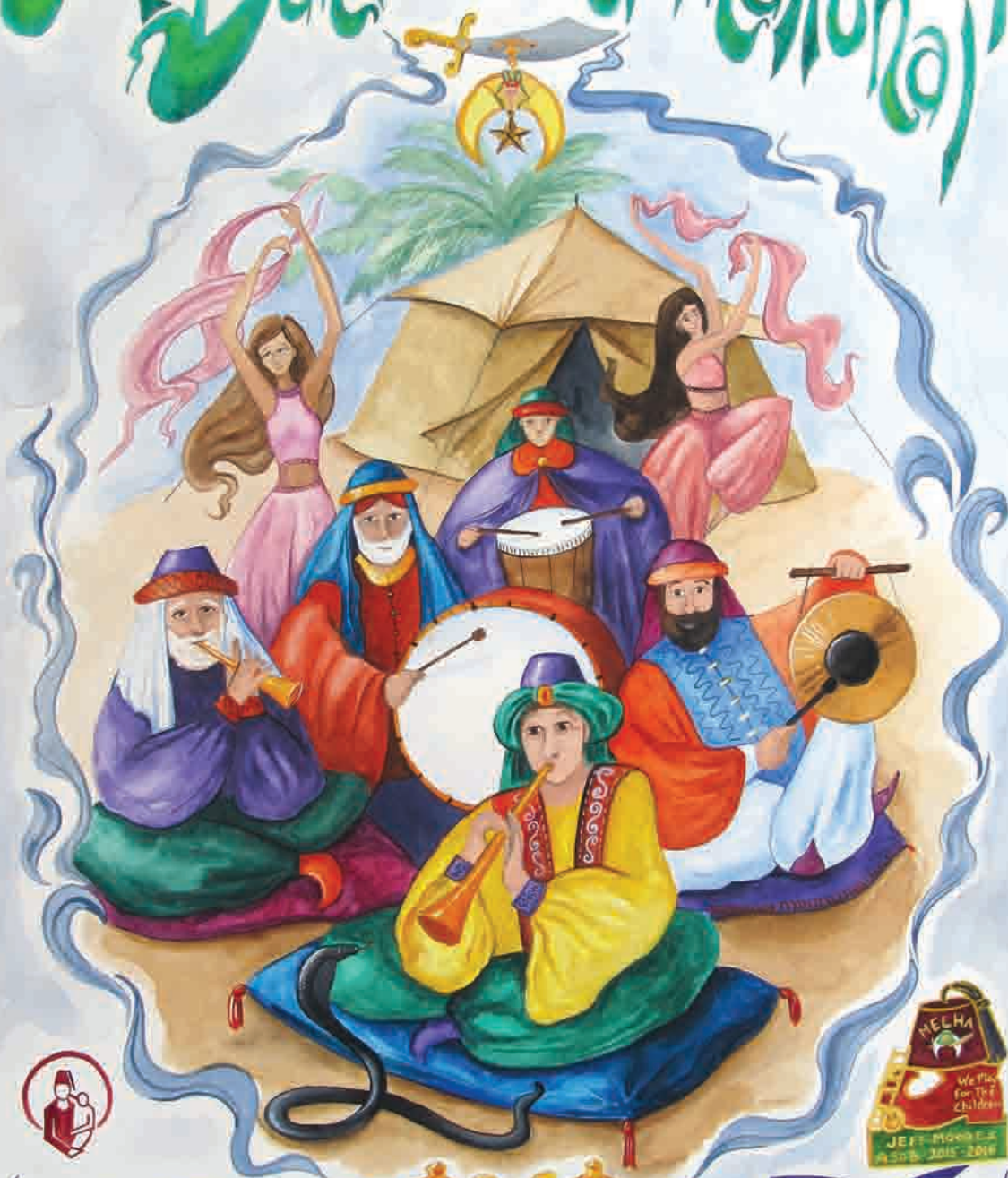


Volume 88
Number 1

January 2016

Association of Shrine Oriental Bands International



Houston, Texas
July 2015



Tampa, Florida
July 2016

We Play for the Children



2015-2016 Goals

\$125,000 for the Ladder of Smiles

Increased Participation from all Bands

Increased ASOB Presence at Regional Functions

Have Fun While Doing all of the above

Na Khabar

Association of Shrine Oriental Bands International



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2015-2016

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Amara Oriental Band Nobles

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ASOB Past Presidents & Honorary Caliph

1928-29	Dr. George H. Madill*	Medinah	1975-76	Willard Pfluge*	Murat	2000-01	Paul D. Gluck.....	Melha
1929-30	Dr. Charles E. Wilson*	Yaarab	1976-77	Robert C. Schmiedel*	Zembo		17 Sherwood Dr., Longmeadow, MA 01106	
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1935-36	Frank H. Graham*	Almas	1979-80	Charles W. Robinson*	Gizeh		7418 E. 26th St. N., Wichita, KS 67226	
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1944-46	George R. Hennig*	Syria	1983-84	Gordon Brittain, P.P.*	Rameses	2005-06	Norm Wold (Sarah).....	Nile
1946-47	Harvy G. Kiefer*	Al Koran	1984-85	Edward Sanders*	Moslem		13417 78th PL N.E., Kirkland, WA 98034-5102	
1947-48	C.R. Hutcheson*	Boumi	1985-86	Kurt L. Plaut.....	Hella		(425) 820-9058 / E-mail: asob200637@yahoo.com	
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1956-57	R.S. Velten*	Jerusalem	1989-90	Stanley L. Snyder*	Zembo		10017 W. Bella Vista St., Wichita, KS 67212	
1957-58	R.L. Totman*	Kalif	1990-91	W.A. "Bill" Paskaruk*	Karnak		(316) 773-9651 / Email: wwtbear@infionline.net	
1958-59	Burt Stillwell*	Arabia	1991-92	David L. Snoddy*	Algeria	2009-10	Don Moores.....	Amara
1958-59	Ken McElroy, P.P.*	Zenobia	1992-93	Arch L. Smithson, P.P.*	Alcazar		47 Chestnut Trail, Tequesta, FL 33469-2129	
1959-60	R.N. Parkhill*	Al Kader	1993-94	Hal Withee*	El Bekal		(561) 747-9698 / E-mail: shrinerdon@bellsouth.net	
1960-61	R.L. Price*	Khedive	1994-95	William A. "Bill" Brooks*	Rameses/Hamilton	2010-11	Ralph K. Jubb (Janelle).....	Al Kader
1961-62	Charles Cromwell, P.P.*	Luxor	1995-96	Paul S. Shively*	Scimitar		630 NW Willow Glen Place, Beaverton, OR 97006	
1962-63	W.C. Chase*	Ben Ali	1996-97	Cliff Brown*	Gizeh		Cell: (503) 475-6017 / Fax: (503) 914-1654	
1963-64	Dale Wampler, P.P.*	Zembo	1997-98	Paul L. Pante (Miriam).....	Sahib		E-mail: rjubb@comcast.net	
1964-65	A. Leon Singer, P.P.*	Al Sihah		915 Southern Pine Lane, Sarasota, FL 34243		2011-12	Richard "Big" Thompson (Tish).....	El Hasa
1965-66	William E. Bricec*	Ararat		(941) 351-1356 / E-mail: mrmice20@hotmail.com			1606 Thomas Street, Ironton, Ohio 45638	
1966-67	C. Richard Brough*	Antioch	1998-99	Charles Duffin, P.P. (Louise).....	Al Azhar		(606) 922-2702 / E-mail: bigrthompson@yahoo.com	
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1968-69	H.B. Springer, P.P.*	Kerak		(403) 424-4744 / E-mail: ceduffin@netscape.net			806 N. 3rd Street, Beresford, SD 57004	
1969-70	Arthur Murphy*	Arabia	1999	Len Turner (Doreen).....	Karnak		(605) 310-0138 / E-mail: obsouth@gmail.com	
1970-71	Peter Cortley*	Mecca				2013-14	Vince Bobrosky (Maggie).....	Acca
1971-72	Clarence Compton*	Midian					PO Box 2, Ladysmith, VA 22501	
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P.P. - Past Potentate * - Known Deceased

OFFICERS' REPORTS



PRESIDENT Jeff Moores

Greetings Nobles! As we approach this coming Holiday Season, it seems like the year is just flying by.

When I lived up north, this is the time of year that I was usually putting up the uniform and getting ready to take a break from parades for a few months as we waited for the snow to fall. Living down in Florida now, we are just getting ready to gear up for the parade season with all of the Holiday Parades coming up.

It has been a very busy fall and my father and I had a couple of great trips up to visit with the Mid Atlantic and South Atlantic Associations. First, we were off to Virginia Beach for the MASOBA business meeting. It was a very well attended meeting and I would like to congratulate all of the new officers of the association. All of the bands put on a great performance in the parade and we thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship that we got to share with them. I'm looking forward to joining them this February for their Mid-Winter meeting in Reading.

Next it was off to Myrtle Beach to visit with SASOBA for the South Atlantic Shrine Association. This is another great weekend spent with a lot of great OB'ers. The weekend kicks off with a fraternal breakfast followed by a business meeting. Later that same day was a very good competition capped off by a group jam session where all of the bands got together and played together. Having fun is what it is all about, isn't it? That night was the banquet, where

all of the new officers were sworn in. Congratulations to these new officers as well. I know you will serve the association proud.

In November, the Officers and several of the Past Presidents gathered in Atlanta for an Executive Committee Meeting. It was another great meeting. We worked on updating the action plans that we have been working on the last couple of years and spent a good amount of time discussing the individual associations and assessing the health of the ASOB by region. The next step will be engaging our Ambassadors to help us evaluate these assessments and build upon them for the future. One thing that we all agreed on, is that the Ambassadors are an important link to the success of the ASOB.

This coming April, the Southeast Shrine Association and El Karubah Oriental Band will host a Hoedown in Alexandria, Louisiana. They have agreed to let me combine the ASOB Mid-Winter with their event in hopes that we can bring some people to show the support that the ASOB gives to the regional associations. Elsewhere in this issue you will find a registration form and agenda of events. The ASOB Mid-Winter meeting will occur on Saturday, April 23rd, at a time and location to be announced that weekend. I hope many of you can join us in Alexandria the weekend of April 21st to the 24th. I have been told that they tentatively have commitment from at least 3 bands as of now. Should be a great time and fun weekend.

This coming July we are off to Tampa for the Imperial Session. We will be staying at the Doubletree in the Westshore area, close to where we stayed in 2006 the last time we were there. Over the course of the last year we have been trying to rework the schedule, in hopes that it will work better with travel schedules. We have condensed the schedule and combined

some events during that week. You will find a detail schedule elsewhere in this issue. One of the major changes in the schedule is combining the Presidents Banquet and the Incoming Presidents Luncheon into a single event. Attendance had been falling off with having two events, so we are hopeful that we can get everyone to come out and enjoy our time together at a single event. I hope you all will consider coming to Tampa and joining us.

