

# ZOR

# ZEPHYR



VOL. LXVIII, NO. 10

MADISON, WISCONSIN

October 2016



*Fall Ceremonial  
La Crosse, Wisconsin  
December 3rd, 2016*



ADDRESS AREA

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

CALENDER.....	12
CONTRIBUTIONS.....	13
FROM THE POTENTATE.....	2
IN MEMORIAM.....	12

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Milt Helmer — Zephyr Correspondent

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Zor's 2016 Divan  
ELECTIVE

- Bob Giesler, Cashton .....POTENTATE
- Chuck Miller, Milladore .....CHIEF RABBAN
- Gary Cuskey, Spooner.....ASSISTANT RABBAN
- Wally Trouten, Platteville.....HIGH PRIEST & PROPHET
- Barry Ausen, Star Prairie.....ORIENTAL GUIDE
- James Stelsel, Madison.....RECORDER
- Dale Olson, Whitewater .....TREASURER

APPOINTIVE

- Mark Jerdee, Wilton..... 1st CEREMONIAL MASTER
- Rodney LaBlanc, Montello .....2nd CEREMONIAL MASTER
- Todd Wolhert, LaCrescent, MN.....MARSHALL
- Al Brueggen, Sparta.....CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD
- Duane Harvey, Janesville.....OUTER GUARD
- Karl Gant, Blanchardville.....CHAPLAIN
- Joe Harker, New Berlin.....CHIEF OF STAFF
- Monte Steiber, Prairie Du Chien.....ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF

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# From The Potentate Bob Giesler

## Potentates Message

Autumn is the time of year that we try to finish up all those projects we started last spring but still need a few final touches. It's no different with our Shriner tasks, now is the time to finish up and get ready for CEREMONIAL which



will be December 3 in La Crosse. We are still trying to become a Gold Temple in Membership, that means more members at the end of the year than at the beginning, but we need everyone's help. As I write this we have shown Gold Status all year to date, but if we stop the recruiting now the Black Camel is going to catch up to us. We can't let that happen, just one more effort from you and I know we can make it. We can still do cold sands for those that are interested and of course they can come to our ceremonial without the cold sands. Can we count on you to help us reach that goal? October 11 ( 5:00 Social, 6:00 Meal) is the final steak fry at the Temple in Madison. October 11 ( 11:30 Social, 12:00 Meal) is also the Honored Ladies Luncheon. Between those times is the 4th Quarter, Quarterly Meeting at 3:00 PM All events are in the Temple.

On the 15th of October we will be in La Crosse for the UW-L Football Game. This is always a good game and a good place to meet up with your shrine friends to enjoy the day. See you there.

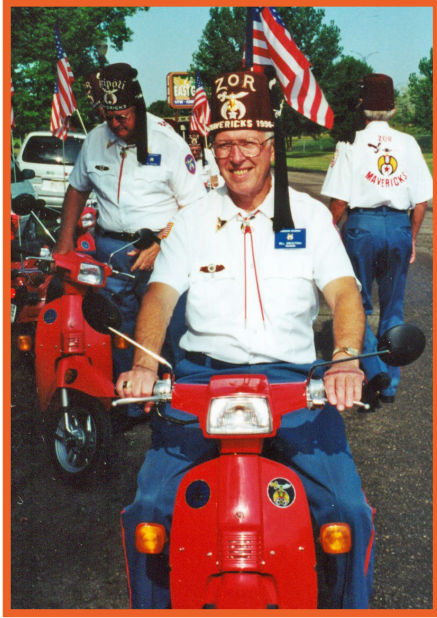
Yours in the Faith,

Bob Giesler, Zor Potentate 2016

Find more pics on the  
Zor Shriners FB page!



## Unsung Noble is driving force behind Zor Mavericks



His license plate reads MM1979.

But there is more to this Master Mason and Shrine Noble than just fraternal pride.

Bill Drecktrah of Berlin, Wisconsin was raised to the degree of a Mason in April of 1997, thus the Wisconsin license plate number. He is a member of Berlin lodge #38 and Wautoma #148 and is active in both. Bill served as area administrator for 5 years.

He joined the Tripoli Shrine in 1992 but later joined Zor in Madison.

For 23 years Bill drove the famed 1986 Honda scooters in parades all over the area as the Zor Mavericks. He even served as captain for 8 years. In his second year, the Mavericks appeared in 33 parades, filling up every Saturday and Sunday during the parade season. Drecktrah said they were able to do this because the unit has 22 to 25 enthusiastic volunteer riders. The parade unit usually fields 8 riders for each parade.

