

# SALAAM

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# Dear Asiya Family

The year started with the unveiling of a magnificent backdrop at the Mass Installation, painted by the Asiya Shriners Section Crew unit, with the Divan and unit and club leaders parading through a magnificent honor cordon by the Asiya Shriners Patrol unit.



The Nobles behind the legendary mural



Asiya Patrol in all of its splendor

Asiya Shriners held two outdoor ceremonials "under the big top" in a tent in the parking lot with 4,000 pounds of sand, stage, lighting, sound, incredible performances from the Ritual Divan including the new Knickerbocker Degree, and the all new Asiya Shriners Tournament of Champions. I dreamt of an outdoor ceremonial in the sand many years ago, but never dreamt it could be as big as it turned out—thank you for joining me in trying something new and proving that there is nothing finer than to be an Asiya Shriner!



Spring Ceremonial Class after passing through the real sands of the desert



We doubled the sand for the Winter Ceremonial!



We kicked off the Bear Den Project in collaboration with the South Bay Shrine Club, Ankh Court of the Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America (LOSNA), Susie's First Lady's Project, and Daughters of the Nile, in support of the children at Shriners Childrens—Northern California. A \$50 donation to the Bear Den allows a child patient to select a soft and furry companion as they journey through their medical procedures.

The project is now in full swing, with a mobile Bear Den cart, and even special bears dreamt up by Noble Russ Breed that have a surgical back scar just like many of the orthopedic child patients at the hospital.



R&G Annual Shasta Trip was a blast



Flower power in full bloom



Susie and I enjoyed 2022, and attended so many fun events, including my memorable cruise with the Rod & Gun Club at Lake Shasta, the many visitations hosted by the units and clubs, Imperial Session in Minneapolis with a cruise and swim on Lake Minnetonka, a lady's luncheon styled as a high tea, concert fundraisers at Oracle Park and Concord Pavilion, the first ever Fez-O-Rama car show, parades (rain or shine), and the Pote's Ball.

Congratulations to Noble Oleksii Chuiko for creating these **Salaam** magazines and winning the Dromedary Award from Imperial Shriners for best magazine.



Famished and ready to feast after a long day at the Imperial Sessions



Rockin' for a cause!

There are so many memorable activities and countless Nobles and ladies to thank. But this article is not the place to do that (I am limited in text), and so I will close my remarks with two lines from two Nobles:



Passing the torch



Ah...the healing powers of the Lake Minnetonka

The first is from Noble Paul Ladd, who elegantly hand carved a piece of wood which hangs in the dining hall of our Temple and reads, "Asiya will only prosper to the extent you put its interests above your own." Truer words have never been said nor engraved in wood.



Marching on...rain or shine!



Always the most fun booth at the Annual Communications

And lastly from Noble Melvin Clark, who occasionally told me, "Thank you for the memories." Susie and I can't say it better, and so to the Asiya Shriners Family:

*Thank you for the memories.*

*- Mark McFee*





# A trailer full of happiness on the way to Sacramento

Noble Fezzy himself is arriving to Shriners Children's in VIP fashion



The bears from Asiya and LOSNA have arrived

# Love to the rescue



Bear Den cart at Shriners Children's - Northern California with the delivery of Bears and other animals for the inpatient Shriners Kids

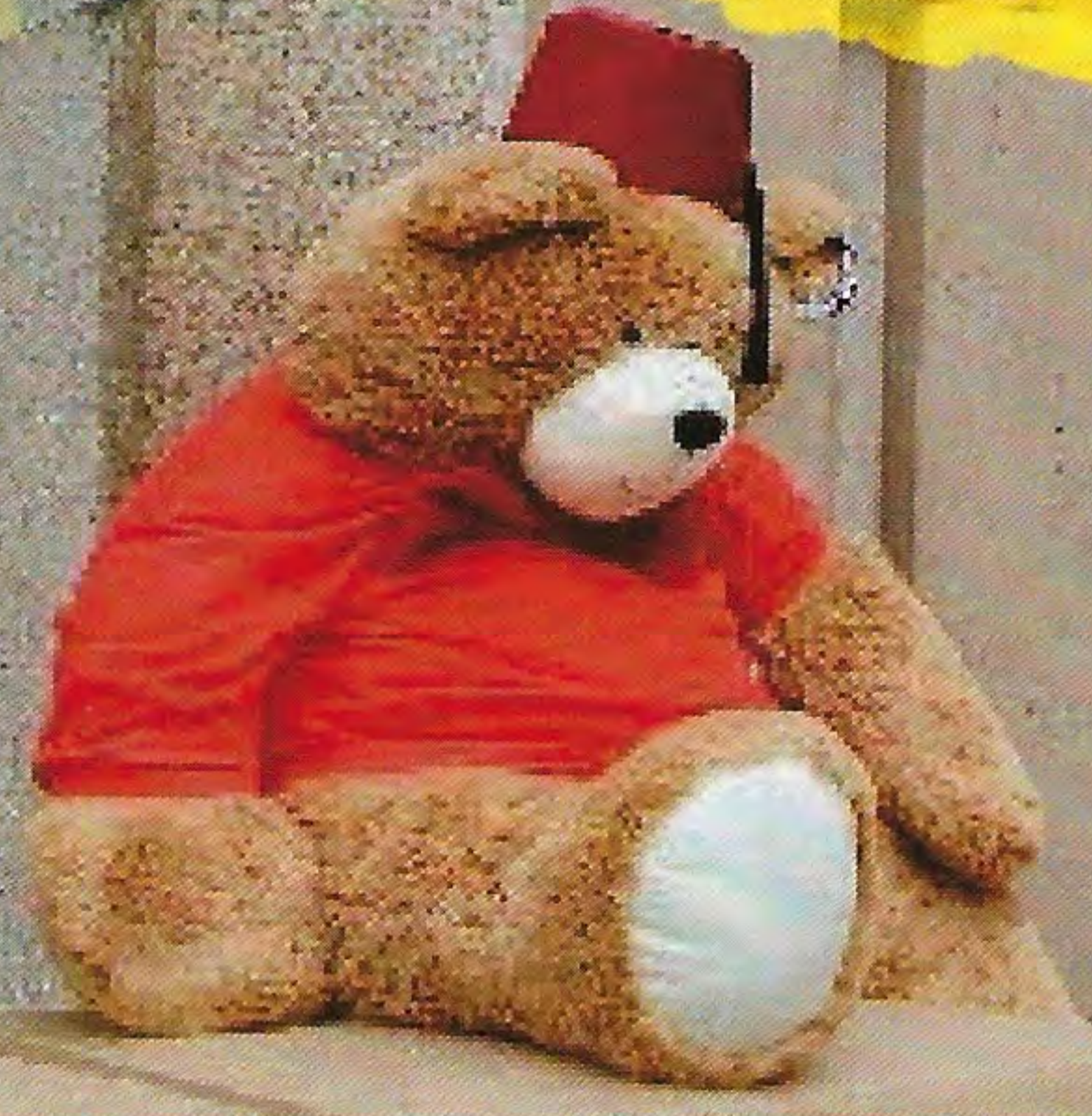


Shriners Children's Northern California  
Please enjoy our holiday tree display at the center celebrate patient story.  
Scan the QR Code to see what the gift of love has meant to our



# South Bay Shrine Club Bear Den Project

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ASIYA SHRINERS UNITS & CLUBS, AND ANKH COURT 92, LOSNA  
BENEFITTING SHRINERS CHILDREN'S™, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA



Scan the QR to make a difference in a Shriners Kid's life  
Donate \$50 to the South Bay Shrine Club (Bear Den)