Just a reminder to remember the Ladder of Smiles. I set a pretty big goal this year, but we are already well on our way with over \$50,000 collected for our great philanthropy. You can support it in any way that you and your band choose. I commissioned a beautiful piece of Oriental Band artwork that you or your band can own for a small donation to the Ladder of Smiles.

Yours in the Faith,
Jeff Moores



SECOND VICE PRESIDENT Chris Tsaros



The DJEMBE

A New Instrument for Oriental Band Repertory

A djembe or jembe is a rope-tuned skin-covered goblet drum played with bare hands, originally from West Africa. Wikipedia; Instrument family: Membranophone; Place of origin: West Africa; Invented: c. 1200 AD; Related instrument: Ashiko, Bougarabou, Dunun, Goblet Drum; Classification: Membranophone

The Oriental Band Connection -
A refreshing wind change is blowing

in the Pacific Northwest with the introduction of the Djembe Drum sound by two well-known Oriental Bands. The change started with the Al Bedoo Oriental Band out of Billings, a few years ago led by my good friend and now Sergeant at Arms for the ASOB Executive Team Darren DeHass. The Al Azhar Oriental band has picked up the torch and are busy developing a new repertory that showcases the melodic sound of this particular type of drum. It is worth noting that both bands have received rave reviews from audiences wherever they have performed. The feedback typically praises the mellower sound produced versus the more marching band type of beat.

The purpose of my article is to give you a brief history of this drum, direct you to the web resources for more information, and give you a few pointers on how you may go about checking this instrument out as a possible addition to your band's range of instruments.

Crossing The Atlantic - The popularity of the Djembe drum in North America is attributed to the Nigerian artist Babatunde Olatunji's 1959 Columbia Records album *Drums of Passion*, which has sold over 5 million copies, as a genre-launching release. Google Babatunde Olatunji to get access to a wealth of information regarding this great artist. History of the Djembe Drum A good summary of the history of the djembe drum can be found at: <http://www.drumconnection.com/africa-connections/history-of-the-djembe/> It describes the djembe drum as most likely about 400-800 years old, and created during the Malian Empire by the Mandé people. It spanned the modern-day countries of Senegal, southern Mauritania, Mali, northern Burkina Faso, western Niger, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, the Ivory Coast and northern Ghana.

Learn Djembe Percussion - The following useful outline can be found at : <http://www.african-music-safari.com/learn-to-play-djembe.html> A djembe workshop is a great opportunity to get a taste of djembe

drumming. These one-time events are commitment-free and don't require you to have an instrument. It helps deciding if its really for you before you invest money in djembe lessons or in a drum. Look for drum shops, music schools or African culture festivals around you. They usually offer such workshops to get people interested. Maybe they can even inform you when a real African Master Drummer comes to your area:

Buying A Djembe Drum - I recommend to wait with buying a djembe until you have tried out several ones in a workshop. You'll notice features that you prefer and some you don't like (sic). Also inform yourself well about the different types of djembe drums. Not all available on the market are suitable for African drumming. You've found a djembe that suits you well? Now it's important to first:

Get A Good Foundation - Do you want to learn to play djembe properly? Then work on the basics! Good technique and proper strokes are the foundation that you will build your skills upon. If you can't take private lessons with a Master Drummer, it's a good idea to work on the foundation yourself. There are excellent You Tube instructional videos available that properly introduce you to this instrument and teach you all the important skills.

Join A Drum Circle - A fun and rewarding way to learn to play djembe is a group. Look for a drum circle to play with once a week or so. Some of them are free for anyone to just come and jam, while others offer formal djembe lessons for groups. No matter which type is available in your area, this is where you'll learn to play djembe rhythms! The Al Azhar drummers enrolled in a class taught by a Djembe master drummer. Lessons focus on the West African sound. The skills acquired however can easily support the typical Oriental Band repertory.

In conclusion, I invite you to investigate this drum as a means of bringing about a re-invigorating new sound to your band. Should you decide to follow the footsteps of the Al Bedoo and Al Azhar Oriental Bands and need

support in your endeavors, get in touch with myself or Darren DeHass. Our contact information is included in the contacts page of the Na Khabar.

Happy Drumming.



THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Harry Pressman

Just returned from a very successful Executive Session in Atlanta. As a newby on the line, I was in

awe of all the information given out and discussed. It was good to see Past Presidents Joe Brewton, Paul Gluck and Don Moores in attendance. Their input was very helpful to me in learning the inner working of the ASOB.

Looking forward to 2016. My travel schedule will include Texas Association of Oriental Bands Mid-Winter March 18-20 in Amarillo, Texas. Next I proceed to the Southeast Shrine Association "Hoedown" at El Karubah Shrine, April 21-24 in Alexandria, LA. Then to the Texas Shrine Association Session in Houston, June 9-11, and ending in Tampa for the Imperial Session, July 3-7. By that time, I will have a take a break to catch my breath.

Hope to see everyone in Tampa and if you can make Houston, we would love to have you.



SECRETARY TREASURER

Don Moores

Greetings Fellow Bandsmen! As we enter into another Chanukah and Christmas Season I want wish that each

one of you and your families had the best celebration ever and that 2016

will be the happiest, healthiest and prosperous year ever.

Over Thanksgiving President Jeff and I flew to his home in Massachusetts to bring some of Jeff's "stuff" and his other vehicle to Florida - a trip of about 1,350 miles. We took two days to drive back along with all of the Holiday traffic on Friday and Saturday. The Thanksgiving Day for us was loading a U-Haul truck and getting things in place to finish loading on Friday morning, we left Massachusetts in the early afternoon and arrived in Florida Sunday morning at 12:30 A.M., tired and exhausted. Imagine what we felt like after unloading the truck and disposing of some of the belongs in the house to accommodate the items brought in.

Once again we had a very successful Executive Committee Meeting in Atlanta, GA, very close to the Atlanta Airport where participants were able to fly in and have the hotel shuttle bring them to the hotel to stay and attend our sessions. Since this was the second session we have had we spent time updating our Dashboard from last year. The minutes of the meeting follow:

**Association of Shrine Oriental
Bands of Shriners International
Executive Committee Meeting
November 13-14, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: President Jeff Moores, 1st VP Tom Crow, 2nd VP Chris Tsaros, 3rd VP Harry Pressman, Sergeant at Arms Darren DeHass, P.P., Secy./Treas. Don Moores, Past Pres. Michael Hartup, Past Pres. Don Moores, Past Pres. Joe Brewton and Past Pres. Paul Gluck.

OUR VISION: A healthy Oriental Band Community for the benefit of Shriners Hospitals for children. **OUR MISSION:** To provide the tools for fun, music, recruitment and fundraising for the oriental band community.

The meeting was opened by President Jeff Moores at 9:00 AM on November 13, 2015 with a prayer by Sgt at Arms Darren DeHass, P.P. President

Moores reviewed the schedule and estimated time schedule for the two day meeting and then turned the meeting over to the facilitator Chris Tsaros for the remainder of the Meeting. The following items were discussed:

- Review the current status of each of the Regional Associations strengths and weaknesses; Completed and going to be reviewed on a regular basis.

- Review, Update The ASOB Tactical Action Dashboard - Eliminate completed items; ASOB Tactical Dashboard updated as appropriate.

- Review roles and responsibilities of the Ambassadors; Review of Ambassador's roles completed, the Dashboard Item of communicating duties to Ambassadors will be sent to all of the Ambassadors.

- Finalize the Tampa Agenda as a result of the new schedule determined at last year's Executive Committee recommendations; Developed Tampa Schedule, will be included in January Na Khabar.

- Bands need to have fun; Continue reminder that having fun is one of the primary goal as well as helping kids and supporting the Ladder of Smiles.

- What are the plans for the future; Discussed the future of the Association and the goals for successful continuance.

- Discuss and update plans for 2017 and 2018 Imperial plans; Discussed plans and location for these years.

- Nominate/Define the Board of Directors for the Music Academy; Music Academy Board of Directors consists of Joe Brewton, Paul Gluck, Darren DeHass, P.P. and Chris Tsaros. Discussions were held by the Music Academy BOD as to goals, plans, staff and faculty.

- Formulate the agenda and location of the mid-winter meeting, set date and location; Two locations and dates were discussed but further consultation must be had before finalization, information will be in the January Na Khabar.

- Find out about Skype; Chris will help some of us neophytes in setting up and using Skype.

- Discuss continuation of teleconference calls, i. e. Skype or teleconference calls; Meetings will continue.
- Workshop or meeting in Europe for OB; tabled until next session
- At Annual Meeting, need motion to pay bills for upcoming year.

Meeting was closed on November 14, 2015, at 11:15 AM with the Music Academy BOD meeting in private session; results to be communicated at Mid-winter meeting.

Yours in the Faith,
Donald Moores, A.S.O.B. Secy./Treas.

Dues Notices were mailed the middle of November. If for some reason the Band Secretary did not receive the notice, please notify me so that I may send out a new notice and update the mailing list. I have been very happy with the list sent to me by Ill. Sir Mahlon Hariu, with the exception of a couple of Black Camel visits in the last year and changes of which I was aware, there have been no returns for unknown addresses, to date.

Aleikum Es Salaam,
Don Moores

*A sincere **THANK YOU** to
Carla Waclawski,
who donated her time and talent
in making the original Oriental
Band Artwork for my Ladder of
Smiles Fundraiser. — Jeff Moores*



APPOINTMENTS



**LADDER
OF SMILES
CHAIRMAN**
Michael Hartup

Greetings from the Midwest where the weather can't make up its mind... fall or winter? Cold and icy or

snowy one day and fall-like the next. Mother Nature can be cruel.

My lady Maggie and I hope you enjoyed the holidays with friends and family. Now that the holidays are over it is time to think about all things Oriental Band because parade season isn't that far away. It is time to check costumes, dust off those instruments and practice, practice, practice!

I attended the executive board meeting in Atlanta on November 13 and 14. Your elected officers and the A.S.O.B. past presidents attending were working on the direction your association will be taking in the future, making it stronger and trying to identify your needs and concerns. Your needs and concerns are a priority and should be shared with your officers. Please contact your A.S.O.B. Officers or any past president with your concerns so they can be addressed.

Although the New Year is just beginning, it is not too early to be thinking about attending Imperial Session in Tampa, July 3 through 7, 2016. There is a new schedule for events so please look for it as well as the hotel and band registration forms in this issue of the Na Khabar.

President Jeff has a goal of raising \$125,000.00 for the Ladder of Smiles. This goal can only be reached with the help of each bandsman (and his lady), band, and regional association. It is our obligation to support the care of our children and our hospitals. If you are near, or will be near in your travels,

one of our hospitals take a few minutes to stop and you will see what your donation does for our children. If you have any questions about how to make a donation and have your band get credit for it, please contact me by email at mhartup@aol.com, or by phone at 316-684-1124 (home) or 316-644-1482 (mobile).