Maverick members at the MSA in Marquette, Michigan said it has been Drecktrah's dedication that kept the unit together over the years.

Thanks to his leadership, Bill convinced the Ho

Chunk Nation to use two 1992 Bluebird buses. Since that time they added an enclosed trailer, customer rigged to carry 16 scooters at a time.

When the bus and trailer stop for gas, it is not uncommon to have people come up to them and offered to donate to the Shriners Hospital for Children®.

Once in a parade in Warren, Wisconsin, the Mavericks arrived early so the men decided to walk the parade route in advance with their uniforms and fezzes. During their walk a lady with a noticeable limp came up and asked if she could give the men a hug. She said the Shriners had helped her so much she felt a warmth in her heart. The men in the Mavericks all had a tear in their eye and talked about the exchange all the way home.

Drecktrah is an active and involved member of the Masonic fraternity, serving the High Priest in the Wautoma Royal Arch, Oshkosh Past Commander and the Past Governor of the York Rite Southern College of the Purple Cross. The York Rite's highest honor.

He also holds was presented the Knight of York Cross in 2005 and has done degrees in Madison and Green Bay and has also served as a judge at Midwest Shrine Associations competitions. Bill is also the Past President of Mascoutin Shrine Club and has been secretary for the past 16 years.

Drecktrah said, "I have been privileged to be associated with dedicated Shriners and their wives, championing our goal of contributing to the Shrine Hospitals, with emphasis on fun, fun and more fun and enjoying excellent fellowship."

Today Bill continues to serve by taking children to the Shrine Hospitals for Children® in Chicago and the Twin Cities.

By Milt Helmer



The 2016 Ceremonial will be held in La Crosse Wisconsin, at the Radisson Hotel on December 3rd. The Ceremonial is open to all Zor Shriners, their ladies and guests.

This is your opportunity to bring Master Masons

who are not members and who wish to join our fraternity of Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. This is also your opportunity to come meet the many new Nobles, visit with acquaintances, and make new Shrine friends.

This year the venue will be the same as last year and next months issue of the Zephyr will have more information and coupon for you to fill out. Final arrangements are being made a little later this year however you will have ample time to

make your reservations and plans to attend. We are looking for a large class of new nobles so start talking to your friends about becoming a member. Have them make a note on their calendar to save the date and come join us.

December 3, 2016 – Radisson Hotel – La Crosse

Noble Name: \_\_\_\_\_

–

Lady/ Guest : \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Reserve These Meals

No. _____	Men's Lunch	@ \$25 = \$ _____
No. _____	Ladies Luncheon	@ \$25= \$ _____
No. _____	Dinner Beef	@ \$32= \$ _____
No. _____	Dinner Fish	@ \$32= \$ _____
No. _____	Dinner Chicken	@ \$32= \$ _____

Children Meals (10 & Under Free) = \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Needs: Contact Joe Thompson @ 608 965-3122 email at tophat@yousq.net

Late fee per person received after 11/23:

No. \_\_\_\_\_ late fee @ \$20= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Plase make check payable to Zor Shriners and return by Nov 23 to: Zor Shrine c/o Joe Thompson, PO Box 251, Shullsburg, WI 53586

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## ZOR DUES Notice

Sometimes it may seem like dues notices are coming around sooner than we may have expected. After all, as we get older, it seems like time slips by faster and faster and pretty soon we are looking at a renewal notice for a magazine, newspaper or our membership in the fraternal organizations. There seems to be some misunderstandings among members belonging to Shriners International and Zor Shriners. Dues notices typically are sent in the fall to cover the membership costs for the upcoming year, not the current year. Current dues are broken down as follows: Dues (next year) \$50.00, Per Capita Tax (next year) \$30.00, and Hospital Assessment (next year) of \$5.00, totaling \$85.00. Our dues are actually due by December 31st of the current year to cover the next year's membership costs. Early in the year, ZOR Shriners are required to remit to Shriners International that portion of each individual's dues that are payable to Imperial. When we have individual nobles who remain unpaid, those funds are coming out of the ZOR Shriners bank account to cover the Imperial portion. This does put stress on our budgeting process and can ultimately lead to a brother being suspended for non-pay-

