I stated last month, I am asking each Noble, and their Ladies, to help identify things that need to be fixed – if the lights are burnt out tell us; trash someplace tell us, if something is broken or needs repair tell us! It's easy, just send a short email to recorder@shriners-houston.org.

As I mentioned last month, we have developed a form (Charitable Contributions) which can be found on the Arabia website (www.arabiashriners.org/Charitable Activities Report which will enable you to record any donations (time and dollars) you spend attending meetings, or parades, etc. We intend to use the information you submit to build a record of the Nobility Charitable contributions – on September, 9 Nobles added their contribution which equated to \$46,993.63 and on October, 3 Nobles provided information which equated to \$10,450.40. If you are attending meetings, or parades please take a minute to record what you did so that Arabia can be prepared to justify our tax-exempt status.

Regarding our HCAD Tax Delinquency for 2020 – an interested citizen (Mr. Leo Vasquez) successfully plead our case with HCAD resulting in a decision to apply the Comptroller issued tax exemption for the period 2021-2025 to 2020 instead of 2021. We received a letter from HCAD on October 28th, 2021, which applies to both the Harwin Drive property in Houston, and the Main Street property in Baytown. This means that the tax exemption status previously applied by the Comptroller was accepted for 2020, resulting in a tax avoidance of \$114,804.86. Arabia will submit a request to renew our tax-exempt status in late 2024 or early 2025. Thank you, Mr. Vasquez!

You should have gotten your dues notice for 2022 from Imperial – if you're paid up for 2021 you are good to go until January 1st! If you need help making a payment – call the Temple and we will help. Imperial is having trouble generating the stickers for your dues card, but they assure us they are on the way, and Imperial will mail to the Nobility before they send any to the Temple.

By the way, we adopted a new system and the last November meeting. We will continue to do so for the December meeting. So please bring your dues cards during meetings.

We look forward to seeing each of you and enjoying fellowship - have fun, be safe and let me know if there is anything that the staff here at the Temple can do for you!

Fraternally,
Dale Dickman
Recorder

MILITARY BALL RECAP

by Noble Marty Rodriguez

Now that we have somewhat recovered (mind, body and soul) I can tell you that last military ball was one of the best we've ever put on. The military ball was a smashing success, with everyone putting in their particular skills to making the ball absolutely wonderful.

Highlights:

The Imperial Sir and his Lady Debby stunned the crowd with their humility and their great example of "Having Fun Helping Kids". He told us that upon reading the invitation from the Houston Arabia Legion of Honor, he quite literally cleared his calendar, moved some dates around, and was absolutely determined that he and Debby were going to come to our military ball. Simply amazing!

Judge Edwards, our guest speaker, was wowed by the crown and the wonderful reception he received. He loved his gift so much that he asked his wife if "it was okay to hang it over the bed?". The crowd roared. It was a bronze USMC emblem, about 2 ft x 2 ft that looked like Captain American's shield.

We also inducted an honorary member into the Legion of Honor, albeit posthumously. CPL Ramon Solano (Alicia Hernandez' father) was a Mason, an Arabia Shriner and a US Army veteran. We were honored to receive a thumbs up not only from Arabia but also from Imperial to make this happen. We accomplished this major effort as a small token of our appreciation to both the Hernandez family and to Edgar Valenzuela for the wonderful and dedicated support we receive year in and year out.

The success of the ball was primarily due to the many devoted members of the Legion, from its ladies and our countless supporters (we fondly refer to them as our military contractors). Everyone put in a particular talent, experience,



money, resources or what have you, to contribute in some way to the overall success.

People came in from all over the United States. An 89-year old Veteran attended, who told us this was his 5th year in a row. We also had people from all branches and different ranks and MOSs arrive. Our youngest Veteran was 25-years old, from the US Air Force. An International Legion of Honor executive officer also appeared for the first time, to "see what the fuss was all about". He had heard that Arabia LOH has the best military ball in all of Shrinedom. He was not disappointed.

We are not sure how much money was raised (quite a bit) but you can rest assured that it will go to support the activities of the Legion of Honor and other fine works done by Shriners. We will continue to upkeep our equipment and ensure that we always remember what it takes to be an active Shriner- promote the cause of Shriners hospitals (through circus, parades) and continue to raise funds.

We should all be very proud of our achievements. We raised awareness of the cause of our nation's veterans and we gave thanks to our supporters. God bless everyone that assisted or attended the military ball.

Yours in the faith,
Noble Marty, Adj.

NOTICE OF STATED MEETING

Notice is hereby giving that the next regularly scheduled meeting of Arabia Shriners will be held on Monday, December 13, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Dinner will be served.

Please RSVP online or to the Temple. Wear your fez, dues cards will be scanned at the door.

Dale Dickman
Recorder

Rick Peña
Potentate

The Arabian

Shrine Circus April 20th thru April 24th, 2022

Wednesday	April 20th	7:00 p.m. *
Thursday	April 21st	7:00 p.m.*
Friday	April 22nd	7:00 p.m.*
Saturday	April 23rd	10:00 a.m.
Saturday	April 23rd	3:00 p.m.
Saturday	April 23rd	7:00 p.m.
Sunday	April 24th	11:00 a.m.
Sunday	April 24th	3:00 p.m.

*Matinees For Sponsored Children
Begin at 10:00 AM on these dates.

The CIRCUS Will Be @ Fort Bend County Fairgrounds
HWY. 36, ROSENBERG, TEXAS

Adult Tickets \$20.00

Children 4 yrs. to 12 yrs. \$10.00

Children 3 and under Free

Tickets Available online at www.arabiashrinecircus.com

Phone: 713-664-7210

Proceeds are for the benefit of Arabia Shriners and are NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE

TEMPLAR CHAPTER DEMOLAYS IN ACTION

Last November stated meeting, the DeMolay of Templar Chapter made a presentation to Illustrious Sir Rick Peña.

From the Master Councilor's speech:

"Each year on November 8, the Order of DeMolay remembers the founder of our great order Dad Frank S. Land. On this day, we are encouraged to pay tribute and recognize men in our community that have exhibited the same qualities as our founder. Dad Land was a pillar in his community and believed in the great works of Masonry and it's appendant bodies. He was a big supporter of the Shriners. He was Past Potentate of Ararat Shrine in Kansas City, Missouri and he would eventually become Imperial Potentate in 1954 - 1955. Dad Land was more than just the founder of DeMolay. He was a second Dad to all DeMolays. He symbolized what impact Masons can have on the youth. This year we have chosen Illustrious Sir Rick Peña, the Potentate of Arabia Shriners. As the leader of this Temple, you are tasked to lead and guide the Nobles of your jurisdiction. Your belief and support in our Order is much appreciated. On behalf of the officers and members of Templar Chapter, I present you this Hi Dad book. It is the story of Dad Frank S. Land and it is our hope that the story of Dad Land and DeMolay may inspire you."

They also made presented a certificate of appreciation to the Legion of Honor for allowing them to conduct their fundraiser during their military ball.



FIRST LADY'S LUNCHEON
Junior League of Houston
Photos by Noble Michael Paul McDaniel
October 16, 2021



To see complete album,
visit www.arabiashriners.org