Remember, the smiles of children DO make it all worthwhile.

Until next time, I bid you peace.
Mike

AMBASSADORS



**CENTRAL
STATES**
Rick Moody

Heartfelt greetings from the bands of Central States. I hope everyone had a fun and successful 2015 and is looking forward to

2016. Some of the bands, I have heard, in the Central States region have been experiencing a few problems with membership and keeping the enthusiasm going. Well, it's time to regroup and get it going again. We have found that all you have to do is start playing that beautiful Oriental Band music and your enthusiasm comes back. You know that the Oriental Band Unit is the envy of your Temple. How can a bunch of guys have so much fun and help kids at the same time? We have the best of both worlds! I am looking forward to a great 2016. Our convention will be hosted by our brothers of Scimitar Shrine in Little Rock, Arkansas this year. August 24th thru the 27th are the dates for the 2016 CSSA Convention. The bands of Central States invite you to come join us for a great time. A message to all the bands of Central States. Please email me with your new roster and member list. I would really appreciate it. Please

email me at rdmoody@sbcglobal.net. Together, we make a big difference in kid's lives. Remember, why we do what we do. God Bless Oriental Bands.

Your humble servant,
Rick



FLORIDA
Robert E.
Stihler

Well... here we go into another year. It would be nice to have a crystal ball to see what the future might hold, but with some of the

global events happening, maybe it's best that we don't.

I trust all had a Very Merry Christmas, Holiday Season, and a safe entry into 2016. With some of the health issues/drop in membership facing a number of Florida Bands, participation has been on a decline. Additionally, Bahia Shrine Center at Orlando is in the process of selling its location and seeking a smaller facility or rebuilding; and Egypt Shrine Center in Tampa has sold/closed some of its spaces and consolidating into the Unit Activities Building.

Congratulations to Sahib Oriental Band at Sarasota for a very active program and increase in Band membership. December will be a very busy month for them with the holidays. "Atta-Boys" are extended to Amara and Sahib Bands for their continued contributions to the Ladder of Smiles.

Remember the Ladder of Smiles and the children in the hospitals. God Bless You - God Bless Our Troops - God Bless America





MID ATLANTIC

Keith Oviatt

I was a month behind for the last issue so I missed the deadline. Sorry about that! First I would like to thank Dave McCarthy and Mahlon Hariu

for jobs well done. Congratulations to Jeff Moores for being elevated to the position of ASOB President. With Mahlon stepping down ASOB Past President Don Moores (Jeff's dad) is stepping in to take care of the books. Also congrats to newly elected 3rd VP Harry Pressman and Sgt at Arms Darren DeHass, PP. I am sure they will enjoy their time on the line.

In September at Virginia Beach at the Annual Meeting of MASOBA, Steve Slogik became a "Has Been" and Rob Reed took over the reins for the upcoming year. The other officers moved up and Don Heimbecker of Rajah was elected to the position of Sgt. at Arms. John Grumbein was again awarded with the position of Sec./Treas. for his excellent work in the past. ASOB officers in attendance were Pres. Jeff Moores, Sec./Treas. Don Moores and Sec./Treas. Emeritus Sec./Treas Bud Moore. Results from Saturday was Irem as taking 1st place for both MASA and MASOBA as well as 1st for Best Drum Major. Jaffa took second place in the parade competition. There was no Stage Competition.

The MASOBA Mid-Winter meeting will be held in Reading, PA, on February 27, 2016. The evening festivities will be the Past Presidents/Ladies night will be held with the joint Rajah and Lancaster County Oriental Bands. This is an event not to be missed! For more information contact John K. Grumbein at 7520 Trexler Circle, Trexlertown, PA. 18087 or at jkg@aol.com.

Remember that Blessed are they that expect to receive nothing for they shall not be disappointed.

Until next time don't forget the Ladder of Smiles, the kids are counting on each one of us.
Keith

BAND NEWS

ABDALLAH

Overland Park, Kansas

Roy Samuel, Secretary
Abdallah Oriental Band
2940 N 64th Terr.
Kansas City, KS 66104
(913) 269-7169



The 2015 year is about to come to a close and with that The Abdallah Shriners of Overland Park KS, Oriental Band has elected its new officers:

PRESIDENT: Bruce Fischbach

VICE PRESIDENT: Ed Harvey

TREASURER: Gregg Loeser

SECRETARY: Roy Samuel

QUARTERMASTER: Richard Sobek

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Mick Sheaffer

Congratulations to our new officers. Noting Mick is the newest member elected as a member back in August.

Speaking of members, the Abdallah Oriental Band is growing some more with applications for membership from past Parade Marshall Don Marah and his Lady Pam. Tyler Boxberger and his Lady Kelli, Kelli and Tyler are expecting a future Bandsmen any moment. The name Boxberger may be familiar as Tyler's dad was two time Potentate at Isis. Finally an application from Chris "Big Chris" Robertson, Chris has been a real asset to Abdallah for being available to help with any work that may come along. Welcome to the "Best Parading Unit of Abdallah Shriners."

With the installation of Officers also came some awards. Richard "Bear" Sobek won the "Bandsman of the Year" and Jimmy Facklam won the "Calaris Award" for the biggest bungle of the year, we'll just leave that there.

The OB has one more parade this year which will make a total of 16 if I counted them correctly. A really big THANK YOU goes out to Richard "Bear" Sobek and Ed "the Fez" Fezzy Harvey for making sure the Abdallah Oriental Band was present at ALL the parades even when the rest of the Bandsmen could not.

Yours in Faith,
Roy Samuel, Secretary, Abdallah Oriental Band, ASOBCS, 2nd VP

ALAZHAR

Calgary Alberta

Jim Bota
jrbota@gmail.com



Our Oriental Band had a successful parade season this year. We have exchanged our large conga drums for African wooden ones that are played with hands rather than mallets. We have even taken lessons to learn the proper beats and have been taught by Chris Tsaros to use our voices to create a situation where the drums talk to each other.

Our parade trailer is in the process of being repaired, thanks to the work of Guy Cochrane.

A small group of us attended the BC and Yukon convention held in Penticton, BC, last May. It was a beautiful setting to have a conference, a parade and a chance to meet members from Gizeh and the men from the Yukon. We enjoy travelling to other areas of the country as it links old and new friends together. Our band went to Butte, Montana, for the PSNA competition. Al Bedoo were excellent hosts and a great time was had by all those who attended this function. We are having a Pot Luck Ladies Night in December to celebrate their contributions to our band.

The Black Camel visited our band this year taking Illustrious Sir Peter Stefanchuk and Noble Vern Doten; both men brought their talents and their laughter to every event.

We are keeping the same executive for 2016 as in 2015, I guess we felt that everyone did such a great job they should continue in their stations.

We have made donations to local organizations both the Canmore Air Cadets and the Round Up band received donations this year. This was a great year for bringing back the spirit of our band and we have enjoyed many social events for our nobles and ladies.

This year's recipient of the SULTAN'S AWARD went to Guy Cochrane for his many years of commitment and dedication to our Oriental Band. We also gave Ken

McLaughlin the Band Director's Award. At Ladies Night, Christmas Party and Awards Night, our Sultan is presenting Art Laing with a trophy as our Band Director for our many wins under his guidance at competitions over the years.

The Al Azhar Oriental Band wishes all the other Shrine Clubs a very Merry Christmas and remember the Ladder of Smiles donations for our hospitals.

Thank you,
Jim Bota

ALEPPO Wilmington, Massachusetts

99 Fordham Road
Wilmington, MA
01887-0578



News (and various links to videos of our performances) from the Aleppo Oriental band may be found at our website which is located at:

<http://www.oband.mysite.com>

Thank you for visiting the site. We hope your visit will be an enjoyable one and that you will return to the site frequently for updates.

Shalom,



ALZAFAR San Antonio, Texas

Williams "Bill" Names
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wnanes@sbcglobal.net



Greetings from the members of the Alzafar Shrine Oriental Band in San Antonio, Texas! It's good to send you news from our band once again and I apologize for skipping the September 2015 Na Khabar. Although I had super news of our successes at the 2015 TASOB (Texas Association of Shrine Oriental Bands) and ASOB (Association of Shrine Oriental Bands) competitions, I am only now reporting. The events that took place at the June 2015 TASOB Corpus Christi competition and July 2015 Imperial Houston ASOB competition were very rewarding for our band. But first I must come clean, I am not a writer so take this article as is with my advance apologies.

To start with our band traveled the short distance to Corpus Christi Texas; to the shores of the Gulf of Mexico and attended the TASOB event in June. There we enjoyed the various super Texas Shrine OB bands hospitality rooms at several hotels. Every one of the hospitality rooms were well hosted by the members, their family and friends. Alzafar Shrine had its hospitality room and it was well supplied with goodies.



TASOB President, 2014/15 Moe Rahmeh arranged the annual breakfast gathering to welcome members of the Texas Oriental Band and their ladies and guests. The arrangements were first class! During the Annual Stated Meeting the new 2015/16 officers were sworn in: Mike Pinson as TASOB President from Khiva Shrine in Amarillo, Texas; Bill Nanes from Alzafar Shrine in San Antonio, Texas as 1st VP and Les Crawley from Sharon Shrine in Tyler Texas as 2nd VP.



The TASOB Oriental Band competitions for unlimited, large and small categories were a 'no brainer' because there was only one band in each category. However, the medium category was brutal. The Sharon Shrine Band from Tyler and the San Antonio Alzafar band were the two bands competing.





At the end, both bands were very good and it was so close but Sharon won 1st place concert and Alzafar won 1st place showmanship and the overall State Championship Flag total was a tie. Both bands will share the All State Championship Flag for half of the year with Alzafar having it for the 1st half and Sharon having it for the 2nd half. The Alzafar OB is honored to have competed and shared the All State Championship Flag with Sharon's OB. For the longest time Sharon OB has been, and still is, one of the strongest bands in Texas and Alzafar stands privileged to share the trophy with them for 2015.

Next, the Alzafar OB traveled to Imperial Houston for the ASOB competition that was held in July. Here the Alzafar Shrine OB was in for a treat. First, all of the OB members and their families enjoyed their Shrine Center's hospitality rooms. But more so the hospitality room provided by outgoing ASOB President Dave McCarthy and the officers of the ASOB. There was unlimited humor and fun, but most importantly, fellowship among all was first class.



Then came the competition ... Every band, whether Concert, Showmanship or Parade, demonstrated musical talent and all had the mindset to have fun and took every opportunity to raise funds for the Shriners Childrens Hospital just as they had done at the TASOB Corpus Christi Convention just a month prior. As for our ASOB President, Dave McCarthy ... Job Well Done!

During the Parade competition Alzafar Oriental Band won first place in Parade in the medium category. First Place in the medium category for the Fantasy competition was won by El Karubah. Thanks to our music director, Noble Jim Whitehouse, for guiding the Alzafar OB on the right path and led us to receive awards at TASOB in Corpus and Imperial Houston.