ment of dues. Current policy automatically places a Noble in a suspended status should the dues go unpaid after one year ending on the current year December 31st. Also, this suspended status can cause a Noble to go through what I call some 'nuisance paperwork' to achieve reinstatement - which none of us like! If there are special circumstances that are preventing a Noble from remitting dues payments, such as physical or cognitive functions, financial, or other issues, you or a family member is encouraged to contact a club or unit officer or Divan representative who in all likelihood could help solve any of these problems. After all we all became Shriners to be part of something 'bigger than ourselves' and to help our 'kids'. I trust that hasn't changed over the years. No matter how much, or how little, we can be involved in our fraternity our financial strength is still very important to continue our mission of helping our 'kids'. By not paying dues on a timely basis or letting it go until one is suspended definitely puts stress on our financial strength and diminishes our ability to move forward. Hopefully this helps clear up any misunderstandings of how our dues system works and should there be any questions please do not hesitate to contact the ZOR office, club or unit officers, or your Divan represent

by Gary Cuskey – Assistant Rabban

## Yoshi

Do you have a little Yoshi in you? What is Yoshi? It stands for Young Shriner. If you are 55 years or younger, you can be one. Zor Yoshi became a club on July 19th. What do we do? We are going to get together at different locations and have fun throughout the Zor area. We are planning on getting together all Yoshi from the state once a year in a central location, probably WI Dells, so the Shriners/wives and their kids can have fun at the Dells. What does it cost? It cost a onetime fee of \$200.00, it is your lifetime due that includes a jersey, shirt and shot glass. Once you are a Yoshi, you are a Yoshi for life. If you are interested in becoming one, call Barry Ausen at 715-377-3032 or Al Brueggen at 608-487-1692



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## Quarterly Meeting Minutes

ZOR QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES  
 JULY 19, 2016  
 MADISON, WI

Zor Shriners quarterly meeting was called to order at 3:08 P. M. by Potentate B. Giesler.

K. Gant gave the opening prayer and all of 22 Nobles present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

D. Olson moved the agenda as amended be approved and seconded by D. Harvey. Motion Carried.

J. Stelsel moved the minutes of the quarterly meeting of April 30, 2016 be approved and seconded by D. Olson. Motion Carried.

D. Olson explained the Treasurer's report ending June 30, 2016 and D. Olson moved acceptance of the report seconded by T. Nelson PP. Motion Carried.

Membership Report: B. Ausen reported we have 126 members who have not paid their 2016 dues. We have sent a letter to 25 suspended Nobles under the age of 70 who were suspended and have received several who want to be restored. We started the year with a total membership of 1366. Ending June 30, 2016, we have 20 creations, 4 affiliations, 9 restorations, 28 deaths, and 2 resignations for gain of 3 members for a total of 1369 members. B. Ausen moved acceptance of the report and seconded by G. Cuskey. Motion Carried.

Reading the names of departed Nobles: J. Stelsel, Recorder read the names of 1 Imperial Officer and 20 departed Zor

Nobles and K. Gant offered a prayer for the departed Nobles. Committee Reports:

Trustees: B. Jones reported on several repairs to the building and Zor has now received our liquor license back. B. Jones move acceptance of the report and seconded by D. Olson. Motion Carried.

SH Twin Cities Hospital Report: B. Ausen reporting for R. Rommel, The Planning Committee of the Joint Boards has approved the engagement of a consultant to develop a strategic business plan for the TCH. This is expected to begin in September and be completed in October. This is in preparation for direct discussion with Mayo Clinic. Room design is under way with technical focus on the electrical power supply and the consistency of service. Notice has been received of its capital budget allocation for next year. \$218,700 plus any items funded by donations. The budget for 2016 was \$286,000. Pediatric Orthotic and Prosthetic Services was allocated \$25,050 for capital purchases in 2017. Through June Zor had provided 40 new patients and goal for 2016 is 77. Out of 22 temples Zor is third highest for new patients. Approximately 400 people attended the gala event on May 20th and over 500 attended Hospital Day. Over \$150,000 was received from the gala event, The Board recently visited and toured Mayo Clinic. This offered discussion on plan and strategies for aligning services between Mayo and the SHC. The Shrine system completed the first full year as a member of the Mayo Clinic Care Network. (See attachment #4) D. Jones PP. moved acceptance of the report and seconded by D. Olson. Motion Carried.