During the Alzafar's August Stated Meeting, the Alzafar Oriental Band received recognition from our Potentate for the bands accomplishments this year. In the 36 years of activity, the Alzafar Oriental Band has received 7 Imperial Championships, 17 All State Flags, 18 1st Place Concerts, 27 1st Place Parade/Showmanship, 16 2nd Place Concert, 8 2nd Place Parade for a total of 93 trophies. And we're not done yet!



So there you have it my fellow Nobles. Our band has been lazy since ASOB competition; however, the Alzafar Oriental Band will regroup after the holidays and set our sites for the coming 2016 competitions.

Until then, may good health be granted to you and your family... and God Bless!

AMARA

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

Don Moores

47 Chestnut Trail

Tequesta, FL 33469-2129

Home: 561-747-9698

E-mail: shrinerdon@bellsouth.net



Greetings to the Bandsmen from all around this wonderful realm of which we are fortunate to be a part. Amara's band, as previously reported, is still in a downturn and would like to get some

new members. We have not had a great number of new members joining this year and the NPD suspensions will hit us very hard once again. In 2014, we had a significant increase in dues and that was a very hard task to get the number of past due members to pay. In 2016, the per capita dues assessment was increased at Imperial in Houston, Amara has chosen and has a special called meeting to hold the dues at the same rate as 2014 and 2015, absorbing the per capita increase.

Our Christmas Parade schedule starts on December 5th and ends December 13, 2015. We hope all of the bandsmen and their families had a great Christmas and Chanukah Holiday and are looking forward to a great 2016 beginning. Events coming up are as usual - Divan, Unit and Clubs Installation, East/West Shrine Game. Participants visiting our SHC-Tampa Hospital visit and interact with our patients past and present; East/West Shrine Game the following Saturday at the Tropicana Dome in St. Petersburg, FL; and Hospital Days at SHC-Tampa Hospital.

Best wishes for a successful 2016 to all Bands and Bandsmen.

Aleikum Es Selam,
Don Moores

BAHIA Orlando, Florida

Robert E. Stihler
3321 Bennington Court
Winter Park, FL 32792
Tel/Fax: 407-657-7521
resnwk@aol.com



As previously written, Bahia Oriental Band continues to be "dim" but we have occasional "called meetings" to discuss items of interest.

Bahia Shrine Center is in the throes of selling its current location, necessitated by a diminishing membership and difficulty in meeting costs to continue its present course. The Divan has been seeking a buyer and considering relocation to an existing

facility or building anew. God Bless the children in the hospitals. God Bless You - God Bless Our Troops - God Bless America

CAIRO Rutland, Vermont

Peter John Wendt
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North Springfield, VT 05150
peterj1937@yahoo.com



Sorry I missed last issue of the NA Khabar, going thru removal of melanoma, spent a lot of time during Easter vacation in the Florida sun, most times coming home like a cooked lobster, also at the same time was bit by a tick, which caused lyme disease, this put me down for awhile.

Band is in hibernation for the winter, will have banquet for band sometime in the spring. The black camel paid us a visit, taking retired horn player Alex Bennett, he sure enjoyed his time with the band.

Don't know if band will go to the Northeast Field Days, being held in St. John, NB, put on by Luxor Temple, site of our only president being installed in St John. Bob McBride held the position for a year. We both had a great time there. Wishing all had a wonderful holiday season.

EGYPT Tampa, Florida

Robert E. Stihler
3321 Bennington Court
Winter Park, FL 32792-6221
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I trust all of the Nobility and their Ladies had a Very Merry Christmas, Holiday Season, and safe entry into 2016.

The Band's annual Christmas Dinner at the Colonnade Seafood Restaurant on December 12th was, as always, a very enjoyable time and it was nice seeing some of the former members and widows. A big THANKS to Lady Georgia and Noble John Pettibone for

arranging another memorable event.

With the sale/closing of some of the Shrine Center's former spaces, it will be interesting to see what changes need to be made.

Due to some health issues, the Band has not been able to participate fully as in the past and needs new members. We remember the thrill and enjoyment of riding on the Band float and seeing all the smiling faces along the parade route while playing the best music this side of Heaven.

Remember the kids in the hospitals. God Bless You - God Bless Our Troops - God Bless America

EL KARUBAH Alexandria, Louisiana

Billy O'Neal
boshrine@aol.com



News from the WORLD CONCERT CHAMPION MEDIUM CLASS...El Karubah Oriental Band and second in parade competition.

We are still suffering from a extreme hangover from winning at the Imperial in Houston. Champions in 2009 and champions in 2015. Thanks to ASOB President Dave McCarthy and Lady Sandy for hosting a fantastic Oriental Band gathering.

Our band immediately went into darkness after the Imperial till Sept. We then began work on preparing for our annual week at the parish fair with our concession food trailer. This event is always in early October and again this year was a success, but not without the usual few "bumps." As always toward the end of a grueling week, Nobles get tired resulting in being a little "testie" with one another. But in typical Masonic tradition at the end, all is good with brotherly love prevailing.

Our first yearly parade "The Pecan Festival" in Colfax, La. was rained out. By the time this article is read we would have performed in three to five Christmas parades throughout the area. Our annual Christmas/Fair Victory celebration was held on Dec. 19 with fun had by all with a fantastic meal.

One major change with our group is....no more Arabic costumes in public parades. We will be wearing our white band shirts with our fez. I never thought we would be doing this, but with the way things are now in today's world, changes have to be made.

APRIL 21-24, 2016, THE SOUTHEASTERN ORIENTAL BAND ASSOCIATION HOEDOWN will be hosted by our band here in ALEXANDRIA, LA. All you old-timers can remember the Hoedowns we hosted in years past. Plenty of Cajun food and flair with a lot of fellowship. All bandsmen and ladies are welcome. Registration info is published on different page. Best wishes for a great 2016.



Pictured left to right: John Melder, Billy O'Neal and David Cravy receiving the fantasy and parade awards at Imperial.

IREM

Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

Olin W. Evans
8 Eleanor Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702



Once again the Irem Nobility can hold their heads high with regards to this Oriental Band. The occasion marks the fourth consecutive year the band has been declared "First Place MASOBA Champions." In addition the band was also awarded First Place MASA Champions and First Place Drum Major. A special rap on the gong is extended to our Director Fred Dietrich whose timeless efforts and leadership were well deserved in securing these awards. Our bandsman Luke Schofield was elected to 3rd Vice president of

MASOBA and will serve his presidency in 2018.

Our success at the MASA Virginia Beach convention was due to the following Oriental Band members: Stephen Dreater and James Connors – Musettes; Warren Lewis and James Hudock – drums; James Mason-gong; James Roberts – tambourine; Jack Powell – cymbals; and Luke Schofield – block.

Other activities of our band included the Pittston Tomato Festival Parade on August 22. This was a good "tune-up" in preparation for the recent Virginia Beach MASA Convention. Finally our parade schedule for the year ended with the November "Veteran's Parade" in Kingston and Wilkes-Barre.

This past November we had our 104th Annual Meeting in which the following officers were chosen: Director – Fred Dietrich, President – James Connors, Vice President – Warren Lewis, Secretary – Olin Evans, Treasurer – James Roberts, and Financial Secretary – Stephen Dreater.

Finally, the band and our Meri Aides will have its Christmas Party on December 8th as many presents exchange hand at Santa's Raffle.

With the winter solstice upon us we will close our tent flaps until the rehearsals begin for the Scranton St. Patrick's Day Parade. Being one of the oldest Oriental Bands in Shrinedom, we are hopeful our Bedouins will flourish once again in 2016!!

KHIVA

Amarillo, Texas

John G. Wilson, III
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Just before the Holiday Season, my thoughts started here with what our organization and its members should be thankful for. Our Oriental Band had a busy 2015 and if one gauges our accomplishments as a mark of success, we have had much to give thanks for.

Crab Fest 2015, our largest fund raiser of the year, on February 28th, was a huge undertaking and achievement thanks to our volunteers, patrons and the donations we received. This night was of enough benefit to help subsidize our travels to All-State and Imperial. It's looking like we might be sold out for, in just a few weeks as this is read, **Crab Fest 2016**. We decided to hold it a month earlier on January 16, when Dungeness crab are more plentiful off the Washington coast.

We finished another good year with our performance at our Texas Shrine competition. All State in Corpus Christi, was a great time of fun and fellowship and we represented Khiva Shrine well. On the return trip, a member of our Cycle Escort unit and a friend of many in the Band, missed a curve and wrecked himself and his bike. He was in critical condition for a while in San Antonio, but has recovered well and as a result of it has a slight hitch in his gitalong.

The next month, by invitation of **Imperial Sir Jerry Gant**, we had the privilege to entertain at the opening of the 141st Imperial Session in Houston. As mentioned in the September Na Khabar, that was a pretty heady experience for us. Again, we were good ambassadors of Khiva Shrine and I can say for all who participated - no regrets were left behind.

On Saturday, October 24, the Band helped with what has become the largest fundraiser of the year for Khiva Shrine, the Corvette Car Party. It is so called because the door prize at this party was a spanking new, 2016 Corvette Stingray. The response to it was phenomenal. Three floors of the Shrine Center were filled to capacity. The Band ran the largest bar and it was busy all night but our mixologists were up to the task. With the silent and live auctions and the many individual unit raffles, the night was a full-on financial and public-relations success for Khiva Shrine.

Khiva Shrine hosted its bi-annual Shriners Houston Hospital Clinic in

the second week of October where the Houston hospital chief-of-staff and his support staff traveled to Amarillo to see current patients and those who are about to be admitted to the Houston hospital. They bring the orthotics crew with them and braces are made and refitted on the spot. This event fills an essential need for those who cannot travel to Houston for whatever reason with care, follow-ups and check-ups for the children who have had previous procedures. These clinics also greatly benefit the resources Shrine Center's Travel Fund as many of the children seen here do not necessarily require expensive travel to the hospital for care. Many of the helpers at these clinics are members of Khiva Shrine, their Ladies and the Oriental Band. I may be repetitive with my clinic rhetoric, but we are so fortunate that these clinics continue to come here.

We have lost two long-time members this year. Noble Bill Doyle joined Khiva Shrine and the Tamb section in 1983. Over the years, he became quite an asset and one of our more learned members. We also tragically lost horn player, Charles "Butch" Palmer in August. Butch was Potentate of Khiva Shrine in 2001. Both men were very thoughtful and quiet (most of the time) and had to be carefully listened to as they could interject insight in conversations which usually would break out a room in mass fits of laughter. We will greatly miss Bill & Butch and hope that their Ladies, Barbara and Gloria will continue to come and be with us as they please.

The Band is now in the process of reorganization of our room with the construction of a trophy case large enough to hold 36 years of collected hardware and recognition. This new monstrosity now presides at the outside entrance to our rooms. At this time, it is still a project in progress as we have discovered just how costly custom glass and mirrors can be. Hopefully, it will be complete by the time the Band hosts the **TASOB Mid-Winter Conference** in March. The date for that conference is March 18, 19 & 20 here in Amarillo, Texas. The host hotel has been secured,

other plans are being finalized and hopefully, our mailings are out to our Texas Bands. All Oriental Bands and officers are welcome to share our hospitality. More information is available from our TASOB President, Mike Pinson, at mike_carolepinson@sbcglobal.net (there is an underscore there: mike_carolepinson@....).

It's time for our community Christmas parade, the Parade of Lights December 4th. In preparation, we dust off our float and check the strings of lights and decorate as needed according to the theme. It has become a sort of tradition with our participation and many of us have a grand ole evening no matter what Mother Nature deals out that night.

We will soon start our Band officer elections to choose our leaders for 2016. Thank You to our 2015 officers (myself excluded). It's a thankless job with lousy compensation. Also, many thanks go to the leadership our officers of TASOB, of ASOB and leaders on the line at our Shrine Centers provide.

As I close, I hope all will have had a very Merry Christmas and are experiencing a prosperous New Year. We have much to be thankful for. Sometimes, it is hard to find any silver linings, but one just has to remember the reason we Shriners exist and who our benefactors are to put it all in perspective.

Until Next Spring,
Khiva Oriental Band Scribe



KOB members Dr. Wiki, Lady Wiki, and Glenn Simpson entertain our patients at the October 2015 Khiva Shrine Hospital Clinic



*New braces...
just some of our services at the clinic.*



The 2015 Khiva Corvette Party door prize



*The KOB working the big bar
at the Corvette Party 2015*

MEDINAH
Addison, Illinois

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Greetings Nobles!

Many of you know that the Medinah Oriental Band was the original Oriental Band in all of Shrinedom. We were established in 1899 and have been continually in existence since that time.

On July 4th, 2015, we participated in three parades. Medinah's Brass Band shared our float, and, under the able direction of Brother Nobles Howard Giesen (Oriental Band) and

Chuck Masny (Brass Band), the crowds were amazed and delighted with the quality and amount of music that we all performed. Then, as we do every year, we had a curb side hotdog cook-out with the appropriate liquid refreshments and, as always, it was fun, fun, fun.

Our musical OV was held on August 16th, 2015, in conjunction with the Brass Band. We had a good turnout and dazzled the crowds and the Divan with the scope of our repertoire. In addition, a band from Sandwich, IL, played afterwards.

Our Musical Director, Noble Brother Bruce Allman, recently moved out of the area. We will miss him.

On November 14th, 2015, the Oriental Band participated in Medinah's Fall Ceremonial. Our oriental-sounding music revved up the crowd and also added authenticity to the proceedings. Our members played in fine form.

Finally, we're all looking forward to our annual Christmas Dinner. This year it will be held at the Medinah Oasis on December 12th, 2015. More fun and frolic to come....

As always, our practices continue on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Fridays of every month until the end of the year. Beginning in 2016, the practices will change to the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. We're always looking for new members. You don't even have to know how to play an instrument! We will teach you how to play the musette (snake charmer horn), the drums, or the cymbals and we will provide the instrument; all you have to do is show up with an enthusiastic attitude and a willingness to learn! Call our director, Brother Noble Howard Giesen at (773) 339-2335 for more information.

Tim Wycislak, Scribe



MELHA
Springfield, Mass.

Chris Parker



Greetings from the Northeast my OB brothers, hope all is well in your parts of the world. Up here we are winding down parade season. We start out cold and end cold, good thing we can wear as much or as little as we need to under our uniforms. The nice warm weather is behind us and the fall foliage has all fallen down. It's time to rake the leaves and fire up the snow blowers in prep for winter. We have already had a little snowfall, that I think was because our ASOB President Jeff was up for a visit. Cooked that up just for you, boss. As I wandered the desert this year it took me as far north as Lewiston, Maine, and as far south as Houston, Texas. What fun I had meeting my fellow brothers from all over.

Up in Lewiston at the NESOBA meeting we discussed ways to bring our northeast bands together. I touched on how Melha and Rhode Island are already working together to help one another in any way that we can. In all fairness I wish I had the time to do more. Here in the Northeast we are going to try and set up jam nights where we get all the bands together and just play and learn from one another. More importantly, enjoy the fellowship of what we do. If we all work together then we become an unstoppable force.

Now for the Imperial in Houston, for any of those nay-sayers out there who say the OBs are dying I got one word for you, Khiva. If you missed their opening of the Imperial, boy did you miss a great performance by one hell of a great band. A Salaam to all of you, you guys made anyone who calls them self an oriental bandsman proud. You guys rocked that place but at least there was no hole to be fixed in the ceilings. I had so much fun meeting all of you who came out. With live entertainment in the hospitality room by Gluck and Zumpe, the jokes (thank you) and just the fun and fellowship of the whole thing was great. Special thanks go out

to Kurt Plaut for playing with us in competition, the triangle sounded great brother.

Now back to the boss, he has set a big hairy audacious goal for the Ladder of Smiles. If we all work together on this, we can reach and beat it, no problem. As Mike Hartup would say, remember folks it's for the kids. Jeff has that beautiful piece of artwork that he had made, make sure if your band sees him that you sign his, but he is selling copies so if you would like one don't forget to order one from him. It looks great in our unit room and I have one in my home as well.

Now for what the Melha Oriental band has been doing. We just had our 29th Annual Halloween Dance which was one of the best we had in years. This event is something special to me, when I was a kid about 5 or 6, I would help the guys set up, cook, and clean up the next day. This year I called upon a past president and personal friend of mine to run it and for two weeks after the party, people are still talking about it. Keeping this tradition alive is something that I feel very strong about it's not just a band fundraiser but a very well liked and enjoyable night out for all that attended. So Richie this HIM is for you brother, great job.

In closing just once again don't forget the Ladders of Smiles, because it's for the kids. Don't forget to have fun because it's what we do. Don't forget to involve and engage your younger members because that's how they will learn and keep this going for future generations. Don't forget about our men and women in the military because without them we would not be able to enjoy the freedom we have. Don't forget about our brothers that came before us and paved the path of which we walk today. Now I will quote the Pote of Melha, who is quoting his grandfather, who is Past Pote of Melha, "If everyone carried a toothpick, then no one would have to carry the log."

Aleikum es salaam,
Christopher Parker

MOSLAH

Forth Worth, Texas

David McCarthy
10629 Bluestone Road
Fort Worth, TX 76108
(682) 478-7608
caliphliv99@hotmail.com



How time flies! Another year in the "can." By the time you are reading this column both Christmas and New Year have come and gone, with 2016 in full swing. I sincerely hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and a great 2015.

The Moslah Bedouin Oriental Band has its new slate of officers in place and ready to continue in the tradition of supporting our hospitals, the children, and all while having fun doing it. Since your last visit to our oasis much has been accomplished. After coming down off the high from Imperial in Houston, we participated in a local street drive which provided those always needed funds for our two Texas hospitals, Houston and Galveston. Then, many folks assisted in various capacities for the Annual Shrine Circus held at the famous Fort Worth historic Stock Yards in mid November. It was hard work, but, tons of fun supporting the Shrine Circus and Moslah Temple.

For us here in Fort Worth we are preparing for the TASOB Mid-Winter which will be held in Amarillo under the watchful eye of Khiva Oriental Band. Practice is under way as well and TSA comes faster than folks realize. This year we will be there in June right down in Houston. Until we meet again; Go in Peace.

NILE

Seattle, Washington

Bruce Garner
15000 Village Green Dr. Condo 501
Mill Creek, WA 98012
mrnibs@comcast.net



Another Thanksgiving has passed and my stomach is thoroughly stuffed, as if you could tell, LOL!

The Band has basically folded its tent for the winter, as there are no parades planned. On December 1st the Draggin Ladies will

be decorating the Temple foyer with the usual decorations. The Band members show to help out in the effort. The Annual Ladies Appreciation Night will be held on December 12th at the Temple. There will be a prime rib dinner for all who attend.

At this time I would like to congratulate out-going Sultan Larry Gillespie for a job very well done. Not bad for a haole from Hawaii!

We are in need for more horn players. I hope we switch to single reed so as to encourage others to play or join the band with this in mind!!

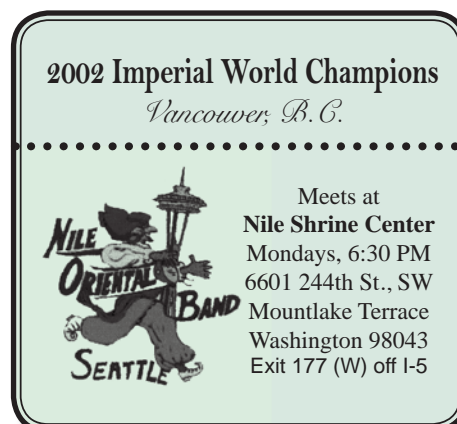
The incoming Potentate has asked the Band to play at his installation and Celebratory Ball. He must have hearing issues!

In last month's meeting we proposed going back to Monday practice and meeting at 6:30 PM instead of Tuesdays at 7 PM. I've seen no appreciable difference in the traffic patterns. So, I hope this passes.

The Officers were nominated for next year and, most likely, will be elected on December first. The Nominees are: Past Sultan Ed Broker for Sultan, Darrick Hayman for Pasha 1, Frank Martinez Pasha 2, Keeper of the Purse Norm Wold, Keeper of the Scrolls Bruce Garner, Trustees for 2016 are Acki Mueller for the 1 year position, Jim Hutchins PP for the 2 year position and Robert Kennar for the 3 year position. All will do a credible job I am sure.

It's colder than my first wife's heart!! Hope we get a thaw soon!! Hasn't been raining or snowing just cold!! That's all my ink for now! Stay tuned!

Faternally,
Bruce Garner



RAJAH

Reading, Pennsylvania

John Grumbein
7520 Trexler Circle
Trexlerstown, PA, 18087
610-395-6578
jkgrumbein@aol.com



Greetings from the oasis of Rajah. I know I've been a little lax in hitting the deadline for an article and I apologize. Dock my pay.

The Rajah Oriental Band is still up and running. We have taken in a few new members and had some of the older ones who haven't been around for a while coming back.

The Band made the annual pilgrimage to the MASA convention in September. We have not participated the past few years and we were a little rusty. Oh well, we made a showing.

At the MASOBA annual business meeting and election of officers, our own Noble Wayne Grumbein advanced to the office of 1st Vice President. Noble Don Heimbecker, also from Rajah, was elected to the office of Sgt. at Arms and now has procured the famous "blender." Congratulations Nobles Wayne and Don and thank you for stepping up to the plate and helping out the Association! Oh yeah, yours truly is still the Secretary/Treasurer.

The Band got back into the thick of things during the month of October with a full schedule of Halloween parades and one Veteran's Day parade. The big blue camel put a few hundred miles under its belt and sucked up its share of camel juice to feed its 10 hungry mouths but we made it through unscathed. We had a great showing at all parades and were received well by the spectators.