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## Quarterly Meeting Minutes continued

Variety Shows: S. Peterson PP. reported the shows made a profit of \$20,500 with \$10,250 each going to the clubs and Zor. Some shows had an increase and some less in attendance. We hope to do the shows next year. S. Peterson PP. moved acceptance of the report and seconded by D. Harvey. Motion Carried.

### Unfinished Business:

Hospital Van Replacement: B. Giesler reported the hospital van in Madison will be transferred to Wausau and back bench seat will be found and installed in it. The Wausau van will be brought Madison and will probably be sold.

C. Miller moved approval of the report and seconded by D. Harvey. Motion Carried.

### New Business:

Imperial Report: Ill Sir B. Giesler and B. Gorsuch PP. gave a summary of the 2016 Imperial Session held in Tampa, in early July. Zor voting representatives were Potentate Giesler, CR Miller, HP&P Trouten and PP. Gorsuch. Other attendees from Zor were Past Potentates Peterson, Thorstad, and Steiber. Specific legislation transacted during the session will be found in the proceedings of the Session which all temples will receive a copy in the next few months.

Fundraising Approvals: C. Miller asked approval of following fundraising events in 2017, Calendar Sales, Gun Raffle, Onions and possible circuses in Wausau, Stevens Point and Wis. Rapids. G. Cuskey moved approval and seconded by B. Ausen. Motion Carried.

Zephyr: J. Thorstad PP. reported on some of the problems with the Zephyr at the present time as follows, not all are receiving by mail that requested it, the clarity of pictures in not very good, names are not under the pictures, club and units who

submit articles are not published, calendars are not correct and others minor problems. The Potentate agreed these issues will be investigated and corrected.

Circus Committee: J. Thorstad PP. advised he is stepping down as a member of the Circus Committee.

K. Gant gave the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 P.M.



The famous Zor Roadrunners made an appearance at Prescott Daze this year. Shown left to right, kneeling is Dave Vold, and Randy Phab of River Falls and Larry Wiegand of Wilson. Standing left to right is Rod Rommel, Captain Jerry Wilkens, and Ed Swenson of River Falls, Roger Keller of New Richmond, Scott Hill of Ellsworth and Doug Hoffman of River Falls.

## DAD'S PROGRAM


Question of the Day: The new school bus law requires drivers of the buses to activate which light (red or amber) and how many feet must they be flashing before stopping?

In looking at the DAD's history from January 1st, 2016-August 26, 2016 we have made a total of 174 trips to the hospitals, 145 of these have been to the Twin Cities and the other 28 have been to Chicago. There are 94 drivers with co-divers making more than one trip. I would also like to thank the ten women that have also made multiple trips. These trips would not be possible without dedicated people like you. Thanks to all of you so much!!!!

Our first shirt order is in. Shriners, if you would like a shirt, please get your order into the Zor Office. Don't forget to send your size and money with the order. We would like to get a second shirt order in the near future. In order to get an up-to-date roster of all active DAD's drivers, we would like all Van Coordinators to send in your list of names, addresses, phone numbers and emails and how long each has been a DAD to the Zor office. This will help if we would ever need extra drivers in a certain area. Also, Van Coordinators, we would like you to take a picture of the van that you use in your area, sent it in with the following information: the vehicle, the area that your van covers (counties) and the hospital/s that you take patients to. We would like to put this information and picture into the Zephyr so that all can see just what we do and where we go.

Answer of the day: The amber light must be flashing at least 300 feet when stopping in a 45 mph or higher zone. The same light must be flashing at least 100 feet when stopping in a less than 45 mph zone. This is a warning light and you may pass with care. When the red light is flashing, you must stop at least 20 ft back. NO PASSING. Failure to do so could result in a fine of \$ 326.50

by John Torpy



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## Hospital DADS! Thankyou!

Mike Sund  
 Bob Keene X4  
 Steve Peterson  
 Wally Trouten  
 Gayle Trouten  
 Don Fennie X 2  
 Dave Frogner X 2  
 Mike Hayden X 2  
 Bruce Francis  
 Jim Foss  
 John Hansen  
 Jerry E Thompson  
 John Torpy  
 Allen Coenen X 2

Mike Hunter X 2  
 Donny Heit  
 Larry Curtis  
 Dick Jarvis  
 Monte Steiber X 2  
 Chris Underwood X 2  
 Bob Calverley X 2  
 Jay Wood  
 Richard Mitchell  
 Bruce Franswau  
 Tim Natarus  
 Martin Burkhardt X 3  
 Scott Brainard  
 Bruce Fransway

Loretta Fransway  
 Dick Mitchell



### Lunch with Santa

#### Zor's Lunch with Santa

Here comes Santa again! Santa will be at the Zor Shrine Center on December 11 this year.