Our next big affair will be February 27, 2016, at the Inn at Reading in Reading, PA, where we will host the Annual Rajah / Lancaster County O.B. Ladies Night / Past President's Ball. This will be in conjunction with the mid-winter meeting of MASOBA. Contact John Grumbein at 610-395-6578 or jkgrumbein@aol.com for information and details. Anyone who has ever been there can tell you this is a great, fun weekend.

From the Rajah Oriental Band and myself, have a very Merry Christmas and

a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year! Always remember the Ladder of Smiles and our kids in our hospitals. It's what we're all about!

SAHIB

Sarasota, Florida

Paul Pante

915 Southern Pine Lane

Sarasota, FL 34243

(941) 351-1356

mnrnice20@hotmail.com



Happy New Year to all from sunny warm Sarasota!!! We've had a busy and prosperous fall with several parades and a ceremonial with some new band members recruited. First was our Labor Day parade in Englewood with all the Shrine units attending only to find out that they were pulling out due to the rainy weather. Next came the Fiesta Parade in Venice which was a big success and our band was well represented. We also had a very successful Fall Ceremonial where our band put on a good show before the Friday night program and then strutted our stuff Saturday morning before the neophytes. We also had a successful fall circus.

We're happy to report on several new band members. Casey Yniguez, the new publicity chairman for Sahib, is doing a great job learning the horn. Paul Schillington PP from Mocha Shrine in London, Ontario, is TRYING to learn the horn, and our own Sahib recorder, Ed Firquin, is doing a great job on the bass drum. Thanks guys for helping us out. Hope your experience with the band will be as satisfying as mine has been all these 33 years.

We're practicing up for all the holiday parades coming up in Dec. in Venice, North Port and Sarasota. Our whole band will be attending the Imperial Session in Tampa in July and we'll be ready. Hope lots of bands will come for the jam sessions and camaraderie.

We want to send out special thanks to Bob Stihler our Florida Ambassador, for the great job he does keeping us all informed about ASOB info and to both Bob Stihler and our great band director, Floyd LaDue, for all their work for the Florida Association.

Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and try to stay warm and healthy this winter. Remember to stop by and visit our band any Wednesday evening if you're in Sarasota.

Yours in the Faith,
Paul (Greek)

ZEM ZEM

Erie, Pennsylvania

Keith Oviatt

366 Patti Lane

Pittsfield, PA 16340

(814) 563-4286 / knjoviatt@verizon.net



Parade season is over and it was a short one for us. We had eight capable bandsmen on the wagon for the few parades we went to.

We had our election of officers and Herb Armes is President again, Tom Carr is VP and the other officers remain at their stations. Due to lack of members at practice (rehearsal) we have moved our business meeting to the second Tuesday of the month. We meet at the Shrine Center at noon for lunch and have our business meeting following our lunch.

Our Christmas party will be over by the time this article hits the newsstands. We will have a good representation from the Divan along with band members and their ladies. Also in attendance will be our gal Emily and her family including sisters Taylor and new baby Lauren. Eight year old Emily just underwent her 18th operation. This one was to adjust the rod in her back.

John Seastead and I with our ladies are planning to represent Zem Zem and MASOBA at ASOB Pres. Vince's bash in Charlottesville in April as well as attending Imperial.

Thought to remember - We learn from our mistakes, and most of us never lack study tools.



Keith Oviatt presenting the check to Ill. Sir Ed Ferris

Melha Oriental Band
Wishes the ASOB another
great year for the
Ladder of Smiles



**We meet every Friday night for social
hour and band practice at 6:30.**

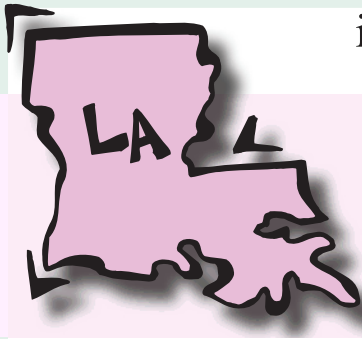
**Our Business Meeting is the
1st Friday of each month.**

**Melha Shriners, 133 Longhill Street,
Springfield, Mass**

Join us for the
2016 A.S.O.B. Mid-Winter Meeting
to be held during the

Southeast Hoedown Weekend

of April 21st to the 24th
in Alexandria, Louisiana



*Come on down to Louisiana
and enjoy some real southern
hospitality ~ "Cajun Style."*

Please register with the El Karubah Oriental Band using the registration form on Page 22. Let's show our support and have a great weekend!

The Mid Winter Meeting time and location will announced over the weekend based on the planned activities.

A.S.O.B. Music Academy Workshops



This year at Imperial in Tampa we will hold the first of our Music Academy Workshops. Time and Location will be finalized before the next issue of the Na Khabar.

- Fundamentals of reading music scores for musettes and other instruments (hosted by Paul Gluck)
- Fundamentals of playing the Djembe (West African) Drum (hosted by Chris Tsaros)



P.N.S.O.B.A. 2016

A Gathering of Oriental Bands

Come cross the sand of the desert, pitch your tent in Billings Montana and enjoy the hospitality of the Nobles of the tribe of Al Bedoo at our oasis. The Al Bedoo Oriental Band is preparing well for your visit and promises an unforgettable stay for all that are daring enough to make the pilgrimage. Our focus will be on fun, comradery and brotherhood.

All bands need to prepare for a rousing, but friendly competition. Come with your best show because not only will we be performing for each other, we are actively promoting this event to the public.

We are planning this whole session with the thought in mind that Shriners, especially Oriental Bands, should be seen and heard. Our stay will be in downtown Billings, with plenty of restaurants, refreshments and local color for all to enjoy. We are planning a jam session at our local farmers market. Let's raise one voice and create a joyous sound that the Billings community will not soon forget.

As bandsmen we take our craft seriously, in that vein we thought we would provide an opportunity to learn a bit more. Plans for some short, but intensive workshops are underway. More info will be provided as those plans come together.

We also would like to shake up our awards banquet a bit as well. Will we have a great dinner? Absolutely! Will we give out competition awards? You bet!

So what is different you ask?

ENTERTAINMENT!

We will leave the details of that entertainment a secret for now. Hey you have to have some good surprises, right? Suffice it to say we have procured some of the best in their class to perform for us!

What we won't leave a secret is we are going to encourage everyone to come to the banquet in Arabic costume - both Nobles and their Ladies. Hey we are Oriental Band! We will make it well worth your while and there will be prizes for the best costumes. We are giving you a year's notice to get ready, lots of time for the creativity to flow! If you really do not want to dress in costume, you can come anyway, but you may look a little funny in a room full of Arabs.

August 4th, 5th and 6th
Billings Montana

In Memory of Peter J. Lawn



June 10, 1936 - November 1, 2015
Past A.S.O.B. President 2006-2007



JOB POSTING:

ASOB Communications Manager Wanted

The ASOB Communications Manager will conceptualize, plan and implement ASOB's internal and external communications. (See full discription in September 2015 issue.)

A letter of application along with a full CV should be sent to: Chris Tsaros 3rd Vice President, ASOB at : christsaros@gmail.com

2015 PATRON'S LIST

BRONZE: (\$10.00)

SILVER: (\$25.00)

GOLD: (\$75.00)

PLATINUM: (\$150.00)

Rameses - Hamilton OB

LIFE: (\$1,000.00)

**W. Michael Hartup (Midian)

*Joe Brewton (Khiva)

(Memory Theresa Brewton)

Peter Lawn (Gizeh)

Donald Moores (Amara)

James W. McIlhattan

Richard Thompson

Khiva Oriental Band

Maggie Hartup (Midian)

Midian Oriental Band

C. Vince Bobrosky

Gerry & Joann Suttner

* Indicates second donation

** Indicates third donation

The Khiva Oriental Band is host to the 2016 Texas Mid-Winter Conference

AMARILLO, TEXAS, MARCH 18-20, 2016



We urge representatives and members from all Texas Oriental Bands to attend and we welcome all national bands to share in our hospitality.

For information contact

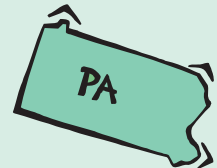
TASOB President Mike Pinson at
mike_carolepinson@sbcglobal.net

THE MID-WINTER MEETING of Mid-Atlantic Shrine Association

will be held

Saturday, February 27, 2016 in Reading, Pennsylvania

It will be in conjunction with the Annual Rajah / Lancaster County O.B. Ladies Night / Past Presidents Ball.



For Information, Contact John Grumbein
610-395-6578 or jkgrumbein@aol.com

EDITOR



Articles for publication are due **December 1st** for the January issue, **April 1st** for the May issue, **August 1st** for the September issue. Please have your articles in by the due date. Be sure to include with your article the name of the association or band, your name and address. My e-mail address is **kpc@elmore.rr.com**. For those who need to submit a photo, please e-mail a high resolution photo for better quality. Articles written for the Na Khabar may be edited. Thank you!

NA KHABAR ADVERTISING RATES

1 col. inch	\$15.00	1/4 page.....	\$86.00
2 col. inches	\$25.00	1/2 page.....	\$165.00
3 col. inches	\$36.00	Full Page	\$315.00
4 Col. inches	\$47.00	Inside Cover.....	\$350.00
5 Col. inches	\$58.00		

10% Discount for three issues **NOTE:** a 50% discount will be given to each band for ads announcing their meeting place and time, if payment of three issues accompanies order. Contact Don Moores, for information (561)379-2216 or shrinerdon@bellsouth.net. Make checks payable to ASOB and mail to: Don Moores, 47 Chestnut Trail, Tequesta, FL 33469-2129. Be sure to include your ad information.

2016 SOUTHEAST SHRINE ASSOCIATION

El Karubah

Oriental Band

“HOEDOWN”

ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA



PROGRAMS FOR 2016 HOEDOWN

THURSDAY, APRIL 21st

10:00 a.m. – Noon	SESOBA Registration at Hotel
10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room Open
4:00 p.m.	Executive Board Meeting (Oriental Band Room @ Shrine Club)
6:00 p.m.	Open Meal “Cajun Sampler” - Shrine Club

FRIDAY, APRIL 22nd

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Registration at Hotel
10:00 a.m.	General Business Meeting/Election of Officers - Shrine Club
11:00 a.m.	Band Director’s Meeting – Oriental Band Room Shrine Club
11:45 a.m.	Luncheon – Nobles & Ladies (Shrine Club)
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Ladies Attractions (Meet at Hotel)
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room Open
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Meal/entertainment “Cajun Style” – Cochon-de-Lait (pig roast) Shrine Club

SATURDAY, APRIL 23rd

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Band Competition – Shrine Club
11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room Open
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	President’s Reception – Shrine Club
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Banquet/Awards Presentation – Shrine Club
9:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room Open

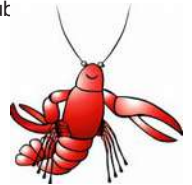
SUNDAY, APRIL 24th

8:00 a.m.	Farewells in Hospitality Room
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“Laissez les bons temps rouler”

Dates: 21-24 April 2016



A.S.O.B. Mid Winter Meeting will be in Alexandria, Louisiana on Saturday, April 23rd at a time and place to be announced.



La Quinta Inn & Suites Alexandria Airport

Address: [6116 W Calhoun Dr., Alexandria, LA 71303](#)

Phone: (318) 442-3700

Check In: 3:00 p.m. / Check Out: 12:00 p.m.

Description

The La Quinta Inn and Suites-Alexandria is only three miles northeast of the Alexandria International Airport. From here, it is easy to reach all area attractions, such as the Arna Bontemps African American Museum, the Alexandria Museum of Art, Lloyd Hall and Kent House Plantations, and the Louisiana Maneuvers Museum. Play at Paragon Casino or golf Audubon Trail and Oak Wing Golf Courses.



El Karubah Oriental Band



Shriners'
Hospitals
for
Children



REGISTRATION S.E.S.O.B.A. HOEDOWN 2016 April 21 - 24, 2016

Noble _____

Temple _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Lady / Guest Attending _____

Noble: \$95.00 (Cut- off Date is: April 15th, 2016)

Ladies: \$95.00

Make Checks Payable to **"Oriental Band Fund"**

Mail Deposit to: Bill Gates 311 Mallard Cove
Pineville, LA 71360

Points of Contact

Billy O'Neal 318-446-3467
E-mail: BOShrine@aol.com
Bill Gates 318-442-2324
E-mail: wpgates@aol.com

Accommodations:

Contact the Hotel Direct and tell them you are with the South Eastern Shrine Oriental Band

Reservation Block Number: **0961925** (**Reservations must be made before March 31, 2016**)

La Quinta Inns and Suites Alexandria Airport

6116 West Calhoun Drive

Alexandria, LA 71303

Phone: 866-527-1498 or local: 318-442-3700

Rate: \$89.00/night plus tax

RV Park information available on request

Sincerely,

John Melder

President, S.E.S.O.B.A. 2016

A.S.O.B. BANDSMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD



I. Purpose:

The purpose of the A.S.O.B. Bandsman of the Year Award is to recognize an Oriental Band member who has demonstrated outstanding service to the A.S.O.B., to the Ladder of Smiles, to his Shrine Center, and to his Oriental Band.

II. Criteria

The criteria for this award are as follows:

- a. Member in good standing in his Shrine Center
- b. Letters of recommendation from the Potentate of his Shrine Center and the Area A.S.O.B. Ambassador.
- c. Demonstrated Leadership within his band, and the A.S.O.B.
 1. Willingness to assist and lead where possible
- d. Identifiable support for the Ladder of Smiles
 1. Responsible for coordinating and managing a fundraiser for his band and or Shrine Center.
- e. Attendance at either his Regional Association Meetings or Imperial Session.
- f. Must demonstrate goodwill towards all OB Members

III. Nomination

Nominations should be submitted to the A.S.O.B. Secretary/Treasurer prior to the A.S.O.B. Mid-Winter Meeting. All Nominations will be reviewed by the A.S.O.B. Executive Committee to ensure that the candidate meets all of the criteria. If more than one nomination has been submitted, they will vote on the candidates.

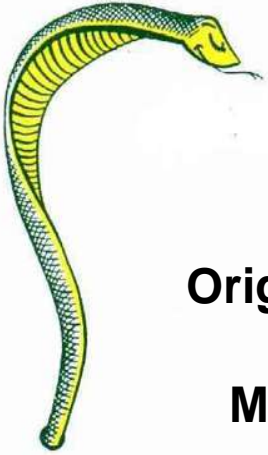
IV. Award Presentation

The A.S.O.B. Bandsman of the Year Award will be presented by the A.S.O.B. President. The presentation will take place during a Stated Meeting of the Bandsman of the Year's Home Shrine Center. In the event the A.S.O.B. President is not available to personally make the presentation, he may select another A.S.O.B. Line Officer to perform the presentation.

V. Award

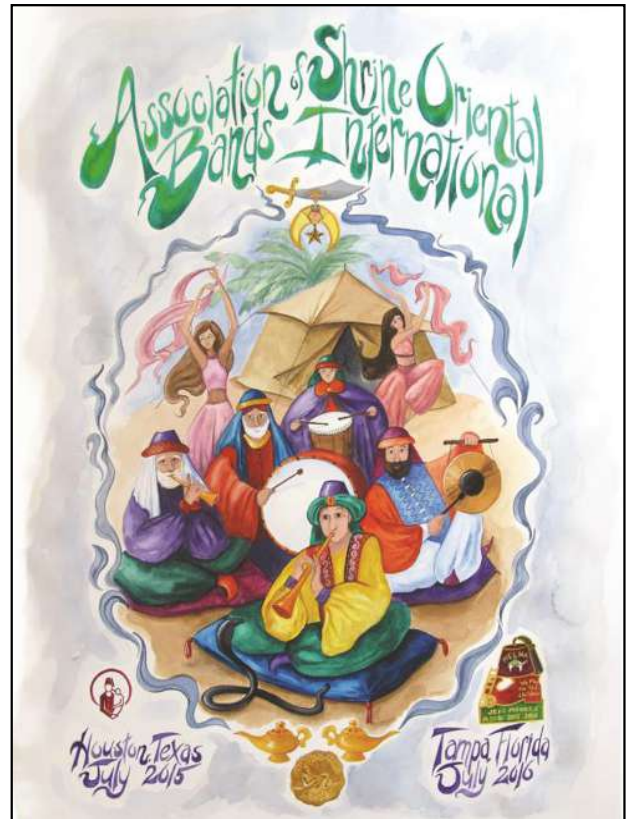
The A.S.O.B. Bandsman of the Year Award will be a plaque with the A.S.O.B. Logo, A.S.O.B. Bandsman of the Year Award, Year, Member's Shrine Center, and his Name in letters the same size as the title Line (A.S.O.B. Bandsman...)

2015-2016 Ladder of Smiles Fundraiser



**Original Oriental Band
Artwork
Made into a poster**

**All proceeds to the
Ladder of Smiles
to your bands credit in
support of 100%
participation.**



**Available in 2 sizes:
11 X17 for \$25 or 18 x 24 for \$50**

Address

Name:

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone Number:

Oriental Band

Qty _____ 11" x 17" Poster (\$25 each)

Qty _____ 18" x 24" Poster (\$50 each)

_____ Total Makes Checks Payable to : **Ladder of Smiles**

Send to:

Jeff Moores
47 Chestnut Trail
Tequesta, FL 33469
(561) 747-9698

MEMORIALS *and* DONATIONS

August thru November 2015

In Memory of:

RON & IRENE CRANK

BY: JIM AND BARBARA LONGENBARGER

GLEND A H. MOORES

BY: DON MOORES FAMILY

JOAN HUNSICKER

BY: JOHN AND SHARON GRUMBEIN

CLETE HIRST

BY: IKE AND LOIS BOMBERGER

NATHAN TOLAND

BY: JOHN AND SHARON GRUMBEIN

LONE F. SAUL

BY: SOUTH ATLANTIC SHRINE ORIENTAL
BAND ASSOCIATION

BERT CARLSON

BY: NILE ORIENTAL BAND

DAVID BARROS

BY: NILE ORIENTAL BAND

LORENA AGEE

BY: DAVID AND SANDY McCARTHY

JOHN BARRON

BY: MARTHA HARRIS
MIKE AND ALMA ELLERBROCK
HARRY AND JONI PRESSMAN
WARD BRANTLEY
EDMAND WHITE
A J DI CARO, JR
EDWARD HERSH

WILLIAM BENNETT

BY: CAIRO ORIENTAL BAND

BEVERLY MATSON

BY: CLEARFIELD SHRINE CLUB
ORIENTAL BAND

CHUCK ELLIOTT

BY: JAMES AND BARBARA LONGENBARGER

BUTCH PALMER

BY: JOE BREWTON

PETER LAWN

BY: JOE BREWTON

BILL DOYLE

BY: JOE BREWTON

TOP BANDS

TOP 10 BANDS

AMARA ORIENTAL BAND	\$30,500.00
MELHA ORIENTAL BAND.....	\$6,753.05
NILE ORIENTAL BAND	\$4,864.49
ACCA ORIENTAL BAND	\$2,222.00
ABOU BEN ADHAM ORIENTAL BAND.....	\$1,000.00
BENI KEDEM ORIENTAL BAND	\$1,000.00
MOCHA ORIENTAL BAND.....	\$1,000.00
EL RIAD ORIENTAL BAND	\$925.00
ARABIA ORIENTAL BAND	\$818.00
MIDIAN ORIENTAL BAND.....	\$725.00

11-15

ARARAT ORIENTAL BAND.....	\$617.00
ABDALLAH ORIENTAL BAND	\$500.00
MOSLAH ORIENTAL BAND.....	\$350.00

SAHIB ORIENTAL BAND	\$300.00
KHIVA ORIENTAL BAND.....	\$250.00

ALL OTHERS

RAJAH ORIENTAL BAND	\$213.00
INDIA ORIENTAL BAND.....	\$200.00
EL KARUBAH ORIENTAL BAND	\$155.00
AL AZHAR ORIENTAL BAND	\$100.00
AL BEDOO ORIENTAL BAND.....	\$100.00
ARAB ORIENTA BAND	\$100.00
CAIRO ORIENTAL BAND.....	\$100.00
MEDINAH ORIENTAL BAND.....	\$75.00
EL HASA ORIENTAL BAND	\$50.00
ZENOBIA ORIENTAL BAND	\$50.00
LANCASTER COUNTY ORIENTAL BAND	\$45.00
CLEARFIELD CLUB ORIENTAL BAND.....	\$25.00

2016 IMPERIAL SESSION

July 3 - 6, 2016



A.S.O.B. Headquarters Hotel

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
Tampa Airport - Westshore
4500 W Cypress St, Tampa, FL 33607
Phone: (813) 879-4800



Contact Don Moores, A.S.O.B Secretary / Treasurer for all questions:

Phone: (561) 747-9898 / Email: shrinerdon@bellsouth.net

Mail form to: Don Moores, Re: 2016 A.S.O.B. Imperial Session
47 Chestnut Trail, Tequesta, FL 33469-2129

***** Room Rate is \$121.00/night (plus tax) AND \$20.00 Imperial Fee *****

To: Don Moores
Re: 2016 A.S.O.B. Imperial Session
47 Chestnut Trail
Tequesta, FL 33469-2129
Home: (561) 747-9698

A.S.O.B. Reservation Request

DoubleTree by Hilton
4500 W Cypress St.
Tampa, FL 33607
(813) 879-4800

I/We plan to attend the 2016 ASOB Imperial Session. Please reserve a room at the **ASOB Headquarters Hotel**, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Tampa Airport - Westshore

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____ Shrine Center: _____

Noble: _____ Lady: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province/State: _____ Postal Code/Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ E-mail: _____

Room Type Preferences

Your room type preferences will be submitted with your reservation and are subject to hotel availability.