Bring you children, grandchildren, great grandchildren friends or neighbors. A hot dog lunch will be served from 12:00 to 1:00 and Santa should arrive shortly after that, if his reindeer don't get lost. The cost this year is still \$5.00 per person and all children who are registered will receive a gift from Santa.

**DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS DECEMBER 4.**  
 Make checks payable to Zor Shriners. Please fill out coupon and mail to Larry and Jill Hanson.



Lunch with Santa Sunday Dec. 11  
 Zor Shrine Center at 12:00 Noon

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Children & Age \_\_\_\_\_

Interests of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed (\$5.00 )per person  
 Please send coupon and check  
 payable to Zor Shriners

Mail to: Larry and Jill Hanson,  
 403 N. Cincinnati St., Albany, WI  
 53502

Phone: 608 862 3227

Deadline – December 4

# Raffle Winners

\$20.00 Peg Katuin New Lisbon 53950  
 \$20.00 Shaun Nelson Trego 54888  
 \$100.00 Norman Luellen Beloit 53511-4278  
 \$20.00 Brad Kuenzi Watertown 53094  
 \$20.00 Laura Elkins Fall Creek 54742  
 \$20.00 Roberta Sindelar Friendship 53934  
 \$20.00 Steven Schoenoft Woodville 54028  
 \$20.00 Teegan Nelson Pardeeville 53594  
 \$20.00 Janet Kopinski Mondovi 54755  
 \$100.00 Rick Opperman Stevens Point 54482  
 \$20.00 Ben Buchholtz Mondovi 54755  
 \$20.00 Don Hayden Durand 54736  
 \$20.00 Terry Sawall Redgranite 54970  
 \$20.00 Denise Miske Osseo 54758  
 \$20.00 Jennifer Nelson Pardeeville 53594  
 \$20.00 Delaneg Skelding Black River Falls 54615  
 \$100.00 Fred Outhouse Oregon 53575  
 \$20.00 Patrick A Hines Sr Elmwood 54740  
 \$20.00 Betsy Larsen Oregon 53575  
 \$20.00 Alyn Jones Whitewater 53190  
 \$20.00 Ella Mattakat East Bethel, MN 55092  
 \$20.00 Ken Koehn Wis Rapids 54494  
 \$20.00 Alex Anderson Prairie Du Chien 53821  
 \$100.00 Scott Calverley Wis Rapids 54494  
 \$20.00 Debra Schmitz Redgranite 54970  
 \$20.00 Clifford Larson Arkdale 54613  
 \$20.00 Chris Kreul Fennimore 53809

\$20.00 Ed Mahlum Mondovi 54755  
 \$20.00 Debra Edmundson Stevens Point 54482  
 \$150.00 James Stormoen Adams 53910



Zor Shriners have two parade band wagons for sale. The first one is 9ft by 21ft and the second is 9ft by 9ft. Both have canopies that raise and lower. Any temple or individual who has an interest in purchasing these wagons, please contact Zor Shrine at 608-833-6343

# Alexis' Journey



**Shriners Hospitals  
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## Alexis's Journey

Alexis has had many great experiences at Shriners. She loves to go there and see her doctors. She has had a Rhizotomy about three years ago that cut selective nerves in her back giving her the ability to walk with a walker.

Her most recent surgery placed her hips back into joint. She had the muscle in her groin cut to reduce the spasticity and also the muscle above her knee was placed behind her knee. She is currently working on regaining her strength in order to stand. She will work with therapy once she is able to stand for a longer period of time.

Alexis is able to play t-ball this year. She really enjoys it. It makes her feel like all of the other kids. All the things that Alexis can do were made possible by the help and compassion Shriners has shown her. I am very thankful for everything Shriners has done.