- ☐ King Bed ☐ Two Beds ☐ No Preference ☐ Non-Smoking ☐ Smoking
☐ H/C Accessible ☐ Small refrigerator for medical purposes

Hilton Honors Card # _____

Please remit \$121.00 U.S. Funds plus \$20.00 Imperial Fee. Make cheque/check payable to: Association of Shrine Oriental Bands (cancelled cheque/check is your receipt.) A confirmation email will be sent to you, if you listed your email address.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

A.S.O.B. IMPERIAL SCHEDULE

July 2016

Saturday, July 2nd

4:00 pm Hospitality Room Opens Location: Redwood/Cottonwood

Sunday, July 3rd

9:00 am Elected Officers Location: Palm Court
Dress: ASOB shirt, tan pants, no fez, no jewel and no nametag
Host: Jeff Moores

10:30 am Executive Committee Meeting Location: Palm Court
Dress: ASOB shirt, tan pants, no fez, no jewel and no nametag
Host: Jeff Moores

1:00–3:00 pm Competition & Delegate Location: Hospitality Room
Registration - Banquet Tickets Pick-Up
Hosts: Harry Pressman and Darren DeHass

3:00–5:00 pm President's Reception By Invitation ... Location: Hospitality Room
Dress: Maroon jacket, tan slacks, ASOB shirt & tie, jewel,
nametag & fez
Ladies Dress: Business casual attire with nametag
Host: Jeff Moores

5:30 pm Music Director's Meeting Location: Palm Court
Dress: Casual
Host: Chris Tsarsos, 2nd VP

7:00 pm Hospitality Room Opens Location: Redwood/Cottonwood

Monday, July 4th

9:00 am Make-up Room Opens Location: Jasmine

10:00 am Parade Competition Location: Parking Lot
Dress: For officers that are not competing ASOB shirt, tan pants or
shorts, jewel, nametag, and fez
Ladies Dress: Red White and Blue mix and nametag
Host: Chris Tsarsos, 2nd VP

Fantasy Competition/After Parade Location: Cypress/Oakbrook

Competition times are subject to change based on number of bands registered.

After Fantasy Hospitality Room Opens Location: Redwood/Cottonwood
Competition & Delegate Location: Hospitality Room
Registration – Banquet Tickets Pick-Up
Hosts: Harry Pressman and Darren DeHass

Music Academy Workshop TBD

5:00 pm Hospitality Room Closes Free Evening

Tuesday, July 5th

9:00 am ASOB Annual Meeting Location: Pinewood
Dress: Red Jacket, tan slacks, ASOB shirt & tie jewel, name tag
and fez
Host: Jeff Moores

9:00 am Ladies Brunch Location: Palm Court
Dress: Business Casual by invitation
Host: Katie Crow

6:00 pm Social Hour (no host) Location: Woodland Foyer
Dress: Formal Tux with White Dinner Jacket, white tux shirt, black
tux pants, black shoes, jewel & fez (No nametag)
Ladies Dress: Formal (Cocktail Attire)

7:00 pm Awards Banquet /Installation Location: Lake Forest Ballroom
Dress: Same as Reception
Host: Jeff Moores/Tom Crow
Hospitality Room Will Open Following Banquet

THANK YOU ONE AND ALL AND HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME

***“We Play For The Children”,
Support YOUR Ladder of Smiles***

THE LADDER OF SMILES GOAL

\$125,000

IN 2015 - 2016



A.S.O.B. Meal Reservation Request Form

Imperial Session 2016

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
Tampa Airport - Westshore
4500 W Cypress St, Tampa, FL 33607

President's Award / Incoming President's Banquet

JULY 5, 2016

COCKTAILS (*no host*) 6:00 PM

DINNER 7:00 PM

Please mark your choice of Entree, \$50.00 per person, U.S. Funds.

- _____ Pan Seared Black Grouper w/ Sauteed Baby Spinach, Rock Shrimp, Kalamata Olives, Tear Drop Tomatoes, Artichoke Hearts drizzled with a lemon Buerre Blanc
- _____ Herb Roasted Airline Chicken Breast stuffed with Goat Cheese, Baby Spinach, Crisp Pancetta, Fresh Sage, with Sun-Dried Tomato Cream Sauce

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BEFORE JUNE 1, 2016

NOBLE'S NAME: _____

LADY'S NAME: _____

SHRINE CENTER: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Please make your cheques/checks payable to Harry Pressman and remit to:

Harry Pressman
10606 Glenfield Circle
Houston, TX 77096

A.S.O.B. Fantasy Registration

IMPORTANT - Please Print
Complete and Return as soon as possible.

(Name of Band and Temple) _____

We will attend the ASOB Fantasy ☐ Parade ☐

We will ☐ will not ☐ compete for trophies. There will be approximately _____ performing members.

Signature _____

Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to:
Chris Tsaros
9803 Oakfield Dr. SW
Calgary, AB, Canada T2V 1R7

ASOB Imperial Session

Please Print

Band Information

This is Preliminary Information Only

(Name of Band and Temple) _____

City/State _____

Member of Regional Associations _____

Year Organized _____ Number of Members _____ Number Performing _____

Officers: President _____

Vice President(s) _____

Secretary _____

Treasurer _____

Director _____

Current Shrine Honors _____

Past Shrine Honors _____

Additional Remarks _____

Submitted By: _____

Date: _____ Title: _____

Fantasy Rules and Regulations

(Revised July 2015)

Any band desiring to appear in the A.S.O.B. Fantasy shall notify the Chairman of the Fantasy Committee by mail. A form is furnished for this purpose. Please indicate whether the Band will appear in the Stage Presentation, the Parade or both, and indicate the number of bandsmen who will be performing. Additionally please indicate if the band desires to compete for awards, as it is permissible to appear for exhibition only. Bands appearing for exhibition only will receive Judge's Sheets for their performance review, but the exhibition scores will not be included in the Fantasy competition.

For those bands wishing to compete in the Fantasy (Stage Performance, Parade or both), there will be a registration fee of \$2.00 per member, payable either in advance or during the Music Director's Meeting. Registration for the Fantasy and Parade competition will be open through the Director's Meeting. To be eligible to perform all Bands must register prior to the conclusion of the Director's Meeting. All bandsmen appearing in the performance are counted as A.S.O.B. members in good standing. The number of performing bandsmen cannot be more than the number of current A.S.O.B. dues members for a band. The A.S.O.B. Secretary/Treasurer will confirm that the number of performing members is equal or less than a band's current A.S.O.B. membership total. Should a discrepancy occur regarding the number of performing members, a band can make payment for current dues to the A.S.O.B. Secretary Treasurer at the Music Director's Meeting to correct this situation. Performance Class assignment will be made at the Director's Meeting based on the number of bands and the number of performing bandsmen in each band. After the class assignment is announced, a drawing to determine the order of appearance within each classification for the Stage Presentation and Parade will occur. One number will be drawn by lot for each band in their respective classification. Once the Music Director's Meeting is over, no changes to the classification or order of appearance will be allowed.

Judging will be based for stage performance and parade as follows:

	Stage	Parade (Marching)	Parade (Float)
Costumes.....	10%.....	0%.....	0%
Overall Sound.....	10%.....	0%.....	0%
Showmanship.....	10%.....	20%.....	20%
Appearance.....	10%.....	20%.....	20%
Musical Presentation (Warm-up Numbers).....	25%.....	60%.....	60%
Musical Presentation (Competition Number).....	35%.....	0%.....	0%

*Note: Showmanship for units riding on a float includes points for the float itself.

CLASSIFICATIONS: Stage Presentation and Parade

There will be 4 classifications consisting of Small, Medium, Large and Unlimited Bands. The band assignment and classification to a category will be made at the Music Director's Meeting based on each bands registration information.

- There will be a Best Oriental Band trophy awarded to the Band who has the highest overall point accumulation for the Fantasy and Parade.
- First and Second Place trophies for Fantasy and Parade will be awarded based on the highest and next to highest score for a category.
- A Caliphs trophy for the most outstanding Music Director will be awarded at the discretion of the Caliphs.

The Concert Number will appear in issues of the Na Khabar and all bands are required to play it. It shall be the closing number of each presentation. Arrangements and/or embellishments to the theme can be at the discretion of the band, and they may be as elaborate as they wish.

Each band shall have warm-up numbers selected from the A.S.O.B Library before presentation of the Concert Number. However, the band must remain on stage at least eight (8) minutes and not to exceed twelve (12) minutes. There will be a loss of five (5) points per minute (or fraction thereof) for any over/under time. Time will commence following the announcement of the band by the M.C. and the first sound made by a band member whether it is spoken, sung or played by an instrument. If the competing band elects its own introduction, entrance or other opening spectacle, time will run from the commencement of such activity. Personal microphones are not permissible and if used, that band will be disqualified. Pyrotechnics will be permitted

All music played by competing bands including warm-up numbers must be of Oriental motif. There will be an automatic five (5) point penalty for any visible music used during Fantasy/Parade competition. There can be limited solo presentation not to exceed one (1) minute. Failure to comply will result in disqualification. The same solo rule applies to music played at the point of Parade judging which is designated by appropriate street signs.

Costumes: Bands are asked to be appropriately dressed in Oriental and Mid-East motif-type costumes; however, due to political climates and concerns for showing respect for our military, bands may wear non Oriental or Mid-East costumes as long as the band's costumes are uniform. As an example, points would be taken away if a band had members in unit shirts and slacks and other members in Oriental or Mid-East costumes. As long as a band has a uniform look, judging will not be reduced. Neatness should be considered.

Showmanship: This is the flourish and enthusiasm shown by all members and the originality of performance and presentation.

Appearance: March capability, attention to Director, as well as movements both on stage and street.

Overall Music Presentation: Playing ability, music of Oriental or Mid East motif, and arrangement will be highly considered. Continued playing ability will be most important in Parade and concert.

Judging: Will be made up of impartial judges who have knowledge about musical, theatrical, marching, showmanship and costuming. Judges will be briefed by a selected member of the Fantasy Committee.

Float Design: Must be of Oriental or Mid East Motif, indicative of Oriental Bands.

Na Khabar
Don Moores
47 Chestnut Trail
Tequesta, FL 33469-2129

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Montgomery, AL
Permit No. 77



Shriners Hospitals for Children®

ASSOCIATION OF SHRINE ORIENTAL BANDS INTERNATIONAL

It takes hard work and dedication to maintain a *Ladder of Smiles* nationwide, but this is the project of the *Association of Shrine Oriental Bands International*. We are continuing toward our third million dollars. Now it is time to work toward that new goal. The smiles of the children DO make it all worthwhile. You can be a vital part of this marvelous program.

*To send contributions please visit our website at: **www.asob.org***