Black Camel



James "Jim" Halvorson 08.12.16  
Oregon 06.06.98

Robert E Hudson 08.21.16  
Chippewa Falls 12.05.1981

Donald D Dickinson 09.06.16  
La Crosse 11.30.57

## Calender of Events

### October 2016

- 2 Mound View SC Southwest SC Dinner-Dance
- 11 Honored Ladies Luncheon Zor Shrine Center
- 11 Divan Meeting Zor Shrine Center
- 11 3rd Quarterly Meeting & Steak Fry Zor Shrine Center,

### November 2016

- 5 UW Whitewater Football Game
- Divan Meeting TBD
- Breakfast with Santa Wausau, WI

### December 2016

- Divan Meeting & Quarterly Zor Shrine Center
- Divan Dinner
- 2 - 3 Fall Ceremonial La Crosse, WI
- 11 Lunch with Santa Zor Shrine Center

For other events visit [www.zorshriners.com](http://www.zorshriners.com)

Mark your calendars for Oct 23rd. Glacier Ridge Clan #183 is having a Sadie Hawkins Day event at the Zor Shrine Center in Madison, Wi.

Doors open at 3 P.M. in the lower level of the Center.

A Road Kill meal will be served. Bring anyone interested in the Clan, they need not be members we can sign up the day of event if they like or just come and see what we are about. BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS.

This will be the last time you may turn in drawings for the patch. We will be setting up the date for the next meeting, event and location.

Oct 17th is deadline for reservations.

Cost of event is \$15.00 per person

Send reservations to:

Larry Hanson

403 N. Cincinnati St

Albany, WI. 35502

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

No. Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

## Contributions

### ZORTWIN CITIES HOSPITAL DONATIONS

IN MEMORY/HONOR OF:

Elgi Toman

Jim Halvorson

David Lotz

Mike &amp; Todd Donovan

Maria Mander

Gordon Johnson

Florine Lang

John Opolka

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John Thorstad

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Larry Riemenschneider

Richard Schoenoff

Robert and Alice Kaschel

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Jermy Wahl

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Robert &amp; Amy Hering

Al Heinkel

Larry &amp; Bonnie Meier

Charles &amp; RuthAnne White

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Elgi Toman

Helen Olson

Roy Richardson

Jim Halvorson

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### ZOR HOSPITAL TRANSPORTATION FUND

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Pam &amp; Michael Griggs

Gary Shealy

Gary Shealy

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GIVE PARADE TO GLORY CREDIT TO CLUB OR UNIT:

# Vernon Shrine Club Steak Fry Challenge

The Club held a membership drive at the Gudgeon farm. During the afternoon, Noble Gary Campbell conducted a gun shooting competition. After that, the Divan cooked steaks. Club President Christopher Lee Underwood made numerous presentations and received one in turn. Potentate Bob Giesler conducted a Cold Sands for our newest Noble, Benjamin Hansen. Following that, Noble Phillip Gudgeon gave a tour of his maple syrup producing operation. It was a full and fun day!



## Cells engineered to grow cartilage, fight inflammation

With a goal of using a living implant rather than traditional plastic or metal devices, scientists at Shriners Hospitals for Children — St. Louis have programmed cells to grow new cartilage on a 3-D template shaped like the ball of a hip joint. The discovery one day may provide an alternative to hip-replacement surgery in younger patients because a living implant can grow with a child, whereas metal and plastic devices won't.

Doctors have been reluctant to perform such operations in patients under age 50 because prosthetic joints typically last for less than 20 years. A second joint-replacement surgery to remove a worn prosthetic can destroy bone and put patients at risk for infection.

The technique, demonstrated in a collaborative effort between Shriners Hospitals for Children — St. Louis, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis and Cytex Therapeutics Inc. in Durham, North Carolina, is described in the July 18, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

"Replacing a failed prosthetic joint is a difficult surgery," said Farshid Guilak, Ph.D., director of research at Shriners Hospitals for Children — St. Louis and a professor of orthopaedic surgery at Washington University. "We've developed a way to resurface an arthritic joint using a person's own stem cells to grow new cartilage, combined with gene therapy to release anti-inflammatory molecules to keep arthritis at bay. Our hope is to prevent, or at least delay, a standard metal and plastic prosthetic joint replacement."

The technique uses a 3-D, biodegradable synthetic scaffold that Guilak and his team developed. The scaffold, molded into the precise shape of a patient's joint, is covered with cartilage made from the patient's own stem cells taken from fat beneath the skin. The scaffold then can be implanted onto the surface of an arthritic hip, for example. Resurfacing the hip joint with "living" tissue is designed to ease arthritis pain, and delay or even eliminate the need for joint-replacement surgery in some patients.

Additionally, by inserting a gene into the newly grown cartilage and activating it with a drug, the gene can orchestrate the release of anti-inflammatory molecules to fight a return of arthritis, which usually is what triggers such joint problems.

"When there is inflammation, we can give a patient a simple drug, which activates the gene we've implanted,

to lower inflammation in the joint," said Guilak, also a professor of developmental biology and of biomedical engineering. "We can stop giving the drug at any time, which turns off the gene." That gene therapy is important, he explained, because when levels of inflammatory molecules rise in a joint, the cartilage is destroyed and pain increases. By adding gene therapy to the stem cell and scaffold technique, Guilak and his colleagues believe it will be possible to coax patients' joints to fend off arthritis and function better for a longer time.

The 3-D scaffold is built using a weaving pattern that gives the device the structure and properties of normal cartilage. Franklin Moutos, Ph.D., vice president of technology development at Cytex, explained that the unique structure is the result of approximately 600 biodegradable fiber bundles woven together to create a high-performance fabric that can function like normal cartilage.

"As evidence of this, the woven implants are strong enough to withstand loads up to 10 times a patient's body weight, which is typically what our joints must bear when we exercise," Moutos said.

Currently, there are about 30 million Americans who have diagnoses of osteoarthritis, and data suggest that the incidence of osteoarthritis is on the rise. That number includes many younger patients — ages 40 to 65 — who have limited treatment options because conservative approaches haven't worked and patients are not yet candidates for total joint replacement.

Bradley Estes, Ph.D., vice president of research and development at Cytex, noted, "We envision in the future that this population of younger patients may be ideal candidates for this type of biological joint replacement."

A state-of-the-art, 6,000-square foot lab, will be open within the next few months at the new Shriners Hospitals for Children — St. Louis in which Dr. Guilak and his team will be further advancing this and other regenerative medicine research. Once complete, the new lab will be the largest, most innovative facility for regenerative medicine research in the country. Guilak and his team recently moved to St. Louis from Duke University.

"Shriners Hospital is beyond excited about this type of modern medicine — unlike anything the country has seen in the past — and we welcome Dr. Guilak and his Washington University School of Medicine team both to St. Louis and to our new facility," said John Gloss, St. Louis Shriners Hospital administrator.

## **2017 Wisconsin Shriner Trip to Sun Palace – Cancun, Mexico** **Tuesday January 17 to Tuesday January 24**

Chuck Miller is planning a memorable trip to Cancun that he hopes you will be able to attend and enjoy. It will be a combination of structured activities as well as time to relax and enjoy the amenities of this first-class all inclusive resort.

One highlight of the trip will be a trip to Chichen Itza, a UNESCO World Heritage Site (and one of the new 7 wonders of the world) that showcases Mayan ruins including the famous pyramid of Kulkulkan (you see it in almost every documentary about Mexico or the Mayan civilization)—all built at the height of the Mayan civilization.



Another highlight will be a day at the Mexican Theme Park Xcaret. It is truly a unique experience. There are a variety of ecological, zoological, and cultural exhibits and performances. You have the opportunity to float through an underground river, you can take a break by the beach on the sea, and you can swim with the dolphins (for an extra fee) or do similar activities. A meal is included. The day ends with a magnificent show that showcases the history and culture of Mexico. More than once we have heard this referred to as the Disney World of Mexico, but really it is a unique experience and a true highlight of the trip.

When you are not out and about on excursions you will have the opportunities to enjoy the amenities of this beautiful resort. The food is excellent. The spa will help you feel pampered and relaxed. There is entertainment of some sort available every night. The staff is friendly and helpful. The view overlooking the ocean will help you forget the realities of winter in Wisconsin for a week!

### **Presentation About The Trip**

There will be a brief presentation about the trip and a question and answer session at the end of the August Steak Fry at the Madison Zor Temple.

**Tuesday, August 23**

**Zor Steak Fry - Madison Shrine Temple  
575 Zor Shrine Place, Madison, WI**

**5:00 Social, 6:00 Dinner, 7:00 Presentation  
RSVP by Aug. 15 – Zor Office 608-833-6343**



If you are interested in learning more about this exciting trip please email Chuck Miller at [wrongway130@gmail.com](mailto:wrongway130@gmail.com) or call him at (715) 457-4646. He can email an information package with more details about this weeklong winter getaway to sunny Mexico.